FEBRUARY
2017

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

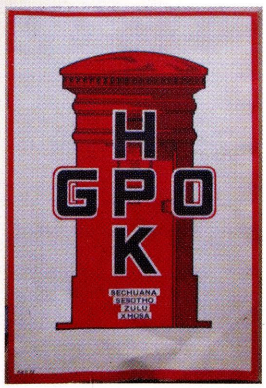
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 93:1. 940

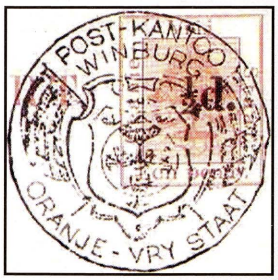
www.stamps.org.za



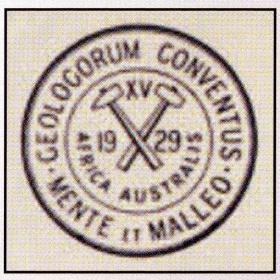
Registered at INGAGANE Station Post Office on 30 June 1934, this cover forms part of an interesting article on a new chapter in publicity and approach for the Union Post Office of South Africa.



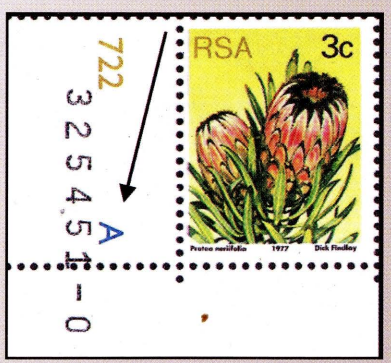
Publicity for the Union Post Office



'Post-Kantoo'
An OFS official seal



The 1929 International Geological Congress logo



'Protea Definitive' series
a step-by-step guide

9 771812 164020

ISSN 0038-2566

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IMPORTANCE

Noun: the state or fact of being of great significance or value.



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, MAFEKING SIEGE: 1900 2/- on 1/- green of British Bechuanaland, VARIETY TYPE 1 (SERIFFED) OVERPRINT (SG 11d). VF/U example of this rarity. A connoisseur's exhibition showpiece with only 3 recorded extant. Photo-certs: Brandon & Eichele. ***(cv£38000).***

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The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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AS AN INSERT:

The 2017 SAPDAPEX Prospectus and Preliminary Entry form

The 2017 BOFEX Prospectus and Entry form

ERRATA: December 2016 issue

An error regarding the page numbering in the December 2016 issue - page numbering remained the same as per the previous issue of the journal.

We should also mention that SAPO has discontinued the complimentary mailing of the *SAP* which was advised to us after the journal was printed. We are sad to lose this support from SAPO for our hobby and hope it can be re-instated in the near future.

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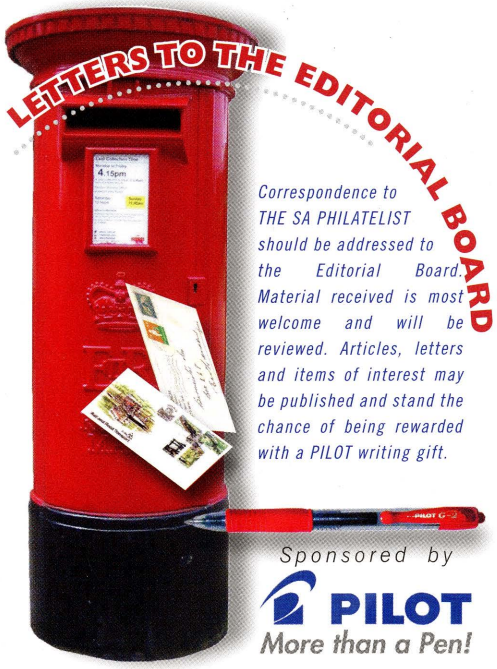
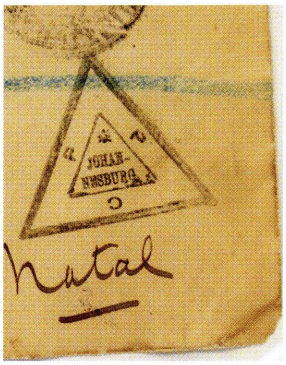


Correspondence to THE SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed. Articles, letters and items of interest may be published and stand the chance of being rewarded with a PILOT writing gift.

Sponsored by PILOT More than a Pen!

DOES ANYONE KNOW?

John Bleazard is puzzled by this triangular hand-stamp... Do you know a bit more about it?



Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History

The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

Postal History Symposium:

Philately and Postal History of Southern Africa

Thursday, 4 May 2017. FREE ADMISSION

Please register at www.spellmanmuseum.org at the Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History and Regis College *(College Hall 202)*, Weston, MA

Program:

8:00AM - Exhibition opens at the Spellman Museum's Exhibit Hall

9:00 - 9:30AM - Walk/drive over to College Hall room 202, at Regis College

9:30AM - Opening remarks – Yamil H. Kouri Jr. and Tim Bartshe (moderator)

9:45 - 10:25AM - 'Postal History of southern African Pioneers in World War II' by Peter Thy (California, USA)

10:35-11:15AM - 'The Intersection of African Liberation and Philately in the Life of an Activist' by Ken Lawrence (Pennsylvania, USA)

11:25AM-12:05PM - 'The NZASM (Transvaal rail-road)' by Tim Bartshe (Colorado, USA)

12:05-1:00PM - Lunch at Regis College cafeteria (Dutch treat)

1:00 - 1:40PM - 'The Philatelic Literature of Southern Africa' by Hugh McMackin (California, USA)

1:50 - 2:30PM - 'Union of South Africa: The Darmstadt Trials of 1929' by Eddie Bridges (New York, USA)

2:40 - 3:20PM - 'The South African Border War: including the involvement of the Cubans 1966-1989' by Gawie Van der Walt and Johan Joubert (Cape Town, South Africa)

3:30 - 4:10PM - 'The Development of the Cape Eastern Frontier 1864-1910' by Guy Dillaway (Massachusetts, USA)

4:20 - 5:00PM - Closing remarks and discussion by Tim Bartshe - see you next year!

Each person will be making a spoken, illustrated presentation and their talks will be followed by questions. The event marks the 30th Anniversary of the Philatelic Group of Greater Southern Africa. There will be an anniversary dinner in the evening. The PSGSA has always had a worldwide membership and early members included Uli Bantz, Dr. Jonkers, Marin Eichele among others.

PSGSA

SPELLMAN MUSEUM OF STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY 2013

A letter in response to:
David Wigston's August 2016 BOOK REVIEW

SAA Commemorative Flight Covers - 60 Years of Flight

It was indeed serendipitous (as David said) when I arrived home from my philatelic society meeting, to find the August *SAP* had been delivered. His book review immediately caught my attention, because I had displayed these covers at that meeting.

I am no expert on aero-philately or for that matter on aero covers, but I do have a fair collection of SAA and SAAF covers, both starting from number 1, but neither is complete. This is just a bit of background to show my interest and because my eldest son was a pilot in SAAF and is now a senior pilot with SAA.

While I agree with David in principle, I would like to make the following comments: The flight time of 19 hours is almost correct, but is adjusted when travelling east to west because one is flying with the sun and time is made-up. This means the time difference is reduced and if you fly fast enough you can arrive at the same time you left (clock time the same day). As an example - the Concorde left London at breakfast time and arrived at JFK before breakfast.

In this case - JHB to JFK - the difference horizontally in time zones is 6 hours, but the flight is diagonal in a northwest direction, so the time approximates to 1.5 x 6 = 9 time zones, if the speed was 1,000 mph. However, the usual airspeed is about Mach 0.85 (say 600 mph), so the approximate time difference would be about 9 x 1,000 / 600 = 15 hours. This means an early morning cargo flight would arrive before midnight the same day, which could prove the JFK back-stamp was correct.

As regards the cabin crew knowing what a flight cover is, would be like asking a barman what is an algorithm? Maybe one in a hundred would know, so I am not surprised at the 'no' to the question. While this may cast doubts, the cabin crew doesn't know what cargo or mail is aboard.

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

Contributions and **letters** for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist*, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. South Africa or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

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

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When the commemorative covers were issued in their natty blue albums, the number actually amounted to 44 flight covers and one Jan Smuts Airport cover – 45 in total; starting with number 56 and ending on 99 – not 60. Whether these covers were actually flown is questionable, but this was to commemorate 60 years of SAA flight and that was the important point.

The JFK cover would have served the same purpose if the back-stamp was 2 Feb. If someone thought they were doing a favour or being clever, they were mistaken, because some are back-stamped 2, 3, 4, 5 and four were even stamped 7 Feb. (Q.E.D.)

Regarding this being a fraud, I doubt if it would stand up in court. Did anyone officially state categorically they would all be received at the destinations on 1 Feb? Who was responsible – the Philatelic Services, the agent, the airline, the airport manager, the postal service or some contractor?

I don't know if these covers were given away or distributed to societies, but I will try and find out. The latest issues of these covers is not known to me but the numbers are now over 100, so they continue to be issued. I shall endeavor to pursue more information about flight schedules and I will share anything that I find out.

In the meantime, I shall keep my natty blue file as an historic item (flown or not). I also applaud Xavier Laubscher for his on-going work in progress and wish him every success.

J.B. Rodgers,
Johannesburg



Editorial Board's choice

Winning Contributor

This issue's award of **PILOT** pen goes to Johan Joubert for his collaboration with Dr Gerhard Kamffer.

Response to JB Rodgers

Being mathematically challenged it comes as no surprise that I had calculated the flight time of the flight Johannesburg – New York incorrectly. But the important point is that the flight left Johannesburg on the evening of 2 February 1994, arriving in New York on the morning of 3 February 1994. This makes the back stamp of 2 February 1994 for that flight cover possibly fabricated. JB Rodger's correspondence has made me reflect on what is a 'flight cover'? According to Wikipedia a "flight cover" is defined as being *"mail carried on an inaugural flight of an airline, route or aircraft, normally postmarked with the date of the flight and often of the arrival destination proving it was actually carried on the aircraft and may have a special cachet"*. According to this definition the covers produced for SAA's 60th anniversary are then commemorative covers and not flight covers *per se*. The point here is that Philatelic Services misled the collecting public by promoting the set as being 'flight covers' when they are anything but. It is also worthwhile noting that Philatelic Services lodged no objection when a motion censuring their action was passed at the 1994 PFSA Congress held in the Benoni Town Hall. But the definition of a 'flight cover' as provided above does have limitations. What about the case of a cover to record a final flight? Does this not also qualify as being as being a 'flight cover'? And then we have the anomaly of Concorde flight covers; there are only six know occasions when Concorde carried mail. Does this mean the many hundreds of Concorde 'flight covers' are bogus? Maybe we need a rethink of the definition of a flight cover. Philatelic Services found it difficult to sell the albums at R200 a piece and eventually gave them away. It was not soon after that Philatelic Services stopped producing flight covers. The bottom line is that the covers that make up the SAA 60th anniversary set were never carried, as mail or as cargo, on the flights they purport to represent.

David Wigston.

THE SA PHILATELIST

Publication closing dates for final submission and advertising material to avoid late delivery

- ***April*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 2. 941 : 08/03/2017
- ***June*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 3. 942 : 08/05/2017
- ***August*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 4. 943 : 06/07/2017
- ***October*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 5. 944 : 06/09/2017
- ***December*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017

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BOOK RELEASES

The "Officials" of South Africa

by Robert M. Hisey and Ian A. Matheson



Bob Hisey and Dr Ian Matheson will be making their new publication available during the first quarter of 2017. The book will be published on a flash drive (memory-stik), as many modern computers do not feature a disk reader. The drive will also contain an electronic copy of the 1986 Union Handbook-Catalogue by Jack Hagger, an essential companion to understand the classification of the basic stamps.

This study builds on the previous major study of the topic described in the 1986 edition of *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 - 1961*, edited by Jack Hagger RDPSA. Such a study is dependent on access to as much of the existing study material as one can find. Thanks to the technology of the internet, the authors have been able to combine their own international gold medal collections with those of most of the leading experts in the field in a manner not previously possible. This collaboration has allowed much new information to be described and illustrated.

The study is a compendium of knowledge, rather than a beautiful coffee table book. It is published in electronic format allowing for ease in updating, and also allows readers the facility to enlarge images on a computer screen for an in-depth study.

In general, the typography is identical to Hagger's. However a few changes have been made to accommodate some of the earlier



inconsistencies, especially for the issues with a diaeresis on the second 'E' of 'OFFISIEËL'. The sequence of forme changes is explained as the type became damaged from set to set, and occasionally had to be completely reset. Each of the resulting overprint varieties is illustrated. Numerous checklists are included to aid identification of the different sets and sheet positions.

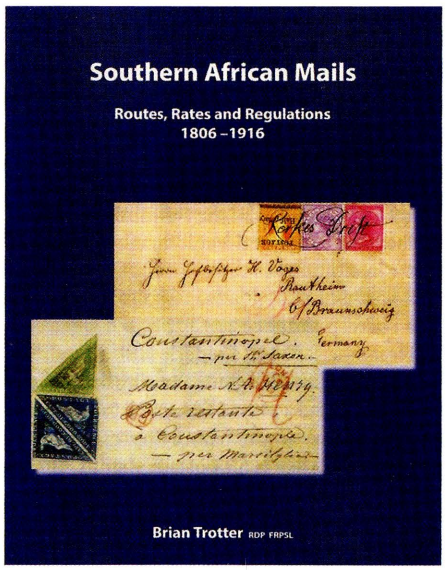
Additional tools provided include a listing of side margin dimensions, which have been shown to be consistent within an overprint run, and an analysis of the colours used for each issue. The methodology is explained to identify colours using Photoshop® on the RGB (Red, Green, Blue) and the more useful HSB (Hue, Saturation, Brightness) scales. Recorded cyclometer numbers for each print are listed where available. *The South African Philatelist* published print numbers for a number of the issues. Where available, these are shown, but unfortunately many were never reported. The archives of the South African Post Office contain a number of Official issues from 1949. These are also described in the book.

The publication is available locally from Joh Groenewald RDPSA, johgroen@mweb.co.za PFSA Publications Committee, for R400.

Also available in USA from the co-author Bob Hisey bobhisey@comcast.net for $30 plus postage.

Southern African Mails, Routes, Rates and Regulations 1806 – 1916

Author: Brian Trotter RDP FRPSL
Obtainable from The Royal PS London
www.rpsl.org.uk
Price: £72.00 *Plus Postage*



As southern African countries developed northward, so did the need for reliable communication systems, that is, a postal infrastructure. This tome, almost 600 pages, details the development of such systems for each country as each was opened up. Beginning in 1806 with the British occupation of the Cape of Good Hope, it details the evolution of postal systems in countries northwards as far as British Central Africa. As countries became established and developed so did their postal systems until by 1916 all countries had their own routes, postal infrastructure and the necessary rules and regulations to implement and control these. The author includes the introduction of mail services in Rhodesia in the 1890s, and concludes his descriptions in 1916 by which time surface mail services were established and operating reasonably efficiently throughout the region. The concept and advent of air transport at this time for the distribution of mail over such a region would require a major rethink in the future.

The book is prescribed reading for all students of the postal history of southern African countries during this period. It is well illustrated and provides comprehensive information on individual country's systems, principal routes, letter rates and the main postal regulations prevailing. An investment and valuable reference for all collectors of postal history.

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

Episode 39 of : Errors on Stamps...
by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society & Royal PS of Cape Town

WRONG VENUE



This stamp shows a commemorative issue of ANDORRA for the Olympic Summer Games in Moscow in 1980.
The postal administration of the small principality should have known that skiing competitions never take place in Olympic Summer Games. The stamp was originally planned to be released as a separate issue for the Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid but erroniously the image was used for the Summer Games in Moscow.
Quite embarrassing for a country which is located in the Pyrenees Mountains and familiar with winter sports...

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Stanley Gibbons
New Catalogues

New Zealand

• *6th Edition 2016*

The Stanley Gibbons 2016 New Zealand Catalogue is a detailed and highly informative reference, ideal for any collector who specialises in the stamps of this area. This catalogue provides a comprehensive priced listing of all New Zealand stamps from the early colonial stamps of 1855 to July 2016. It includes Antarctic Expeditions, Tokelau and Ross as well as New Zealand's other dependencies.

- Prices have been extensively revised throughout the catalogue with hundreds of increases throughout all periods from the Chalon heads to modern issues. Some very significant increases have been recorded, making this catalogue a vital acquisition for all New Zealand collectors.
- A comprehensive index of commemorative and pictorial stamps since 1946 will allow individual stamps to be easily identified.

CODE: R2876-16 R650



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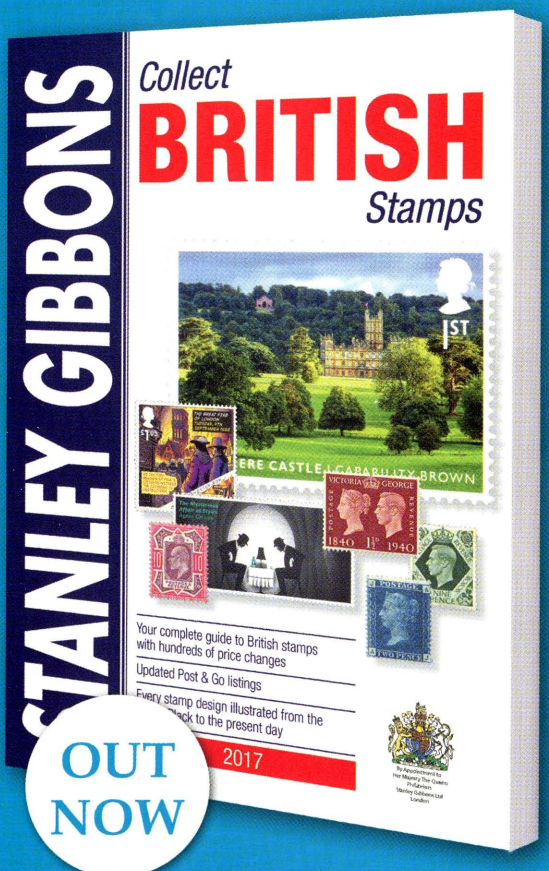

OUT NOW

2017 Collect British Stamps

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This all-colour catalogue provides a straightforward, simplified listing of every British stamp from the Penny Black to Christmas 2016, with all commemorative designs illustrated for ease of use. With a fully updated listing of the popular Post & Go stamps and a fully priced list of Royal Mail Philatelic, Numismatic and Medallic covers.

- Provides a straightforward simplified, richly illustrated listing of every Great Britain stamp from the famous Penny Black up to Christmas 2016.
- Your complete introduction to GB stamp collecting.
- All commemorative designs illustrated.
- A handy self-contained reference guide for the collector.
- A helpful introduction with advice on how to build a collection, choose an album and mount stamps and guides to philatelic accessories and the Stanley Gibbons numbering system.
- Stanley Gibbons prices are recognised everywhere as the standard guide to stamp values.

CODE: R0289-17 R375

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Society Spotlight

Oilfilat - Sasolburg Philatelic Society

Compiled by Pierre Erasmus - Oilfilat

The annual Oilfilat - East Rand PS Inter-club Competition was once again held at the Sasolburg Public Library. The judging took place on Sunday, 30 October 2016 and the prize-giving on Saturday 5 November 2016. The judges were Marge Viljoen and Louwrence Erasmus (Fig.3).

This year the exhibition was dedicated to Jules Danneels, the late chairperson of Sasolburg Philatelic Society. The guests of honour were the Danneels family - Annetjies, Andre and George.

With the usual friendly rivalry between Sasolburg and East Rand Philatelic Societies - this year saw East Rand winning the inter-club competition (Fig.4). Jan Bakker won the Grand Prix trophy (Fig.5), but there were a number of other splendid exhibits, including two virtual exhibits, which attracted much interest.

Dr Eddie Pretorius, Chairperson of Sasolburg Philatelic Society (Fig.6), thanked everybody for their participation and effort in making this exhibition a great success in the club's 35th year of existence.

The inter-club competition between Oilfilat and what was then Boksburg Philatelic Society (now ERPS) started in 1992. The friendly rivalry between the two societies is now in it's 25th year and marks a highpoint on the calendars of both societies.

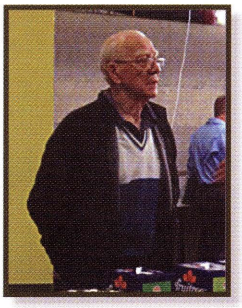

Fig. 6: Dr Eddie Pretorius, Chairperson of the Sasolburg PS.

RESULTS

One Frame			Award	Trophy
1953 Coronation of QEII	P Erasmus	Oilfilat	SB	
QEII 1961 Decimals	JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	V	**Pretorius**
SWA Postage Dues 1923-29	L Jacobson	Oilfilat	S	
Wêreld Posunie	C Rogers	ERPS	B	
Austrian Pneumatic Mail	J Bakker	ERPS	G	
SA GV postal stationery used in SWA	L Jacobson	Oilfilat	V	**Danneels**
Internee Mail during Japanese Occupation of DEI*	J Bakker	ERPS	G	
1961-68 RSA Half cent Kingfisher Issue	L Jacobson	Oilfilat	S	
POW Mail during Japanese Occupation of DEI*	J Bakker	ERPS	G	**Grand Prix**
Rest of Africa				
History of the Bechuanalands to 1965	JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	G	**CMGM**
Rest of the World				
Indonesia	EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	SB	
Kuba	EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	SB	**ISC**
Thematic				
Denarius	C Rogers	ERPS	S	
A Collection of Classics	C Rogers	ERPS	S	
Winter Sport	P Erasmus	Oilfilat	V	**Anker**
The Wheel	EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	S	
Postal History				
SWA Registered mail 1914-1960	L Jacobson	Oilfilat	V	
Airmails of World War II	DJ Wigston	ERPS	G	**Frustration**
Squared Circle Cancellations of DEI*	J Bakker	ERPS	G	
Postage Matters	EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	SB	
Safe Arrivals	JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	V	**Old Mutual**
Specialised Studies				
Union of South Africa - 3rd Definitive 1d & 2d	P Erasmus	Oilfilat	V	**Oilfilat**
Open Section				
Zimbabwe - Fauna & Flora on stamps	P Erasmus	Oilfilat	Non competitive	
Cinderellas				
Chinese Food Stamps	E Minnaar	ERPS	G	

NOTE: The titles of some exhibits have been abbreviated because of space considerations.
* DEI - Dutch East Indies

Want to put your Society in the spotlight? Contact Janice Botes at janice@gdb.co.za



Fig 1: The Society's 35th birthday cake, presented to Annetjie Danneels.

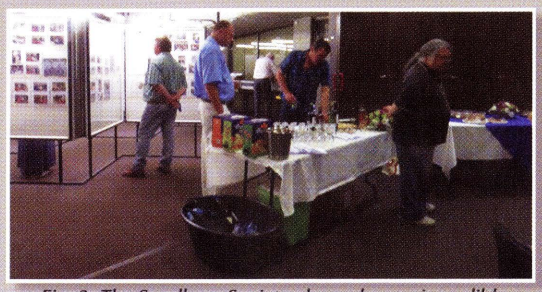

Fig. 2: The Sasolburg Society always has an incredible spread of eats at the prize-giving.



Fig. 3: The judges, Marge Viljoen and Louwrence Erasmus providing feedback on the exhibition.



Fig. 4: Jimmy Mitchel receiving the Oilfilat Shield from Johan van Wyk, a senior member of Oilfilat, on behalf of ERPS as the inter-club winners for 2016.



Fig. 5: Jan Bakker receives the Grand Prix trophy from Johan van Wyk.

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Pl. 2 matched pair 1D blacks lettered (SD), in state one & state two of plate. (SG2). Both fine to very fine used with good four margins and showing red M.C.'s. (Ref. 90466) £600.00



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PL. 9 (MJ) (SG3). Four close to good margins, cancelled fine black M.C. Shows "O" flaw stage two, vertical guideline NE square & slightly square footed "J". (Ref. 90446) £185.00



Pl. 7 horizontal strip (SG3).(OI OJ OK OL). A good horizontal strip of four in a nice grey-black shade, OI touched at lower left and vertical bend cancelled neat black M.C's. (Ref. 83228) £1650.00



Pl. 8 (JA JB JC) (SG2). Used strip of three. JA very close to SW square otherwise fine four margins cancelled red maltese crosses. All stamps show "O Flaw". (Ref. 92855) £675.00



Pl. 4 (ND)(SG3). Thin spot but good to large four margins, cancelled red M.C. (Ref. 95759) £75.00



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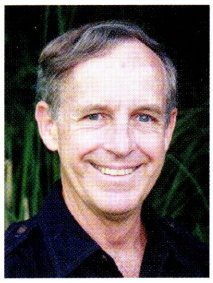
Phun with postmarks



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

How are the name extensions Road, Rail and Station selected?

I regularly receive queries about postmarks with the extensions being used after, or before the date that the change in operating status was reported. The Hagen and Naylor '*Railway postal history of South Africa*' gives an excellent description from which I have extracted and is given below as background.

In many cases road access to a town preceded the railway line. At the time of construction it was often impractical to build the railway through the town, and a station was built where the railway crossed the road, called "Road". As the station often was some distance from the town a small settlement developed. Place name similarity could cause confusion and station names incorporating 'Road' were phased out, eg, Porterville Road became Gouda.

In the early days of rail history a large number of agencies were established and the stationmaster or his staff, as they were employed and on site, carried out the duties of postmaster. Two types of offices were established at stations, the one being an agency staffed by railwaymen (SAR) and the other conventional post offices run by the GPO. In the agreements the latter had a turnover greater than the amount decided on in the agreement. This means that the jurisdiction could oscillate between the SAR and GPO, depending on turnover. The jurisdiction was primarily of administrative importance. Date stamps were fairly expensive and in many cases the old date stamp with the incorrect inscription was used even after administration changed. In many instances it took 12 months or more before a change was recorded and published.

From January 1932 it was decided that in order to conform to the usage of both the English and Afrikaans languages the names will be standardised to the extension 'station', abbreviated as 'Sta' instead of the 'Rail'. The change would take place as and when convenient. In cases where Station was already part of the name, the names of these offices were amplified by 'P.O.', 'P.K.' in Afrikaans. In many instances the old 'Rail' date stamps were used until an agency eventually closed down. These postal date stamps should not be confused with railway date stamps used for validating waybills. Since a date stamp was used to cancel stamps and provide an origin and date, incorrect use of railway date stamps often occurred.

I will use an enquiry from Dave Young to show the differences in date stamp inscriptions for Uniondale and Uniondale Road and Rail Office. Uniondale, in the Langkloof near Knysna, was renamed from Hopedale (Riet Valley) in 1876. The distance between Uniondale and Uniondale Road is 31km. Note that Uniondale Road Station was only renamed Barandas in 1960! Table 1 shows the operating dates of the two offices as well as the date stamps that were in use up to 1960, and their dates of use. A Barred Oval Numeral Canceller No. 437 was used at Uniondale between 1884 and 1893.

Table 1. Date stamp use

Uniondale 1876 to current	
No. 1a	28 AP 1878 to 30 MR 1912
No. 1b	31 JY 1882 to 20 FE 1911
No. 1c	21 MR 1903 to 7 FE 1912
No. 1d	21 AP 1913 to 30 AP 1947
No. 1e	2 MY 1935 to 20 FE 1957
No. 1f	13 SP 1957 to 20 AP 1961
No. 1g	30 JA 1956 to 1 OC 1992
No. 1h	31 OC 1949 to 25 JA 1971
Uniondale Road 1903 to 1960	
No. 2a	6 JA 1907 to 12 FE 1909
No. 2b	26 MR 1908 to 13 MY 1924
No. 2c	15 DE 1938 to 12 JA 1956

It is evident that Uniondale was a far more active office than the Road. At times two and even three cancellers were in use. However, it appears as if during the depression period only one date stamp was use.



Fig.1 (a to h). Date stamps in use at Uniondale up to 1960.

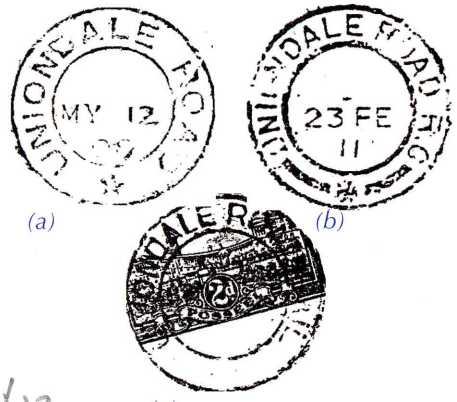


Fig.2 (a to c). Date stamps in use at Uniondale Road up to 1960.

The low level of activity at the Road office is also seen from the 14 year gap between the recorded dates of the second and third date stamps as material is relatively scarce.

Which office name existed in all four provinces before 1994?

I am pleased that this quiz engendered scratching of the head, as John Carter alerted me that Rietvlei existed in all four provinces although with spelling variations. I subsequently found that Springfield also meets the requirements. Any more offers?

Daar bestaan dikwels verwarring met die datums van kantore by stasies wat tussen spoorweg- en posjurisdiksie gewissel het en datumstempels wat oënskynlik die verkeerde naam toon. Aangesien staal datumstempels relatief duur was, is die bestaande stempel dikwels gebruik totdat dit nie meer diensbaar was nie, en dan vervang. Dus datum van jurisdiksie verandering en datumstempel gebruik het dikwels weinig met mekaar te make. Die reaksie op hierdie rubriek is verblydend, en verdere name wat in al vier provinsies gebruik is het na vore gekom, naamlik Rietvlei en Springfield.

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THE 1906 REBELLION

by Roger Porter, Cape and Natal Study Circle



The 1906 rebellion that erupted 110 years ago in Natal has commonly been called the Bambatha Rebellion *(Thompson, 2001)*. It is widely considered as one of the most shameful and racially oppressive events in South Africa's history. 'On Active Service' mail from troops partaking in military activities at this time is generally scarce (with less than 110 covers and postcards recorded), and has received relatively little attention from philatelists *(Porter, 2008)*. This article presents findings, some unexpected, based on an analysis of such mail sent by troops in the field. Possibly one of the more confusing aspects for the postal historian has been that Bambatha Rebellion mail originated from many civilian post offices situated in disparate parts and districts of the Colony. Importantly this rebellion was not confined to a specific region, but successive outbreaks erupted over a six month period following the declaration of martial law on 9 February 1906. It was over by 4 September 1906 when all military units had been demobilised. Therefore the sequence of military activities undertaken by the militia in Natal is described first.

Causes and background

Several factors precipitated the rebellion. Among these were economic, political, social and cultural factors. The economy of Natal had contracted in the aftermath of the Anglo Boer War. The government faced mounting deficits and resorted to increasing revenue through a Poll Tax of £1 on all unmarried males. This tax was in addition to the hut tax (14/-) for which young unmarried Zulu men were liable and was imposed regardless of economic status. Thus unemployed and underpaid men were unable to pay the tax given the prevailing hard economic times. 'Poll Tax' was translated into *isiZulu* as *imali yamakhanda* that is, 'a tax on a head / head tax' making it appear preposterous and incomprehensible. The tax focussed resentment and is regarded as the major factor which precipitated widespread resistance. Magistrates and the Commissioner for Native Affairs in Zululand reported resentment against the poll tax which became payable from 20 January. If it was not paid by 31 May 1906 the person would be guilty of an offence.

The suppression of the Rebellion was characterized by extreme force on the part of the Natal Government and its militia in an environment of widespread racial hostility and was heavily criticised in the British Parliament *(Guy, 2005)*. This is also evidenced by messages contained in correspondence that has survived. Historian Jeff Guy ascribes this to an ideology of white racism amongst British imperialists which reached its height at this time.

The Colonial Government had passed legislation that provided for a militia of Active and Reserve Units in order to secure its own defence. Regiments had been equipped and trained along modern European lines. Given the prevailing economic depression the strength of the Active militia was cut and the Reserves neglected. Natal therefore had to rely on outside help against the rebellion. The Transvaal provided two mounted and two foot units, and the Cape sent mounted and machine-gun units.

The rebel leaders tried to re-impose the old traditional military system that called up men for military service but which had met its demise by previous political interventions of the Natal Government. However, lacking training, modern weapons and logistical support they could not be expected to defeat an enemy in battle. Leaders recognised they could only succeed by guerrilla warfare but this form of fighting was alien to the Zulu.

Rebellion, murder and defiance: Richmond, Ixopo and Umtwalumi

A farmer who had taken his workers to pay the tax at Camperdown in January 1906 was murdered. Defiant protests occurred at several other Magistrates' Offices, and at the Mapumulo Magistrate's Office several chiefs unanimously refused to pay the tax.

The Government could not condone such defiance and on 8 February a detachment of police from Richmond was sent to apprehend the leaders. On the farm Trewirgie they found the suspects but a fight ensued and Sub-Inspector Hunt and Trooper Armstrong were killed.

Panic seemed to sweep through the European population of Natal. Measures for reprisal and defence were then adopted. The Governor Sir Henry McCallum declared martial law on 9 February. The militia was mobilized under the command of Colonel Duncan McKenzie: a Field Force comprised of the Natal Carbineers, Natal Royal Regiment, and C Battery of the Natal Field Artillery, marched from Pietermaritzburg on 10 February 1906 and arrived at Richmond on the 11th. A second party of Natal Carbineers and Border Mounted Rifles arrived at Elandskop. The mounted troops advanced and searched the Enon Forest. Two rebels were taken prisoner, faced a court martial trial and were then executed (Fig.1).

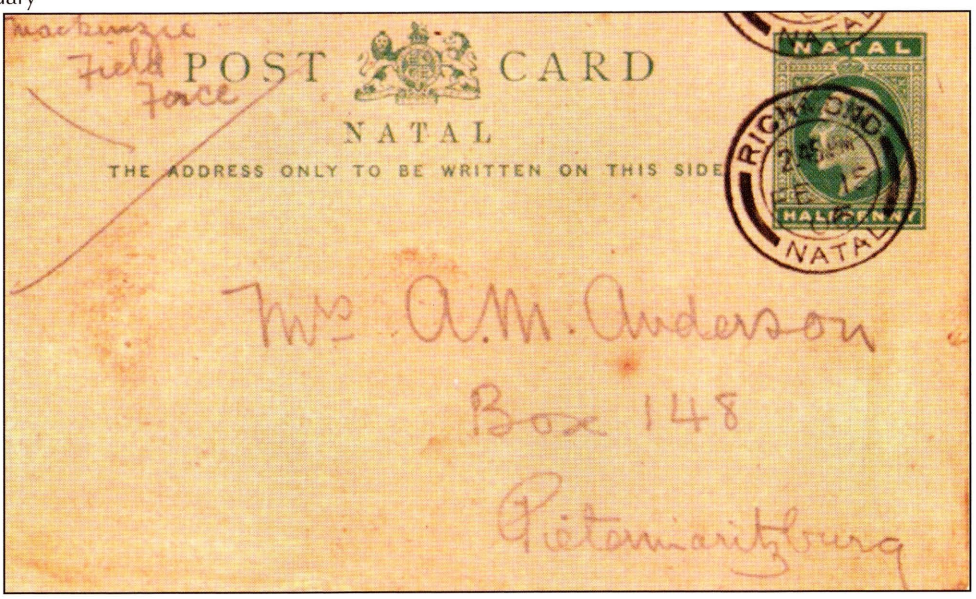

Fig.1: Postcard endorsed 'Mackenzie Field Force' cancelled Richmond 2.45 PM FE 15 06. Message reads: *Left Hoskins farm yesterday morning and went to the great bush [Enon Forest] by Gordon's farm. We remained on borders of bush while Mveli's natives (about 1000) beat bush. Found traces of the outlaws and came where they had slept the night before but could not find them. Bush about 3 miles long and very dense. Shot two prisoners who had been caught some days before. Heavy mist and rain came down and we had a very rough ride into here last night, down steep mountains, could not see more than a few yards in front of horse nearly lost[it] once or twice. Perfectly well and fit. Had a blow out at the hotel last night. First square feed I have had. Bertie.*

On receiving reports, Colonel Bru-de-Wold Commandant of Militia, ordered McKenzie to move into Natal's southern and coastal areas. The Field Force left Richmond and proceeded via Springvale, Highflats to Ixopo (Fig.2) where Chief Miskolfeli was fined

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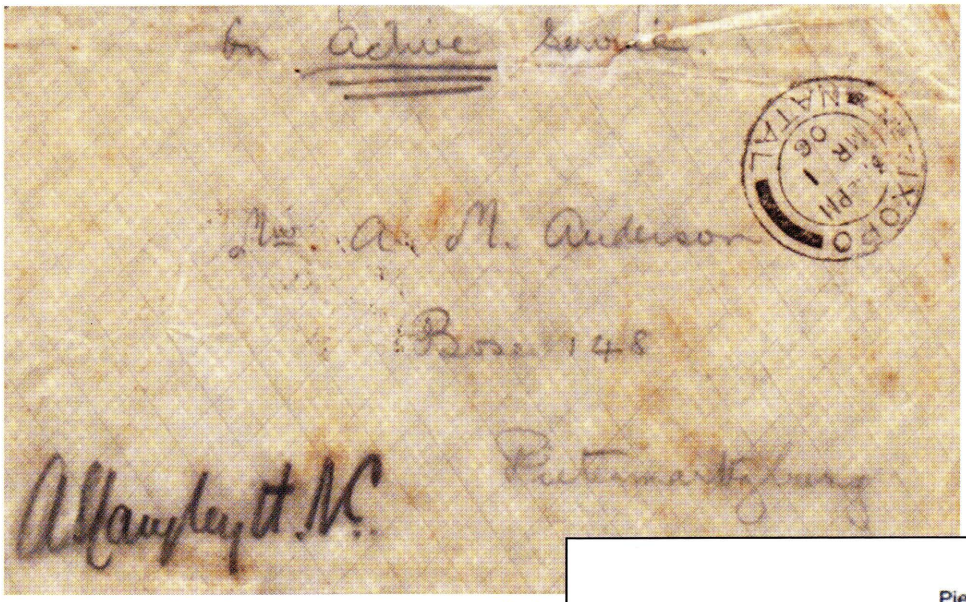


Fig.2: Cover endorsed 'On Active Service' cancelled Ixopo MR 1 06 addressed to Pietermaritzburg and counter signed A S Langley Lt. N C [Natal Carbineers].

220 head of cattle and 43 of his followers faced a court martial trial. Seven were sentenced to death for insurrection. Thirty three others received sentences of a mix of flogging, imprisonment and removal from the district.

McKenzie's Field Force left Ixopo, marching via High Flats Umzinto, Ifafa and arrived at Umtwalumi on 17 March (Map1). Chief Charlie Fynn of the Izinkumbi with some 1000 people met with McKenzie who paraded his troops, imposed a fine of 1,500 head of cattle and confiscated arms. Thirty three persons faced a court martial (Fig.3) five being sentenced to death. However the death sentences given at both Ixopo and Umtwalumi were later commuted. The danger had now passed, the Field Force was demobilised and the troops entrained for home on 31 March 1906.

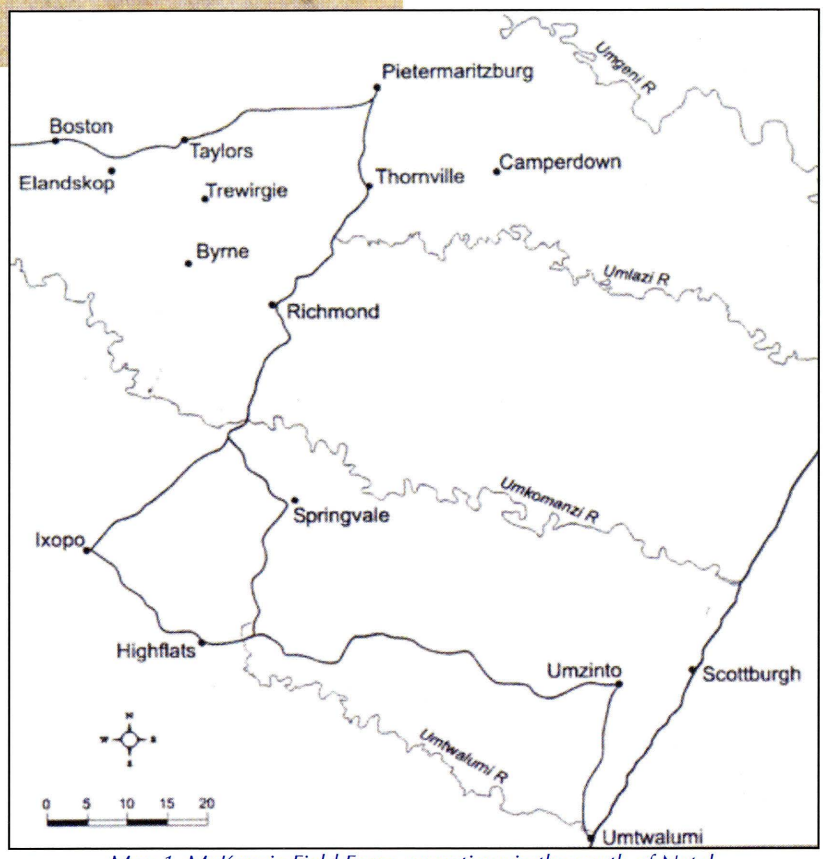
Mail from the McKenzie Field Force on active service for 49 days from 10 February to demobilisation on 31 March 1906 includes postcards, covers and letters from seven localities. These are, Elandskop, Ixopo, Richmond, Springvale, Umtwalumi Rail and Umzinto *(Porter, 2005)*. Sallo Epstein produced five coloured postcards showing scenes related to this period.

Action at Mapumulo and Keate's Drift

Disturbances had also broken out at Mapumulo district. The Umvoti Mounted Rifles, Natal Mounted Rifles and Natal Naval Corps were mobilized on 24 February 1906 under command of Col. G. Leuchars. They arrived at the Mapumulo magistracy and were reinforced by the Durban Light Infantry and 'A' battery of the Natal Field Artillery (Fig.4). Defences were constructed at Greytown (Fig.5).

Chief Ngobizembe was deprived of his position, his people were fined 1,200 cattle and 3,500 sheep and goats. Chiefs Messeni and Swaimana produced the men demanded of them. The Field Force was demobilised on 16 March after 21 days of duty. On Active Service mail has been recorded cancelled at Krantzkop, Mapumulo, and Stanger *(Porter 2005 and 2006)*. They are the scarcest items of postal history associated with the Rebellion (Fig.4). Sallo Epstein postcards are also known from this uprising (Fig.6).

Bambatha kaMancinza who had been deposed as chief of the Amazondi also defied the Government over payment of the poll tax. In April he attempted to regain his chieftaincy and Magistrate J. W. Cross of Greytown accompanied by Natal Police went to investigate reports that Bambatha had seized power. They stopped at the Impanza Hotel and Inspector Rose set out to investigate but was attacked by Bambatha (Fig.7). The police party fled towards Keate's Drift taking the people from the hotel with them. The hotel and a nearby farm house were looted. Colonel Mansel sent 151 officers and men to Keate's Drift on 4 April. It was after dark when



Map 1. McKenzie Field Force operations in the south of Natal.



Fig.3: Sallo Epstein postcard showing Col Royston questioning Chief Charlie Fynn (a relative of the Natal pioneer Henry Francis Fynn) as to the role his people took in the recent disturbances in the Umtwalumi area.

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Fig.4: Stampless postcard from a member of the Natal Mounted Rifles at Mapumulo MR 1 06 endorsed 'Active Service' addressed to Pinetown with arrival cancellation 2 MR 06 and 1d tax mark. The postcard was taxed as it had not been endorsed by the unit commanding officer and thus did not comply with PO 'Active Service' Regulations.

the column came to a point where about 150 rebels lay in ambush. The column was attacked and a brief but desperate fight ensued in which four police were killed and four wounded. They then proceeded to Greytown without further incident.

That none of the rebels was killed was attributed by them to having been specially 'doctored' (with muti) against the bullets of the police. They saw this as a victory; the medicine and King Dinuzulu's name were seen as potent recruiting factors thereafter.

The Government was immediate in its response. On 7 April the Umvoti Mounted Rifles were mobilized under the command of Colonel Leuchars. However Bambatha with a small band of supporters had crossed the Tugela River into Zululand and moved to hide in the Nkandhla forest.

The chiefs living in this area were called upon to apprehend Bambatha, but the rebellion attracted many Zulu people who were actively recruited. It was obvious that the police would not be able to cope with a larger outbreak of hostilities. The Native Affairs Commissioner in Zululand, Sir Charles Saunders, made Empandhleni (Nkandhla) his headquarters and Colonel Mansel's police arrived on 12 April. A supply convoy escorted by the Natal Carbineers arrived on 25 April thus securing the magistracy.

Operations in Zululand

A Zululand Field Force commanded by Colonel McKenzie (Fig.8) was formed and sent to Dundee arriving on 1 May. He was in overall command of all units which also included a column at Dundee comprising the Transvaal Mounted Rifles and Royston's Horse that had been recruited from outside the Colony. The Transvaal Government had offered Natal 500 mounted and equipped men who formed the Transvaal Mounted Rifles under the command of Lt. Col. W. F. Barker.

The Zululand Field Force left Dundee on 3 May arriving at Empandhleni on the 8th. Meanwhile, a reconnaissance by Colonel Mansel towards Cetshwayo's grave in the Nkandhla Forest was attacked by a rebel force and was defeated (Fig. 9). The Umvoti Field Force under Col. Leuchars and the Helpmakaar Field Force under the command of Major Murray-Smith were formed and together with the Zululand Field Force made converging movements on the area occupied by rebel forces. In a series of demonstrations the Umvoti Field Force prevented further rebellious activities. By the end of the first week in May, magistracies had been secured and forces positioned to prevent the outbreak of the rebellion in other districts.

Search operations were undertaken by the Zululand, Umvoti, and Helpmekaar Field Forces in the Nkandhla and Umsinga areas between 10 and 24 May. They found places inhabited by rebels, sympathisers and dependants. Homesteads were burnt, livestock seized, and food supplies destroyed. Between 25 and 31 May the Zululand force undertook a series of drives in the Nkandhla forest. Mackay's presence at Nqutu had the effect of forcing the rebels into Nkandhla. On 28 May, Leuchar was attacked by the rebels who suffered a bloody repulse, but being far from his base he could not follow up.



Fig 5: Defensive wire entanglements and sand bags at the Greytown Post Office.



Fig.6: Postcard with caption 'The Native Rebellion. Chief Gobazembi and his brother Paulo under guard'.

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Fig.7: Postcard with contemporary photograph entitled 'Bambata and impi'.



Fig.8: Colonel Sir Duncan McKenzie, K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D.

The drives in the Nkhandhla Forest continued with varied results. On the 29th, 40 rebels were killed and 400 cattle were taken. On 30 June, 21 rebels were killed and 40 cattle and goats captured, on 1 June 300 cattle were taken, and on the 3rd a squadron of Royston's Horse was ambushed and four men were killed and 11 wounded as well as 140 rebels killed and over 200 cattle captured.

Battle of Mome Gorge

Following a visit to King Dinuzulu, Bambatha undertook aggressive displays of force on the Natal border in an attempt to recruit people. However the drives undertaken by the Field Force had two effects on the rebels. Those hiding in Nkandhla forest called on those at Macala for help. They left their camp and moved to join Bambatha at Mome. Field intelligence reported the movement and McKenzie ordered Barker to move to block the mouth of the gorge while his column marched down a ridge to surround the rebels. The result was the virtual destruction of the rebels on 10 June in the Battle of Mome.

The battle ended Bambatha's role in the rebellion; he and several of his leaders had been killed together with some 500 men, and an even larger number wounded.

Mail from the Zululand, Umvoti and Helpmakaar Field Forces

The major military activity during the rebellion was in Zululand from early April up to 29 June 1906 and therefore the majority of mail associated with the event was cancelled there (Map 2). 'On Active Service' mail was from members of either the Zululand, Umvoti or Helmakaar field forces. Covers and postcards have been recorded from 15 regiments or units with the majority being cancelled at Nkandhla, Dundee, Nqutu and Helpmakaar *(Porter, 2006)*. Several series of illustrated postcards were produced by Hallis and Company of Port Elizabeth as black and white photographs, by St A. Wilson on glossy white board, or as a series of 'comic' postcards illustrated by either J. E. M. Brom or by H. H. Grellier.



Fig.9: On Active Service cover with enclosed letter cancelled Nkandhla Zululand MY 5 06 addressed to Pietermaritzburg backstamped on arrival on MY 10 06, endorsed R M Tanner Lt. O.C. J Squad N. C.

Part of the letter reads *"Two squads had gone out and ventured further than on previous days and our scouts came into contact with the enemy. It appears that the natives allowed our advanced guard to pass them before they showed themselves. As they arose a small body of perhaps 50 natives appeared in front. The rest of the squadron was only about 100 yards away and the advanced sections retired onto the main body, often dismounting and firing a few shots. I believe the scouts shot four natives but I am not sure that they were all killed or not but some of the assegais came very close. They destroyed several kraals and brought in a few cattle. We spent yesterday in making a similar demonstration but went into a different valley. We burnt many huts and brought in a few cattle."*

Rebellion breaks out at Mapumulo

Although the rebellion in Zululand was over and forces withdrawn, the rebellion had moved south of the Tugela River to the Mapumulo area. On 18 June a trading store and house at Thring's Post were looted and the storekeeper killed and a convoy was ambushed at the Otimati river. To re-enforce the Natal Mounted Rifles, Durban Light Infantry and Natal Police, columns under the command of Mansel, Dick, and Mackay were ordered to proceed to Krantzkop arriving there at the end of June. The Transvaal Mounted Rifles under Colonel Wools-Sampson moved to Lower Tugela to guard against the rebellion again spilling over into Zululand. Leuchars sent the Natal Mounted Rifles, Border Mounted Rifles and Natal Carbineers to Mapumulo. He marched into Messeni's ward on the 27th where his forces demonstrated their superiority in a pitched battle at Peyana where about 70 rebels were killed and only one trooper was wounded.

McKenzie decided that priority was to be given to crushing the Qwabe rebels as Messeni had the largest impi. He ordered another convergent movement with three columns under his command and a fourth under Colonel Barker. McKenzie concentrated his forces at Thring's Post. On 3 July the four columns advanced on Messeni's kraal and rebel forces opposed Mackay's, Woolls-Sampson's (Battle of Mpumulwana), and Barker's (Battle of Ponjwana), columns. Nevertheless the columns came together near their objective and Messeni's kraal was destroyed. The rebels fled the district. On 5 July these forces returned to Thring's Post.

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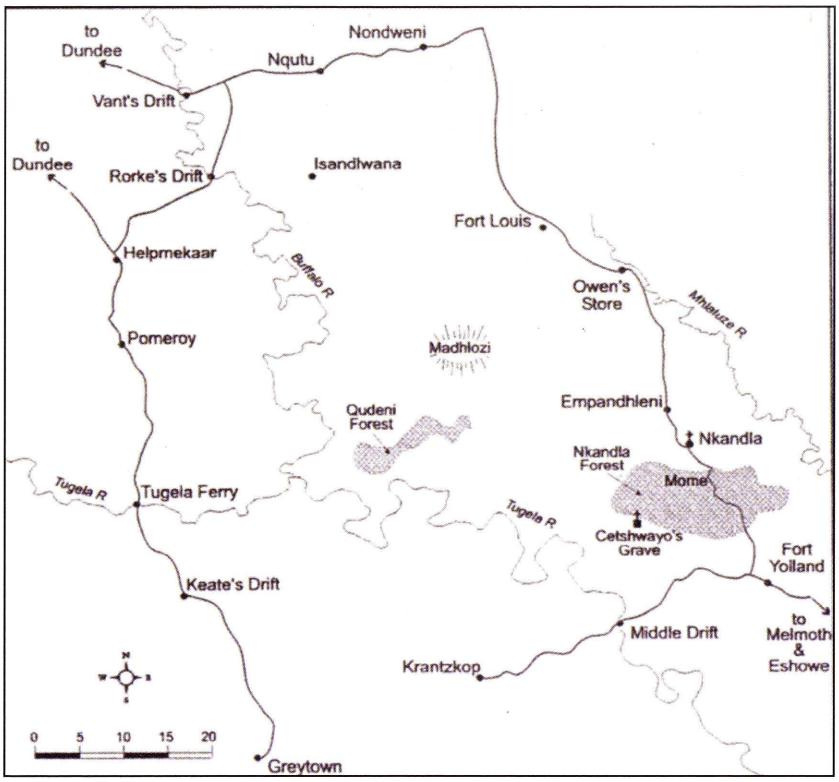

Map 2. Are of operation of the Zululand, Umvoti, and Helpmakaar Field Forces.

'On Active Service' mail entered the postal system at several towns namely; Kearsney, Krantzkop, Ginginhlovo (Fig.10), Mapumulo, Stanger and Tongaat from members of eight regiments or units from 20 June to when most units were demobilised *(Porter, 2006)*.

Final operations

On 14 July the rebellion was practically over. Offensive operations were stopped and surrenders encouraged. From 15 to 27 July regiments and reserves were either demobilised or relocated to undertake garrison duties at various small towns e.g. Ndwedwe, Mapumulo, Kearsney, and Stanger.

On the 30th mounted units were ordered to demobilize. The Transvaal Mounted Rifles returned home by train (Fig.11). Some units particularly the Natal Carbineers, were retained in Special Service Squadrons to patrol the Mapumulo, Tongaat, and Empandhleni districts. Royston's Horse was given the responsibility of final pacification at the end of August and was posted to Krantzkop. By 4 September 1906 all units had been demobilised.

Collection of taxes continued during the rebellion period, and both captured and surrendered rebels were tried under martial law. Natal forces had lost 36 men killed and about 67 men had been wounded. Of the approximately 4,000 rebels, an estimated 2,652 had been killed *(Thompson 2001)*.

Mail sent during the Bambatha Rebellion

'On Active Service' mail from the Bambatha Rebellion differs from such mail associated with that of the Anglo Boer War from two aspects. Firstly, postal regulations required that for mail to be carried free of postage from soldiers on active service it was to be endorsed by the commanding officer giving his name, rank and regiment. These requirements were not strictly adhered to during the Zulu Rebellion. Mail was at times either not endorsed or was endorsed by the writer himself. This practice was usually condoned by the postal authorities, and may have been because postal staff would have been sympathetic to the men fighting in the field.

Secondly, although censorship of military mail had been strictly applied as recently as the Anglo Boer War of 1899 – 1902, there is no evidence of censorship of mail during the period of the Zulu Rebellion. This is some what surprising as messages on postcards and in letters often included very explicit details of sensitive information that would be highly informative to an enemy. For example, details such as the number of troops, routes and times of marches, strength of forces employed including guns and wagons, camp defences, morale, the estimated strength and location of enemy forces. Such details would normally not have been permitted under martial law and such information that could aid the enemy would have been deleted or removed by a censor.

The *laissez-faire* approach to matters of censorship by the militia was possibly due to a realisation that there was no need for such controls even though

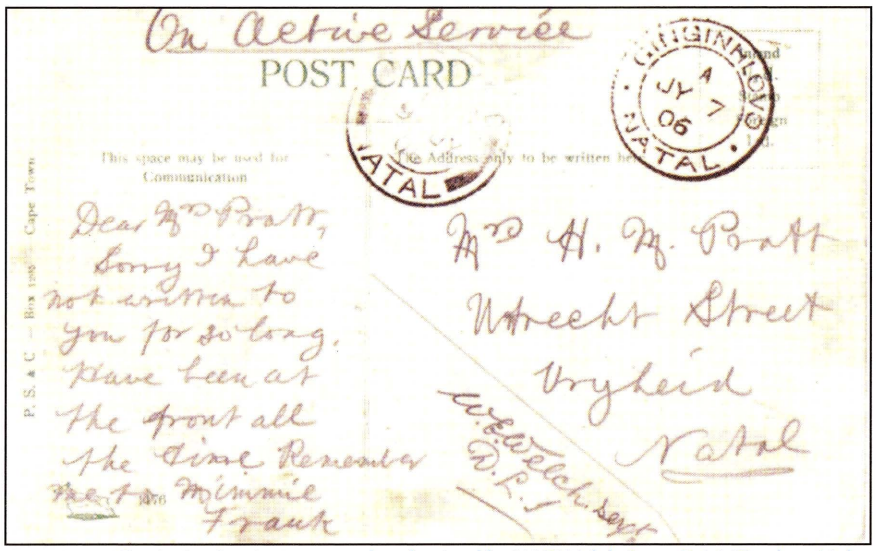

Fig.10: 1906 'On Active Service' postcard authorised by W E Welch Sergt D L I (Durban Light Infantry), cancelled Ginginhlovo JY 7 06 addressed to Vryheid with arrival strike 9 JY 06).

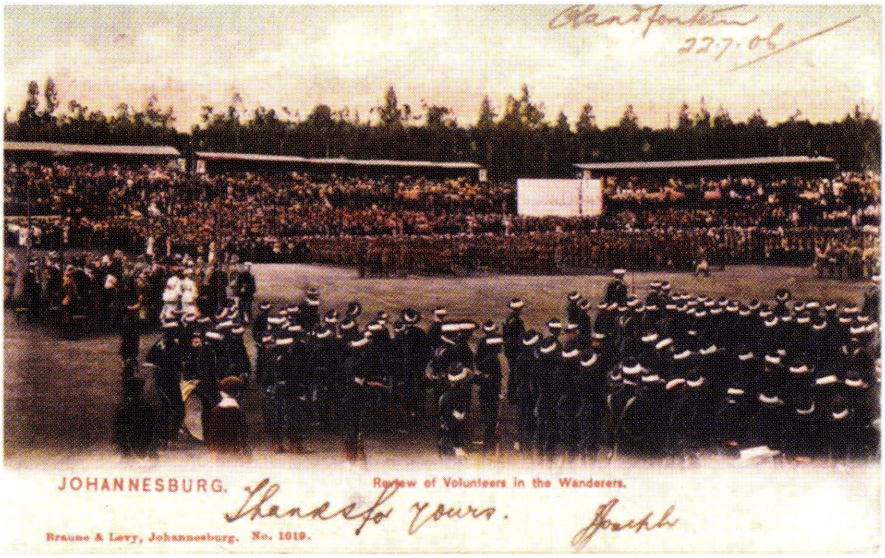

Fig.11: Postcard showing the review of the volunteers at the Wanderers, Johannesburg dated 22 July 1906 published by Braune and Levy, Johannesburg

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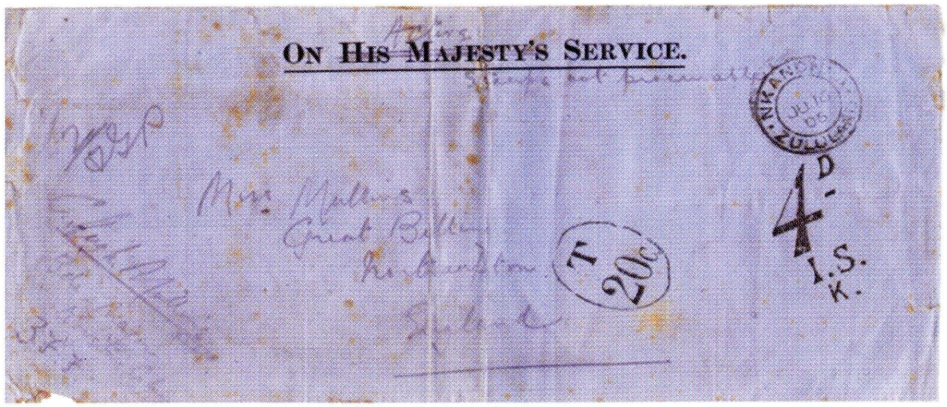

Fig.12: (below) OHMS cover cancelled Nkandhla JU 16 / 06 addressed to England with Natal and UK taxe marks. Back stamped Durban and London JY 14 06. Facsimile cachet of Capt. C. Hugh Mullins, Brigade Major, Royston's Horse. ZFF.

mail was transmitted through a civilian postal system. The Natal Post Office employed many Zulu workers, many of whom would have been illiterate. Nevertheless some could read and may possibly have been supportive of the rebellion. The risk that Zulu sympathisers would pass on such strategic information received no attention. However it is apparent that the Zulu rebels lacked a sufficiently sophisticated intelligence system that could have used such information in planning offensive or retaliatory action.

Free franking privilege was not granted to members of the Natal Police. Such mail is rare and can be identified only by the content of a message. Mail endorsed 'On Active Service' and without stamps addressed to destinations beyond the borders of Natal was taxed by the postal authorities (Fig.12). Examples seen include mail addressed to the Cape, Transvaal and UK. Few items of official mail have been recorded and may be identified if the cover is endorsed or printed 'On His Majesty's Service' and has a facsimile signature of the office of the person officially designated by the post office (Fig.12). The rarest and most difficult Zulu Rebellion mail to find is that sent from one regiment to another, that is, inter-regimental mail *(Porter, 2006)*.

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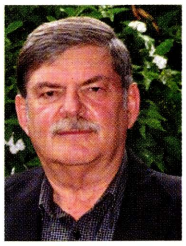
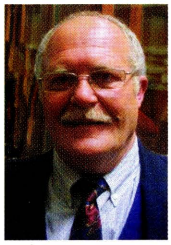
THE POSTAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE POST OFFICE IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, *CIRCA* 1935

A new chapter in terms of publicity and approach for the Union Post Office

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Johan Joubert, AFV(Pretoria)





THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE IN 1934

The introduction into the Post Office organisation, in August 1934, of a Public Relations or Publicity Office, marked another step forward in the gradual process of commercialising the Union Post Office (fig.1). At that stage there were officials in the Post Office who felt that it was not in the nature of a civil service department to advertise. In the end there was agreement that the adoption by government departments of publicity and advertising ideas was recognised as a natural and indeed inevitable consequence of the development of recent years. This especially applicable in a section of the government service such as the Post Office which is a commercial concern whose tentacles reach all parts of the country and whose activities touch at some time the life of every member of the community.



Fig.1: The letterhead of the Public Relations or Publicity section of the Post Office based at the Head Office in Pretoria.

This was actually an unexpected move under difficult socio-economic conditions prevailing in the Union of South Africa in the 1930s. A leading economist observed at that stage that a few appreciate how poor South Africa as a mining and agricultural country was before the sharp rise of the gold price in 1933. In 1929 the economy suffered a setback in the Depression which started with the crash of the New York Stock Exchange. South African exports plummeted and a crisis in economic confidence developed on a scale never experienced before. In South Africa this was compounded by a prolonged drought. The price of maize, the major agricultural product dropped by half between 1929 and 1939. Faced also by a worldwide depression farmers were challenged like never before. On 20 September 1931 Britain announced that it was going off the gold standard. Fears that South Africa would abandon the gold standard caused many investors to send large sums of money out of the country.

Despite all of this the Postmaster General of the Union, Mr. H.J. Lenton, in the PMG Report for 1935 uttered the following positive words: *"The Post Office is truly a large business organization and if its officials are compelled to curb that spirit of adventure which to some is one of the attractions of commercial life, if it offers no* 'glittering prizes' *and little opportunity for the use of* 'sharp words'*, it does afford an interesting and extremely useful career to those who value more than wealth the satisfaction derived from public service."* In all of this the PMG was supported by the then Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Public Works, Senator the Hon. C.F. Clarkson OBE (fig.2).

The PMG further added: *"I do not think that anybody to-day has a fuller realisation of the part that the Post Office plays in the life of the community than I and my senior officers. We realise that every phase of domestic, social and business life is dependent in some way upon the convenience provided by the department and we are extremely anxious that the public shall obtain the utmost possible benefit from these services at the smallest possible cost to themselves, but, as I have said, there is a point beyond which, in its desire to serve the public, the department may not go".*

The functions of the publicity department were many and varied. It had to inculcate in all branches of the Post Office a spirit of real public service. Furthermore it was the duty of this newly formed department to inform the public about Post Office laws and regulations and the full spectrum of services provided by the Post Office. To achieve all of this the Post Office started an advertising campaign with newly designed colourful brochures, distributed leaflets and pamphlets to educate the public and participated in agricultural and other types of shows. Informative articles, about the services provided by the Post Office, were also published in the press.

The aim of this article is to explain and illustrate this new approach of the Union Post Office circa 1935. At that stage the Post Office was already a massive organisation and in a pamphlet with the heading *'Safeguard your mail'* it was indicated that the post office handles a total of 350,000,000 letters and parcels every year of which 3,300,000 were undelivered. This amount of mail emanated from a total of 3,212 Post Offices open in 1935 all over the Union and from sources outside.

A POST OFFICE GUIDE AND POST OFFICE SERVICES PAMPHLET AND OTHER CARDS ISSUED TO THE PUBLIC

The Union Post Office went out of its way to inform and educate the public of the different services provided by the Post Office by means of the following publications:

- Post Office Guide. This was made available to the public published in Afrikaans and English obtainable at any post office at 6d a copy (fig.3).
- Post Office Services Booklet. This was a summarised version of the *Post Office Guide* of most of the services provided by the Post Office .
- Post Office Guide for Natives. The Post Office also catered for the needs of Africans by providing a booklet in the following African languages: 'Seshuana, Sesotho, Zulu, Xhosa' (figs.4&5).



Fig.2: Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Public Works, Senator the Hon. C.F. Clarkson OBE.

A card with the message: *"It will assist the Post Office if you will, as far a possible post your letters early in the day"* was also distributed to customers. In the accompanying circular, it was indicated to postmasters that cards must be distributed to retail-stores and business houses whose letters are posted in large

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quantities late in the afternoon of each day. Furthermore a special envelope was designed and distributed for the purpose of posting the different leaflets to clients of Post Office.

AIRMAIL SERVICES

Hasso Reisener indicated that on 1 February 1934 the Government took over Union Airways, and on 1 February 1935 also S.W.A. Airways, to establish the South African Airways. On 1 January 1935, the rates of postage of air mail letters and postcards within the Union were reduced from 3d. per ½oz to 1½d per ½oz on letters and from 1½d. to 1d. on postcards. Since the air service was now under control of the Union Government and the Post Office had full responsibility for handling mail, more attention was paid to publicising the airmail facilities. Efforts were made to make the public more conscious about the airmail services provided by the Post Office (figs.6&7).

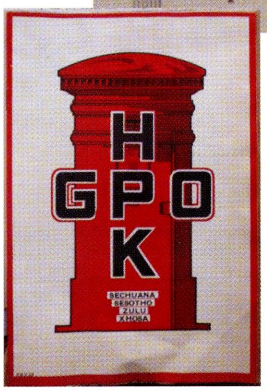


Fig.4: Pillar Box logo indicating that the Post Office also catered for the Black clients in their own languages.

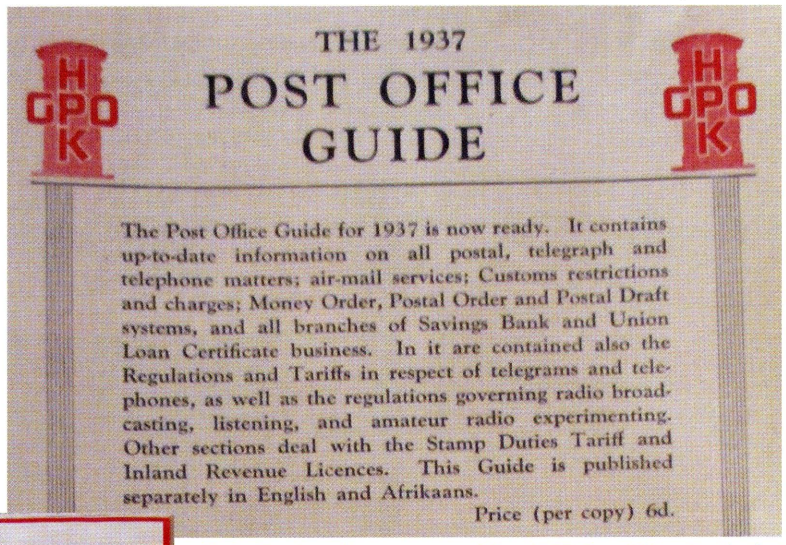
To give effect to this the Post Office in 1935 embarked on holding exhibitions in various centres to draw attention to their activities and to make the public aware of the advantages of using the airmail services. Besides participating in agricultural and other shows to showcase their postal facilities, the Post Office also staged separate Post Office exhibitions in some of the main towns like Johannesburg, Cape Town and East London (figs.8&9).

POST OFFICE EXHIBITIONS DURING THE YEARS 1934-1936

The Post Office formed part of the Rand Ideal Homes Exhibition in Johannesburg over the period 6 to 15 September 1934. At this exhibition sponsored by *The Rand Daily Mail* newspaper the Post Office exhibited modern developments in telephony and telegraphy. A special date stamp was used at the exhibition (fig.10).

The Post Office organised a special exhibition in the Fletcher & Cartwrights Tea Room in Cape Town from 7 to 18 May 1935 where a special temporary post office had been opened. At this exhibition postal services in general and the air mails were publicised. Leaflets were handed out advertising special souvenir post cards that were handed out free of charge. Most of these post cards were sent overseas making use of the new postal rates known as the ½d 'All Up Air Mai'l rate. A special date stamp was also used during the exhibition (figs.11&12).

An Airmail propaganda cachet reading: *"Sent by airmail to demonstrate the rapidity of the air services/Per lugpos versend om die snelheid van die lugdiens te laat blyk"* was also introduced in September 1935. This new innovation was done in collaboration with the South African Airways to advertise the airmail services. At certain main centres about 20 to 30 letters were selected at random from the normal mail and included with the airmail letters.


THE 1937
POST OFFICE
GUIDE

The Post Office Guide for 1937 is now ready. It contains up-to-date information on all postal, telegraph and telephone matters; air-mail services; Customs restrictions and charges; Money Order, Postal Order and Postal Draft systems, and all branches of Savings Bank and Union Loan Certificate business. In it are contained also the Regulations and Tariffs in respect of telegrams and telephones, as well as the regulations governing radio broadcasting, listening, and amateur radio experimenting. Other sections deal with the Stamp Duties Tariff and Inland Revenue Licences. This Guide is published separately in English and Afrikaans.

Price (per copy) 6d.

Fig.3: The introductory page of The 1937 Post Office Guide that was available for 6d.

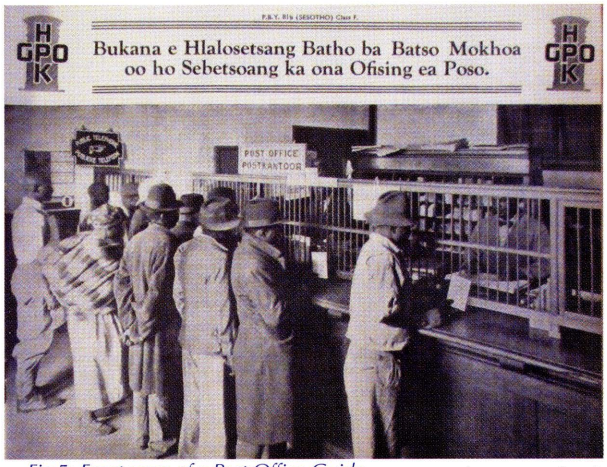


Fig.5: Front page of a Post Office Guide printed in Sesotho.

The Post Office also participated in the Radio Exhibition show that was held from 16 to 26 October 1935 in Johannesburg. This special exhibition sponsored by *The Star* newspaper included a Post Office exhibit to publicise their postal facilities, especially radio communications and airmails.

The Post Office also organised a separate exhibition in East London from 2 December 1935 to 31 January 1936. This exhibition was organised on similar lines to the others previously held. Special post cards were handed out and a special date stamp used similar to the Cape Town one (fig.13).

A SELECTION OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE POST OFFICE

A selection of advertisements, booklets and pamphlets advertising the various services provided by the Post Office since 1935 is discussed and illustrated:

Business Reply Service As indicated in the PMG Report for 1935, a modern facility at that time, known as the Business Reply Service was introduced on 1 April 1934. By means of this service advertisers and business firms etc. could send out with their circulars unstamped envelopes or cards which their clients may use for their replies. The replies are posted unstamped and postage, plus a small additional charge, is collected from the original sender (figs.14&15).

Registered Mail The registration system was an important service provided by the Post Office to secure the transmission of articles



Fig.6: Brochure issued to make the public more aware about the airmail services provided by the Union Post Office.

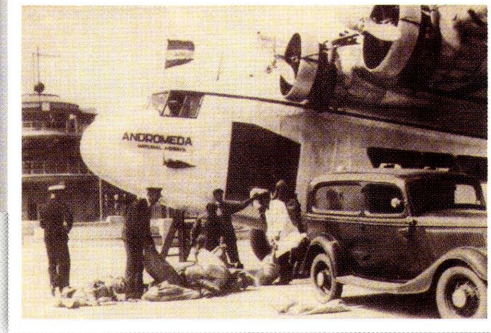


Fig.7: Unloading air mail from Great Britain and Europe at the Rand Airport in Germiston circa 1935.

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Fig.8: Post Office stall at the Ideal Homes Exhibition in Johannesburg during August – September 1934 (Source: The Post Office 1910-1935, p. 127).

committed to the post. Whilst compulsory registration was insisted upon in respect of articles containing coins, precious stones, jewellery, bank notes and uncrossed postal orders exceeding 1s in value, the use of this system was recommended for all packets which contained articles of value.

The charge for registration was 4d., in addition to the usual postal charges, and in the event of the loss of a registered article, the sender is under certain circumstances, paid compensation up to an amount of £2 in respect of International and £5 in respect of Inland registered items (figs. 16,17).

International Reply Coupons As all postal articles were required to be franked with the postage stamps of the country in which they were posted, an International Reply coupon was introduced, by means of which senders of letters to other countries were enabled to supply their correspondents abroad with stamps to cover the postage for replies.

The exchange value of an International reply Coupon was an amount sufficient to cover the postage on a letter weighing up to one once exchanged between any of the countries which were members of the International Postal Union (fig.18).

Householder Circulars Printed matter in covers addressed merely 'The Householder' (with or without place of delivery) and bearing the words *'Postage Paid'* printed or handstamped where the postage would normally be affixed was accepted for delivery within the Union of South Africa only, at the rate of postage prescribed for printed papers less a discount of 25 percent.

Express Delivery Service The express messenger service was utilised for the rapid dispatch or collection of local letters or parcels, for the special delivery at their destinations, of letters or parcels which have been sent by post in the ordinary way. The charges were roughly at the rate of 6d. per mile travelled by the special messenger, plus train, taxi or tram fare as might have been necessary (fig.19).

Parcel Post The following was indicated in the Post Office guide regarding Parcel Post: *"Parcels must not be posted in a letter box but must be handed in to the Post Office counter. Parcels must be posted at least a quarter of an hour before the time for closing the mail by which the are intended to go forward. A certificate of posting can be obtained at a cost of one penny. Inland parcels by may be registered."* It was also indicated that a Cash on Delivery Service was available in connection with inland parcels (figs.20-21).

Cash on Delivery Service This service operated within the Union, South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. It provided for the delivery by the Post Office of parcels and the collection and transmission to senders of the amounts due. A fee of 1s. in addition to the usual parcel rates was charged for parcels, which amounts up to £1 had to be collected, and 3d. for each additional £1 or part thereof (fig.22).

Agricultural Parcel Post The agricultural parcel post provided facilities for the transmission, within the Union and Basutoland, at a reduced rate of postage, of primary products of the soil, horticultural products, dairy produce and foodstuffs produced within the Union.

Telegraph Services The following types of telegrams were available in the Post Office:

Ordinary Telegrams in a plain language, Urgent Telegrams, Code Telegrams (CDE), Cypher Telegrams, Greetings Telegrams, Good News Telegrams and 'De Luxe' Telegrams (fig. 23).



Fig.9: Post Office stall at the Pretoria Agricultural Show in August 1935 (Source: The Post office 1910-1935, p.128).

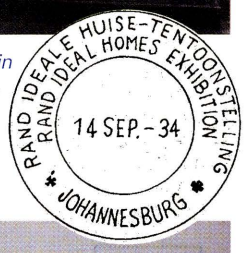


Fig.10: Special date stamp used at the Post Office Rand Ideal Homes exhibition in Johannesburg in 1934. (Source: Hasso Reisener, Joubert collection*).*

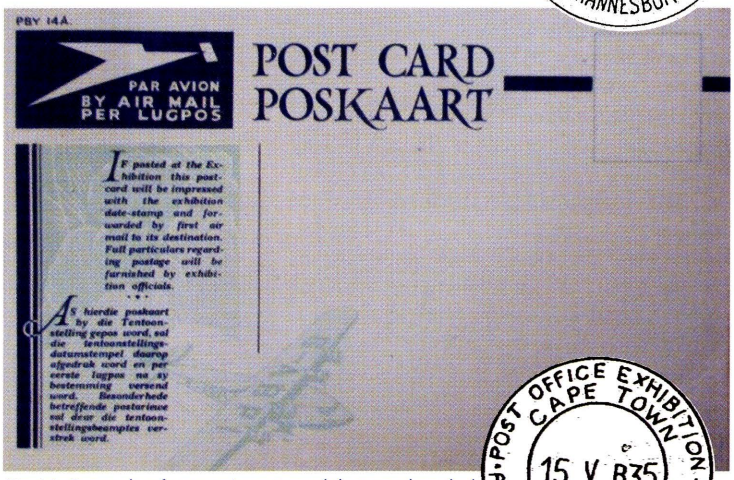
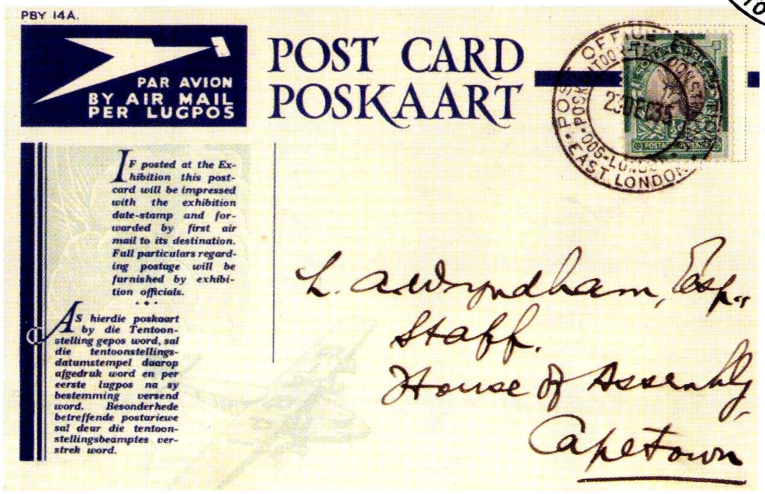


Fig.11: Example of souvenir post card that was handed out free of charge to advertise the airmail service.



Above - Fig.12: Special date-stamp used at the Post Office exhibition in Cape Town in 1935.

(Source: Hasso Reisener, Joubert collection*).*

Fig.13: An example of the souvenir post card that was handed out free of charge and posted from the Post Office exhibition held in East London on 23 December 1935. (in the Joubert collection*).*

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MOBILE POST OFFICES

According to Page, South Africa was the first country in the then British Empire to introduce Mobile Post Offices. The first vehicle was introduced at the end of January 1937. This additional service was in line with the new approach to provide a better service to the public (figs.24 & 25).

In an extract of the Annual Report of the Postmaster General of the Union of South Africa published in April 1937, the following was indicated:

"On 28 January 1937 an arrangement was introduced in Johannesburg which had not been previously tried in South Africa. This was a specially constructed motor-van fitted as a post office to serve residents in the more remote and less densely populated suburbs of the city. This motor-van, officially designated 'Mobile Post Office No. 1' daily visits the more distant suburbs of Johannesburg according to the needs of each locality…".

The Mobile Post Office system was extended and in July 1940 the second Mobile Post Office was put into service also in Johannesburg and on 2 September 1940 Mobile Post Office no. 3 was put into service in Port Elizabeth.



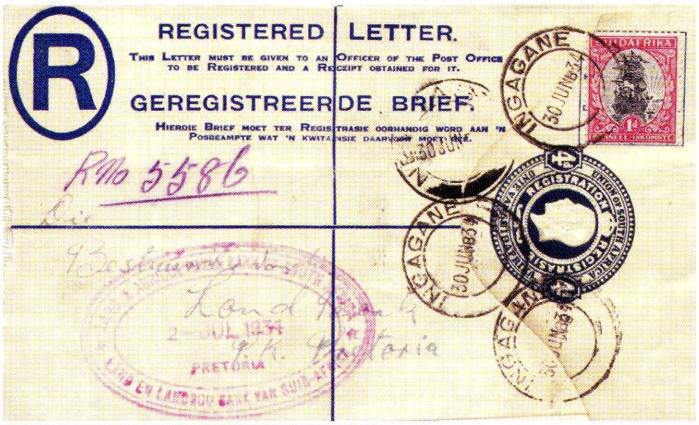
Fig.14: Poster encouraging business people to use the Business Reply Service.



Fig.15: Pamphlet explaining the functioning of the Business Reply Service.



Fig.16: Front page of a booklet explaining the advantages of the registered letter system.



At right. Fig.17: Item registered at INGAGANE (Station) Post Office on 30 June 1934. (Kamffer collection).



Fig.18: Pamphlet advertising the Imperial Reply Coupon for 3d. that could be exchanged in any part of the British Empire and the International Reply Coupon for 5d. that could be exchanged in any part of the world.

CONCLUSION

In can truly be stated that under the positive and visionary leadership of the Minister of Posts, Senator the Hon. C.F. Clarkson OBE, and the Postmaster General, Mr H.J. Lenton, the Union Post Office reached new heights in the 1930s and provided an excellent service to the public. They managed to establish a new brand for the Union Post Office which is reflected by the many innovative ways in which the publicity campaign was conducted.

The positive outcome of all of this was reflected in an article in *The Cape Times* published in November 1936 with the heading: *"Out With the Night Mail - The Post Office Never Sleeps"* wherein the effectiveness and dedication of the Post Office personnel to timely distribute mail was described.

From a philatelic and postal history point of view these Post Office stationery and publicity pamphlets, documents and booklets forms part of our rich and interesting Post Office history.



Fig.19: Poster advertising Parcel Post system - a wrapped parcel.

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- Union of South Africa, Post Office Services, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1939.
- Union of South Africa, The Post Office, 1910-1935. The Postmaster-General's Annual Report 1934-1935, embodied in a Résumé of Developments since the year 1910, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1935.



Fig.20: Parcel posted at the 2d rate from Lady Grey in October 1933.

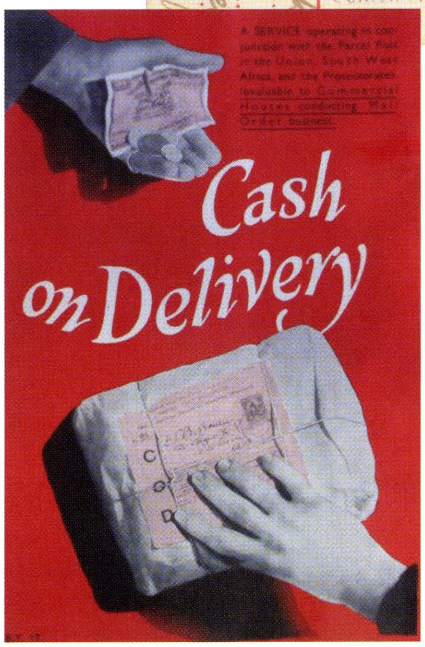

Fig.22: Poster advertising the Cash on Delivery system with the inscription (top right): "A Service operating in conjunction with the Parcel Post in the Union, SWA and the Protectorates".

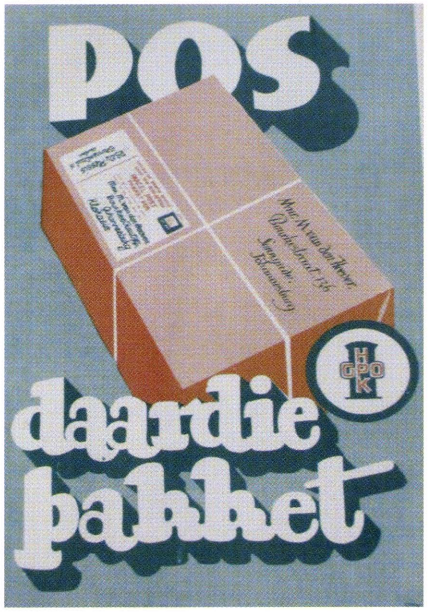

Fig.21: Afrikaans Poster advertising Parcel Post Service.

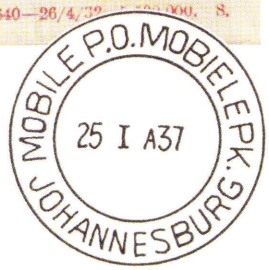

Fig. 24: Mobile Post Office no. 1 date stamp. (Source: Page, W.A., The Mobile Post Offices of South Africa)



Fig.23: Pamphlet to advertise 'Christmas and New Year Greetings Telegrams' at a cost of only 9d for 12 words.

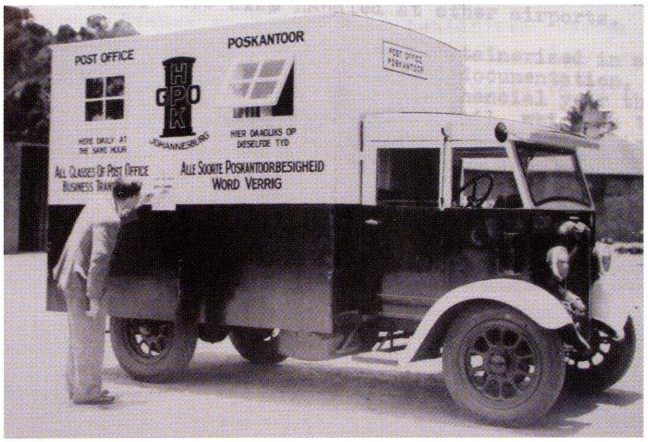

Fig. 25: The first mobile post office van used in Johannesburg painted with the legend "Post Office" plus the GPO Pillar Box symbol and advertising "all classes of Post Office business transacted" – "Here daily at the same hour", in English and Afrikaans. This vehicle remained in use from 25 January 1937 until 31 January 1939.



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by Moira Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society



MY BIG FAT JEWISH WEDDING !

(Apologies to the film with the similar name!)

There can be no wedding without *Amor, Liebe, Lubire* - Love in any language – followed by a courtship (Figs.1-3). Plans are made and invitations sent out (Figs.4 & 5). That was in the days before we had postal strikes and the internet! A dress must be chosen and flowers coordinated – white roses being a traditional favourite (Figs.6 & 7).







Figs.1-3: The romance and courtship begins…



Fig.4: Families meet to discuss the details.



Fig.5: Invitations go out…

Marriage contracts have been around for a long time; known as dowries, lobola, ante-nuptials and today even the 'pre-nup' (for celebrities, who fear the union may be short-lived and end in expensive tears). In Jewish societies there is the *Ketubah*. In ancient times the marriage ceremony was performed in public in the presence of the elders of the congregation and was the occasion for a feast.

There was no need for a document to prove to the community that the couple was living together in accordance with the law, as this was self-evident.

However, over time, there was a general consensus that a legal sanction for the marriage act was required and the *Ketubah* was born (Fig.8).

It is a certificate that protects the woman's rights, status and property and also incorporates the obligation of the groom towards his bride to supply all her needs in their future life together. The tradition is first mentioned in the *Apocrypha*, in the *Book of Tobit*: "And they inscribed these matters in a book, then they ate, drank and blessed the L-rd". After months of planning, at last the big day dawns… According to Jewish custom, there is even a special day on which to conduct a wedding - *Av 15*, i.e. during the eleventh month of the year in the Jewish calendar. This was a holiday celebrated by dancing, and all unmarried maidens dressed in white garments, danced in the vineyard; whoever did not have a wife sought one there. In nature, this day also marked the beginning of the harvest of the summer crops and the grapes were picked for wine-making (Fig.9).

The clothes may be different from ages past, but the marriage ceremony is still based on old traditions and is associated with more customs than any other ceremony in Judaism (Fig.10).



Fig.8: An illuminated Ketubah from Morocco whose text reads: "A woman of worth, who can find? Her price is above rubies"

A central part of the proceeding is known in Hebrew/Aramaic as *kiddushin*, meaning 'sanctification' – an expression of the sacred bond forged between the bride and groom. The prophets and later the rabbis used the term to describe the relationship between G-d and the people of Israel, Israel and the Torah, Israel and the Sabbath.



Fig.10: Josef Israels' beautiful painting of 'A Jewish Wedding'. Note the keen observation of real experience, borrowed from French Realism, while the mysterious treatment of light and shade brings to mind the genius of Rembrandt.





Figs.6 & 7: A dress and flowers are chosen. A ceremonial costume from Moroccco, ornate enough for a wedding….

Beneath the wedding canopy, in the presence of witnesses, the groom places a ring (Fig.11) on the forefinger of the bride's right hand (later transferred to the left ring finger) and the two are pronounced man and wife. The sentence that finalises the marriage is recited by the groom: *"Behold, you are consecrated to me with this ring according to the Law of Moses and Israel"*.

The *Ketubah* is signed and handed to the bride, seven benedictions are recited and the groom smashes a glass (Fig.12), a sign of mourning for the destruction of Jerusalem that occurred thousands of years ago.



Fig.9: Self-adhesive stamp booklet featuring the months of the year.

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Fig.11: An unadorned golden engagement ring and an additional ring on a background of a Ketubah. The stamp represents the Mishnah Order (Oral Law) of Nashim (women), and relates to the relationship between a man and his wife

In some communities, the pieces of shattered glass are believed to bring good fortune, so the glass is carefully wrapped in cloth before breaking, to ensure not a fragment is lost.

Today the groom breaks the glass by stamping on it with his foot, but in books of customs from 16th Century Germany, there are descriptions of the groom smashing the glass against a special 'marriage stone' in the upper part of the synagogue wall (Fig.13). Such stones were usually carved in the shape of a star with 'horns of plenty' and inscribed with the initial letters of the Hebrew verse: *"The sound of mirth and gladness, the voice of bridegroom and bride"* (Jeremiah 7:34)

Then it is time for champagne and congratulations – *Mazal Tov*! (Figs.14 & 15).

Fig.13: A Marriage Stone depicting two 'horns of plenty' flanking an eight-pointed star and initial letters of the Bible verse. Affixed to the southern wall of the 18th Century Bingen Synagogue, Germany until 1832



REFERENCES:
Stamp information booklets Numbers 126, 224, 519, 604, 656,733 & 947 - courtesy of Israel Post Ltd.



Fig.12: The groom breaks the glass under the canopy



Figs.14 & 15: Champagne corks pop and the celebrations begin… Mazal Tov!



DAVO STAMPALBUMS



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Full Davo Range Available

GUESS THE STAMP

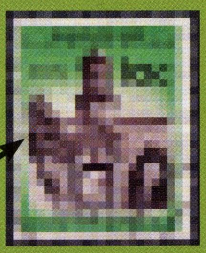
Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image - Guess correctly - send your answer to the Editorial Board and you stand to WIN a stationery hamper!

WHAT IS THIS?



The December issue stamp fitted the occasion and once again a response from Peter Miller who guessed the 70c Christmas candles SACC 973.
"I suspected that a 'christmassy' theme would be this month's quiz! All a bit of fun."
Thank you Peter Miller - this issues winner and the first correct entry drawn

NOW GUESS WHAT THIS IS?



*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

Send your answer to janice@gdb.co.za by 12th MARCH 2017

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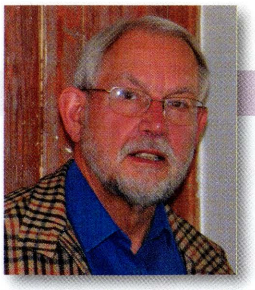
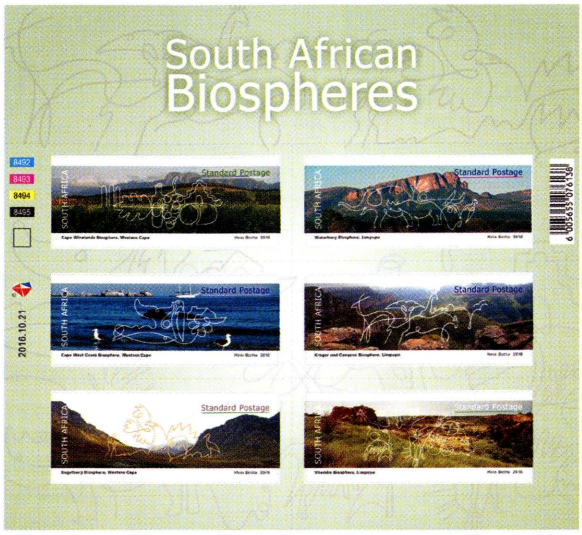


South African Stamp Issues

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle



21 October 2016 – SOUTH AFRICAN BIOSPHERES:

Promoting sustainable development.

Biospheres are natural biomes established by countries and recognised under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme.

Denominations: 6 x Standard Postage (R3.60)

Designer: Hein Botha, depicting the following biospheres:

Top row 'Cape Winelands' and 'Waterberg';
Middle row 'Cape West Coast' and 'Kruger and Canyons';
Bottom row 'Kogelberg' and 'Vhembe'.

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp sizes: 65 x 26mm

Gum: Self adhesive

Sheetlet size: 166 x 152mm comprising the 6 different designs arranged in 3 rows of 2.

Quantity: 15,000 sheetlets

Cylinder numbers: 8492 (blue), 8493 (red), 8494 (yellow) and 8495 (black).

Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 8mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend to the left, right and bottom margins of the sheetlet and also through the backing paper.

Phosphor: Yellow-green, 3mm band along top margin and 4mm over 'SOUTH AFRICA' at left of each stamp.

Printing sheet size: Not yet seen.

First Day Covers: Nos. 8.98 and 8.99 of standard size (190 x 102mm). NOT YET AVAILABLE.

Canceller: No. 8.87 – '21·10·2016/FRANSCHHOEK'.

31 October 2016 – 40th IHF WORLD HOSPITAL CONGRESS

Denomination: 1 x International Small Letter (R8.40)

Designer: Thea Clemons

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp sizes: 30 x 30mm incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 75mm square.

Gum: PVA

Quantity: 10,000 miniature sheets

Perforation: Gauge 14 extending through left and right margins of miniature sheet.

Cylinder numbers: None

Paper: Tullis Russell gummed stamp paper, 103gsm, phosphor coated

Printing sheet size: Not yet seen.

First Day Cover: None

Canceller: No. 8.88 – 'DURBAN · 31.10.2016'.

24 November 2016 – SMILE SOUTH AFRICA ! ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS

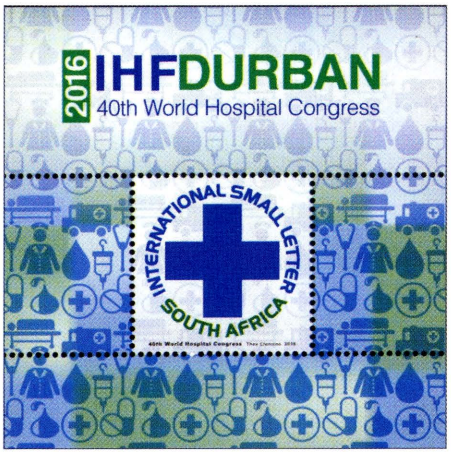
Denomination: 1 x International Small Letter (R8.40)

Designer: Rachel-Mari Ackermann

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp sizes: 30 x 30mm incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 75mm square.



Gum: PVA

Quantity: 10,000 miniature sheets

Perforation: Gauge 14 extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet.

Cylinder numbers: None

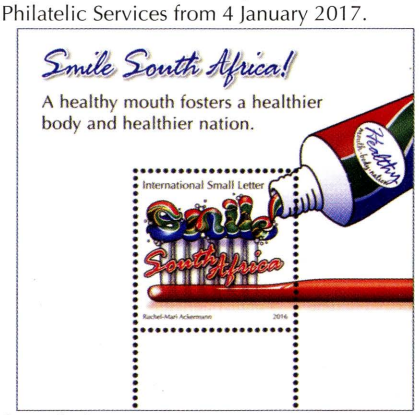
Paper: Tullis Russell gummed stamp paper, 103gsm, phosphor coated

Printing sheet size: Not yet seen

First Day Cover: No. 8.102 of standard size

Canceller: No. 8.90 – '24·11·2016 / Cape Town'.

Note: The issue dates quoted above are the intended dates of issue but these stamps were only available at Philatelic Services from 4 January 2017.



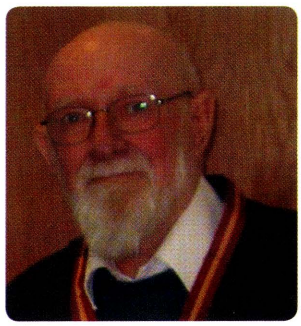
Acknowledgement: Information collated from the electronic edition of *SETEMPE* (Vol 21 No 3 September – December 2016), together with personal observations. The images shown above are of original artwork, supplied by courtesy of Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services, and may differ slightly from the issued stamps.

OBITUARY

ALAN DRYSDALL

RDP, RDPSA, FRPSL

23 May 1933 - 11 January 2017



Southern African Philately has lost one of its finest supporters; after a short illness Alan Drysdall has passed away at the age of 83. He was a keen collector of Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland Field Force, Transvaal and Southern Africa Railways.

After completing his doctorate in 1957, Alan took up an appointment with Her Majesty's Colonial Service as a geologist with the Geological Survey of Northern Rhodesia. He, together with his wife and two children, was based in Lusaka for the next 18 years. Those years saw the demise of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland at the end of 1963, and the emergence of the Republic of Zambia.

In the early 1960s Alan became a born-again philatelist, collecting the stamps of east, central and southern Africa. He began writing articles for publication and Robson Lowe published his first book on the stamp issues and postal history marking the transition of Northern Rhodesia from the Federation back to Protectorate status and finally to the Republic of Zambia.

After Alan retired, he dedicated his time to philately and was one of the most prolific writers of his time. He published a number of new books and more than 200 articles, including significant contributions to *The London Philatelist*. He was the editor of, and a major contributor to, *The Transvaal Philatelist* for the last 15 years, as well as editor of *The Natal & Zululand Post*, since it was first published in 1997. He had been Vice-Chairman of the Rhodesian Study Circle since 1996 and in 2006 he was elected honorary President of the Transvaal Study Circle.

Alan was an early recipient of the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medal awarded by the PFSA for research and literature, as well as the Skinner Cup for his work as Editor of *The Transvaal Philatelist*.

He was one of the few to be invited to sign two Rolls of Honour as a Distinguished Philatelist - in 1995 in Alberton, South Africa (RDPSA) and in 2003 in the UK (RDP)

A giant of Southern African philately, Alan may you R.I.P.

Acknowledgements : SPINK and Otto Peetoom, 14 Jan. 2017.

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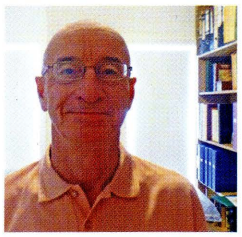

The OVS 'POST-KANTOO' Cachets

by Kevin Price (Australia), Orange Free State Study Circle

No, your eyes do not deceive you -- this truly is a misspelling of Postkantoor on an official seal, as you can see on the images in this article. My first introduction to these eye-catching cachets occurred when I purchased AGM Batten's 1973 book *More about the Postmarks of the Orange Free State and the Orange River Colony 1868-1910*. On pages 118 and 119 of this book Batten illustrates a Reddersburg cachet on a postcard together with a Wepener cachet on the back of a cover explaining that only four types of mark had been seen up to that time -- those having the name of Bloemfontein, Reddersburg, Rouxville and Wepener on them. They are a heraldic-type 34mm cachet containing the OVS arms with POST-KANTOO and post office name at the top and ORANJE-VRY STAAT below. Why the spelling error? I believe these very attractive cachets were probably made overseas and the hand-written KANTOOR was most likely mistaken as KANTOO. They have been seen as a postal canceller on postcards, on the back of a cover, on revenue stamps and used philatelically in 1900. This article will discuss the purpose of these marks and as they do not have provision for a date I will describe them as cachets, not 'cancellers'.

Up to the present day this cachet has now been reported used from 1884 with the names of nine post offices at the top -- Bethanie, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Ladybrand, Philippolis, Reddersburg, Rouxville, Wepener and Winburg (Some are shown in figs. 10-16). Note that no postal agency names have been described. The earliest example reported (fig.1) was that of one that was struck on a sheet described as *"The 1884 Proof and Sample Impressions of the Datestamps and Handstamps available at Bloemfontein Post Office"*. As it appeared on a post office document together with twelve other datestamps and instructional marks used at Bloemfontein it would seem that these cachets were issued for official use by the postmasters.



Fig.1

A fellow member of the Orange Free State Study Circle, Erland Hansen, has a clear Bethanie cachet used on the top of the front page of an informative letter written in 1887 (fig.2). Unfortunately, there is no associated cover and this is the only cachet ever reported as being used other than on mail or revenue stamps. The letter is written in German and the translation follows:

17 November 1887

Dear Mother

In vain I have waited for a letter from you amongst all the mail arriving here from the Colony. I should have received an answer to my letter from the 1st September before now. Why don't you answer your mail immediately? The £10 we sent you on 20th October should have arrived at about the same time as this letter, hopefully before your birthday. How are you now? As soon as you confirm that everything arrives on time and intact I shall send you some more.

We are all well here, except my weight is increasing. I must close for now, because I can hear the Postman's Horn.

Greetings from my heart.

Your Martin

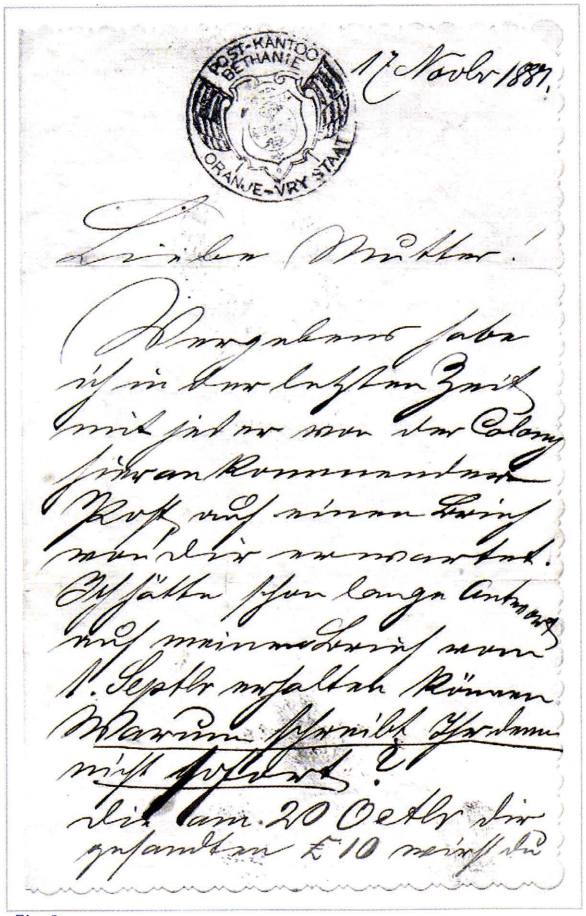

Fig.2

As the writer (Martin) has used the Bethanie cachet as a letterhead on a private letter, this shows the importance of this cachet in Martin's life and suggests to me that he was the postmaster at Bethanie at this time. Further circumstantial evidence occurs in the first sentence where he states he was waiting for a letter *"amongst all the mail arriving here from the Colony"*, which implies he worked in a large post office. In the last sentence he states *"I must close now, because I can hear the Postman's Horn"*, which I feel is either an allusion that he has to get back to his important work as the postmaster or that the postal coach had just arrived. OVS post office regulations at this time stated that the postal coach had to announce its arrival and departure by blowing the posthorn. I believe that the contents of this letter likely point to Martin being the postmaster of Bethanie in November 1887 and that he used the Bethanie cachet here as an indication of his important position within the local community.

As mentioned in the first paragraph, a Wepener cachet was shown on the back of a cover in Batten's book. Both the front and the back of this cover feature in figs. 3 and 4. The cover is official post office stationery that was addressed to the postmaster at Wellington in the Cape from the Wepener post office and is initialled E.W.C. on the front, this person probably being the postmaster. It travelled north to BLOEMFONTEIN APL 5 1887 where it was placed on the Cape Travelling Post Office, or TPO, AP 10 87 UP which would have carried it south to its destination. This is definitive evidence that the POST-KANTOO cachet was used as a seal by post office personnel.

The cachet has also been utilised in other situations. On page 251 of a new book by Robert Allison, RDPSA, *The Postal History of the Orange Free State 1830-1910*, he shows an example of the Ladybrand cachet (fig.5) used on an 18d green embossed revenue stamp. As the Landdrost or his clerk often undertook the position of postmaster, in this example they have inadvertently used this cachet instead of the oval Landdrost cachet or the usual datestamp that would normally be employed to cancel revenue stamps.

Most of these attractive cachets have been seen on postcards impressed over the stamp in place of the normal bland date stamp of the day. This is illustrated by the Winburg cachet (fig.6) where it has been placed on a ½d provisional postcard dated 7 December 1892 with a message for a person that lives in Winburg informing them of the date of the first stock and cattle market for 1893. The indistinct Rouxville cachet (fig.7) has also been placed on a ½d provisional postcard dated 7 August 1891 with a message for the recipient (who also resides in Rouxville) to meet up. As these postcards were not

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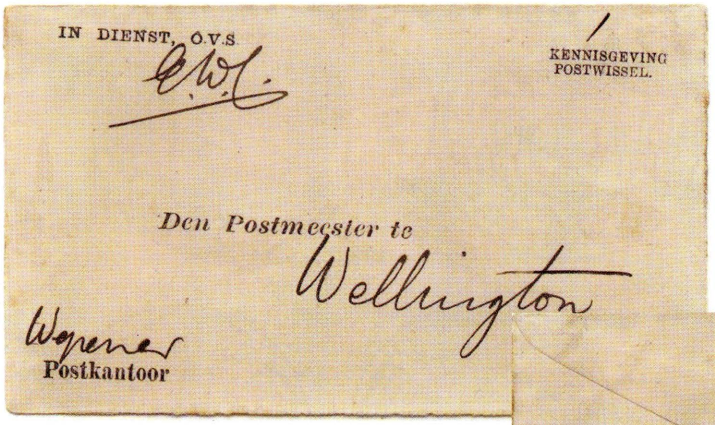

Fig.3 (above) at right Fig.4



intended to pass through the normal post office channels, but to reside in their posting offices until picked up by the local residents, perhaps these heraldic cachets were impressed by the postmaster as a favour to friends. Of course, no postal officials outside these post offices would know that a bona fide dated canceller had not been used on this mail -- only the local sender, local postmaster and local recipient.

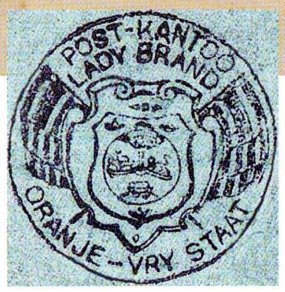

Fig.5



Fig.6



Fig.7

The illustration (fig.8) of a ½d provisional postcard addressed to the ZAR actually does show an example of the Bethanie cachet that travelled through the normal mail, although not as a canceller. The postcard was uprated to 1d and left BETHANIE 12 MY 96 with the Bethanie cachet applied on the front and the back. It travelled through JOHANNESBURG 13 MEI 96 Z.A.R. and arrived MIDDELBURG 14 MEI 96 Z.A.R. The message (which follows) is in German and appears to mention the well-known missionary, Sandrock, that perennial writer of postcards (fig.9).

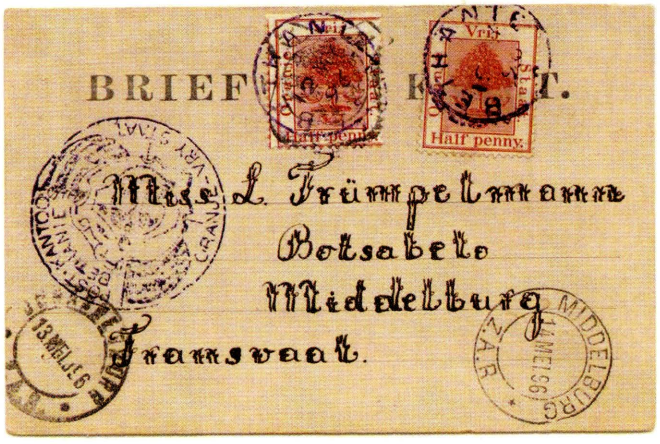

Fig.8

Dear Lieschen *Bethanie, 11.5.96*

Today I write a few quick words before your birthday. I am very sorry as I haven't written before. I had no time as there are so many things to do here. I have my next teaching on 27, 28, 29. Uncle Sandrock and Gustel have sent a letter to say they have already arrived in England. Send greetings to Lenchen and my teacher Mr. Schurl and Anna. Dear Lieschen I must now end my writing. Give greetings to your dear parents for me.

Your friend Max

This message does not suggest that the writer (Max) is a post office employee as he does 'teaching', so the cachet was probably applied as a favour to him after the appropriate postage rate was paid and the postcard cancelled per regulations.

Lastly, Batten describes a faint black and white illustration on page 31 of his 1983 book *The Orange Free State, Pages from a Postmark Collection*. This shows a purely philatelic use of eight impressions of the Bethlehem cachet on an undated cover with nine stamps of the OFS and Transvaal issued between March and June 1900. It is likely that a British soldier used the cachet to cancel these colonial stamps as a form of souvenir of the war.

In summary, this evidence shows that these very attractive uncommon cachets were prepared from around 1884 for the use of postmasters on their official correspondence.

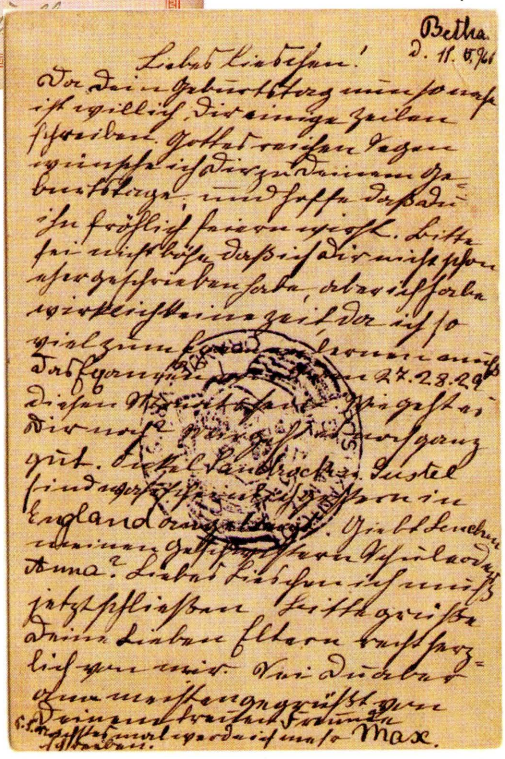

Fig.9

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Fig.10.



Fig.11.



Fig.12.



Fig.13.

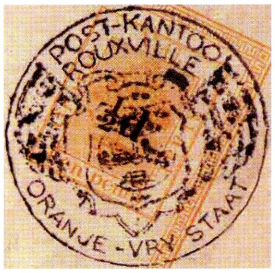


Fig.14.



Fig.15.



Fig.16.

Because of their eye-catching heraldic design though they were occasionally used to cancel prepaid postcards destined only for local delivery and were infrequently used to cancel revenue stamps and sometimes used for philatelic purposes.

It could very well be that readers might possess unrecorded examples of this curious official cachet from other Orange Free State post offices that were open in 1884, such as Boshof, Edenburg, Fauresmith, Ficksburg, Frankfort, Harrismith, Jacobsdal, Kroonstad, Lindley, Smithfield, Ventersburg or Vredefort. If so, please report them to kevinwprice@bigpond.com and I will acknowledge your discovery in a future update.

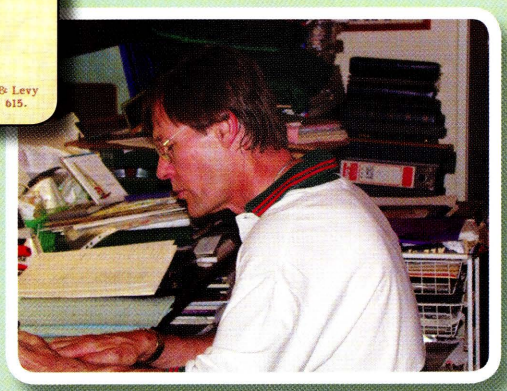
References:

- Robert Allison RDPSA, *The Postal History of the Orange Free State 1830-1900*, BPA Expertising Educational Charity, 2015.
- AGM Batten RDPSA, FRPSL, *More About the Postmarks of the Orange Free State and the Orange River Colony 1868-1910*, published privately 1973.
- AGM Batten RDPSA, FRPSL, *The Orange Free State, Pages from a Postmark Collection, Orange Free State Philatelic Society*, 1983.
- DW de Villiers, *The So-Called 'Post Kantoo' Cancellers, in The Orange Free State Bulletin 141*, December 1990.
- K Price, *Purpose of those 'Post-Kantoo' Cachets/Cancellers and The Postmasters' Post-Kantoo Cachets, in The Orange Free State* Bulletins 228 and 233, September 2012 and December 2013.

This is a glimpse of our BEAUTIFUL WORLD...



SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION



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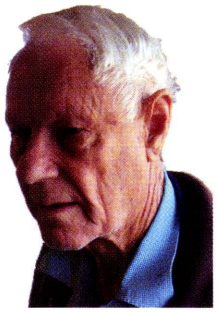
THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS OF 1929: A PHILATELIC RETROSPECT



by Prof. Wilhelm J. Verwoerd, Stellenbosch Philatelic Society

The 35th International Geological Congress (IGC) held in South Africa August 2016 was recognised by the Post Office through an issue of 10 rather funny, cartoon-like representations of some of our most spectacular geological features.

This event recalls the 15th IGC, also hosted by South Africa in the year I was born. According to the *compte rendu* of the Congress a temporary post office "was provided for the convenience of members on the ground floor" of the venue for the meetings which was the double storey extra-mural building of Transvaal University College in Vermeulen Street, Pretoria, which no longer exists. No mention was made of a special date stamp or postal stationery, except that a set (probably scenic views in black and white) of picture post cards "have been specially prepared for the Congress and are on sale in room No. 25 on the first floor." It would be interesting to learn whether any correspondence from this post office, date-stamped between the opening session on Monday 20 July and the closing session on Wednesday 7 August, has survived. It is also very likely that members who participated in any of the numerous pre- and post-congress geological excursions through the length and breadth of the country would have sent letters and post cards abroad, but none of these have been seen by the author.

The organising committee had special stationery printed for their own use (Fig.1). The circular logo inscribed in Latin *Geologorum Conventus*, together with crossed geological picks and the motto *Mente et Malleo* features prominently, as it has done from at least 1897 (the 7th congress held in Russia) until today, often in the form of a special date stamp or part of the stamp design.

The issue of special stamps, cancellations, FDCs, maxicards (Fig.2) etc. related to IGCs dates from after WW II. The IGC of 1952 was held in Algeria and was only the second one on the African continent.

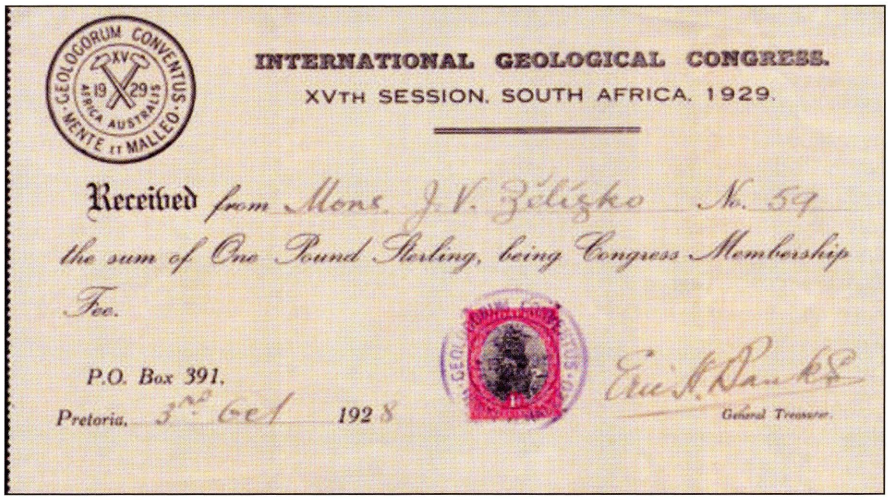


Fig.1: Official receipt with 1d stamp for the £1 registration fee of the 15th IGC, issued by treasurer E.H. Banks to Mr. J.V. Zelizko of Czechoslovakia, who did not attend.

Now for a little more background information. For the geological community of the world (not the general public) the IGC ranks with the Soccer World Cup or the Olympic Games, except that there is no overhead body meddling with the finances or choice of venue. In 1926 Dr A. L. Hall, famous for his fieldwork on the Bushveld Igneous Complex, represented the Geological Survey of the Union (forerunner of the Council for Geoscience) at the IGC in Spain. (Fig.3,4). During discussions, keen interest was expressed in arranging the next IGC in South Africa with its marvellous gold, diamond, and base metal deposits in addition to Karoo fossils and glaciated pavements. It should be understood that a geological congress is generally much more than a net-working opportunity or an occasion for presenting scientific results: to most participants it is above all a chance to see critical exposures in the field under expert guidance. It is therefore a big challenge to the host country and may take up to four years of preparation, involving almost every geologist, the government and industry.

Back home, Dr Hall was able to convince his superiors, obtain governmental approval and wide-ranging sponsorship, so that he was appointed General Secretary for the 15th Session of the IGC in 1929. The Prime Minister, General J.B.M. Hertzog, accepted a position as Honorary President with Dr A.W. Rogers, Director of the Survey, as President. This had quite an interesting corollary. The official languages of the earlier IGCs were French, German and English. At the 14th session in Madrid, Spanish and Italian were added. During a preliminary IGC Council meeting

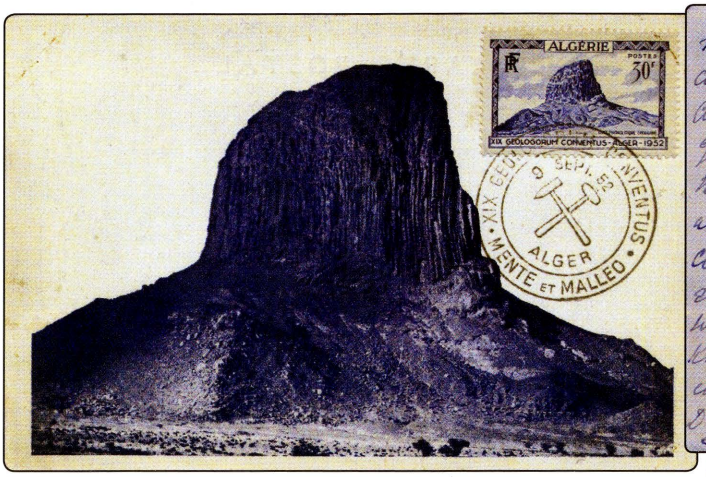


Fig.2: Maxicard of the 19th IGC in Algeria, 1952, illustrating Hoggar phonolite plug or dyke.

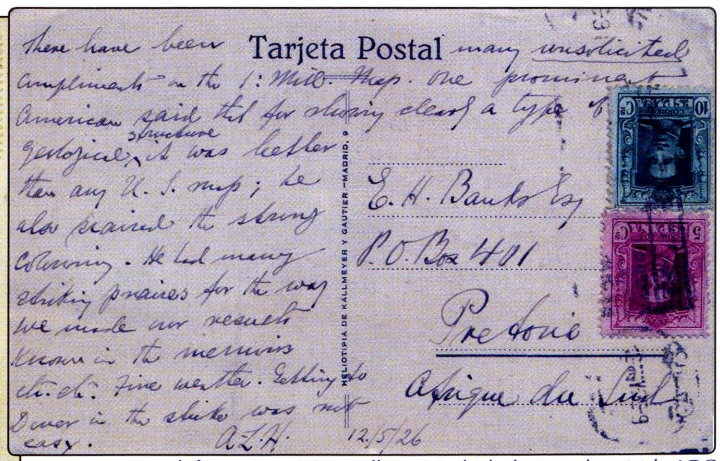


Fig.3: Postcard from Dr. A.L. Hall in Madrid during the 14th IGC (1926) to E.H. Banks, with unsolicited compliments on the latter's draughtsmanship.

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Fig.4 Registered cover to Prof (sic) Hall from the famous Russian geochemist A.E. Fersman in Leningrad, dated 22.5.26.

the day before the opening session in Pretoria, "the President proposed the adoption of Afrikaans as an official language for the duration of the XV Session only." The result was that the agenda for the opening session was printed in all six official languages and that the Minister of Mines and Industries, F.W. Beyers, said a few words in Afrikaans.

Nowadays, scientific papers at international conferences are mostly, sometimes exclusively, presented in English. What was the case in 1929? Referring to Volume II of the *compte rendu*, 38% of the 79 published papers were in English, 24% in German, 18% in French, 16% in Italian and 4% in Spanish. The percentages would have been different in other host countries.

As usual there were also several meetings of international commissions and interest groups, apart from dinners and social functions.

South Africa had, and still has, the disadvantage of long distance travel from Europe, America and the Far East, making it expensive for foreign scientists to attend. In 1929 there was practically no air travel and the organising committee went to great lengths to negotiate steamship concessions. If you or an institution wanted to register for the IGC without attending, just to receive the published proceedings and have your name on the list of participants, it would have cost you £1 sterling (Fig.1). By comparison, the figure today is R10,000 (with discounts for students, pensioners and early registration). Of course, accommodation and excursions are extra.

A series of guide books in English was printed for the 22 geological excursions ranging from 1 to 14 days in duration before, during and after the sessions in 1929. A half day trip up Table Mountain had to be cancelled "owing to the failure of the Table Mountain Cable Railway to be completed on time." People had to make their choice of excursions and some of them were limited to 40, 60 or 80 participants. The longest one was to Southern Rhodesia by train. Excursions to Northern Rhodesia and Belgian Congo (the 'copper belt') and one to South West Africa lasting 14 days, were added to the programme. A detailed report and list of participants was afterwards published for each excursion. The only professional assistance that the organising geologists had in arranging these trips, was by the newly established Tourist and Travel Branch of the South African Railways.

In 1929 the number of registrants was 534, these

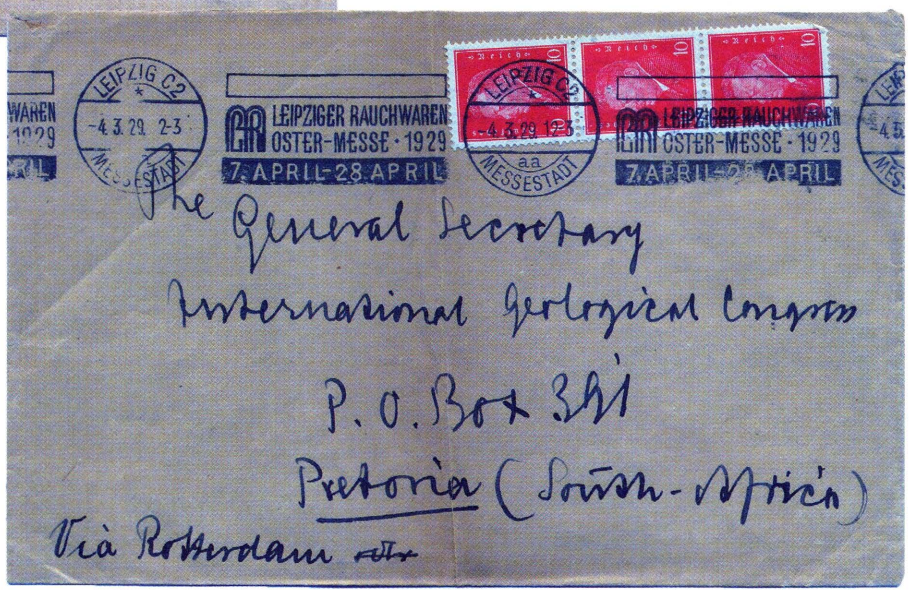

Fig.5: Unregistered cover from Prof K.H. Scheumann, Leipzig, dated 4.3.29 with slogan cancellation advertising fur-trade (Rauchwaren).

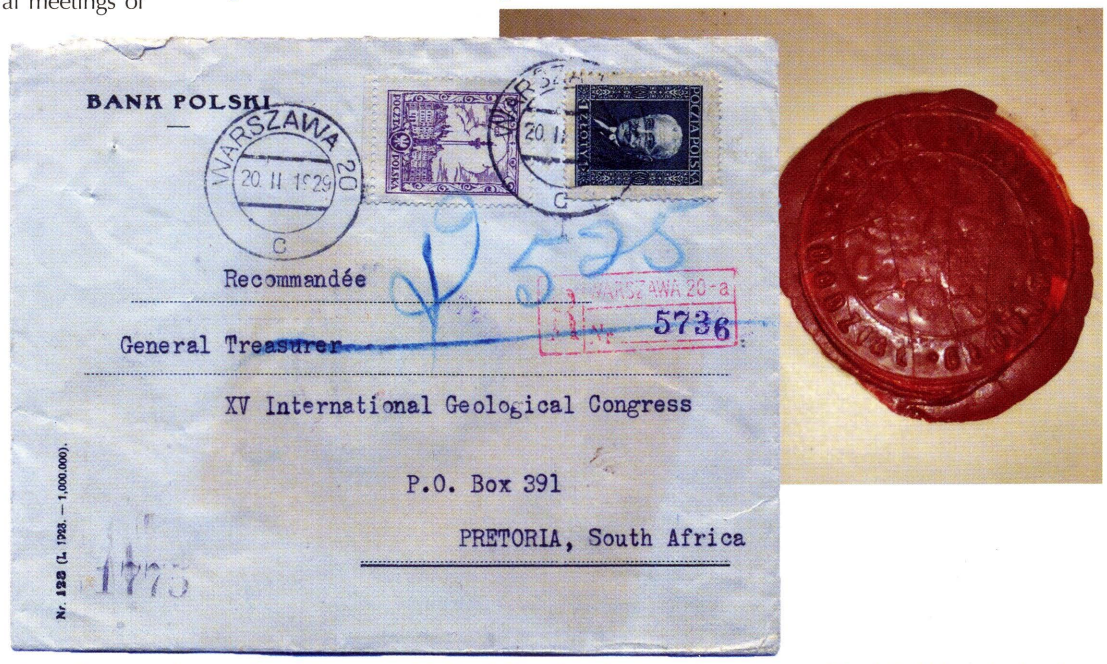

Fig.6: Registered cover dated Warszawa 20.11.1929 with red wax seal on reverse of Bank Polski on the back.

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Fig.7: Registered cover dated 's Gravenhage (The Hague) 17.VII.1928 with five wax seals of De Twentsche Bank on the back. (Reduced).

days it is between 4,000 and 5,000. Such large numbers can nowadays be accommodated in convention centres; back then it was impossible. Nevertheless, the 15th IGC was not only the first IGC on the continent of Africa, it was also claimed to be "the first truly international gathering of scientific workers" in South Africa. The participants who were actually present numbered 296 of whom 84 were South Africans. The foreigners represented 46 countries from as far as China, Korea and Japan. Among the participants whose names are still well-known today, were Prof G.A.F. Molengraaff (Delft) former state Geologist of the ZAR under President Kruger and pioneer of Bushveld Complex geology, F.E. Suess (Vienna), Hans Cloos (Bonn), Paul Ramdohr (Aachen), H. Schneiderhöhn (Freiburg i.B.), J.A. Bancroft (Northern Rhodesia), F. Dixey (Nyasaland), Paul Niggli (Zürich), N.L. Bowen (Washington D.C.), A.M. Bateman (Yale), F.F. Grout (Minneapolis) .

The Treasurer for the 15th IGC was Mr Eric H. Banks, draughtsman, whose name appears on all the early geological maps published by the Geological Survey in Pretoria. It is to him that I owe a depth of gratitude for preserving some of the covers that contained money (probably bank drafts) due to the Organising Committee. (Figs.5, 6, 7). Thirteen such covers were kindly passed on to me a few years ago by his grand-daughter.

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NATAL 1891



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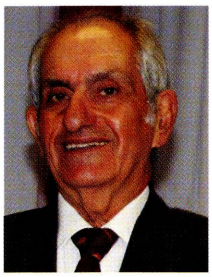
Protea Definitive Series. The 3c Control Blocks

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand PS



The 3c stamps of the Protea Definitive Series fall into two groups: Group 1 was printed by photogravure and Group 2 by lithography. This article deals only with Group 1 of which there were two issues and the second issue had five printings.. There are at least twenty known control blocks in Group 1 and this can be very confusing for the collector and student of this series.

Control blocks can belong to either Pane A or Pane B and there are three possible perforation combinations:

i. 2:1 (left margin perforated and a single perforation on the bottom margin)
ii. 1:1 (single perforation on the left margin and on the bottom margin)
iii. 0:1 (left margin imperforate with a single perforation on the bottom margin)



Fig. 1. The three perforation types

The most common combination found on the cylinder blocks of the Protea Series is:

i. 2:1. (Left margin perforated, single perforation bottom margin)
ii. Sheet numbers odd on Pane A (and even on Pane B)

This combination is called the normal. It is much easier to say that the cylinder block shows a normal pattern, than to say the left margin is perforated, the bottom margin has a single perforation and the sheet number on Pane A is odd.

Issue	Print	Suffix	Pane A	Pane B
1	1	-0		
2	1	-0		
	2	-1		
	3	-2		
	4	-3		
	5	-4		

Table 1. Summary of the 3c, Group 1

- It is important to remember that the number of the printing is not the same as the suffix in Issue 2. This occurs because the first printing has the incorrect suffix (-0) instead of (-1). All subsequent printings have a suffix number that is one less than the printing number.
- There is a single perforation on the bottom margin in all the cylinder blocks of Group 1, 3c stamps. This means that the bottom margin can be ignored and we only need to concentrate on the left margin. The left margin can be perforated, have a single perforation or be imperforate.
- All the control blocks in Issue 1 and the 1st and 3rd printings of Issue 2 have a normal pattern.
- All the Pane A control blocks have a normal pattern, except Print 4 of Issue 2.
- The sheet numbers show a normal pattern (odd on Pane A and even on Pane B) in all except Print 4 of Issue 2.

Issue	Print	Suffix	Pane A	Pane B
1	1	-0	Normal	Normal
2	1	-0	Normal	Normal
	2	-1	Normal	
	3	-2	Normal	Normal
	4	-3		
	5	-4	Normal	

Table 2. Summary of the 3c, Group 1 with the normal patterns added in red

- This leaves Prints 2, 4 and 5.
- Prints 2 and 5 are the same. We don't have to concern ourselves with Pane A, we know this has a normal pattern, nor do we have to concern ourselves with the sheet numbers, they are also normal. This leaves the left margin on Pane B which can be imperforate or have a single perforation

Issue	Print	Suffix	Pane A	Pane B
1	1	-0	Normal	Normal
2	1	-0	Normal	Normal
	2	-1	Normal	1:1 or 0:1
	3	-2	Normal	Normal
	4	-3		
	5	-4	Normal	1:1 or 0:1

Table 3. Summary of the 3c, Group 1 Prints 2 and 5 added in red

- Only the fourth printing, suffix (-3) remains. There are eight different cylinder blocks in Print 4. Four in Pane A and four in Pane B. Fortunately the four are identical in both panes. They are:
  i. Perforated left margin with odd sheet number.
  ii. Perforated left margin with even sheet number.
  iii. Single perforation on left margin with even sheet number.
  iv. Imperforate left margin with even sheet number.

(# numbers)

Issue	Print	Suffix	Pane A	Pane B
1	1	-0	Normal	Normal
2	1	-0	Normal	Normal
	2	-1	Normal	1:1 or 0:1
	3	-2	Normal	Normal
	4	-3	2:1 with odd sheet # 2:1 with even sheet # 1:1 with even sheet # 0:1 with even sheet #	
	5	-4	Normal	1:1 or 0:1

Table 4. Summary of the 3c, Group 1. Print 4 added in red

Summary

The only possible difficulty that can arise is distinguishing between Issue 1 and the first printing of Issue 2. In both cases the dates are the same (10 August 1976) and the suffix is (-0). However, in Issue 1 the Pane Letter is blue while in Issue 2 it is green.

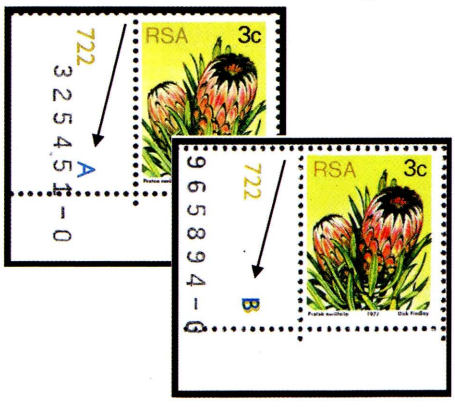


Fig.2. Blue pane letter in Issue 1. Green in Issue 2.

Using Table 4 as a checklist, a collector can easily allocate the control blocks to the correct place and see at a glance what still needs to be sought.

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Society News

STAMP FAIRS:

All ***SAPDA*** *run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

- **PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:**

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- **TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:**

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- **SANDTON QSA (Auction) FAIR:**

3rd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za (also known as the Kyalami stamp fair).

- **KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:**

Directions: From the N1:Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- **EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:**

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale.

- **KZN STAMP FAIR:**

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- **BLUFF STAMP FAIR:**

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za

- **DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:**

Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

As usual, a number of dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc. Dates for 2017: 4 Feb, 4 Mar (auction day), 1 Apr, 6 May, 17 Jun (auction day), 1 Jul, 12 Aug, 2 Sept (auction day), 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). (Note: All 1st Saturday of the month except 17th June - 3rd Saturday & 12th Aug - 2nd Saturday.) If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair and please mark it clearly with your details.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

8 February	Invited Exhibitor
8 March	One to Five Page Exhibits
12 April	First Competitive Evening
10 May	Modern Philatelic Exhibits
14 June	Grand Challenge Match
12 July	Open Class Exhibit Evening
9 August	One Frame Evening
13 September	Annual Auction
11 October	Favourite Cover/s
8 November	Second Competitive Evening
6 December	President's Evening and Cocktail Party

Eurocircle Stamp Study

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month , except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at the Edenvale Community Centre at 2pm till 4pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.* Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join.

Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme for 2017 - A tentative one as there may be changes after the AGM in March:

Feb 15 : Open to all categories
Mar 15 : AGM and invited exhibits
April 19 : Anything relating in any way to letters G & H
May 17 : British Commonwealth.
May 31 : 5th Wed using MS PowerPoint & Social media
June 21 : Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages.
July 19 : Foreign.
Aug 16 : Southern Africa.
Aug 30 : 5th Wed - Society auction.
Sep 20 : Preview of National Exhibits, World at war and back of the book.
Oct 18 : My favourite (Maximum of 1 frame) and thematic exhibits.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374 (*Chairman)* or Ian Walker (*Secretary)* Tel: 011 4721161 email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za
Meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius Street, Weltervreden Park.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: The Victorian Secret, corner Russel/ Woburn St, Benoni; last Saturday of each month, at 2:00pm. *Contact*: Jimmy Mitchell via email; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.

- *Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393*
- *Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927*

Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark @ 10:00. Klein maar baie aktiewe en produktiewe groepie lede wat gereeld bywoon; konsentreer veral ook op tematiese en oop versamelings. Nuusbrief '*Die Posduif*' verskyn elke maand.

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every last Tuesday of the month, *Contact:* Peter Gutsche, PO Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za.

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

This society is for the 'morning glories' who do not wish to travel at night. Meetings on 2nd Friday of every even month (June, August, October etc) at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wierdapark South, Centurion. Concentrate on African countries, and a letter of the alphabet just for fun (one-page).

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them.

Smalls

'Small' advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously - see page 39 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

WANTED: A Belgian philatelist is looking for used stamps from South Africa, willing to exchange stamps from Belgium, France, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Spain, Italy, ... other countries in Europe, Canada, Australia. Contact Guy Barbé via email: guybarbe@yahoo.fr

EXCHANGE: Italian/Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

EXCHANGE: As captain of the fire brigade station of Fire & Rescuers of Slovak Republic, fire prevention is not only his job but his hobby. Keen to share material with those interested in South African Fire & Rescue Service in philately collecting, stamps, FDCs, postcards, as well as natural disasters. *Email*: hreno.drahos@gmail.com

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Road, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00. Meetings consists of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings where specific themes selected for the evening. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Wobbe Vegter; 072 425 6301; wvegter@xsinet.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662. Andrew Mclaren 0737542856. 021 6844361 (work).

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gassprekers, ervaar praatjies/ demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting.
Besoekers altyd welkom.
Visitors always welcome.
Join us. Kom saam of kontak robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President*: Brian Franklin email:info.fhps@info.
Secretary: Volker Janssen. **Website: www.fhps.info FHPS**

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Jack Visser 082 332 5353.
Tel / Faks: 044 6903030
epos: jackvisser@telkomsa.net
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 6981074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082-554 8900 francois@softchem.co.za
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
***MEETINGS** always on **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*
2017 dates: 6 Feb, 6 March, 3 April, 8 May, 5 June, 3 July, 7 Aug, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, Venue not available 6/11/17 30 October, 4 December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. ***Contact***: Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082. email davehmcwil@lantic.net
Secretary: J.Muller. Tel 043 721 0327.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. *Contact:* Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every fourth Friday of the month, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein.

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Louise Oswin Residence, 1 Beach road Southport 4230. PO Box 228. Anerley 4230. **Meetings**: 3rd Saturday of the month at 14h00. ***Contact***: Noel Lavery: 039 695 1642, Cell 082 440 5501. email noel@accessweb.co.za *Secretary*: Louise Oswin. Tel 039 681 3265
cell 079 505 6044 email: oswin@telehost.co.za

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 22 February, 29 March, 26 April, 31 May, 28 June, 26 July, 30 August, 27 Sep, 25 October, 29 November.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za
PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. Contact: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are now held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
Contacts : *Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kawecki (Vice-President) 0829686888 Email zeptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162*
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS,Durban, Meets at the German Club, Barnham Road, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every second Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive Talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com
Secretary: Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za
Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za
Bev McNaught-Davis, telephone: 031 904-1522 or 081 270-2873.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
The Thematics Group meets on the first Saturday of every month at 09h00. Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00. Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
President: Fred Handman. 033 239 5684. email: fredhm@iafrica.com 083 661 4210.
Treasurer: Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. email: burncree45@telkomsa.net *Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.*
- Membership Secretary - Ron Buchel
- Circuit Book Manager - Gordon Bennett
- Club Competitions and Speakers - Tony Evans
- Catering Officer - Val De Jager
- Library Assistant - Joyce Hulse
- New Members - Julia Evans
- New Stamp Issues - Mike O'connor
- Liaison Officer - Dave Wyllie
- Librarian (Ad Hoc Committee Member) - Graham Bruce

International *Philatelic Events*

30 March - 2 April 2017
MELBOURNE 2017
FIAP International
Stamp Exhibition
Commissioner: Andrew Fischer

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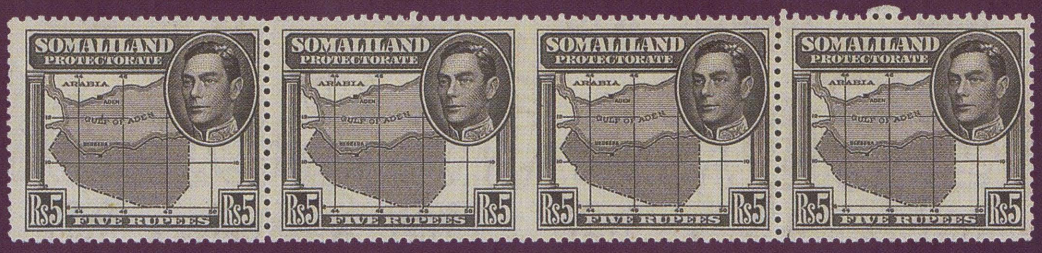



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2d. carmine
Realised: £9,000

For more information contact David Parsons or Ian Shapiro:
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Bloemfontein One Frame Virtual Exhibition

PROUDLY HOSTED BY
The Free State Philatelic Society and generously supported by and held under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

DATE: Friday 21st to Saturday 22nd July 2017 **VENUE:** Kopano Nokeng Lodge, RENOSTERSPRUIT

ADDRESS: Free State Philatelic Society - email only to : jnc1@vodamail.co.za or hosarch@mweb.co.za

PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM SECTION 'A' – PERSONAL DETAILS

Title:	First name :	Official
Surname :		
Postal Address: Postal Code		Tel. H: W: Cell:
Home Society : (Provide full title)		Email address :

SECTION 'B' - ENTRY DETAILS

I wish to enter the exhibit described below for BOFEX 2017. I agree to abide by the rules set out in the Prospectus Entry and Frame fee of R150 payable to the O F S Philatelic Society (Clause 4.1) ABSA Bank, Branch Code 632005, Account Number 9086546429

Kindly note your name and BOFEX as reference. Please submit a copy of payment advice. NB Cheque & cash deposits are subject to a levy of R20 by the Bank and must therefore be paid in addition to the above Fee.

Signature ..... Date .....

This Provisional Entry must reach the Secretary BOFEX 2017 via email to Joof van der Merwe at **jnc1@vodamail.co.za or hosarch@mweb.co.za not later than 31st March 2017.**

Late entries may be rejected at the discretion of the BOFEX Organising Committee

TITLE OF EXHIBIT:
Class :

PREVIOUS AWARDS (Last three years) received by this exhibit at National level or higher

Class :	Occasion:	Award:

If not applicable, ignore clause below, otherwise obtain a signature of Society Chairman or Secretary

I am a **First Time Exhibitor** at National Level as per **Clause 4.3** of the Prospectus, my Society hereby confirms that my exhibit is of National standard

Name & Signature of Society Chairman or Secretary .....

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BLOEMFONTEIN ONE FRAME NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Second One Frame Virtual Philatelic Exhibition

PROUDLY HOSTED BY

The Free State Philatelic Society and supported by and held under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

DATE: Friday 21st to Saturday 22nd July 2017 **VENUE:** Kopano Nokeng Lodge, Renosterspruit

ADDRESS: Free State Philatelic Society - email only: jnc1@vodamail.co.za or hosarch@mweb.co.za

PROSPECTUS

1.1 This exhibition will be in lieu of the One Frame Class normally offered at the National Exhibition – this Class will therefore not be offered at the SADAPEX 2017 Exhibition to be held during October in Edenvale, Gauteng area.

1.2 The exhibition will be a competitive 'One Frame Virtual Exhibition' and open to all members of Societies affiliated to The Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA) and all members of Societies affiliated to the Federation Internationale Philatelique (FIP) and Federation Internationalel'Asie Philatelique (FIAP).

1.3 The concept of this experimental Virtual Exhibition maybe explained as follows:

(a) Exhibitors after assembling their exhibit will scan the sixteen pages and upload them to a designated 'DROP- BOX' on the internet.

(b) The exhibits will be judged by National Jurors.

(c) The exhibits will be simultaneously available for display on request of a visitor to the venue. A number of TV screens will be available for individual viewing of the exhibits.

(d) The exhibits will be available for viewing on the Federation Website after the Exhibition has closed.

2. The 'One Frame' Class

The objectives of the 'One Frame' Class are to provide for both new collectors to start exhibiting on a small scale at a National Exhibition and also to give established collectors an opportunity to show material that cannot be treated well in more than one frame or to show new ideas and developments. The 'One Frame' exhibit must have an introduction page which lays out the intention and scope of the exhibit. This page may also contain exhibition material. The 'One Frame' exhibit must have a narrow scope and not be an extract from a large exhibit.

3. Scope of the Exhibition

Group A: Court of Honour

Group B: Competitive One Frame Philately which will be evaluated under the following disciplines:

Class 01: Traditional Philately

Class02: Postal History, Historical/Social & Special Studies

Class 03: Thematic

Class 04: Aerophilately, Maritime and Disaster Mails

Class 05: Revenues and Postal Stationery

Class 06: Modern Experimental Traditional Class

Class 07: Open Class

4. Entries and Exhibits

4.1 An administration charge of R150 (US$12.00 for overseas exhibits) per exhibit will be due on submission of the Provisional Entry Form which must be fully completely. This will only be refunded in the case of an entry which is not accepted. (See Clause 16)

4.2 There is no maximum number of entries for each exhibitor, however, if more than one entry is submitted, the exhibitor must signify his/her preference, if not all can be accepted. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee reserves the right to accept/reject entries at its sole discretion without having to provide any reason for such rejection.

4.3 An entry from an exhibitor competing for the first time at a National level 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 '*Arie Bakker Floating Trophy*' which is awarded to the best first-time One Frame exhibit at National level.

4.4 Entries must be the *bona fide* property of the exhibitor; the completion of an entry form is deemed an implied declaration to this effect.

4.5 All exhibits must be exhibited for authentication at his / her local club on or before 30th June 2017 and authentication must be handed in to the Jury if so requested

4.6 A Provisional Entry Form, with the administration fee **for each exhibit**, must be received before **31st March 2017.** All awards gained by an exhibit in the **previous 3 years** must be listed on the Entry Form.

4.7 For each accepted exhibit, the Organising Committee will email a Final Entry Form, which, together with a description of the exhibit in English or Afrikaans, not exceeding 100 words (in MS Word) for publishing both in Electronic and hard copy media, must be received before **31st May 2017.**

4.8 Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the eligibility of any entry, the ruling of the Organising Committee shall be final.

5. Technical

5.1 Before scanning ensure that page numbers are reflected on the front bottom right corner of each page.

5.2 Each page of your exhibit must be scanned at 300 dpi in JPG or PDF format as a separate file. (i.e. 16 separate files to be uploaded).

5.2 Final instructions re the naming of the exhibit's scanned pages will be forwarded to you together with your exhibit acceptance confirmation and final entry form. Await these instruction before scanning your exhibit pages.

5.3 Exhibitors will be advised of the technical details ***by email.***

6. Jury and Judging for Awards

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a philatelist to chair and appoint the jury, which will comprise currently accredited judges of the PFSA or other suitably qualified judges or consultants. Other persons may also be nominated to act as Apprentice Jurors.

6.2 The Jury Chairman shall have full control over the activities of the jury, which shall be subject to the Rules and By-laws of the PFSA. 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. The Jury Chairman shall have the casting vote.

6.3 The deliberations of the jury are confidential and its decisions, once announced, shall be final and irrevocable.

6.4 Judging for awards will be on material submitted and no further supporting matter will be required or permitted. Copied material (Photostats, scans or photographs) used in exhibits must be clearly labeled as such and must be at least 25% linearly larger or smaller than the actual size of the item depicted. Original photographs in Class 2 (Postal History) and Class 07 (Open Class) are permitted in full size if they are part of the development to the exhibit but must be noted as original.

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6.5 Exhibits will be judged on their individual merits and not against other collections, except in the case of Special Awards.

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

6.7 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibitors' 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.

6.8 Sixteen scanned pages must be provided which are suitably filled. An exhibitor providing fewer than 16A4 pages shall not have that exhibit judged.

6.9 Judging shall be based on current FIP rules for each Class, where they exist. Where exhibitors are not clear about FIP rules or PFSA interpretation thereof, please contact the Organising Committee stating the Class of interest.

6.10 Should the Jurors require to have physical view of any item as shown on a scanned page, then the Jury reserves the right to have the original item examined for authenticity. The exhibitor should make the item available for viewing prior to the jury pronouncement.

7. Awards (Except for Classes 01 and 07)

7.1 Exhibition points will be awarded out of a total of 100 points.

7.2 Exhibitors will receive an Exhibition Medal and Certificate for each Exhibit entered. The certificate will state the number of points awarded. Exhibits attaining below 50% will only receive a certificate of participation

7.3 The best South African One Frame Exhibits will be invited to show at SAPDAPEX 2017 National Exhibition to be held in October 2017 and may be awarded a SAPDAPEX special award.

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 Class.

8.2 No exhibit will be eligible for more than two Special Awards.

9. Historical, Social and Special studies

9.1 FIP introduced this sub-class under Postal History with effect from1st January2009. Exhibits in this class would include material developed by commerce and society for use in the postal system and may include an appropriate amount of non-philatelic material relevant to the subject.

9.2 Exhibits eligible to enter under Class 02, Historical/Social Studies, include but are not limited to the following fields: Telegram services, Greeting cards, Pictorial commercial envelopes used in the postal system, Historical, local and or regional studies; studies related to an event.

10. The 'Open Philately' Class

10.1 The objectives of the Open Philately 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 traditional 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, postcards, photographs, drawings, newspaper clippings, etc.

10.2 In addition to all requirements for competitive exhibits, viz. Entry forms and fees, introductory page, exhibit description, etc. the only stipulations are; the philatelic elements must be not less than 50% of the total area of items shown.

10.3 Entries in the Open Philately will be eligible for Special Awards and Trophies.

11. Modern Experimental Traditional Class

11.1 This exhibition will include an experimental traditional philately class to encourage exhibits of modern material. The class will follow existing traditional philately rules but be restricted to stamp issues after 1st January1961.

11.2 There will be no transfers in or out of the Experimental Class. The Exhibitor decides on this class when entering.

12. Blacklisted Philatelic Material

12.1 The PFSA has created a Blacklist, which details philatelic material reported by the South African Post Office to have been stolen from their Museum and Archive. This list was initially published in the February 2009 edition of The SA Philatelist.

12.2 The PFSA has resolved that no exhibit containing blacklisted material shall be accepted for exhibition and if that is detected only after the exhibit has been uploaded, the exhibit is to be disqualified and removed forthwith and the Chairman of the PFSA Judging and Ethics Committee to be notified accordingly, for him to notify the relevant Authorities.

12.3 The R.S.A. Blacklist is available on the PFSA website. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure they do not exhibit blacklisted material.

13. Acceptance of Regulations

The completion and submission of the Provisional 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.

14. Exhibition Certificate and Catalogue

14.1 Each exhibit will be given a Certificate and Exhibition Medal.

14.2 Copies of an Exhibition listing may be viewed from the PFSA Website. Societies will be advised when this is available on the Website. In addition an Awards Listing will also be available for download at the venue on the day of the exhibition. This will included points system applied to each class.

14.3 All exhibits will be available for viewing on the PFSA Website after the exhibition.

15. Further Information

Further copies of these Exhibition Guidelines and Provisional Entry forms may be obtained from: OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY, email to jnc1@vodamail.co.za OR hosarch@mweb.co.za .

16. Payment (See 4.1)

Payment ONLY to ABSA Bank, Branch Code 632005, Account name: OFS Philatelic Society. Account Number 9086546429 should be by means of an EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) with your name as a reference. An additional Fee of R20 (US$2.00) must be added in the case of cash or cheque deposits.

17. Deadlines

Receipt of Provisional entry with administration and frame fee 31st March 2017

Receipt of Final entry form and 100-word exhibition description(s) 31st May 2017

Upload Exhibit to Internet Drop-box 30th June 2017

Note: Exhibit Information received after the above deadlines will be deemed withdrawn without refund

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SAPDAPEX 2017

National Philatelic Exhibition

PROUDLY HOSTED BY

Generously Supported by The Philatelic Federation of South Africa

Date:
11th - 14th October 2017.

Venue:
Italian Sporting Club.

Address:
7 Marais Rd,
BEDFORDVIEW.

PROSPECTUS

Entry Deadline : 13th April 2017.

A provisional ENTRY FORM must reach the Organising Committee by the above date. A final entry form will be sent to all who have been selected to exhibit, with a request for the 100-word description of your exhibit as well as the frame fee.

1. STATUS OF EXHIBITION

1.1 The Exhibition will be both competitive and non-competitive and open to all members of Societies affiliated to *The Philatelic Federation of South Africa* (PFSA) and all members of Societies affiliated to the *Federation Internationale Philatelique* (FIP) and *Federation Internationale l'Asie Philatelique* (FIAP).

1.2 Any collection, which has since 1 July 2015

a) gained a Large Gold Award at any South African National or Special National Exhibition, or a Gold or Large Gold Award at any International Exhibition, shall not be eligible for competitive entry for this exhibition except in Group B Class 01 (Championship Class);

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.

1.3 Entries (other than literature) from outside of the RSA shall only be accepted provided that the exhibitor or a person delegated by him shall personally bring the exhibit into and out of RSA; the organisers will not provide for exhibit clearing or forwarding facilities.

2. SCOPE OF EXHIBITION

Group A: Non-competitive

a) : Court of Honour b) : Invited exhibits

Group B : Competitive Philately

Class 01 : Championship Class (see point 1.2 and 7.4)

Class 02 : Traditional Philately

a) South Africa, all periods (includes pre-Union areas)

b) Great Britain and Commonwealth

c) Rest of the World

Class 03 : Postal History, Historical and Historical/Social Studies

a) South Africa, all periods (includes pre-Union areas)

b) Great Britain and Commonwealth

c) Rest of the World

d) Historical, Social and Special Studies, all World (see Clause 9)

Class 04 : Thematic

Class 05 : Aerophilately, Maritime and Disaster Mails

Class 06 : Revenues and Postal Stationery

Class 07 : Literature, including Electronic Media

Group C : Competitive – FIP Experimental Classes and Other

Class 08 : 'Open Philately' Class (see clause 10)

Class 09 : Modern Experimental Traditional Class (see clause 11)

Class 10 : First Day Covers, Cinderellas

Class 11 : Picture Postcards

Class 12 : Junior Class

2.2 *It is important to note that **JUNASS** will not form part of this exhibit but will have a separate Prospectus and Entry Form. These details will be sent directly to Youth clubs.*

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1 There is no administration charge per entry on the PROVISIONAL selection; you will be notified should your exhibit be accepted for the SAPDAPEX 2017 Exhibition.

3.2 A non-refundable administration charge of R150 per entry will be due on submission of the FINAL Entry Form.

3.3 The fee per frame or per Literature entry is R200 payable on submission of the FINAL Entry form.

3.4 There is no maximum number of entries for each exhibitor, however, if more than one 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. 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. Single frame exhibits can only be entered in Class 7. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee reserves the right to allocate frames at its sole discretion.

3.5 An 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 Entries must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor; the completion of an entry form is deemed an implied declaration to this effect.

3.7 A **Provisional Entry Form**, must be received before **13th April 2017.** All awards gained by an exhibit in the previous 3 years must be listed on the Entry Form.

3.8 The Organising Committee reserves the right to reject any entry or exhibit, in whole or in part, without having to provide any reason for such rejection.

3.9 For each accepted exhibit, the Organising Committee must receive in addition and before **15th JUNE 2017. a)** the prescribed frame fees (Clause 3.2), **b)** a description of the exhibit in English or Afrikaans not exceeding 100 words (in MS Word) for inclusion in the exhibition catalogue, **c)** a photocopy or scan of the exhibit's

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introductory page outlining the concept of the exhibit; which may subsequently be amended (fundamental concept of the exhibit may not be changed).

3.10 After the 1st August 2017, special labels or envelopes for submission of the exhibit, will be forwarded to all accepted exhibitors.

3.11 Exhibits must be delivered to the Organising Committee not later than **5th October 2017**, except for Literature (Class 08), where entries are required by 30th June 2017 for judging purposes; delivery instructions will appear on the envelopes which are sent to exhibitors whose entry is accepted.

3.12 Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the eligibility of any entry, the ruling of the Organising Committee shall be final.

4. EXHIBITION FRAMES

4.1 Exhibition frames accommodate 16 sheets, each with a maximum height of 305mm. The daylight width of the frame is 900mm. Sheets will be mounted in the sequence of 4 horizontal rows of 4 sheets each. The minimum stiffness of the sheets must be 120 g/m2 as thin sheets are difficult to mount.

4.2 All exhibitors must provide their sheets 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 at the top/bottom right corner. Numbering is to be sequential within each exhibit, e.g. for a 4 frame exhibit the sheets shall be numbered from 1 to 64.

4.3 All frame allocations are at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

5. LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

5.1 Although every possible care will be taken of exhibits while in the custody of the Organising Committee, such exhibits shall at all times be at the owner's risk. Neither the Organising Committee nor the officers, members and employees of the sponsoring Societies arranging this National 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 There will be no insurance cover. The onus rests with the exhibitors to arrange their own cover.

6. JURY AND JUDGING FOR AWARDS

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a philatelist to chair and appoint the jury, which will comprise currently accredited judges of the PFSA or other suitably qualified judges. Other persons may also be nominated to act as Apprentice Jurors.

6.2 The Chairman shall have full control over the activities of the jury, which shall be subject to the Rules and By-laws of the PFSA. 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. The Chairman shall have the casting vote.

6.3 The deliberations of the jury are confidential and its decisions, once announced, shall be final and irrevocable.

6.4 Judging for awards will be on material submitted and no further supporting matter will be required or permitted. Copied material (photostats, scans or photographs) used in exhibits must be clearly labeled as such and must be at least 25% linearly larger or smaller than the actual size of the item depicted. Original photographs in Class 3 (Postal History) are permitted in full size if they are part of the development of the exhibit.

6.5 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.

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

6.7 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.

6.8 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibit entered in a particular Class may be transferred to another Class with a view of making an award greater than it might otherwise have obtained, except for exhibits entered in Class 10 (Modern Experimental).

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

6.10 Judging shall be based on current FIP rules for each Class, where they exist. Where exhibitors are not clear about FIP rules or PFSA interpretation thereof, please contact the Organising Committee stating the Class of interest.

6.11 Adjudicating the winner of Group B Class 01 (Championship Class) will be by Jury majority vote (Chair has casting vote).

7. AWARDS (except for Classes 01 and 07)

REMINDER: Provisional entry closing end April, then a Final Entry Form must be completed once you receive your notification of allotted frames with 100-word description and frame fees.

7.1 Exhibition Awards and points will be:

Large Gold	90+
Gold	85 - 89
Large Vermeil (Large Silver-gilt)	80 - 84
Vermeil (Silver-gilt)	75 - 79
Large Silver	70 - 74
Silver	65 - 69
Silver-Bronze	60 - 64
Bronze	55 - 59
Certificate of Participation	up to 54

Vermeil and Silver awards may be given with the Felicitations of the Jury.

7.2 No exhibit may receive more than one Exhibition Award.

7.3 Each entry that is not given an Exhibition Award will receive a Certificate of Participation. All Exhibition Awards and Certificates awarded to exhibits and Group C will clearly state for which Class they were awarded.

7.4 In the Championship Class only a winner of the Class will be announced and all entrants will receive a Large Gold Award.

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. Class 11 exhibits are not eligible for Special Awards except for Awards specifically for this class.

8.2 Within the Competitive Philately Group, the Grand Prix 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 Trophy shall be awarded to the best exhibit of South African philately of not lower than Gold Award standard. These two exhibits will not be eligible for any other Special Award.

8.3 An exhibit, which since 1 July 2015 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 exhibit will be eligible for more than two Special Awards.

8.5 No one frame exhibits will be accepted. ALL One Fame exhibits will be dealt with separately in a BOFEX type virtual exhibition. FIP rules stipulate that One Fame exhibits not be in a medal class.

9. CLASS 03 (d) HISTORICAL, SOCIAL & SPECIAL

FIP introduced this sub-class under *Postal History* with effect from 1st January 2009. Exhibits in this class would include material developed by commerce and society for use in the postal system and may include an appropriate amount of non-philatelic material relevant to the subject. Exhibits eligible to enter under

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Class 03 (d) would include but are not limited to the following fields: Telegram services, Greeting cards, Pictorial commercial envelopes used in the postal system. Historical, local and or regional studies; studies related to an event.

10. THE 'OPEN PHILATELY' CLASS

10.1 The objectives of the *Open Philately* 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 traditional 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, postcards, 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 5mm 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 (* first seen in *SAP August 2013* p.137 for marking reproducted here for ease of reference).

10.2 Entries in the Open Philately will be eligible for the Special Awards and Trophies.

11. OTHER CLASSES

11.1 MODERN EXPERIMENTAL CLASS

This exhibition will include an experimental philately class to encourage exhibits of modern material. The class will follow existing FIP rules but be restricted to stamp issues after 1st January 1961. There will be no transfers in or out of the Experimental Class. The exhibitor decides the class when he enters. The FIP rules allow only 5 frames in an experimental class, however for those wishing to exhibit fewer frames, the Organising Committee are prepared to exercise its discretion as to the quantity of frames awarded. As this is a national exhibition, there may be exhibitors who enter the new class without wishing to exhibit internationally.

11.2 THE 'ONE FRAME' CLASS

There will be no judging of the *'One Frame'* Class at this exhibition. Details and entries for this class will be available from the VIRTUAL BOFEX 2017 EXHIBITION organisers.

12. BLACKLISTED PHILATELIC MATERIAL

The PFSA has created a Blacklist, which details philatelic material reported by the South African Post Office to have been stolen from their Museum and Archive. This list was initially published in the February 2009 edition of *The SA Philatelist*. The PFSA have resolved that no exhibit containing blacklisted material shall be accepted for exhibition and if that is detected only after the exhibit has been mounted, the exhibit is to be disqualified and taken down forthwith and the Chairman of the PFSA Judging and Ethics Committee to be notified accordingly, for him to notify the relevant Authorities. The Blacklist will be maintained by the PFSA Judging & Ethics Committee. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure they do not exhibit blacklisted material.

13. ACCEPTANCE OF REGULATIONS

The completion and submission of the Final Entry Form shall constitute acceptance of the rules governing the Exhibition and indicate the exhibitor's agreement to accept as final the Organising Committee's decision in any matter which may arise but which is not covered by these rules.

(*Extracted from *SAP August 2013* p.137, by WE Bührmann RDPSA.

* The Open Class now renamed 'Open Philately', is slowly gaining traction. It is only a matter of time before it will be recognised as a fully independent FIP class. Open Philately is recognised in all respects except that no FIP medals are awarded. FIP guidelines for exhibiting and judging have now been drawn up and should be considered by those who wish to exhibit in this category. One of the most important aims with Open Philately is to encourage collecting.

MATERIAL

As in the past material from other collecting fields should be included in order to support the development of the story.

- Philatelic material should at least comprise 50% of the exhibit
- All types of philatelic material could be included
- All non-philatelic material should be original if at all possible
- Non-philatelic material may include all types of material excluding dangerous or prohibited material
- Reproductions should be at least 25% different (larger or smaller)
- All philatelic material must be original
- All non-philatelic material should be original if at all possible

PRINCIPLES

- Open Philately is about the development of the chosen subject in an imaginative and creative manner
- Philatelic items must be described to assist and develop the 'story'
- Exhibits may be planned in any logical way (chronological, geographical, etc)

MARKING SHEET

Treatment and Importance	**30**
- Title and Plan	10
- Philatelic Treatment	5
- Non-philatelic Treatment	5
- Philatelic Importance	5
- Non-philatelic Importance	5
Knowledge and Research	**35**
- Philatelic Knowledge	20
- Non-philatelic Knowledge and Research	15
Material	**30**
- Condition	10
- Rarity	20
Presentation	5
	100

COMMENTARY

All rules relating to treatment, importance, condition, rarity, etc as applied in other classes, apply here as well. From the marking sheet it is clear that the proper use of non-philatelic material will enhance your medal prospects. Open Philately is no different than other classes and should have a proper title page to show:

• Aim of the exhibit • A plan explaining the development ('story') in a logical way and providing an idea of the contents of the exhibit • Indicate personal research • A bibliography

Knowledge of the chosen subject is demonstrated through the choice of material and the use of relevant and brief text.

CONCLUSION

Here is an opportunity to develop wonderful exhibits without wearing a thematic straight jacket.)

- FINAL ENTRY FORM WILL BE SENT DIRECTLY TO ALL APPROVED EXHIBITORS.

14. EXHIBITION CERTIFICATE AND CATALOGUE

Each accepted exhibit will be given a Certificate and will be allocated one copy of the Exhibition catalogue, which the exhibitor may collect at the Exhibition or which otherwise will be included with the exhibit upon its return, together with a copy of the Awards listing.

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further copies of these Exhibition Guidelines and provisional entry forms may be obtained from: SAPDAPEX 2017. Johannesburg, or email Kenny Napier, kenny.napier@mweb.co.za 3 Basboom Road, Croydon, Kempton Park, cell 083 4440249. These Exhibition Guidelines and Entry Form will also be available on the Federation website www.stamps.org.za

A published point system for 'Modern Philately', 'Picture Postcards' as well as 'Open Class' will appear in the *The SA Philatelist*, APRIL 2017 issue.

16. NON COMPETIVE EXHIBITIONS

The committee invites philatelists to enter exhibits in the non-competitive section. No exhibition rules apply except those set out in point 4 and the physical limitations specified for non-philatelic material. Frames allocated will be limited to space available and at the discretion of the committee.

NOTE: Accepted Provisional entrants will obtain final entry forms directly with acceptance notice of entry.

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SAPDAPEX 2017

National Philatelic Exhibition

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PFSA

11 - 14 October 2017

PROUDLY HOSTED BY

Provisional Entry **13th APRIL 2017.**

PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM

Section 'A' - Personal Details

Title:	Initials	Official Use
Surname:		
Address: Postal Code:		TEL: H: W: Fax: Cell:
	Email:	
Society:		

Section 'B' - Entry Form

I wish to enter for SAPDAPEX 2017, the exhibit described below. I agree to abide by the rules.

Provisional Entry has no fee and if accepted, a Final Entry Fee of R150 & Frame Fees of R200 per frame will be payable to SAPDA (Clause 3.1)

FNB 62563478190 name SAPDAPEX **BRANCH FNB MELROSE ARCH**

Kindly note your name and SAPDAPEX as reference. Please submit a copy of payment advice.
NB. Cheque & cash deposits attract a levy of R20.00 by the Bank and must therefore be paid in addition to the above fees

Signature _____ Date _____

This Provisional Entry Form must reach The Secretary, SAPDAPEX 2017, via email Kenny Napier - kenny.napier@mweb.co.za
please, no later than **13 APRIL 2017.**

TITLE OF EXHIBIT:	
Class:	Number of Frames required:

PREVIOUS AWARDS received by this exhibit at National level or higher

Class:	Occasion:	Award:

If not applicable, delete clause below, otherwise obtain signature of Society Chairman or Secretary

I am a first-time exhibitor at National level and per clause 3.5 of the Prospectus, my Society hereby confirms that my exhibit is of National standard.

Name & Signature of Society Chairman or Secretary:

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APRIL
2017

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 93:2. 941

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The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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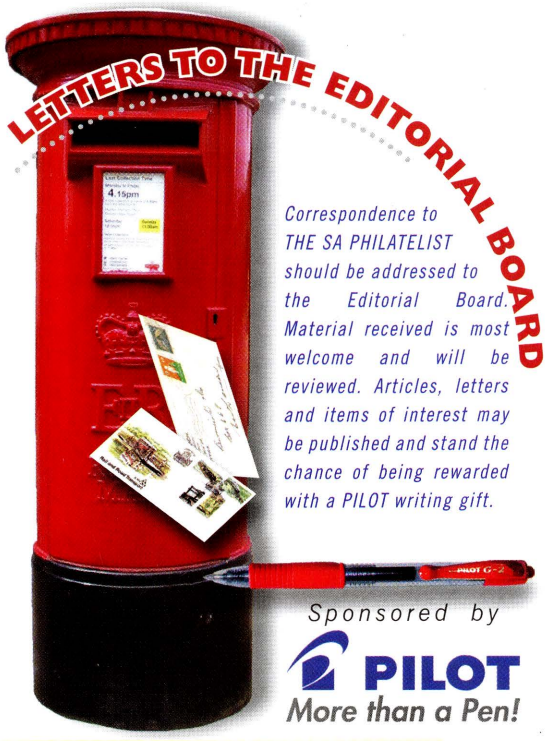

CINDERELLA PHILATELY

A response from Peter Rogers, President of the Cinderella Stamp Club, on the subject of the status of Revenue stamps as part of the broader field of Cinderella Philately.

In the August 2016 edition of *The SA Philatelist* Peter McCann chastised Chris Mobsby for having the temerity to argue that revenue stamps are Cinderellas.

"Bottom line", Dr McCann wrote, "Revenues are definitely not Cinderellas". Dr McCann was once the Chairman of the FIP Revenue Commission and I can quite see why, from that elevated position, matters must be viewed in black or white and there is no room for compromise.

However, I agree with Chris Mobsby and a great many more collectors – Revenues (in the guise of 'Fiscals') were on the list of Cinderellas drawn up in 1959 by the founding fathers of Cinderella philately and remain there. The late Francis Kiddle, a former Secretary to the FIP Revenue Commission implicitly agreed; he wrote (in the British Philatelic Federation Congress 1992 Handbook "Progressively, specific categories of Cinderellas have become more accepted by the Establishment. For example, a 'Revenue' class was introduced into our national competition about 10 years ago".

The not insignificant number of Revenue collectors who are members of the Cinderella Stamp Club (of which I am one) would also agree. The throng of Revenue collectors who attended the Revenue Day of the World's First Congress of Cinderella Philately on 17 September 2016, and who gave us some splendid displays, would agree. Such Revenue collecting luminaries as Gary Ryan, Martin Erler and the immediate past and present Secretaries of the FIP Revenue Commission, all of whom accepted the invitation to sign the Maurice Williams Roll of Notable Cinderella Philatelists, evidently agreed. Bottom line - at the grass roots below the ivory tower Revenues are still Cinderellas.

Peter Rogers FRPSL, RNCP, President of the Cinderella Stamp Club.

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

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The SA Philatelist

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- ***June*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 3. 942 : 08/05/2017
- ***August*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 4. 943 : 06/07/2017
- ***October*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 5. 944 : 06/09/2017
- ***December*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017
- ***February*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018

Post Office
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Closing of Eppingdust Post Office

The South Africa Post Office would like to inform customers that the Eppingdust Post Office in the Viking Park Centre Cape Town closed its doors on 24 January 2017 due to renovations at the centre. A new branch will become operational in a few months.

Editorial Board's choice
Winning Contributor

This issue's award of **PILOT** pen goes to Pat Flanagan for his article on BSAC - Rhodesia, The Large Arms Issues: 1896-1897.

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

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Asking for Help

An interesting letter, sent on 3 January 2017, from Guojian Huang, and forwarded to the Editorial Board via Ken Joseph (info@philatelicfriends.com) then answered by Hugh Amoore.

As a 75 year old, retired Chinese university professor, I have been collecting stamps since 1955. I collect mainly the thematic of ships, particularly sailing ships. My exhibit *'A Story about Sailing Vessels'* won Gold in the All-China, Asian and World Exhibitions.

I have two postal history covers from South Africa that I need help with:

The first is an airmail cover posted from Durban to Usti nad Labem, Czech on Jan. 13, 1938. I want to know if the franked 24 x 1d stamps were the correct postage rate. How much was for regular mail, how much was for airmail and in which period were these rates active?

The second is a registered cover posted from Pretoria to Sussex, England May 2, 1949. The same question: if the franked stamps were at the correct rate?

Can you also find the lists about postage rates of South Africa since 19th Century? If so, could you send a copy to me so that I could solve these questions by myself.

Huang, Guojian

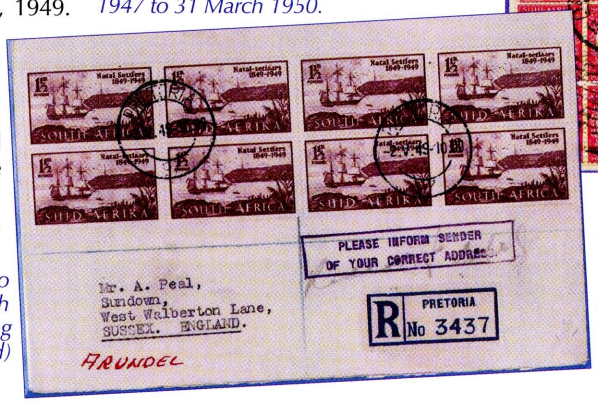
Dear Professor Guojian Huang,
Your inquiry has been passed on to me. First, the airmail rate from South Africa to Western Europe (including Czechoslovakia) was 1 shilling (12d) per ½ ounce from 1 January 1932 until the outbreak of war in September 1939. The 24d franking is thus correct for a double rate 1 ounce airmail letter at the time. The surface mail letter rate at the time was 3d for the first ounce and 1½d for each additional ounce; this rate was set on 1 Jan 1922 and lasted until 31 March 1950. The registration rate was 4d per registered item, set in 1910 and remained 4d until the mid 1950s.

Secondly, the rates to England in 1949 were as follows:

***Registration fee**: 4d (set in 1910 and remained 4d until the mid 1950s).*

***Letter rate:** 1½d for the first ounce and ½d for each additional ounce from 1 May 1947 to 31 March 1950.*





***Airmail letter rate:** 9d per 1/2 ounce from 10 March 1947 to 30 June 1953.*
There is a reasonably complete listing of rates on the PFSA website: **www.stamps.org.za**

Hugh Amoore

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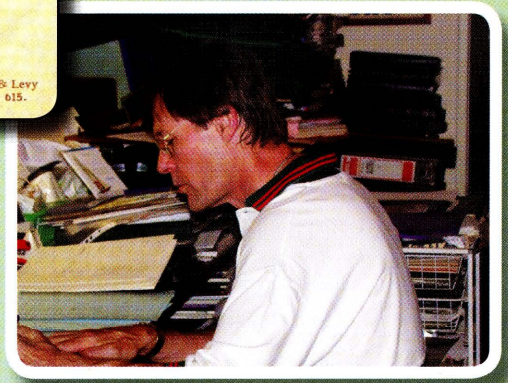

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OBITUARY



R.I.P.

Edward W.B. 'Ted' Proud, RDP

The name Ted Proud is so well known in the stamp world and it cannot help but conjure immediate thoughts of the recognisable 'brand dust jackets' adorning so many of his philatelic publications. As compiler or co-author, his handbooks provide an invaluable framework to understanding and advancing own research into the postal history and postmarks of, particularly, the British Empire; plus more specific subjects - notably military, airmail and maritime topics. His works (most with the historic overview necessary to help understand the philately) are not limited to but include some eighty different British colonies, illustrating 50,000 + postal markings. A few titles of particular relevance to our collecting community would be his volumes on the British, East African or South African Army Postal Services; Basutoland and Bechuanaland; Swaziland and Zululand; Northern and Southern Rhodesia; Nyasaland; and German East Africa. A lifetime's passion and studies shared - his is a broad legacy for our hobby.

As a professional philatelist he was a major postal history dealer, as well as publisher. In addition to all his handbooks, he founded *Postal History International* magazine in 1972. He served on the council of the Philatelic Traders Society (UK) and was past-President of the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Associations.

In 2008 he was invited to sign the UK's Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Edward Wilfrid Baxby Proud, aged 86, passed away peacefully on 6 February 2017.

Michael Wigmore RDPSA

BOOK RELEASES

'Entertainment Tax in South Africa'

FOUR PAPERS

by Dr Ian A. Matheson and Andrew McClellan



Very little has been written to date about the Entertainments Duty Stamps of the Union of South Africa. The most authoritative source, not unexpectedly, over the years has been *British Commonwealth Revenues* by Barefoot and Hall. It is interesting to record that the total numbers of different Entertainments Duty Stamps from all four Provinces recorded in past editions of the book were 11 (1980), 16 (1986), 62 (2008) and 110 (2012). The number of recorded stamps has increased significantly since 2012. These numbers demonstrate the exponential rate of growth in the interest and discovery of these elusive stamps. This publication describes all the recent discoveries and provides a rational estimate of dates of issue, print details, tax rates and modes of usage. Provincial Ordinances of Cape, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal have been examined from Government archives to understand the policies of each of the Provinces. Each managed tax rates and stamp-issuing policy differently. Archives of the South African Post Office and Messrs De La Rue have been consulted to gain additional details of the printing of these scarce revenue stamps. Details are also provided of Government tickets and stamp booklets, which have never been published elsewhere.





The transition from use of stamps to preprinted admission tickets (including entertainments tax) is demonstrated. The exemption from tax or the exemption from the use of stamps are discussed and illustrated. The 80 page publication is printed in full colour and Perfect bound. Copies will be available from Ian Matheson at ian@cdi.biz, price R225 each exc. postage. The Revenue Society in UK will also be permitted to print and distribute copies, but details are not yet available.



Updating the UNION - *getting a project off the ground. What's your opinion?*

As a member of the Pretoria Philatelic Society and one who collects Union of South Africa stamps, André du Plessis has made contact with other collectors - he has learned that Moody Tidwell also collects 'Union' (they had bid against each other a couple of times) and shares his thoughts here.

"Over the past couple of months the idea of updating the varieties of the Union stamps as described by Hagger in *The SA Philatelist* has came to mind. I have discussed this with members of the Editorial Board and they seem to be positive.

I propose that this includes newly identified varieties, previous articles and so on. On page 191 of the December 2016 *SAP* you will see comments relating to this.

My idea is to make contact with Union collectors to get their idea/suggestions as well as varieties that I do not have. The necessary acknowledgement will be given to each. The idea is **not** to rewrite the *Union Handbook* but rather to make a visual list of the varieties. All responses would be most helpful to the project."

Andre du Plessis.

In support of this idea, Moody Tidwell added this comment: "I think your idea has merit and is long overdue. Over the years a number of people have scanned varieties and published the results in various philatelic magazines but those articles have always been devoted to a specific issue or issues. I would be pleased to contribute to the effort and have quite a few varieties, many already scanned, but my list is far from complete. I will help in any way I can. In a closely related way you should be aware that Jan van Beukering is well on the way to completing scans of all the Union positional arrows.

As to the process, I suggest approaching it as the Handbook does; King's Heads then London but combined with Pretoria printings, followed by Roto, then Hyphenated series. If there is an interest, commemoratives could be added later. The King's Head issues could easily be done one after another but as for Roto and Hyphenated I suggest value after value i.e., all the Roto ½d issues, then the 1d issues.

If you get enough interest you could farm out issues and values to different people with you serving as manager as to form and quality. Just some of my own thoughts.

Moody Tidwell.

And Mike Tonking adds his thoughts; "I should congratulate you on the series you have been writing on the Silver Jubillees. Some years ago I did a lot of work on them with the late Tim Hall. It would be a monumental job to publish the hundreds of varieties listed in the *Handbook* let alone the multitude of smaller varieties as, for example, listed by you in your articles. Where would one stop? The other thing is to consider the amount of interest there would be in such a publication. To me there seems to be a major drop in interest as evidenced by the poor support for the last exhibition.

I am not trying to throw cold water on the idea but feel there would be limited interest for such a project. In any event I would be able to assist you if it goes ahead as I have a number of extensive Union collections.

Mike Tonking.

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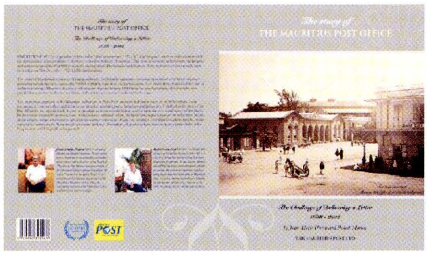
- *The Postmarks of Rhodesia 1888-1980* by Jon & Jennifer Barry, 1998. A4. 447pp - R270
- *Railway Postal History of South Africa* by H S Hagen & S P Naylor, 1998. 279pp - R380
- *World War II: Prisoner of War and Internment Camps in South Africa and their Mail* by J B R Findlay & Rory Ryan, 2003. A4. 40pp - R130
- *The Wherewithal of Wolmeransstad* by Birkhead & Groenewald, 2009. A4. 78pp - R295
- *The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Renecke* by Birkhead & Groenewald, 2005. A4. 63pp - R280
- *Die Machadodorp - briefkaarte van die Anglo-Boereoorlog* by Gerrit H Jonkers & Joh Groenewald, 2006. A4. 56pp - R215
- *The Riddle of Rustenburg* by Birkhead & Groenewald, 2007. A4, 79pp - R280
- *Die Pietersburg-seëls van die Anglo-Boereoorlog* by Carel Breedt & Joh Groenewald, 2007. A4. 109pp - R280
- *The Legacy of Lydenburg* by Birkhead & Groenewald, 2009. A4. 78pp - R295
- *Die Vrijburg-seëls van die Anglo-Boere-oorlog* by Groenewald, 2010. A4. 90pp - R 315
- *Anglo Boer War Stamp Souvenirs* by Birkhead & Groenewald, 2014. A4. 56pp - R235

'THE STORY OF THE MAURITIUS POST OFFICE'



A well-documented book highlighting the untold part of the history of the Post Office in Mauritius over the last 240 years. Book on sale at R750 now on the http://www.mauritiuspost.biz/onlineshop/product/241/the-story-of-the-mauritius-post-office. www.mauritiuspost.biz

Pritish Ghirish Bissoon has 35 copies for sale at R600 per copy. Well known to stamp collectors, Mauritius' philatelic reputation emanates from the extraordinary romance associated with its first two stamps namely the Penny Blue and the Penny Red, issued in 1847... if interested, do contact him on <pritishghirish@hotmail.com>



What the Heck
a new Hectorspruit Discovery!

by Johan Bezuidenhout, Transvaal Study Circle and Bellville P S

Hectorspruit is a small hamlet on the Pretoria to Lourenço Marques railway line. It is 29km west of Komatipoort, and the second last railway station before the Transvaal/Mozambique border.

Sugar cane, fruit and vegetables are cultivated at Hectorspruit. Spruit is the Afrikaans term for river, and rightly so, since the Hector Spruit is a southern tributary of the Crocodile River.

This town also played its part in the great Boer War, and it is well documented in several books on the Boer War. Dr. Conan Doyle says about this stage of the war: *"The most incredulous must have recognised as he looked at the heap of splintered and shattered gunmetal (at Hector's Spruit) that the long War was at last drawing to a close."*

Against the backdrop of this war ravaged town, the postal system continued to function, apparently quite well. The following had been noted relating to Hectorspruit:

"It is hereby notified for general information that the establishment of the following Post Agencies have been approved, to have effect from 1 April. Includes Hectorspruit in the District of Lydenburg."

- *Transvaal Government Gazette* 54 of 27 March 1901 (Tvl GG), Postal Notice 29 - 25 March 1901.
- POC = ORC Post Office Circular of 15 April 1901 - Article 16: The Transvaal Postal department notifies that the undermentioned Post Office and Postal Agencies have been re-opened. 11 listed, one of which was Hectorspruit as a POA.
- APOC = Army Post Office Corps - Offices in the Transvaal open on 24 July 1901.

The earliest recorded postmark for Hectorspruit, according to the late Ralph Putzel's book *'The Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies'* Volume 4, was one used in 1899.

The R.O. canceller on the cover in this article has been recorded by the late Major Ian Matthews as Matthews Type 1h. Very few of these cancellations recorded on cover seem to have survived. According to both Prof Alex Visser, who I acknowledge with appreciation for his continuous support for my study of Transvaal postmarks and Richard Stroud, who I acknowledge for assisting me with the information on the Tvl GG, this is also the earliest recorded cover for this postal agency.

So here is to many more new Transvaal discoveries!



Fig. 1. Cover with earliest recorded date for Hectorspruit R.O.

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

Episode 40 of : Errors on Stamps...

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



BROTHER WITH THE WRONG NAME

This miniature sheet was issued by the Republic of Panama on 18 December 1968 in commemoration of three fighters for Human Rights, who have all been assassinated:

1. Rev. Martin Luther King,
2. US-President John Fitzgerald Kennedy and his brother, Attorney General Robert Francis Kennedy.

The error is in the name of Robert Kennedy whose middle name also shows 'Fitzgerald' on the stamp the same as his brother - instead of his correct second name 'Francis'.

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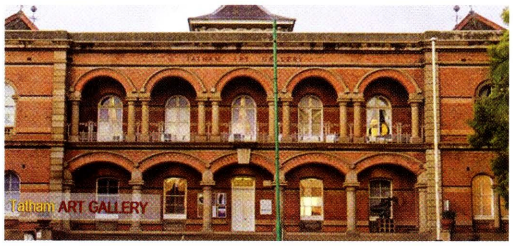

TATHAM ART GALLERY
Serving Msunduzi through the Visual Arts

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY EXHIBITS AT THE TATHAM ART GALLERY

by Aubrey Bowles, Secretary, Maritzburg Philatelic Society

The award-winning exhibit, covering the history of Pietermaritzburg, was on display at The Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg from 11 to 25 February 2017.

The exhibit was well publicised in most of the PMB and Durban newspapers with additional features published weekly. This excellent publicity attracted many visitors to the show including swimmers from California, USA, who had travelled to Pietermaritzburg to compete in the Midmar Mile (fig.1).



Fig.1: Swimmers from Californian Colleges in the, USA.

During 2015, we had approached the Assistant Director of the Tatham Art Gallery, Ms Bryony Clark, about the possibility of staging a 'stamp exhibit' at the gallery providing it won an award at SAPDAPEX 2016 in Edenvale. Having achieved a Large Silver award for our efforts, the Art Gallery was pleased to display our exhibit in the large Ferguson Room and the show was on!

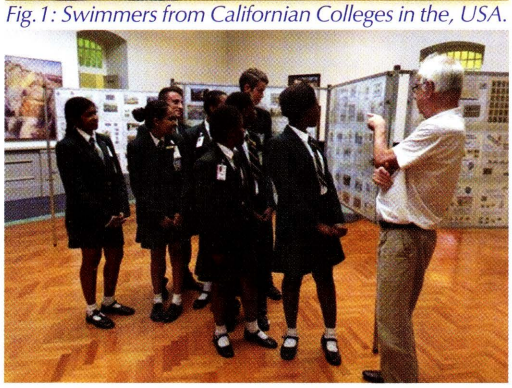

Fig.2: Gordon Bennett telling keen students from Kingsway School, Amanzimtoti, all about our exhibit.

We wrote to 27 local high schools inviting them to come and view the exhibit as 'the history of Pietermaritzburg' fitted into the school syllabus. We enjoyed massive media coverage and details of the exhibit as well as two talks by one of our members, Dr Mike O'Connor, was included in the Tatham Art Gallery 'Outline' brochure which advertises forthcoming events. Sadly only a few schools visited the exhibit, one of which was Kingsway High School all the way from Amanzimtoti (fig.2).

Fortunately, we were able to attract a few mature students and visitors including the Impisi Emnayeme dance group and about twenty art students who were enthralled by our exhibit and used it as an 'active workshop' drawing inspiration from the stamps to design a few of their own. The Impisi Emnayeme dance group were going to entertain the French Ambassador during his visit to Pietermaritzburg (fig. 4).



Fig.3: Chloe Paine with Dr Mark Coghlan, Chief Museum Scientist at Museum Service, together with their children Jonty Paine and Hannah Coghlan and Jody Soares.

We had some very young visitors, including Jonty Paine (age 7), who also attended the Saturday Lecture and made careful notes by drawing a picture of the first two-storey City Hall and writing down some important dates; indicative that Dr Mike O'Connor, an authority on the buildings of Pietermaritzburg, was able to keep both young and old attentive during his lecture. We were pleased to meet Glen Flanagan, a French Legionnaire, who came to see the exhibit (fig.4) as well as Dr Mark Coghlan, Chief Museum Scientist who was impressed by what he saw (fig.3).



Fig.4: Glenn Flanagan, MA, Director of the French Presence in KZN with dancers from the Impisi Emnayame *dance group and an Educational officer, of the Gallery .*

We were fortunate enough to be entertained by a group of 20 aspiring artists who attend Art Classes at the Gallery twice per week. Some are quite young whereas others are university students or past-students. Inspired by our exhibit, the artists were challenged to design and draw a postage stamp and some of the results were rather good. More important was the fact that they must have studied our exhibit umpteen times and we hope that they will be inspired to collect stamps one day. A brochure, kindly supplied by Joh Groenewald, was handed out to these students as well as visitors to the exhibit. Three of the best works were chosen and the artists were well-pleased with the decision (fig.5).

We even held a small competition and offered a prize of R10-00 to the first person who could identify the flaw on the Roosevelt stamp shown in the PFSA hand-out. Thuli Ngcobo was thrilled to receive the prize for correctly stating that there were six fingers on Roosevelt's left hand (fig.6).

Ruth Sykes kindly sponsored the posters used to advertise the event which were mounted both outside and inside the museum. We appreciate the donation.

Two lectures given by Dr Mike O'Connor on both Saturdays (11 Feb and 25 Feb) were well attended and very popular. Anne Southwood offered a vote of thanks at the first lecture and invited guests to visit the Maritzburg Philatelic Society at one of our monthly meetings. This was repeated by Aubrey Bowles after the second lecture.

The interesting lectures on the history of Pietermaritzburg in the Lecture Room, were followed by visits to the Ferguson Room with the majority of attendees quite happy to enjoy a tour of the exhibit which generated a hectic debate between Mike Rivers-Moore, a retired Civil Engineer and Dr Mike O'Connor (fig.7).

All the Art Gallery staff were extremely helpful and obliging and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Bryony Clark for helping to stir a positive interest in philately in Pietermaritzburg.

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We must also thank her Educational Officers, including Pinky Madlabane-Nkabinde; Reena Bhoodram and Kobie Venter for their interest and support.

We are thrilled to record that the Tatham Art Gallery have kindly offered to display our future eight-frame exhibit in February 2018 and have volunteered to help us with the necessary publicity and notices to schools via the Department of Education because they are firmly of the opinion that students / learners will derive benefit from our exhibit which tells a positive story.

Special mention must be made of all the Maritzburg Philatelic Society members who gave up a complete morning or afternoon to staff the exhibit. Special thanks to Dave and Heather Wyllie for putting up and taking down the exhibit.

Obviously the press played a vital and important role and the generous support and publicity received went a long way towards putting our exhibit firmly on the map.

The MPS have thoroughly enjoyed the fruits of our labour and would, once again, encourage other societies to work on an exhibit as a joint-effort by all members. It builds invaluable camaraderie and the amount of research done is terrific.

We would like to extend a challenge to all Societies throughout the RSA to put-up an exhibit about their town or city and compete against us at the 2018 National Exhibition. By participating, members and societies will certainly help to promote our hobby across a wide spectrum of the public.

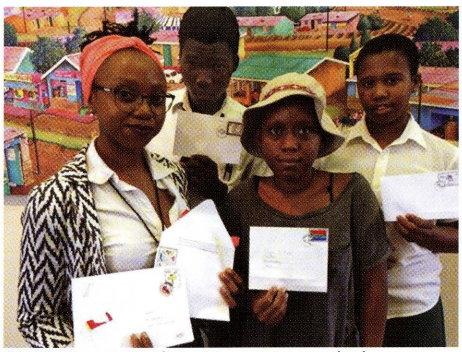

Fig.5: A group of aspiring artists with the stamps they drew during their visit to our exhibition.



Fig.6: A prize won by Thuli Ngcobo for correctly identifying the flaw on the Roosevelt stamp shown in one of the philatelic leaflet hand-outs.



Fig.7: Following an interesting lecture by Dr Michael O'Connor one of the items displayed in the exhibit was hotly debated by Mike Rivers-Moore, a retired civil engineer who had designed and built most of the bridges in Pietermaritzburg .



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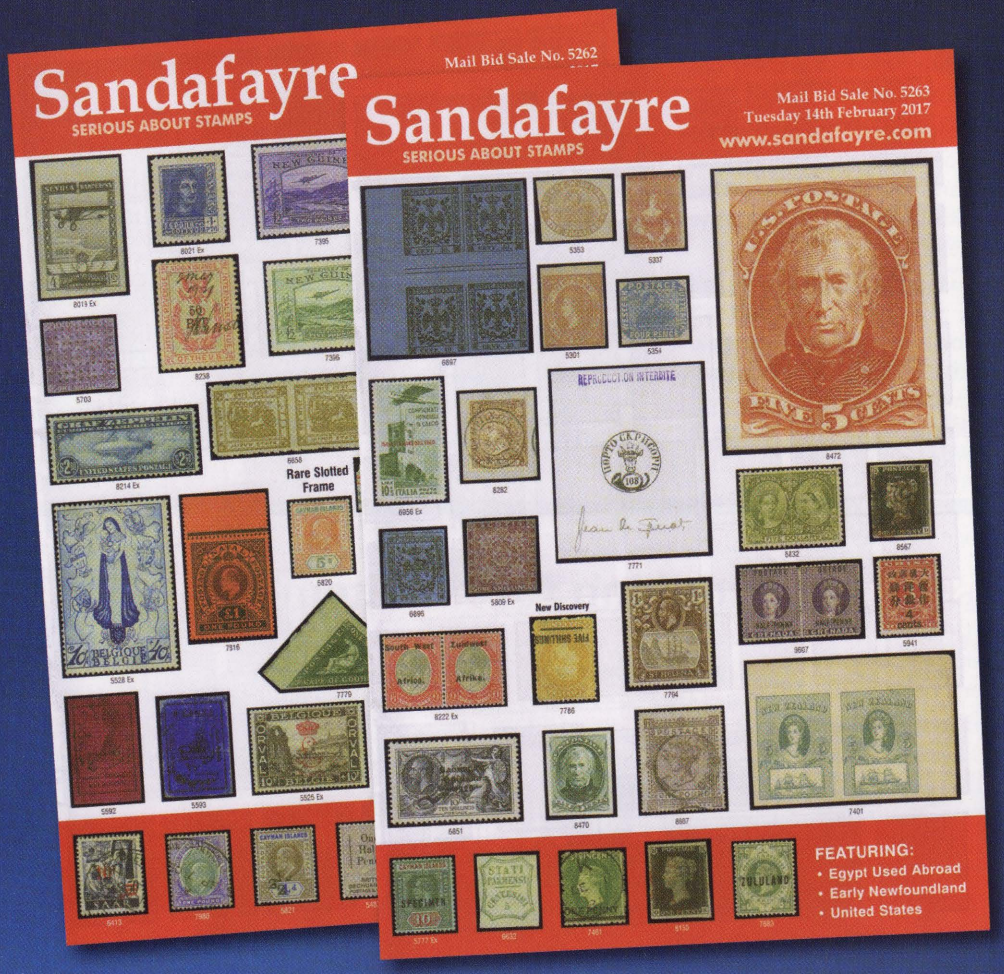

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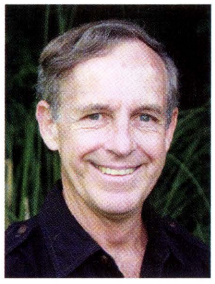
Phun with postmarks



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

The tale of two towns

Most philatelists know that there were towns in the Cape and in Natal named after Lady Juana Smith, the Spanish wife of Governor Sir Harry Smith. She evidently made quite an impact on society, in that two towns were named after her! Or was it due to her husband, Sir Harry's ability to name towns! The following information was extracted from the *Putzel Encyclopaedia* volume 2.

The parish of Lady Smith was established on 10 February 1851 by the Swellendam presbytery a century after the first colonists settled in the district. The name was soon written as Ladysmith, but the name was changed to Ladismith in 1879 to avoid confusion with the namesake in Natal. Note that names and name changes are inconsistent and sources do not necessarily agree. In an attempt to eliminate confusion once and for all it was suggested in 1966 to change the name to Juanasmith, but this did not meet with approval.

Ladysmith is the third largest town in Natal, and is situated on the Klip River. The town was established in December 1847 and proclaimed on 20 June 1850, at about the same time as the Cape counterpart.

From a postal perspective, the Cape office was opened on 17.2.1852 when the first Postmaster was appointed. Initially the name was spelt with 'Y' or 'I', but from 1861 it was spelt with an 'I' in post office documents. The Natal office was opened in 1850. Both offices are still operational.

The initial postal history is the focus of this column. The Dated Town Oval of the Cape office is shown in Figure 1 with the name as two hyphenated words with 'Y'. This date stamp has been recorded seen from 3 FE 1854 to 13 DE 1883. A recent discovery was the single circle date stamp with name as 'Y' shown on cover in Figure 2, courtesy of Steve Hannath. Note that the date stamp is 11 JA1882, although from the Cape Town backstamp the letter went through the mail in 1883, and it appears as if the post office clerk in Ladismith did not change the year for the new year (the date is debatable but it is more likely that the small office forgot to update the year than a large office - this happens quite regularly). This cover also shows a triangular canceller with CGH in the corners, which is nice as normally one cannot date these without being on cover. One can speculate regarding the reason for the issuing of the new discovery. The subsequently issued date stamp is one with CAPE COLONY at the base (Figure 3a), and name with 'I', as all further issued date stamps. This date stamp was recorded seen from 4 OC 1883 to 1 DE 1911. The telegraph office opened in 1883, and Figure 3b shows a new TO discovery dated 1890 (Fritz Aab). I am indebted to Prof Franco Frescura for the debate about these early cancellers.

There can be no confusion about the Natal date stamps, as the Oval canceller, shown in Figure 4a, is a style only used in Natal, and is similar to a Pietermaritzburg one. All the circular date stamps have NATAL at the base, as shown in Figure 4b.

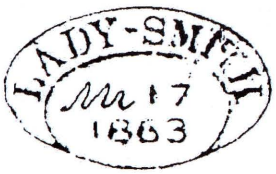


Fig.1. Dated Town Oval of Ladysmith, Cape.



Fig.2. Recent discovery of single circle date stamp of Ladysmith, Cape.





Fig.3. Earliest Ladismith, Cape and telegraph office date stamp with new spelling.

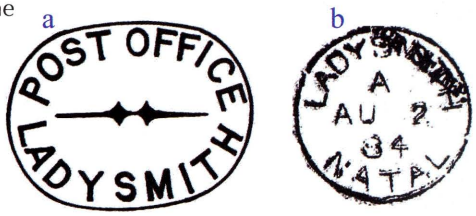


Fig.4. Early date stamps of Ladysmith, Natal.

Feedback

I am always thrilled to receive feedback on this column. John Carter sent me new dates on the Uniondale column in the February 2017 *SAP*. In one case the gap between date stamps was closed by 7 years. This helps to gain a fuller understanding of what happens in the postal system. I also discovered that the last item in the table should be 2c, not 1c, but this would be fairly obvious to any casual observer.

Die geskiedenis rondom plekname word nogal interessant, veral wanneer daar spelling veranderinge plaasvind soos in die geval van Ladismith in die Kaap, wat aanvanklik Ladysmith was. Die poswese kan nie bybly met hierdie verandering nie, en stempels is duur om te verander. Ons vind dit selfs met die huidige vlaag van dorpsnaam veranderinge waar die oorspronklike naam na 'n paar jaar weer sy verskyning maak. Maar dit is 'n onderwerp vir 'n toekomstige rubriek. Laat gerus die terugvoer vloei, want sodoende dokumenteer ons wat tans algemene kennis is, maar in die toekoms vrae mag laat ontstaan, soos wat ons in hierdie rubriek gesien het.

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Arrest of King Dinuzulu ka Cetshwayo, December 1907

by Roger Porter, Cape and Natal Study Circle

A sequel to the Bambatha Rebellion of 1906 *(Porter)* occurred after evidence given at various courts martial implicated King Dinuzulu ka Cetshwayo's (Fig.1) involvement and support for the 1906 rebellion. His loyalty was brought into question and the Natal Government decided to arrest the King on charges of high treason and possession of unregistered firearms. Martial Law was proclaimed in Zululand on 30 November 1907, the active militia mobilized, and Dinuzulu ordered to surrender to the magistrate at Nongoma. 'On Active Service' mail is known from this short lived event of three months; it is rare with about 15 items having been recorded *(Porter 2008)*.

Colonel Duncan McKenzie was put in command of troops that included the Natal Carbineers, Border Mounted Rifles, Umvoti Mounted Rifles and Natal Field Artillery. This force left on 3 December by rail to Ginginhlovu. McKenzie and his staff went via Eshowe and Melmoth and arrived at Nongoma on the 6th. The rest of the force under Colonel Arnott went by rail to Somkele and then marched by way of a very bad road to Nongoma arriving there on 10/11 December 1907 (Fig.2). Dinuzulu surrendered on 9 December at Nongoma. Reports were received that rifles held at Usutu, the King's kraal (Fig.3) had been distributed to chiefs in the Northern District of the colony. Martial Law was thus extended to this area and a column was formed at Vryheid. There were now some 2,978 men in the field and 711 reserves *(Porter 2006)*.

The troops moved out on the night of 12-13 December making their way to Usutu kraal, but no rebels or firearms were found.



Fig.1: Picture postcard of King Dinuzlu ka Cetshwayo taken a few weeks after his capture and imprisonment. Cancelled Pietermaritzburg FE 4 / 08.

King Dinuzulu was taken to Pietermaritzburg to await trial. With the king out of the way, McKenzie decided that the 'crisis' was over, and the infantry and artillery were ordered to demobilise on 18th. But to deal with several 'disloyal' chiefs he sent out the Natal Carbineers. They completed their duties in the northern area, arriving at Vryheid on the 22nd and were demobilized in time for Christmas.

A 200 strong Militia Composite Regiment (Fig.4) was then formed at Vryheid that continued to operate in the Northern District, taking in firearms until the end of February 1908. All military units were then disbanded and the men returned home.

King Dinuzulu faced 23 charges and after some delay the controversial trial commenced in Greytown in November and was concluded by 23 February 1909. He was found guilty of harbouring Bambatha's wife and children, assisting Bambatha during the rebellion, and harbouring other rebels at various times. He was sentenced to four years imprisonment, which was cut short by the advent of the Union of South Africa when he was released by Prime Minister General Louis Botha. He lived out his remaining years at Uitkyk farm near Witbank until his death in October 1913.

References.

- Porter, R.N. 2006. Postal History of the Operations to Arrest King Dinuzulu, December 1907-February 1908. *Natal & Zululand Post,* 10 (2): 66-70.
- Porter, R.N. 2008. More on the Zulu Rebellion of 1906 and the Arrest of King Dinuzulu. *Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal,* 12 (2): 78-83.



Fig.2: 'On Active Service' cover from a member of the Natal Field Artillery cancelled Melmoth Zululand DE 9 / 07 with Pietermaritzburg arrival cancellation.

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Fig.3: Usutu kraal, the principal residence of King Dinuzlu ka Cetshwayo near Nongoma, Zululand.



Fig.4: Letter card addressed to 'Lieut A B Charter. Composite Regiment. Vryheid'. Cancelled Pietermaritzburg JA 3 / 08 with arrival cancellation.

POSTAL RATES – VALID FROM 1 APRIL 2017

Compiled by Robin Messenger, SA Stamp Study Circle

Domestic Letter	New Rate R c	Old Rate R c	Increase %
Small DL	3.90	3.60	8.33
Medium B5	7.80	7.15	9.09
Large B4	9.55	8.75	9.14
Domestic Postcards: Same rates as letters.			
Registered letters, with insurance option.			
Compensation up to R100.00 at no additional fee. Insurance for higher amounts is available for an additional fee based on a sliding scale. The maximum insured value is R2,000.00 for which the fee is now R156.05 (previously R142.80, an increase of 9.20 %).			
Small DL. (3.90 + 23.40)	27.30	25.00	9.20
Medium B5 (7.80 + 23.40)	31.20	28.55	9.28
Large B4 (9.55 + 23.35)	32.90	30.10	9.30
International			
Registration fee.	36.95	33.80	9.32
There is no insurance option for international letter post.			
Aerograms	5.85	5.35	9.35
Postcards – Airmail	7.90	7.25	8.97
Postcards – Surface	4.80	4.40	9.09
Airmail letters – Southern Africa			
Small DL	7.10	6.50	9.23
Medium B5	25.80	23.60	9.32
Large B4	40.10	36.70	9.26
Small packets (per 100 g)	22.70	20.80	9.13
Airmail letters – Rest of the world			
Small DL	9.15	8.40	8.93
Medium B5	31.20	28.55	9.28
Large B4	52.90	48.40	9.30
Small packets (per 100 g)	40.00	36.60	9.29
New rates taken from *Government Gazette*, Vol. 619, No. 40584 (30 January 2017).			

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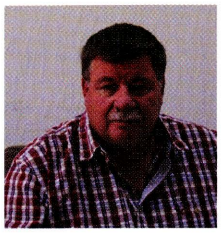


The Union 1935 KG V Silver Jubilee Issue: Joined Paper stamps

by André du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Neil Donen*

The Union of South Africa Silver Jubilee stamps were printed by the rotogravure printing process. A Goebels AG printing machine was used, permitting sequential printing in a single operation. Paper was supplied in the form of large rolls. Already gummed on one side, the paper was fed through the machine during the printing process.

The rolls of paper necessitated some joining by the manufacturer and, occasionally by the printer, when the beginning of one roll had to be joined to the end of another. The number of joins in a roll varied, but on average were two or three. Each roll printed thousands of sheets and great care was taken to prevent printers' waste and damaged or partially printed sheets (including the joined sheets) from being included in the public distribution of the printed stamps. As a result, not many of these have found their way into the hands of collectors [1].

The overlap, when joining was done by the manufacturer, was generally between 10mm and 35mm with irregular edges. Joining was done with the same adhesive as was applied to the rest of the paper.

During printing the joining was by means of fairly narrow self-adhesive strips with straight edges and a narrow overlap [2].

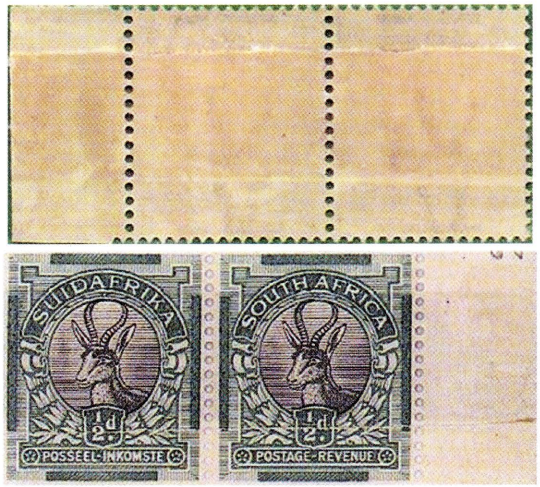
Hagger, on page 43, wrote: *"Stamps printed over this join are described as having Joined Paper and they derive their importance from the fact, particularly where the join falls near the middle of the design, that if the two thicknesses of paper are separated, there is left a stamp which is partly unprinted"*[2].

Joined papers for the Silver Jubilee issue were first reported some weeks after the stamps had been placed on sale on 1 May 1935. A brief note in the June 1935 (page 87) issue of *The SA Philatelist* stated: *"...a writer from Bloemfontein reports that a sheet of the 1d denomination, with* 'joined paper' *variety was recently discovered in a small post office in the Orange Free State. He would like to know whether any others have been found."*

To date I have been able to identify four ½d and two 1d examples of joined paper, all in horizontal pairs (see table). I am convinced that only two sheets (six horizontal pairs) for the ½d and one sheet (three horizontal pairs) for the 1d were produced. All examples show manufacturer joins. These stamps, in my opinion, qualify to be amongst the rarest of items of Union of South Africa stamps.

Shown below are examples of manufacturer joined paper and those from the printer - 1930 Pretoria Pictorials.

EXAMPLES OF JOINED PAPER



½d definitive issue of 1930 showing Manufacturer Joined Paper

At Right- ½d Unhyphenated coil issue of 1930 with Printer Joined Paper.
Note:
a) Narrow adhesive strip joining the two stamps.

b) Joined paper showing etching error with two congruent 'South Africa' headed stamps rather than the alternating English and Afrikaans ('SuidAfrika') headed stamps. This etching error caused two English and two Afrikaans stamps being printed se-tenant - the only occurrence in South Africa Union philately



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA SILVER JUBILEE JOINED PAPER STAMPS

VALUE	ITEM	JOIN ON ROWS	PRINTING	SOURCE
½d	Block of 8; Row 9-12 / Column 1-2	10-11	2nd	A du Plessis
	Block of 6; Row 9-11 / Column 3-4	10-11	2nd	Grosvenor 25 May 2004 Sale 17 Lot #1391
	? Row 10-11 / Column 5-6	10-11	2nd	Unknown
½d	Block of 10; Row 16-20 / Column 1-2	16-18	2nd	D Scheepers
	? Row 16-18 / Column 3-4	16-18	2nd	Unknown
	Block of 12; Row 15-20 / Column 5-6	16-18	2nd	Sandafayre 26 April 2016 Sale 7252 Lot #7976
1d	Block of 8; Row 17-20 / Column 1-2	18-19	1st	D Scheepers
	? Row 18-19 / Column 3-4	18-19	1st	Unknown
	Block of 12; Row 15-20 / Column 5-6	18-19	1st	Sandafayre 26 April 2016 Sale 7252 Lot #7977

The following images include all the known 'Joined Paper' examples from the 1935 Union of South Africa Silver Jubilee issue. Tables are included with listing of flaws appearing on the stamps which allow one to differentiate between the different printings.

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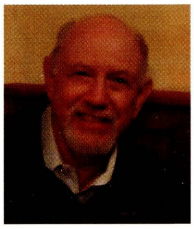
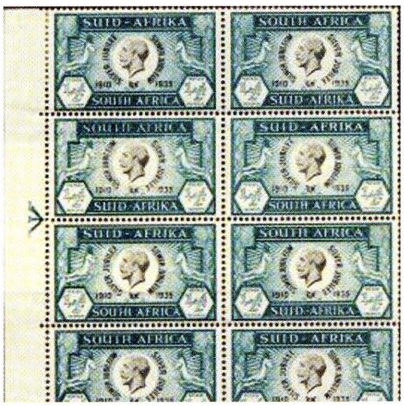
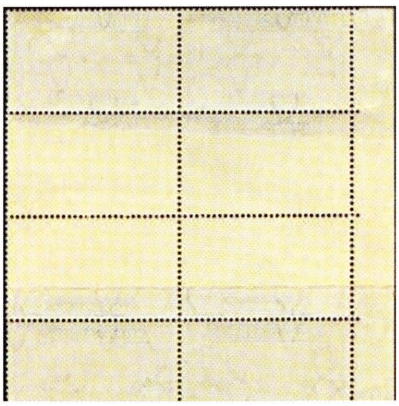


* Neil Donen lives in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. He is a member of the King George V 1935 Silver Jubilee Study Circle and is currently the editor of its journal, *The Flagstaff*. He is a postal historian of the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue together with interests in Aerophilately and Canada.

½d – 2nd PRINTING ROWS 10 – 11



Columns 1 – 2



Columns 2 – 1

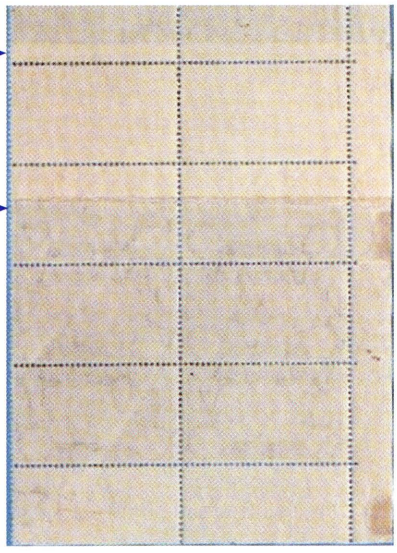


Columns 1 – 2

½d – 2nd PRINTING ROWS 16 – 18



Columns 1 – 2

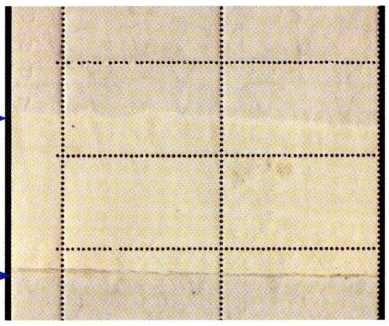


Columns 2 – 1

½d – 2nd PRINTING ROWS 16 – 18



Columns 5 – 6



Columns 6 – 5

½d HEADPLATE CHARACTERISTICS		PRINTING	
R/C	DESCRIPTION	1st	2nd
9/1	Tiny spot just before 'J'	●	●
9/3	Line in left margin halfway down Spot in left figure of left value tab	● ●	● ●
10/1	Tiny dot between 'IL' and '19'	●	●
10/3	Dark mark between 'KA'	●	●
10/4	Spot behind head	●	●
11/2	Tiny spot just below and behind ear	●	●
12/1	Spot in front of forehead	●	●
12/2	Spot in front of forehead	●	●
15/5	Spot in head	●	●
15/6	Tiny spot under chin	●	●
16/1	Gash under ear	●	●
16/6	Spot over 'E' of JUBILEE Line up from 'I' of SILVER	●	● ●
17/1	Spot on neck at level of chin	●	●
17/2	Spot on cheek	●	●
17/5	Spot in right figure of value tablet	●	●
17/6	Faint spot before 'S' of SILVER	●	●
18/1	Spot in 'S' of SUID	●	●
18/2	Spot under 'L' of JUBILEUM Large white band across King's neck Vertical hairline through '3' of 1935 to level of base of right springbok's horns	●	● ● ●
18/5	Spot in right figure of value tablet Tiny spot at bottom of left figure of value tablet	● ●	● ●
19/1	Spot above and close to '1935' Vertical line up through 'VER' of SILVER	●	● ●
19/2	Spot under 'IL' of JUBILEUM	●	●
19/5	Stroke on 'R' of SILVER Vertical line at base of neck	●	● ●
19/6	Spot in margin under 'S'	●	●
20/1	Small mark above 'M' of JUBILEUM	●	●
20/2	Hairline over 'V' of SILVER	●	
20/5	Curl just in front of ear Spot before 'S' of SILVER Vertical hairline through head	●	● ● ●
20/6	Tiny nick in bottom of ear	●	●

½d FRAMEPLATE CHARACTERISTICS		PRINTING	
R/C	DESCRIPTION	1st	2nd
9/1	Hairline in right margin near tail		●
9/2-3	Small horizontal line connecting 2 stamps	●	
9/3	Line from margin through left Protea		●
9/4	Two hairlines through right springbok's head		●
10/1	Spots before and above 'S' in SILVER	●	●
10/3	Large spot behind right springbok's head	●	●
10/4	Hairline over 'J' in JUBILEE	●	●
11/2	Spot under right springbok's belly	●	
11/3	Spot in white ray on left springbok's head	●	●
12/1	Spot over left springbok's back	●	
12/3	Spot in front of right springbok's nose	●	●
15/1	Tiny spot behind King's head		●
15/5	Line through top of 'IKA' of AFRIKA	●	
15/6	Line through 'D-AFRI'		●
16/1	Spots behind left springbok Spot near '2' of left ½d Spot under base of King's neck	●	● ● ●
16/6	Spot on top of 'U' of JUBILEUM		●
17/2	Spot in top left Protea		●
18/1	Blob in front of left springbok at level of horns Spot above King's forehead Spot under left Springbok above 'ST' of POSTAGE		● ● ●
18/2	Spot in rays after 'M' of JUBILEUM Green spot under base of King's neck	● ●	
18/5	Line from top frame-line to point of first 'A' of AFRICA		●
19/5	Green line in outside right margin		●
20/6	Green smear in bottom selvedge		●

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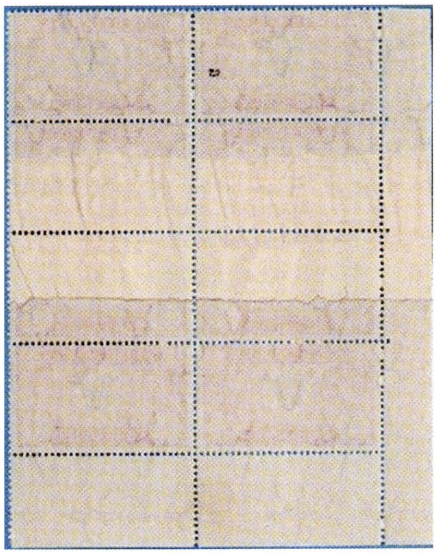
1d – 1st PRINTING ROWS 18 – 19



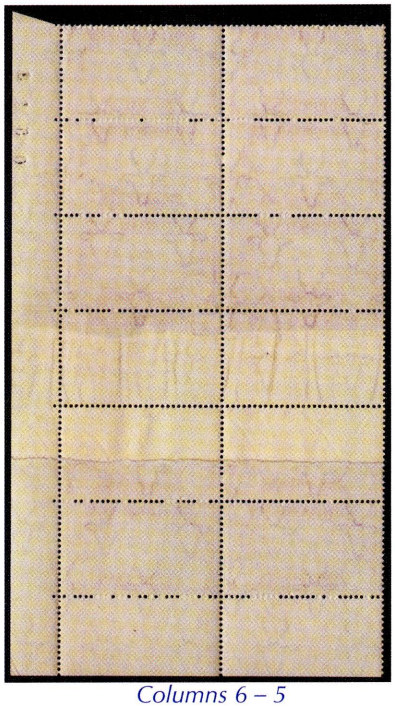
Columns 1 – 2



Columns 2 – 1



* Gumtree 14/5/1935 written in pencil in the margin is most likely when and where it was bought. This is a railway station with Post Office near Ficksburg in the then Orange Free State. It is about 170 km from Bloemfontein



Columns 6 – 5



Columns 5 – 6

1d HEADPLATE CHARACTERISTICS		PRINTING		
R/C	DESCRIPTION	1st	2nd	3rd
15/5	Spot in head	●	●	
15/6	Tiny spot under chin	●	●	
16/1	Gash under ear	●	●	●
16/6	Spot over 'E' of JUBILEE Line up from 'I' of SILVER Spots in front of right springbok	●	● ●	 ●
17/1	Spot on neck at level of chin	●	●	●
17/2	Spot on cheek	●	●	
17/5	Spot in right figure of value tablet	●	●	
17/6	Faint spot before 'S' of SILVER	●	●	
18/1	Spot in 'S' of SUID	●	●	
18/2	Spot under 'L' of JUBILEUM Large white band across King's neck Vertical hairline through '3' of 1935 to level of base of right springbok's horns	●	● ● ●	
18/5	Spot in right figure of value tablet Tiny spot bottom left figure of value tablet	● ●	● ●	
19/1	Spot above and close to '1935' Vertical line up through 'VER' of SILVER	●	● ●	
19/2	Spot under 'IL' of JUBILEUM	●	●	
19/5	Stroke on 'R' of SILVER Vertical line at base of neck		● ●	
19/6	Spot in margin under 'S'	●	●	
20/1	Small mark above 'M' of JUBILEUM Spot at base of neck	●	●	 ●
20/2	Hairline over 'V' of SILVER Spot on head	●	● ●	
20/5	Curl just in front of ear. Spot before 'S' of SILVER. Vertical hairline through head	●	● ● ●	
20/6	Tiny nick in bottom of ear	●	●	

1d FRAMEPLATE CHARACTERISTICS		PRINTING		
R/C	DESCRIPTION	1st	2nd	3rd
15/1	Single scratch through 'D-AFRIK' Scratch extending from left tablet to'K' (double scratch)	● ●	●	●
15/2	Stroke between right '1' and 'd'	●	●	●
15/6	Spot over 'V' of SILVER	●	●	●
16/1	Red scratch through top of SUID-AFRIKA		●	●
16/2	Spot over '1' of 1910 Line through 'FRICA' into right margin	●	●	● ●
16/5	Line through top of 'SUID-AFRIKA' Line through top of 'H AF' of SOUTH AFRICA		● ●	● ●
16/6	Spot in white line under 'D-A' of SUID- AFRIKA	●	●	●
17/6	Spot on right springbok's nose	●	●	●
18/2	Spot on right springbok's neck	●	●	●
18/5	Spot in edge of right 1d Spot in front of left springbok's head	● ●	● ●	● ●
18/6	Dot in edge of right '1' of 1d Line in margin under 'E' of INKOMSTE	● ●	● ●	● ●
19/2	Stroke from right frame-line into margin	●	●	●
19/5	Spot in front of right springbok's knees	●	●	●
20/1	Spot in left springbok's neck	●	●	●
20/6	Spot at base of right 1d Spot under left springbok's nose Spot close to right 'd' – of 1d	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●

Acknowledgements:

Permission to publish the respective images is acknowledged with thanks: Danie Scheepers RDPSA and the following philatelic auction houses – Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions and SANDAFAYRE Auctions.

References:

1. Gilbert, G.N. 1934. The Rotogravure stamps of the Union of South Africa. *The South African Philatelist.* May pp. 67-8.

2. Hagger, S.J. 1986. *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa. 1910-1961.* Handbook Catalogue. Cape Town: Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, p. 43.

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BILL BARRELL LTD

UNUSUAL GB KING GEORGE VI.

It has always slightly puzzled me why GB King George VI is undercollected compared to the demand for Commonwealth KGVI ! At stamp shows there is enormous interest in the latter (and rightly so) but the former not so much ... and yet there is much of interest. True, proofs are almost impossible to obtain but the high values offer a good study, there is a wonderful range of usages, fascinating propaganda forgeries, printing varieties etc etc We offer, subject unsold some more unusual items.



1941 Jersey arms - rare imperf pair plate proof in black. (ref 98505) £475.00

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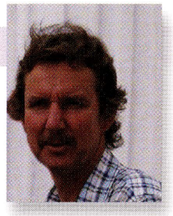
PART 24A

DECORATED POST OFFICES

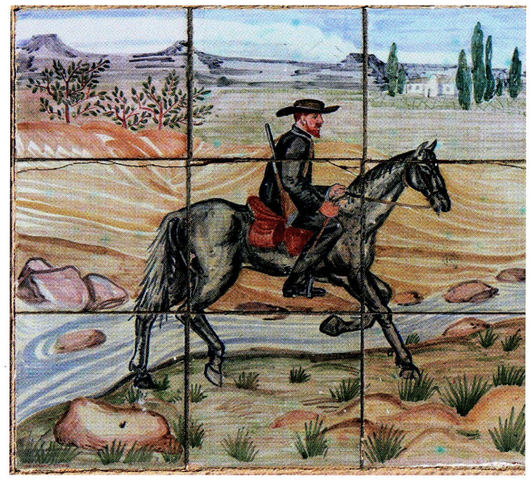
BY Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein



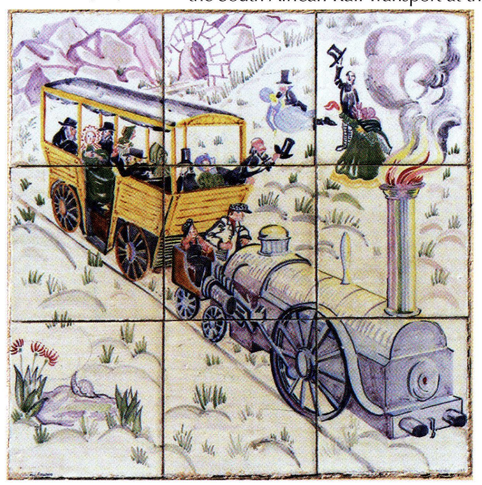
Burgersdorp

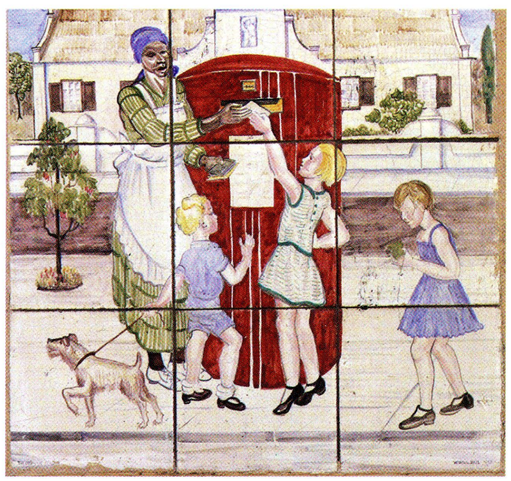
Part 1 of 2











The history of the origin of the Burgersdorp Post Office has previously been described by Prof Pieter Maritz in the very first article of the series *(The SA Philatelist* - Dec. 2010 and Feb. 2011). The Post Office was built in 1933 and bears no less than 14 ceramic tile panels, all painted by Wilgy Agnes Van-Hall. These are the most decorations seen on a single post office which we have described in this series.

The art works illustrate two themes: the settlement of pioneers in the interior of South Africa and mail transport. These panels will be described in two parts.

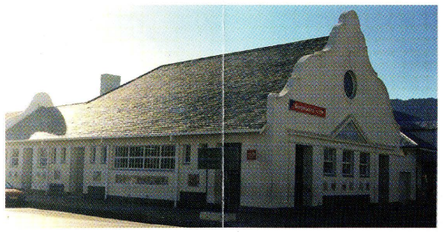
On the extreme left of the western wall in Piet Retief Street, as well as the southern wall, respectively four and six small panels of 3x3 ceramic tiles are mounted. The theme of these ten panels depicts modes of transport, in most cases, specifically for conveying mail.

The first panel shows a native carrying a letter in a cleft stick. The letter is sealed with red wax and the cleft stick was used to avoid the letter being soiled by sweat and dirt. Note the beadwork around the right ankle. The plant might be falling stars *(Crocosmia aurea)* with buds not yet opened.

On the second panel appears a rider on horseback. In the background is a farm house in Cape Dutch architecture, and the large cypress trees suggest a settled farm, perhaps at the turn of the 20th Century. With a rifle slung on his back, it could possibly be a field post messenger during the Anglo Boer War.

Next is a horse-drawn coach. This type of coach was not familiar in South Africa, but rather in England. It would appear that a tense situation is being experienced; based on the woman passenger holding her face and the man standing at the back pointing something that could be a pistol. Rain is pouring down, the horses are running and the scene is completed with .... a cactus in blossom(!)... a plant that was not very common in the wild in South Africa during the late 19th Century.

The train scene is really interesting, actually funny! The engine resembles Stephenson's Rocket of 1829. However, the tender is depicted with one axle instead of two, and instead of carrying coal and a water barrel, it only contains a bench for a driver and stoker. This train never ran in South Africa and also never pulled a carriage as shown. The tunnel in the background, through which the train was supposed to have travelled, is also out of place. In the background is a woman with a yellow face: probably having fainted after her first sighting of the smoke spewing monster. One could ask why she was still unaccustomed to seeing a train by the time it was employed as passenger carrier, as well as tunnels constructed for travel purpose?



On Taylor Street the panels illustrate mail conveyance which was modern in the 1930s. The first tile is a street scene in front of a house of Cape Dutch architecture, where three children, and their dog are accompanied by their care-giver to post some letters in the well known red mail box.

The next panel shows a red mail van also of 1930s vintage speeding past pedestrians. It bears the letter HPK: *Hoofposkantoor.* A typically dangerous scene is depicted where a ball rolls into traffic and a child, wanting to run after it, is being restrained by the mother. The mother is well dressed according to the fashion of the time, and a nanny carries the second sibling. The flat terrain with flat topped mountains may be anywhere in the central part of the country.

The train with brown coaches was typical of the South African Rail Transport at the time. The locomotive has several features of a Class 16D or 16DA which was introduced between 1925 and 1928; three pairs of drive wheels (4-6-2 arrangement), broad steam pipes to the pistons and support bars of the scoop. However, the tender and scoop are of earlier Class 16's. The boiler door is on front hinges on the right, which is incorrect! The yellow fields to the left possibly depict wheat fields, placing the scene in the Western Cape, very far from Burgersdorp.

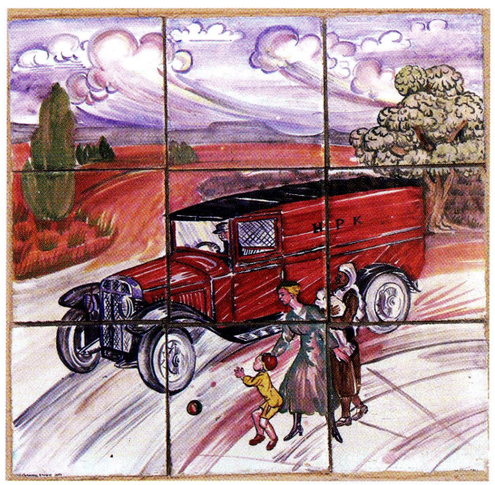
The biplane on the next panel is probably a fighter plane, because it bears British roundels on the wings and fuselage sides. The flag insignia on the aeleron is French! British aircraft bear the red on the leading edge and blue on the trailing edge. It is driven by an air cooled radial engine. The biplane fighters in South Africa in the 1930s had liquid cooled inline engines and the red of the insignia was painted orange.

The passenger ship with two smoke stacks and high masts is of a type built in the early 1900s. The masts are out of proportion, being too high and the smoke stacks too short and it was unusual to have a ship painted white. It is difficult to identify the ship by the information given and the very large flag does not identify any home country.

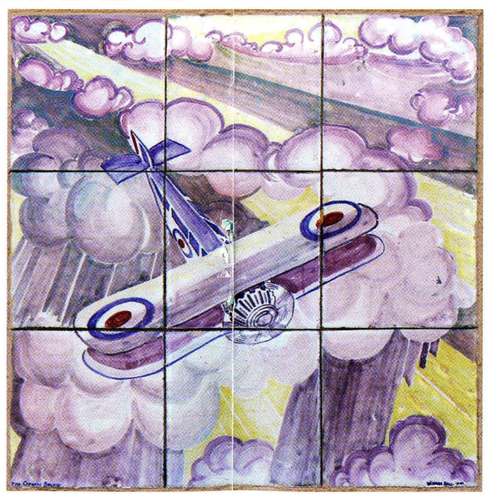
After all the different methods showing how the mail was conveyed, it is finally delivered by hand on the last panel. The mailman wears a black uniform, pith helmet and carries a leather mail bag. The windows of the house suggest a Cape Dutch style, and the wall around the property places the scene somewhere in the Cape Province or Karoo. The outfits of the children and flowering bottle brush suggest a summer season.

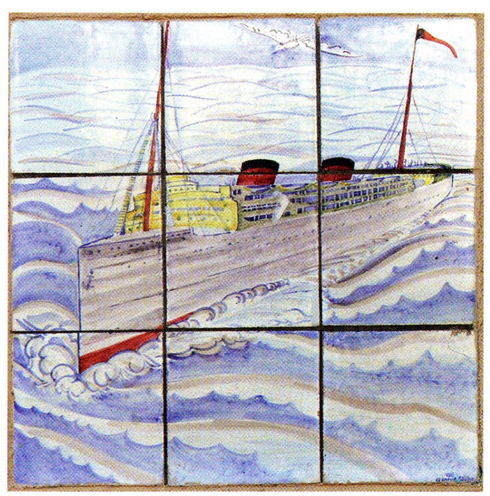
References:

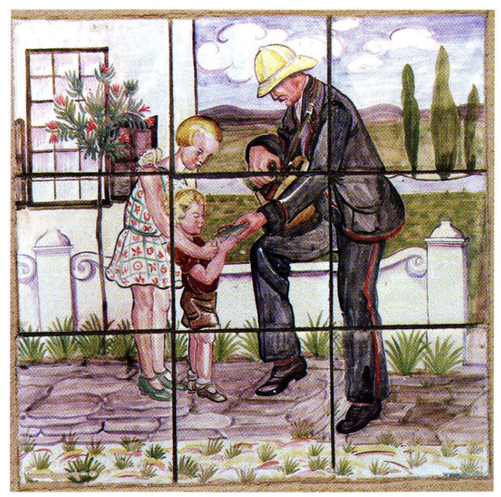
- Telford A.A. (1972) *Yesterday's Dress. A history of costume in South Africa*;
- Aircraft Reference Files;
- www.wikipedia.org











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GERMAN OCCUPATION OF AUSTRIA – APRIL 1938

by Jan van Beukering OFS Philatelic Society

As early as 1934 the Austrian Nationalist Socialists planned a putsch with German support and the then Chancellor Dollfuss was assassinated. The putsch was quelled and Chancellor Kurt von Schussnich was appointed. Schussnich ruled as a dictator in opposition to the Nationalist Socialists and the Social-Democrats. In 1936 a non-intervention agreement was signed with Hitler, who planned incorporation of Austria into the German Reich, against the agreement clauses, and had the pro-German Seiss-Inquart installed in the government in early 1938. Chancellor Schussnich called for a referendum on the political position of Austria but his resignation was demanded by the Germans. He resigned on 11 March 1938.

German troops entered Austria on 13 March 1938 in preparation for the annexation on 10 April, which was largely supported by the Austrian public. Much propaganda was prepared by the quasi-German controlled government and postal cancellers were prepared with slogans and cachets advertising Hitler's impending arrival in Vienna.



Fig.1: VIENNA 17 March 1938 machine cancel with swastika 'DER FÜHRER IN WIEN' on Austrian stamp



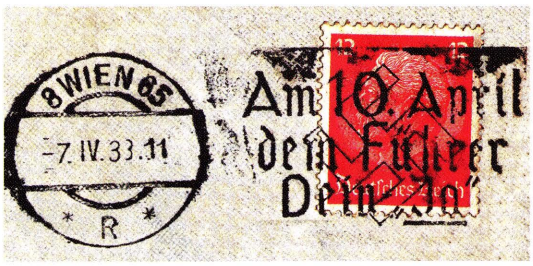


Fig.2: VIENNA 7 April 1938 machine cancel with swastika 'Am 10. April Dem Führer Dein Ja' on German stamp

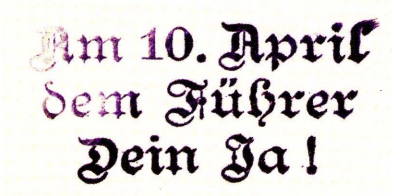




Fig.3: Cachet applied to letter from smaller towns HERMAGOR 'C' date stamp

German stamps were in use from 4 April 1938, but the use of Austrian stamps and postal stationery remained valid until 31 October of the same year.

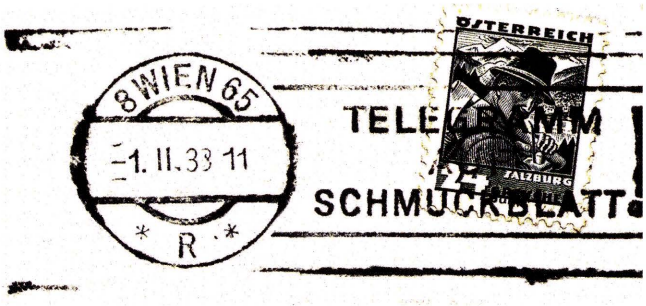


Fig.4: VIENNA 1 November 1938 machine cancel. Late usage 'TELEGRAM AUF SCHMUCKBLATT !'



Fig.5: Part Austrian Postcard VIENNA ' EIN VOLK, EIN REICH, EIN FÜHRER'

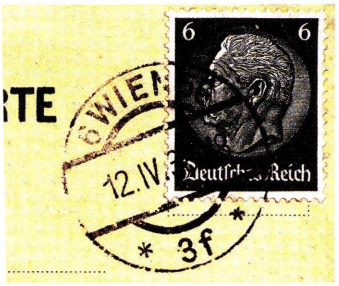


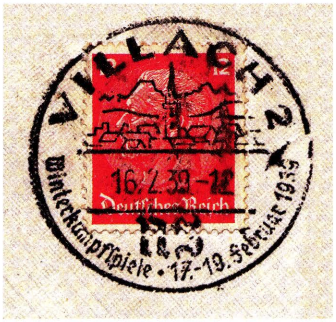
Fig.6: VIENNA Early use of German stamps 12 March 1938 6 WIEN 3F



Fig.7: Red business canceller adopted soon after the incorporation. Private machine cancel Men's Hattery with 'REICHSPOST' and German eagle.

Fig.8.

Later cancels clearly showed German influence in the design of cancellers, such as the VILLACH WINTER GAMES of 1939 with typical Reich (Gothic) lettering.



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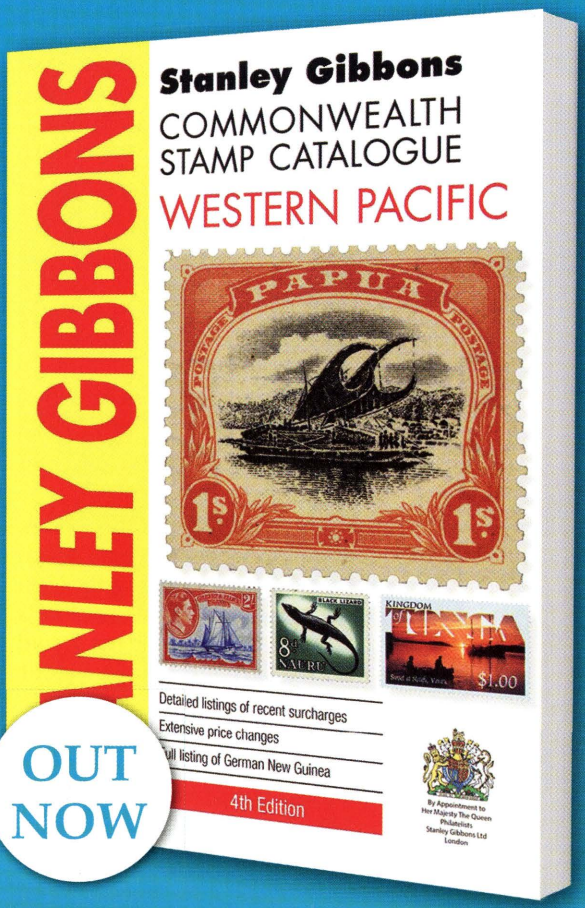

Western Pacific

• 4th Edition 2017

This fourth edition of the popular Stanley Gibbons Western Pacific Catalogue lists and prices the stamps of Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Also includes Gilbert and Ellice Islands, German New Guinea, New Guinea, Papua, Niuafo'ou and the British and French issues of the New Hebrides.

New for this edition:

- The Specimen overprints for German New Guinea are listed and priced for the first time and in Tonga there are new notes on the detection of forgeries on the 1896 typewritten surcharges and on the settings of the 1962 Centenary of Emancipation overprints. Among a number of newly-listed varieties are the 'thin "d"' on the 2½d. Lakatois of Papua, while the complex surcharged 'Birds' definitives of Fiji have been re-written.
- Details of issues up to 1970 have been extracted from Stanley Gibbons 2017 Commonwealth and British Empire Catalogue. Later issues have been revised and updated especially for this catalogue

R2987-17 R725

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BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY

RHODESIA

THE LARGE ARMS ISSUES — 1896 - 1897

by J P D Flanagan RDPSA FRPSL, Life Vice President Rhodesia Study Circle



The Preceding Issues

The first stamps were produced for the British South Africa Company in 1892, the so-called Small Arms Issues. These stamps had as their key design element the Coat of Arms of the British South Africa Company. The smaller sized stamp (Fig.1) denominations were 1d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 2s6d, 5s and 10s, while the larger size (Fig.2) were denominated 1 Pound, 2 Pounds, 5 Pounds and 10 Pounds. The duties of ½d, 2d, 4d and 8d were significant omissions and these were then recognised as necessary by overprinting the 6d and 1s denominations of this issue - the 6d duty being surcharged ½d, 2d and 4d and the 1s duty being surcharged 8d. The surcharge was applied by Bradbury Wilkinson & Sons Limited of London, the printers of the original 1892 issue. It was quickly recognised that various denominations were still 'missing' from the issue and a new design was commissioned, this time as bi-colour stamps with the value tablet being printed from a separate plate to the rest of the stamp. Accordingly, Bradbury Wilkinson produced the ½d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 8d, 3s and 4s duties which were recess printed, with the value tablet printed typo (Fig.3 as example). All these stamps were printed on white to whitish, on both watermarked and un-watermarked paper.



Fig.1 SG 1



Fig.2 SG13 perforated SPECIMEN



Fig.3 SG 20

The 1896 Large Arms Issue by Perkins Bacon

In 1896 the Company decided that it needed a new set of stamps, and without too much imagination set about a new design, which design prevailed with the Company's Coat of Arms as the key element thereof. In this case the stamps were printed by Perkins Bacon of London, on wove, un-watermarked paper. The process involved in producing these stamps was a convoluted one, with many steps involved in the design and printing processes.

It was decided that there would be two components to the design, a frame consisting primarily of the value tablet and the vignette comprising the base of the Company's Coat of arms to which had to be added the name 'BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY - INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER' and decorative elements. Initially the incorporation



Figs.4-7

of the Crown was not contemplated. This is confirmed by inspection of the Essays and the first bi-coloured Plate Proofs and the Perforated Colour trials neither of which showed a Crown. The Essays also showed the duty at an angle of some 45degrees. Essays were produced, imperforate and in a range of colours. These are illustrated in Figs. 4-7.

Perkins Bacon produced Die Proofs of the Arms vignette, which was very much a formality, with its direct derivation from the Company's design. The name and decorative elements did not form part of this Die (Fig 8).



Fig.8

Copies of Die Proofs of the vignettes, produced by Perkins Bacon saw two designs, both incorporating the name and decorations and at the top, on the one hand a flattish ornament and on the other a three pointed ornament. Both these Dies are numbered '256' (Colin Hoffman Collection, Figs 9 and 10), which Dies can be regarded as the base of the approved design. There was however no heraldic influence. The design represented the Company's name and the parts where the denomination of each duty would be slotted-in; significantly no Crown was shown.

The value tablet design was progressing and in a departure from the initial essays and from an Un-appropriated Die of the Value tablet, it was decided to show the duties in a vertical format. This design was developed to an advanced state, with Die Proofs and Colour Trials being produced and Paper trials being

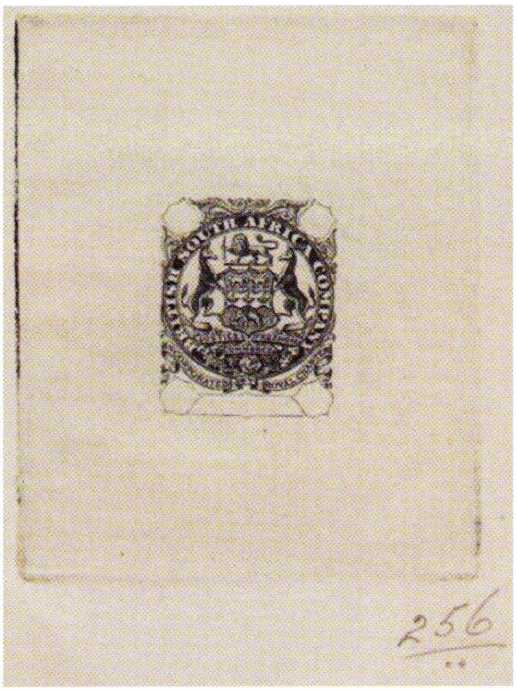

Fig.9

undertaken. The design without the Crown, which formed part of the final adopted design is illustrated by the Plate Proofs, printed on either un-gummed paper or on Board in a range of colours most of which did not accord with the colours of the issued stamps (Figs.11 and 12).

Further, a range of Colour trials was produced, in unissued colours, all in the 8d denomination, perforated either 11½ or 12½ (Fig.13 and 14).

Prior to the production of these trials, the development of the frame design, which was fundamentally the value tablet(s), had progressed. An early Un-appropriated Die without Crown and with duty values at 45 degree angle shows early development of the frame plate (Fig.15).

It was finally agreed to incorporate the Crown at the top of the vignette design in place of

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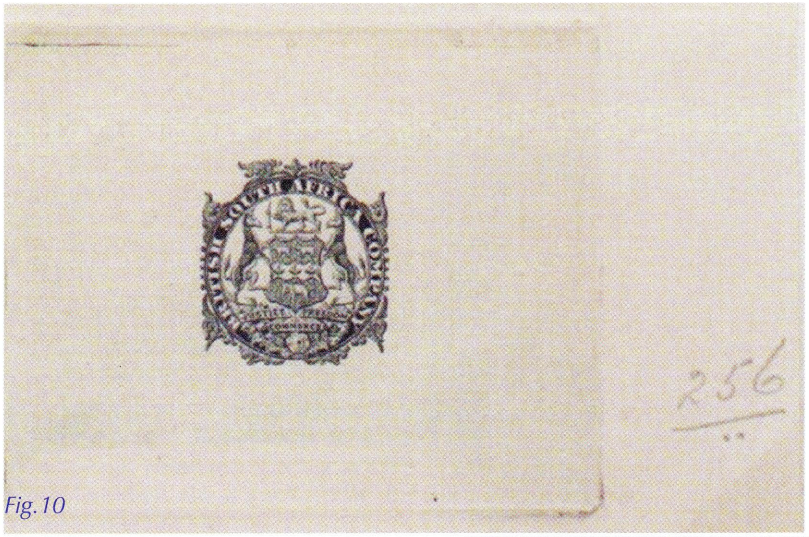

Fig.10

the flat and / or three pointed motif and this saw the production of the approved Die Proof of the completed design as indicated by illustrations of the two Die Proofs - 1st DIE" and '256' (Figs.16 and 17).

From these Dies the 1s perforated Colour Trial in unissued colours was produced. The 1s Trials are very scarce, particularly when compared with those in the 8d denomination (Fig.18).

One more hurdle remained before the stamps could go into production. The paper to be used had to be selected. And this produced an intriguing aspect of the issue. The United Kingdom Queen Victoria 1d with the 10/- Large Arms value tablet superimposed over the original Skipper & East essay of 8 stamps


Fig.11


Fig.12

(Fig 19) was used together with printers' Perkins Bacon waste sheets of the 1895 Sarawak definitive issue, to ensure the correct registration of the duty plates - 'The Sarawak Trials' (Fig 20).

The 1897 Large Arms Issue by Waterlow

In 1897 a further issue of the Large Arms stamps was produced, this time by Waterlow & Sons Limited of

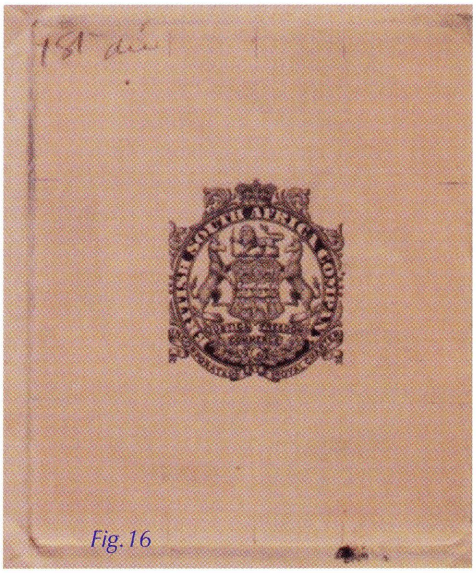
Fig.16

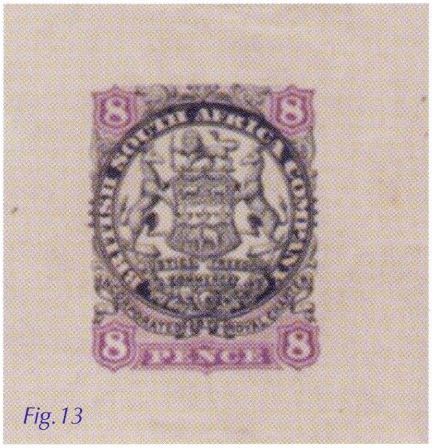
Fig.13

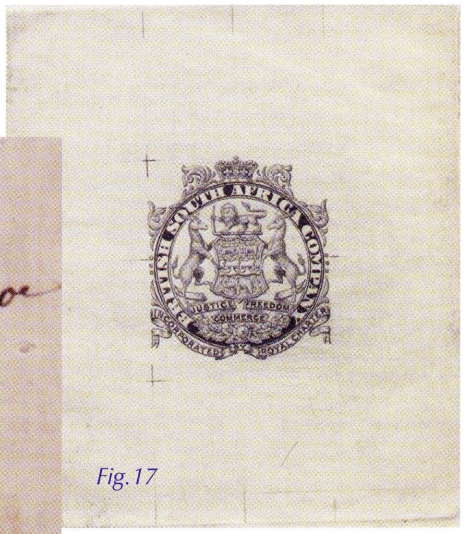
Fig.17


Fig.14

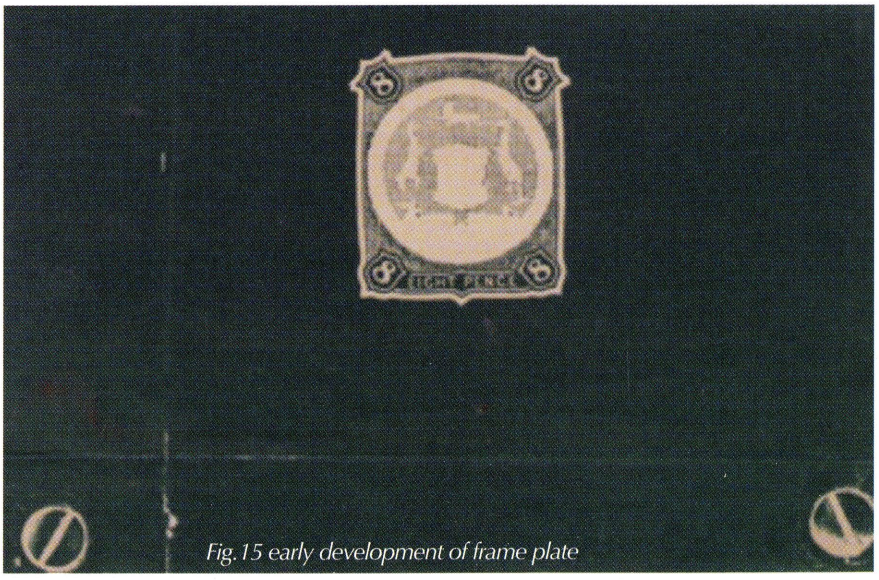
Fig.15 early development of frame plate

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London, on un-watermarked paper. The Die was re-engraved, effectively seeing a redesign of the stamps. In this case the scrolls do not go beneath the legs of the Unicorn and there is no evidence of Plate numbers being printed on the sheets. This issue comprised 8 denominations: ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 8d and 1 Pound. The vignette was printed Recess and the value tablet Typo. They were printed on un-watermarked paper and were Perforated 13½ to 16. Waterlows produced Die Proofs of the frame plate as part of their process. The Composite Dirty Book Die Proofs, with Printer's punch holes and 'CANCELLED', are illustrated (Fig 21).

The Die Proof illustrated in Fig.22, for the 1 Pound duty, is from the re-engraved plate prepared by Waterlow.



Fig.18



Fig.19

This Die clearly shows the change to the design, particularly the scrolls which unlike the Perkins Bacon printings, do not go through the legs of the Unicorn see Fig. 23.

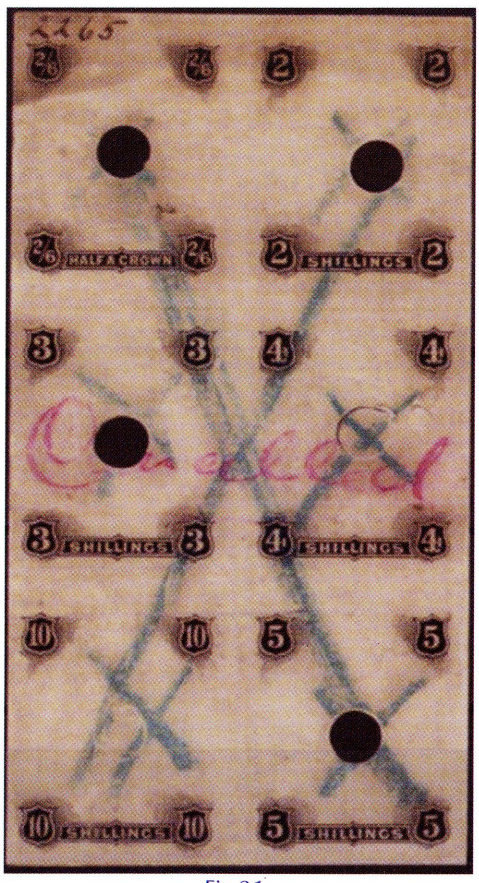

Fig.21



Fig.20

The Dies of the 1896 and 1897 Large Arms Issues

Although it is commonly spoken of that there were three separate Dies, it must be noted that there were two printers involved, Perkins Bacon for the 1896 issues, where there are two distinct Dies - Die 1 and Die II - and Waterlow & Sons Limited, of London who re-engraved the Die for the 1897 issue. In this case the vignette was engraved by J. A. C. Harrison and the frame by Bain or Rapkin.

In essence the distinguishing features between the Perkins Bacon Dies I and II and the re-engraved issue by Waterlow are:

- **Perkins Bacon**

Die I - Dot behind Tail of left hand Unicorn and body of Lion lightly shaded, scroll between legs of the Unicorns

Die II - NO dot, body of Lion is heavily shaded and scrolls between legs of the Unicorns

- **Waterlow re-engraved** Die - NO Dot and Scrolls do NOT go between legs of the Unicorns.

It is thus submitted that the often used "Die I, Die II and Die III" terminology for these issues is incorrect.

The 1896 issue of the Large Arms is the Die I issue. This issue was printed by Perkins Bacon in 9 denominations: 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 8d, 1s, 3s and 4s. These were printed from Plates 1 and 2. The Plate Number is evident in the vertical selvedge at the top left of each sheet, and is the Plate Number in a circle. The vignette was printed Recess and the value tablet Typo. They were printed on un-watermarked paper and were Perforated 14.

In 1896, a second issue, Die II was produced. Here there is no dot behind the tail of the Unicorn and the body of the Lion is heavily shaded. The issue was printed by Perkins Bacon in the following 9 denominations: ½d, 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d, 2s, 2s6d, 5s and 10s. The Plate Number is evident in the vertical selvedge at the top left of each sheet, and is the Plate Number in a circle. The vignette was printed Recess and the value tablet Typo. They were printed on un-watermarked paper and were Perforated 14.

Stamp Production Errors

The Large Arms issues were generally well printed and the detailed printing and plating issues are well covered in the monograph by Howard B. Young. For purposes of this broad overview, there were however a number of significant errors, in both the Perkins Bacon and Waterlow printings, all occasioned by perforation errors. These include:



Fig.22 The issued 1 Pound stamp was black & red brown on green or white paper.



Fig.23 Detail of Scroll engraving - l.t.r: Perkins Bacon and Waterlow

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- **Perkins Bacon Printing**

Die I:4d Imperforate between pair
8d Imperforate between pair
8d Imperforate pair
3s Imperforate pair

- **Waterlow Printing**

3d Imperforate between vertical pair
4d Imperforate between horizontal pair
8d Imperforate between vertical pair - only known used

The Stamp Usage

The issues also fell at a very interesting time in the history of Rhodesia. In 1896 the Matabele Rebellion produced some important and interesting postal history where Large Arms stamps were used to pay for postage (Fig.24). The Boer War similarly produced significant usage in a theatre of the war less prominent than others in the war. And of course the usage for Revenue purposes was very significant. Mining activity was at a peak, new claims were being registered, mines were being inspected and there were also duties payable on a range of commercial instruments such as General Dealer's Licences, Hunting Licences and the like. And of course the stamps were issued for both Postage and Revenue purposes.

The material illustrated herein, with the exception of Figures 9 and 10 are the property of the author. Figures 9 and 10 are the property of Mr Colin Hoffman RDPSA and are used with his express permission.



Fig.24. Matabele Rebellion cover from C Troop soldier to his mother with Die I 6d franking

Bibliography:

- Rhodesia Study Circle Journals;
- Hoffman C. 1896 *First Large Arms;*
- Auction Catalogues;
- Young H. - *Monograph;*
- Personal Research

JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

'RHODESIA'



1910 The Double Head £1 Error of Colour

The imprint copy from the foot of the sheet 1 of only 2 printed.

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London N1 - 2YQ

Tel: 020 7226 1503
Fax: 020 7359 7456

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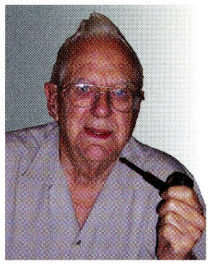


REVISITING UNION ROLL STAMPS IN SHEET FORM

by M.J.H. Tonking RDPSA, South African Stamp Study Circle

During the Union period, seven of the twenty-eight roll stamp issues appeared in sheet form. These are of particular interest on account of the cylinder transpositions, which occurred during printing. Stamps surplus to requirements for roll stamps were cut into sheets, each of 240 stamps (20 rows of 12). The sheets were issued without bottom or top margins, although the side margins were left intact. In some cases, the study of the roll stamp sheet issues made it possible to identify printing cylinder transpositions. A brief description of all seven sheet issues follows:

R 12S - 1d. value, 1934 - Unhyphenated Rotogravure. Figs.1 and 2

This was the first roll stamp to be issued in sheet form and had pale grey vignettes and pale carmine-rose frames. A thin irregular red cross was printed in the left margin between rows 18 and 19. Since there was no interior cylinder marginal mark, regular cylinder transpositions occurred. The watermark was generally upright and those with inverted watermark are rare.

R 14S - ½d. value, 1935 – First Hyphenated Issue. Figs.3 and 4

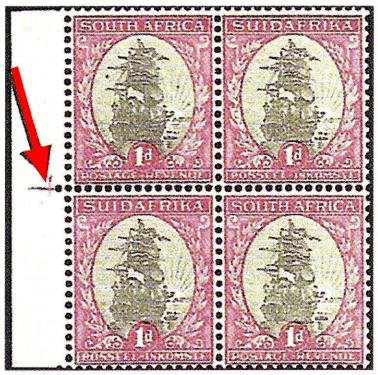
At least three different printings are known, each with different cylinder transpositions. For some unknown reason the printing cylinders were reversed, resulting in the sheet numbers being printed in the left instead of the right margin. This was the only time in the sheet roll stamps that this occurred. In order to accommodate the Grover single row perforator, the cylinders were etched to allow for a narrow gutter between stamps 6 and 7 of each row. A short green line was printed in both margins between rows 21 and 22.

R 15S - 1d. value, 1935 – First Hyphenated Issue. Figs.5 and 6

As in the case of the R 14S ½d. issue, the sheet layout was again printed with a narrow gutter between stamps 6 and 7 of each row and the perforation was again 13,5. Short red lines were printed in both margins between rows 21 and 22. Since the sheets were not always guillotined along these lines, it is uncertain as to the reason for them. Rows 3 and 4 were re-used for rows 21 and 22. No cylinder transpositions are known.

R 17S - ½d. value, 1940 – Second Hyphenated Issue. Figs.7 and 8

As in the case of the two previous issues, a twenty row multi-positive was used and rows 11 and 12 were re-used for rows 21 and 22. Short black lines were printed in left and right margins, 10 rows apart in one direction and 12 in the other. Since there were no exterior cylinder marginal marks, there were numerous cylinder transpositions normally over an even number of rows. Five figure black sheet numbers were printed in the right margin.





Figs.1 and 2, R12S

Above - Red cross in left margin opposite rows 18 and 19.

Row 18/1 - Red dot between left yardarms. Black dot in sunrays.





Figs.3 and 4, R14S

Green line in right margin between rows 21 and 22. Row 21 with darker frame.

Four figure black sheet number in left margin opposite rows 15 and 16.

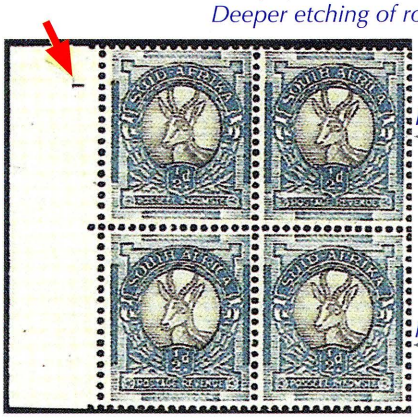


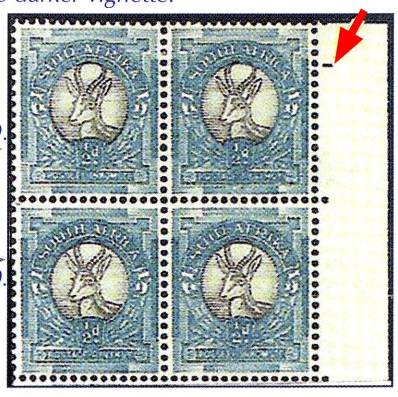


Extra perforations in left margin. Figs.5 and 6, R15S *Drunken perforations.*

Short red lines in left and right margins

Deeper etching of row 21 gives darker vignette.





Figs.7 and 8 R17S

Examples of interior cylinder marginal marks 10 rows apart.

Opposite frame row 9. *Opposite frame row 19.*

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Figs.9, R19S
Short black and red lines, both margins below row 21 junction.



Figs.10, R20S
Black and red superimposed lines in both margins below row 21 junction.

Figs.11, R26S

Strip showing printer's guide line in right margin between rows 22 and 1.



R 19S - 1d. value, January 1937 – Second Hyphenated Issue. Fig.9

This roll stamp sheet issue was by far the rarest of all seven issues, as only about 500 sheets were sold. Rows 5 and 6 were re-used for rows 21 and 22.Short black and red lines were printed in the left and right margins, opposite the centre of row 22. There were two cylinder transpositions recorded.

R 20S - 1d. value, June 1940 – Second Hyphenated Issue. Fig.10

With about 5,000 sheets sold, this issue is not considered to be that scarce. Rows 17 and 18 were re-used for rows 21 and 22. Short black and red lines superimposed on each other were printed in the left and right sheet margins, 2mm below the junction of rows 21 and 22. The bright red frame colour serves to identify this issue. There were no cylinder transpositions apart from one very rare one, which occurred over three rows.

R 26S - 1d. value, October 1960 – Animal Series. Fig.11

This was the last roll stamp to be issued in sheet form. It was printed from cylinder 97 that was made from a 22 row multi-positive, of which only rows 2 to 21 were used. A short brown line was printed in the right margin between rows 22 and 1. This line was absent on earlier printings. Five figure black sheet numbers were printed in the right margin opposite every eleventh row. Since there were only 20 rows in the sheet and the sheets were not always guillotined in the same position, either a single number, a double set of similar or a double set of consecutive numbers, appeared on each sheet.

Reference:

The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961 by S.J. Hagger

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AVAILABLE: A COLLECTION OF *THE SA PHILATELIST*

I have a collection (probably virtually complete) of *The SA Philatelist* from 1954 to c. 2007 which belonged to my late father. I have no particular interest in the collection and would like to dispose of it to an individual or an organisation who would value the journals as my father did in life.

While my primary intention would be to find a good new home for the journals a degree of compensation, including transportation costs, would be happily received. However I have no idea of the possible value of the magazines.

I would really appreciate some guidance on possible ways of ensuring that the collection can be best used in the interest of philately.

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8 Church Square.
P.O. Box 88. Graaff-Reinet 6280.
South Africa
Tel. : +27 49 891 0998.
Fax : +27 49 891 0129.
Cell: +27 82 782 3072
mailto:mwa@adsactive.com

Geo Judd - Postal Agent 1866 query



When Malcolm Judd was living in South Africa he acquired this wrapper sent from a Post Office Agency to the Post Master General in Cape Town. It has what he presumes to be a receiving cds of 26 May 1866 and is sent from the P.O. Agent Geo. Judd.

Despite his best efforts when living in Cape Town, and since, he has been unable to ascertain where Geo. Judd was a P.O. Agent, the company that he acted for as seen on the wrapper, or the dates of his tenure.

The best links that he had so far are:

- Records of a G. Judd in the Albany Museum in the Parish of Graaff-Reinet in 1868.
- In 1888 the records state 'Memorial received from George Judd forwarding Petition of Sterkstroom inhabitants re abolition of Periodical Court.
- Old Grahamstown Cemetery – Georgina August Judd b.1877 d.1933 (daughter? named after the father?)
- 1893 Petition of George Judd of Steynsburg (now Eastern Cape) re his minor son Alexander Edwin.

He asks if it's possible that a reader might be able to throw some light on this matter?

He further observes: "Strangely, in the publication *'Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope'* by Robert Goldblatt, 1984 edition, my own review of the cds on this wrapper does not seem to be included in Chapter 5 of that publication; or am I mistaken (dash between Cape and Town and dot between Cape and Colony)?" Any assistance with his quest would be appreciated. Contact Malcolm C Judd atmalcolm@juddshome.com or 49-51 Avenida Dr Mateus Teixeira de Azevedo. Tavira, 8800-379, Portugal. Tel: +351 281328343



Royal Mail

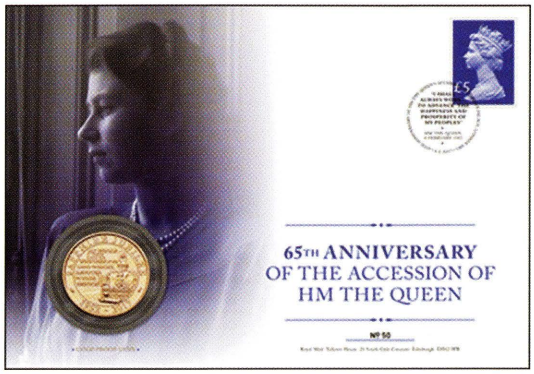
A Royal Mail Press Release

65th Anniversary of the Accession of HM The Queen



On 6 February 1952 His Majesty King George VI died peacefully in his sleep at Sandringham House. His eldest daughter Princess Elizabeth, who was in Kenya at the time, was proclaimed Queen at the age of 25.

To commemorate this event Royal Mail issued a new Sapphire Blue £5, High Value Definitive, with an iridescent overprint featuring the 65th Anniversary of Accession, on 6 February 2017.



Gold Proof Coin Cover featuring a £5 coin and £5 Sapphire Blue Definitive. Limited Edition of 50.

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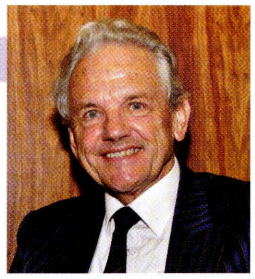
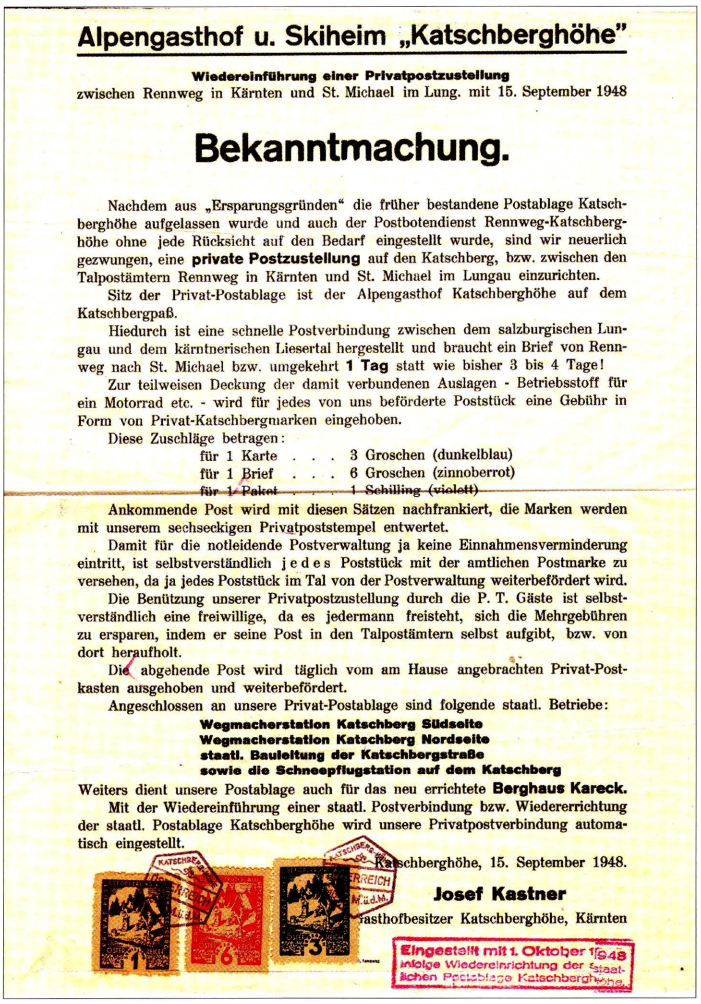
The Katschberghöhe Hotel Post

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



In the world of Cinderella philately, the hotel posts from such countries as Switzerland, Austria and Hungary are comparatively familiar while postal material from such sources is considered especially desirable. A number of these mountain resorts operated mail services for the benefit of their guests, particularly during the winter months, when snowbound roads made access to the nearest post office possible only by sleigh. In some cases, such hotels issued their own postage stamps and I did illustrate a number of these in the course of my series of articles on the Local Posts of the World in past issues of *The South African Philatelist* – those from the inns of Bistra, Magura and the Hohen Rinne in the Carpathian Mountains of Hungary (August 2004), the stamps of St. Gothard (October 2006) and Rigi Scheideck (June 2013), both in the Swiss Alps, and of the Moserboden Hotel in Austria (April 2010). A similar service was instigated by Resi Kastner, wife of the owner of the Katschberg ski resort high in the Austrian Alps on the border between the districts of Carinthia and Salzburg.



Alpengasthof u. Skiheim „Katschberghöhe"

Wiedereinführung einer Privatpostzustellung
zwischen Rennweg in Kärnten und St. Michael im Lung. mit 15. September 1948

Bekanntmachung.

Nachdem aus „Ersparungsgründen" die früher bestandene Postablage Katschberghöhe aufgelassen wurde und auch der Postbotendienst Rennweg-Katschberghöhe ohne jede Rücksicht auf den Bedarf eingestellt wurde, sind wir neuerlich gezwungen, eine **private Postzustellung** auf den Katschberg, bzw. zwischen den Talpostämtern Rennweg in Kärnten und St. Michael im Lungau einzurichten.

Sitz der Privat-Postablage ist der Alpengasthof Katschberghöhe auf dem Katschbergpaß.

Hiedurch ist eine schnelle Postverbindung zwischen dem salzburgischen Lungau und dem kärntnerischen Liesertal hergestellt und braucht ein Brief von Rennweg nach St. Michael bzw. umgekehrt **1 Tag** statt wie bisher 3 bis 4 Tage!

Zur teilweisen Deckung der damit verbundenen Auslagen - Betriebsstoff für ein Motorrad etc. - wird für jedes von uns beförderte Poststück eine Gebühr in Form von Privat-Katschbergmarken eingehoben.

Diese Zuschläge betragen:

für 1 Karte . . . 3 Groschen (dunkelblau)
für 1 Brief . . . 6 Groschen (zinnoberrot)
für 1 Paket . . . 1 Schilling (violett)

Ankommende Post wird mit diesen Sätzen nachfrankiert, die Marken werden mit unserem sechseckigen Privatpoststempel entwertet.

Damit für die notleidende Postverwaltung ja keine Einnahmensverminderung eintritt, ist selbstverständlich j e d e s Poststück mit der amtlichen Postmarke zu versehen, da ja jedes Poststück im Tal von der Postverwaltung weiterbefördert wird.

Die Benützung unserer Privatpostzustellung durch die P. T. Gäste ist selbstverständlich eine freiwillige, da es jedermann freisteht, sich die Mehrgebühren zu ersparen, indem er seine Post in den Talpostämtern selbst aufgibt, bzw. von dort heraufholt.

Die abgehende Post wird täglich vom am Hause angebrachten Privat-Postkasten ausgehoben und weiterbefördert.

Angeschlossen an unsere Privat-Postablage sind folgende staatl. Betriebe:

Wegmacherstation Katschberg Südseite
Wegmacherstation Katschberg Nordseite
staatl. Bauleitung der Katschbergstraße
sowie die Schneepflugstation auf dem Katschberg

Weiters dient unsere Postablage auch für das neu errichtete **Berghaus Kareck.**

Mit der Wiedereinführung einer staatl. Postverbindung bzw. Wiedererrichtung der staatl. Postablage Katschberghöhe wird unsere Privatpostverbindung automatisch eingestellt.

Katschberghöhe, 15. September 1948.

Josef Kastner
Gasthofbesitzer Katschberghöhe, Kärnten

Eingestellt mit 1. Oktober 1948 infolge Wiedereinrichtung der staatlichen Postablage Katschberghöhe

Although there is no doubt that a genuine postal service was offered to residents of the guest house, it is apparent that Frau Kastner had, in addition, one eye on the philatelic market. It is on record (by the late Henry Tester writing in the *Cinderella Philatelist* in July 1977 and January 1985) that copies of the bulletin announcing the inauguration of the service together with examples of the stamps that were to be used were sent to a stamp dealer and a philatelic magazine, both in Vienna.

In the bulletin referred to above, it was stated that the post would be suspended once the national service was again able to operate on the mountainous terrain. Thus it ran from October 1932 until June 1933 and again from October 1933 until February 1934 when usage of the stamps was suspended by the Austrian Post Office. During this early part of their life, there were two separate printings of the stamps that were to be used; the 3 groschen dark blue being for post cards, a 6 groschen orange-red for letters and a 1 schilling violet for use on parcels.

The stamps were of a common design and showed an altar on the mountainside. One printing was on toned paper and the other on white but which appeared first is a matter for conjecture. From the copies of each of the denominations of the printing on white paper and with yellow gum in my possession and from which I have provided an illustration of the 1-schilling value, it is apparent that they were printed in sheetlets of six. It is understood that the hotel's postal service also extended to the delivery of incoming mail. The various costs of handling such items were identical to those for outgoing post and, in fact, used the exact same stamps to indicate to the recipients just how much they owed.



In this manner, the stamps enjoyed an additional function, one similar to that of postage due labels.

Little more was heard of the post until 1948 when a handbill appeared in a format similar to the original but bearing the name of the proprietor himself, one Josef Kastner. In this document it is stated, in German, that the private postal service would be resumed from 15 September, 1948, and would continue until the State postal service was re-established. As shown, the notice was embellished with copies of the actual stamps, in this case on toned paper, that were to be used and which showed no increase from the rates that had been charged before the war. They were 'cancelled' in purple using the hotel's original hexagonal handstamp whereon was indicated the hotel's elevation above mean sea level, apparently 1641 metres. However, in the bottom right-hand corner of my copy of this document, there is an additional handstamp in red which reads:

"Eingestellt mit 1 Oktober 1948 infolge Wiedereinrichtungder staatlichen Postablage Katschberghöhe"

From this it may be seen that the Austrian State Postal service was about to be resumed giving the renascent hotel service a life span of little more than two weeks.

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by Moira Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society

GAME, SET & MATCH AT WIMBLEDON

How many of you were glued to your television sets a few weeks ago, watching Roger Federer (Fig.1) in a magnificent win against Rafael Nadal in the Men's Finals at the Australian Open Tennis Championships? The French Open soon follows at the end of May, Wimbledon starts on the last Monday in June and the US Open takes place in late August/early September. So, with such a lot of tennis around, I thought a few stamps on the game would be most appropriate.

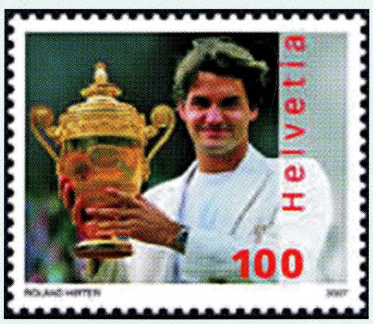

Fig.1. In 2007, Roger Federer became the first living Swiss person to be depicted on a Swiss stamp

Some interesting facts regarding these four tournaments – the Australian one is played at Melbourne Park, which has an acrylic hard court surface, as does Flushing Meadows in the US, while the Roland Garros court - named after the famous French aviator – is made of clay (Fig.2). Wimbledon, of course, is played on grass, which makes for a slippery ball that keeps low and skids or bounces erratically. Players thus have to reach the ball quicker than on other surfaces, which doesn't suit everyone's play. Not only are the surfaces different, but the weather takes its toll too – the heat in Melbourne made for a gruelling five hours of play in the Finals, while rain used to be recurring problem at Wimbledon, with essential 'rest days' being cancelled, trying to make up for lost time. This was until a sliding roof was installed in 2009 at Centre Court.



Fig.2. Roland Garros with its clay surface



Fig.3. A Grand Slam bridge hand that has all 13 possible tricks 'in the bag'

To win all these four tournaments - 'The Majors' - in one season is regarded by the players as the 'Holy Grail' in tennis. Achieving this 'Grand Slam' takes its name from the game of Contract Bridge, where the partnership wins all possible thirteen tricks (Fig.3).

Tennis has been around since the Middle Ages. There are reports of a ball game, using the palm of one's hand, being played in monastic courtyards in northern France during the 12th Century. Later, leather gloves were donned and then, as ladies became interested in the game, a 'raquette' was developed in the 16th Century to protect their delicate hands (Fig.4). Of course the heavy wooden encumbrances strung with catgut that I remember from school tennis in the 1950s, bear no resemblance to the lightweight carbon fibre or even titanium rackets that are used today.



Fig.4. Perhaps the lady would prefer to play with a carbon-fibre 'raquette'

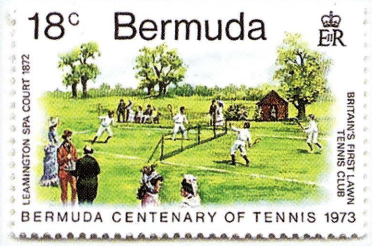

Fig 5. Leamington Spa – the world's first tennis club



Fig.6. Wimbledon postmark – 5 JUL 1979

In particular, the British contribution to tennis has been enormous. The popularity of the game increased dramatically in the 16th Century, during the reign of King Henry VIII, a great enthusiast and apparently a very good player. He even built his own tennis court at Hampton Palace, which is still used today. Tennis thus became known as the Royal Game. The modern version of lawn tennis was developed by Major Walter Wingfield in 1873 and Leamington Spa was established as the world's first tennis club (Fig.5). The All England Croquet Club set aside one of its lawns at Wimbledon for tennis, which is regarded as the 'Mecca' of the game and HRH Prince Edward, the Duke of Kent is the current President of the All England Club.

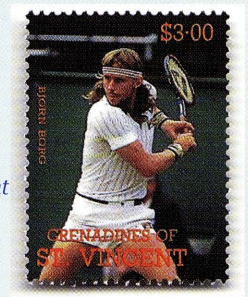

Fig.7. Bjorn Borg in action

I lived in London during the late 1970s and was fortunate enough to be given a complimentary ticket (which by the way, cost £75!) to attend the men's semi-finals at Wimbledon. This was played on 5 July 1979 (Fig.6) between Bjorn Borg and Jimmy Connors on Centre Court. Borg wore a colourful headband to hold back his long blonde hair (Fig.7). Of course, pristine white is mandatory at Wimbledon, but some players do complain about the rules and try taking short-cuts with the dress code. Anyway, the game was truly riveting and was won by the cool Swede, who went on to take the memorable trophy in the Finals.



Fig.8. Holding the Ladies Silver Salver - Martina Navratilova

In addition to substantial prize money, the ladies champion wins a miniature replica of the sterling silver salver (Fig.8), while the men walk away with a replica of the large silver gilt cup, which has the following inscription: 'All England Lawn Tennis Club Single Handed Championship of the World' (Fig.9). I wonder what the Australians, Americans and French think about that claim! But Wimbledon is more than just the game of tennis. Walking from the Tube Station amongst the large crowd, beautiful weather

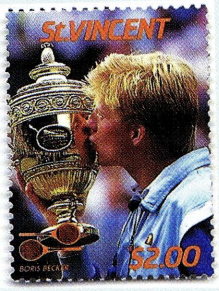

Fig.9.Boris Becker and the Men's Cup

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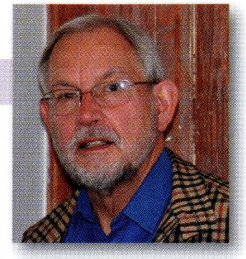
South African Stamp Issues



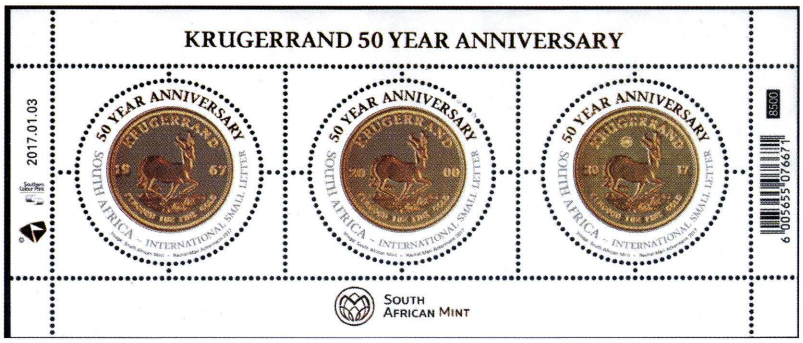
by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

3 January 2017 – KRUGERRAND 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Denomination: 3 x International Small Letter (R8.40)
Artwork: Rachel-Mari Ackermann, from images supplied by the South African Mint. Circular designs reproducing Krugerrands from 1967, 2000 & 2007, printed in gold foil.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp sizes: 48 x 44mm surrounding 38mm diameter circular stamp
Gum: PVA
Quantity: 42,370 sheetlets
Perforation: Gauge 14.2 extending through sheetlet margins and 14 around design
Cylinder numbers: 8500 (black)
Paper: Tullis Russell gummed stamp paper, 103gsm, phosphor coated
Printing sheet size: Not yet seen
First Day Cover: No. 8.103 of standard size, 190 x 102mm
Canceller: No. 8.92 – '03-01-2017 – ECO BOULEVARD', in gold

Acknowledgement:

This information is collated from the Philatelic Services email newsletter *WHAT'S NEWS*, together with personal observations.



GUESS THE STAMP

WHAT IS THIS?



The February issue stamp - 10c, 31/05/1961, Cape Town Castle Entrance from S.G. 206. Avi Barit guessed the this month's quiz. Thank you Avi - this issues winner and the first correct entry drawn

NOW GUESS WHAT THIS IS?



Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image - Guess correctly - send your answer to the Editorial Board and you stand to WIN a stationery hamper!

*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

Send your answer to janice@gdb.co.za by 12th MAY 2017



Fig.10. It's not just about the tennis…

that day, the fashionable hats, eating strawberries and cream, celebrity gazing (Fig.10) - it was all so glamorous for an unsophisticated South African.

There are too many tennis greats who have starred at Wimbledon to be remembered in this article, so I'll only mention some who have been recently honoured on postage stamps – Pat Cash (Fig.11) and his compatriot Evonne Goolalong Cawley (Fig.12) have appeared on Australian Post, whilst Andy Murray (Fig.13) featured on Royal Mail. In 2013, Murray was the first British player to win at Wimbledon, since Fred Perry took the honour in 1936. Then there are the legendary Williams sisters - Venus and Serena - who have dominated the Wimbledon scene for so many years (Fig.14).

And finally, it's back to Roger Federer who has taken the Wimbledon title seven times thus far. The famous John McEnroe from the 1980s tennis circuit has called Federer "the greatest player of all time". So, can he make it eight wins in four months' time and does anyone have a spare complimentary ticket to Centre Court?

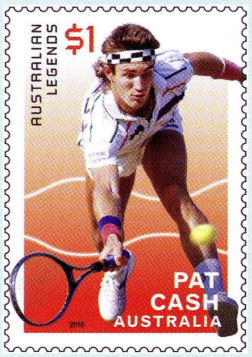


Fig.11. Pat Cash, 1987 Wimbledon champion

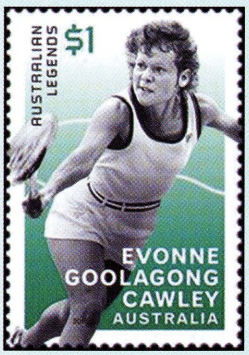


Fig.12. Evonne Goolalong Cawley, 1971 ladies champion

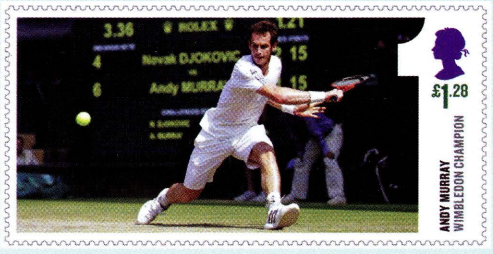


Fig.13. Andy Murray wowed patriotic British crowd in 2013

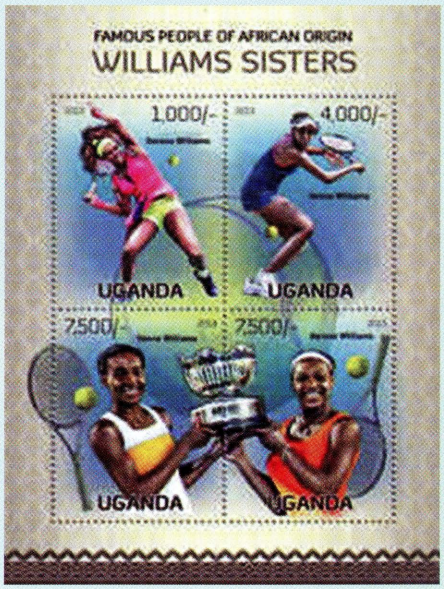


Fig 14. Venus & Serena Williams

Acknowledgments:

Postage stamps from Australia Post, Barbados, Bermuda, *La Poste* - France, Royal Mail, St. Vincent, Swiss Post & Uganda Post.

Information from Wikipedia and www.wimbledon.com

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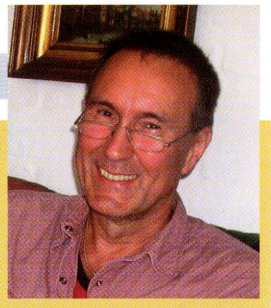

One of my Favourite Covers: 'INSIDE OUT'

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

As much as we are all accustomed to covers with stamps, postmark and address on the front and sender's address and maybe another postmark on the rear..., there are a few exceptions where all that is different. Some covers have been used inside as well, for personal or philatelic reasons. Let me demonstrate what I mean with the following example:

Personal usage with additional message inside the envelope.

This unusual cover from the small German town of Hamm to Cape Town comes from the high inflation period in Germany in 1923. It was franked with 15 stamps of 200 Mark each and a total postage fee of 3000 Mark and cancelled on 04.August 1923 at the correct rate. Already a nice and genuine cover as it appears with inflation stamps front and rear.

However, when I looked inside the envelope I found not only a most beautiful flower design but also some astonishing text written in ink on the free space: At the top: "Have the dog's skin made into a floor rug" and at the bottom: "Teach Jock to escape from those perilous blind drivers who kill these innocent creatures."

This text message obviously refers to the famous dog of the well known novel *Jock of the Bushveld*. A most unusual cover.





front

back





Wilson Bayly Holmes - Ovcon Limited
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Society News

STAMP FAIRS:

*All **SAPDA** run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:

2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

Directions: From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

- KZN STAMP FAIR:

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- BLUFF STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za

- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:

Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

As usual, a number of dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc. **Meeting dates for 2017:** 6 May, 17 Jun (auction day), 1 Jul, 12 Aug, 2 Sept (auction day), 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). (Note: All on the 1st Saturday of the month except 17th June - 3rd Saturday & 12th Aug - 2nd Saturday.) If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair and please mark it clearly with your details.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

12 April	First Competitive Evening
10 May	Modern Philatelic Exhibits
14 June	Grand Challenge Match
12 July	Open Class Exhibit Evening
9 August	One Frame Evening
13 September	Annual Auction
11 October	Favourite Cover/s
8 November	Second Competitive Evening
6 December	President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month , except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*
Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join. Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme for 2017 :

April 19 : Anything relating in any way to letters G & H
May 17 : British Commonwealth.
May 31 : 5th Wed using MS PowerPoint & Social media
June 21 : Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
July 19 : Foreign
Aug 16 : Southern Africa
Aug 30 : 5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 20 : Preview of National Exhibits, World at war and back of the book
Oct 18 : My favourite (Maximum of 1 frame) and thematic exhibits
Nov 15: Intersociety quiz, invited exhibits and end of year function
Nov 29: 5th Wed. Festive Function

Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: The Victorian Secret, corner Russel/ Woburn St, Benoni; last Saturday of each month, at 2:00pm. *Contact*: Jimmy Mitchell via email; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey : 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374 *(Chairman)* or Ian Walker *(Secretary)*.
Tel: 011 4721161 email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za
Meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorama Sports Grounds, Cornelius Street, Weltervreden Park.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.

- *Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393*
- *Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927*

Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark @ 10:00. Klein maar baie aktiewe en produktiewe groepie lede wat gereeld bywoon; konsentreer veral ook op tematiese en oop versamelings. Nuusbrief '*Die Posduif*' verskyn elke maand.

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every last Tuesday of the month,
Contact: Peter Gutsche, PO Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124.
email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za.

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

This society is for the 'morning glories' who do not wish to travel at night. Meetings on 2nd Friday of every even month (April, June, August, October etc) at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wierdapark South, Centurion. Concentrates on African countries, and a letter of the alphabet just for fun (one-page).

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise amongst them.

Smalls

'Small' advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously - see page 40 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

WANTED: A Belgian philatelist is looking for used stamps from South Africa, willing to exchange stamps from Belgium, France, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Spain, Italy, ... other countries in Europe, Canada, Australia. Contact Guy Barbé via email: guybarbe@yahoo.fr

EXCHANGE: Italian/Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Road, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00. Meetings consists of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings where specific themes selected for the evening. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Wobbe Vegter; 072 425 6301; wvegter@xsinet.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662. Andrew Mclaren 0737542856. 021 6844361 (work).

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gassprekers, ervaar praatjies/demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting.
Besoekers altyd welkom.
Visitors always welcome.
Join us. Kom saam of kontak
robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE
Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President*: Brian Franklin email:info.fhps@info. *Secretary:* Volker Janssen. **Website: www.fhps.info FHPS**

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm
Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510.
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Jack Visser 082 332 5353.
Tel / Faks: 044 6903030
epos: jackvisser@telkomsa.net
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 6981074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 francois@softchem.co.za
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
***MEETINGS** always on **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*
2017 meeting dates:
8 May, 5 June, 3 July, 7 Aug, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, (Venue not available 6/11/17) 30 October, 4 December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. ***Contact:*** Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082. email davehmcwil@lantic.net *Secretary*: J.Muller. Tel 043 721 0327.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. *Contact:* Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every fourth Friday of the month, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein.

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Louise Oswin Residence, 1 Beach road Southport 4230. PO Box 228. Anerley 4230. **Meetings**: 3rd Saturday of the month at 14h00. ***Contact:*** Noel Lavery: 039 695 1642, Cell 082 440 5501. email noel@accessweb.co.za *Secretary*: Louise Oswin. Tel 039 681 3265
cell 079 505 6044 email: oswin@telehost.co.za

Specialist Societies

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 26 April, 31 May, 28 June, 26 July, 30 August, 27 Sep, 25 October, 29 November.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za
PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. Contact: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are now held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
Contacts : *Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kawecki (Vice-President) 082 968 6888 Email zeptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162*
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS,Durban, Meets at the German Club, Barnham Road, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every second Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive Talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com
Secretary: Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za
Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za
Bev McNaught-Davis, telephone: 031 904-1522 or 081 270-2873.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
The Thematics Group meets on the first Saturday of every month at 09h00. Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00. Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
President: Fred Handman. 033 239 5684.
email: fredhm@iafrica.com 083 661 4210.
Treasurer: Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283.
email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.
- Membership Secretary - Ron Buchel
- Circuit Book Manager - Gordon Bennett
- Club Competitions and Speakers - Tony Evans
- Catering Officer - Val De Jager
- Library Assistant - Joyce Hulse
- New Members - Julia Evans
- New Stamp Issues - Mike O'Connor
- Liaison Officer - Dave Wyllie
- Librarian (Ad Hoc Committee Member) - Graham Bruce

International *Philatelic Events*

30 March - 2 April 2017
MELBOURNE 2017
FIAP International
Stamp Exhibition
Commissioner: Andrew Fischer

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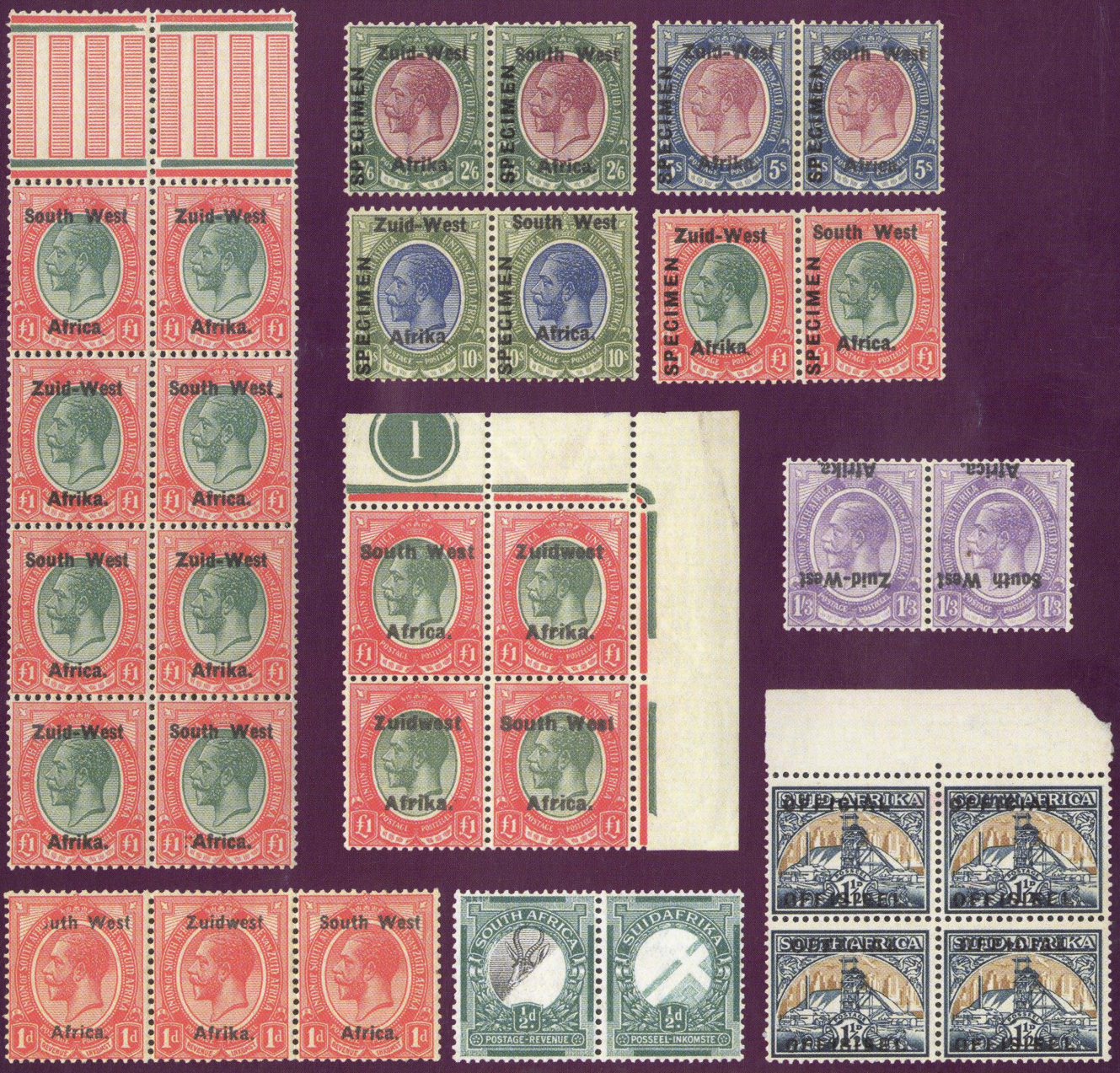

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JUNE
2017

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 93:3. 942

www.stamps.org.za



MAIL FROM THE BORDER WAR: COVER FROM A LAWYER IN DENMARK ADDRESSED TO B J VORSTER, PRIME MINISTER OF SA, SENT VIA THE ADMINISTRATOR OF SWA, B J VAN DER WALT



THE PRINCESS CHARLENE OF MONACO FOUNDATION STAMPS



WORLD WAR II: SOUTH AFRICAN AIRFORCE 'SHUTTLE SERVICE'

ISSN 0038-2566

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South Africa

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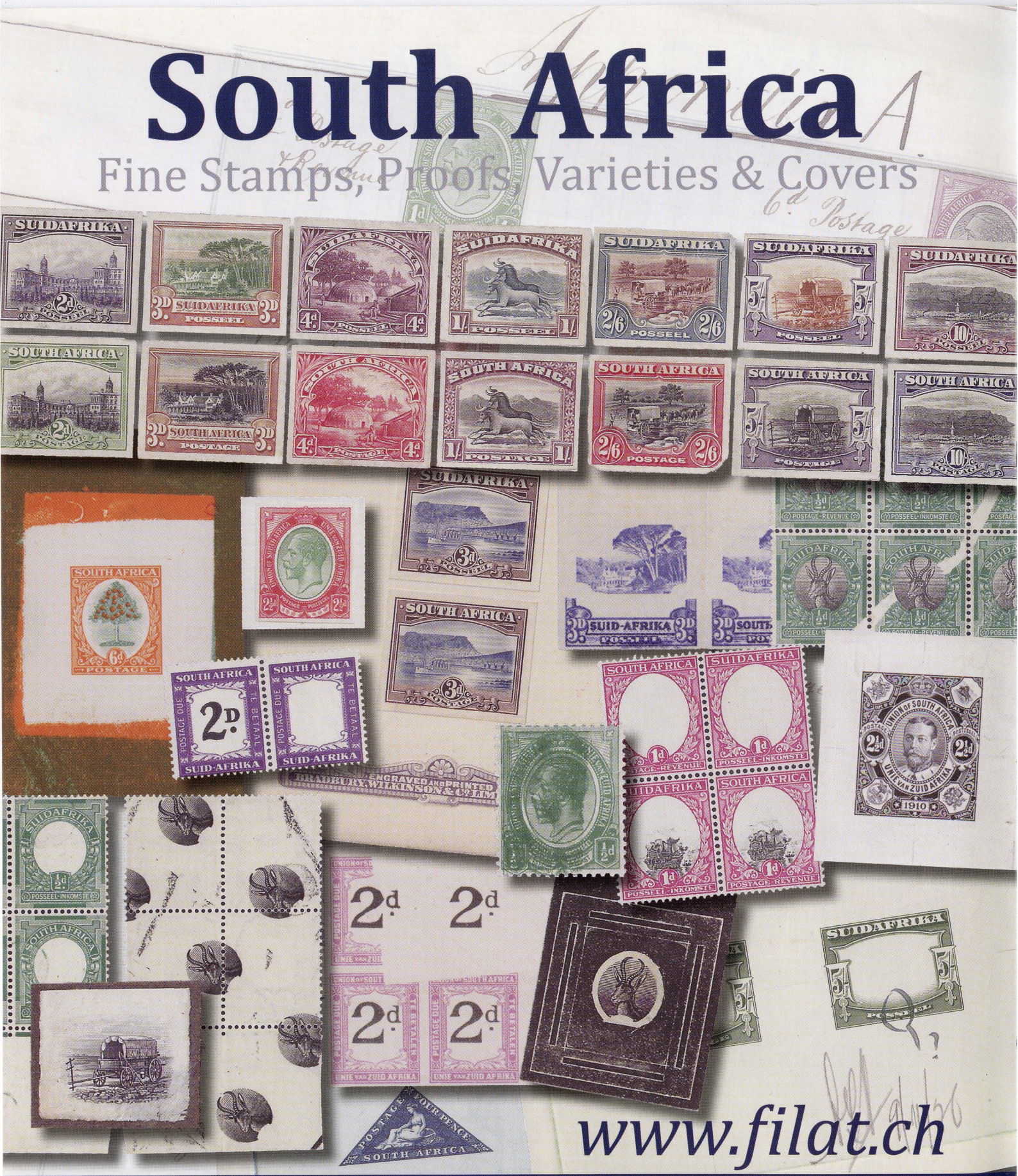

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The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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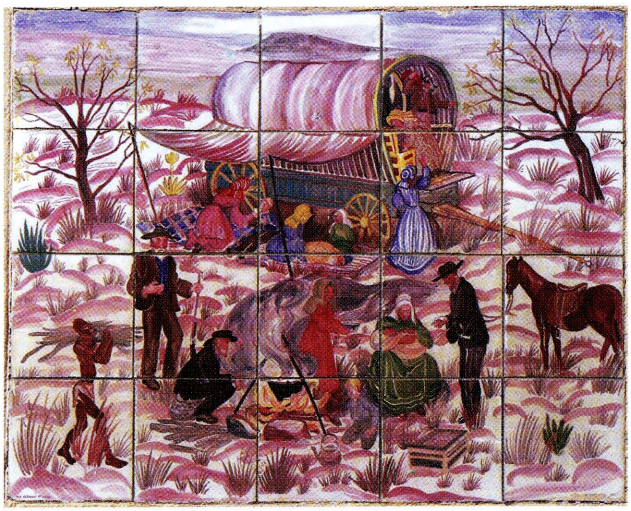

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BOFEX 2017 running smoothly with 41 entries, however - PLEASE NOTE: DATE CHANGE: Fri. 14th to Sat. 15th July'.

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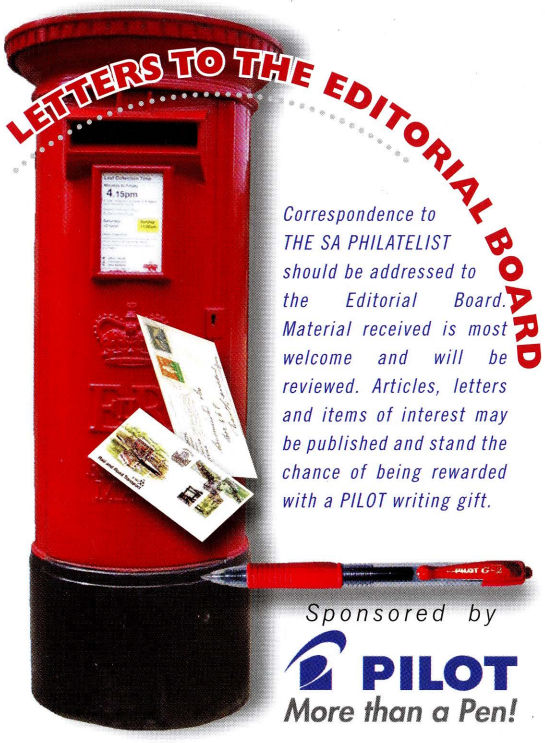

South African Postal Areas

Please have a look at:

http://www.ascleiden.nl/content/african-postal-heritage-aph-papers.

Utilising many internet sources, we intend to give an overview of the postal history of Africa. It currently includes the early postal history of all South African postal areas as well as South West Africa (and also others). I regard it as 'work in progress' and comments and additions are very welcome. If you like it: please show the link to other postal historians and philatelists, or to other people who may like this. They are also welcome to contribute to this project that combines scientific history writing, (listing sources available) with a view to forming a virtual philatelic collection.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Ton Dietz - Director African Studies Centre Leiden/The Netherlands.

DISPLAY FRAMES

With Federation committed to using the international format 16 page exhibition frames, with the 4 rows of 4 pages layout, the remaining 15 page frames with the layout of 3 rows of 5 pages have become redundant. Those 15 page frames are however quite suitable for Society and other uses, and are hereby offered free of charge subject to collection from Federation's storage facility in Benoni. Preference will be given to Societies affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of S.A., but requests from other collector groups such as Telephone Cards, will be considered. For more information please contact Peter van der Molen at 011 849 4822 or email molens@pixie.co.za

A response to the CSAR article of October 2016

Dear Sirs

The article on Edwardian datestamps of Transvaal inscribed C.S.A.R. as reference. In this article, it is stated that the date of use for Kinross is from 6 June 1910.

I show a pair of 1d King Edward stamps with a triple-circle Kinross dated 9 - May 1910.

Johan Bezuidenhout,
Bellville Philatelic Society
email johanblue777@gmail.com



Alex Visser's comment:
In the Putzel Postmarks of Southern Africa the treble circle is illustrated as No. A1. Although a poor copy, the date appears to be 28 JUN 09, which predates Johan's date.

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for final submission of advertising material to avoid late delivery. Articles should be submitted in the month prior:

- ***August*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 4. 943 : 06/07/2017
- ***October*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 5. 944 : 06/09/2017
- ***December*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017
- ***February*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018
- ***April*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018

Editorial Board's choice

Winning Contributor

This issue's award of **PILOT** pen goes to Moira Bleazard for her column *Philately for Fun.*

DISCLAIMER:

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

While every effort is made to ensure accuracy and honesty in the editorial columns of this magazine, the publisher and editor cannot be held responsible for inaccurate information supplied and consequently published.

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

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za
Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

Contributions and **letters** for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist,*
PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. South Africa or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

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P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za **Publication:** This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. Jill Redmond RDPSA, is the Secretary. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za
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In Support of the UNION

I have specialised in Union issues for a number of years and would like to throw my hat in the ring and offer to contribute to such an exercise as André is suggesting - at least in any way that I'm able to. My chief interest is in plating. I have been working on the platings of all Union issues from 1930 through 1954 and so have a good number of the varieties listing in the *Handbook* as well as many others. I also have many varieties of issues from 1913 to 1930. I like Moody Tidwell's idea of how to approach such a project. I do wonder though, as Mike Tonking points out, *"where would one stop?"*. As a person who enjoys the challenge of plating, the word 'variety' has a somewhat different meaning. For me, all stamps are 'varieties'. They just need to be fit into their correct position.

I should also like to congratulate André du Plessis on the series that he has been writing on the Jubilees. I too have done work on these in the past and have recently returned to this issue to add new material. His articles are very interesting and helpful.

Morgan Farrell email: mollyheeler@gmail.com

PRAGA 2018 Exhibition

15 - 18 August 2018

Preparations for the PRAGA 2018 Exhibition are well underway. The SA National Commissioner is Emil Minnaar RDPSA. Closing date for entries is 31 Oct 2017. Entry fee is €70.

website: www.praga2018.cz

Jiri Sedlak - General Commissioner PRAGA 2018.
sedlak@praga2018.cz

Opletalova 1337/29.
110 00 Praha 1.
Czech Republic

PRAGA 2018

Jan Hofmeyr wins Grand Award at WESTPEX USA



Scott English, Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society, presenting the WESTPEX Grand Award to Jan Hofmeyr for his exhibit

At the most prestigious Western USA Philatelic Exhibition, Jan Hofmeyr made a big impression with his exhibit *'The 3c Washington and its centrality to USPO fraud-prevention and cost-cutting efforts: 1861-69'*.

WESTPEX was held from 28 to 30 April 2017, at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront in Burlingame, USA.

A delighted Jan told us "I was amongst seven or eight other people who received Large Gold and in addition I received four other awards, namely:

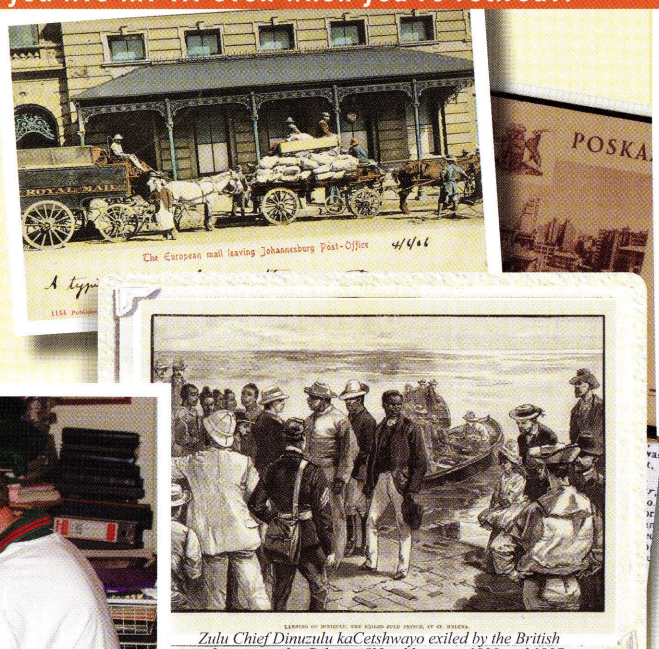
- Chairman's Award for the Best Traditional Exhibit,
- United States Philatelic Classics Society Award for Best US exhibit to 1894,
- American Philatelic Society Award of Excellence: Pre 1900,
- United States Stamp Society Statue of Freedom Award for Best US exhibit

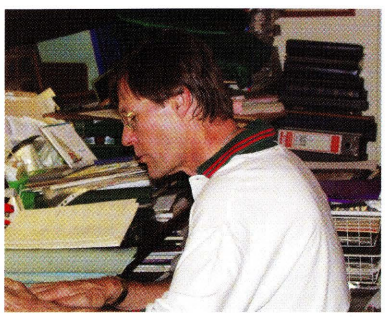
Do you want to get your spirit in touch with the history of your country or adopted country? Do you want to retain your sense of wonder about the world you live in? ... even when you're retired?!

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the stamps which would assist you in doing this and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value. But don't you want to go further ...want to link yourself to a process which offers you the ability to spell out to your offspring the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt?

Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately can do this for you. Further, it's the only segment which attracts non-collectors of stamps to have a close-up look. That makes your exhibit special. Half of your 'Open Class' exhibit could include key family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which turned your life around, even letters and documents from persons who similarly shared your losses and victories.

There are but a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness in your life, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.





Zulu Chief Dinuzulu kaCetshwayo exiled by the British authorities in the Colony of Natal between 1890 and 1897.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
trading as
RAND STAMPS

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EXHIBITION REPORT BACK:

Melbourne Stamp & Coin Show 2017

by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



I was privileged to represent South Africa as Commissioner at the FIAP international stamp exhibition, held in Melbourne from 30 March to 2 April 2017. Gerhard Kamffer was originally selected as our Commissioner to the exhibition, but due to a most unfortunate medical event, he was unable to attend. I am happy to report that Gerhard has since made a remarkable recovery and is back on his feet again!

Melbourne, a port city of some three million souls, is the capital of Victoria and one of the major population centres in Australia. The city is well worth a visit with many interesting sights for tourists and travellers alike. The city has a rich cultural heritage with museums and statues dotted around the city. There is also a plethora of restaurants serving food from across the globe - Melbourne prides itself on being the food capital of Australia. The Australians are very comfortable being Australian and therefore make great hosts; almost everyone will go out of their way to make you feel welcome and to assist you in every way possible.

The exhibition was a full FIAP exhibition, with FIP recognition. All classes, including a Championship Class, were strongly represented with many outstanding exhibits (ultimately reflected in the number of large gold and gold awards presented). Nineteen countries were present, with a total of 1,118 frames and sixteen literature exhibits by over 220 exhibitors being judged. South Africa did very well – our nine exhibits garnered three gold medals (out of sixteen large gold and thirty gold medals awarded in total), two large vermeil medals and three special prizes. An impressive haul! It was enlightening to see the growth in the number of exhibits in the Open Class. This is a class that I believe will become even more popular in years to come.

It was very encouraging that two jurors from South Africa were invited to the jury, Neil Cronjé and Ian Matheson (who was completing his first juror apprenticeship). South Africa's dealers were also well represented; Doreen Royan and Richard Johnson were on hand to fly the flag for our friends from SAPDA. There were more than sixty dealers present at the exhibition, making for some lively dealing and plenty of interest from the collectors.

Certainly, the most popular dealer's stand belonged to Australia Post. Every day the queue at the stand extended for over 50 metres! The Post Office made a major effort to attract customers by issuing three new sets of duties over the course of the exhibition. They went a step further by offering limited edition collectors' sets on each day of the exhibition. There is no doubt that the Post Office had a successful exhibition!

It was far sighted of the organising committee to include coin dealers amongst the dealers in the exhibition to cater for the numismatists. There was also a display of vintage Australian cars at the entrance to the exhibition. I believe it is very important to try and cover a wider area of interest than just philately, in an effort to bring collectors of different flavours to our stamp exhibitions.

The exhibition proved to be a great success attributed to the hard work of the Australian philatelic community. A great driver of the success of the exhibition was the close working relationship between Australia Post and the philatelic community.

I recommend to all philatelists to make every effort to attend exhibitions in other countries. One is exposed to collecting areas not seen in South Africa. Certainly, the standard at international exhibitions is such that one will find many exhibits of interest. I also ran into many stamps friends old and new. It is remarkable how friendships survive gaps of some years, only to be rekindled when one meets up with the people again.



RESULTS:

Exhibitor	Exhibit	Score	Medal
Avi Barit	1981 Lesotho Birds Definitive	67	Silver Bronze
Hugh Amoore	SA Postal Rates and Charges in the period of Union	88	Large Vermeil
Howard Green	SWA Revenues and Allied Tax Stamps	90	Gold
Jan Hofmeyr	The Centrality, Development and use of the 3c Washington in the USPO	94	Gold, Special Prize
Gerhard Kamffer	The Road to Democracy in SA up to 1994	93	Gold, Special Prize
Emil Minnaar	Airmails of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland until 1941	89	Large Vermeil, Special Prize
Avi Barit	Basutoland 1965 Decimal Overprints	74	One Frame Exhibits (no medal)
Chavah Barit	Swaziland: 1961 Decimal Overprints	74	
Gila Barit	Namibia: The Overprints of the 2000s and their origin	73	

IN MEMORIAM



James Trew

11 November 1949 - 5 February 2017

James Philip John Trew was born in London on 11 November 1949. He was educated at Christ's College, Cambridge and at Birmingham University in the disciplines of Mathematics and Engineering.

In 1976 he immigrated to South Africa and worked as a systems engineer until his retirement in 2014. His hobbies included stamp collecting, Sudoku and reading. He also served in the Red Cross.

James was an active member of the Pretoria Philatelic Society (PPS) and served on the PPS Committee, mostly recently in the position of treasurer. He also served on the organising committee for the 2014 National Philatelic Exhibition (Stampshow 2014) in Pretoria.

James took ill suddenly and passed away on 5 February 2017. He is sorely missed by his family, friends, colleagues and philately friends. The Pretoria Philatelic Society gratefully acknowledges James's contribution to the Society and extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Anita, and his sons, Christopher and Stefan.

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For Society details re meeting dates, venue and contact person, see *'SAP Rendezvous'* on PFSA website or contact Jill Redmond PFSA Secretary. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463 Tel: 011 917-5304; Cell 079 528-4853; email pfsasec@mweb.co.za; saphilatelist@iafrica.com
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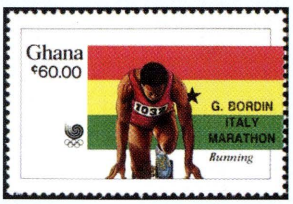
Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society & Royal PS of Cape Town
Episode 42 of: Errors on Stamps...



THE WRONG START

This 60 Cedi stamp of Ghana was part of the set for the Olympic Games in Seoul in South Korea in 1988. It was later overprinted with the names of the winners; on this stamp it is G. Bordin of Italy who won the Marathon. All is correct, but the error is in the picture: marathon runners never use starting-blocks.

ERRATA 'Geo. Judd – P.O. Agency 1866'

Thanks to David de Klerk, who pointed out a problem with the email address of Malcolm JUDD in *The SA Philatelist*, April 2017 on p64; his CORRECT email address is **malcolm@juddshome.com**



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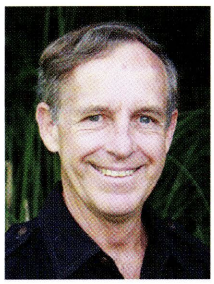
Phun with postmarks



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

Returned Letter Offices (RLO)

The photocopy from my archives, shown in Fig.1, and queries about the location of the Natal RLO served as stimulant for this column. I am indebted to Roger Porter and John Dickson for assisting me in unravelling the answer, as none of the references I consulted were clear about where this office was located, and Alan MacGregor for one image.

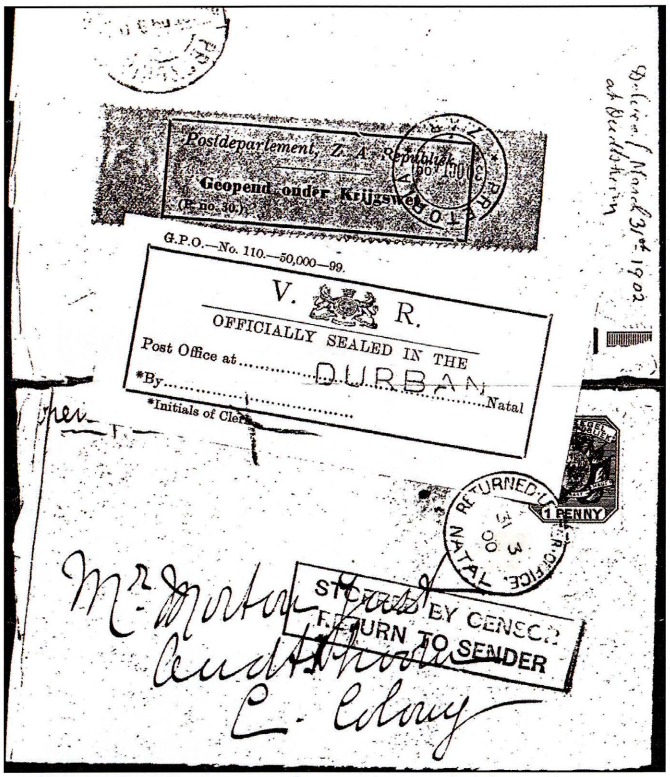


Fig.1: ABW cover censored in Durban and delivered in Oudtshoorn after hostilities in 1902. (Image Reduced)

The route the cover followed was:

1. It was censored at Pretoria on 30 OCT 99 i.e. 19 days after the commencement of the ABW and routed via Lourenço Marques.

2. It was STOPPED BY CENSOR at Durban where it was again censored and the early type of censor label (white) applied. With the introduction of censorship and the inspection of mail by the censors appointed by the British Army command, mail stopped by them was sent on to the RLO.

3.It was then sent to the RLO believed to be in Pietermaritzburg where it was held and received the RLO cds dated 31 3 00.

4. Pretoria was officially handed over to the British on 5 June 1900. Therefore this cover must have been retained in the RLO until such time postal communications with the interior were re-established (possibly delayed given guerrilla activities). What is unknown is if the cover was returned to sender and then later re-posted to Oudtshoorn at some later date, or, if it was retained at the RLO until such time all the accumulated mail was sent on. The latter seems to have been the case given the manuscript annotation of it being eventually received at Outshoorn on 31 3 1902!

The RLO canceller used on the cover was the first one recorded. It is a 26mm single circle and was recorded used in purple or black ink from 1.9.1883 to 4.4.1901 (Fig.2a). It was replaced by a 25mm double circle, shown in Figure 2b, seen used from 16.8.1901 to 22.4.1908. Figure 2c has a 27 mm diameter, and was seen used 4.8.1902 to 19.4.1907. The next one is a 27mm single circle; seen used from 14.6.1907 to 3.2.1911 (unfortunately no image was available at the time of going to print). The last canceller, Fig.2d is a 27mm double circle; seen used from January 1913 to 20.11.1920. From this time line it is presumed that the office was closed after 1920.



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

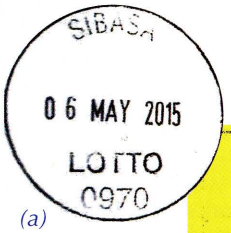
Fig.2: The series of date stamps used at the RLO in Pietermaritzburg (images from Porter and MacGregor).

Undeliverable postal articles, except newspapers, and unclaimed letters addressed 'POSTE RESTANTE' were disposed either through the RLO or by direct return to the sender. During the ABW all coastal mail passing through Natal was censored in Durban, and then sent to the RLO, which all evidence shows, and is believed to have been at, the GPO in Pietermaritzburg. Besides the date stamps a number of cachets were used, as described by Porter (2008, 2009).

In the Government Gazette of 11 June 1846 there is the first mention of a Returned Letter Office in Cape Town. In the Government Gazette of 13 Sep 1864 mention is made of a RLO in Port Elizabeth and later of one in Kimberley (no marks from these two offices have been found). Bloemfontein had an Unclaimed Office with a cachet dated 3 MAY 1897 recorded, and a Returned Letter Branch or Office during the Orange River Colony period, with the earliest date recorded being 10AUG1900 and a latest date of 1912. Evidently the Johannesburg RLO functioned after the ABW, with a 1901 impression being the earliest seen. The office closed in the 1930s, latest date seen used is 1929, when Cape Town became the only RLO. More on the other offices in a future column.

Lotto has many uses!

Lotto is the national lottery which was, amongst others, handled by the Post Office. Sibasa evidently required a date stamp for this service, as shown in Fig.3a. During times of financial hardship in the SAPO any suitable paper roll was used for printing PAT labels. In Knysna the lotto paper (lightly printed cross in circle) was used as PAT label for postage, as shown in Fig.3b.



(a)



(b)

Fig.3: (a & b) Lotto is part of the Post Office operations. (Image Reduced)

References:

Porter, RN. 2008 & 2009. Unclaimed and undelivered mail handled by the Returned Letter Office, Natal. Parts 1, 2 & 3.*Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal*. Vol 12 parts 2 & 3, Vol 13 part 1.

Die kantoor vir onafgehaalde posstukke of onaflewerbare items is 'n onderwerp wat nog nie baie aandag gekry het nie. In hierdie rubriek is die datumstempels van die Natalse kantoor, vermoedelik in Pietermaritzburg bespreek, maar daar is items waar die hulp van lesers benodig word. Dit is ook belangrik om hedendaagse posgeskiedenis te boekstaaf, aangesien sulke inligting oor 100 jaar slegs vraagtekens is. Is lesers bewus van soortgelyke gebruike van lotto materiaal?

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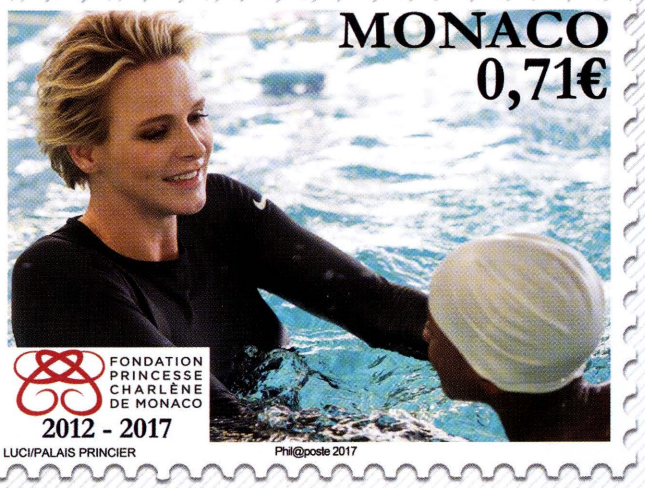
Stamp issuing Office of the Principality of Monaco

PRINCESS CHARLENE OF MONACO FOUNDATION
5th ANNIVERSARY

TWO NEW STAMPS

Established in 2012, the primary objective of the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation is to save lives by preventing drowning incidents. The Foundation aims to raise public awareness of the dangers of water, to teach children about preventive measures, and to help them learn to swim.







SHEETS OF 10 STAMPS
WITH ILLUMINATIONS



OFFICIAL FIRST
DAY COVER

www.oetp-monaco.com

oetp@gouv.mc

Office des Timbres
PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO

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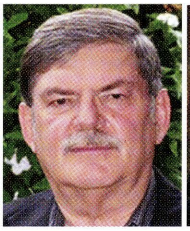
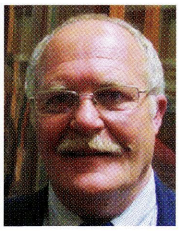
MAIL FROM THE BORDER WAR AND THE 'STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID' IN SOUTH AFRICA: *PRISONER OF WAR, POLITICAL PRISONER, REFUGEE AND OTHER RELEVANT MAIL*

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Johan Joubert, AFV(Pretoria)

Introduction

The Border War, referred to in some circles as the Namibian War of Independence, started on 26 August 1966 and ended on 1 November 1988 when South Africa and the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) entered into a ceasefire prior to peace negotiations. In reality the Border War was not a war at all, but a very long, counter-insurgency (COIN) campaign.

The Border War is closely linked to the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. As authors Giliomee and Mbenga state: *"After the suppression of a three-day strike in May 1961 to challenge the transition to a republic and to call for a constitutional convention, Nelson Mandela and other young ANC leaders, in conjunction with the SA Communist Party, formed an insurgent wing, Umkhonto weSizwe(MK)".*

The Namibian conflict saw the South African Defence Force (SADF) actively patrolling the SWA/Angolan border and in certain instances penetrating into Angola in their search for SWAPO groups moving south into South West Africa (SWA). The armed wing of SWAPO, the Peoples' Liberation Army of Namibia's (PLAN), activities peaked during the rainy season. As Namibia is a very arid area, normal infiltration routes followed available watering points and water holes.

From a philatelic point of view, interesting covers and documents emanate from the period 1960 to 1994. The focus of this article will be on Prisoner of War Mail, Political Prisoner Mail, Refugee Mail and any other mail linked to both the Border War and the political situation in South Africa.

For this article the following definitions are applicable:

- ***Prisoner of War (POW)***: any person captured or interned by a belligerent power during war. In the strictest sense, it is applied only to members of regular organized armed forces, but by broader definition it also includes guerrillas, civilians who take up arms against an enemy openly, or any non-combatants associated with a military force.
- ***Political Prisoner:*** a person who has been imprisoned for his political or social beliefs or for breaking the law while protesting a political or social system.
- ***Refugee***: a person who is forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence.

According to Gary Baines, Head of the History Department at Rhodes University, the designation POW was not necessarily accepted by all parties involved in the conflict. He points out that due to the fact that the conflict combined the multi-faceted characteristics of an (anti-) colonial, (counter-) insurgency and conventional war, the question of who qualified as a combatant, and hence a POW, was always contentious. The South African Government refused to sign the 1977 Protocol whereby the armed forces of a national liberation movement were to be afforded POW status. Thus, the South African Government refused to treat members of SWAPO or its armed wing PLAN, as anything more than common criminals or 'terrorists'.

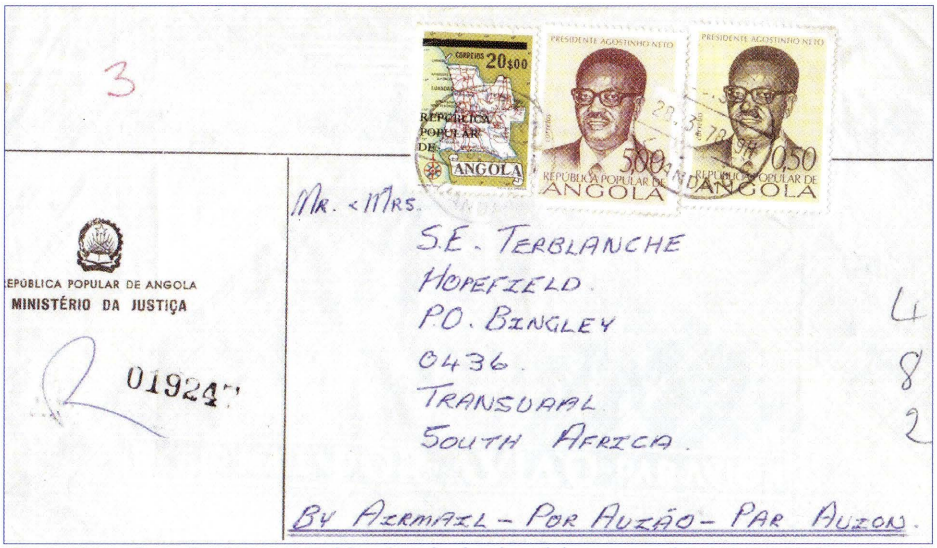


Fig.1: Cover from Sgt Hannes Terblanche, the leader of the group of SADF POWs from Angola. Under the United Nations Geneva Convention, all POWs had the right to correspond with their families and inform them that they were POWs. This letter was posted in an official envelope from the 'Ministério da Justiça' (Justice Ministry) from the Republic of Angola. The cover was sent from Luanda on 28-3-1978 (Gawie van der Walt collection).

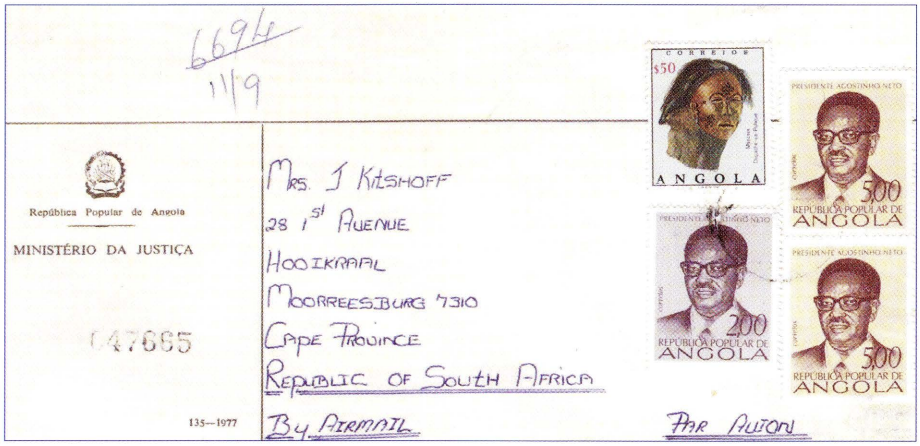


Fig.2: Cover from Rfn Kitshof to his family in South Africa to inform them that he had been captured by the enemy and held as a POW by the Angolan Government. He also used an official cover from the 'Ministério da Justiça' (Justice Ministry) from the Republic of Angola. The cover was sent from Luanda, date not clear (Gawie van der Walt collection).

Prisoner of War Mail

In October 1975, the SADF launched a covert operation called *Operation Savannah* aimed at preventing the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) from assuming sole control of the former Portuguese colony of Angola. While the Minister of Defence, P.W. Botha, claimed that the South African intervention in Angola was merely to secure the border and the Cunene hydro-electric scheme, this was widely discredited. This was exacerbated by the capture of the four SADF soldiers deep within Angola after the Battle of Bridge 14, on 13 December 1975. The SADF members were identified as:

Cpl Johannes Gerhardus Terblanche, Pte Robert Wilson, Pte Graham Danney and Pte Robert Wiehahn.

At that stage a SADF Defence Headquarters statement from Pretoria claimed that these soldiers were captured while recovering an unserviceable vehicle. Irrefutable proof of *Operation Savannah* came to light when the POWs were shown to the media a year after they were captured by the Angolan Government. The POWs provided ample

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justification for the MPLA Government's invitation to Cuba to reinforce their military capabilities against the aggression of a neighbour.

Three Cubans had also been captured by Battle Group Zulu of the SADF in separate incidents between 12 and 15 November 1975. The Chief of the SADF, Admiral H. Bierman, recognised that the Cubans might prove valuable in securing the release of SADF POWs. He instructed that the captured Cubans be treated as legitimate POWs and be accorded the appropriate status and treatment as required by the Rules of War.

In the interim, a further three SADF servicemen were captured near Calucinga, about 400 km south-east of Luanda. These members were captured in an Entac missile Landrover. The whereabouts of the missing South Africans remained unknown until they were shown to the media on 8 January 1976 in Luanda. They were: Rfn Andries Hendrk Potgieter, Rfn Lodewyk Johannes Christiaan Kitshoff and Rfn Petrus Jacobus Groenewald.

President Augustino Neto revealed at Saurino, on 29 October 1977, that the seven POWs would remain in Angola until the 'problems' were solved. President P.W. Botha responded by stating that the situation was a sensitive and delicate matter which could be resolved by high level discussions. The Minister of Defence asked the media not to comment on this matter and not to publish their names again.

In the absence of a permanent delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Angola, the South African Government approached the office of the local Red Cross organisation to assist in facilitating the process for the release of the POWs. In December 1976, the President of the ICRC, Alexander Hay, appealed to the Angolan authorities that the South African POWs be allowed to correspond with their families (Figs.1 & 2).

Two years later, on 2 September 1978, the seven SADF POWs were exchanged for three Cuban POWs. *Paratus*, a SADF publication, reported the following in October 1978: *"The time: a few minutes before 12h00 on Saturday, 2 September 1978, at the table, whispered last minute discussions. The tension makes the heat of the day even more unbearable. Mr Jean-Marc Bornet, delegate of the Committee of the International Red Cross, gets up and raises his hand. At the stroke of noon, he lowers it to signal the Prisoners of War on either side, to cross over. The Cubans moved north, deeper into Angola. The South Africans moved south step-by-step, closer to full freedom, their countries, their people, their loved ones"* (Fig.3).

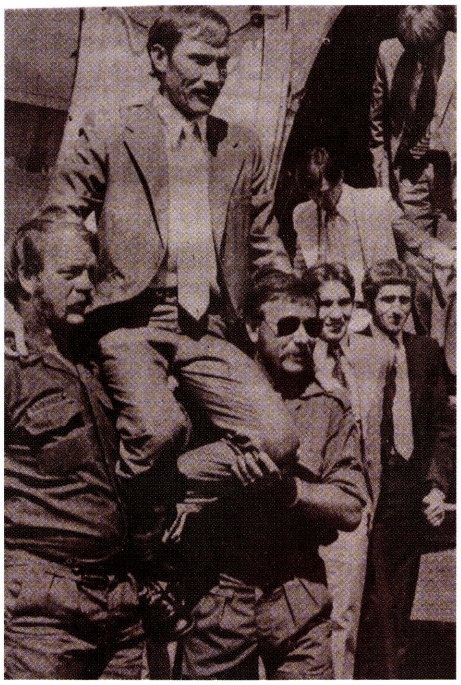

Fig.3: Newspaper clipping showing Sgt Terblanche being carried shoulder high after his release. (Source: *Beeld* Newspaper, 4 September 1978).

Political Prisoner Mail of a SWAPO member: Rauna Nambinga

In 1966, SWAPO launched its first operation, by establishing a permanent military presence in the then SWA, against South Africa's occupation of South-West Africa/Namibia. The conflict escalated after Angola gained independence in 1975 under the Communist leadership of the MPLA. South Africa promptly challenged them, allying themselves with the Angolan party UNITA. The MPLA immediately joined the fray in one of several Cold War flashpoints in Southern Africa. This ultimately escalated into a conventional war between South Africa and UNITA on one side and the Angolan government, Cubans, Soviets and SWAPO on the other side.

The UN recognised SWAPO as the *"sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people"* with the Security Council asking South Africa as early as 1974 to transfer power to SWAPO as soon as possible. South Africa appointed an administrator in Windhoek to govern the territory on behalf of the South African Government. B.J. van der Walt was the third administrator appointed from 1 November 1971 to 1 September 1977.

Rauna Nambinga (Fig.4) was a trained nurse working at a Finnish Mission Hospital in Engela in northern Namibia and was arrested twice in 1975 and again in 1980 by the South African security police. Her first arrest took

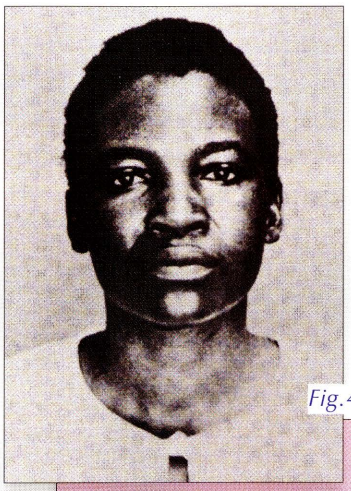

Fig.4: Rauna Nambinga, a SWAPO political prisoner

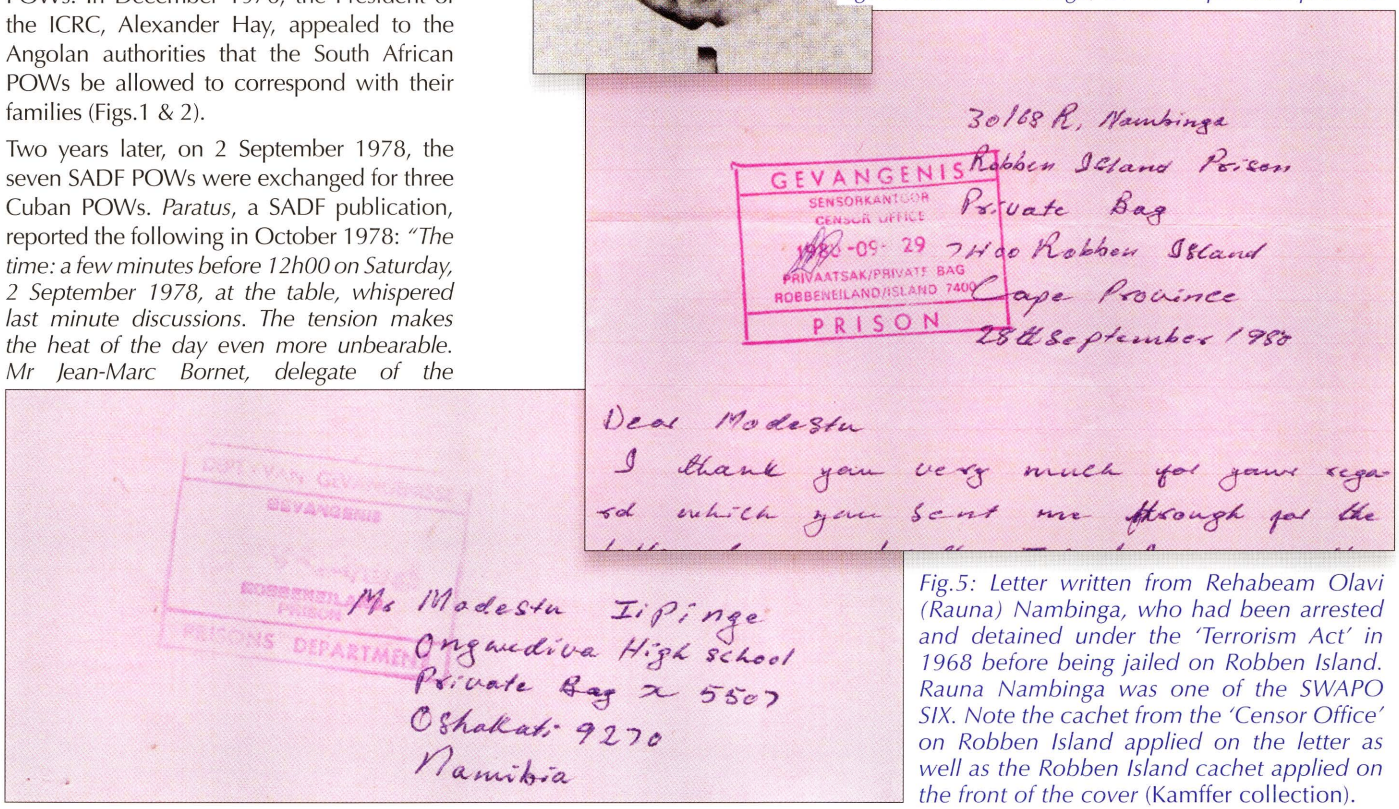

Fig.5: Letter written from Rehabeam Olavi (Rauna) Nambinga, who had been arrested and detained under the 'Terrorism Act' in 1968 before being jailed on Robben Island. Rauna Nambinga was one of the SWAPO SIX. Note the cachet from the 'Censor Office' on Robben Island applied on the letter as well as the Robben Island cachet applied on the front of the cover (Kamffer collection).

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place at a time of large scale police operations against SWAPO members. She was accused of assisting SWAPO members with medicine and money. She admitted to the judge that she had joined SWAPO in 1973 because it was fighting for the liberation of the people of Namibia.

On 12 May 1976, she was sentenced to seven years imprisonment. Serious irregularities were subsequently discovered in the conduct of the trial and she was released and returned to Engela in Namibia. She was again arrested on 15 July 1980, taken to Oshakati prison and asked to give details of assistance given to SWAPO. She was sentenced and sent to Robben Island (Fig.5).

This is one of the examples where a captured SWAPO supporter was treated as a criminal by the South African authorities but viewed as a legitimate freedom fighter by the international community. This anomaly was further emphasised in the trial of three PLAN cadres charged under the Terrorism Act (No. 83 of 1967) in the Windhoek Supreme Court in 1982.

Nambinga's name is also mentioned in the letter from Kirsten Kirkeby in Denmark addressed to B.J. Vorster as Prime Minister in 1976 wherein he *"...condemns the illegal trial against Rauna Nambinga and the SWAPO 6 because South Africa is occupying Namibia against the will of the people"* (Fig.6).

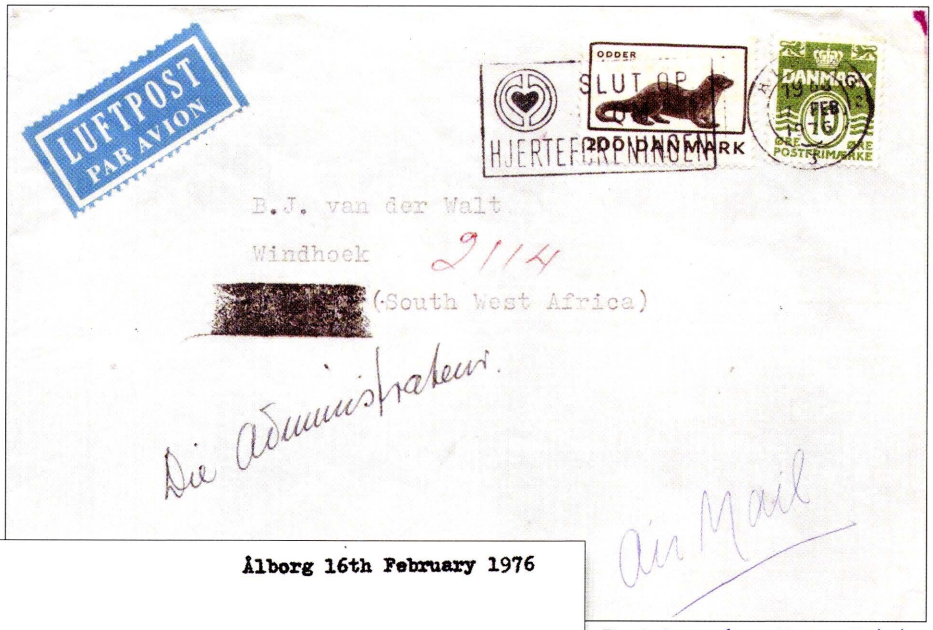

Fig.6: Letter from Kirsten Kirkeby, a lawyer in Denmark, dated 16 February 1976 and addressed to B.J. Vorster, the Prime Minister of South Africa. Note the name of Rauna Nambinga in the letter. Also, note how the name Namibia was obliterated by the SWA postal authorities (Kamffer collection).

Ålborg 16th February 1976

Prime Minister J.B. Vorster
Union Buildings
Pretoria
South Africa

I hereby condemn the illegal trial against Aaron Muchimba, Hendrik Shikongo, Rauna Nambinga, Andreas Nangolo, Anna Ngaihondjwa and Naimi Nombowa. I find the trial illegal because South Africa is occupying Namibia against the will of its people and I therefore call for South Africa's immediate withdrawal from Namibia.

Freedom and national independence for Namibia as one unitary state.

Kirsten Kirkeby

C.C. B.J. van der Walt

Refugee Mail

The Border War escalated in 1975 when Angola began to slide into full-scale chaos as the three contenders for power - Savimbi, Neto and Roberto - fought for survival. The breakdown of public order in Angola resulted in the precautionary deployment of large numbers of South African troops in Owamboland. An extremely serious situation was building up with refugees streaming over the border in their thousands. In October 1976 it was reported that more than 5,000 refugees had already entered Owamboland and Kavangoland.

The SA Government had to accommodate the sudden influx of refugees. The SADF, in conjunction with other Departments, undertook the

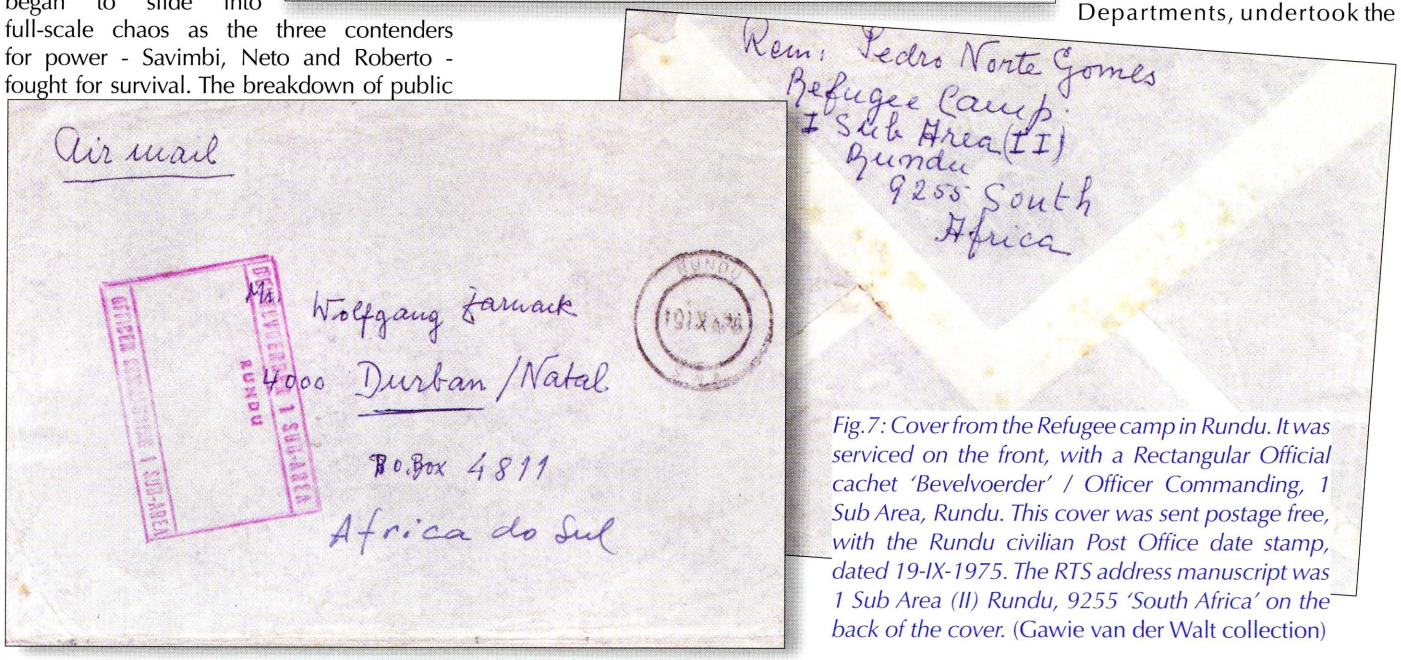

Fig.7: Cover from the Refugee camp in Rundu. It was serviced on the front, with a Rectangular Official cachet 'Bevelvoerder' / Officer Commanding, 1 Sub Area, Rundu. This cover was sent postage free, with the Rundu civilian Post Office date stamp, dated 19-IX-1975. The RTS address manuscript was 1 Sub Area (II) Rundu, 9255 'South Africa' on the back of the cover. (Gawie van der Walt collection)

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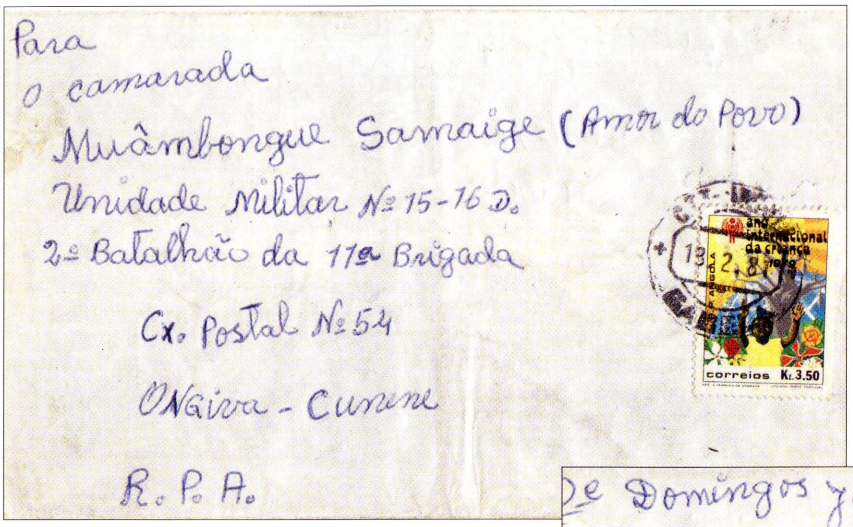

Fig.8: Cover posted on 13 February 1981 to a member of the 2nd Battalion of the 11th Brigade, FAPLA which was at that stage deployed near Ongiva in the Cunene Province of south eastern Angola. (Gawie van der Walt collection)

enormous challenge of accommodating the sudden influx of thousands of Angolan refugees. The refugees were taken to reception centres established at Tsumeb, Grootfontein Walvis Bay and Cullinan and a refugee camp was also being set up in Rundu (Fig.7).

Correspondence from FAPLA soldiers in southern Angola

The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) were the military wing of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). The MPLA under the leadership of Dr Agostinho Neto was a Marxist organisation with strong ties to Moscow. It was thought to have at least 4,500 well trained guerillas.

At the beginning of the Angolan Civil War MPLA troops were lightly armed as were both UNITA and the FNLA. This changed in the late 1970s as Cuban and Russian aid in terms of instructors and equipment began to convert them to a semi-conventional force with heavy weaponry.

Although little is known about the postal services provided to FAPLA personnel, captured mail indicates that a mail distribution system must have been in place. On both illustrated covers (Figs.8 & 9) it is indicated that the mail went through 'Postal (system) no. 54'. On the other hand, Telcor/Minfar from Cuba established a postal exchange office for the Cuban military forces in Angola in July 1976.

Conclusion:

From a philatelic and postal history point of view the items described above constitute a fascinating facet of modern military mail. A diverse range of postal material was generated by the Border War of which POW mail and political prisoner mail are the most difficult to acquire. Some of these unique items can be classified as philatelic 'gems'. Collecting and recording the modern postal history of the so called 'Border War' is an interesting aspect of philately to explore, not only for the gifted amateur, but also for the seasoned philatelist.

Acknowledgement:

The authors are indebted to Gawie van der Walt RDPSA for making his collection *'The SA Border War Including the Involvement of the Cubans 1966-1989'*, available for this article.

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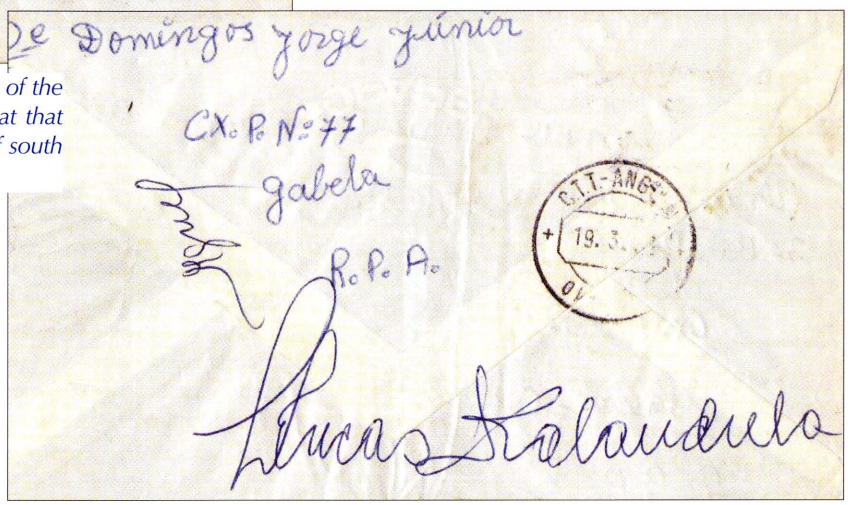



Fig. 9: Cover posted on 3 April 1981 also to Ongiva in Angola. Later in the year South African forces attacked a combined SWAPO/FAPLA force based in Ongiva. (Gawie van der Walt collection)

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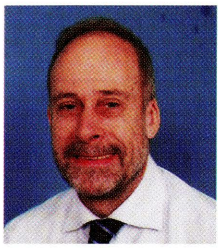


Early Mail to Botswana

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The illustrated cover is addressed to the Reverend John Smith Moffat of the London Missionary Society (LMS) when he was stationed at the Molepolole mission in Botswana in 1879. It is one of five known covers addressed to Moffat in Molepolole which have survived the hazards of time: two of these covers originate from the UK, two from the Cape of Good Hope and a fifth, on official service, is from the Secretary's Office in Transvaal. These covers predate the establishment of the Bechuanaland Protectorate on 30 September 1885, and comprise the earliest surviving mail into Botswana.

A pivotal role was played by John Moffat in developing the early postal system of Botswana, initially whilst working as an LMS missionary and later as an administrator for the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

John Moffat was the fourth son of Robert Moffat, the prominent missionary who was instrumental in developing the Kuruman mission in South Africa which became the central African headquarters for the LMS. He was born at Kuruman in 1835, but educated in England. He was also the brother-in-law of the legendary missionary-explorer David Livingstone, who had married one of his sisters. In 1857, John was accepted as a missionary by the LMS, and David Livingstone funded his passage from London to Cape Town so that John could commence work for the LMS as a volunteer. In 1859, John Moffat and his father Robert journeyed north from Kuruman through the lands controlled by Batswana Kings to Matabeleland with the hope of establishing a new LMS mission station in the area dominated by Mzilikazi, the Amandebele King.

Their journey followed a fairly well-travelled 600 kilometer track that had been used for over 40 years by explorers, missionaries and traders, leading to Shoshong, the capital of the Bamangwato. From Shoshong, they journeyed 400 kilometers north-east, through disputed territory claimed by both the Bamangwato and Mzilikazi, across the Shasha river, to Mzilikazi's krall at Gubuluwayo. Robert Moffat was already known to Mzilikazi and was one of the few Europeans trusted by him. Permission was given for the establishment of a mission at Inyati, some 40 kilometres distance from Gubuluwayo, but Mzilikazi refused to sanction a further request, which was to allow a line of communication to be established from Inyati to the Zambesi where Livingstone was leading a large expedition to explore the mysterious river from its mouth on the east coast.

John Moffat remained at Inyati as an unpaid LMS volunteer for five years. Shortly after arriving, he became optimistic about the potential of the newly established 'Missionary Road' for the carriage of letters and supplies between Kuruman and Inyati, and wrote of his hope that the missionaries would be able *"not only to keep the road open, but inevitably attract more Europeans, particularly traders, who would regard the presence of the mission as some guarantee of political stability and general security in the domain of the Ndebele."*

In 1861, John's father, Robert Moffat was in Kuruman and gave the following account of how the missions maintained communications in a report to the Colonial Secretary in Cape Town: *"We receive the post* [from Cape Town] *regularly every month at this place* [Kuruman], *and the letters and papers for the missionaries at* [Inyati] *are either forwarded direct by parties going in that direction or sent to the care of Sechele* [at Molepolole] *or the Revd Mr Schroeder [at the Hanoverian Litheyana Mission, Molepolole] who again …. embraces opportunities of persons going to Sekhomi* [Shoshong] *and* [Inyati]. *It is now more than five months since the date of the last letters from* [Inyati] *brought by people of this station."*

This report supports other accounts of how the missionaries' mail service developed. It was initially a sporadic ad hoc service, operated by mission servants, runners and passing travellers such as traders and explorers. As time passed, the service gradually became more regular, and by 1873, the Rev James Hepburn at Shoshong had established a monthly runner post between Kuruman and Shoshong. Hepburn's successor, the Rev McKenzie, improved the service to operate on a fortnightly basis by 1875, with mail despatched northwards to Gubuluwayo every month. By 1880, the service from Shoshong to Tati was also operating fortnightly.

This private postal service was financed mainly by subscription. In 1880, the Rev Helm in Gubuluwayo charged an annual subscription of between £1-10s and £2-10s for the carriage of mail to Vryburg; passing travellers and temporary residents were charged 5s per letter. At Tati on the route from Gubulwayo to Shoshong, subscribers paid three guineas annually. In 1887, the subscription charge payable by Shoshong residents was £3 per annum, which apparently covered *"everything, letters, papers, etc."* By 1888, Hepburn reported handling between 7,000 and 8,000 letters per year in Shoshong.

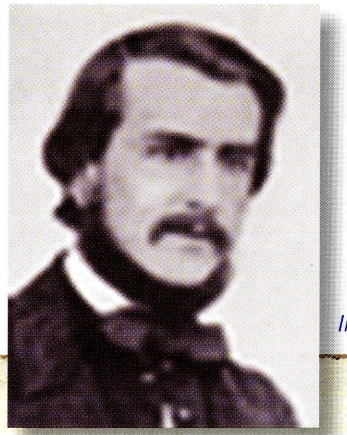
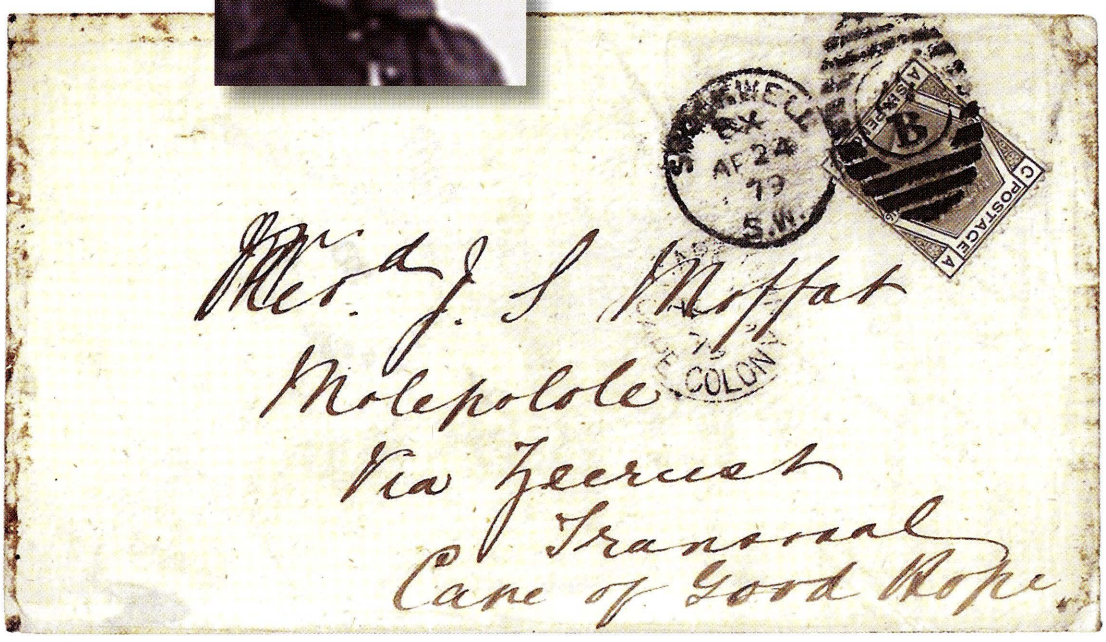


Image of John Smith Moffat (ex Internet)



1879 cover to John Moffat in Molepolole, Cape of Good Hope, now Botswana

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John Moffat left Inyati in 1865 to work with his father in Kuruman, and continued there until 1877 when he transferred to Molepolole. In 1879 he resigned from the LMS and worked in the northern Cape and Basutoland before being appointed in 1887 as the first Assistant Commissioner for the Bechuanaland Protectorate. In this capacity, one of his first tasks was to establish an official postal service for the Protectorate. The service began operating in August, 1888, and on 8 August, *The Bechuanaland News* reported: *"The arrangements which Mr. J. S. Moffat, Assistant-Commissioner, has during the last month or two been making are now completed, and the 'Protectorate Post' comes into operation forthwith. The former route to the interior, via Zeerust in the Transvaal, has been summarily abandoned, and the post will be conveyed by native runners through Mafeking to Kanya (Gasitsive's), Molepolole (Secheli's), and Shoshong (Khama's) weekly, and from Shoshong to Gubuluwayo (Lobengula's) fortnightly. The first post under the new arrangement arrived at Mafeking on Monday."*

The Postal History of the Cover

Writing in his journal, John Moffat described Molepolole in 1879 as *"the headquarters of a tribe called the Bakwena, under their chief Sechele. There was a population of about ten thousand on the spot, beside the tributary Bakalahari, who were scattered over a considerable extent of country away to the westward, in what was practically a desert region, with scanty supplies of water here and there....."*

The cover was posted in Southwell, South London, on 24 April, 1879, franked with a 6d adhesive, being the rate for a ½ ounce letter to the Cape Colony. A transit strike of Cape Town dated 26 May indicates that the cover was carried from Plymouth on the *Taymouth Castle* which docked in Table Bay on the evening of 25 May, 1879.

The most interesting features of the cover are the address, which reads *"Molepolole / Via Zeerust / Transvaal / Cape of Good Hope"*, and a black circular transit postmark for PRETORIA / SUID AFRIKA dated '30' [April] on the reverse.

The address 'via Zeerust' indicates that the writer's awareness that the older 'Cape' route employed by the Moffat family when corresponding to and from Kuruman (the route via Hope Town and the northern Cape) was - by 1879 - less reliable than the route through Transvaal for letters to Molepolole.

The Pretoria transit postmark is unusual because there was a shorter route available, via Potchefstroon, for mail from the Cape to Zeerust via the Transvaal. The route via Pretoria, lying 200 kilometres west of Zeerust, was some 250 kilometres longer than the route via Potchefstroon. The other four covers addressed to John Moffat in Molepolole mentioned above have no Pretoria mark, and were routed via Potchefstroon.

From Pretoria, the cover was carried by cart to Rustenburg, and from Rustenburg to Zeerust by runner(s) employed by the Transvaal Post Office. At Zeerust, another runner employed by the Transvaal Post Office carried the cover to the small postal agency established at Linokana (Dinokana) in February 1876. The postal agent at Linokana was the Rev Thomas Jensen of the Hanoverian Mission which had been founded at Linokana in 1857. From Linokana, the cover was carried across the Transvaal border and on to Molepolole by runners employed by the LMS.

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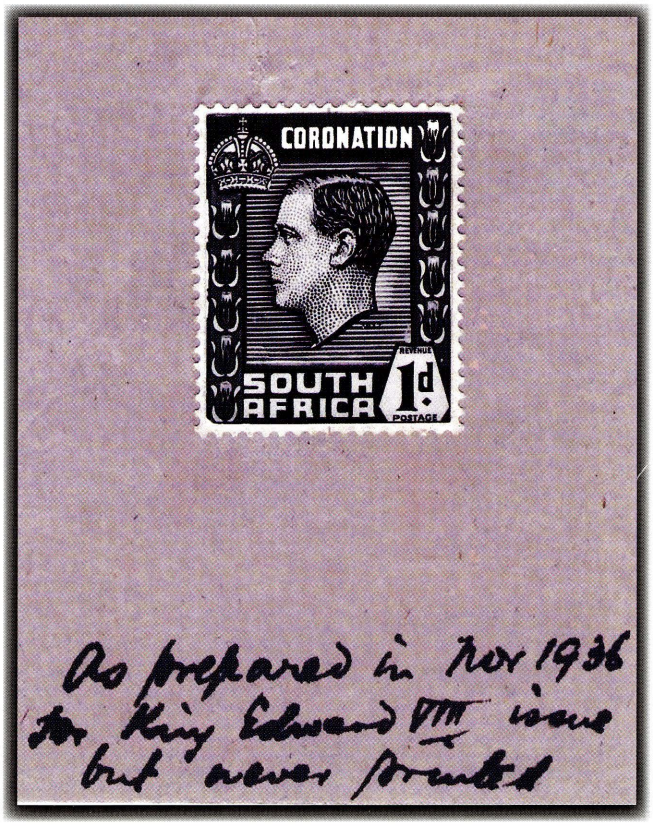
JOHN & MARK TAYLOR



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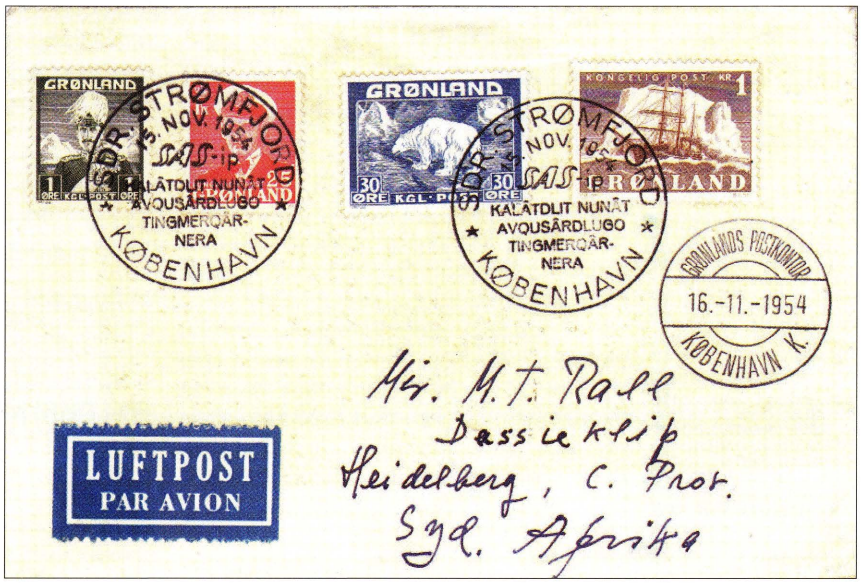
The Land of the Eskimo

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

The phrase that I have used for my title would appear to be the most appropriate English version of the wording *'Kalâtdlit nunât'*, a phrase that is included in the cancellations which are to be seen on the cover from Greenland that I have chosen to accompany this article. The item itself is in fact a 'First Flight Cover' but of a variety that I would choose to feature in my own collection, that is to say one that has been privately produced rather than merely one of several hundred or even thousands of identical 'official' versions. For me, this recalls the days when collectors would buy new stamps on the day of issue and then, having affixed them to their own envelopes, queue up at the post office counter to have them cancelled and dispatched on the same day, thus creating, to my way of thinking at least, *bona fide* 'First Day Covers'.



It appears that, among the 60,000 or so Inuit speakers on the island, *'Kalâtdlit nunât'* is synonymous with the name of the country - Greenland. This latter, English version had, or so history tells us, been bestowed upon the island late in the 10th Century by the first Viking colonist, Eirikr Raudi (Erik the Red), who had devised the name in the hope that it would attract other settlers from Scandinavia. In this it appears to have been successful as it is on record that no fewer than 35 shiploads of immigrants arrived in AD 986 and founded a Norse colony that was to last for some 500 years. Even so, these were not the first residents of the island; there is evidence that Eskimos from the North American continent had settled on the island around 2500 BCE.

Despite its comparative remoteness, Greenland was to play a vital role during the Second World War. At a comparatively small coastal town known in the Kalâllisut dialect of the Inuit language in West Greenland as Kangerlussuag, the United States established one of two military air force bases, the other being at Thule in the far north of the island. The town was renamed Sondrestrom or Sondre Stromfjord, (Big Fjord in the Danish language), a name which is frequently expressed as Sdr. Stromfjord. The base remained under American control until 1950. To the Americans it was known somewhat more mundanely as Bluey West-1 and they were to resume control of the facility in April 1951. This step that was taken in order to assist in the provision of early warning facilities concerning any critical developments that might arise in the course of the 'Cold War', the state of hostilities between the West and the countries of the Soviet Bloc, a relationship that had become critical after the end of World War II. However, with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the usefulness of the airfield was somewhat diminished and control was to revert once again to Denmark. Situated closely as it is to the capital of Nuuk, formerly known as Godthaab, the station has become the major commercial airport in the country and is served by Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS).

An airmail service to Copenhagen in Denmark had been introduced on 15 November 1954 and, although there was no special issue of stamps to mark the occasion, a distinctive canceller, as illustrated and in which a second Inuit phrase – *'Avqusârdlugo tingmerqâr-nera'*- refers to that 'First Flight', was made available for use on private mail as well as on SAS covers. This particular cover was franked, colourfully, with stamps from both the 1938 and the 1950 issues with the lower values portraying two successive kings of Denmark, Christian X (1912-1947) and Frederick IX (1947-1972).

The variety of stamps used on this cover is suggestive, perhaps, of the work of a philatelist rather than the Post Office itself, an impression that is enhanced when you realise that the addressee (in manuscript) is none other than our old friend, the late Thys Rall RDPSA, then residing in Heidelberg in the Cape Province where, a back-stamp tells us, the letter arrived on 24 November.

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2017 Great Britain Concise

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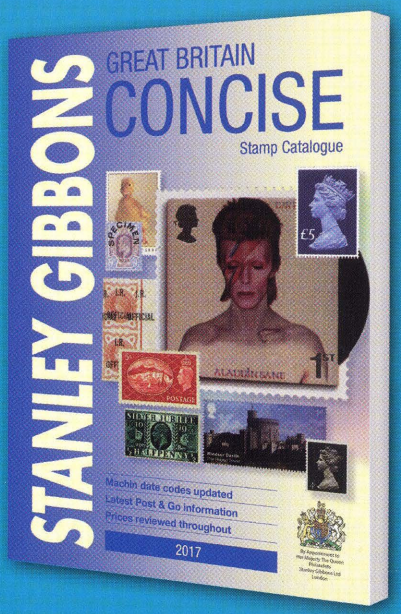

This ever-popular Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Catalogue provides the perfect guide for the collector seeking much more information on Great Britain stamps than provided by the Collect British Stamps checklist, without the highly detailed coverage of the five-volume specialised series.

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- A helpful table provides an easy reference guide to collectors of the popular source and date codes on the "U" series Machins
- Booklet panes, including those with inverted watermarks listed up to 1952.
- PHQ card and presentation pack listings now include Royal Mail reference codes for easy identification.
- Listings of popular Post & Go stamps are brought right up to date, with clear notes describing stamps from different machines and the Type IIIA stamps from Royal Mail Series II machines now listed and priced. Separate tables give details of those only available at exhibitions and museums.

The Machin definitives are amalgamated in an easy-to-find separate section and fully updated. The highly collectable source and date codes are now individually priced. Improvements to the Machin and Post & Go sections and the addition of a number of new varieties make the 2017 Concise the perfect catalogue for the modern GB collector, as well as the more traditional philatelist.

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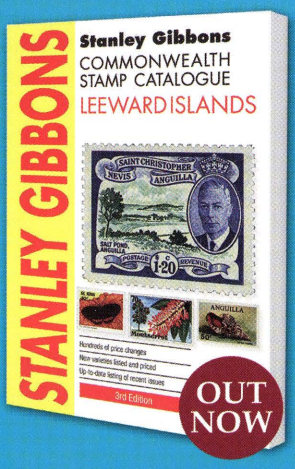

This catalogue provides a comprehensive priced listing of the stamps of the Leeward Islands; Anguilla, Antigua, Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Kitts and Nevis.

Watermark varieties, plate flaws, major errors, perforation changes, shades, postage due stamps and booklets are all listed and priced.

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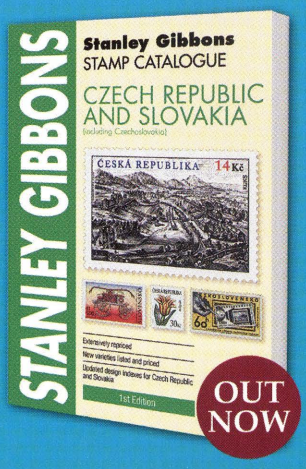

This catalogue provides a comprehensive priced listing of the stamps of Czechoslovakia, Czech Republic, Czechoslovak Army in Siberia, East Silesia, Bohemia and Moravia and Slovakia.

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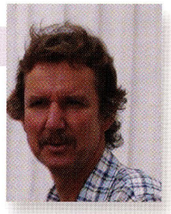
DEEL 24B

VERSIERDE POSKANTORE

deur Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein



Burgersdorp

DECORATED POST OFFICES

Part 24 (B) : *Burgersdorp*

The Burgersdorp Post Office is decorated with 14 ceramic tile panels. On the largest panel the settlement of Europeans is illustrated from left to right, starting with nature, influx of scouts on horseback and people in ox wagons, settling by working the land and building, and finally trading. Wild animals are shown and several indigenous plants can be identified. The three medium sized ceramic tile panels depict the life and hardship encountered by the pioneers. The tension experienced during the crossing of a river in flood is excellently illustrated by the artist on the one panel, while tranquillity radiates from the camp site on the other. Plants depicted are tumbleweed, mother-in-law's tongue and blood lily. The dress of men and women suggest the time to be around 1830-1850, probably during the Great Trek.

This is the last article of the series. However, it should be noted that panels had been ordered or made for the post offices of Alberton, Brakpan, Germiston, Halfwayhouse, Roodepoort, Springs, Vaalwater, Tzaneen, Lusikisiki and Qumbu, but these could not be found.

Information about these will be welcome.

In die vorige artikel is die tien klein teëlpanele van die Burgersdorpse poskantoor beskryf. Laat ons die groot paneel bekyk wat 28 en 'n halwe teëls wyd en 3 teëls hoog is, en aan die westekant in Piet Retief Straat aangebring is. Dit is interessant om voor die paneel te staan en van links na regs te loop en die tydsverloop van europese vestiging te bestudeer soos die kunstenaar dit uitgebeeld het.

Heel links is daar slegs natuur, en soos mens na links beweeg, kom die eerste verkenners te perd met hul families op ossewaens. Dit word gevolg deur 'n uitspanlaer, die bewerking van die grond en die bou van huise. Ten slotte word daar handel gedryf met produkte van gevestigde plase.

Die natuurtonele is uitstekend uitgebeeld. Links is zebras en gaselle tussen plante en 'n leeuwyfie sluip versigtig deur lang gras. Na regs is daar 'n slang en 'n padda by 'n waterstroom, 'n groen likkewaan, en twee gemsbokke tussen plante. Die plante is interessant, maar kan nie almal identifiseer word nie. By die leeu is 'n protea (moontlik *Protea neriifolia*), 'n aalwyn (moontlik *Aloe ferox*), biesies (*Cyperus sp.* of *Restio sp.*) en skoonma se tong *(Sansivieria)*. Die struik met geel blomme links van die man wat die perd lei 'n *Cassia sp.*, en voor die man van links 'n aalwyn (moontlik *Aloe comptonii*), *Strelitzia reginae* en die struik met geel blomme is bietrou *(Chrysanthemoides monilifera)*. Tussen die mense wat water skep en die gemsbokke is nog 'n *Strelitzia reginae* en *Cassia sp.* Regs, by die mense wat rondom 'n kis staan (sien vergroting) 'n *Strelitzia reginae*, twee aalwyne (moontlik *Aloe comptonii* en *Aloe arborescens*), en die struik met rooi speldekussingblomme is moontlik *Leucospermum sp.* of *Protea sp.*). Heel regs voor die langwa is nog 'n protea en die lang bome by die huis is sipresse *(Cypressus sp.)*. Die vele plante wat soos lang gras of breë-blaar bolplante lyk en so hoog staan dat 'n zebra of gemsbok daarin kan skuil, is nie bekend in die Oos Kaap nie. Een moontlikheid is garingbome *(Agave)*, maar dit is eers baie later na Suid Afrika gebring.

Die handelinge van die mense word ook goed uitgebeeld. Mense loop langs die ossewaens, sit onder skaduseile en daar word water geskep, kinders en goedere word van die waens af getel, vuur gemaak en kos voorberei. Die spanning van die mense wat toekyk hoe 'n man met 'n voorlaaier op die slang aanlê is goed uitgebeeld, en in kontras met die voorafgaande genoemde handelinge. Weerskante van hierdie kunswerk is daar drie panele van 4x5 teëls, ook geskilder deur Wilgy Van-Hall. Om die groot oppervlak van die muur te onderbreek, is die segmente van die muur waarop hierdie drie panele aangebring is voorsien van twee klein vensters elk, asook 'n verhoogde sandsteen sok. Soortgelyk aan die groot paneel, illustreer hierdie drie panele ook die lewe en gevare wat die pioniers ervaar het.



Die paneel heel links op die muur illustreer 'n ossewa en trop beeste wat 'n sterk vloeiende rivier kruis. Die spanning van die situasie is goed geïllustreer. Drie ruiters stroom-af stelling ingeneem om enige vee, mense of goedere wat moontlik van die wa mag val, te onderskep, die moeder hou haar baba styf in haar arms en die touleier trek die voorosse met mening. Die blaarlose bome dui op die winterseisoen, en die rivier in vloed plaas die situasie in die winterreënvalstreek Suid van die Oos Kaapse bergreekse.

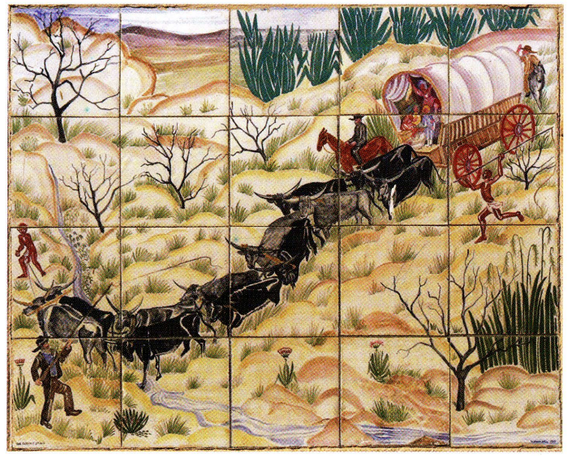
Die volgende paneel illustreer 'n soortgelyke situasie van 'n wa met span swart osse, maar die situasie om 'n klein stroompie te kruis is meer gemoedelik. Weereens 'n winterlandskap. Die plant voor die man met die lang sweep is 'n gifbol *(Boophone disticha)* wat in oop grasveld groei. Die plante met rooi blomme kan 'n bloedlelie *(Scadoxus)* of poeierkwas *(Haemanthus)* wees, maar hierdie plante word verkeerdelik in die oopte gewys, want hulle verkies 'n beskutte habitat. Heel regs is skoonma se tong *(Sansevieria sp.)*. Die groot breë-blaar plante bo is onbekend in Suid Afrika. Dit is waarskynlik garingbome *(Agave americana)* en pas nie in die landskap nie, aangesien dit eers later as 1850 van ingevoerde plante versprei het. Die kunstenaar het seker aangeneem dat dit deel van die natuurlike plantegroei was toe sy die landskappe vir haar kunswerke in die 1930s bestudeer het.

Die paneel regs op die muur illustreer die lewe by 'n uitspanplek. Goedere word van die wa afgelaai, 'n verkenner te perd keer terug en groet sy vrou en kind, vuurmaakhout word aangedra, 'n vuur is aangesteek om kos in 'n groot pot te kook en moeders versorg die kinders. In eenvoudige wyse het die kunstenaar die verskeidenheid materiaal vir hemde en rokke, wat in daardie tyd beskikbaar was, illustreer. Die geel en yl loof aan die bome dui op laat herfs.

Volgens die kleredag wat op die panele uitgebeeld word, die kappies, kantboordjies en lang rokke van die dames, en die baadjies en wye-rand hoedens van die mans, val die tydsverloop van die toneel tussen 1830 en 1850. Moontlik is dit deel van die Groot Trek uit die Oos-Kaap, wat gestaaf kan word deur die feit dat inboorlinge as werkers saamgeneem is.

Geagte lesers, hierdie was die laaste artikel oor altesaam 26 poskantore wat met keramiekteëlpanele van Ceramic Studio versier is. Blykbaar was panele bestel of vervaardig vir die poskantore van Alberton, Brakpan, Germiston, Halfweghuis, Roodepoort, Springs, Vaalwater, Tzaneen, Lusikisiki en Qumbu, maar dit kon nie opgespoor word vir hierdie reeks nie. Die panele by Nquelini is blykbaar verwyder of toegepleister tydens bouwerk. Inligting oor hierdie kunswerke is welkom.





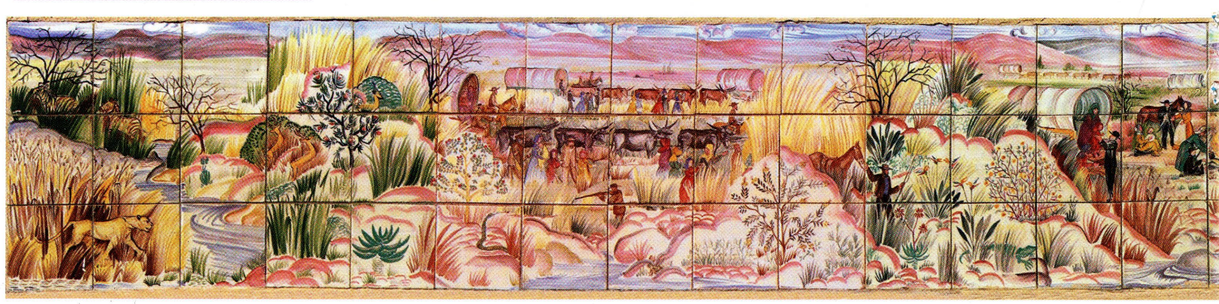


Verwysings:

- Telford A.A. (1972) *Yesterday's Dress. A history of costume in South Africa*.

Bedankings:

- Prof Johann du Preez, Universiteit van die Vrystaat vir botaniese inligting.
- Zane Wilsnach vir fotoredigering.





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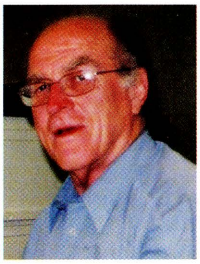

WORLD WAR II: SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE 'SHUTTLE SERVICE'

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Introduction

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, the Empire Air Mail Service was established and operated as Imperial Airways. The route from England was across southern Europe to Rome and Athens and then to Alexandria and Cairo where the route split to service (i) the Middle East, India, Asia, the Far East and Australasia and (ii) East and Southern Africa. The route, by flying boat to South Africa, was Cairo - Luxor - Wadi Halfa - Khartoum - Malakal - Juba - Port Bell - Kisumu - (Naivasha) - Mombasa - Dar-es-salaam - Lindi - Moçambique - (Quelimane) - Beira - (Inhambane) - Lourenço Marques - Durban - Vaalbank Dam (Vaal Dam, Johannesburg).

When Italy entered the war on 10 June 1940 this air mail route over the Mediterranean was suspended. Air mail from England to the Middle East and further, as well as to central and southern Africa, was sent by sea to Durban. The mail was then forwarded by air following the above route to Cairo and this became known as the 'Horseshoe Route' linking Durban to Sydney, Australia and Auckland, New Zealand, via the Middle East, India, and South East Asia. Later the British Army established No.1 Army Postal Regulating Depot in Durban in January 1942 with Field Post Office 543 specifically for mail to Allied troops in North Africa, the Middle East and beyond.

When Italy capitulated in 1943 the Mediterranean region was opened for air mail flights from September and the 'Horseshoe Route' between Cairo and Durban became redundant. An efficient transport route with good facilities had been established and was largely inherited by the South African Air Force (SAAF) with a Royal Air Force (RAF) support structure.

East African Campaign

With the involvement of the 1st South African Infantry Brigade in the East African campaign in 1940-41, supply routes from South Africa became critical to the success against the Italian East Africa Empire. There were (i) the sea route to Mombasa, (ii) the overland route utilising rail to Broken Hill, Northern Rhodesia, and then by road to Kenya and (iii) the air route to Kenya. The air route followed either the above mentioned flying boat route to Mombasa or Naivasha or from Zwartkop Air Base to Bulawayo, Ndola, Tabora to Nairobi with some variation early on with the route development. This latter route was the start of what became the 'Springbok Shuttle Service' route.

When the Italian forces were defeated in Somaliland, Eritrea and Abyssinia and the South African forces deployed in Egypt, the air mail route was developed further to Cairo. The flying boat route, as well as the central route, was used.

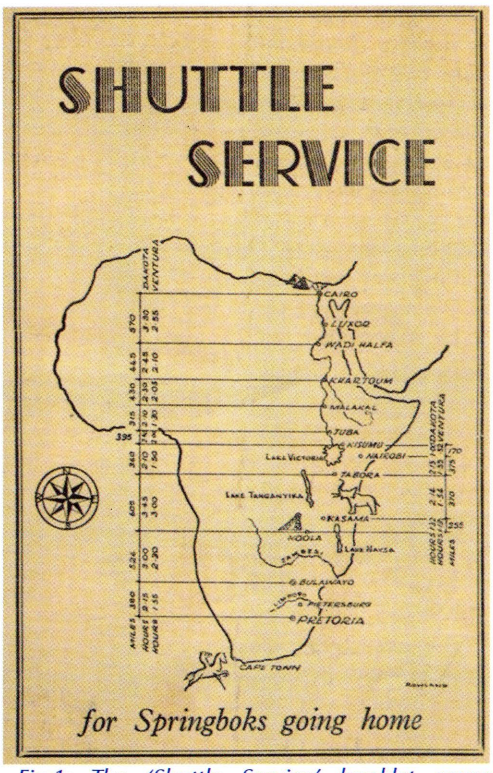

Fig.1: The 'Shuttle Service' booklet cover illustrating the flight route from Zwartkop to Cairo West.

'The Shuttle Service for Springboks going home'

The development of the air route from Zwartkop Air Base, Pretoria, to Cairo West Air Base started in 1941 and occurred throughout the North African and Italian campaigns. On 1 May 1942 the SAAF formed 4 Group, SAAF, to control this air route. At the end of the war it was the priority route for getting South African servicemen and women back to their homes in the Union as quickly as possible. It was during this later period that the air route became known as the 'Springbok Shuttle Service' under command of 4 Group, SAAF. This group consisted of 5 Wing, flying Dakota DC-47 aircraft (20-26 passengers) and 10 Wing, flying Ventura aircraft (13-14 passengers). Initially there were 7 Dakota and 3 Lodestar flights weekly and at the peak there were 10 Dakota and 15 Ventura flights a week, each flight taking 3 to 4 days.

The route was from Zwartkop Air Base, Pretoria, where the headquarters and movement control was situated, No.1 Detachment, Bulawayo (Southern Rhodesia) - No.2 Detachment, Ndola (Northern Rhodesia) - No.3 Detachment, Tabora (Tanganyika) - (Nairobi) - No.4 Detachment, Kisumu (Kenya) - No.5 Detachment, Juba (Sudan) - No.6 Detachment, Malakal (Sudan) - No.7 Detachment, Khartoum (Sudan) - No.8 Detachment, Wadi Halfa (Egypt) - No.9 Detachment, Luxor (Egypt) - No.10 Detachment, Cairo West (Egypt). The Rand Airport, Germiston, was an alternate air base to Zwartkop.

The aircraft did not fly at night so the air bases had overnight facilities for the passengers. In the diary of Trooper 'Finkel' Stein he mentions overnight stops at Khartoum, Kisumu and Bulawayo; and Frank Hulley records overnight stops at Wadi Seidna, Kisumu, Tabora and Bulawayo. Tabora was essentially a refuelling stop and when flights stopped overnight the passengers were billeted in the local hotel. When the aircraft were refuelling at other stops, tea and sandwiches were served to the passengers.

In the memoirs of Frank Hulley, who served in Italy, mention is made of an overnight stop at *"Wadi Seidna, a new base on the Nile River, 23 miles (37 km) north of Khartoum; a move to accommodate flying boats in the Shuttle Service"*. Wadi Seidna is not mentioned in other related documents.

Along this route radio beacons were manned by the SAAF Radio Signal Company. Examples of these beacons between Zwartkop and Bulawayo were at Palapye, Bechuanaland, and Pietersburg. It appears that some of these radio signal beacons (Pietersburg, Kasama), if not all beacon stations, had emergency landing strips.

Mail Associated with the 'Springbok Shuttle'

4 Group H.Q. Mail Office: In the *'Shuttle Service'* booklet mention is made that a new post office has been established at Zwartkop Air Base for use by arriving troops. This included telegrams and post. This SAAF mail office was at the Zwartkop Air Base and was a



Fig.2: Examples of the 4 Group Mail Office cachet applied to postage free mail and postage paid mail. Cachet images are from the 2011 publication by the author.

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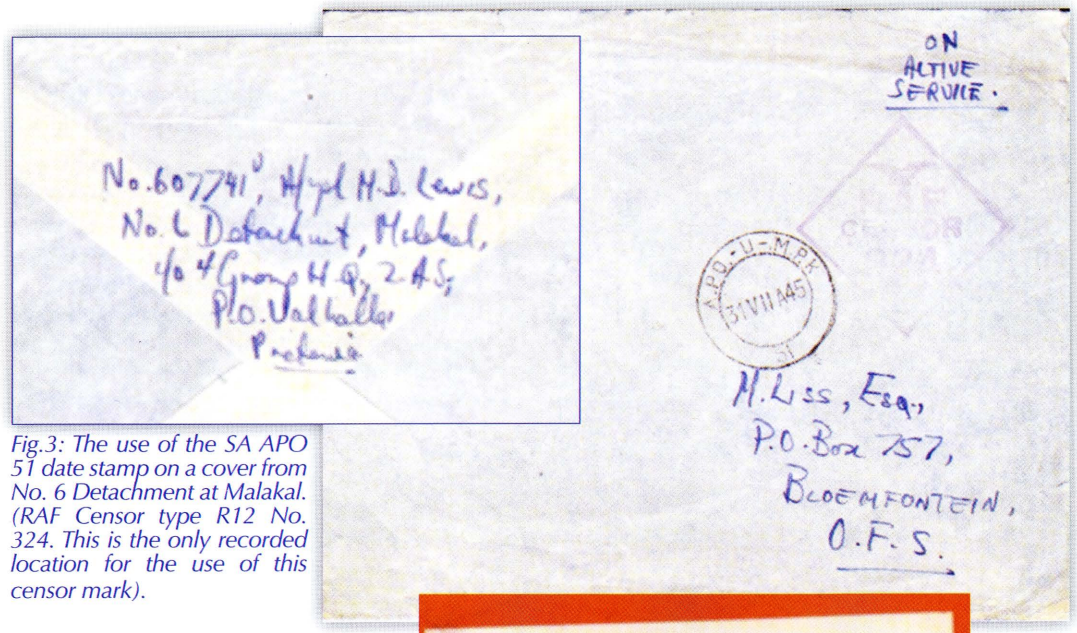

Fig.3: The use of the SA APO 51 date stamp on a cover from No. 6 Detachment at Malakal. (RAF Censor type R12 No. 324. This is the only recorded location for the use of this censor mark).

sub-office under the civilian Valhalla Post Office nearby. Passengers could post letters on arrival either postage free ('On Service' or 'On Active Service' concession) for surface mail delivery or postage paid for airmail or registered mail. Mail originating at this mail office received the cachet 'S.A.A.F. Mail Office / 4 Group, H.Q.' as illustrated in Fig.2.

The earliest use of the cachet recorded to date is 17 September 1945, which suggests that this is the 'new' post office referred to in the booklet. However, the dates of use suggest that SA APO 51 was the 'new' post office in July and August 1945 (Fig.5) and the 4 Group Mail Office functioned from September 1945 to at least January 1946.

SA APO 51: As mentioned above, the use of this datestamp on 'Shuttle Service' mail suggests that this 'new' post office was SA APO 51, although no official document has been located to confirm this. There are 4 recorded APO 51 date stamps on mail items associated with the 'Shuttle Service' in 1945. (Three examples are in the author's collection and the other is in the Harvey-Pirie Collection in Museum Africa, Johannesburg). Dates of use are 18 July 1945 (H-P Collection), 23 July 1945, 31 July 1945 (from Malakal) and 7 August 1945 (from Luxor). SA APO 51 was used in the Madagascar campaign in 1942. As proposed above, SA APO 51 was replaced by the 4 Group Mail Office in September 1945.

Zwartkop Air Station: There were numerous SAAF units based at Zwartkop A.S. and there are at least 8 different Zwartkop A.S. cachets recorded that were used on mail originating there between March 1941 and June 1945. In addition there were SAAF units such as Nos. 21, 23 and 100 Air Schools, Air Quartermaster Store, No.1 Air Depot Aircraft Assembly and Repair, No.1 Air Depot Parachute Section, No.1 Aircraft Repair Depot and the Mobile Air Force Depot based there.

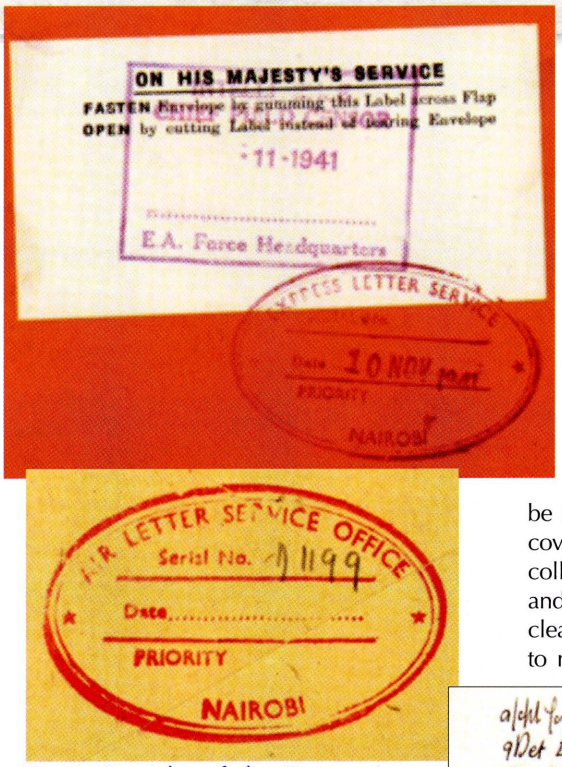

Fig. 4: Examples of the 'Express Letter Service' and the 'Priority Air Letter Service' cachets applied to covers.

Any one of the Zwartkop A.S. cachets could have been used on mail from air stations on the 'Shuttle Service' route from its inception up to June 1945. Unless there is a location recorded in the sender's name and address to confirm the origin, mail from the 'Shuttle Service' route cannot be positively identified.

An example of this is the mail item from Kasama in 1941 posted at Rand Airport, Germiston, illustrated in Fig. 8.

It is proposed that any mail originating from 4 Group at Zwartkop A.S. from July 1945 would have either the SA APO 51 datestamp or the 'SAAF Mail Office / 4 Group H.Q. / date / P.O. Valhalla / Pretoria' cachet as illustrated in Fig.2 and not any other Zwartkop cachet.

'Express Air Letter Service': This mail service was used when highly secret documents or reports that contained information which required immediate action had to be delivered to the recipient as quickly as possible. The letter would be handed to the captain of the first aircraft leaving that day. He would have to personally hand it to a designated recipient who would meet the aircraft on arrival at Zwartkop. This mail was marked with the 'Express Air Letter Service' cachet and/or 'E.L.S.' (Express Letter Service, Fig.4). Recipients of this type of mail were the Director of Military Operations and Intelligence, the Deputy Director of Military Intelligence and the Director of Censor Services.

There was also a 'Priority Mail Service' for classified documents that were also hand delivered as above but the contents were not critical to immediate military operations but delivery was via the first available aircraft carrying mail.

Detachment Mail: Mail from the 10 detachments can almost always only be identified by the sender's address on the cover or in the letter. Examples in the author's collection are from Detachment Nos. 6, 9 and 10. The RAF at Tabora had their own clearly identified cachet which was applied to mail items and there appears to be only

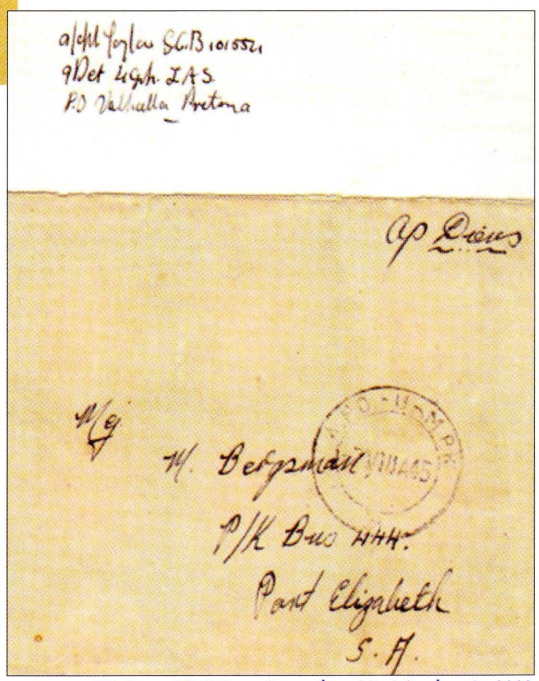

Fig. 5: Mail with the SA APO 51 date stamp (7 Aug 1945) written by Air Mechanic W.J. Marais at No.9 Detachment at Luxor and the reverse of another letter with the sender's address as '9 Det 4 Gp ZAS' (No.9 Detachment, 4 Group, Zwartkop Air Station).

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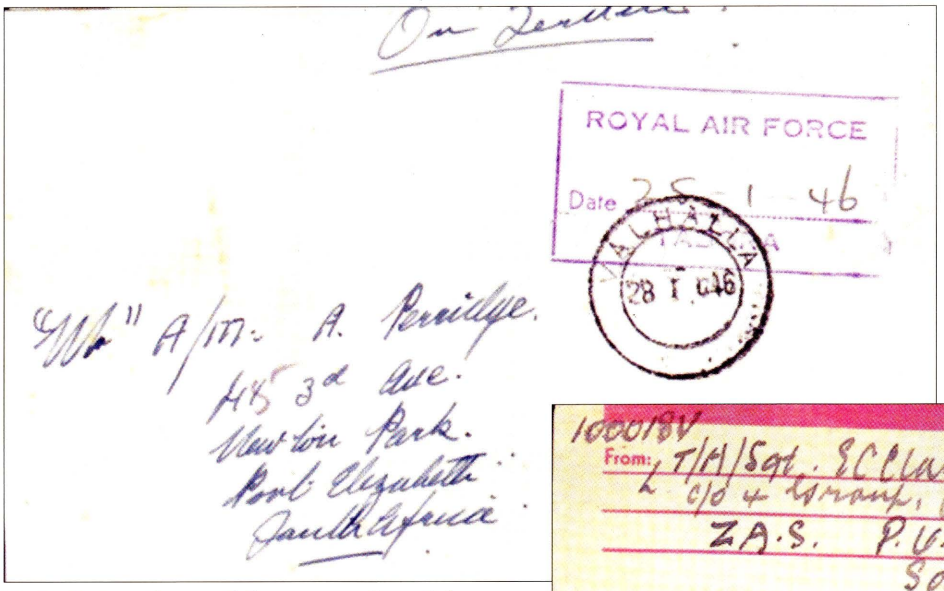

Fig.6: Postage free mail from a member of the Royal Air Force at No.3 Detachment at Tabora, Tanganyika. (There are only two recorded copies of this cachet to date.)

two recorded copies of this cachet, both in the author's collection (Fig.6).

Other mail items can be identified by the address in the sender's letter as illustrated from the radio station at Kasama, Northern Rhodesia.

Royal Air Force Censor Cachets: The use of RAF censor type R12 No. 324 at Malakal has not been recorded before and it is possible that this censor mark was used exclusively at this air base. There are two recorded copies in the author's collection. RAF censor type R12 No. 367 is recorded as being used at SAAF Headquarters, Cairo West air base. This censor mark was used on Detachment 10 mail items (Fig.7).

Other Associated Units: The SAAF Radio Signal Company played a major role in the entire air transport operation by providing communications and manning the radio beacons along the route.

The 4 Group had a medical component and each detachment had a medical section to deal with minor injuries. The Senior Medical Officer responsible for the medical service at the headquarters and each detachment was Captain Michael Edmund Lee Tonkin. He qualified as a medical doctor (1940) and served with the infantry and SAAF squadrons in North Africa and qualified as a pilot before becoming the SMO at 4 Group (Fig.10).

Crash Mail on the 'Shuttle Service' Route: There are three recognised crashes on the 'Shuttle Service' route when the aircraft was carrying mail. These are (i) a crash at Malakal on 12 November 1941 (there are 5 recorded mail items salvaged from this crash); (ii) the crash at Kisumu when Gen. Dan Pienaar was killed on 19 December 1942 (there are 7 recorded mail items salvaged from this crash) and (iii) the crash at Kisumu on 11 July 1945 (there are 3 recorded mail items salvaged from this crash).

APO 51 must be regarded as one of the very rare South African date stamps with only 4 examples recorded.

Similarly the Royal Air Force cachet used at Tabora must be regarded as rare.

I will be interested if any reader has examples of the 'Shuttle Service' mail and can add to the information of this neglected mail route which seldom, if ever, is represented in air mail exhibits.

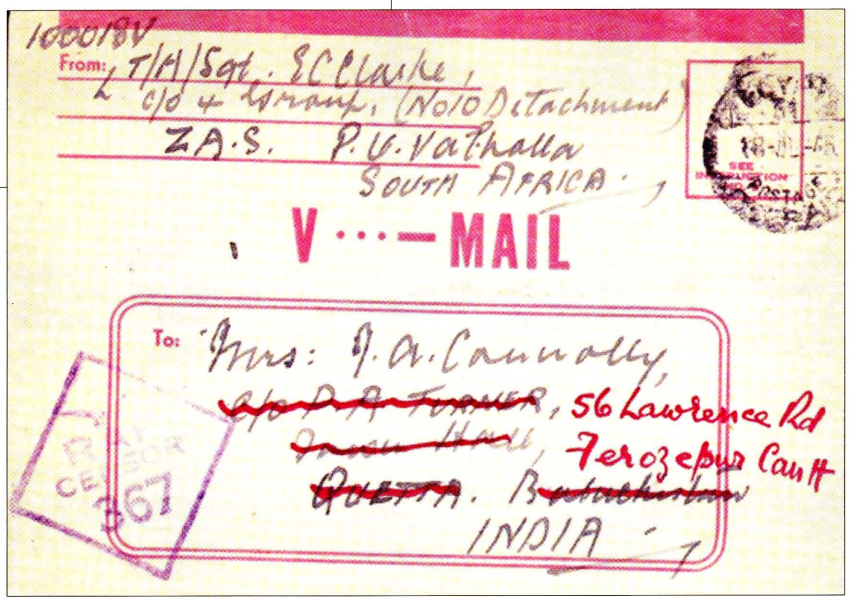

Fig.7: V-Mail from Temporary Acting Sergeant Edward Curzon Clarke based at No.10 Detachment, 4 Group, at Cairo West Air Station and posted from the Egypt Pre-Paid Post Office 31 at Cairo West Airport (18 July 1945) to India. (RAF censor Type R12 No. 367).

There are other recorded aircraft crashes on the route but mail was probably not being carried.

Comments

Mail items from the 'Springbok Shuttle Service' are very scarce and not always easy to identify.

Despite previous appeals for philatelists to let me know about SA APO 51 used in 1945, none have been forthcoming. This use of SA

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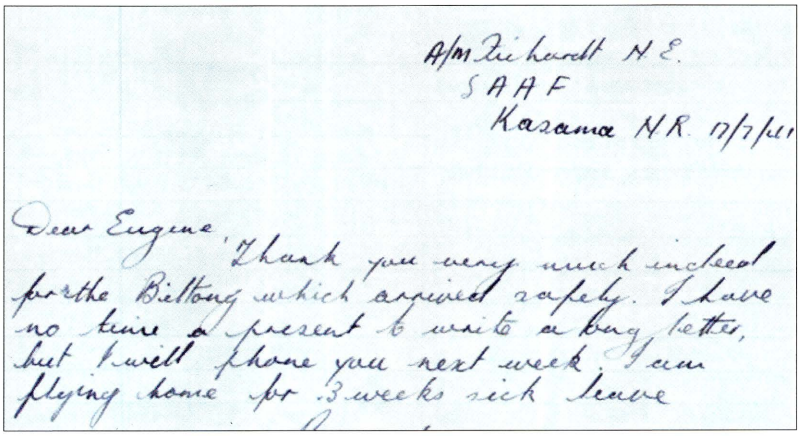

Fig.8: A letter from Air Mechanic Nielen Emanuel Fichardt, a SAAF signaller at Kasama, Northern Rhodesia. This was posted at the SAAF Station at the Rand Airport, Germiston, to Eugene Marais at Brits.

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Fig.9: Cachets illustrating the SAAF Radio Signal Company at the headquarters in Pretoria and the Aeradio Staff at Pietersburg. Pietersburg Air Station was where a radio beacon was situated as well as being an emergency landing air base.

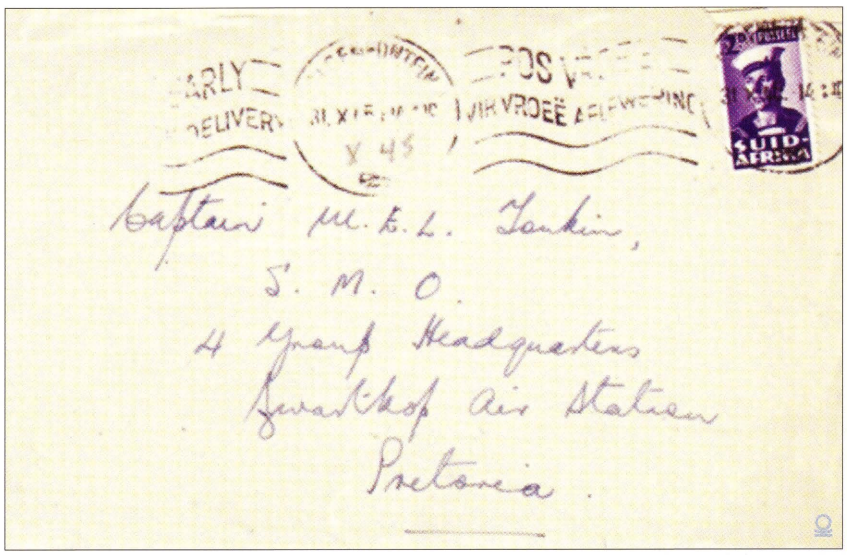

Fig.10: Mail addressed to Captain Michael Tonkin, the Senior Medical Officer at 4 Group Headquarters.



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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA – 1927 PRETORIA TYPOGRAPH ONE PENNY ISSUE 2 – 'TWISTED SHIP'

by Jan van Beukering OFS Philatelic Society

The 1927 Pretoria typograph printing presented many teething troubles. Issue 1 was produced from the same interior and exterior plates used for the London printings. New plates were produced for Issue 2 and, due to the hardening of the copper from which the plates were made, cracking resulted to such an extent that at least four 'clichés' or centres had to be replaced after the cracks appeared progressively unacceptable.

The most striking of these occurrences are those on rows 18, 19 and 20 / 9 – English and Afrikaans stamps respectively. Cracking first started on Row 20/9 and a gradual break in the black jubilee line appeared (Fig.1).



Fig.1 R20/9 with start of crack (start of gap in black jubilee line)



Fig.2 R20/9 missing cliché



Fig.3 Crack in R19/9

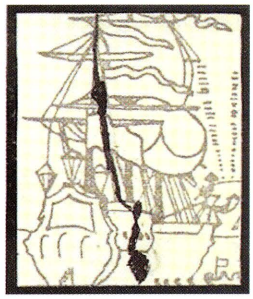

Fig.4 Sketch of R19/9 crack

The crack developed to such extent that at some stage the cliché parted from the plate completely. As this was soon detected only a few sheets could have been printed showing missing cliché and the start of cracks in R19/9 *(Fig.2 created by photoshop)*. The crack in R19/9 now increased while the cliché was replaced in R20/9, showing it somewhat out of register with adjoining stamps, and the gap in the black Jubilee line now complete (Fig.3). A sketch of the final crack on R19/9 is shown - Fig.4.

The row 19/9 cliché was then also replaced but the image is slightly tilted which shows the top of the mast clearly to be under 'A' of AFRICA', whereas on the normal stamp this would be under the 'H' of SOUTH. The newly inserted 'TWISTED SHIP' cliché Row 19/9 always showed a faint vertical white line under the tip of the flag to the frame circle over the value tab. Furthermore only upright watermarked examples have been seen but inverted watermarked varieties may exist.

Then the cherry on top…



Fig.5: R19/9 before normal twisted white line R19/9 with twisted ship

My thanks to Mike Tonking RDPSA for provision of some of the material scans and the sketches.

Sources:
- *Stamps of the Union of South Africa - 1910 - 1961.* Edition 1986.
- Tonking collection



Fig.6: Some used examples of R19/9 all with faint white vertical line



Fig.7: Registered cover to the USA bearing 4d registration fee and 3d postage with the 'Twisted Ship' stamp prominent (3rd from left). Sent from IXOPO on 11 March 1929 with rubber Registration cachet with, on reverse, transit New York cancel of 11 April 1929 and arrival strike KANSAS CITY M.O.

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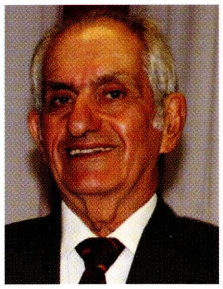


Pretoria Typographs.
Springbok ½d. Identification of the Issues

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

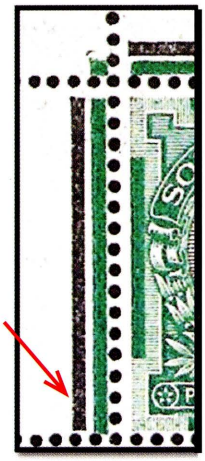
The ½d Springbok stamp was produced from two plates, an interior (black) and an exterior (green) plate. The original interior or head plate was given the number '1'. The original exterior or frame plate was given the number '1x'. These plates were used by Waterlow and Sons to produce the London Typographs in 1926. In 1927 the plates passed to the Government Printer in Pretoria where the stamps were produced in the same colours and on paper with the same multiple Springbok head watermark. Three issues were produced between 1927 and 1929. In 1948 Issue 2 was reprinted.

Date	Issue	Plates
1927	1	1 +1x
1928	2	2 + 2x
1929	3	2 +1x
1948	2-reprint	2 + 2x

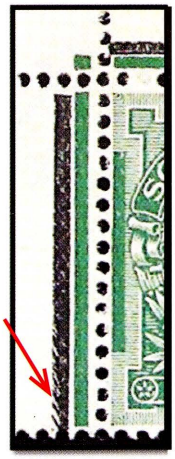
In the Handbook Catalogue, Definitive Edition, the following statement is made: *"Because the plates only differed at three positions it follows that only the bottom right corner blocks of four, and horizontal pairs, rows 1 and 20/6 and 7, with margins attached, can be allocated to Issues 1,2 or 3"* (1). However, with further study (2) and research it is now possible to allocate all eight key pieces of the sheet (the four corners and the four arrows) to the correct Issue. By using the information in this article, it is easy to allocate the key pieces to their respective issues. (ARROWS - red:interior, blue:exterior).

Top Left Corner

i. Row 1/1: Interior (black) jubilee line on the left margin



Issue 1: Solid interior jubilee line.

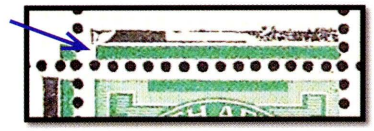


Issues 2 and 3: Feathery appearance

ii. Row 1/1. Top exterior jubilee line.



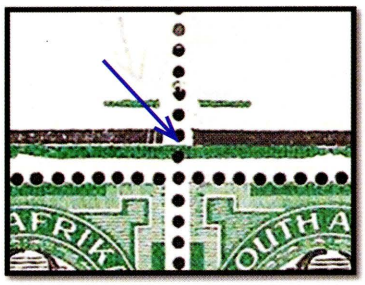
Issue 2: The corners are bevelled.



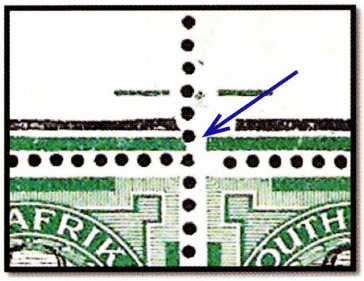
Issue 3. The corners are splayed.

Top or Bottom centre pieces (or arrows)

i. Exterior (green) jubilee line

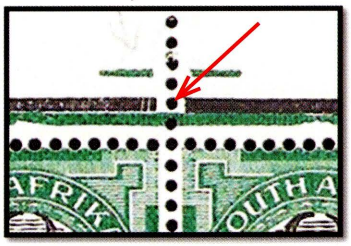


Issues 1 and 3: No gap.

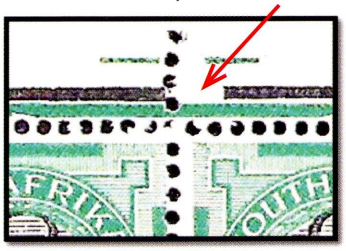


Issue 2: 1.25mm gap

ii. Interior jubilee line



Issue 1: Gap is 2.5 mm.



Issue 3: Gap is 3.25 mm.

Top Right Corner

i. Row 1/12: Interior jubilee line on right margin.



No dent in interior jubilee line. Issue 1.



Dent in interior jubilee line. Issues 2 or 3

ii. Row 2/12: The exterior jubilee line



Issue 2: Dent in exterior jubilee line.



Issue 3: No dent in exterior jubilee line.

Note the dent in the interior jubilee line at Row 1/12, confirming this is not Issue 1.

Readers may be unaware of the purpose and origin of Jubilee Lines. The following paragraph appeared in *Fundamentals of Philately* (Revised Edition) by LN Williams, published by the American Philatelic Society, 1990.

JUBILEE LINES: This term is used to designate the lines in the colour or colours of the stamp that appear in the margins of panes or sheets of certain relief printed (typographed) stamps of the British Commonwealth. Jubilee lines, when introduced, surrounded each pane, and their purpose was to protect the edge of the subject on the printing base from damage by the inking roller. There are two types of Jubilee Line: continuous, that is unbroken; or coextensive, that is a series of short lines, each of the contiguous stamp dimension. The name 'Jubilee'– derives from the sobriquet applied to the Great Britain 1887 issue that appeared during the year but not specially to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, and the Jubilee Line first appeared with stamps of that year – actually first, experimentally, in a plate of the 1d. issued in 1881.

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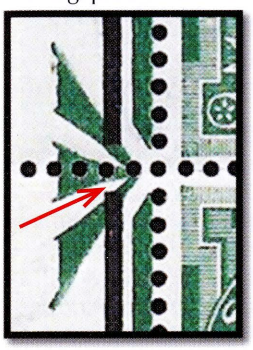
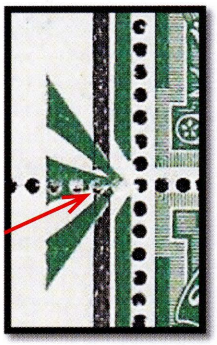
Left Arrow

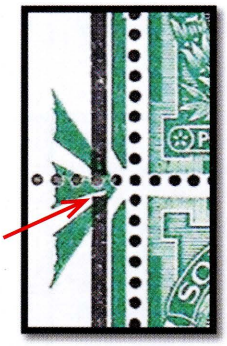
i. The gap between the interior jubilee lines.



Issue 1: Gap 2.5mm

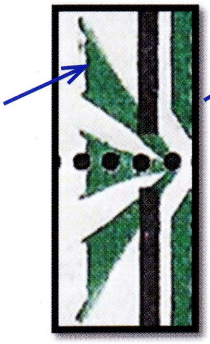


Issue 2: Gap 1.5 mm



Issue 3: Gap 1.5 mm

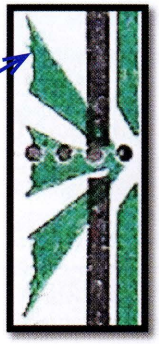
ii. The Left edge of the Arrow



Issue1: Irregular



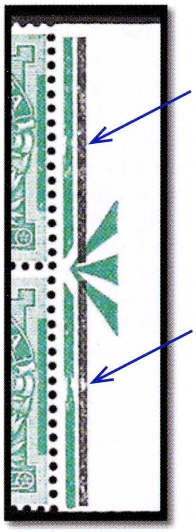
Issue 2: Straight



Issue 3. Irregular

Right Arrow

i. External jubilee line



Issues 1 and 3. Two areas of narrowing.



Issue 2. No narrowing

ii. Row 11/12. Dot inside left horn.11x7



Issue 1. Row 11/12. Dot inside left horn.

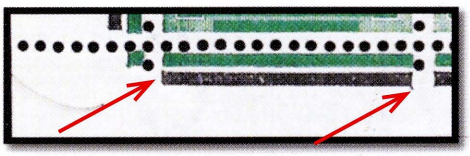
Bottom Left Corner

i. Row 20/1: Small dot in the 'S' of 'SUIDAFRIKA' in Issues 1 and 3

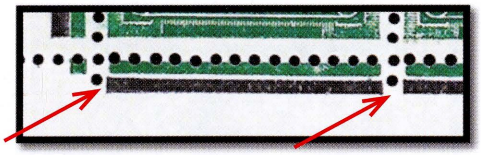


Issue 1: Row 20/1: Small dot in 'S' of 'SUIDAFRIKA'

ii. Row 20/1: Interior jubilee line.



Issue 1: Row 20/1: Interior jubilee line. Extension at the bottom right corner. Short bottom left corner



Issue 3: Row 20/1: Interior jubilee line. No extension. Splayed left end.

ii. Exterior jubilee line. Row 19/12.



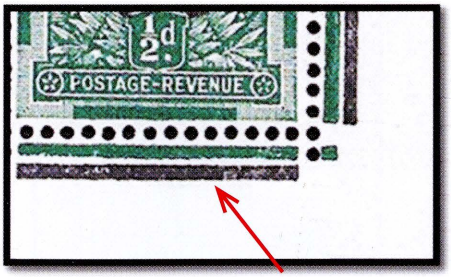
Issue 2. No dent in exterior jubilee line.



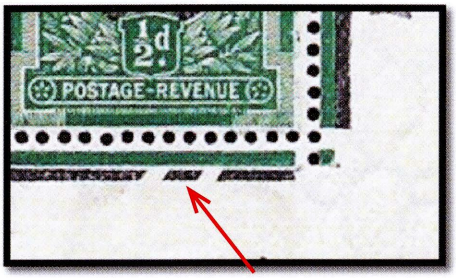
Issue 3: Dent in exterior jubilee line.

Bottom Right Corner

i. Interior jubilee line. Row 20/12



Interior jubilee line. No break. Issue 1.



Two breaks. Issues 2 or 3

Note the two breaks in the interior jubilee line Row 20/12 confirming Issue 2 or 3.

References

1. S. J. Hagger RDPSA (Ed). *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 – 1961.* PFSA (1986). p35.
2. S. P. Naylor RDPSA. SASSC newsletter, Number 188, (May 1977). pp5-9.

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by Moira Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society

MEDICINAL PLANTS

It was sad to read in the *Sunday Times* newspaper, an obituary for Margaret Roberts – the doyenne of herb cultivation in South Africa. She was a qualified physiotherapist, who also became an expert in the medicinal properties of plants; her son suffered from asthma, which prompted an interest in herbal remedies and cures. However, always mindful of her medical background, she propounded alternative remedies as complementing orthodox medicine, not replacing it. The newsworthy tribute paid to "the first lady of herbs" caused me to reflect on the wide variety of postage stamps that depict medicinal herbs and plants.

I was amazed to learn that there are about sixty different plants that claim to relieve asthma - I wonder which of them Margaret Roberts tried. *Tussilago farfara*, commonly known as Coltsfoot, being just one; the name derived from the heart-shaped leaf (Fig.1). According to a catalogue of "nature's miracle plants" Coltsfoot is a tried and tested remedy for many upper respiratory ailments - coughs, colds, bronchitis, pleurisy, emphysema and asthma. The Czechoslovakian stamp that features Fragrant Valerian - *Valeriana officinalis* (an anti spasmodic with a calming effect on nervous conditions) is part of a set which also illustrates the various tools, measuring instruments and containers that are used by herbalists in the preparation and storage of the plants (Fig.2).



Fig.1: Drinking an infusion made from the leaves and flowers of the Coltsfoot plant relaxes the tissues in the lungs.

Another stamp that highlights the chemical extraction aspect of the herb is one from Pakistan which depicts the Fennel plant, *Foeniculum vulgare* - and laboratory equipment (Fig.3). The bulb can be eaten as a vegetable, while the seeds, crushed and infused in boiling water, aid digestive

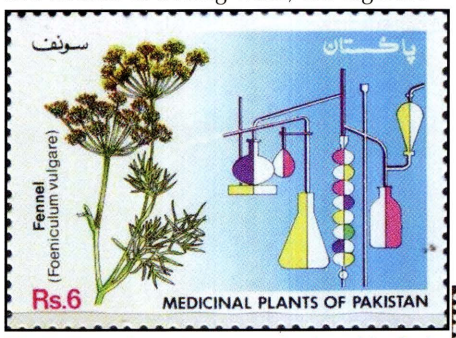

Fig.3: Fennel seeds are crushed and boiled in water or milk

problems such a.s colic.

Featured in the same set, is the Yarrow plant, *Achillea millefolium* (Fig.4), which claims to bring down high blood pressure and prevent thrombotic conditions. Dried, infused and drunk as a tea, it apparently acts by dilating the peripheral blood vessels, although your heart specialist may raise his eyebrows at this claim.



Fig.4: The Yarrow plant apparently dilates blood vessels.

Closer to home one of our TBVC states, the Transkei, depicted indigenous medicinal plants used for centuries by traditional healers, on a set of six stamps (Figs.5 & 6). The African Wild Wormwood or *Artemisia afra* is dried and infused as an herbal tea for the treatment of coughs, influenza, pain and fever. *Cotyledon orbiculata* is a succulent called Iphewula found in the Karoo region; the shape of the leaf giving rise to its common name of Pig's Ear. When warmed, the leaves act as an





Figs.5 & 6: Margaret Roberts was an expert in the medicinal uses of our local indigenous plants.





Fig.2: The traditional method of grinding dried plants is with a mortar and pestle.

effective poultice for boils, corns, warts and abscesses.

Fresh, menthol-smelling medicinal plants have to be from the mint family. To name but a few varieties - spearmint, curled mint, water mint, apple .



Fig.7: Fragrant Peppermint

mint, pennyroyal and peppermint, *Mentha piperita* (Fig.7).

Well-known for its digestive properties, peppermint tea calms nervousness, helps with nausea, heartburn and stomach cramps and is a healthy substitute for tea and coffee.

Of course, not all medicinal plants have curative powers. Some, used incorrectly, pose a danger to health, while others are downright poisonous. Familiar to South African gardeners, is the purple bell-shaped flower Foxglove, *Digitalis purpurea* (Fig.8). One of its common names is Dead Men's Bells, a most apt description, as Foxglove contains glycosides extracted from the leaves, which is the active ingredient of the heart drug, Digitalis. One of the reference books claims that "even touching the plant with bare skin has been known to cause rashes, headache and nausea."

Fig.8: The beautiful but dangerous Foxglove.

Another dangerous medicinal plant is Henbane, *Hyoscyamus niger*, commonly known as Nightshade (Fig.9). The stamp looks quite attractive but from the description of the plant, it sounds like a ghastly noxious weed - 'brown, spindle-shaped rootstock, a dirty-green stem, dull yellow or beige flowers with purple veins and bases, and having a fetid odour'. Because Henbane is poisonous, it is mainly used externally; oil extracted from the leaves relieves rheumatism and earache.



Fig.9: In the play Hamlet, *the King of Denmark, Hamlet's father, is poisoned by having Henbane poured into his ear. It has been suggested that "perhaps he had complained of an earache," thus affording his assassin a golden opportunity.*

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Your school-going children will be able to tell you what the plant Mandrake is, *Mandragora officinarum* (Fig.10). It was recently made famous in the Harry Potter books for its supposed restorative powers. It is also a member of the Nightshade family and is a most peculiar looking plant with a large, craggy, brown root that sometimes resembles the upper half of a human body. In ancient times it was used as an analgesic and narcotic and for aiding fertility and is even mentioned in Genesis in the Bible, 4,000 years BCE.



Fig.10: Cancel for the European Anesthesiologists Congress showing the narcotic plant Mandrake.

Talking about children, my octogenarian father tells the story of how, during the freezing winters in Vryburg where the family lived, each sibling wore a muslin drawstring bag tied around their necks, in which their German mother had sewed inside a head of Garlic, *Allium sativum* (Fig.11). This was supposedly to keep colds and flu at bay – maybe the smell kept everyone at bay, including classmates who might have been suffering from infectious influenza. The juice extracted from the Garlic bulb is touted as a cure for chronic bronchitis, as well as alleviating a variety of digestive and intestinal problems, and even lowering high blood pressure.



Fig.11: One herbalist wrote - echoing my dad's sentiments - "the problem with Garlic is that when you use it, you inherit the smell along with the benefits!"

You may have heard on the news just recently that the High Court in Cape Town has ruled that adults may now cultivate, possess and use Marijuana, *Cannabis sativa* (Fig.12) – in the privacy of their own homes, which may result in legalization of the drug within the next few years. The active ingredient THC – *tetrahydrocannabinol* – is found in resins located in the upper leaves, and flowers of the female plant. Smoking dagga is of course known for its euphoric 'high', but it is also claimed that using the oil of the plant medicinally, alleviates the side-effects of some cancer treatments - nausea, loss of appetite, pain and depression.



Fig.12: If Marijuana is legalised in SA, will it be taxed?



Fig.13: Peruvian bark and flowers

Finally, let us end with a celebration of a miracle drug – Quinine, which derives from Peruvian bark, *Cinchona succiruba* (Fig.13). The story goes that in about 1625, during the time of the Conquistadores, a feverish Spanish soldier was left to die on the banks of a lagoon in Peru. Being thirsty, he drank water from the lagoon and surprisingly, survived his ordeal, even though the liquid was extremely bitter from the bark of trees leaching into the water. The Viceroy of Peru - the Count of Cinchon - began using the tree bark for the effective treatment of malaria and Jesuit priests soon brought it back to Europe, naming the drug after him. Today quinine still provides preventative medication for the treatment of malaria – just one of the millions of medicinal plants, herbs and trees that nature offers for the benefit of all humankind.

REFERENCES: • Wikipedia. • *Sunday Times*, 12 March 2017. • *The Herb Book*, John Lust. • *The Holistic Herbal*, David Hoffmann. • *Growing Herbs in South Africa*, Anne Machanik. • Postage stamps from Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Ireland, Israel, Pakistan, Rwanda, Transkei and USA

Another item from the Arrest of King Dinizulu in 1907

by Jim Findlay RDPSA,
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

In *The South African Philatelist* February 2017 issue, Roger Porter gave a very concise and detailed record of the 1906 Rebellion in Natal by certain Zulu chiefs and the mobilisation and deployment of troops in this campaign. The Durban Light Infantry was one of the regiments mobilised for this uprising.

After this campaign, there was still discontent amongst the Zulus and the Natal Government decided to arrest King Dinuzulu ka Cetshwayo in December 1907. Again, this arrest of King Dinizulu ka Cetshwayo is described by Roger Porter in *The South African Philatelist* April 2017 issue. The Durban Light Infantry was again mobilised and on 2 December 1907 the regiment entrained at Durban for Melmoth.

The cover seen here is from Cpl. I.W. Nolan, a member of the Durban Light Infantry, posted at Melmoth during this campaign. The pencil illustrations on the cover were done by Cpl. Nolan. He served with distinction to become Lt. Col. I.W. Nolan, VD, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Durban Light Infantry in 1936.

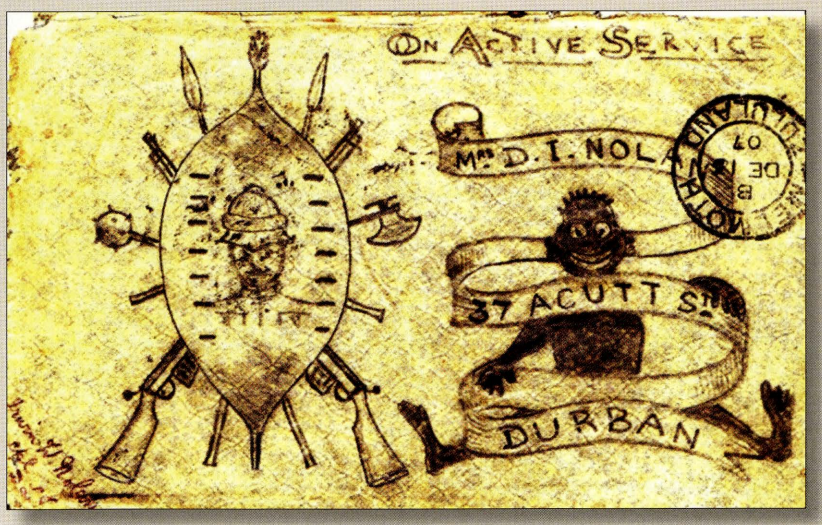

Fig.1: A cover illustrated and written by Cpl. Nolan and posted at Melmoth during the deployment of the Durban Light Infantry tasked with the arrest of King Dinizulu ka Cetshwayo.

References

- Martin, A.C. (1969), *'The Durban Light Infantry'*, Vol.1, published by the Headquarter Board of the Durban Light Infantry.
- Porter, R. (2017), *'The 1906 Rebellion'*; *SA Philatelist*, Vol.93, 1 (pages 12-17).
- Porter, R. (2017), *'Arrest of King Dinizulu ka Cetshwayo, December 1907'*; *SA Philatelist*, Vol.93, 2 (pages 48-49).

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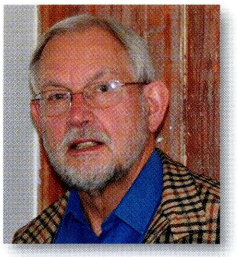
South African Stamp Issues

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle



Firstly: additional information missing from the February 2017 edition of *The SA Philatelist.*

• 21 October 2016 – SOUTH AFRICAN BIOSPHERES

Printing sheet size: 500 x 706mm comprising eight sheetlets arranged in four rows of two

• 31 October 2016 – 40th IHF WORLD HOSPITAL CONGRESS

• 24 November 2016 – SMILE SOUTH AFRICA ! ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS

These two issues were printed together on a printing sheet of size 706 x 605mm comprising 14 miniature sheets of EACH issue arranged in four rows of seven. The 'Smile SA' sheets appearing at the top of the sheet and the 'Hospital Congress' sheets, below a gutter, printed sideways.



• 9 November 2016 – SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS (Part 2)

Denominations: 6 x Standard Postage (R3.90)
Designer: Koos van der Lende, depicting the following parks:
Top row 'Marakele' (North West) and 'Agulhas' (Southern Cape);
Middle row 'Mapungubwe' (Limpopo) and '/Ai-/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier' (N Cape);
Bottom row 'Namaqua' (N Cape); and 'Tankwa Karoo' (N & W Cape).
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 66 x 26.5mm.
Gum: Self adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 166 x 152mm comprising the 6 different designs arranged in 3 rows of 2.
Quantity: 15,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8496 (blue), 8497 (red), 8498 (yellow) and 8499 (black).
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 8mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands in 'L' shape along left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Printing sheet size: 650 x 516mm comprising nine sheetlets arranged in three rows of three.
First Day Covers: Nos. 8.100 and 8.101 of standard size , 1,000 of each were produced of which 300 were serviced.
Canceller: No. 8.89 – 'Springbok / 09.11.2016'.
Note: this issue only became available from Philatelic Services during April 2017.

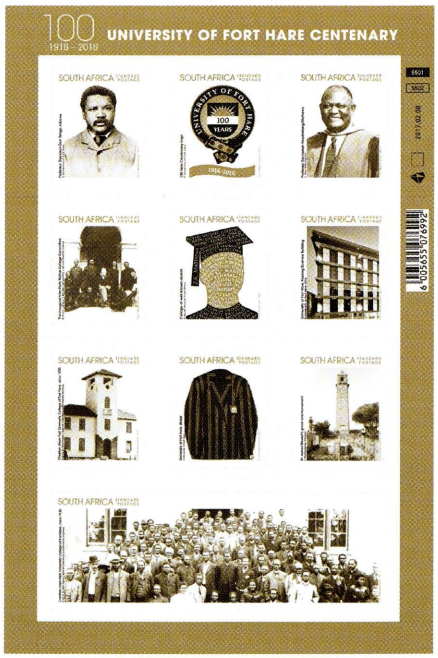
• 2 December 2016 – SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ROUTES

Originally planned to coincide with the 21st Route Development Forum on 18 September 2015 but was rescheduled for 2016. Went on sale at Philatelic Services at the end of February/beginning March 2017.
Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.90).
Designer: Paul Treleven with layout by Thea Clemons.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dumedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography and Pantone 877 Silver Hot Foil stamping and silver foiling.
Stamp sizes: 40 x 24mm, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm.
Gum: Tasteless Tropical PVA.
Quantity: 20,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Paper: Tullis Russell phosphor-coated gummed stamp paper, 103gms.
Perforation: 14 x 14.3 extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet.
Printing sheet size: 705 x 605mm comprising 24 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of four.
First Day Cover: Nos. 8.89 of standard size , 1,000 of each were produced of which 300 were serviced.
Canceller: No. 8.91 – 'O R TAMBO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT / 02.12.2016'.



• 8 February 2017 – UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE CENTENARY *Established as the South African Native College*

Denominations: 10 x Standard Postage (R3.90)
Designer: Cyril Maphumulo, depicting various images related to the history of the University.
First row: 1. Davidson Don Tengo Jabavu-teacher/preacher and politician; 2. Centenary logo; 3. ZK Matthews, first graduate of the university.
Second row: 1. The inaugural Inter-State Native College Committee; 2. A name collage of the well-known Alumni; 3. The modern Nursing Science College building.
Third row: 1. Christian Union Hall c1930; 2. The University Blazer; 3. Grave and Monument of Dr James Stuart (Principal of Lovedale College).
Fourth row: a single stamp depicting Delegates to the Inter-State Native Convention, c1930, in front of the Christian Union Hall, who had come to pray for the South African Native College.
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Two colour offset lithography, Pantone Black C and Pantone Gold 871 C.
Stamp sizes: Nine x 28.5 x 35.5mm, plus one 101 x 35.5mm, arranges in four rows as in illustration.
Gum: Self adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 129.5 x 197mm.
Quantity: 30,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8501 (black) and 8502 (gold)
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 8mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through right, left and bottom sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: 3mm yellow bands along right and bottom margins of each stamp.
Printing sheet size: Not yet seen.
First Day Cover: None but 1000 Centenary folders were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.102 – 'UNIVERSTY OF FORT HARE / 08.02.2017 • ALICE'



Note: this issue only became available at the launch at the University on 17 March 2017.

Acknowledgement:
The above information was collated from the electronic edition of *SETEMPE* (Vol 22 No 1 January-April 2017 and Newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group. The images shown above are of original artwork, supplied by courtesy of Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services, and may differ slightly from the issued stamps.

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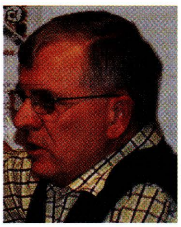

THE STORY OF PAN

by Pauw Steyl RDPSA,
George Philatelic Society

I imagine that the title of this article may cause a few puckered brows, but do continue reading, as I am sure that the Story of Pan *would be of great interest to anyone who loves postal history as well as the history of our country.*

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

On 2 June 1887, President Paul Kruger authorised the construction of the Delagoa Bay railway. In an earlier agreement in 1883 with Major Machado, it was stipulated that the Portuguese would build the section between Delagoa Bay and the border town of Komatipoort (183km), while the Transvaal Government would be responsible for the section between Komatipoort and Pretoria (383km).

The Nederlandsch Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatskappij (NZASM) did the construction and by 18 November 1890, the section between Bronkhorstspruit and Machadodorp was completed and opened to traffic. When the Portuguese ran into financial trouble the Dutch completed the section between Maputo and Komatipoort. On 8 July 1895, President Paul Kruger officially opened the Delagoa Bay Railway and Transvaal was now linked by harbour to the outside world (Fig.1).

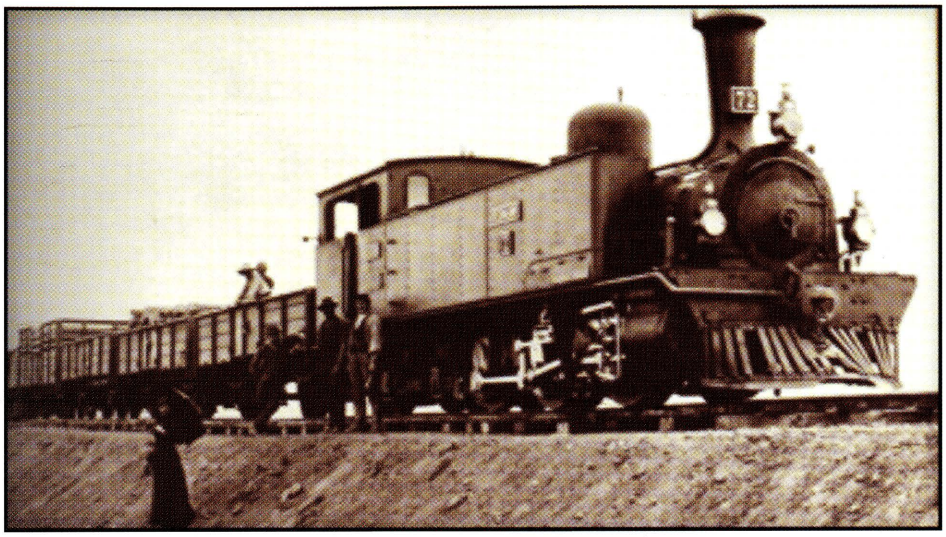

Fig.1. An early train as used on the Pretoria to Komatipoort line.

At the time there were 24 stations and three halts on the line between the Mozambique border and Pretoria. Pan Station was about 20 km to the east of Middelburg on the line to Komatipoort. The buildings, erected at all the smaller stations between 1892 and 1896 were of the same basic design and *"contained a waiting room, with an office and a storeroom, adjacent to the stationmaster's accommodation consisting of a living room, two bedrooms, kitchen and pantry. A rectangular, hipped corrugated iron roof without gables extended over the building forming covered verandas on two sides".*

Only two stations of this type, built in sandstone, have survived, at Pan and Clewer (Brugspruit); all the others were demolished. The builder of Pan Station was most likely M C A Meischke, one of the contractors of the NZASM. Pan got its name from the numerous water pans in the vicinity, but unfortunately by 1927 the pans had all dried up.

In 1902, Pan's circumstances changed dramatically when the Transvaal Government bought the farm Gemsbokfontein, in the district of Middelburg. The seller kept the mineral rights but the government could use coal and stone for domestic purposes. In those early years Pan comprised a small farming community, a railway station, a nursery and later a forestry station.

The nursery was established during November 1903 and a start was made to cultivate the best Australian hardwoods for the production of railway sleepers. An agreement was made with the Railways in 1904 to provide money for the planting of 400 acres of Eucalyptus trees. Intermediate profits would go to the Transvaal Government and the final crop to the Railways. However, problems prevailed with this arrangement and a new agreement was signed on 12 March 1913, according to which the South African Railways would receive all income and take responsibility for all expenses.

PAN'S POSTAL STORY

The Delagoa Bay Railway Line opened up a new postal route by train to the east and even abroad. Very little is known about the postal affairs of Pan, but fortunately a relative of mine, Hennie Steyl, gave me a few postcards, all addressed to the Pan Forestry Station. Hennie had been the Forester at Belfast when Pan Forestry Station was placed under the jurisdiction of Belfast in 1983 and he wrote a short history about the Pan State Forest. During his research, he visited the office building of the Pan Forester and, in the loft, he found these postcards, which form the basis of my story.

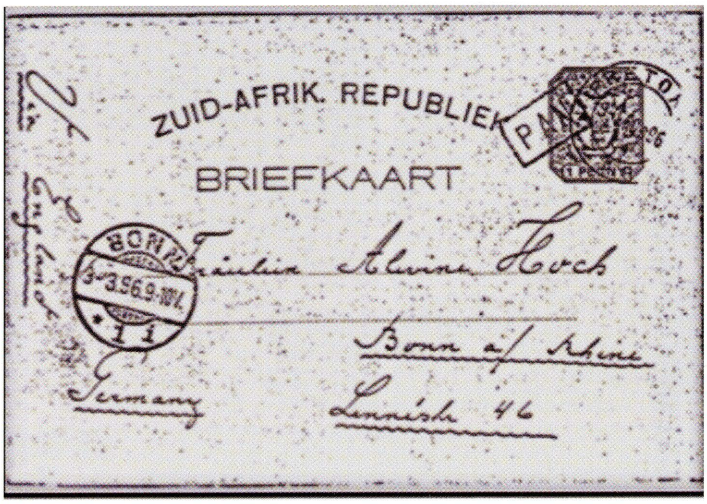

Fig.2: 8 February 1896 - Boxed hand-stamp on letter card posted from Pan via Pretoria to Bonn, Germany. (Letter card only available in black and white, (tinting by author)

Before the official opening of the railway line, the duties of the postal agent formed part of the job description of the stationmaster. A Rail Postal and Telegraph Agency (RTO) was opened at Pan Station during January 1895. The residents of Pan now had the facility of posting and receiving letters and buying stamps and post cards. At first, the postal agent had no canceller at his disposal to cancel outgoing mail. He thus used the 16mm x 9mm boxed station handstamp (Fig.2), designed for administrative purposes such as on consignment notes, telegrams etc. Pan is recorded as one of

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the stations that, on occasion, used their 'identification' handstamp as a canceller on postal material, usually struck in black but also recorded in blue. It was however not a postmark.

The postal agency was transferred to Pan on 15 September 1902 and the 'new' postal agency was issued with an almost identical 25mm date-stamp. The only difference was that the letters R.O. (Fig.3) were replaced by TVL (Transvaal) at the base (Fig.4). In 1909 the agency became a Post and Telephone Agency (PTA), but for some or other reason, was transferred back to the station in 1913.

For the next 10 years the inhabitants of Pan had to do their postal business at the little station building (Fig.5). According to Putzel, the Post and Telegraph Agency was for the last time transferred back to the Pan Post Office on 23 August 1923, and for the following 46 years rendered postal services to the Pan community. On 14 July 1969, the Pan Post Office closed its doors for the last time. A Telegraph and Telephone Office was still available until 4 April 1972, when it too was permanently closed.

The question is, to what place was the postal agency transferred every time it was moved from the station? Due to the sparse information available it is difficult to say for certain and I can only express an opinion. In those early years there must have been very few eligible people at Pan who could act as a postmaster or postal agent and I would guess that through the 74 years of its existence, the postal affairs of Pan were administered by the offices of the Stationmaster or State Forester or perhaps by the storekeeper of the community. The foresters who were on duty at Pan when the post office or postal agency was not situated at the railway station were: GI Imrie (1918–1928), WH Boshoff (1928–1951), JJ Burger, (1951–1956), JP Mynhardt (1956–1968) and HJ van der Merwe (1968–1969).

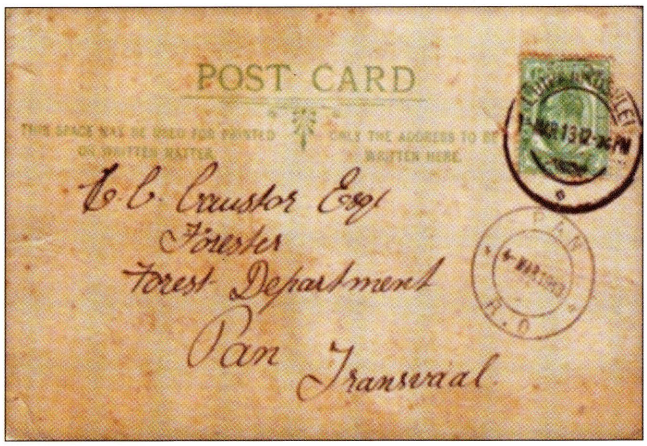

Fig 3: 1 March 1913 - Post card sent from one GH Fisher from the Post Office Luipaardsvlei to the Forester at Pan in connection with an order for fruit trees, wooden droppers etc. The agency used a 25mm DC date-stamp with the letters R.O. (Rail Office) at base.

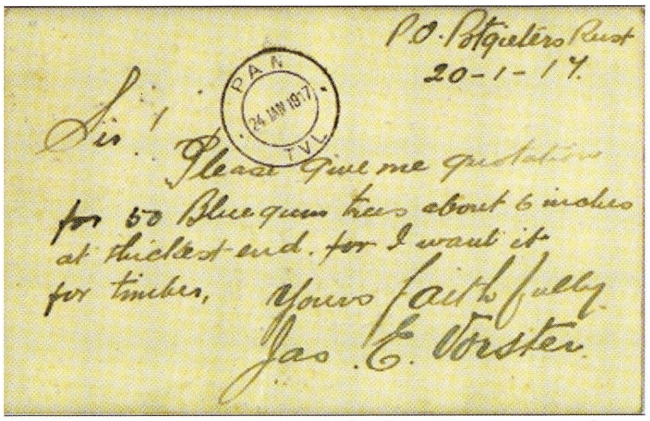

Fig.4: 20 January 1917 - Order from Potgietersrus for 50 Blue gum trees. Note TVL at the base of the cancel.

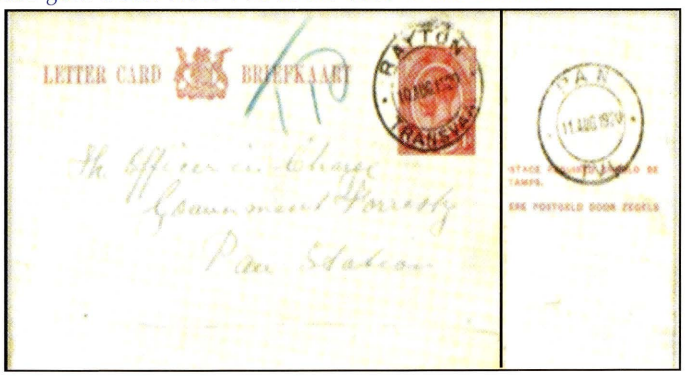

Fig.5: A 1d Letter Card dated 10 AUG 1920 posted at Rayton to the Government Forester at Pan.

As the Letter Card rate had been increased to 1½d, this 1d card was taxed double the deficiency i.e. 1d, endorsed in manuscript.

Sources:

- Seeba, Werner K: *Postal Agency Pan* (Station), Middelburg District. *Transvaal Philatelist*.
- Steyl, H J: *Pan - Staatsbos 1902 - 1985* (Kort Geskiedenis), November 1985 – Unpublished.
- Wigmore, M: Personal Information

Internet information:

- Railway line between Maputo and Pretoria... Mpumalanga Province Freight Data Bank – www.safari.co.za
- Dudley Aitken – Guerilla Warfare, October 1900 – May 1902: Boer attacks on the Pretoria-Delagoa Bay Railway Line. samilitaryhistory.org
- The Boer Wars - Chronology 1899 - 1902. Second Boer War www.boer-war.com/Battles 1899-1902
- Pan (South Africa) www.gazetteering.com/africa/south africa/mpumalanga...pan



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Society News

STAMP FAIRS:

*All **SAPDA** run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:

2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za
Directions: From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. Contact Kenny Napier: 083 4440249 mail: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

- KZN STAMP FAIR:

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873,
email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- BLUFF STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey
Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468
email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za

- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:

Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. *As usual, a number of dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc.* **Meeting dates for 2017:** 17 Jun (auction day), 1 Jul, 12 Aug, 2 Sept (auction day), 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). (Note: All on the 1st Saturday of the month except 17 June - 3 Saturday & 12 Aug - 2nd Saturday.) If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair and please mark it clearly with your details.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

14 June	Grand Challenge Match
12 July	Open Class Exhibit Evening
9 August	One Frame Evening
13 September	Annual Auction
11 October	Favourite Cover/s
8 November	Second Competitive Evening
6 December	President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month , except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*
Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join. *Contact:* Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr,
Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme for 2017 :

Jun 21	: Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
Jul 19	: Foreign & Stamps as art (new theme)
Aug 16	: Southern Africa
Aug 30	: 5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 20	: Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 18	: My favourite (Maximum of one frame) and thematics
Nov 15	: Inter-society quiz, invited exhibits
Nov 29	: 5th Wed - Festive Function

Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel/ Woburn Ave, Benoni, at 14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests *Contact*: Jimmy Mitchell via email; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome.
For further information contact: Chris Carey
083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374 - *Chairman* or Ian Walker, *Secretary.* Tel: 011 4721161
email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za Meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius Street, Weltervreden Park.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
- *Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393*
- *Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927*

Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark @ 10:00. Klein maar baie aktiewe en produktiewe groepie lede wat gereeld bywoon; konsentreer veral ook op tematiese en oop versamelings. Nuusbrief '*Die Posduif*' verskyn elke maand.

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every last Tuesday of the month, *Contact:* Peter Gutsche, PO Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise amongst them.

Smalls

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

WANTED: Kindly let me know if you have Local Post stamps for my collection. The Norton-Lathrop area in California is of special interest. *Contact:* Mervyn Wood at mervwood @ global. co.za

EXCHANGE: Italian / Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

EXCHANGE: From Switzerland, a 34 year old. Topics include Monarchs, Scouts, Pope, Olympic Games, World Expo, Christmas, New Year.
Contact: Dennis Buob. Kugelgasse 4.CH – 9000 St.Gallen.Switzerland. asterix4051@gmail.com

International Exhibitions

	BANDUNG 2017	BRASILIA 2017	PRAGA 2018	MALAYSIA 2018
Venue:	Bandung, Indonesia	Brasilia, Brazil	Prague, Czech Rep.	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Date:	03 to 07.08. 2017	24 to 29.10. 2017	15 to 18.08. 2018	10 to 16.12. 2018
Commisioner:	TBA	Emil Minnaar RDPSA will be attending an Exco and will accept entries as well	Commissioner Emil Minnaar RDPSA	TBA

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for Programme details.*

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662. Andrew Mclaren 0737542856. 021 6844361 (work).

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gassprekers, ervaar praatjies/ demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting.

Besoekers altyd welkom. Visitors always welcome. Join us. Kom saam of kontak robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President*: Brian Franklin. email: info.fhps@info *Secretary:* Volker Janssen. **Website: www.fhps.info FHPS**

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510.
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Jack Visser 082 332 5353
Tel / Faks: 044 6903030
epos: jackvisser@telkomsa.net
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 6981074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 084 635 5884, *Secretary* : Rob Sinclair-Black 044 6337874 email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 francois@softchem.co.za

- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.

***MEETINGS** always on **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*

2017 meeting dates: 3 July, 7 Aug, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, (Venue unavailable 6/11/17), 30 October. *Please be advised the December President's evening - 29 November in the form of a supper and not on 4th* December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. ***Contact***: Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082. email davehmcwil@lantic.net
Secretary: J.Muller. Tel 043 721 0327.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. ***Contact***: Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Louise Oswin Residence, 1 Beach Road Southport 4230. PO Box 228. Anerley 4230. *Meetings*: 3rd Saturday of the month at 14h00. *Contact:* Noel Lavery: 039 695 1642, Cell 082 440 5501. email noel@accessweb.co.za
Secretary: Louise Oswin. Tel 039 681 3265 cell 079 505 6044 email: oswin@telehost.co.za

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 28 June, 26 July, 30 Aug, 27 Sep, 25 Oct, 29 Nov.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za
PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS, Durban, Meets at the German Club, Barnham Road, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every second Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/ coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com
Secretary: Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za
Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za Bev McNaught-Davis, telephone: 031 904 1522 or 081 270 2873.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
The Thematics Group meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. Venue: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie. ***Secretary:*** Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283.
email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.
Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer
Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager
Janet Kimmince - Membership
Graham Bruce - Librarian
Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian
Val de Jager - Catering Officer

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are now held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
Contacts : *Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kawecki (Vice-President) 082 968 6888 Email zeptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162*
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Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

BOFEX 2017 running smoothly with 41 entries after five withdrawals, however - please note date change: Friday 14th to Saturday 15th July'.

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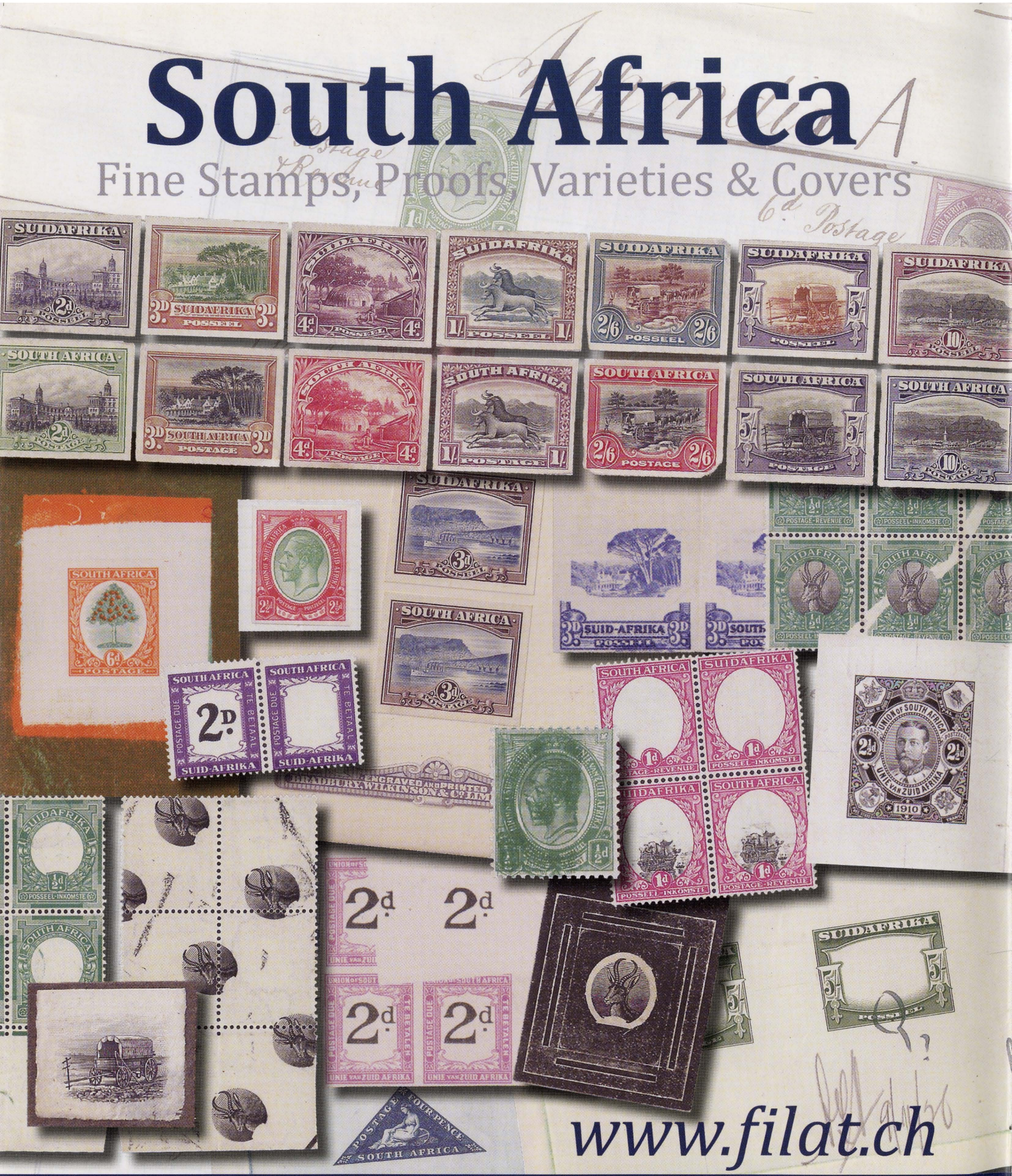

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The South African Philatelist

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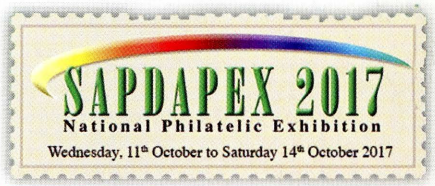

SAPDAPEX 2017.
The National Exhibition will be held at the Italian Club in Bedfordview from 11 to 14 October 2017. Entries in excess of 200 frames have been received.

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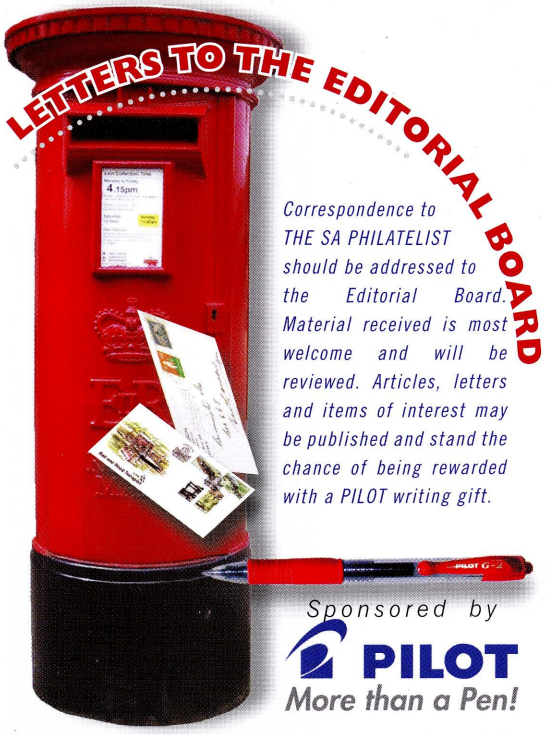

South African Post Office 1858 vs 2017

A friend sent me a copy of the *Weekend Argus* (Cape Town) dated 22 April 2017. It covered a number of historical events one of which I have transcribed: "April 27, 1858.

The Post Office

We have received several letters complaining of the dilatoriness exhibited by the Post Office. One of the Mercantile Community says he called at the Post Office a quarter of an hour after the port-boat had landed the mail bag, and asked if there were any letters for him.

He was told the bag would not be opened for half an hour yet, and this when the last omnibus was leaving town. There was one small bag, and it might have been sorted in 10 minutes. It is painful to be continually publishing complaints of this kind."

And today we do not even bother to complain about the Post Office because we know nothing will be done. No change in 160 years!

Jim Findlay, RDPSA

Knysna Fires Affect Philately

In reply to a query from the Editorial board as to the welfare of our former colleague Chris Mobsby who now lives in Wilderness, we include an extract from his letter:

'The fires actually started very close to us here in Wilderness and we have been able to keep a check on them. We were very fortunate that the gale force winds were West to East and our house is to the South of the point where the inferno started. There are still areas that are smouldering and we haven't unpacked our suitcases or put away our garden hoses just yet. There was one philatelic tragedy as a result of the fires in George; Frank Friedman, whom you may know as the creator of an excellent gold medal award winning thematic exhibit on diamonds, lost everything, including his stamp collection when his house was completely wiped out in Knysna.'

(Ed: A sad loss to philately).

The Land of the Eskimo

The SA Philatelist June 2017, p 88.

I am referring to Chris Mobsby' article where he writes that Sondrestrom (Søndrestrøm) or Sondre Stromfjord (Søndre Strømfjord) means Big Fjord in Danish. It actually translates as Southern Current (or Southern Stream) Fjord. (I suppose there may also be a northern fjord which would be Nordre.)

It may be nit-picking, but once it has been stated it means Big Fjord, others may also wrongly refer to it in the future as such.

Thank you for all your interesting articles,

Regards, Siv Borgin,
Stellenbosch.

Editorial Board's choice
Winning Contributor

This issue's award of a **PILOT** pen goes to Francois Friend for his article on St Helena Forged Postmarks.

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

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The SA Philatelist

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- ***December*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017
- ***February*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018
- ***April*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018
- ***June*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018

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REPORT:

THE SPELLMAN MUSEUM & POSTAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

by Johan Joubert, AFV Pretoria

The American Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa hosted their annual Postal History Symposium on Philately and Postal History of SA, at Regis College Weston, Boston USA, on 4 May 2017.

Gawie van der Walt RDPSA was invited by Colin Fraser to speak on his collection of the Border War. Gawie had just returned from a world trip and had a medical operation directly following that trip and so was unable to accept the offer.

After serious deliberation, it was decided that Johan Joubert would attend the symposium and do the presentation on Gawie's behalf.

Johan prepared a Powerpoint Presentation; utilising the expertise and knowledge of Gerhard Kamffer and integrating some of his personal material to stimulate an interest in fellow philatelists on the subject of *The South African Border War: Including the Involvement of the Cubans 1966-1989.* Marius Whittle assisted with the graphics.

According to Johan, "The Symposium and Philatelic Show was a total overwhelming experience. The show was a buzz of excitement with 70 Stamp dealers and very interesting exhibits. The presentation went well."

Johan returned with new ideas and revived energy in Philately. He felt that he had the privilege of making new friends on this excursion. Tim and Candace Bartshe were their hosts in Boston and a wonderful new friendship has developed. Their hospitality was wonderful.

Other topics under discussion at the symposium included Peter Thy's (California, USA) *Postal History of Southern African Pioneers in World War II,* as well as *The Intersection of African Liberation and Philately in the Life of an Activist* by Ken Lawrence (Pennsylvania, USA). Tim Bartshe's *The NZASM (Transvaal Railroad)* (Colorado, USA). *The Philatelic Literature of Southern Africa* by Hugh McMackin (California, USA). *Provenance of Philately* by Colin Fraser (NY USA). *The Development of the Cape Eastern Frontier 1864-1910* by Guy Dillaway (Massachusetts, USA).

Johan and his wife Karen extended their trip to Bermuda to visit their daughter. It was an amazing experience to see their family after two years. They had the honour to walk in the footsteps of Boer POWs imprisoned there more than 100 years ago. Overall this was an unforgettable experience.



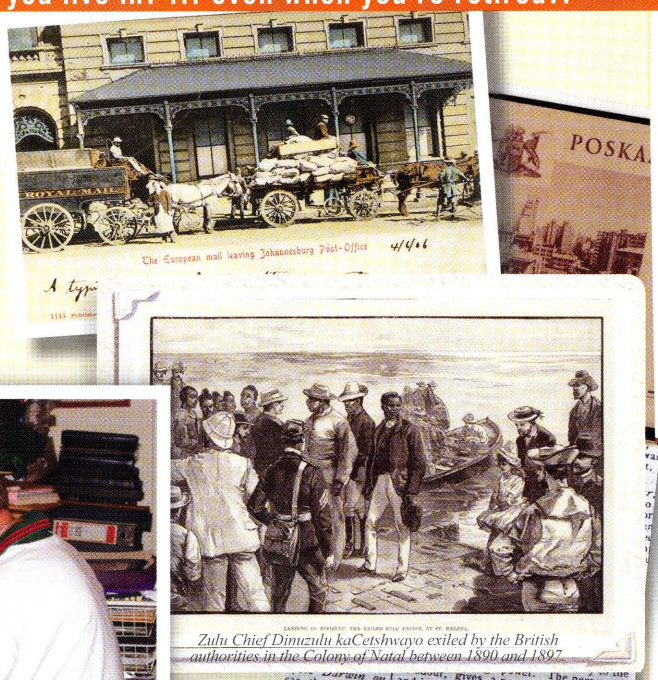
From L to R: Johan Joubert, Yamil Khouri, Peter Thy, Ken Lawrence, Colin Fraser, Guy Dillaway and Tim Bartshe. (Photo: Tim Bartshe)

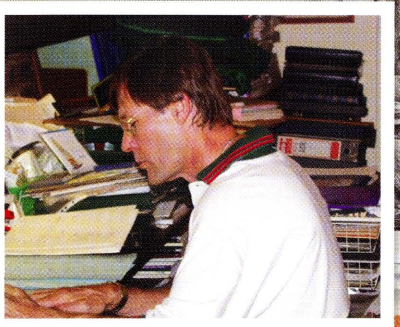
Do you want to get your spirit in touch with the history of your country or adopted country? Do you want to retain your sense of wonder about the world you live in? ... even when you're retired?!

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the stamps which would assist you in doing this and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value. But don't you want to go further ...want to link yourself to a process which offers you the ability to spell out to your offspring the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt?

Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately can do this for you. Further, it's the only segment which attracts non-collectors of stamps to have a close-up look. That makes your exhibit special. Half of your 'Open Class' exhibit could include key family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which turned your life around, even letters and documents from persons who similarly shared your losses and victories.

There are but a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness in your life, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.





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Philatelic Publishing: Tradition or Technology?



by Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

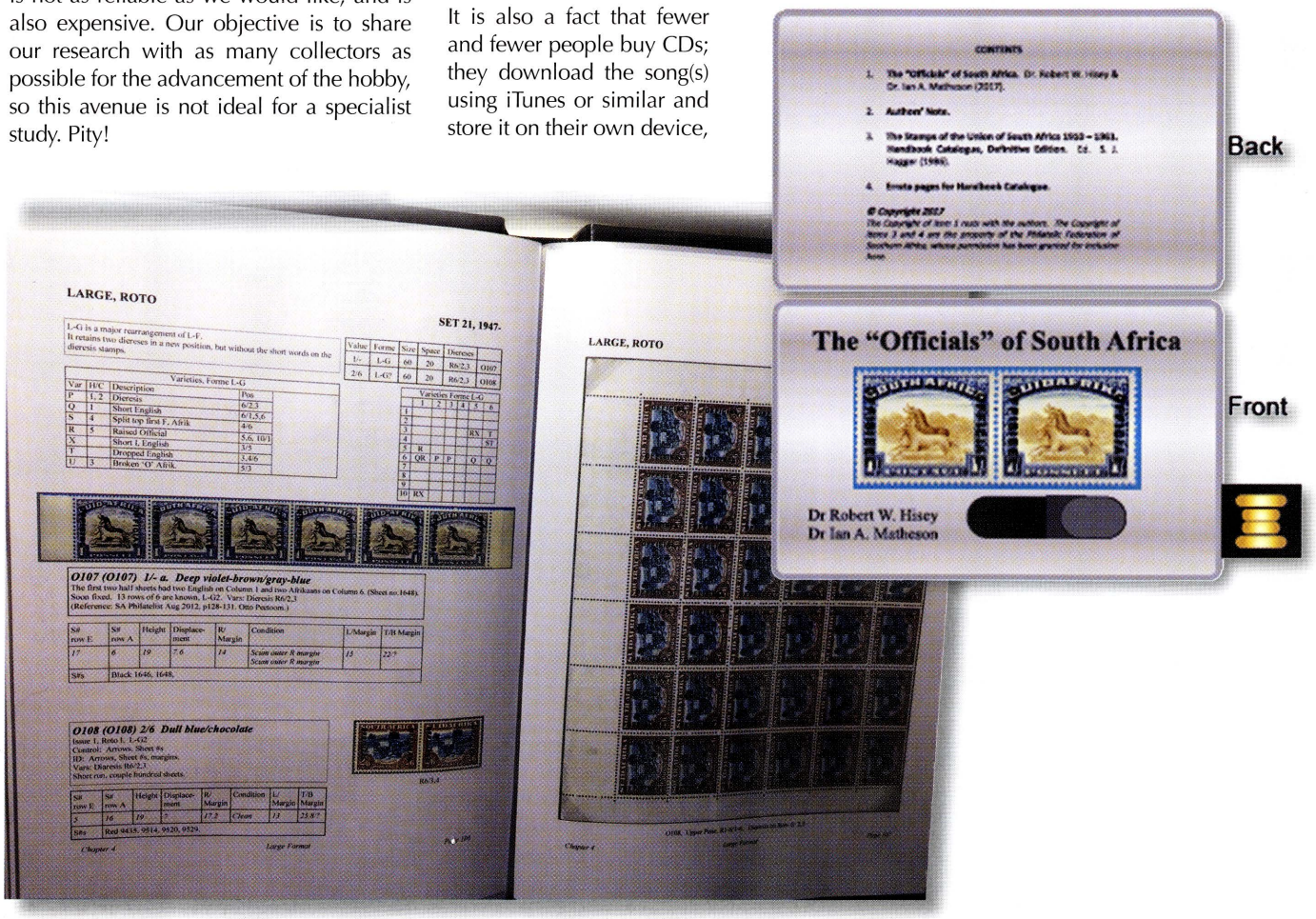
It is an unfortunate fact of life that a large proportion of today's stamp collectors are no longer enjoying the flush of youth. Technology is racing ahead of us and we are struggling to keep up. I speak to a number of collectors who do not use computers at all, who never pay an account by EFT or extract money from an ATM. This sector of our hobby would prefer to buy compact disks, write cheques and read real books until the end of time.

This was the scenario that faced my co-author and me when we decided to issue our publication on South African 'Officials'. The thinking process was an interesting one and I have been asked to share it in this short article.

- Every author would love to see his philatelic publication printed in life colours on high quality art paper, a weighty tome to grace any coffee table. However reality is different to this idealistic dream. Publication of such a book is a very expensive process. When the market is small (we are not Wilbur Smiths in this hobby), the price becomes even steeper. Automatically we reduce our sales. Distribution is the second challenge. Courier fees are expensive. Postal delivery is not as reliable as we would like, and is also expensive. Our objective is to share our research with as many collectors as possible for the advancement of the hobby, so this avenue is not ideal for a specialist study. Pity!
- The next scenario to be considered is to issue the book on a compact disk. This is attractive, as the storage space on a disk or DVD is large enough for almost any study. This was our next best option. It was then pointed out that today's computers are being produced without a slot to insert such a disk. CDs are becoming a thing of the past!
- Option 3 was to use the socket, which does exist on a modern computer, namely the USB port. However many flash drives are so small that no space exists to print information on title, authors, copyright information, etc. This information could be printed on a package but would easily get separated from the flash drive. The decision we took was a development of this, namely a larger flash drive in the format of a credit card. A new problem now presents itself. Such a product is not robust and will not tolerate abuse. We had to think this through. When in doubt, consult the youth.
- It was pointed out to me that many people do not buy books at all. They simply download an e-book to their tablet or Kindle and store it on their own device. On reflection, I realised that I had done almost the same when downloading language courses from the internet. It is also a fact that fewer and fewer people buy CDs; they download the song(s) using iTunes or similar and store it on their own device, an iPod, cellular phone or computer. The ultimate, modern solution would therefore be to make our book available for electronic download on payment of whatever fee we wished to offer it at. I am sure this option will become more and more widespread in the near future. However our collecting fraternity may not be ready for this yet.
- My recommendation is therefore that the credit card flash drive should be used to save the 'book' to one's own device rather than using the flash drive every time you want to consult the contents. If the files ever become corrupted or one wishes to load on to a new device, the process can be repeated.

Am I leading by example and using my electronic copy all the time? No way!

My real viewpoint is that Kindle is fine for a book that you read cover-to-cover, but a philatelic reference book is something else. I like to have bookmarks in several sections at the same time when I am doing my research, so I have ignored so many of my own rules. I have made a colour printout of the book and use it like a real traditional book. I suspect many others will adopt the same policy. The choice is yours: Tradition or Technology.



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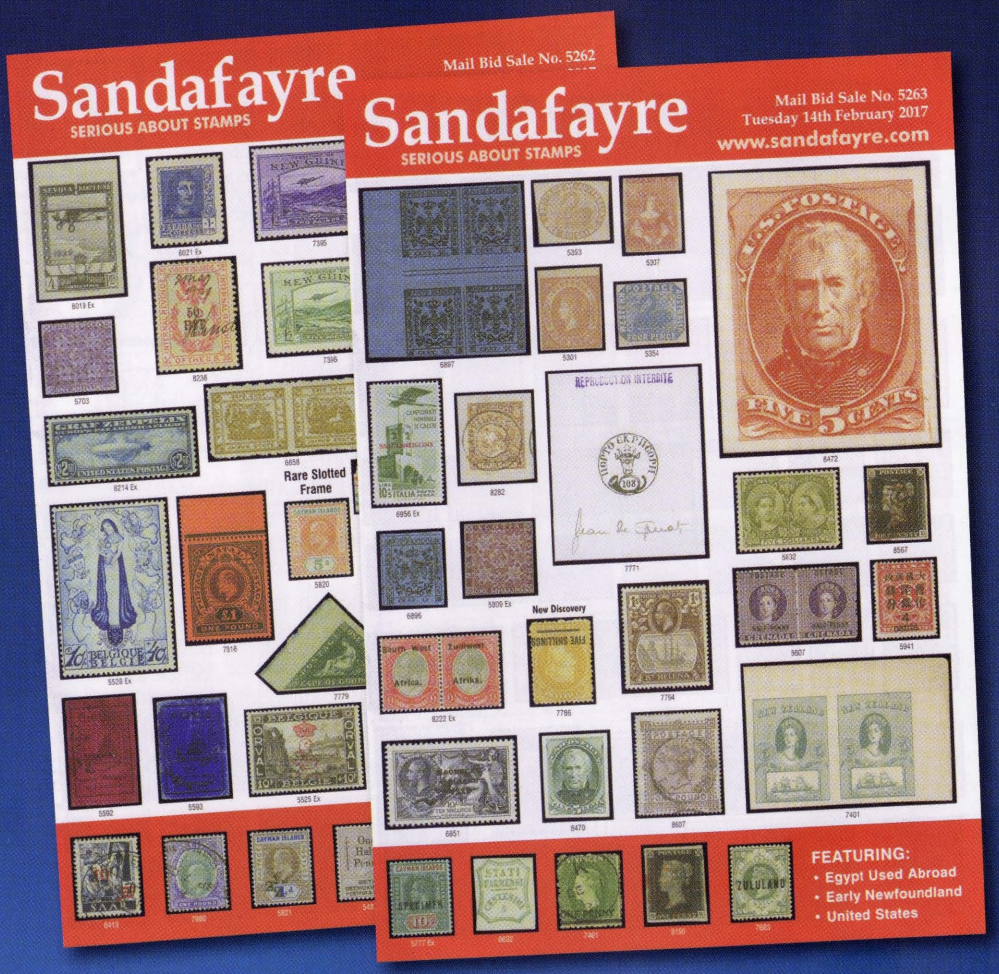

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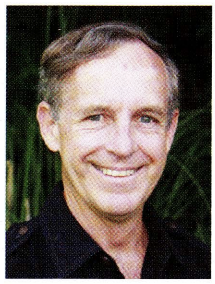

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za

A modern-day riddle

Recently one of my correspondents came across a 1988 note from the PO Clerk of Thistle Grove, shown in Figure 1. He provided some sleuthing insight for which I am grateful, as the Putzel postmark book shows two impressions of Evanross.

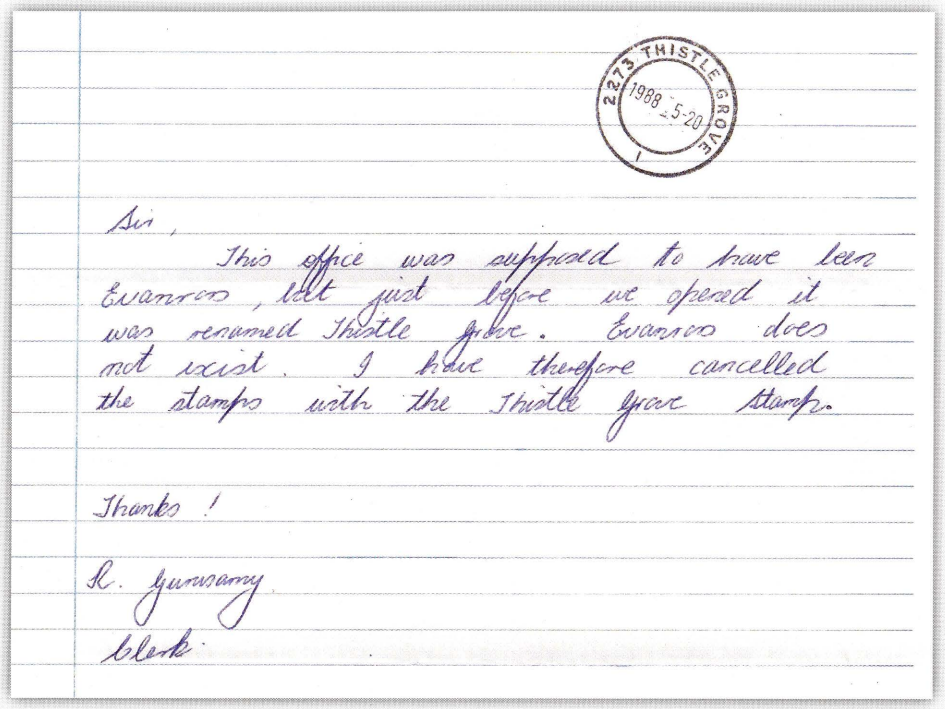

Fig.1: Note from PO Clerk of Thistle Grove that triggered this column (reduced to 65%).

The Putzel Encyclopedia Vol. 1 (published in 1986) indicated that according to the *PO Bulletin* Evanross opened October 1985 with Head Office Kinross. In the stop press section of Vol. 4 it was stated that this office closed on 2.6.1987. In the Encyclopedia Vol. 3 it was stated that Thistle Grove was opened on 2 June 1987, and still open (H/O Kinross). On impressions received from the PO Stores it was indicated that Thistle Grove was closed on 31.8.1993.

The puzzle continues, as the *1982 Postcode Book* records Evanross Postcode 2273 as a suburb, but not Thistle Grove. The *1986 Postcodes* lists Evanross as a post office, as well Thistle Grove, Evanross as a suburb, both with Postcode 2273. The *1991 Postcodes* only lists Thistle Grove as a post office, but from the *1996 Postcodes* neither name is listed, and postal code 2273 is not on the current electronic listing of the SA Post Office. Kinross is postal code 2270.

The only date stamps recorded for Evanross are two impressions taken from the PO Stores issue sheets shown in Fig.2. This is confirmed by a note in the *Postmarks Vol. 3*.

There are three date stamps and two registration marks recorded for Thistle Grove, as shown in Fig.3. Figure 3a is a relief canceller with separate date, which predates (4.5.1987) the recorded opening date by almost a month (*PO Bulletins* often did not provide a date, and the Bulletin date was used, which obviously would be after the fact).

This lends credence to the deduction in the note that the name change occurred at short notice. Figs.3b and c were taken from the PO Stores impressions, and although the one date is the following day after closure; evidently this sometimes occurred on the instruments returned to Stores. The earliest date of Fig.3b (counter 1) is 1989-01-07.

The provisional registration (Fig.3d) of a blank label and an office cachet was seen in 1989, and the registration cachet (Fig.3e) was seen used 1990/2.

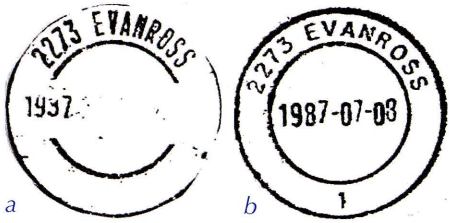

Fig.2: Postmarks of Evanross.

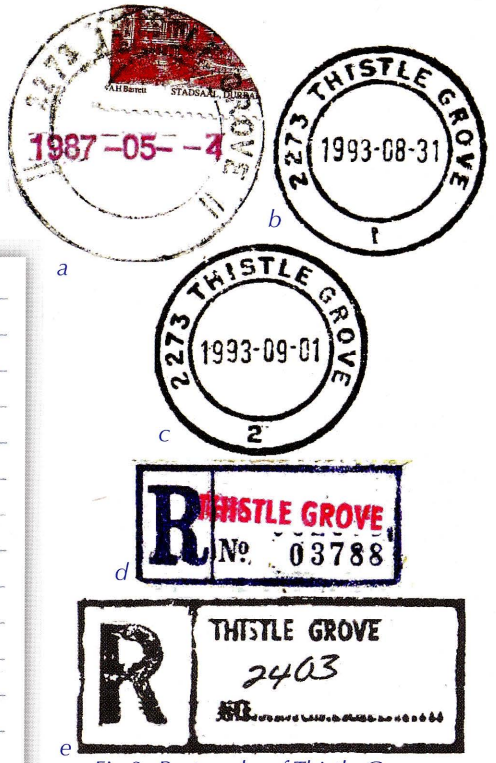

Fig.3: Postmarks of Thistle Grove.

With all the evidence the following is concluded:

- Evanross did not operate as a post office. It is hypothesized that the reported closure date was simply administrative as the office was reported opened and had to close in the records.
- Thistle Grove operated from 1987 to 1993. It appears as if this was a substantial office as it had two date stamps.

Readers may be able to add to this detective story by providing anecdotes of these post offices, and dates of postmarks and registration cachets.

Dainty new date stamp

The Polokwane region recently issued a new style self-inking date stamp shown in Fig.4. Several counter numbers have been seen. The fine engraving is beautiful, but it begs the question as to how long it will last. Let us wait and see.



Fig.4: New self-inking date stamp of Polokwane.

Hierdie rubriek bespreek weereens 'n moderne tameletjie. Daar was planne om Evanross te stig, maar dit is skynbaar op die nippetjie verander na Thistle Grove. Kom speel speurder - wie kan help met die redes en agtergrond? Die nuwe Polokwane datumstempel lyk pragtig met die nuwe afdruk, maar die vraag is hoe lank dit so gaan bly, want dit lyk nogal asof die self-ink stempels dikwels misbruik word. Moontlik wil streke soos die Wes-Kaap hierdie voorbeeld volg want reghoekige stempels op gebruikte seëls lyk maar nie so mooi as rondes nie.

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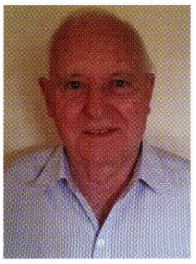
The Earliest Flown Stamp?



by Brigadier Richard Tilly, Pretoria Philatelic Society

(While the subject is wholly accurate from a historical South African point of view, the content is light hearted)



The Rhodesia 4d stamp

I recently read a book written by Colonel A. S. Hickman in two volumes called *Rhodesia Served the Queen*. The story is the part played by Rhodesian Forces in the Boer War of 1899 to 1902. Colonel Hickman served in the British South African Police and retired as Commissioner at the end of 1955 - he was an historian and author of note and his research was always cross referenced and corroborated in every detail. Towards the end of volume one, I came across a philatelic gem which got me thinking - which was 'the earliest flown stamp'?

Modern day allows one into the computer and the answer is at your fingertips in seconds. Which was the first Airmail stamp? The Italians issued an Airmail stamp in May 1917 and the Americans followed this in 1918 with the famous depiction of a JN-4 (Jenny) and later, the famous inverted Jenny. Austria in 1918, Sweden in 1920 and so on. Many countries experimented with balloons but the one certainty of a balloon flight is that you have no idea where you are going to land! The tests were inconclusive and were cancelled. None of the above helped me with my investigation, mainly because the incident in question took place some 17 years before the first Airmail stamp was flown and in fact it took place some three years before the Wright Brothers took to the sky.

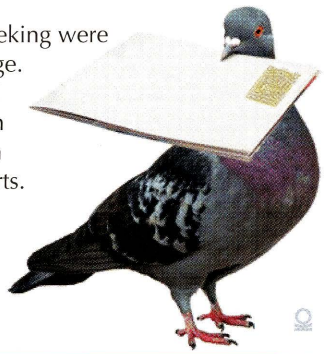
Clearly, I need to explain. The event took place at the siege of Mafeking. The Boers laid siege to the little town in one of many such events and in this case maintained it for close on seven months. Now the Boers were brilliant at fieldcraft and their marksmanship was second to none. However, laying a siege was not their strong suit. There were many: the most famous being Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking. None of them was a success. At night Mafeking resembled a colander as messages passed freely both ways. Mafeking was by far the longest siege (217 days) followed by Kimberley (124 days) and Ladysmith (118 days).

It became imperative that the siege of Mafeking was lifted before the British Forces attacked the Boer strongholds of Pretoria and Bloemfontein. The military plan for the relief of Mafeking was for two columns to undertake this; one from the South (Kimberley) led by Colonel Mahon consisting of mainly British Imperial troops from the Cape. The other from the north, starting in Bulawayo, was led by Colonel Plumer consisting primarily of Rhodesian troops bolstered by a Canadian battery of guns and a contingent of Queenslanders. These two columns eventually converged on Mafeking. They met at the little village Phitsane, eighteen miles from Mafeking and planned their attack on the Boer siege troops. As indicated earlier, the movement in and out of Mafeking was freely undertaken at night with intelligence agents, messengers and runners. On the night of 14 April a batch of documents arrived, together with a small basket containing two pigeons from Colonel Baden-Powell.

Colonel Jules Ellenberger, the resident Commissioner of Bechuanaland, who was along for the ride, was tasked with handling and encrypting messages. Towards sunset on 15 April Colonel Plumer handed Colonel Ellenberger a message to put into code and affix to one of the birds with instructions to release both birds at 6 a.m. on 16th. The message read: *"May 16th. Southern and Northern Columns combined advance towards Mafeking at 6a.m. today."* Colonel Ellenberger continues the story: *"I had no more gummed paper with which to affix the message to the bird's leg, but Colonel Nicholson, who had for some weeks been our leader's closest friend, happened to have on his person a 4d Rhodesian Stamp which he passed on to me, and it was from strips of this stamp that I secured the message to the bird's leg."* Ellenberger continues; *"At 6 a.m. on May 16th 1900, just as the columns started moving, I released the birds. Whether they were dazzled by the sun which was just peeping out, or whether they were taking their bearings, I cannot say they circled higher and higher and were still circling when I put my foot in the stirrup. I heard later that they had not reached Mafeking until after midday but am inclined to think that in the excitement which prevailed there on that day their early arrival had not been noticed."*

The columns approaching Mafeking were successful and relieved the siege. Colonel Plumer was appointed a Brigadier-General, the pigeon fouled the stamp but did get an extra spoon of grain for its efforts.

I submit this to have been the first stamp ever flown!





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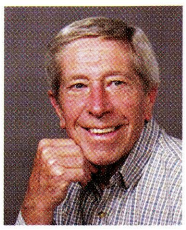

THE P.A. DOORNFONTEIN CORK CANCELLER

by Clive Carr, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

At the Kyalami Stamp Fair, in January 2014, when browsing for OFS material, I came across this OFS postcard (Figs.1&2) at the table of the late David Crocker, RDPSA.



Fig.1: Front.

Initially, it caught my attention because I wanted a used example of this shade of the 1d De La Rue postcard for my OFS postal stationery collection. It carried a much higher price than similar used cards, which I queried with David. He said it was because of its postal history significance and believed it was the postcard mentioned in Archie Batten's book on OFS Postal History. This got me looking at it more carefully.

Being mainly a stamp collector, I had not taken a keen interest in postal history. I knew it to be an interesting subject, so I bought the postcard, with the intention of doing some research into it and learning more about the postal history of the OFS.

My postal history reference material is very limited, but as a member of the Orange Free State Study Circle, I have access to their expertise and their Postmark book. This is an up-to-date eBook on OFS cancellers available to members on their website. It is based on the book similarly named, published in 1976, by A.G.M. (Archie) Batten RDPSA FRPSL.

Archie Batten was awarded the Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society London for his work *The Orange Free State - its Postal Offices and their Markings 1868-1910*. I believe he was also the first non-South African to be elected to the RDPSA in 1981.

In the Philatelic Centre in the Sandton Library I referred to his book, *The Orange Free State. Pages from a Postmark Collection*.

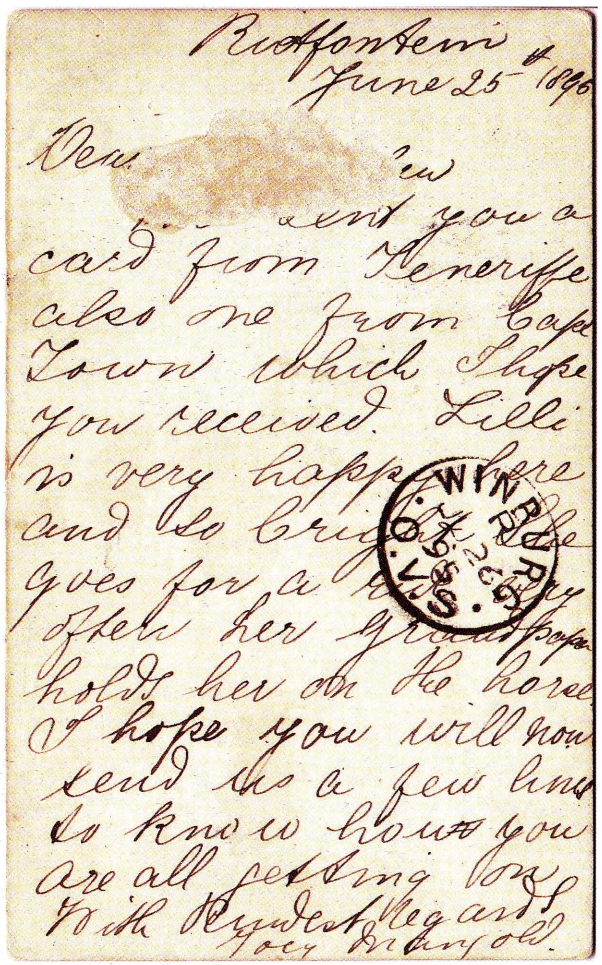

Fig.2: Reverse of card

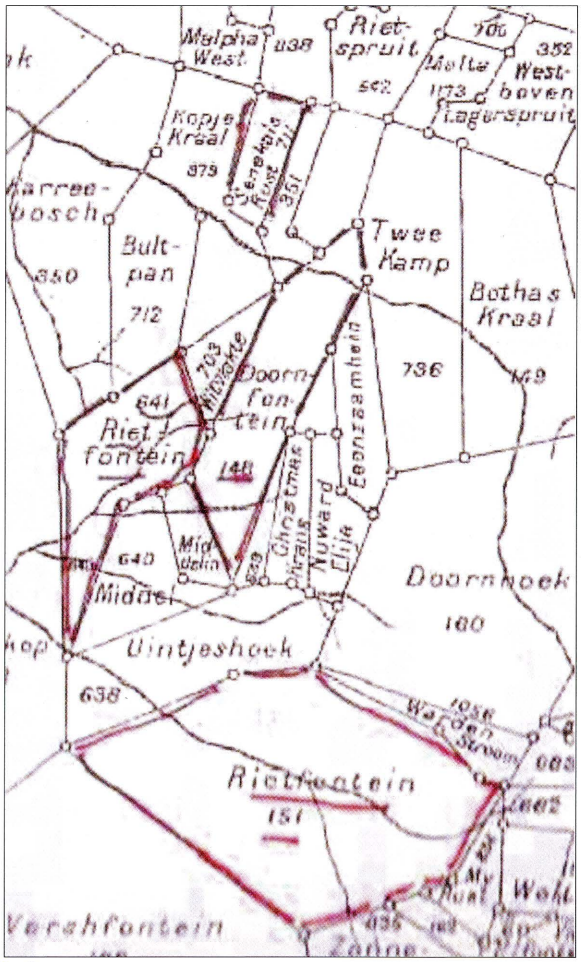

Fig.3

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It was published in 1983 in South Africa by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society, in recognition of Archie Batten's election as Honorary Life President of the Society.

This very postcard is illustrated in this book. The clearly obvious information is described pretty much as can be seen looking at the illustration of the front of the postcard. The 'cork' canceller he noted as, 'probably Rietfontein'. He mentions in the book, '*Very little is known of the origin or attributes of the so-called cork cancellers, but in the absence of contrary information it seems reasonable to attribute this example to Rietfontein (Winburg District)'.*

Postal Agency (P.A.) Rietfontein was not mentioned in this publication, so one must assume its true location was not known to him at the time. Noted as 'probably Rietfontein' was most likely prompted by the senders written address on the back.

To find out more, I sent scans of the front and the back (Fig.2) to Kevin Price in Australia.

Kevin is the Hon. Editor of the Study Circle Bulletins, compiler of the Postmark Book and very knowledgeable on the subject. There was an authoritative article in the February 2017 *SAP* by Kevin on the OFS 'POST-KANTOO' cachets.

Kevin confirmed that this was the postcard that resulted in the dumb cork canceller it carries being ascribed to P.A. Rietfontein. Surely this classification would never have been made if; both sides of the postcard had been carefully studied, the location of P.A. Rietfontein was known and the postal routes of the time were known. These factors and the dates on the postcard, would certainly have given rise to further investigation.

The writer of the postcard dated his message, 25 June, 1895. Both the Doornfontein and Winburg cancellers are dated 26 June, 1895. Knowing P.A. Rietfontein was in the Hoopstad district some 100 kilometres to the west of Winburg and P.A. Doornfontein 30 kilometres east of Winburg, prompted Kevin to query why mail from Rietfontein would pass through Doornfontein on its way to Switzerland via Winburg.

He believed there had to be another location named Rietfontein nearer to Doornfontein. He proved this by obtaining photocopies of a map of farms of the period (Fig.3) in the P.A. Doornfontein area. He obtained these from Richard Stroud, RDPSA (2015) and President of the OFS Study Circle. The first photocopies were supplied by the late Werner Seeba who owned the original large map of farms.

Stamps that make you SMILE

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

Episode 43 of: Errors on Stamps...



ARCTIC REINDEER

The Postal Administration for the French Antarctic Area issued a stamp of Fr2,50 for the definive series of native plants and animals on 1 January 1987. It shows a reindeer with impressive antlers.
The error is that reindeers do not exist in Antarctica but only in the arctic regions of the northern hemisphere like Northern Canada, Greenland, or Northern Scandinavia.



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LETTER FROM LONDON



by Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Summer has finally arrived, albeit intermittently, and philatelic pursuits are slowing down. Between late June and mid-September philately in the UK aestivates, as philatelic society meetings cease, auction houses become inactive and professional philatelists go on holiday.

It has been an interesting year, in spite of decreasing philatelic society membership.

In January the Royal Philatelic Society London was treated to a combined display of Fiji by David Alford and John Ray. This 52 frame presentation covered stamps and postal history. A wonderful Fiji Times Express one shilling stamp on cover and mint multiples of the early issues were highlights.

February brought the *'Postal Stationery of the Orange Free State'* exhibit of Mike Smith. Postcards were issued in the OFS from February 1884 and were initially limited to internal use and to the Cape of Good Hope. Though later permitted for general use; prior to 1892 they could only be sent to overseas destinations at the prevailing letter rate. The only recorded postcard to Stellaland before the Warren Expedition was shown, as were three of the five recorded examples with the *'News of the World'* crest overprint instead of the State emblem error. This error was due to an incorrect die having been inserted in the overprint plate.

'Great Britain Railway Station cancellations from 1840' was the subject of Bill Pipe's display in March. This extensive exhibit of every recorded office included a variety of types, rare usages and interesting covers. While these were over seven hundred such offices at various times, only seven remain in use today.

Quite different was an exhibit of *'South Australian Postal History, 1837-'91'* by Pat Grimwood-Taylor the next month. An impressive presentation of inland mail, as well as intercolonial and foreign classic covers, enhanced by imperforate issues and colourful combination covers. A Gold Escort cover from the gold rush mail caught the eye, as did a unique bagseal cover. Covers to Europe via the Cape of Good Hope were included. The rare Departmental usages were not neglected, with covers franked by A.G. - Attorney General, S.M. - Stipendary Magistrate, P.S. - Private Secretary and many more.

The auction houses also provided interest as usual. Argyll Etkins's February sale included a good Second Anglo-Boer War section. A 1900 British POW cover from Pretoria Prison to Kroonstad with a superb oval *'Cipier Gevangenis Pretoria, Z.A.R.'* censor cachet realised £1,300, against an estimate of £1,000. The same realisation was obtained for an entire from the *'Hospital Ship-Princess of Wales'* with an embossed Red Cross and contents, from Funchal to Scotland, expected to fetch £400. A beautiful Ladysmith Siege postcard franked with a Natal ½d and postmarked *'Army Post Office/3/MB/South Africa'*, addressed to H.M. *Hospital Ship Trojan* and estimated at £300, fetched £750.

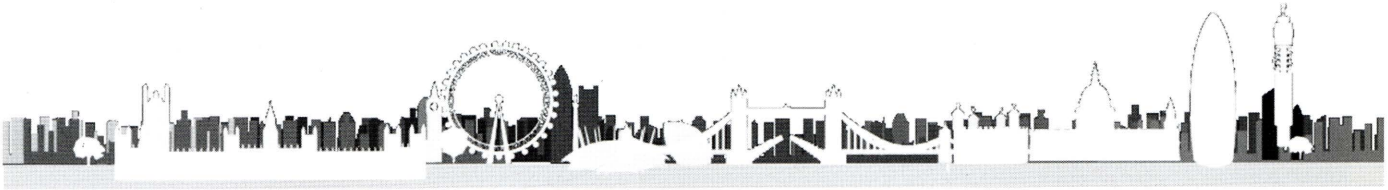
Spink sold a South African 1910 Opening of Union Parliament 2½d die proof in black for £1,200, a bit short of estimate. However, it was the South West African overprints that excelled. Two lower corner plate number pairs of the £1 red and green (SG12), estimated at £600 a piece, realised £4,000 each. While a lower right corner plate block of the 10/- value (SG 14) was sold for £2,100, against an estimate of £1,200. A mint plate block of the ½d value with one stamp showing 'outh' instead of 'South', estimated at £1,200, realised £1,900. An interpanneau block of four (SG 40) was sold for £1,000, though estimated at £300.

The April Grosvenor Auctions sale featured a 1920 Handley-Page cover at £1,100, estimated at £1,200. The unusual 1913 cover with 'AEROGRAM' and 'NO CHARGE FOR DELIVERY' wording was to have been used for a flight from Kimberley to Bulawayo and Salisbury on 31 August 1913. The aeroplane crashed at Kimberley prior to this and this very rare cover was used for surface mail from Kimberley to London. It is believed that this is the first ever cover to bear the word 'AEROGRAM'. Estimated at £400, it was sold



Fig.1: Orange Free State half penny postcard with 'News of the World' error of die. Stamp inverted - used at Bloemfontein on 10 Nov. 1894. Only recorded example on complete card.

Fig.2: 18 Au.1913. Part of 'Aerogram' cover used for surface mail from Kimberley to London. Originally intended for Kimberley/Rhodesia flight.



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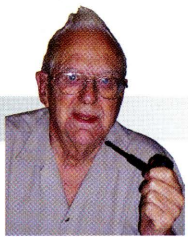

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON VALUE VERSUS RARITY

by M.J.H. Tonking RDPSA, South African Stamp Study Circle

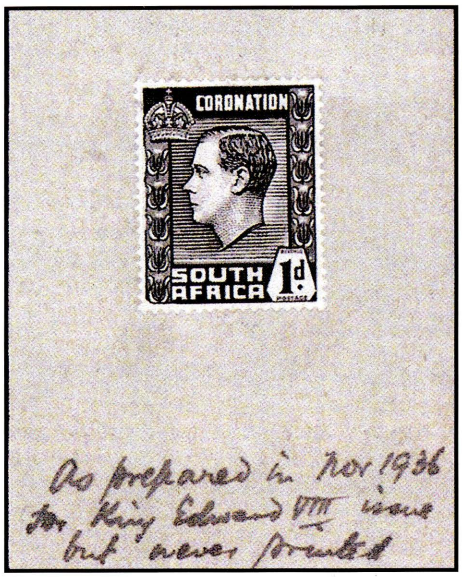

Fig.3: South African - essay proposed for 1936 Coronation issue for King Edward VIII.

for £1,000. An essay for the proposed South African 1936 King Edward VIII Coronation Issue realised £800, with an estimate of £600.

All the auction houses charge a buyer's commission of ± 22%.

A new book *'Southern African Mails-Rates, Routes and Regulations 1806-1916'* by Brian Trotter RDP is an outstanding compendium on this subject for the postal history collector. It is an invaluable reference work which provides a great deal of information concisely and covers many sidelines. The book has been published by the Royal Philatelic Society London. The Society will shortly publish an update of the Moubray's *'British Letter Mail to Overseas Destinations 1840-1875'*.

So often the collector has to rely on philatelic magazines and study circle newsletters for information regarding new philatelic literature. In the past Vera Trinder Ltd, and Stanley Gibbons carried stocks in London. Unfortunately the former no longer exists and the latter only covers its own publications. The new Postal Museum at Mount Pleasant, London will open in July. It should become a tourist attraction in time.

A commemorative issue has been released to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Machin stamp design. The Royal Philatelic Society London will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in 2019. It is intended to hold an international celebration a *'Stockholm 2019'* from 29 May - 2 June 2019. All RPSL members world-wide are eligible to participate without pre-qualification in the 2000 frame exhibition. An opportunity to show the flag and to see a beautiful city.

Best wishes,

JRF

Interesting comparisons can be made of the relative catalogue values, rarity and auction realisations of four typical examples of missing colours on Union and Republic commemorative stamps. A conversion exchange rate of £1 = R16 has been used with values as per the 2016 catalogues.

The first observation is that the *South African Colour Catalogue (SACC)* values are up to three times those of the *Stanley Gibbons* catalogue, whose values are more in line with recent auction realisations. It is difficult to justify the *SACC* values based on recent actual international auction realisations. Four typical examples of missing colours have been selected for comparison:

3d Academy of Science 15.5.59 SG 163a and SACC 168a (Fig.1). Dark blue omitted. Only six recorded from the top row of a single sheet.

2½c Transkei Legislative Assembly 11.12.63 SG 237a and SACC 244a (Fig.2). Green background missing from 22 stamps on rows 5 - 9.

12½c 50th Anniversary of SA Nursing 12.10.64 SG257a and SACC 249a (Fig.3). Gold colour missing on 25 stamps rows 2 - 6 pane A.

12½c Centenary of Red Cross 30.8.63 SG 226a and SACC 225a (Fig.4). About 40 are recorded with the red cross missing and 20 with it half-missing.

From the above it can be seen that the Academy of Science stamp is about three times rarer than the Transkei Legislative Assembly one, four times the 50th Anniversary and no less than seven times the missing Red Cross.

For collectors of missing colours due to interrupted printing, the apparent lack of interest in the Academy of Science item, the rarest of these examples, is hard to explain. The most recent auction bid was only 56% of the SG catalogue value. At the end of the day, the true value of any stamp is what someone is prepared to pay for it.

REFERENCES:

- *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa* 1910-1961 Page 196 - S.J. Hagger, 1986.
- *The South African Philatelist* August 1965 & April 1974.
- *South African Collectors' Newsletter* April 1965.

STAMP	NUMBERS RECORDED	RARITY	SG CAT VALUE	SACC VALUE	AUCTION BID
Academy of Science	6	1	R5,500	R12,500	R2,400
Transkei Legislative	22	2	3,250	11,250	2,400
50th Nursing Anniv	25	3	3,500	8,125	3,500
Centenary Red Cross	±40	4	4,250	11,250	5,800



Fig.1.



Fig.2.



Fig.3.



Fig.4.

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Desmond Errol Hyland RDPSA
1924 – 2017



Des had a long association with organised philately and at the time of joining the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town on 17 April 1992 was a member of both the SA Stamp Study Circle and the OFS Philatelic Society. Elected President of the Royal at the 1996 AGM, he served in this capacity until 1998. In 2007 he was elected Honorary Life President of the Society, a role he held up to his death.

During 1997 Des was President of the PFSA and involved in the Cape Town National in 1997. He signed the Roll of Honour in 2004 and chaired the organising committee for CAPEX 2005, and was the inspiration behind the exhibition.

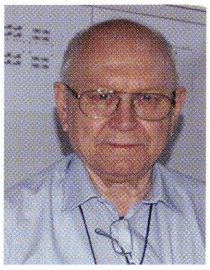
He had wide philatelic collecting interests, which included Union of South Africa (he received the Grand Prix award at the 1991 National for his exhibit of the *London Pictorial Issues*), Basutoland and Great Britain. In later years he formed and exhibited collections of Stellaland, Natal Revenues and Belgian Railway stamps.

His early years were spent in Basutoland before the family moved to the Free State. He retired to the Cape in 1992.

He served the country with distinction during WWII and received the Military Medal at the battle of Monte Casino. He bore life's vicissitudes with great courage and dignity. Des was the epitome of a true gentleman, always ready to give advice and guidance and he will be sorely missed.

Alan & Verena Mary Rogers.

Michael Wierzbowski
1944-2017



Mike, a certificated draughtsman who came to South Africa in 1970, under contract to Babcock's, and worked on the Arnot Power Station Project.

On termination of the contract, and with his savings and stamp collection, he opened *Michael's Philatelic* in the new Sanlam Centre in Randburg, in a kiosk first, but soon thereafter in a large shop on the main concourse, to become one of the most prominent stamp shops in Johannesburg.

Business flourished in the 1980 stamp heydays and Michael joined SAPDA and a few societies. He was in attendance at the Rosebank Stamp Show and other trade events, and built up a number of collections which he sold over time.

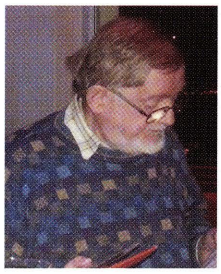
The international financial and stamp decline, RSA sanctions and the fall of the Rand in 1986, forced Michael to close his business and go into carpet cleaning. However, he kept up his passion for stamp collecting and some ten years ago, he came back to the trade. He re-joined SAPDA and re-established himself, once again presenting good quality material.

Mike had an 'upper-heart' operation, followed some weeks later by successful 'lower-heart' surgery from which he was recovering, when unfortunately, he suffered cardiac-arrest. He is survived by his wife, daughter and grandchildren. Mike, many will remember you

....RIP.

GCC.

Angus Springthorpe
1941-2017



Born in Cape Town on 16 May 1941, Angus David Springthorpe was educated at Queens College in Queenstown where he matriculated in 1958. Through the Post Office he studied electrical engineering and later worked in the telecom department.

He had always been an avid stamp collector and in the mid 70s left the Post Office to go into the stamp business. His first involvement in the stamp trade was a shop in Polley's Arcade in Pretoria followed by the Stampcor stamp shop in the Carlton Centre, Stanley Gibbons in Rosebank Johannesburg and in the mid 90s from an office at home in Greenside, Johannesburg.

Angus was one of the founding members of SAPDA and over the years attended many Rosebank and other stamp Shows. In 2005 he and his family moved to Cape Town where he carried on trading and attending the Durbanville Stamp Fair. Angus was much respected, with a great knowledge and known as a 'collectors' dealer, specialising among others in postmarks. Until his death he loved making up society sales booklets and he will always be remembered for his knowledge and willingness to share this.

During the last few years Angus had health problems and passed away on 15 June 2017. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and colleagues who gratefully acknowledge his contribution to philately.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Norma, daughter Jacky, son Andrew and extended family.

Henk de Lange.

Steven Willem George van Den Hurk
1962-2017



Steve was born in Edenvale on 14 July 1962 to George and Marieke van den Hurk and although he frequently moved around, Edenvale always remained his favourite 'stamping ground', where he could be close to family and friends.

Steve was the beloved husband of Adelle and the devoted father of Kevin, Shaun and Jessica.

Steve gained a wealth of experience in a variety of areas, having worked in many different sectors over the years, where he was fortunate to make lifelong friends and colleagues. In the last few years, Steve decided to make a career of his childhood passion of philately, which he managed with great success. He held the position of President of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (2016) and the South African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA).

With his aptitude and love for philately, Steve was able to achieve much and thanks to his success was afforded the opportunity to travel to Europe and the United Kingdom on work related business. Steve always made the most of these trips and he and Adelle shared many fond memories of their tourist experiences overseas.

Steve will be sorely missed by his family, friends and stamp colleagues and we extend our deepest sympathy to Adelle and their children.

www.stamps.org
The South African Philatelist
All about stamps
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in The South African Philatelist, subject to the discretion of the Editorial Committee. Articles to be submitted, should adhere to the following guidelines:

- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'text' document either on compact disk or emailed directly to the production editor, Janice Botes: janice@gdb.co.za*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items for the submitted material, scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi emailed to the production editor or on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg.*

Back Issues: *of The South African Philatelist can be obtained by writing to: The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: <Emil@Minnaar.org>*

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Remembering 'Ted' Proud RDP

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

A number of readers of the April, 2017, edition of *The South African Philatelist* would have been saddened, as I was myself, to learn of the death in England in February at the age of 86 of Edward W.B. Proud. In a fitting obituary in that journal, Michael Wigmore paid particular tribute to Ted both as a dealer and as a prolific producer of philatelic handbooks among which the issuing authorities of Southern and Central Africa figured prominently.

Ted was also the possessor of an imaginative and admirable creative bent. As I write this, it is ten years ago to the month that, in the April 2007 edition of *The SA Philatelist*, I published, under the title *'Grounded'*, an article about the *British Flying Post Office*. Anticipating co-operation from the British and Brazilian Post Offices, Ted produced, in 1979, a miniature sheet that was printed by the House of Questa and, as well as featuring the logo of the Universal Postal Union, also marked the centenary of the death in 1879 of Sir Rowland Hill whose postal reforms had led to the introduction in 1840 of the 'Penny Black'. As it so happened, on this more recent occasion, the approval of the British postal authorities was not forthcoming and thus the scheme was privatised with the co-operation of *Caledonian Airlines*. Covers had been prepared that would, it was hoped, have given publicity to the members of the philatelic trade who were attending 'Braziliana '79', the international exhibition that was held in Rio de Janeiro in September of that year. Sadly, the covers were impounded by the U.P.U. to whom the Brazilian Post Office had delivered the mail in error and only released more than a year later with the cachet *"Delayed by the action of the British and Brazilian Post Offices for 15 months"*.

It was Ted himself who supplied much of this information in response to a letter that I had written to him to inquire about the circumstances surrounding the intended service. Despite its evident *'Cinderella'* status, or, perhaps, because of it, I am happy to retain the cover in my collection.

Surprisingly, the cover with which I have illustrated the present article has absolutely no known connection at all with Ted Proud. I say 'surprisingly' because it is, I feel, just the sort of thing that Ted would have initiated himself. Writing in the October, 1987, edition of *The Cinderella Philatelist*, Andrew Jackson stated that the *Bahrain Camel Post* had been instituted in 1986 to "brighten up the proprietor's mail". He doesn't say so but it is suspected that the *'proprietor'* in question was none other than Andrew himself. He does say that the design of the stamp was produced by Gerald King of London although in fact little fresh 'design' was involved as the familiar Sudanese 1-millième issue of 1898 was adapted virtually *en bloc*. Even the denomination was left unchanged in order to avoid the possibility of any dispute with the authorities on the island where, then as now, the Dinar of 1000 fils was the local currency. The cover is franked with Bahraini stamps to the value of 150 fils (SG 228a & 229a) that were issued between 1976 and 1979 and which have been cancelled in this instance using the comparatively modern system of phosphor dots. Although this method of cancellation is certainly unobtrusive, it is also, sadly, rather anonymous. In addition, the sender has added a copy of the War Tax stamp of 1974, a stamp that was, at that time, required on virtually all mail posted in Bahrain. The only exception to this regulation was on mail posted at the airport where the stamp was not available. Revenue from sales of the stamp, which sold for 5 fils and is listed in Stanley Gibbons as SG T198, was used to aid refugees from the Arab-Israeli conflict. The inscription in Arabic - *Al Majhood Al Harbee* - would, so I am told, translate as 'War Effort'.

The 'stamp' of the Camel Post itself is cancelled by a TPO strike (Travelling Post Office) of March, 1988 in the name of Adliya-Manama. (This is probably to be expected when you consider the mode of transport suggested by the label)!

The town of Manama, with a population in 1988 of 152,000, is the capital of Bahrain while Adliya is that suburb of which Andrew Jackson (to whom I am indebted for much of this information) was at that time a resident.

The additional strike, in Arabic, on the front of the cover and referring to the Camel Post, is repeated on the reverse where it unites the flap and the main body of the envelope. Evidently, in the case of my cover, this strike was applied by handstamp. Previously, it had been available in the form of a perforated, adhesive label which would perhaps have been more effective as a seal. As you will see, the letter was addressed to *'Glass Slipper'*, then a philatelic dealership in the English city of York specialising, not surprisingly given the name of the operation, in Cinderella material and doubtless a company with which the late Ted Proud would have been very well acquainted.



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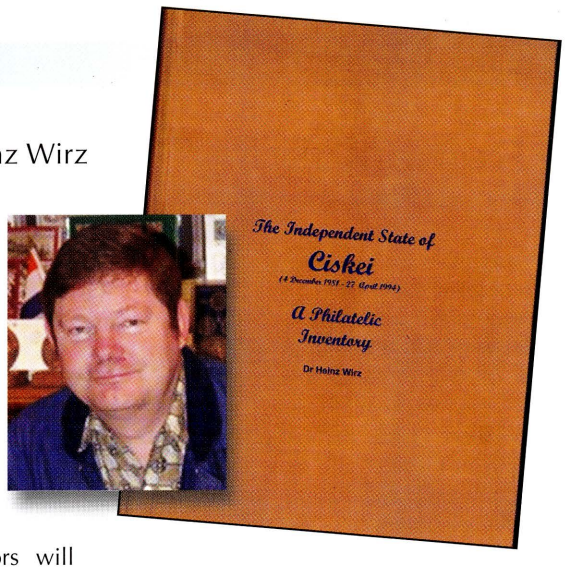
BOOK REVIEW by Andrew Fischer

The Independent State of Ciskei, A Philatelic Inventory by Dr Heinz Wirz

Published 2017 by Belman Litho (Pty) Ltd, ISBN 9780620716192,
R850, hardbound, 299 pages.



This is the second book in a series of four that will cover the four Homelands that issued stamps; the first book covered the issues of Bophuthatswana.

This impressive limited edition of 60 copies is divided into two sections. Part 1 deals with the official issues of the Ciskei postal authorities; Part 2 deals with the 'Private' issues bearing the stamps of Ciskei – these are philatelic items produced by someone other than the postal authorities. The author has elected not to deal with the postage stamps issued by Ciskei, save for the artwork and essays in Part 1.

Part 1 is sub-divided into five sections –

- Original artwork and essays showing the evolution of the stamp design;
- The Official commemorative postmarks and the stamps they cancelled;
- Official date stamp cards and envelopes;
- Postal stationery; and
- Postmarks of the Post Offices of Ciskei.

Part 2 is sub-divided into three sections –

- The Silk issues and gold-windowed commemorative first day covers; and
- Other commemorative items.

The author has provided comprehensive listings of all the items identified by him to date, suitably broken down in the sections set out above. The items listed have been meticulously researched, as evidenced by the wealth of detail provided and the hefty bibliography.

What all philatelists and collectors will find very interesting is the section dealing with the original artwork and essays for the designs of the issued stamps. Almost every issue is represented by what can only be described as beautiful artwork. It is most fortunate for all students of Ciskei philately that the writer was able to reproduce such an assembly of material for this publication. This section is a 'must read' for any student of philately, not only collectors of Ciskei.

There are a vast number of colour images to assist the philatelist to identify the listed items. Many items are almost certainly not known to South African philatelists, and the reviewer is equally sure that the author will now receive a number of items that he has not listed in the catalogue.

Again, the only criticism of this reviewer is that the author has not numbered the various postmarks of each office he has listed, in contrast to the other listings in the catalogue. However, this is but a minor issue in what is a fantastic piece of philatelic literature.

Once again, the author has produced a great addition to any philatelic library – certainly this volume has pride of place in the reviewer's library. The reviewer reiterates that collectors of South Africa, particularly the Republic period, who have largely ignored the Homelands to date, will eventually have to come around to the fact that the stamps and postal history of the Homelands are a vital and integral part of the modern postal history of South Africa.

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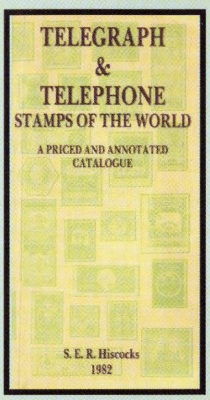

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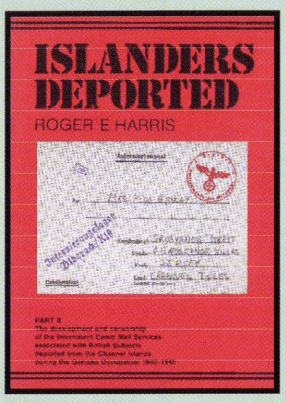

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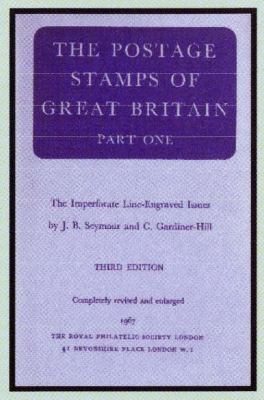

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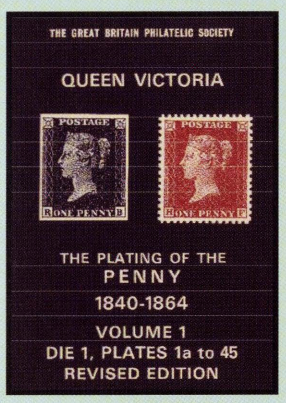

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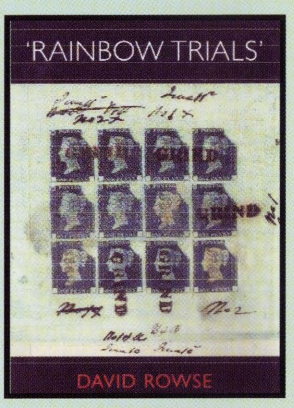

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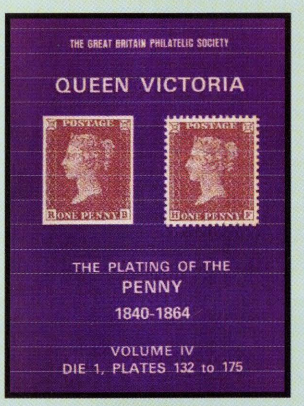

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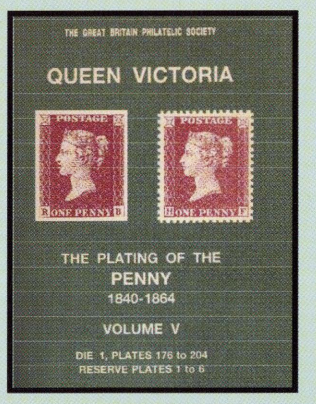

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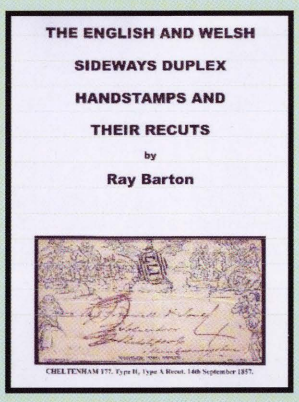

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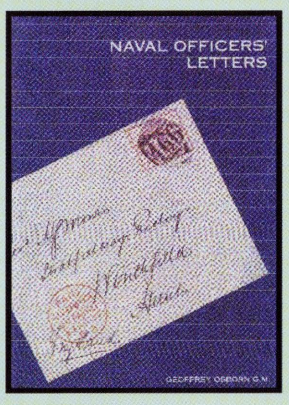

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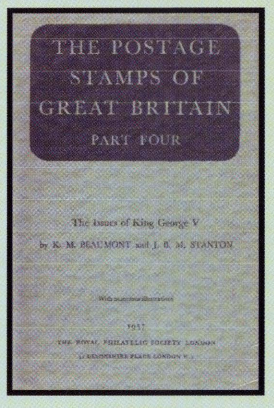

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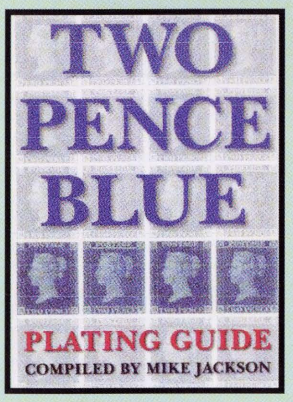

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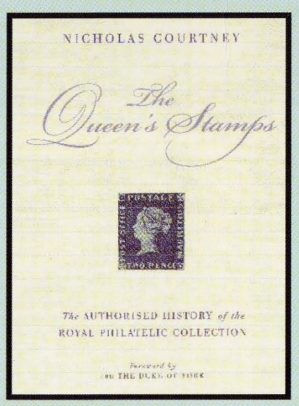

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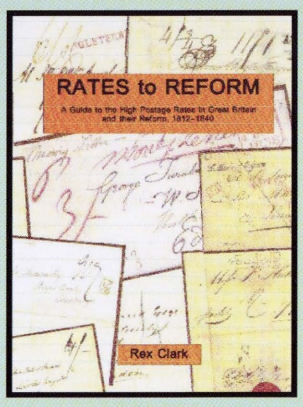

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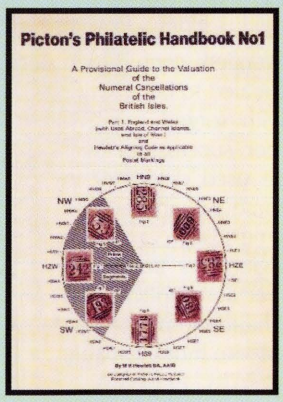

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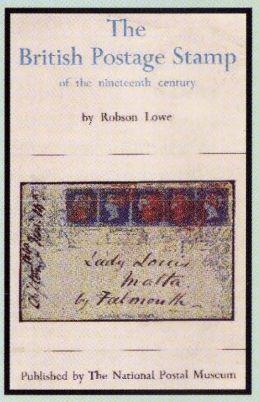

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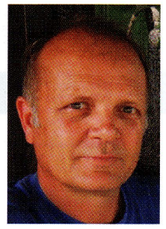
St Helena forged cancellations during the King George V period

by Francois Friend, Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society



Introduction

With modern day computer hacking in the news continuously, it is hard not to see its similarity with latter day philatelic forgeries (inclusive of stamps, postmarks and cancellations). Both vocations have as their main reason for existence either the lure of money, or the professional bragging rights/ gratification that come along with a project well done (especially in cases where so-called 'experts' have been taken for a ride); or both. Although philatelic forgeries can never be condoned, they always remain an act of deceitfulness; at least in the case of the 'old' forgers one is normally left with a small piece of art that results in discussions decades after its relevant birth.

The main objective of this article is to consolidate present knowledge of forged cancellations of St Helena during the reign of King George V to assist collectors of the country in identifying these fraudulent items.

The collation of forged cancellations will be drawn from illustrative work by Mabbett and Stanton and Thorpe; as well as referenced dates from Proud and Stanley Gibbons. Strangely enough, neither illustrative material nor any dates are given in the original 'bible' of St Helena stamps, namely the reference work by Hibbert, for this particular period.

Finally, a forged cancellation is presented that was discovered during recent years and not published in any of the above reference works.

Madame Joseph forged cancellations

Madame Joseph (c.1900 - after late 1940s) was a stamp dealer active in London in the early part of the twentieth century and who has since been revealed to be a major supplier of stamps with forged cancels. In conjunction with her successors, over 400 fake cancels were used dated up to 1967. Known as Madame Joseph because she went by the surname Joseph, and was possibly French or Belgian (her first name is unknown), Joseph, her accomplices and successors used fake handstamps to turn common unused stamps into more valuable used ones.

In the early 1990s, the retired stamp dealer Derek Worboys purchased the Joseph instruments and paraphernalia from Clive Santo in order to prevent their further use. The items were in the estate of Clive's late father George, who died in 1990. Today the Madame Joseph items reside in the museum of The Royal Philatelic Society in London.

There are four Madame Joseph cancels that cover the St Helena King George V period, as illustrated in Fig.1 (from Mabbett, 2002). These are the best known and most prolific forged cancellations that appear on a wide range of British Commonwealth stamps of this period. What makes the Madame Joseph cancellers so special is that they were very good reproductions indeed, and they had been applied mainly to the most desirable items that otherwise were particularly scarce in used condition. For example, the high value values and stamps having major flaws. (Stanton and Thorpe, 2012)

All four of these Madame Joseph forged cancellations are illustrated in Mabbett and Stanton and Thorpe. The three dates are given in Proud and Stanley Gibbons lists the first two dates. Figure 2 shows a complete set of the 1934 Centenary of British Colonisation issue cancelled with the 12 May 1934 forged canceller.

Stanton and Thorpe identified forged cancellations

Ralph Stanton and Bill Thorpe identified and illustrated a further four forged cancellations in their excellent publication on the 'badge' issue (Stanton and Thorpe). The 2d stamp in Fig.3 appears to have a genuine postmark; however, the stamp has a flaw that shows it to be from the 1937 printing, 13 years before the forged cancellation of 20 Jul 1924.

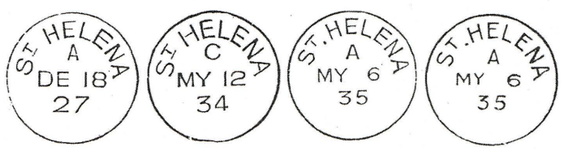
In Fig.4 the 8d stamp is cancelled with a canceller (2 Oct 1925) that also shows the right size, but the date is 'DC 2' (abbreviation used for December was 'DE'), the index letter 'C' is tilted backwards at an angle of 45°; and there is no bar under the foot of 'T' in ST.



Fig.3: 20 Jul 1924 forged canceller (FC01).



Fig.2: Complete Centenary of British Colonisation set cancelled with 12 May 1934 forged canceller.



18 Dec 1927 FC05 | 12 May 1934 FC06 | 6 May 1935 FC07 | 6 May 1935 FC08

Fig.1: Madame Joseph forged cancellations.



Fig.4: 2 Oct 1925 forged canceller (FC02).

In Fig.5 the 1937 1½d stamp is cancelled with a forged cancellation (11 Dec 1927) as it is dated ten years before the stamp was actually issued. It also has a large 'T' in ST and is 2 - 3mm larger in diameter than any of the date stamps in use during that period. The 4d stamp in Fig.6 is cancelled with a forged canceller (30 Oct 1935) that has a circle of 21mm with very thin lettering. The date is in three lines and the month is incorrectly shown as 'OCT' instead as 'OC'.



Fig.5: 11 Dec1927 forged canceller (FC04).



Fig.6: 30 Oct 1935 forged canceller (FC09).



Fig.7: 4 Dec 1927 forged canceller (FC03).



Fig.8: Break in outer frame line.

'New' forged cancellation

The ½d pair illustrated in Fig.7 is genuine, however, it is cancelled with a forged canceller (4 Dec 1927) thus far unrecorded by either of the reference works. The stamp has the cleft rock variety but is from the April 1936 printing, as identified through the break in the outer frame line of the nameplate tablet above the second 'E' in HELENA (as illustrated in Fig.8). The forged canceller is thus dated nine years before the issue of the stamp. It also has a large 'T' instead of the smaller underlined 'T' of the St Helena cancellers of the period.



Fig.9: 11 Dec 1927 forged canceller (FC04).

There are at this stage nine forged cancellations identified during the King George V period in St Helena and they are summarised in Table 1 below. What made December 1927 so special to have three forged cancellation dates remains, and may forever be, a mystery.

FC01	20 Jul 1924
FC02	2 Oct 1925
FC03	4 Dec 1927
FC04	11 Dec 1927
FC05	18 Dec 1927
FC06	12 May 1934
FC07	6 May 1935
FC08	6 May 1935
FC09	30 Oct 1935

Table 1 List of known forged cancellations during King George V period.

Final comments

Another example of forged cancellation FC04 is illustrated on a high value 7s 6d stamp in Fig.9. In addition to the comments made by Stanton and Thorpe in describing the forged cancellation, it should be mentioned that further proof is that the canceller has the day before the month and according to Proud no St Helena cancellers were used with the day before the month during this period.

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- PROUD, E.B. (2005) *The Postal History of Ascension, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha.* Proud-Baily.
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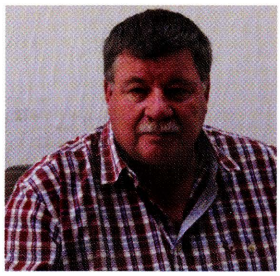

THE AIR MAIL STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

by André du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society

There were three issues of air mail stamps by the Union of South Africa. The first issue appeared in 1925; the second in 1929 and the third in 1936. We'll take a closer look at all three over the next few issues of The SA Philatelist.

1925 EXPERIMENTAL AIR MAIL SERVICE

In 1923 Parliament passed the Union Aviation Act to control aviation and to encourage flying in South Africa.

A Civil Air Board (CAB) was established in an advisory capacity to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. The CAB proposed a three-month trial Air Mail service between Pretoria and Cape Town to commence on 1 January 1924. However, the service was unfortunately postponed due to financial constraints.

In early 1925 the Union Government decided to institute a three-month experimental Air Mail service between Cape Town and Durban from 2 March 1925. This was partly to prove the reliability and advantages of air transport (Fig.1).

It would also ascertain to what extent the public would support such a service and to obtain information regarding civil aviation in South Africa.



Fig.3: De Havilland 9 with one 230 h.p. Siddeley Puma engine

On 16 January 1925, the SA Air Force was instructed to make the necessary preparations to run the service.

Eleven Air Force DH 9 air planes were assigned to the experimental Air Mail service (Fig.3).

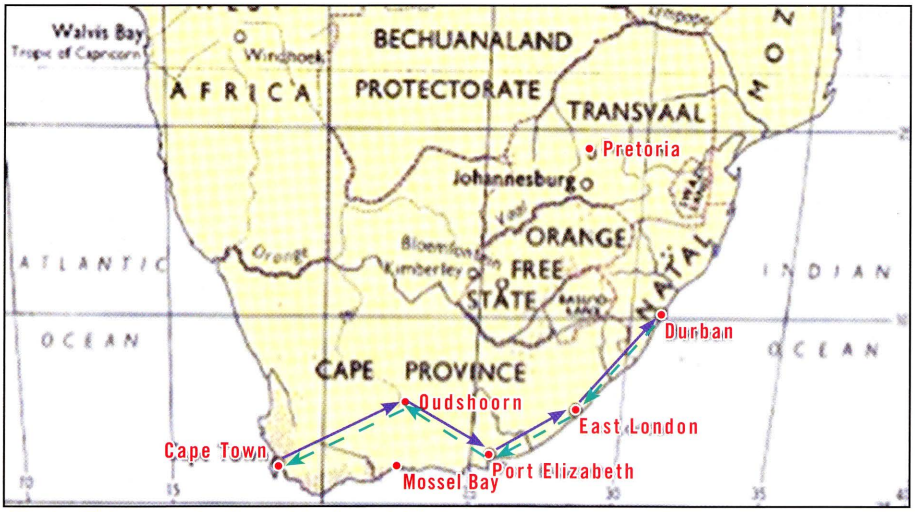

Fig.1: This map is from Maskew Miller's College Atlas for Southern Africa, 1960 edition.

The South African Air Force was assigned responsibility for the organisation and operation of the service.

The service operated weekly flights in each direction to coincide with the arrival (Mondays) and departure (Fridays) of the mail ships in Cape Town, operated by the Union Castle Line under contract from the South African Government to carry mail (Fig.2).

On conclusion of the First World War, the British Government had donated surplus aircraft (De Havilland 9) plus spares and sufficient equipment to provide the nucleus of a fledgling Air Force to each of its Dominions, known as the Imperial gift.

9th Feb., 1925. **Post Office Circular.** No. 346.

AIR MAILS.

CAPETOWN - - DURBAN
DURBAN - - CAPETOWN
CALLING AT
MOSSEL BAY, PORT ELIZABETH, EAST LONDON.

An Air Mail Service from Capetown to Durban on Mondays, and Durban to Capetown on Fridays, will be inaugurated on the 2nd March, 1925 [illegible] towns from and to which mails will be carried are Capetown, Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth, East London, and Durban. Correspondence may also be included for places served through these points.

Fig.2: The British Post Office was informed of the service and arrangements for the acceptance of incoming mail to be flown from Cape Town

Under command of Maj. H. Meintjies, the SA Airforce pilots selected for the service were: Capt. H.C. Daniel, Lt. L. Tasker, Lt. H.P. Schoeman, Capt. Hamman, Lt. Burger, Lt. L. Hiscock, Lt. R.F. Caspareuthus, Capt. C.W. Meredith, Lt. Joubert, Lt. Roos, Lt. Hattersley, Capt. Venter and Lt. Bentley.

A dress rehearsal took place on Friday 23 February 1925 when three DH 9 planes left Durban at 05:00 *inter alia* carrying 6 bags of dummy mail and no official mail (Fig.4).

Mail carried on the experimental service received an additional special SA Air Mail date stamp (Fig.5) and orange Air Mail labels (Fig.6).



Fig.5: Examples of the two SA Air Mail date stamps.

The top cachet was used at all the Air Mail stations. The one below was a re-issue and used in Durban only.

The Air label conflicted with the International regulations of blue labels inscribed in English and French.



(Fig.6)

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FIRST THROUGH FLIGHT WITH MAILS

Graphic Story by Union's Pioneer Air Passenger.

BREAKFAST IN DURBAN AND DINNER IN CAPE TOWN.

The Union's first Air Mail route has been blazed!

Yesterday the first machines to pioneer the regular by-weekly coast services left Durban. Two of them carried dummy mails, and the third carried as passenger a Special Correspondent of the "Cape Times," who had the exclusive privilege of making the first through flight from Durban to Cape Town in a single day.

"Mails" and passenger were thrice transferred to relay machines en route, and at 4.45—an hour and a quarter over the scheduled time—a safe arrival was made at Wynberg aerodrome.

Our Correspondent brought with him special messages of greeting and congratulation, which had been entrusted to him by the Mayors of Durban, East London and Port Elizabeth for delivery to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, the Administrator of the Cape, and the Mayor of Cape Town. These messages, which we reproduce in other columns, are not only the first to be carried by air from the east coast towns to the gateway of the Union, but the first to be delivered between these distant points in a single day.

As a further example of the manner in which the airplane bridges the great gulf of time which separates the chief towns of the Union we also reproduce on this page to-day a photograph taken at Port Elizabeth during the five minutes halt made there yesterday while the "Cape Times" representative was changing machines.

The trial run was carried out without a hitch, and in the graphic narrative we print below the Union's first air-mail passenger tells how it was safely accomplished.

TIME TABLE.

Left Durban	5 a.m.
Arrived East London	8.55 a.m.
Left East London	9 a.m.
Arrived Port Elizabeth ...	11.5 a.m.
Left Port Elizabeth	11.12 a.m.
Arrived Mossel Bay	2.2 p.m.
Left Mossel Bay	2.10 p.m.
Arrived at Wynberg	4.40 p.m.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Take-off at Durban was excellent and in good conditions, which continued passing Port Shepstone and Port St. John.

Towards East London there was cross wind, but the going was good near Port Elizabeth.

Then mist and heavy head winds to Mossel Bay and low-lying clouds, which continued to Gordon's Bay.

South-east wind inclined to make final landing difficult.

Fig.4: Notice dated 24 February 1925 from The Cape Times *reporting on the rehearsal flight.*

PUBLICITY

To promote the service, 'AIR MAIL SAVES TIME / LUGPOS BESPAAR TYD' slogan machine postmarks were put into use at Durban and Cape Town on 18 February 1925 (Figs.7&8).

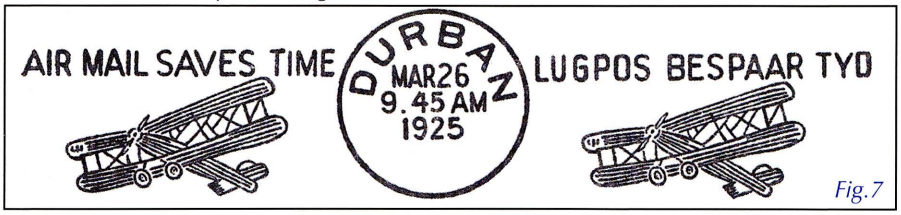

Fig.7

Two types were used in Cape Town and one in Durban.

The advertising slogan was mainly applied to non-air correspondence, but occasionally it was applied to Air Mail Letters as well. Covers bearing the slogan postmark and Air Mail cachet of 2 March 1925 – the day of the inauguration of the service – are scarce. These slogan postmarks were also used in Johannesburg in 1929 with the introduction of the regular Air Service by Union Airways.

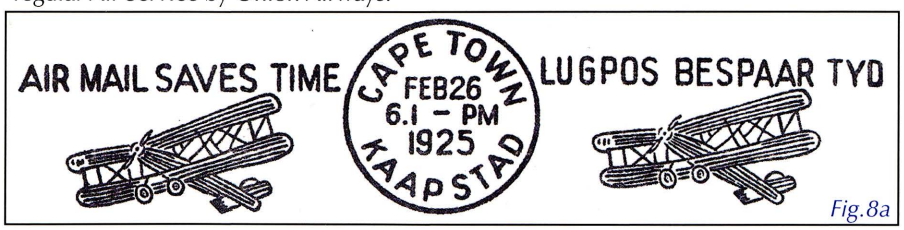

Fig.8a

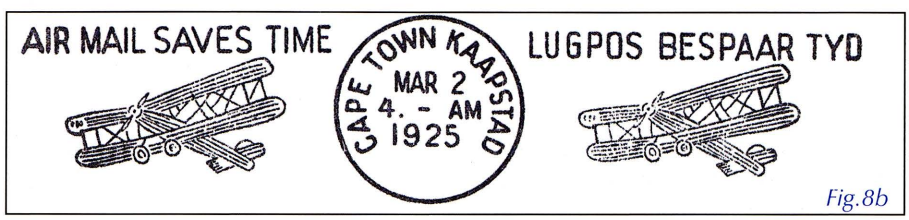

Fig.8b

1925 STAMPS

Four AIR POST/LUGPOS stamps of size 25 x 30mm, were specially printed for the experimental Air Mail service by the Cape Times Ltd in Cape Town using a photo-lithographic offset process (Fig.9).



Fig.9: Four duties of the 1925 issue

The common design shows a De Havilland 9 (DH 9) biplane in flight, printed on soft wove un-watermarked paper in sheets consisting of upper and lower panes.

The stamps were designed by F. W. Mullins, an architect at the Public Works Department (PWD) and prepared for printing by Arthur Cooper from the Cape Times Ltd.

The stamps were placed on sale from 26 February 1925 and were available in areas covered by the service, and General Post Offices in Pretoria and Johannesburg, as well as the High Commissioner's Office in London.

Stamp sales were discontinued at the end of June 1925 except in Pretoria where they continued until 31 October 1925. Plates were immediately destroyed. All unsold stamps were officially destroyed on 5 December 1925.

The following are the official numbers printed and sold:

	1d	3d	6d	9d
Numbers of stamps printed	210,000	210,000	147,000	110,040
Number of stamps sold	65,269	75,500	53,415	27,642

PRINTING

The photo-lithographic offset process is a printing technique in which the inked image is transferred (or 'offset') from a metal plate to a rubber blanket or rollers and then to the printing surface.

When used in combination with the lithographic process, which is based on the repelling of oil by water, the offset technique employs a flat image carrier on which the image to be printed obtains ink from ink rollers, while the non-printing area attracts a water-based film (called 'fountain solution'), keeping the non-printing areas ink-free. Sheets are separated and trimmed afterwards.

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Stamps were printed in upper and lower panes of 60 stamps. Each pane comprised six horizontal rows of ten stamps, separated by a horizontal gutter of 15mm (Fig.10).

Perforation was performed by an ordinary treadle perforating machine which had only a single row of perforating pins of gauge 12.

These stamps were only valid for prepayment of the airmail portion at the following rate:

Post Cards:
Inland - 1d each. *Overseas* - 3d each.
Letters:
Inland - 3d per oz. *Overseas* - 6d per oz.
Parcels:
Inland - 6d per oz. *Overseas* - 9d per oz.

Note: Articles carried had to bear ordinary stamps as well for normal postage (together with the airmail rate).

Standard rate for surface delivery:

	INLAND	COMMONWEALTH	FOREIGN
Post Cards	1d each	1½d each	1½d each
Letters	2d per oz.	2d per oz.	3d per ½ oz.

CONTROLS

No cylinder control numbers or marginal arrows were printed on any of the sheets. Larger replicas of the value tablet, indicating the denomination, were printed on a numerical disc in the same colour as the stamp on each sheet (Fig.11).

This disc was positioned halfway along the top and bottom margins as well as in the middle of the right-hand margin.

The perforation runs through the discs, except for the 6d where the top disc was positioned above the 6th stamp.

PROOFS

Three types were produced:

(1) Black and white prints without values from the engraver's master design.

(2) The four values were printed in the form of a proof sheet of four on unwatermarked, gummed paper. Each block was printed in the following colours: Magenta, Blue, Violet, Vermillion and Green. (Figs.12&13)

(3) Black and white prints (with values) of all denominations were also printed. Two of which are shown as Figs.14&15.

MISAPPROPRIATION

Great care was taken to prevent printers' waste etc. coming into the hands of the public. Two items however were surreptitiously obtained and circulated.

In June 1925, a piece of paper showing the impression of **twelve** of the 1d stamps in imperforate condition was bought by a Cape Town dealer from a youth stating he obtained it amongst some waste.

The block was cut up into single stamps and sold as imperforates.

Despite the bad condition, it is regarded as a desirable item in Union collections (Fig.16).



Fig.16

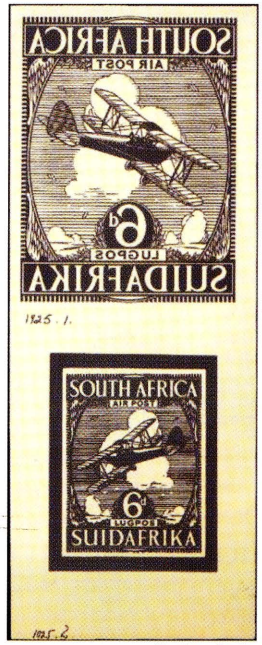

Fig.17

Courtesy: Spink

ESSAY

Unaccepted engraver's master proofs. Three sets of these designs found their way into the hands of collectors (Fig.17).

FORGERIES

Forgeries of these stamps appeared on the market in Europe from 1953. Four distinct printings have been identified.

Perforations are of a different gauge being 11, 11½ or 13.

Together with the variance in paper, differences in the design and the colours, forgeries can be easily detected. One of the most significant variations is the colour of the gum that is smooth and clear, contrasting with the original.

The forged stamps also show differences in the execution of the design; as well as being poorly printed, colours were faded or brighter compared to the genuine stamps and are usually slightly larger in size.

1929 UNION AIRWAYS

The Government fulfilled its promise and obtained experience regarding civil aviation in South Africa and the viability of an Air Mail service. Although it was indicated that new proposals would be



Fig.10



Fig.11





Figs.12&13 Courtesy: Spink Courtesy: Spink





Figs.14&15 Courtesy: Spink Courtesy: Spink

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considered, Government unfortunately did not encourage nor support civil aviation on a commercial basis in the years following 1925.

However, in 1929 an agreement was reached between Government and Maj. A.M. Miller, on behalf of Union Airways (Pty) Ltd, to establish an airmail and passenger service between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Routes would be extended from Port Elizabeth to Durban via East London and to Johannesburg via Bloemfontein.

The agreement provided for the service to be run weekly in each direction in conjunction with the Union Castle Line mail ships.

To conduct the service and to do chartered flights, five DH Gipsy Moth airplanes were imported. The pilots selected by Maj. Miller to assist him were G.W. Bellin, R.F. Caspareuthus and W.F. Davenport.

The British Post Office was again advised of the developments. The inaugural flight took place on Monday 26 August 1929 from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth (Fig.18).

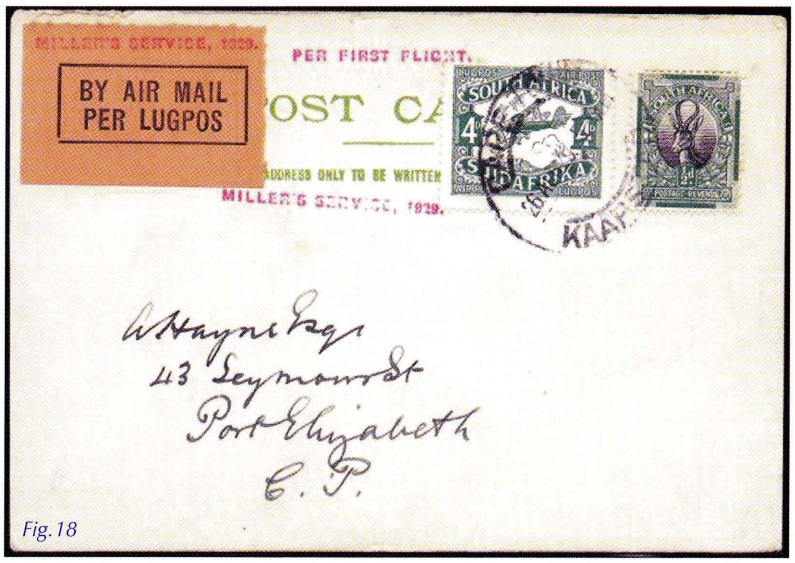

Fig.18

1929 STAMPS

These stamps marked the inauguration of a regular Air Mail Service by the Union Airways from 26 August 1929. Two denominations were issued and placed on sale from 21 August 1929.

The common design (Figs.19&20) is a drawing of a De Havilland D.H. 60 Cirrus Moth in flight against the back-ground of Table Mountain, Cape Town.

As was the case with the first Air Mail issue, the stamps were valid for pre-payment of the airmail portion only. Items to be sent via airmail also needed additional franking for surface delivery.



Fig.19



Fig.20

In early 1932 it was announced that with effect from 27 January 1932, the airmail rate within the Union would become an inclusive fee of 4d per half-ounce. Further, that airmail stamps would be valid for all postage requirements, including the prepayment of parcels and registration fees.

PRINTING

Stamps, of size 31.5 x 25mm, were printed by the Government Printing Works, Pretoria using a typographic printing process, perforated 14 x 13½ with no watermark. Sheets were fed into the single comb perforating appliance at their left-hand margin, which is not perforated through. The top and right hand ones are perforated through. Stamps were printed in sheets with an upper and lower pane of 60 stamps each (6 rows by 10 columns), with no cylinder control numbers, marginal arrows or sheet numbers. The upper and lower panes were separated with a 13.5mm gutter (Fig.21). The stamps remained on sale until March 1933 when supplies became exhausted.



Fig.21

In Typograph printing, also known as letterpress, the stamp design was once transferred onto a metal plate using a greasy ink, with the rest of the plate being etched away leaving just the raised design to print from (think of a rubber stamp method). Older typograph stamps could invariably be best identified from the reverse side because the design often felt raised to the touch due to the use of the metal plates and heavy pressure used. Nowadays plastic plates are used for this process and these tend not to leave the raised reverse.

ESSAYS

The artwork of a proposed design for a stamp as submitted by the artist. Some essays are provided photographically, whilst others might be drawn in pencil or ink or are painted.

Most essays are rejected. (One becomes the essay for the accepted design, with the stamp sometimes different from the essay).

Two slightly different essays for a 6d denomination in black on stout, surfaced paper exist, each measuring 103 x 82mm. Small differences in the background and side ornamentation as well as the landscape and numbered '1929 /1' and '1929 /2' in black ink. These are extremely rare (Fig.22).

DIE PROOFS

In philately a die proof

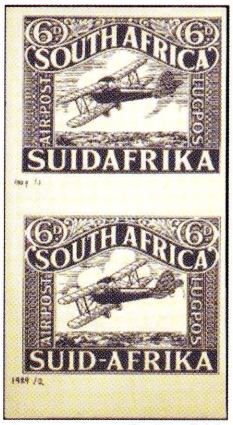

Fig.22 Courtesy: Spink

is a printed image pulled directly from the block or master die for an engraved stamp. They are typically attached to a larger sheet or card. Once the die is completed, it is transferred multiple times to the plate from which the stamps are printed.

1/- Die proofs 5.35mm x 4.3mm in black printed on glazed card (affixed to a piece of paper). It is accepted that this was the master design used to produce the printing plate. These are also described and known as the so called 'paste-ups' and are extremely rare (Fig.23).

PLATE PROOFS

Plate proofs are made from the above (die proof). To attain the status of a proof, a proposed design (or essay) must be the same as the issued stamp for which it was submitted. 60 Stamps (one sheet) of each value are known to exist. The sheets were cut up and sold to collectors (Figs.24&25).

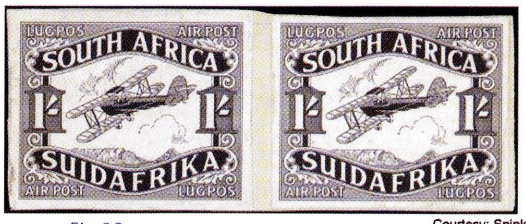

Fig.23 Courtesy: Spink

COLOUR TRIALS

Five different colour trials were specially run for submission to the postal authorities.

These were made from the actual plates that had been prepared for the printing of the sheets of the 1/- stamp.

One full sheet of each colour was printed and should have been destroyed upon their return to the Government Printing Works, but were surreptitiously obtained and circulated to collectors (Fig.26).

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Fig.24



Fig.25

They were printed on the back of obsolete Government land charts, imperforated, un-watermarked and un-gummed (Fig.27).

THE 1½d STAMP of 1936

Under the Empire Air Mail Scheme all first-class mail was to be conveyed over the Empire air routes at a rate of 1½d per half ounce.

In anticipation of the Empire Flying Boat service in 1937, the Postal authorities decided to prepare a special 1½d stamp to meet the demand for this denomination (Fig. 28).

The design is symbolic of the gold mining industry in South Africa and depicts the headgear and dump of a gold mine against a golden background. Two airliners, an Imperial Airways 'Atalanta' class and a South African Airways Junkers are flying in the background over the skyscrapers of Johannesburg.

The dark green border of the design incorporates two small winged springboks, incidentally the emblem of the South African Airways.



PRINTING

Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria using a rotogravure printing process.

In rotogravure printing a photographic glass plate is used in the production of the printing plate which is known as the multipositive.

Stamps, of size 30 x 24mm, were printed alternately in Afrikaans and English in sheets of 120 (20 rows by 6 columns) on multiple Springbok head watermarked paper. Perforation 14.

Although the words airmail do not appear on the stamps, they were primarily intended as airmail stamps.

This issue was envisioned for the Empire Air Mail Scheme. All first-class mail would be conveyed over the chain of Empire Air Routes at 1½d per ½ oz unit. This was introduced on 1 July 1937 and remained in force until the war broke out in September1939.



Fig.28

The intention was that all postal items franked with these stamps were to be automatically forwarded by air doing away with affixing air mail labels to items addressed to any part of the British Empire. Stamps were prematurely released and placed on sale on 12 November 1936. This design appeared in various forms: medium (24 x 20mm) in 1941 and bantam (24 x 15mm) in 1948. This design was used until 1950 when the rate changed to 2d.



Fig.26

Fig.27 *The three images are examples of the back of the colour trials.*

Please note that all images shown are not according to scale.

Acknowledgement: Permission from Spink to publish appropriate images is acknowledged, with thanks.

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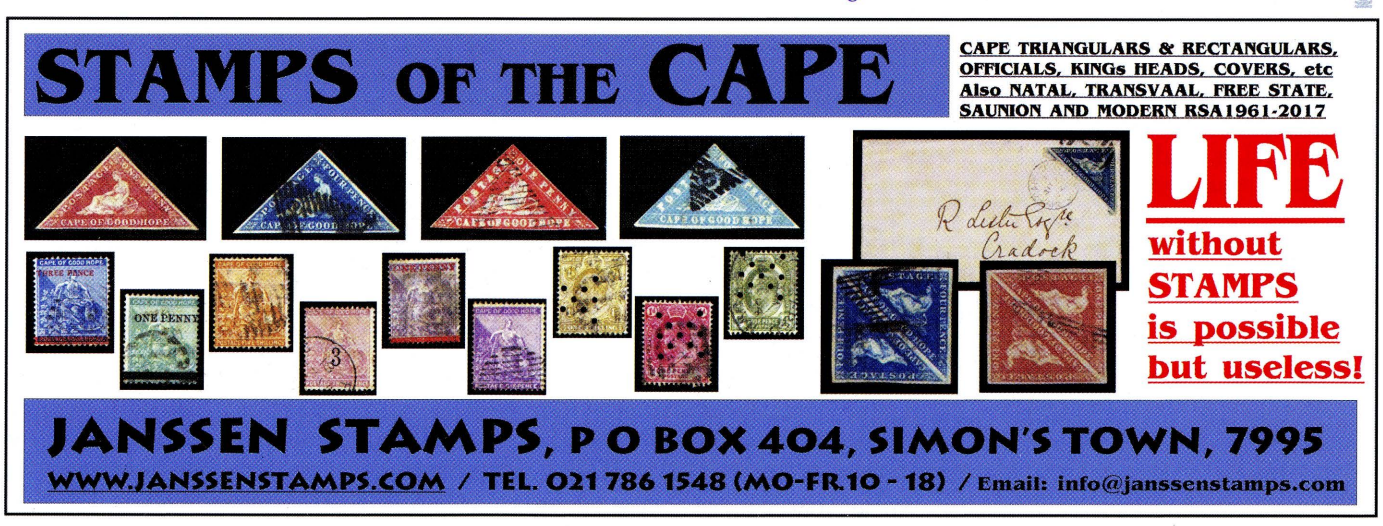
EDITORIAL NOTE: It was not coincidence that, when the domestic airmail rate was increased to 2d, in April 1950, the 2d Union Buildings stamp was introduced in medium size. However I don't see aircraft in the sky above the Union Buildings. - R.M.



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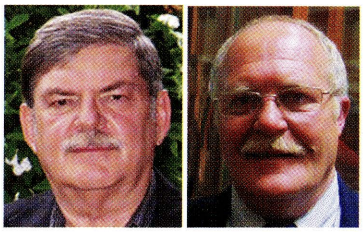
MAIL BETWEEN POLITICAL ICONS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE AS WELL AS MAIL LINKED TO THE INTERNAL "STRUGGLE" THEATRE

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Johan Joubert, AFV(Pretoria)



Introduction

In 1948 the National Party (NP) came to power under D.F. Malan's leadership, ousting the United Party under Smuts. For so-called 'non-white' South Africans Malan's victory was a serious setback in terms of their political hopes and aspirations. South Africa's black leadership could only watch with weary resignation as Malan assumed the premiership. Chief Albert Luthuli, soon to be elected President of the ANC, wrote that his people had been so disillusioned by Smuts' government that the election result neither 'surprised' nor 'interested' them.

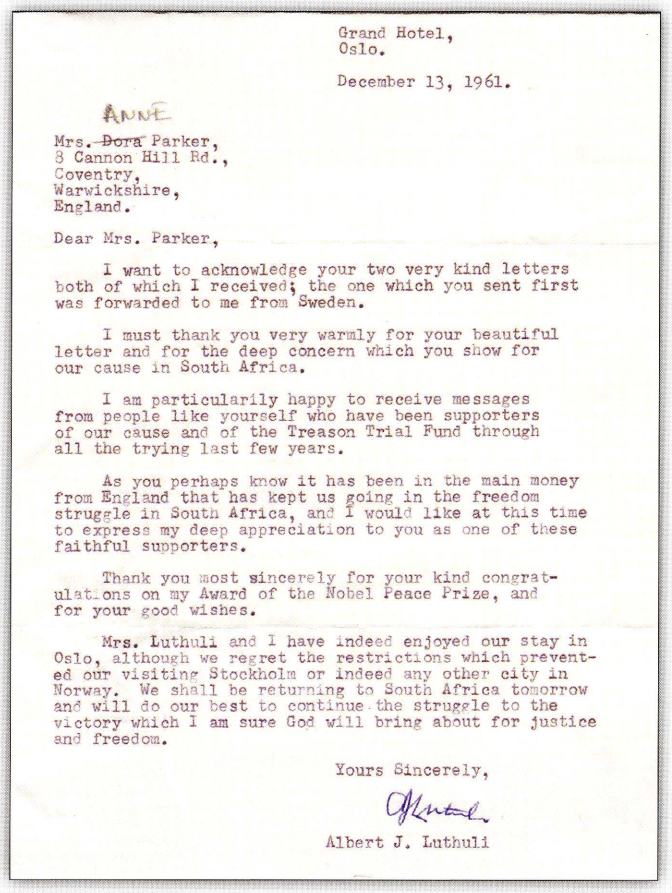
In Chief Albert Luthuli's ensuing campaign against the NP government Nelson Mandela, a key personality in shaping the internal course of the 'struggle', was to interact closely with his former partner in South Africa's first black law firm, Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo. Important correspondence emanating from, and between, these three icons of South African politics form the subject of this article.

Letter from Chief Albert Luthuli in Oslo

Chief Albert Luthuli was born in 1898 in what was then the British colony of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). His outspoken public support for the 1952 Defiance Campaign brought him into direct conflict with Malan's ruling National Party government which then demanded his resignation from the African National Congress (ANC) and dismissed him from his post as chief when he refused to do so. Luthuli was then unanimously elected President-General of the ANC in December 1952 causing the government to impose several bans on him, such as one in 1957 which limited his travelling radius to within 24km from his home.

Six days after the Sharpeville massacre on 21 March 1960, Luthuli sought to rally African resistance by publicly burning his pass in Pretoria and calling for a day of mourning. In his acceptance speech of the 1960 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo in 1961, Luthuli said: " It can only be on behalf of the people of South Africa, all the people of South Africa, especially the freedom-loving, that I accept this reward(Figs.1&2).

According to Giliomee and Mbenga, Luthuli's vision was that of a society in which both white and black South Africans would consider each other equals in a common fatherland (Fig.3).



Grand Hotel,
Oslo.

December 13, 1961.

ANNE

Mrs. ~~Dora~~ Parker,
8 Cannon Hill Rd.,
Coventry,
Warwickshire,
England.

Dear Mrs. Parker,

I want to acknowledge your two very kind letters both of which I received; the one which you sent first was forwarded to me from Sweden.

I must thank you very warmly for your beautiful letter and for the deep concern which you show for our cause in South Africa.

I am particularily happy to receive messages from people like yourself who have been supporters of our cause and of the Treason Trial Fund through all the trying last few years.

As you perhaps know it has been in the main money from England that has kept us going in the freedom struggle in South Africa, and I would like at this time to express my deep appreciation to you as one of these faithful supporters.

Thank you most sincerely for your kind congratulations on my Award of the Nobel Peace Prize, and for your good wishes.

Mrs. Luthuli and I have indeed enjoyed our stay in Oslo, although we regret the restrictions which prevented our visiting Stockholm or indeed any other city in Norway. We shall be returning to South Africa tomorrow and will do our best to continue the struggle to the victory which I am sure God will bring about for justice and freedom.

Yours Sincerely,

Albert J. Luthuli

Fig.1: Letter posted from Oslo on 15 December 1961 to Mrs. Parker in Warwickshire in England. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1960, Luthuli was allowed by the South African Government to travel to Oslo in 1961 to receive the award.

Mail addressed to the law firm of Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela

Starting in the 1950s, Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo played a crucial role in the struggle against apartheid. Oliver Tambo (27 October 1917 - 24 April 1993), often referred to as Comrade OR within the movement, was a South African anti-apartheid politician and revolutionary who served as President of the African National Congress (ANC) from 1967 to 1991.

In 1955 Tambo had become Secretary-General of the ANC after Walter Sisulu was banned by the South African government under the Suppression of Communism Act. In 1967, following the death of Nobel Laureate Chief Albert Luthuli, he had become Acting President of the ANC.

Mandela and Tambo formed South Africa's first black owned law firm in August 1952 to serve the African community. The law firm, named Mandela and Tambo, was housed in the same building as the ANC headquarters in Chancellor House (Figs.4&5). It was a groundbreaking achievement as during that time most lawyers were white and opposed to the idea of an all-African law firm. Tambo would do most of the paperwork in the office whilst Mandela would represent the clients in

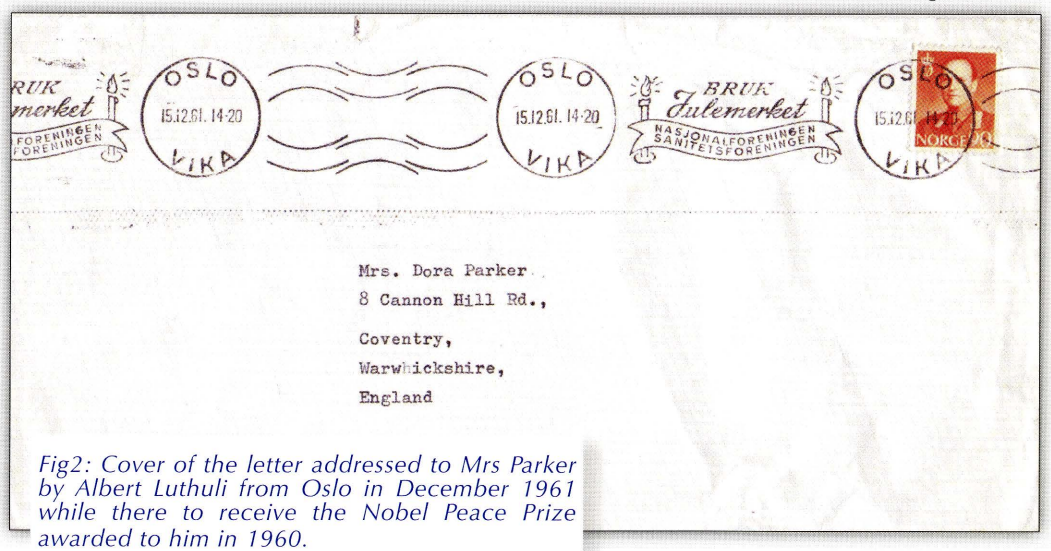


Fig2: Cover of the letter addressed to Mrs Parker by Albert Luthuli from Oslo in December 1961 while there to receive the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to him in 1960.

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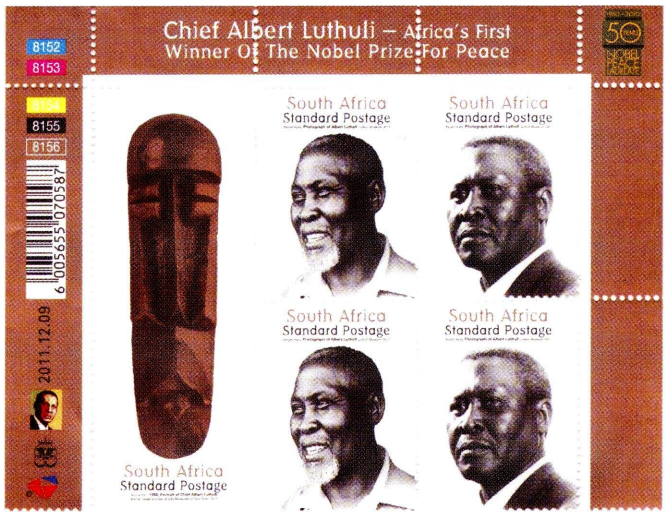

Fig.3: Part of a sheet of stamps issued in 2011 by the South African Post Office to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of this momentous Luthuli's Nobel Laureate.

court. News of the two lawyers spread quickly to the Transkei and the practice soon had so many clients, that Mandela and Tambo's offices extended to the corridors outside. Mandela and Tambo's practice ran for eight years from 1952 until 1960. Both were arrested in 1956, however, and tried for treason. During the Treason Trial as it became known, their legal work was severely curtailed. The Treason Trial ran for four years before the charges were dismissed in 1961.

Tambo was sent abroad by the ANC to mobilise global opposition to apartheid by visiting a number of countries (Fig.6). He and his family then settled in Muswell Hill in north London, where he lived until 1990 (Fig.7).

Mail emanating from the Soweto-uprisings

The Soweto-uprising in 1976 near Johannesburg was a watershed moment in the 'struggle against apartheid'. This was a series of protests led by high school students in South Africa that began on the morning of 16 June, 1976. Students from numerous schools in Soweto began to protest against the introduction of Afrikaans as the medium of instruction in local schools.

It is estimated that some 20,000 students took part. They were, however, met with fierce police brutality with a total of 176 protestors being killed by the police. In memory of the Soweto uprising, June 16th is now celebrated as a public holiday in South Africa. It is called Youth Day.

A number of buildings were burnt down during the riots. The Mozodo Post Office in Soweto which opened in 1966 was closed after being burnt down during the 1976 Soweto riots (Fig.8).

Conclusion

The roles played by Albert Luthuli, Nelson Mandela and Oliver

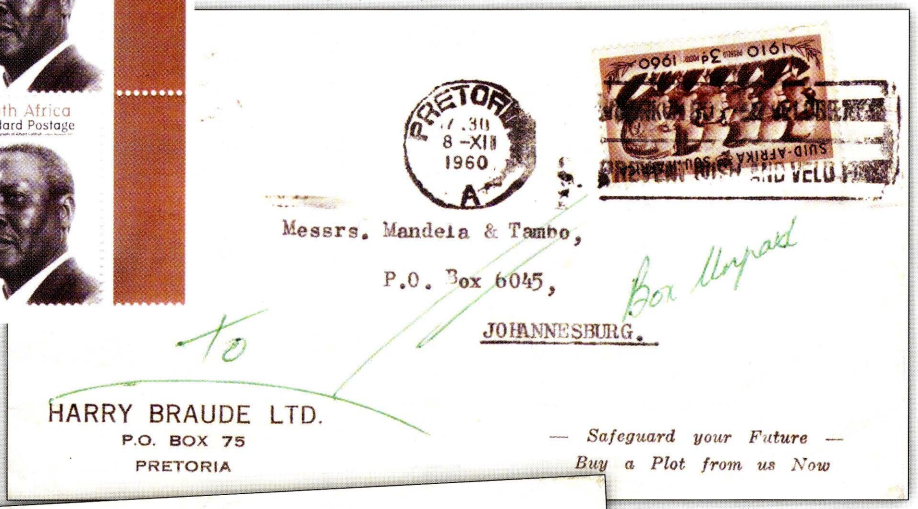

Fig.4: Letter posted from Pretoria on 8 December 1960 from the law firm Harry Braude with annotation in green, 'Box Unpaid'. At that stage the office was already closed as both Mandela and Tambo had been arrested and were being tried for treason. As a symbol of resistance both postage stamps applied on these covers, portraying the different Prime Ministers of the Union, are placed upside down.

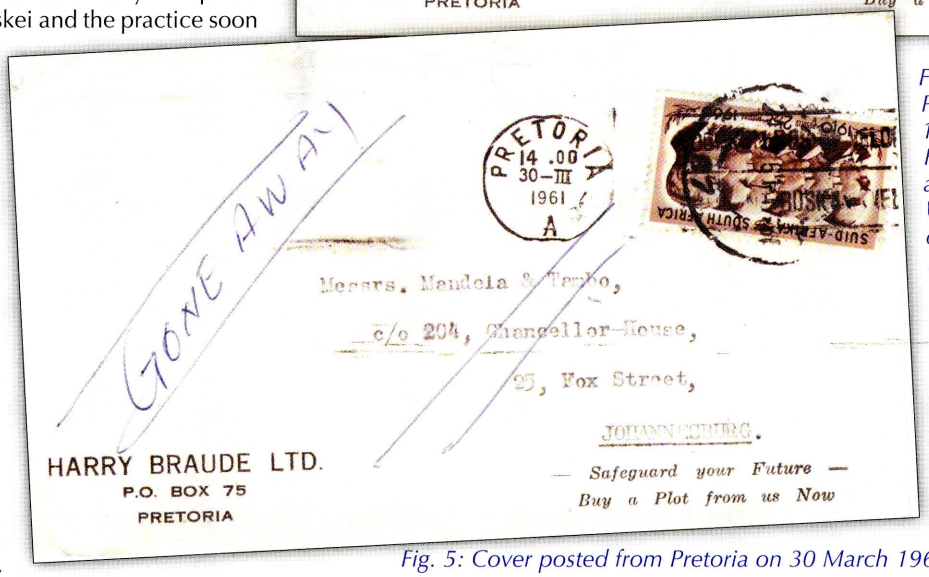

Fig. 5: Cover posted from Pretoria on 30 March 1961.



Fig. 6: Cover posted from the Soviet Union in June 1986 and addressed to Zambia. *The then Soviet Union supported both liberation movements from the early 1960s.*

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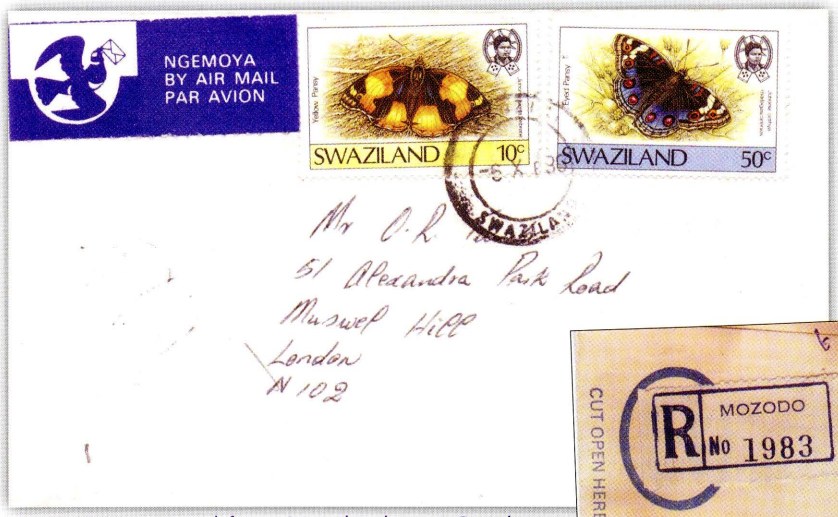

Fig.7: Cover posted from Swaziland on 6 October 1986 to Oliver Tambo at Muswell Hill in London. Despite serious objections from the South African government, Swaziland was used as a route for MK members to infiltrate and leave South Africa .

Tambo in the liberation struggle cannot be exaggerated. Luthuli and Mandela conducted their role from within the country while the ANC's external mission was headed by Tambo. A turning point in the country's struggle history was the 1976 Soweto-uprisings. In short, they constituted a fundamental crisis for National Party rule from which it never fully recovered. From a postal history point of view these documents and covers form an important part of our philatelic heritage.



Fig.8: Riot-damaged registered cover identified by the MOZODO date stamp dated 15 June 1976 with hand stamp "DAMAGED DURING RIOTS JUNE 76 / BESKADIG TYDENS ONLUSTE JUNIE 76" and cachet inscribed "ONDERSOEK / WITWATERSRAND INVESTIGATION / REGIONAL DIRECTOR".

Sources: • Giliomee Herman and Mbenga Bernard, *New History of South Africa*, Tafelberg, Cape Town, 2007.
• All the material illustrated in this article is from the Kamffer collection.

* Please note Images are reduced to approx. 75%.

REPORT ON THE SECOND BOFEX 2017 ONE FRAME VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

The Second Bofex Exhibition staged by the OFS Philatelic Society in Bloemfontein has been well supported with 44 entries of which 18 were from abroad; seven from Australia, five from New Zealand, four from Britain and two from the USA. The overall winner was Dr Ian Matheson of the Wits Philatelic Society with a magnificent show of Entertainment Tax stamps in Russia. Congratulations!

JURY MEMBERS were:
Chairman : Emil Minnaar RDPSA
Secretariat : Joof van der Merwe and
Jan van Beukering
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Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA
Louwrence Erasmus
Michael Smith FRPSL (UK)
Peter van der Molen RDPSA
Cedric Roché RDPSA
Hugh Amoore RDPSA.

One of the problem areas experienced is that the entries from first time exhibitors should, in terms of the entry forms, be of national standard, this to be confirmed by the Society Chairperson on the form. This has not always been adhered to and thus a few of the exhibits received low marks, indicating possible lack of exhibiting experience. It must however also be taken into account that one frame exhibits have a certain set of rules and point scoring aspects which may differ from that of multiframe exhibits. As an example…

The crux of a one frame exhibit is that the contents should be the alpha and omega of the subject shown, thus not just a section of a broader collection. This is of such importance that it is being considered by jurors to either give full marks for 'suitability' or zero, when it is clear that an exhibit is clearly not suitable for a single frame exhibit. At this stage there remains some 'leniency in this respect. Thus the 'story' starts on page one end ends on Page 16!

The top exhibits will be shown at SAPDAPEX 2017 in October in Bedforview while all the exhibits can be viewed on the PFSA Website where descriptions, points scoring structure and virtual exhibits can be viewed at leisure and hopefully stamp collectors can take tips from these on their PCs by viewing the pages and awarding points themselves, to compare with those awarded by the jury at the exhibition.

We will gladly assist any society or federation wishing to stage such an event to give advise on the do's and don'ts and detailed instructions and guidelines for these.

Contact Jan van Beukering
at hosarch@mweb.co.za
or Emil Minnaar at emil@minnaar.org

RESULTS on page 140

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ENCOURAGING KIDS TO CATCH THE COLLECTING BUG

Within many of us there seems to be an innate desire to accumulate things - be they baseball cards, marbles, first editions or postage stamps, and to try and make sense out of disorder by arranging and maybe completing a collection of them. We bemoan the absence of youth in the hobby, but perhaps if we adults encouraged and fostered the collecting bug from an early age, our children might take up philately (before they become obsessed with social media) or perhaps return to it when their own offspring show an interest.

Recently, collecting amongst children was brought to mind whilst shopping when, as a promotion, the supermarket was rewarding customers with animal cards for purchases of R150 or more. Each card depicted a bird, mammal, or marine species in their appropriate habitat, plus informative statistics such as size, weight and risk of extinction.

Interestingly enough, 15 of the 108 cards featured incorrect information and were being recalled by the supermarket, with a swop for the correct card offered. Of course, as a mad stamp collector, these were not handed back, but instead put aside as they may become 'rare' in the future! And for whom are these cards being assembled? - for a two-year old grand-daughter who lives in Singapore. Perhaps the collecting bug will bite and when given a packet of stamps in a few years' time, she might join the ranks of our hobby.

Anyway, whilst wondering what stamps could trigger a collecting interest in a child, I remembered seeing a lovely JUNASS exhibit a few years back, which featured birds that were spotted in the budding philatelist's own garden. Observing doves, thrushes, robins, sparrows and other LBJs (little brown jobs) pushing and fluttering on a bird table for the breakfast crumbs, is such fun for children. Seeing those same birds on postage stamps would add to their delight. With this in mind, here featured are stamps depicting some interesting birds that one can expect to see in a leafy suburban Gauteng garden.

The **Black-Collared Barbet** (Fig.1) is an aggressive eater at the bird table – when he arrives no other species is allowed near, except for his mate or a fellow barbet. They eat insects but relish soft fruits, especially papaya, which they gulp down in large chunks at great speed using their stout bills. A robust bird, it is the only local barbet with a strikingly red face, neck and black collar.



Fig.1: Black-collared Barbet

Another frequent visitor to the garden is the **Bulbul** (Fig.2) who also comes for the morning fruit platter. Bulbuls have a cheerful chattering call that becomes even noisier when they see cats on the prowl. They also catch insects on the wing, but I haven't yet seen them in action.



Fig.2: Black-eyed Bulbul



Fig.3: White-browed Coucal

The **Coucal** (Fig.3) is a firm favourite, skulking about in thick undergrowth looking for grass-hoppers, insects, snails and even small mammals and nesting fledglings. The coucal is a large bird with striking plumage but difficult to spot unless it ventures out to bask in the morning sun. It has a distinctive call – like water gurgling down the drain or being poured from a bottle. The sound is said to signal the arrival of rain – hence its popular name of 'Rain-bird'.

Talking about distinctive bird calls – the prize must go the **Red-chested Cuckoo** (Fig.4). The well-known call of the male that sounds like the Afrikaans words: 'Piet-my-vrou' repeated loudly, heralds the start of summer as most cuckoos migrate from southern Africa in the winter months. Cuckoos are related to coucals – both are from the family *Cuculidae*. The Red-chested Cuckoo lays its (usually) single egg in the nests of hosts such as robins, wagtails, thrushes and chats. Although the cuckoo is often invisible as it perches high up in thick foliage, it is interesting to observe much agitation in these potential host birds when the 'Piet-my-vrou' call is heard.



Fig.4: Red-chested Cuckoo

We once observed a pair of **Thrushes** (Fig.5) trying to feed a young cuckoo. The adults and baby were almost the same size and one almost felt sorry for the thrushes as they struggled to keep up with the cuckoo's voracious appetite. Both the Olive and Kurrichane thrush are common residents, usually occurring singly or with a mate. They help keep down the snail population and also enjoy worms, insects, seeds and fruit.



Fig.5: Kurrichane Thrush

Both the **Speckled** (Fig.6) and **Red-faced Mouse-birds** frequently visit the garden, but



Fig.6: Speckled Mouse-bird

are at risk because their long tails make them slow and awkward at take-off. They also insist on eating vegetables such as green peppers and tomatoes on the knee-height bushes, which makes them vulnerable to a swipe from a cat's paw. The mouse-birds usually arrive in a small group of four or five and clamber about in thick bushes like the bay tree, before huddling down together in a protected sunny spot.

One of the commonest garden birds is the **Fiscal Shrike** (Fig.7). Its black and white colouring and feeding habits give rise to its popular name of 'Butcher Bird'. It has a heavily-built body with a stout bill eminently suited to seizing insects, grasshoppers, lizards, frogs and even nestlings, and sometimes impaling them on thorns or the barbs of wire fences. Usually seen perched on a bush, branch or fence, from where it will swoop down and catch some unsuspecting prey on the ground.



Fig.7: Fiscal Shrike

Most distinctive and attractive birds are the **Red-billed Wood Hoopoes** (Fig.8). One hears them long before one sees them, as they have a noisy high-pitched cackling call and fly from tree to tree in groups of about three to eight. They scramble up and down tree trunks and branches searching in the bark for insects such as termites and caterpillars.

For distinctive plumage let's not forget the **Paradise Flycatcher** (Fig.9). A small bird but with beautiful long rust-coloured tail feathers and slate-grey underparts it is unmistakable as it trills and flits about catching insects in flight – especially small flies, hence its name.

The accolade for the hardest working bird must surely go to the **Masked Weaver** (Fig.10). The male bird never seems to stop building nests but no matter how hard he tries, the elaborate arrangement seldom meets with the females' approval. So he starts from scratch, ripping the discarded nest apart, stripping the leaves from another thin branch and leaving an untidy mess on the ground. He then flies

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Fig.8. Red-billed Wood-hoopoe

frantically to and fro with long strips of leaves or blades of grass in his beak and finally, hanging upside-down, he weaves and plaits the strips into a finely woven oval cup. He actually builds two nests for his females – one used for roosting and the second, more carefully constructed and then lined by the mate, is used for incubation.

These are just a few of the dozens of birds that visit our gardens every day and all one needs to encourage their stay is food, water, trees and nesting material. Collecting stamps on various aspects of bird life adds a new and enjoyable dimension to the past-time of 'twitching'.



Fig.9: Paradise Flycatcher



Fig.10: Masked Weaver

Finally, for those who have a bit more money to spend, the post office has recently issued beautiful stamps featuring African Bee-Eaters, details of which appear in our SA New Issues section on page 138. However, for a child's starter pack, most philatelists will have some inexpensive used stamps or FDCs tucked away, some of which may well feature colourful birds. Look in that shoe-box of left-overs and kindle an interest in a child!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- Postage stamps from Botswana, Ciskei, Gabon, Liberia, Malawi, Rhodesia, Swaziland, Transkei and Zimbabwe.
- *Newman's Birds of Southern Africa* by Kenneth Newman.
- *Roberts Birds of South Africa Revised* by G.R. McLachlan and R. Liversidge.

Filaffie Seëlpret

deur Malisa Erasmus (Filaffie) malisa@erasmus.org.za

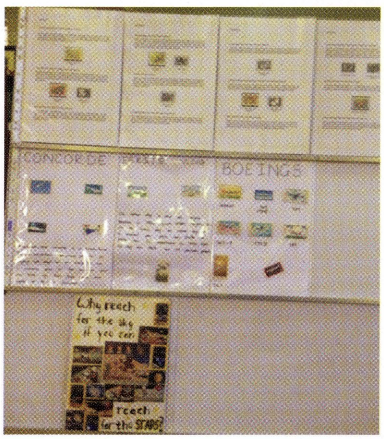
Filaffie is 'n groep meisies wat 'n seëlklub begin het by die Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskool Pretoria. Die naam Filaffie is 'n samestelling tussen filatelie en Affies.

Daar is tans 6 aktiewe lede in die Filaffie. In die begin van die jaar het daar 'n skolier by AHMP navraag gedoen oor hoe om 'n seëlklub te stig by die skool. Na 'n proses om by die regte mense toestemming te kry en die nodige briewe op te stel en vir die betrokke mense te gee om te teken. In Februarie 2017 is die reglimente geteken deur die skoolhoof en was die Filaffie se heel eerste vergadering gehou. Die Filaffie het baie goeie ondersteuning gekry deur die skool.



Lede van die Filaffie: Elize, Malisa, Charlize, Danielle, Monica, Bernice

Die vergaderings word op Donderdae gehou in die skool se mediasentrum tydens pouses maar deur gebruik te maak van sosiale media verander die tye om seker te maak dat die meeste meisies kan bywoon. 'n Byeenkoms duur tussen 15 tot 30 minute van kuier om die interessanthede van filatelie.



Van 27-30 Maart 2017 het ons 'n seëluitstalling gehou in die skoolmediasentrum waar 5 lede van die klub elkeen uitgestal het om vir die skool te wys wat ons doen. Dit was 'n sukses met verskeie besoeke en uitdeel van inligting oor filatelie en seëlversameling.

Filaffie Pret: Hande werk van lede

Op 29 Maart 2017 het ons vir Steve van den Hurk (Uitgetredende President van PFSA en SAPDA), Isak Heath (Oudhoëkommisaris, -ambassadeur en -diplomaat van Suid-Afrika), Petra Heath (AFP-voorsitter en oud-Affie), Herman van Niekerk (AFP-sekretaris en AFP Jong Filatelis), Marge Viljoen (Jeuguitreik van die Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa), Johan Joubert (oud Jeugorganiseerder van PFSA en AFP-lid), Louwrence Erasmus (Filaffie-adviseur en AFP-lid) en Ronel Erasmus (ouer) uitgenooi om na ons uitstalling te kom kyk en te sien hoe ons klub werk.

Tydens die skool se opedag vir voornemende skoliere, het die Filafie op 10 Mei 2017 ook 'n uitstalling gehad. Marge Viljoen het kom hand bysit en meer as 100 pamflette, oud *Setempe's* en *SA Philatelist's* is uitgedeel aan belangstellende meisies.

Die klub ondersteun ook JUNASS vanjaar met twee inskrywings. Malisa Erasmus skryf twee rame in getiteld *'Men on the Moon'* wat handel oor die mense wat op die maan geloop het. Die klub het een raam ingeskryf, getiteld *'Filaffie Pret'* waarin die werk van die lede van die klub uitgestal word. Dit het van traditionele manier tot nuwe radikale maniere om seëls op 'n prettige manier te behandel.

Ons as Filaffies wil net baie graag dankie sê aan almal wat ons ondersteun en gehelp het om te kom waar ons nou is. Al die skenkings van boeke, tydskrifte, katalogusse, filatelie materiaal, tangetjies, albums, ens. word opreg waardeer.

Dr Louwrence Erasmus: louwrence@erasmus.org.za

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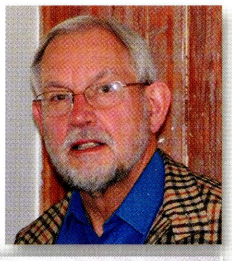
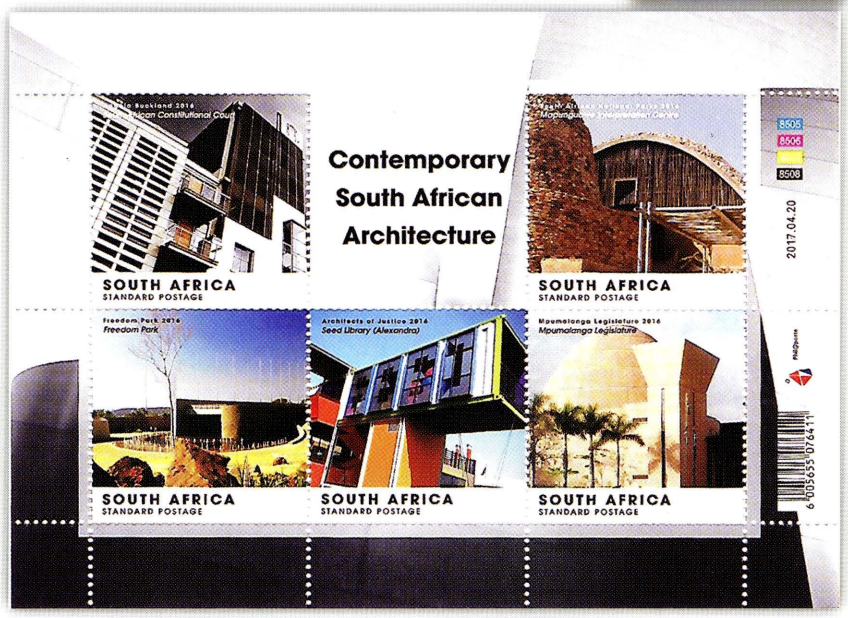
New South African Stamp Issues 2017 - Part III



by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

Firstly: additional information missing from the June 2017 edition of *The SA Philatelist*.



8 February 2017 – UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE CENTENARY

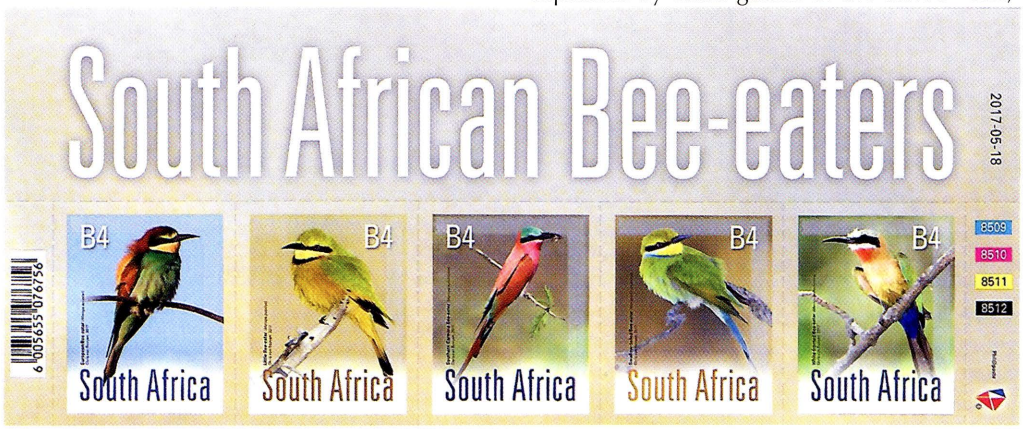
Printing sheet size: 450 x 665mm comprising nine sheetlets arranged in three rows of three.

20 April 2017 – CONTEMPORARY SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURE

Denominations: 5 x Standard Postage (R3.90)
Designer: Cyril Maphumulo, from photographs.
Top left: Constitutional Court Buildings, Johannesburg;
Top right: Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre, Limpopo;
Bottom left: Freedom Park, Pretoria;
Bottom centre: Seed Library, Alexandra; in addition it might be worth adding an explanation for the 'Seed Library'. This is not a library of, or for, 'seeds' but the actual library of the MC Weiler Primary School. A library for 'planting' seeds, *"where buildings such as this could act as symbols of, and contribute to, a materially better future"*. The building is made of shipping containers positioned perpendicular to each other.
Bottom right: Mpumalanga Legislature, Nelspruit.
Printer: Phil@poste (logo appearing on sheetlet)
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 38 x 38mm
Gum: PVA
Sheetlet size: 144 x 106mm comprising the 5 different designs arranged in two rows as shown in illustration.
Phosphor: Coated paper
Quantity: 100,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8505 (blue), 8506 (red), 8507 (yellow) and 8508 (black).
Perforation: 13.2 x 13.3, extending through side and bottom margins of sheetlet.
**Printing sheet size:* 455 x 553mm, comprising eight sheetlets arranged in four rows of two.
First Day Cover: No. 8.105 of standard size (188 x 102mm), of which 500 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.93 – 'PRETORIA | 20.04.2017'.

18 May 2017 – SOUTH AFRICAN BEE-EATERS

Denominations: 5 x B4 (R9.55)
Designs: From photographs by Chris van Rooyen.
Stamp 1: European bee-eater *(Merops apiaster)*;
Stamp 2: Little bee-eater *(Merops pusillus)*;
Stamp 3: Southern carmine bee-eater *(Merops nubicoides)*;
Stamp 4: Swallow-tailed bee-eater *(Merops hirundineus)*;
Stamp 5: White-fronted bee-eater *(Merops bullockoides)*.
Printer: Phil@poste
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 30 x 38mm
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 5mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the left, right and bottom sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 194 x 140mm comprising two *se tenant* strips of the five designs arranged one above the other.
Phosphor: 3.5 mm yellow bands on top and right margins of each stamp.
Quantity: 80,500 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8509 (blue). 8510 (red), 8511 (yellow) and 8512 (black).
**Printing sheet size:* 457 x 614 mm, comprising eight sheetlets arranged in four rows of two.
First Day Cover: No. 8.106 of standard size, of which 500 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.94 – 'ELLISRAS' / '18-05-2017'.



***NOTE:** The printers did not supply uncut printing sheets. However they did send JPG images of the full sheets from which the overall measurements were estimated.

Acknowledgement:
This information was collated from the electronic edition of *SETEMPE* (Vol 22 No 2 May - Aug 2017), news-letters of the RSA Stamp Study Group and personal observations.



PRAGA 2018 Exhibition
15 - 18 August 2018
Preparations for the PRAGA 2018 Exhibition are well underway. The SA National Commissioner is Emil Minnaar RDPSA. Closing date for entries is 31 Oct 2017. Entry fee is €70. **website: www.praga2018.cz**
Jiri Sedlak - General Commissioner PRAGA 2018. sedlak@praga2018.cz

PRAGA 2018
Opletalova 1337/29.
110 00 Praha 1.
Czech Republic

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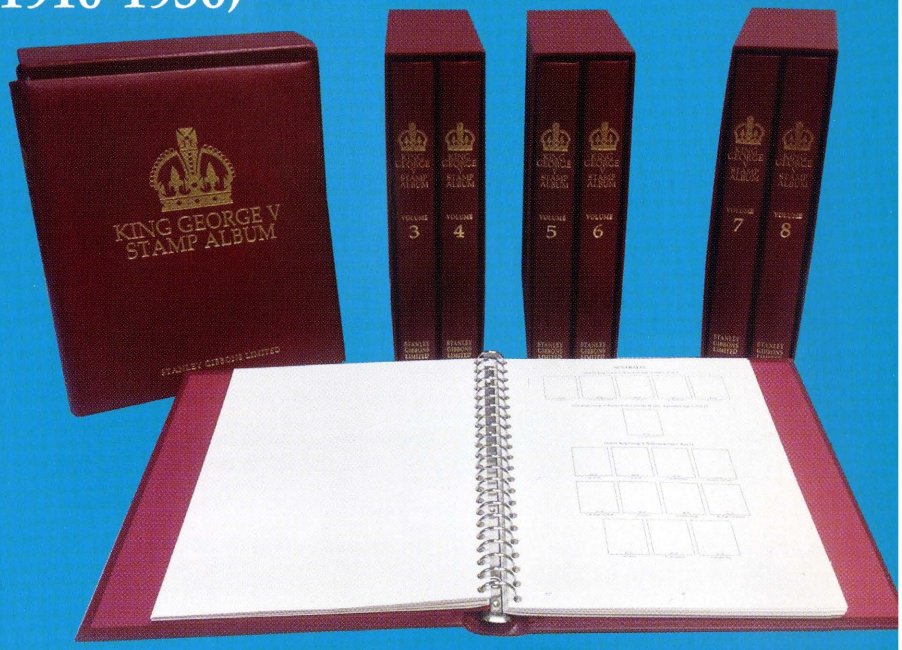
Stanley Gibbons
Publications

King George V Album (1910-1936)



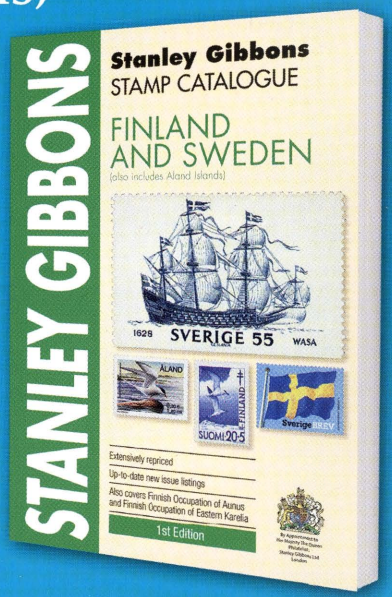
The King George V set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue. For all Postage, Air, Due, Postal Fiscal and Official Stamps. There are spaces for all perforation and watermark changes (including sideways but not inverted or reversed), different plates, Types and Dies. Shades and varieties are not included. **In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers have been included.** There are information pages before page 1 and many illustrations of Types and Dies to aid in identifying the correct space for a stamp. The eight volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in four slipcases.

The KGV Indian States album will be available as a separate two volume set. Blank leaves and additional binders are available for you to expand your collection.

King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album R3413 R13,375
King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album with mounts R3413-HL R18,750

Finland & Sweden (including Aland Islands)

1st Edition 2017



The Stanley Gibbons Finland and Sweden Catalogue is the only catalogue published in English which covers all the stamp issues of these countries in a single volume. It is a detailed and highly informative catalogue, ideal for any collector who specialises in the stamps of this area.

Information is provided at the beginning of each country, covering history, early stamp issues and currency changes, this information is designed to aid the collector in identifying their stamps and also to provide an historical reference for the stamp listings.

Apart from the stamps of the current issuing countries, the Stanley Gibbons Finland and Sweden Catalogue covers a number of other areas of interest:

- Finnish Occupation of Aunus
- Finnish Occupation of Eastern Karelia
- Karelia
- North Ingermanland

Current stamp issuing countries listed and updated in the catalogue include:

- Aland Islands – updated to November 2016
- Finland – February 2017
- Sweden – November 2016

CODE: R1428-17 R700

Our representative is our Southern African distributor Peter Bale of Peter Bale Philatelics (cell: 082 330 3925) to contact for all of your requirements.

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BOPEX 2017

RESULTS OF THE ONE FRAME VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

14 & 15 July 2017 - Continued from page 135

HOBBY EXPO 2017

Name:	Exhibit title:	Points
Matheson Dr I, PS of J	*Entertainment Tax in Russia*	91
Marshall Dr R, WPS New Zealand	*Russian Mail to Britain*	88
Suttill M, Royal PS CT	*GB - The Low Value Printing Changes of 1879*	88
Glassman Dr D L, Wits PS	*Pre-Philatelic Postal History of Jerusalem*	86
Suttill M, Royal PS CT	*GB - The Circular Delivery Companies*	86
Chandler Prof. D, Sandton PS	*Maltese Cross Cancellations*	85
Chitty L, Waikato PS New Zealand	*POW Air Letter Cards*	83
Monk G, Eastern Dist's PS Aus.	*Study of the Australian 1d Die 3*	83
Watson B, Wellington PS NZ	*Surface Letter Postal Rates NZ to USA*	83
Roland M, EDPS Australia	*'Green Emu', Australian Frama Paper*	83
Du Plessis A, Pretoria PS	*Air Mail Stamps of the Union*	82
Stewart G, Southland PS NZ	*S Rhodesia WWII Censorship*	82
Suttill M, Royal PS CT	*GB – The College Stamp*	82
Jones J, Southampton PS GB	*USA and Great Britain 1849 - 1875*	81
Cheetham P, The GB Society	*The Post Magazine and Borders*	79
Figg D, APC Australia	*Brookes Limited*	79
Hoffman C, RSC	*Early Postcards of Cape Town*	78
Thy P, WPS USA	*The Other Parts of the Bechuanaland P O*	77
Figg D, APC Australia	*A Child's Plea....*	76
Cahoon E , APS USA	*The FIPEX Triangles*	74
Erasmus Dr L, AFV	*Union Christmas Seals on Golden Jubilee Seals*	74
Coetzee P, Wits PS	*Coil Stamps of the Rhodesias*	72
Viljoen D, Highway PS	*Guernsey & Jersey: 1940 – 1969*	72
Pienaar G, Johannesburg PS	*The Birth of the Scout Movement*	72
Roland M, EDPS Australia	*Helipost in Belgium (1947 – 1958)*	71
Venter L, OFSPS	*Union King George VI Coronation Issue*	71
Van der Molen P, East Rand PS	*The 2012 Olympics*	70
Du Plessis A, Pretoria PS	*Printing Techniques SA Stamps*	69
Sutton M, Taranaki PS NZ	*Nyasaland 1913-33 KGV Revenues*	69
Williams J, OFSPS	*Varieties on the RSA 1974 - 1977 Issues*	69
Erasmus Dr L, AFV	*A Study of the 12½c Stamps in South Africa*	68
Beyleveld J, Highway PS	*Commemorating 1849 British Settlers*	68
Roland M, EDPS Australia	*The 4th Dimension*	67
McLellan-Smith Dr R., Highway PS	*Anti Slavery Reforms Victorian Era*	67
V d Merwe J, OFSPS	*RSA 4th Definitives Some Print ID Aspects*	66
Roland Mrs J, EDPS Australia	*Manual Labour*	65
Van Beukering J, OFSPS	*RSA Postage Due Notices 1981 – 2000*	65
Viney R, Shropshire PS GB	*Sample Mail*	64
Mitchell V, Port Elizabeth PS	*South African War Correspondence*	61
Dooley T, East Rand PS	*The Power of One*	55
Von Varendorff R, Johannesburg PS	*'5th Province' of the Union*	55
Wenger R, Wits PS	*The Viennese Newspaper Wrapper*	52
De Waal Mrs J, OFSPS	*Nederlandse Koningshuis 1849 – 2013*	50
Kisch B, Highway PS	*Cape of Good Hope Woodblocks*	50



GUESS THE STAMP

Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image - Guess correctly - send your answer to the Editorial Board and you stand to WIN a stationery hamper!

The April issue stamp - 1977 SACC415 or SG411 15c International Wine Symposium: Thank you Etienne Malherbe of Polokwane - this issues winner and the first correct entry drawn

*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

Send your answer to janice@gdb.co.za by 12th September 2017

NOW GUESS WHAT THIS IS?







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Society News

STAMP FAIRS:

*All **SAPDA** run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:

2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za
Directions: From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. Contact Kenny Napier: 083 4440249 mail: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

- KZN STAMP FAIR:

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873,
email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- BLUFF STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey
Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468
email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za

- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:

Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. *As usual, a number of dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc.* **Meeting dates for 2017:** 12 Aug, 2 Sept (auction day), 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). Note: All on the 1st Saturday of the month except 17 June - 3 Saturday & 12 Aug - 2nd Saturday. If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair and please mark it clearly with your details.

SAPDAPEX 2017
The National Exhibition will be held at the Italian Club in Bedfordview from 11 - 14 October 2017. In excess of 200 frames have been received.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

9 August	One Frame Evening
13 September	Annual Auction
11 October	Favourite Cover/s
8 November	Second Competitive Evening
6 December	President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY
For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month , except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*
Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join. *Contact:* Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr,
Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme 2017 :
Aug 16 : Southern Africa
Aug 30 : 5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 20 : Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 18 : My favourite (Maximum of one frame) and thematics
Nov 15 : Inter-society quiz, invited exhibits
Nov 29 : 5th Wed - Festive Function
Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments & safe parking. *President*: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com
Treasurer: Tom Dooley; dickens@global.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome.
For further information contact: Chris Carey
083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374 - *Chairman* or Ian Walker, *Secretary*.Tel: 011 4721161
email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za Meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius Street, Weltervreden Park.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
- *Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393*
- *Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927*

Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark @ 10:00. Klein maar baie aktiewe en produktiewe groepie lede wat gereeld bywoon; konsentreer veral ook op tematiese en oop versamelings. Nuusbrief '*Die Posduif*' verskyn elke maand.

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every last Tuesday of the month, *Contact:* Peter Gutsche, PO Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise amongst them.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. ***Contact***: Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Smalls

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

WANTED: CHRISTMAS BOOKLETS. A South African collector looking to buy South African Christmas Stamp Booklets (1934-1965) to complete collection. Outstanding list can be provided. Contact Dirk Strooberg dirkstrooberg@telkomsa.net

EXCHANGE: Italian / Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

EXCHANGE: From Switzerland, a 34 year old. Topics include Monarchs, Scouts, Pope, Olympic Games, World Expo, Christmas, New Year.
Contact: Dennis Buob. Kugelgasse 4.CH – 9000 St.Gallen.Switzerland. asterix4051@gmail.com

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for Programme details.*

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662. Andrew Mclaren 0737542856. 021 6844361 (work).

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gassprekers, ervaar praatjies/demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting.

Besoekers altyd welkom. Visitors always welcome. Join us. Kom saam of kontak robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President:* Dave Young, email: davsue@telkomsa.net *Secretary:* Volker Janssen. **Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS**

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510.
St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai.
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos 082 767 5004
Tel / Faks: 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie 082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 084 635 5884, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 6337874 email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 francois@softchem.co.za

- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. ***MEETINGS*** *always on* ***Monday*** *evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*

2017 meeting dates: 7 Aug, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, (Venue unavailable 6/11/17), 30 October. *Be advised the December President's evening - 29 November in the form of a supper and not on 4* December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. ***Contact****:* Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082. email davehmcwil@lantic.net
Secretary: J.Muller. Tel 043 721 0327.

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com *Secretary:* Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za *Membership*: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za Bev McNaught-Davis, telephone: 031 904 1522 or 081 270 2873.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
The Thematics Group meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. Venue: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie. ***Secretary:*** Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.
Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager, Janet Kimmince - Membership,Graham Bruce - Librarian, Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, Val de Jager - Catering Officer

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are now held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
Contacts : *Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kawecki (Vice-President) 0829686888 Email zeptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162*
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Louise Oswin Residence, 1 Beach Road Southport 4230. PO Box 228. Anerley 4230. *Meetings*: 3rd Saturday of the month at 14h00. *Contact:* Noel Lavery: 039 695 1642, Cell 082 440 5501. email noel@accessweb.co.za
Secretary: Louise Oswin. Tel 039 681 3265 cell 079 505 6044 email: oswin@telehost.co.za

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 28 June, 26 July, 30 Aug, 27 Sep, 25 Oct, 29 Nov.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za
PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time.
Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

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OCTOBER
2017

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 93:5. 944

www.stamps.org.za



SAPDAPEX 2017

National Philatelic Exhibition

AT THE ITALIAN CLUB, BEDFORDVIEW

Wednesday 11th to Saturday 14th October 2017

ISSN 0038-2566

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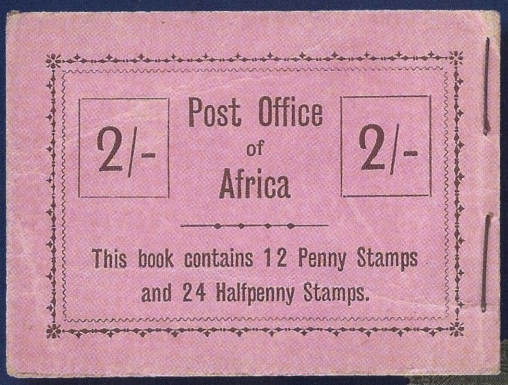
ORANGE RIVER COLONY

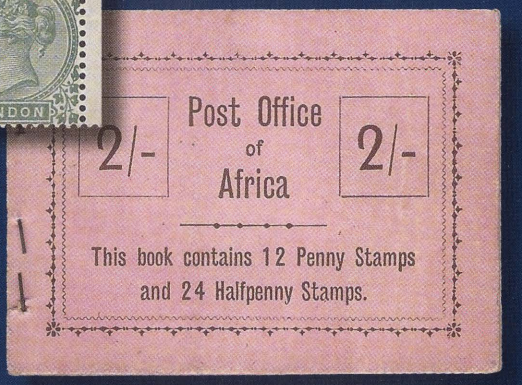
That "Missing" Booklet...



1905 De La Rue "Post Office of Africa" SAMPLE BOOKLET TRIAL provided in response to a request from the Orange River Colony postal authorities for a 2/- booklet. Salmon covers with interleaves between four panes of green (½d) and two panes of red (1d) De La Rue dummy stamps. VF intact unexploded. An exhibition showpiece for connoisseur, likely unique from the De La Rue Archives.



The booklet proposal remained unaccepted. Buckley & Marriott (1976) illustrate the ORC booklet trial with commentary "There is a complete booklet in the De La Rue Archives and a dismembered booklet in the Reginald Phillips GB collection in the National Postal Museum, London. No other examples appear to have been recorded."



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The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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- Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
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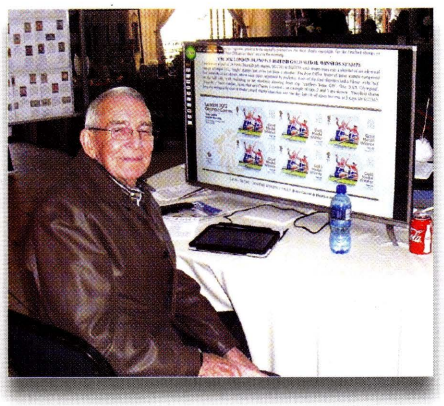
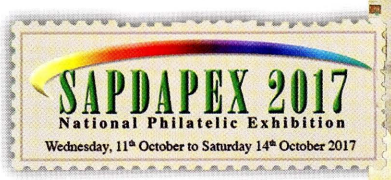
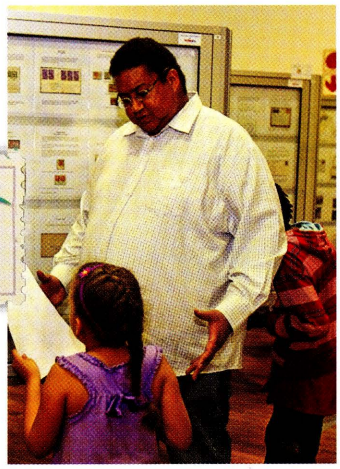
- Federation Plaque 2004,
- Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- Large Silver NZ Literature Exhib 2007,
- Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.



157 *TV screens at BOFEX 2017, creating an 'up-front and close-up 'view of the one frame exhibits - seen here with Jimmy Mitchell.*





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the Italian Club in Bedfordview
11 to 14 October 2017

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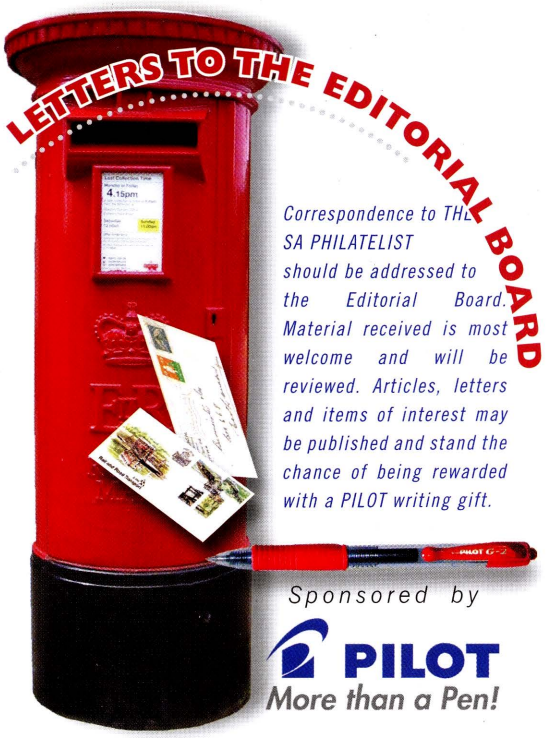

DO YOU KNOW?

This block of four 1913 King George V 1½d stamps has been cancelled with what looks like a unique cancellation with the letters 'D N' over a '1' in a purple colour. It would be appreciated if any reader could help to unravel the mystery surrounding the use and purpose of this cancellation and possibly where and when it could have been used. Please send comments to janice@gdb.co.za.

Jimmy Mitchell, ERPS.



Alex Visser sheds light on the query: *"The item illustrated is a parcel canceller, and one does not see many of them because they were invariably ugly impressions or used on parcels that were not saved. The item is listed in the Putzel Postmarks Addendum as No. 238z5. Durban had a range of these cancellers in different styles up to counter 13. Since there is no date and items are usually on piece or soaked, the stamp issues suggest that they were used from the early 1910s to the 1940s. Besides Durban, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria used a similar style with abbreviated office name."*

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

Contributions and **letters** for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist*, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. South Africa or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

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PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463.

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From: Jan and Martha Viljoen
mailto: janv1@lantic.net
To the Editorial Board,
My husband Jan recently dug out his stamp collection, last looked at in the late 60s. It started a renewed interest in the family and when I recently went through old family memorabilia, I came across a postcard/Christmas card dated November 1944, the month and year in which I was born. The fact that the air mail stamp was hand-drawn caught my attention.
Is it possible to tell from where it was posted?
Is it of any significance to a collector?
Regards
Martha Viljoen

... a few notes from Jill Redmond...

According to 'Militaria' (Military Historical Periodical) South African APO (Army Post Office) 5, (6 SA Armed Division HQ), had been in Prato, in the foothills of the Apennines, 13 km NW of Florence, Italy since 4th October 1944. In November 1944 the SAAF Shuttle Service was increased to seven planes each week between the Union, Middle East and Italy. However, heavy rains caused washaways between Prato and Arezzo and possibly the mail went via road. Before 23 April 1945 APO5 moved to San Giovanni.
To answer your question, correspondence from a South African in Italy during WW2 would be of interest to a collector.
Sincerely,
Jill Redmond
Secretary: Philatelic Federation of SA

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for **final submission of advertising material** to avoid late delivery. Articles should be submitted in the month prior:

- ***December*** 2017
  Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017
- ***February*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018
- ***April*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018
- ***June*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018
- ***August*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018

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

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ADDING TO THE DISCUSSION

The Editor

Despite the interesting contribution in *SAP* August 2017 there appears to a question mark about attributing the **Cork Canceller to 'Rietfontein'**. The markings on the card nowhere involve 'P.O. Rietfontein'. The word Rietfontein appears only as the writer's address. That name is ubiquitous (and found even in Pretoria) - as is Doornfonten (found even in Johannesburg), often with duplication within the same district due to subdivisions and otherwise. A special tie is known in Winburg where there is a Dutch Reformed Church congregation named Rietfontein. It may have been a sentimental play on the first 1837 settlement on the farms Waayfontein, Doringpoort and Rietfontein.

Why then a Doornfontein hand stamp? The writer of the card, mentioning his grandchild, may have been a farmer or trader who moved beyond his Rietfontein farm, district Winburg and for convenience posted the card at Doornfontein. I, however, read the card as posted at Winburg. There was handling of the card at Doornfontein on the same day as in Winburg. Doornfontein seems the second and not the first stamp to have been applied. The best route for an overseas letter was probably via the rail system. Winburg had no rail link. It gained a rail line in 1898 and then only to Smaldeel (Theunissen). That was three years after the dates on the post card. In 1892, after gold was found on the Reef, the rail line went from Bloemfontein to Smaldeel to Kroonstad. In 1895 Doornfontein office or Postal Agency could have had proximity to that line if only it was west of Winburg and not east. The cork canceller discloses nothing. There is only an argument on probabilities: Winburg as the older and more settled place rather that newer small places would be a site possessing cork cancellers that are associated with an older era. But then that cork canceller was that of Winburg, not Rietfontein P.A..

I doubt whether Archie Batten was correct.

H C J (Monus) FLEMMING
011 888 5215 Dale Brook Singel 15 VICTORY PARK 2195

ERRATA

COMMENT on Mike Tonking's article 'SOME OBSERVATIONS ON VALUE AND RARITY'

published in *The SAP* August 2017, page 121

Concerning the above article, we received a communication from Howard Green RDPSA, who felt that the article constituted mis-information.

We thank Howard for his response and apologise for the facts that the values quoted in the table are somewhat out-of-date, and are expressed in R(ands) which should in all cases have been in Pounds Sterling, at the noted exchange rate 1£=R16, but since this latter mistake is a constant, it does not affect the relative comparisons which Mike Tonkin made.

Howard Green kindly provided more recent values which are given below, now all expressed in Pounds Sterling at the same rate of exchange of £1 to R16:

Stamp	Quantity	SG Catalogue £	SACC Catalogue £	Recent Realisations £
Academy of Science	6 mint	6,000	15,625	4,673.00 Murray Payne 07/17
Centenary of Red Cross	12 mint (MT:±40, HG:12)	4,500	15,625	7 551.60 SPINK 04/17
Transkei Legislative	15 mint (MT:22, HG:15)	3 250	13,750	no recent sales recorded
Nursing Anniversary	25 mint	3 500	10,000	4,557 Spink 04/17

Based on the above, it would be difficult to fault Mike's observation that the SACC values are up to three times higher than those of SG, and his other observations about relative rarity remain largely valid – in two cases Howard Green quoted a different quantity but they are all extremely rare!

As Mike Tonking stated at the close of his article, *"At the end of the day, the true value of any stamp is what someone is prepared to pay for it."*

The Editorial Board

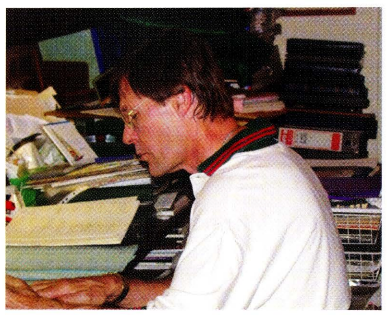
Do you want to get your spirit in touch with the history of your country or adopted country? Do you want to retain your sense of wonder about the world you live in? ... even when you're retired?!

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the stamps which would assist you in doing this and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value. But don't you want to go further ...want to link yourself to a process which offers you the ability to spell out to your offspring the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt?

Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately can do this for you. Further, it's the only segment which attracts non-collectors of stamps to have a close-up look. That makes your exhibit special. Half of your 'Open Class' exhibit could include key family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which turned your life around, even letters and documents from persons who similarly shared your losses and victories.

There are but a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness in your life, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.





Zulu Chief Dimuzulu kaCetshwayo exiled by the British authorities in the Colony of Natal between 1890 and 1897

PAUL VAN ZEYL
trading as
RAND STAMPS

Contact details: **E-mails** *(preferable)* **paulvz@mweb.co.za**
Mobile/cell: ++27-76 124 9055
Tel: ++27-12-329 2464 fax to e-mail: ++27-86 613 8862
Postal address: Box 11133, Queenswood, 0121 Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

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COLLECTING REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (1910-1961)

Part 1:Background to revenue stamp collecting and the Interprovincial Period (1910-1913)

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



REVENUE STAMPS AS A FIELD OF COLLECTING IN SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELY

In the philatelic world, the collecting and display of revenue stamps was once considered to be on par with the collecting and display of postage stamps. The advent of the First World War, however, saw a marked decline in this field of philately and it was not until the mid-1970s that it regained its popularity. The only exception during this period was the United States of America. In South Africa, interest in revenue stamps was reignited in April 1956 when the doyen of South African revenue stamps, Leonard J. Dodd of Pretoria, co-authored the first in a series of articles in *The South African Philatelist (SAP)* entitled 'The Customs Duty Stamps of the Union of South Africa' with T.B. Berry.

This was followed in the September 1956 issue of the *SAP* by 'Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa'. In the article Dodd stated the following: *"Collectors of revenue stamps comprise a small percentage of the world's collectors of stamps. Overseas the percentage is greater than in the Union, where, perhaps due to custom, the collection of Revenue Stamps is a very neglected sideline of the Union's issues, notwithstanding the fact that Revenue Stamps are produced by the same means, from the same materials, and in like manner as are postage stamps. They are sold side by side over the post office counter with postage stamps, the ½d. and 1d. values which are inscribed accordingly, may be used for postage and revenue purposes, and find a place of honour in every collection comprising the postage stamps of the Union".*

This was followed in the November 1959 edition of the *SAP* with 'The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa', a paper which Dodd had read before the Pretoria Philatelic Society. It was an overview of the entire series of revenue stamps issued between 1910 and 1961. Dodd was also responsible for the classification of the different series of revenue issues of the Union.

Clive Akerman from *The Revenue Society of Great Britain* stated that the prime mover behind the renaissance in revenue stamp collecting was Robson Lowe who held a series of major auction sales of revenue stamps in the mid-1970s. These included large volumes of archival material representing the majority of countries in the world including the Union of South Africa. People, such as myself, used this opportunity to build a fascinating collection of revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa. At the 1987 national stamp exhibition Paarl 300, I had the privilege of gaining the State President's Trophy - the National Grand Prix - for my collection *Inkomsteseëls van die Unie van Suid-Afrika*. Complaints were later lodged that the Grand Prix had been awarded to a collection of 'Cinderella' material, these being revenue stamps. An article was subsequently published in *The Cinderella Philatelist* in July 1988 where the issue was thoroughly debated. The chairman of the Jury, Oom Thys Rall RDPSA, responded to the critics that revenue stamps had outgrown any possible past prejudices and that the Paarl 300 National jury was completely satisfied that it had made a well-deserved award.

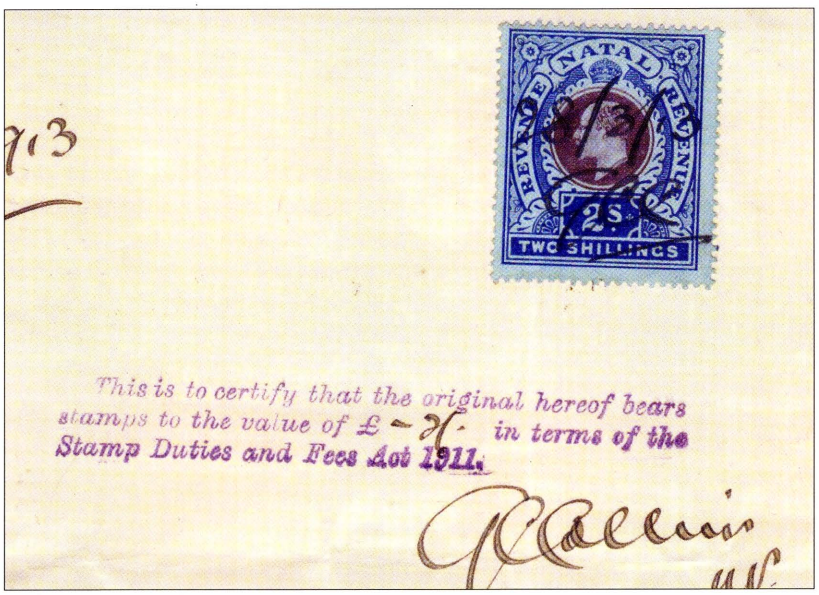

Fig.1: Part of a document with the manner of payment by means of a 2/- Natal revenue stamp cancelled on 28 March 2013. Note the rubber stamp applied below the stamp referring to the Stamp Duties and Fees Act.

In the same article Cedric Roché, (Pretoria Philatelic Society) commented that Revenues were stamps, frequently printed by the same printers who printed postage stamps using the same paper and watermarks as postage stamps. He pointed out that they were often used for postage as well as revenue, that they were dispensed by postal offices, collected by stamp collectors since the origins of philately and widely catalogued in stamp catalogues from 1843 to approximately 1916. *"It is part of classic philately"* he concluded.

Since then, revenue stamp collecting has grown from strength to strength globally as well as in South Africa. At the 1991 FIP Congress in Japan, revenue stamps were included as a separate category for exhibitions with special regulations being drawn up for their evaluation and exhibition.

While postage stamps of the Union of South Africa have been minutely studied, their revenue stamp counterparts still provide the seasoned philatelist with an opportunity to explore something new and fascinating in the field of South African philately. An added advantage to collecting revenue stamps is that the cost involved is relatively modest when compared to that of postage stamps.

South Africa is well represented internationally in terms of revenue stamp collecting; Cedric Roché RDPSA has been elected as a Bureau member on the FIP Revenue Commission and he, along with Howard Green RDPSA, are both qualified international jurors.

The *British Commonwealth Revenues* catalogue issued by Barefoot has colour images of revenue stamps and aims to present a listing of all adhesive revenue stamps of



Fig.2: Transvaal 1d postage/revenue stamp used on a Stock Bond dated 28 December 1910 during the Union-period.

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the British Commonwealth in simplified form. This is currently the most authoritative source on British Commonwealth revenue stamps. In another recent article published in *The Springbok,* the South African Collectors' Society Quarterly magazine in the UK, Tony Howgrave-Graham wrote a series of two articles: *The Revenue Stamps of the Union 1910-1946*, in which he indicated that: *"The revenue stamps are generally considered the poor cousins of their postage counterparts but they are, in fact, equally interesting and have added appeal of having some juicy high values"*. A recent worthwhile publication adding to our philatelic literature is, *Entertainments Tax in South Africa,* co-authored by Ian Matheson and Andrew McClellan.



Fig.3: Impression of a die for a cheque stamp.

THE DEFINITION OF REVENUE STAMPS

Revenue stamps were introduced to collect taxes for a variety of fiscal reasons. They are issued by national and local governments as well as official bodies of various kinds. No direct service is rendered for the paying of a revenue stamp but it can be regarded as a receipt for taxes or duties. Their use is not optional but forms part of the law of the land as they are issued by different levels of government.

In terms of the FIP exhibiting guideline, a competitive revenue exhibit should comprise embossed, imprinted or adhesive tax, fee or credit stamps issued by, or under, the origination authority of a state or municipal or intermediate governmental authority. Such exhibits will display one or more such type of stamp and, where appropriate, will explain and make suitable reference to the reasons for - and where necessary the regulations relating to - the services and transactions of other matter being considered.

A display of Union Revenue stamps could include the following types of stamps: Revenue stamps, Penalty stamps, Consular stamps, Assize stamps, Customs Duty stamps, Entertainment Duty stamps, Native Tax labels and Cigarette labels. All of these will be illustrated in the series of articles to follow.

THE STAMP DUTIES AND FEES ACT, 1911 (ACT NO. 30 OF 1911)

Any collector of the revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa should take note of The Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911, as amended, to understand the manner of denoting payment of duty by means of revenue stamps in terms of the Act. (fig.1)

"Revenue or postage/revenue stamps: The payment of any duty or fee payable by law shall be denoted by means of an adhesive revenue stamp or stamps of not less than the required value affixed to the instrument chargeable and defaced as prescribed by the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911 as amended providing that: in the case of any instrument liable to the duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting duty (fig.2) *and payment of duty may be denoted by means of impressed stamps in respect of the following classes of instruments: cheques, bills of exchange liable to a fixed rate of duty, proxies and receipts"* (fig.3,4).

The Act also defined the defacement of revenue stamps: *"An adhesive revenue stamp shall not be deemed duly stamped unless the person required by law to deface the stamp by writing or impressing in ink on or across the stamp his name or initials, or the name or title of his firm or company or his business name, together with the true date of the defacement liable to a fixed rate of duty, proxies and receipts"*.

INTERPROVINCIAL USAGE OF REVENUE STAMPS

On 31 May 1910, the Union of South Africa came into being. No Union postage or revenue stamps were available on 31 May 1910. The revenue stamps which were used from that date until the King George V series appeared on 1 September 1913, were those previously current in the former colonies, bearing the head of King Edward VII.

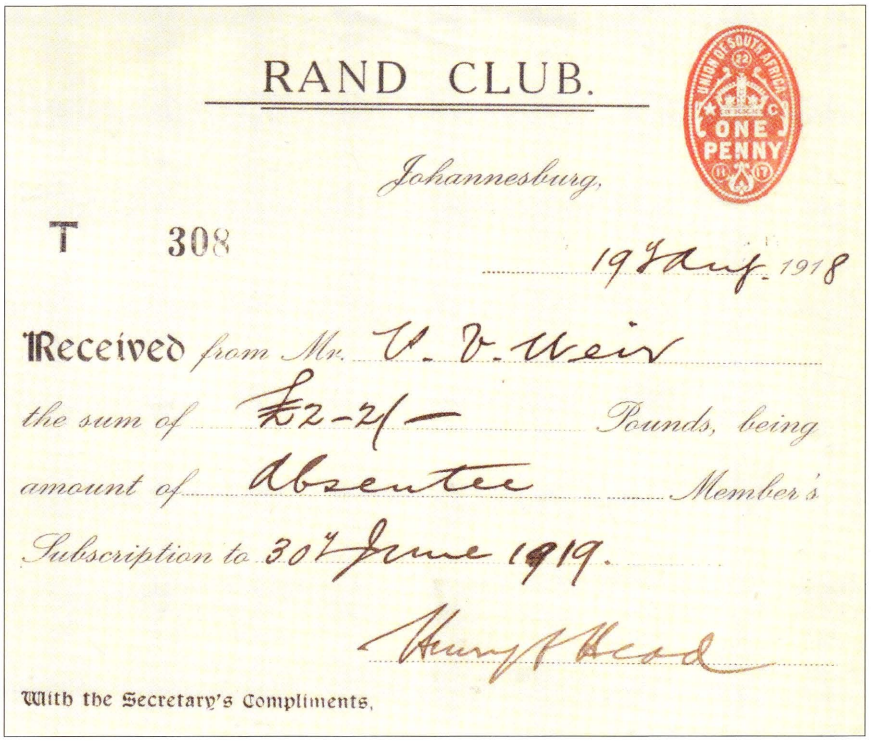

Fig.4: Receipt of the Rand Club dated 19 August 1918 with the impressed revenue stamp.

Government Notice No. 349 dated 15 August 1910 stated: *"Revenue stamps in authorised use on the 30th May 1910 in*



Fig.5: Deed of Transfer originally lodged when Cape revenue stamps of £31 were affixed and cancelled in the Deeds Registry Office in Cape Town on 21 December 1911: £20 Standing Hope design, £10 Queen Victoria issue and a £1 Edward VII revenue stamp. Rare usage of the Cape £20 revenue stamp on document.

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the four colonies are recognised as available throughout the Union" (fig.5) It also stated that, from 31 May 1910 until the publication of this notice, each of the former colonies use its own stamps. This notice removed any restrictions confining the use of postage and revenue stamps to the territorial boundaries of their original colonial use. This notice heralded the advent of so called *'Interprovincials'*: used over the period 1910-1913. However, the cancellation or manuscript showing the date is necessary for their identification. The custom then came about of collecting each of those stamps of the four colonies with a cancellation or manuscript showing the dates of what became known as the Interprovincial period (fig.6).



Fig.6: Combination of revenue stamps from all four the former Colonies Cape, Natal, Transvaal and Orange River Colony cancelled on 10 February 1913.

It was also stated that: "*Nothing in this notice contained shall be taken as affecting the tariffs of stamp charges or duties in force in the four Colonies prior to Union, which, until altered by Parliament or other competent authority, remain in operation within the territorial limits to which they have hitherto applied*"

According to reports of the Auditor-General in 1911, the Cape had the biggest stock of revenue stamps available. Cape revenue stamps were therefore used extensively during the Inter-provincial period throughout all the provinces of the Union of South Africa. These Cape revenue stamps were therefore the only revenue stamps overprinted with 'PENALTY' (fig.7) except for the Transvaal 2/6d.

Towards the end of the Interprovincial period shortages developed in 3d, 6d & £1 revenue stamps. The Distributor of Stamps in Pretoria wrote a letter to the Secretary of Finance dated 15 July 1913, stating that he intended to immediately commence distribution some of these values from the new Union King's Head revenue issues (fig.8).

USE OF POSTAGE/ REVENUE STAMPS DURING THE INTERPROVINCIAL PERIOD

In the Union of South Africa, many stamps bear the inscription 'Postage & Revenue' indicating that they are valid for both postage and revenue purposes. The meaning of this inscription is simple - not only were these stamps valid for the payment of postage but they could also be used to pay certain small taxes or duties.

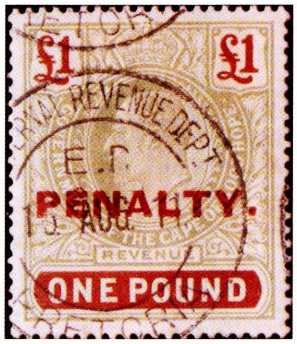

Fig.7: Cape revenue stamp overprinted 'PENALTY' cancelled on 15 August 1911.

Some of the lower values of postage stamps (½d, 1d) of the different provinces comprising the Union of South Africa were dual purpose stamps and the words "Postage/ Revenue" were printed on some of them. The Stamp Duties and Fees Act, No. 30 of 1911 stated that "*in the case of any instrument to the duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting the duty*" (fig. 9).

CONCLUSION

The field of revenue collecting is vast but the stamps and labels of the Union of South Africa provide both the seasoned and the novice philatelist with an opportunity to start collecting something new and very interesting.

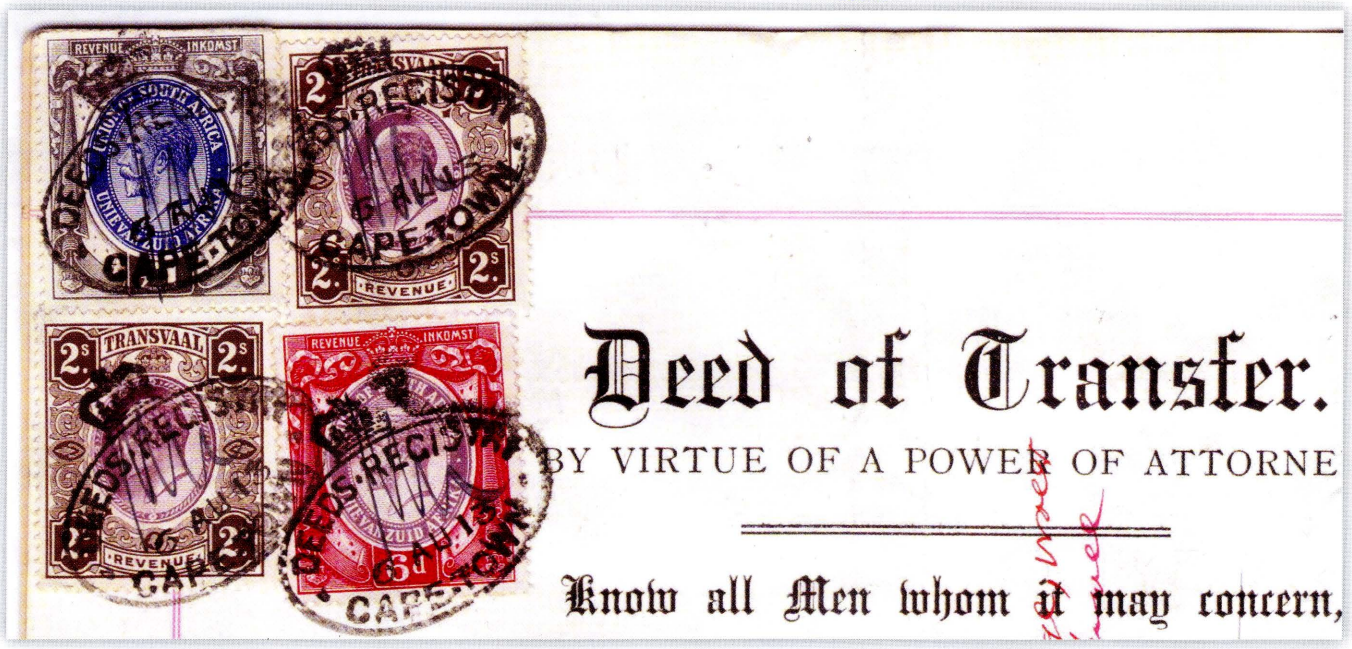

Fig. 8: Deed of Transfer lodged on the 6 August 1913 in Cape Town and stamped by two Transvaal 2/- stamps as well as a 6d and £1 stamps of the new King's Head series. The usage of the 6d and the £1 King's Head stamps was 25 days before the official release on 1 September 1913.

- In the next issue of *The SA Philatelist* the first three series of the revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa will be examined.
- The items illustrated in this article are all from the author's collection.

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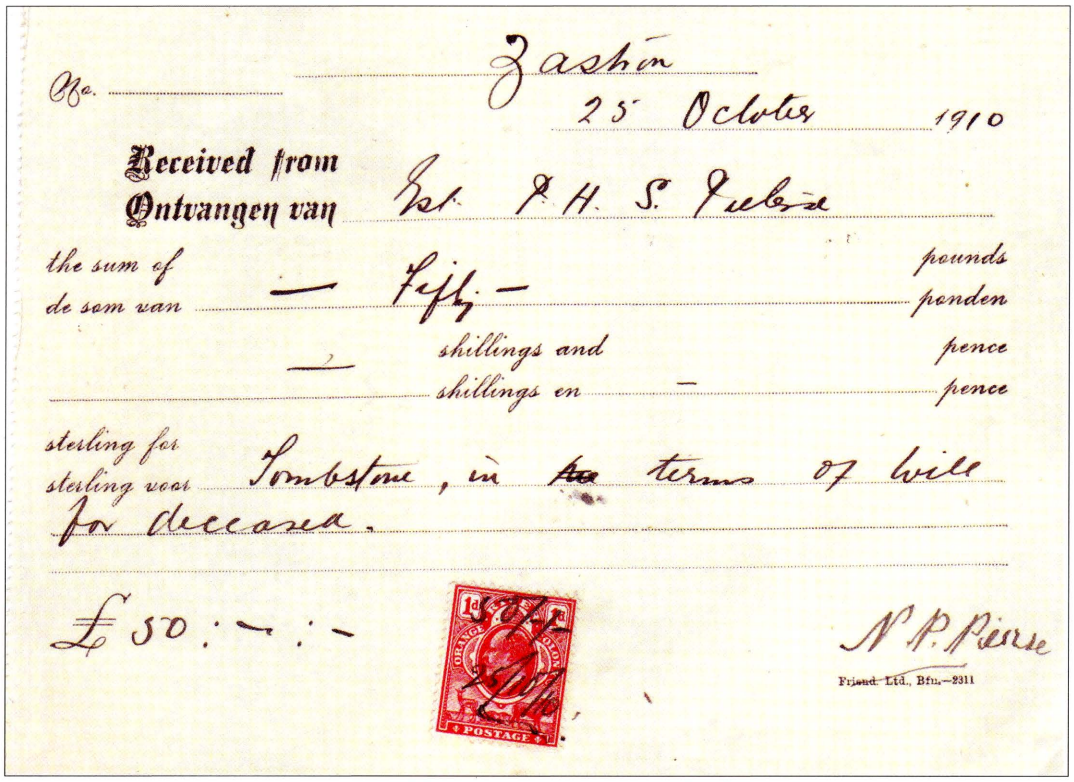
No. Zastron
25 October 1910
Received from
Ontvangen van Est. P. H. S. Pietersen
the sum of
de som van — Fifty — pounds
ponden
— shillings and pence
shillings en — pence
sterling for
sterling voor Tombstone, in ~~the~~ terms of will
for deceased.
£ 50 : — : —
N. P. Pierse
Friend Ltd., Bfn.—2311

Fig.9: Receipt issued on 25 October 1910 in Zastron bearing an ORC 1d postage stamp used as a revenue stamp.

(Reduced in size).

SOURCES:

- Akerman, Clive, *Collecting and Displaying Revenue Stamps,* The Revenue Society of Great Britain, 1995.
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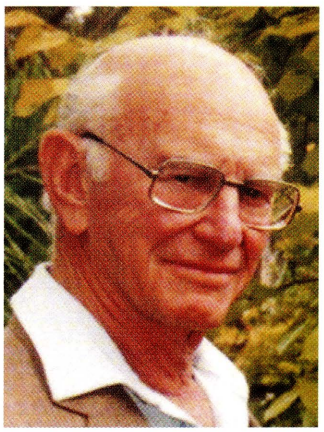
- Union of South Africa, *Regulations 1910-1916, Vol III, I – MI*, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1917.
- Union of South Africa, *Stamp Duties Handbook, Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911 as amended,* Government Printer, Pretoria, 1940.

OBITUARY

Dr Israel Reuwen (Issy) Yudaken 1924-2017



Issy was raised in Witbank, Transvaal and graduated from the Witwatersrand University with a medical degree; he then qualified as a specialist physician in the UK. He was a popular and brilliant doctor who solved patients' medical and personal problems in a most astute and professional manner. On retiring from his medical practice, Issy volunteered in a teaching capacity at the Helen Joseph Hospital, until the management decided that his 60+ years of experience were no longer needed, thus ending his lifelong association with medicine.

Issy was a serious philatelist and a home member of the SWA Stamp Study Group for close to 30 years. He compiled a number of formidable collections, including postal history of the German Shipping Lines, South West Africa and the German East Africa campaign. One of his many philatelic interests concerned the rubber cancels issued in 1916 to 36 South West African post offices after the postal administration of German SWA, occupied in 1915 by South African forces, came under civilian control.

His German shipping post collection focused on the route from Bremen or Hamburg to Japan and Australia with the various cancellations of Deutsche Seepost and Australische Hauptlinie and Ost-Asiatische Hauptlinie. With his interest in German shipping he built up a superb collection of the Kaiserliche Marine and Ost Afrikanische Linie mail and town cancellations during the German East Africa period before the First World War. In the late 1990s the South African Military Mail Study Group was started and Issy was a regular participant, always showing interesting items that he had found and researched. He concentrated on the German East Africa campaign during World War I but also started a collection of South African forces in World War II. We will miss his wisdom and the general knowledge that he shared with us all.

His daughter Linda Rosenthal described her father as the most honest, upright, generous person with the highest moral standards and disciplined to the end. Although he will be sorely missed, there is some comfort in that he will be with Sheila, his beloved lifelong partner who passed away barely 5 months ago. We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

Compiled by Dr. Jim Findlay, RDPSA (S.A. Military Mail Study Group) and Dr. Uli Bantz (SWA Stamp Study Group).

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Social Media and Face Book

by w, Edenvale Philatelic Society



The world is changing so fast that new technologies have to be embraced, else one risks losing ground in the global village. Our hobby is not dying but evolving at the same rapid pace. We have to adapt or fade away.

For example, a website was originally viewed as the ultimate global access point, but now this has changed. Websites do have their place for repositories of knowledge and statistical data, as well as the processing of transactions and business. Visitors tend to visit only when they need to and the biggest problem with information websites is that they tend to become stale very quickly. Unless the site is kept alive and vibrant with new material on a daily basis, they tend to wither and die. Websites, by their design, tend to be cumbersome beasts to manage with the need of a webmaster and maintenance.

Social media, and for this discussion, Facebook in particular, offers a different view into the online world. There are, as per the latest report, more than two billion Facebook users. Most, if not all, young folk have active accounts which are used on a daily basis for communication, entertainment, knowledge and other interaction. In fact, for many folk, this is the basis of a daily existence.

This is where stamp collecting comes into its own. The current way organized philately does its work is via a meeting, normally held once a month where club members can get together and interact and enjoy the hobby. It is still a crucial link between collectors. But, as time goes by, and as more mature collectors depart, this format will become more difficult to pursue and we can see this in the number of declining clubs. Stamp shops flourished a few decades ago. Today they are almost extinct – did the customers go? No, they evolved and many dealers with an online presence will tell you that up to 85% of their business is now conducted online. Picture a stamp club that is functioning 24/7. Its members can be from all over the world, from different time zones and have varied interests; many are too far away to get to a physical club. Now enter the Facebook page of the Edenvale Philatelic Society and the South African Stamp Study Circle, who joined forces here. We are fortunate to have exco members of the APS and other bodies in attendance, which ensures that questions get answered timeously and properly.

We offer ...

- members from all over the world.
- active and robust debate on stamp related issues.
- assistance in identification, and in some cases, opinion on value,
- and encourage our members to post and show their prized items.
- trading, as long as all parties understand that deals are between individuals. We keep an eye out to ensure that dodgy, or unsuitable, material is not passed on.
- advice and encourage South African collectors to join Federation affiliated societies with an explanation of the benefits.
- encouragement to new collectors in their endeavours to foster their growth in the hobby.
- new items of interest which are loaded on a daily basis for discussion, and for all to engage and enjoy.

We ensure that ...

- all posts are stamp related
- all new members are vetted and checked to ensure we only admit stamp collectors
- there is no form of abuse; transgressors get a warning followed by exclusion.

Running the page

I am online every morning at about 5am to ensure a daily item of interest is posted as well as to check posts that came in overnight. During the day members will post material and have discussions. In order to keep control, other members of the EPS act as administrators and moderators to ensure the page is monitored. I also go online during the evening to do a further review and round up.

Our prime objective is to act as a virtual club; to share knowledge; and foster growth. To achieve this we try and keep trading to a minimum as there are other websites that cater for this. In the early days, I had to do much of the work myself, but now I tend to watch a lot more from the side-lines, as members interact amongst themselves, with myself and other moderators acting as referees. Members can choose to receive e-mail notifications when new posts are made. This allows them to have a look and comment if they feel the need.

We have turned the page into a community of lovers of the hobby.

How to access Facebook

There are four pre-requisites:

- Access to a computer
- A fair knowledge of computers
- Access to the internet
- An internet browser, such as Chrome or Firefox, installed on the computer
- An e-mail address - Have a separate email address just for social media, so your usual email address is not broadcast and cannot be affected by social media

The quickest, and easiest, way to access the Edenvale Philatelic Society Facebook page is to Google the term. However, you will not be able to participate until you have created a Facebook account of your own and then applied for admission to the Edenvale PS Facebook page. A pop-up will automatically open asking you if you want to login or sign up.

Account set up

To create a Facebook account you need to go to the home page (www://facebook.com), or simply click on the 'sign up' button on the Edenvale PS Facebook page. When the Facebook homepage opens, complete all the details asked for and submit. An excellent *'How to use Facebook'* can be found at **www://wikihow.com/Use-Facebook**. Novices are urged to work through this nine part tutorial before creating a Facebook account.

Costs involved

Setting up a Facebook account is free. However, you will need to pay for any data used, unless you have access to free Wi-Fi or have a generous employer who allows you to use work related computers for private use.

Facebook can also be accessed on smart phones and iPads in much the same way as described here.

"...if you have difficulty in accessing Facebook, ask your grandchildren to show you ...."

Comic Corner

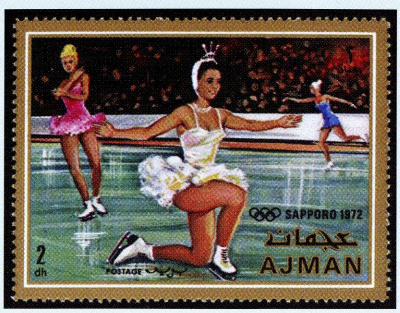
Stamps that make you SMILE

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

Episode 44 of: Errors on Stamps...

CHAOS ON ICE

The Emirate of Ajman issued an series of commemorative stamps for the Winter Olympics 1972 in Sapporo / Japan.



On the 2 Dirham stamp we see an attractive young lady in the foreground while two others are skating in the background.

The error is that for security reasons and for proper judging there will be only one ice skater performing at a time. A fact that might be unknown in a desert country with no ice.

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'Corporate / personalised' stamps – a new dimension?

by Peter van der Molen, RDPSA Witwatersrand PS





A photo with a high contrast view of the stamp, as the white stamp on a white envelope is difficult to see from a scanned image.

Until recently, most private stamp issues were in fact issued stamps either placed in a miniature sheet with a private identification and/or message, or with an attached 'tab' which had no postal value – such as the 'Smilers' stamps. Lately some postal administrations are allowing private or corporate messages to appear on the actual stamps, which thus have a postal purpose and a very recent development appears to be to extend that to the cancellation of such stamps, as illustrated.

The stamp issued by 'b post' (the Belgian Post Office) features the logo of the Royal Philatelic Society London that was used to frank a cover from the Society to me which arrived as regular mail in my postbox. In addition, the stamp is cancelled with a 'personalised' cancel marking the date of the Society's Annual General Meeting in London.

I enquired about this franking arrangement and the Chairman of the RPSL Management Committee, Mr Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, most kindly provided the following explanation:

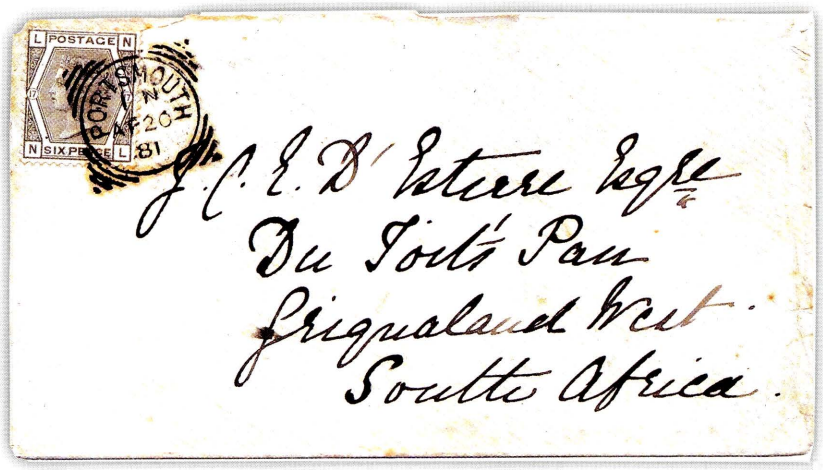
"The Belgian Post has a 'personalised stamp' department. You can have a photo or a logo reproduced on a stamp. Many countries do and charge twice the rate of the stamp for this. Belgian Post also develops 'personalised cancels'. In Belgium, anyone can have it; abroad it should be linked to a philatelic happening. In that case, an employee of the Belgian Post attends the event to cancel any envelopes or souvenirs submitted to him. If one wishes the cancelled items to enter the mail system, he collects that particular mail and takes it in a post bag to Belgium, from where it is forwarded."

We hope this will be noted by the S.A. Philatelic Services.

**The US and New Zealand have personalised stamps that are postally valid as opposed to a tab added next to an ordinary stamp.*

JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

GRIQUALAND WEST



A rare incoming cover, with Du Toits Pan arrival oval datestamp for 'MY 17 1881' on reverse'

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

Tel: 020 7226 1503 Fax: 020 7359 7456

email address: markjtaylor@btinternet.com

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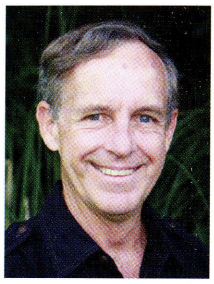
Phun with postmarks



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

Confusion with post office names

Most South Africans are well aware that when the Union was formed in 1910 there were towns, and consequently post offices, with the same name. For example Middelburg and Heidelberg existed in both the Cape Province and Transvaal. All references to these offices normally contained the province as well.

David Allison, however, discovered that similar sounding names evidently resulted in mis-sorting of the mail as in the case of Robertson in the Cape and Robinson in the Transvaal. Robertson Post Office was first listed in 1856, as described in Volume 3 of the *Putzel Encyclopaedia*. While the Cape was still an independent postal entity most of the early date stamps had reference to the colony, but after Union this was stopped. Robinson, in Randfontein, was opened 4.12.1939, and the first date stamp shown as Fig.1a was probably issued at opening, without any province indication. However, in the 1953 post office listings the name was shown as Robinson, Tvl, and the next date stamp has the province indication as shown in Fig.1b. This office closed in 1995.

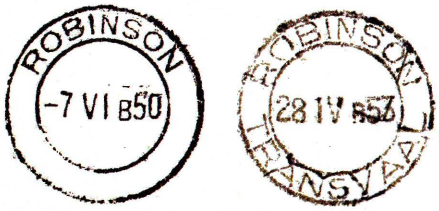


Fig.1a & b: Postmarks of Robinson.

To obtain a better perspective of when the different cancellers (Figs.2a to 2f) were used Table 1 was compiled which showed the recorded dates of use of the cancellers. Based on the recorded usage, the following can be seen from the Robertson date stamps:

- Fig.2b succeeded Fig.2a, as there was only about 1 year between latest and earliest dates of these date stamps.
- Fig.2d was the last date stamp without province, and Fig.2e the first with province. There was about a two month's gap between these cancellations, which suggests that the conversion took place during this period.
- The latest date the PAID date stamp shown in Fig.2g was recorded is 18.7.1952, which narrows the date of conversion.
- The possible range is also corroborated by the Robinson date stamps, although in this case the range is about 1 year.
- After the inclusion of CAPE in the Robertson date stamps in 1952 all date stamps showed this or the postal code. After 1995 the distinction was of course no longer necessary, as Robinson had closed.
- There is one exception to this style, and that is for the 1975 Type V relief canceller shown as Fig.3a, which does not have CAPE, although the 1980 Type VI relief canceller, shown as Fig.3b, is correct.

Table 1. Recorded dates of cancellations around 1953 of Robertson and Robinson.

Figure number	Putzel number	Earliest date	Latest date
Robertson			
2a	12	11.8.1928	27.3.1933
2b	13	14.4.1934	6.7.1946
2c	14/14x	5.2.1941	26.11.1947
2d	15	7.3.1942	26.5.1952
2e	16	29.7.1952	18.11.1996
2f	17	25.8.1955	27.4.1978
2g	33x		18.7.1952
2h	33	28.8.1958	15.8.1978
Robinson			
1a	1	2.10.1940	8.4.1952
1b	2	28.4.1953	1.2.1955

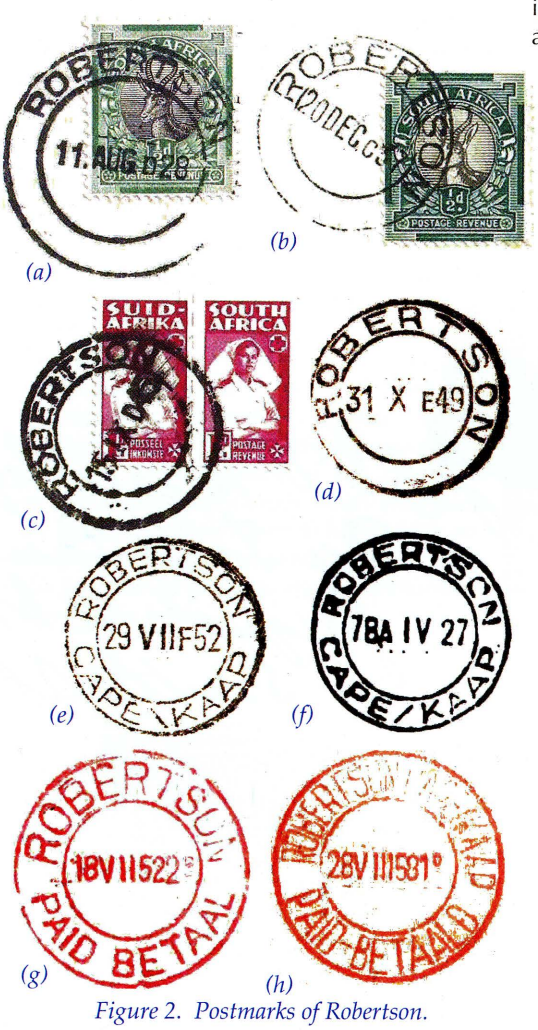


Figure 2. Postmarks of Robertson.

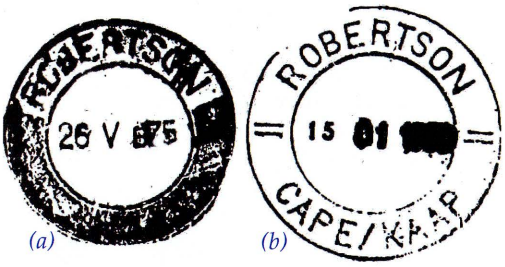


Fig. 3. Relief postmarks of Robertson.

From an analysis of the time sequence it was possible to support the deduction that Robertson and Robinson without a province caused a headache for the sorting staff. It was possible to identify when this occurred to within a 2 week period, namely 18.7.1952 to 29.7.1952 if we accept that the new date stamps were taken into service on the same day. Evaluation of other collections may narrow down the date range, and readers are invited to share their information, preferably by sending me a scan at 300 dpi.

A modern day riddle – further insight

The *SAP* had hardly arrived in the hands of readers when Dr Gerhard Kamffer sent me a note suggesting that Evanross is a combination of Evander and Kinross. None of my sources make this connection, and perhaps a reader can shed further light on this name.

Sestig jaar nadat die poskantoor skynbaar verplig was om die provinsie van Robertson en Robinson te gebruik omdat die possorteer personeel deurmekaar geraak het, word hierdie 'n saak wat bestudeer word. As dit nie vir die ondersoekende oog van David Allison was nie, sou ons miskien nooit daarvan geweet het nie. Die belangrikheid om hedendaagse gebeurtenisse te dokumenteer kan nie oorbeklemtoon word nie. En die terugvoer, soos die moontlike oorsprong van Evanross, word hoog op prys gestel.

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BOFEX 2017 NATIONAL VIRTUAL ONE FRAME EXHIBITION – BLOEMFONTEIN

by Jan van Beukering, Organising Chairman

The BOFEX 2017, held at Kopano Nokeng in Bloemfontein, as part of the second Hobby Expo, drew 50 entries, of which six were withdrawn for various reasons. The remaining exhibits were judged by a strong 10-man accredited jury under very able chairmanship of Emil Minnaar RDPSA, who was also instrumental in preparing all the exhibits for inclusion in the PFSA website (Visit the website at **stamps.org.za**).

The website is now open for public viewing. As there are no medal classes in competitive one frame exhibitions, only a points system was used for judging.

Top scorer was the *'Entertainment tax in Russia'* from Dr. Ian Matheson RDPSA with 91 points, followed by two 88 pointers, those of Dr Ross Marshall of the Wellington PS New Zealand – *'Russian Mail to Britain via Hamburg'* and Malcolm Suttill of the Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town with *'Great Britain - The Low Value Printing Changes of 1879'*. Copies of these three entries are on the frames at SAPDAPEX 2017.

The exhibition attracted 15 foreign entries and was of high standard. As the jury members got an opportunity to study the exhibits allocated to them in detail on the website, the outcome of their 'verdicts' are discussed in detail, a chance which normal jurying at usual exhibitions is not afforded to jurors. These results and comments on exhibits are then likely to be more accurate.

Three large TV screens were set up by Emil Minnaar and his team, so viewers could select whatever exhibit they wished to see using a 'tablet' to project the material onto the TV screen.

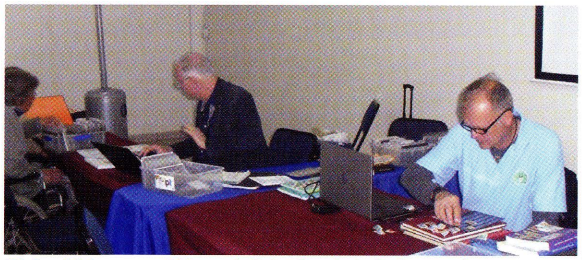
A 'novelty' was proposed by Frans Massyn of the OFSPS, who manned a 'letter writing desk' where the public were invited to write a letter and prepare it in the 'old fashioned way' with stationery provided by the society. The pens used were of the quill type complete with student desks and ink pots.

People had to literally train themselves again to write, before attempting the final 'product'. Support came from as far as a Spanish and Peruvian couple writing letters to their kin abroad, as well as a Mrs Lee Groenewald, who battled her way into the student desk while in her last weeks of pregnancy! Some fifty such letters were eventually posted, hopefully to reach their destinations? A novel idea which could be utilised to attract some interest in our hobby again. Well done Frans!

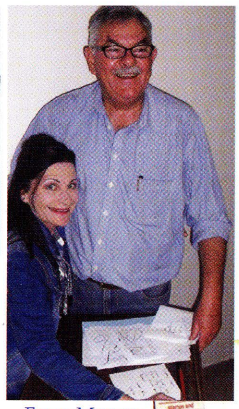
As the initial rough road has now been paved to stage future virtual exhibitions, interested societies can contact the writer or Emil Minnaar for advice and assistance with the arrangements. The intention is to have one National 'One frame' exhibition of this nature annually. Interested?



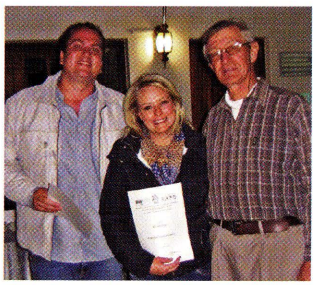
Joof van der Merwe at his desk



Richard Johnson and Francois Friend at their dealer stands



Frans Massyn and Ilse Smith



Organisers - Daniel & Tarryn Cronjé with Jan van Beukering



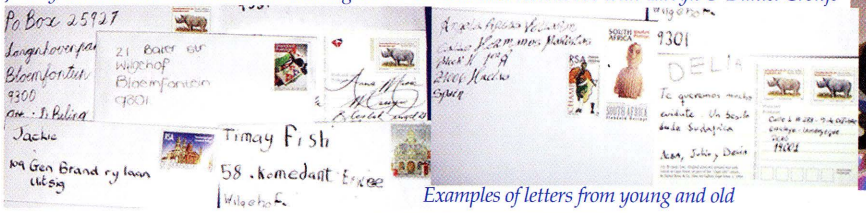


Jimmy Mitchel and Emil Minnaar working on TV stations and seen above with Tarryn & Daniel Cronjé





Youngsters at Francois Friends' free stamp box and, at left, trying out the letter writing with 'dip' pens.



Examples of letters from young and old

The South African Philatelist
All about stamps
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932
www.stamps.org

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in The South African Philatelist, subject to the discretion of the Editorial Committee. Articles to be submitted, should adhere to the following guidelines:

- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'text' document either on compact disk or emailed directly to the production editor, Janice Botes: janice@gdb.co.za*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items for the submitted material, scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi emailed to the production editor or on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg.*

Back Issues: *of The South African Philatelist can be obtained by writing to: The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: <Emil@Minnaar.org>*

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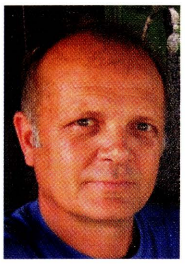

Commissioner's report for 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition

by Francois Friend, Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

Introduction

The 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition was held from 3 to 7 August 2017 under the patronage of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) in the city of Bandung, Indonesia. Bandung is situated on the island Java, the world's most populous island, and Indonesia is the world's largest island country with more than seventeen thousand islands.

Bandung is located approximately 140km southeast of Jakarta, the nation's capital, and 768m above sea level resulting in cooler temperatures than most Indonesian cities throughout the year. The city lies on a river basin surrounded by volcanic mountains. The Dutch colonialists first established tea plantations around the mountains in the eighteenth century and Bandung gradually developed into a resort city for plantation owners. Luxurious hotels, restaurants, cafés and European boutiques were opened; hence the city was nicknamed the 'Paris of Java' (in Dutch the *Parijs van Java*).

After Indonesia declared independence in 1945 the city experienced rapid development and urbanisation, transforming Bandung from an idyllic town into a dense 16,500 people/km^2 metropolitan area, a living space for over 8,5 million people. Although the city has encountered many challenges (ranging from waste disposal and floods to a complicated traffic system and poor road infrastructure), Bandung still attracts large numbers of tourists, weekend sightseers and migrants from other parts of Indonesia.

Apart from the privilege of visiting international stamp exhibitions, like the one held in Bandung, and its associated pleasure of viewing world class exhibits and interaction with international participants in the stamp hobby; one is also afforded the opportunity to experience and observe good practices at such an exhibition, and to witness those issues/examples rather avoided. With the upcoming international exhibition in Cape Town in 2021 and also all the other national exhibitions in South Africa before and after that, the feedback in this report's main objective is to inform on such good practices and which to avoid.

Venue, accommodation and transport

The venue for the event, the Trans Convention Centre in Bandung, is stunning. The actual exhibition hall is large and beautiful - see Fig.1. Dealer stands were situated at one level below the exhibition hall and were well set out with sufficient space and good lighting at each booth. The bin room was also set out at the same level as the dealer stands but was a bit small and not user-friendly. Rooms for jury and commissioner activities were made available in meeting rooms, another level lower. The only deleterious aspect of the exhibition venue was its location in a part of Bandung not well suited for international events as there were not that many places of interest within short distances from the exhibition venue, none whatsoever within walking distance. (One of the pleasures associated with international travel is to view new surroundings and places of interest on foot during 'off' periods, something that was unfortunately not really available for this venue. I believe the Peruvian commissioner summed it up well, *"it is as if the venue is in a bubble - it does not fit its surroundings"*.)

The two hotels (the one a luxury hotel the other an economy hotel) providing accommodation for the event were interconnected with the convention centre allowing easy access (albeit sometimes confusing) to all activities of the event. Although the weather was excellent for the duration of the event, this was a very good setup in case of foul weather and something all exhibitions should consider, if practically possible. Commissioners and judges were accommodated in the economy hotel and unfortunately the standard of the hotel neither matched that of the event nor what one would expect from such an international occasion.



Fig.1: The exhibition hall at the 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition.

Transport was a major issue at the start of the exhibition. This included from the airport to the venue on arrival, as well as for the opening ceremony. Insufficient provision of transport coupled with an almost walking speed flow of traffic in the city were severe challenges. However, these were suitably addressed on the night of the Palmares when more than ample transport, coupled with police escort, made the travelling to the glamour evening quite exciting and enjoyable.

Exhibit travails and the exhibition

The preparations for custom clearance of the exhibits in Indonesia were quite extensive and prepared one for anticipated long and drawn out inspection periods. However, this did not happen and the actual clearance at the airport on arrival went quite smoothly. Unfortunately the same could not be said for the return at the airport where a number of commissioners waited nearly three hours after arrival for custom officials to arrive. (But the wait was worth it to see the extensive operation that followed upon their arrival - the removal of the security plastic wrapping around a relevant suitcase via a sharp object and then to be told that was it, one can go.) Note though that the period from taking down exhibits until final clearance at the airport was quite worrisome as customs took possession of the exhibits at the bin room and then only handed them to relevant commissioners at the airport the following day. During this time some exhibits were left unattended at the airport without any security supervision (fortunately by this time the Peruvian and South African Commissioners already had their exhibits with them, albeit fully wrapped in plastic).

There were 450 exhibits at this event resulting in approximately 1,900 frames. The frames were of the A-frame type and resulted in extremely easy mounting and dismounting (although the protruding legs resulted in a small number of tripping from viewers). Assistance by volunteers during mounting and dismounting was excellent, with frames secured via screws and security stickers. The spacing around the exhibits was sufficient to accommodate a number of people at a frame, and the lighting inside the exhibition hall quite good. The exhibition was very well attended and various forms of activities/promotions were held, aimed at the public at large. This included, inter alia, new stamp issues by the national postal services to commemorate the exhibition and the issue of a small book in which a person could obtain datestamps for different countries represented at the exhibition. *(Commonly know as a Philatelic Passport - Ed.)*

In total there were exhibits from 55 countries with the biggest number of exhibitors from the home nation Indonesia; 48 exhibits, followed by Japan; 28 exhibits, China; 23 exhibits and the Netherlands; 20 exhibits. All relevant information was contained in the exhibition catalogue. The printing of this catalogue, along with the Palmares catalogue, certificates and various invitations during the event, was exceptional - really an excellent example for all future exhibitions.

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Results and jury comments

South Africa entered four exhibits and the individual results are given in Table 1. Apart from the exhibits South Africa was also represented by Emil Minnaar RDPSA on the panel of judges.

Exhibitor	Title of exhibit	Class	Total	Medal
Andrew Fischer	British South African Company postal stationery	postal stationery	80	vermeil
Andrew Fischer	Transkei: commemoratives of the first ten years	modern	63	bronze
Francois Friend	King George V stamps of St Helena (1912 - 1937)	traditional	86	large vermeil
Herwig Küssing	Germany - mail postilion on postcard	postal stationery	75	large silver

Table 1 Results of South African exhibits at the 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition.

The publication of jury results and subsequent engagements with jury members followed the normal way of events at international exhibitions, and some national exhibitions. The succeeding comments and related recommendations are not a reflection on the Bandung exhibition, although it was confirmed at the event, but based on the archaic practice of judging employed at most international exhibitions. Results are published per country with relevant marks obtained given as four 'scores'. These scores represent the FIP breakdown of marks according to treatment and philatelic importance (30 points), philatelic and related knowledge, personal study and research (35 points), condition and rarity (30 points) and presentation (5 points). No individual (per exhibit) mark sheet was available and for further feedback on relevant scores one has to 'obtain' the time from a judge (no easy matter, as discussed later) for feedback and final breakdown of the marks.

Now, with the advent of computers and laptops being easily available it surely cannot be such a difficult matter to have proforma mark sheets prepared for an exhibition (before judging starts) that contain the relevant juror(s) name(s), a complete breakdown of points, plus provide a couple of remarks/guidelines per individual exhibit? The complete breakdown of marks achieved (the judges in any case have this available so why not provide it from the onset?) should thus be philatelic importance (10 points), treatment (20 points), philatelic knowledge (35 points), condition (10 points), rarity (20 points) and treatment (5 points). Failure to do so is good cause for conspiracy theorists believing that the main reason for not issuing such individual reports is to negate any proof of future inconsistencies.

The biggest drawback of jury reporting is the illogical way in which commissioners/exhibitors need to obtain feedback on exhibits. The current method is that jury members are supposedly available during a certain period of time the day following the publishing of results for providing feedback on exhibits. While this does not even sound good in theory, in practice this method is completely nonsensical as the actual result is commissioners/exhibitors walking from frame aisle to frame aisle trying, first of all, to determine who the relevant juror is they should be talking to, and then, try and find that relevant juror. Case in point, in four hours it was impossible to determine and find the responsible juror for modern exhibits in Bandung. Not that traditional class fared any better. After finding the relevant juror after two hours, it took another hour to eventually have him in front of the relevant exhibit. At that stage he appeared so tired, and communicated as such, that one can use that as an excuse for his apparent lack of knowledge on the relevant British Commonwealth exhibit conveyed through non-sharp comments. (Fortunately another juror was roped in who provided some solid and sensible feedback on the particular exhibit). Surely the most simplistic, easy and logical way would be to prepare a schedule of five to ten minute slots for each applicable juror and then for relevant commissioners/exhibitors to fill in their name at a suitable slot if they so wish to see a particular juror?

Final comment on the Bandung exhibition with regard the jury. When asked the question: *"What is the most important requirement of an exhibit?"*, jurors and exhibitors gave all different 'feel good' answers. However, it must be to 'see' an exhibit, failure of which negates any reason to exhibit? The reason for this was the jury's eventual winner of the Grand Prix International award - the exhibit was protected in near-opaque covers making the actual viewing of the exhibit cumbersome. Not that this was the case in this instance, but such near-opaque covers also allow the 'hiding' of flaws in material shown (or as one commissioner commented on the case, one can't be sure the actual stamps are 'in' there). Exhibits making use of such near-opaque covers should attract a penalty of at least 5 - 10%, otherwise why exhibit if people cannot see it? (If the reason behind the use of the covers was to 'protect' the material shown, this was first of all not a harsh environment for stamps and secondly, if that is the case the material should be stored in one or other museum as one in any case cannot see it clearly.)

Palmares and medals

The Palmares, held on Sunday 6 August 2017, at the Landmark Convention Centre in Braga, Bandung. The whole event, from arriving via luxury bus under police escort until returning to the hotel via the same method was a wonderful experience. Albeit that prize giving was a slightly prolonged affair, the food, entertainment and everything else in relation to the Palmares was well planned and executed. Only large gold and gold medal winners received their awards at the Palmares and in the case of such international exhibitions this is highly recommended as there were in total 21 large gold and 65 gold medals awarded. The medals themselves were beautiful and heavy (seen from a 'pack- horse's' perspective that had to cart all the South African medals back home). All the medals were the same, irrespective of award, and unfortunately none were engraved; which was a bit disappointing. Finally, at the end of the evening one of the best experiences of the Palmares - one received the photos taken during arrival at the event in the form of a miniature sheet with the personal photographs represented as stamps on the miniature sheet, illustrated in Fig.2. Really very very cool.



Fig.2: Personalised miniature sheet issued at the Palmares.

Final comments and acknowledgements

Attending such an international exhibition as South African Commissioner to the event is not only a privilege but also represents an opportunity to witness world class exhibits, interact with various representatives from a myriad of countries, and to see how such events function. One can only wish that this report in some way highlights good and other practices for such international exhibitions to provide some guidance for similar future events in South Africa. I wish to thank Emil Minnaar and Andrew Fischer for their guidance and support during this assignment, and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa who nominated me for this event and paid for my trip.

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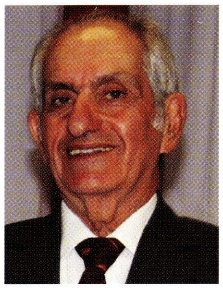
The Rotogravure, Unhyphenated Springbok ½d Stamps - Identification of the Key Pieces*

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



There were three issues of the unhyphenated Springbok ½d stamp, produced by rotogravure.

Issue	Date	Cylinders	Watermark
1	May 1931	(1)+(1x)	Upright
2	1932	(1)+(2x)	Upright and inverted
3	June 1934	(2)+(3x)	Upright

The identification of the key pieces in the three issues can be difficult, but the following information will help make the task easier.

1. The watermark. If the watermark is inverted the piece belongs to Issue 2, but the inverse is not true.
2. There are two printings in Issue 2 that are immediately identifiable by looking at the buck's head. The third printing of Issue 2 had the vignettes in a soft grey colour which led to the erroneous conclusion that the cylinder had been treated in some way and this became known as the 'Cleaned Plate' printing. In the fourth printing, a different but still greyish ink was used, which combined with the worn condition of the cylinder gave rise to a different appearance of the buck's horns. This became known as the Splintered Horns printing.



Fig. 1. Normal Print *Cleaned Plate* *Splintered Horns*

3. There are smudges on the left margin of the sheet in Issue 2.
4. The presence or absence of varieties, as described below will enable all the key pieces to be placed in the correct issue.

Top Left Corner



Step 1: Is V4 present? (V4. Row 1/1: Small horizontal black mark above 'DA' of 'SUIDAFRIKA')

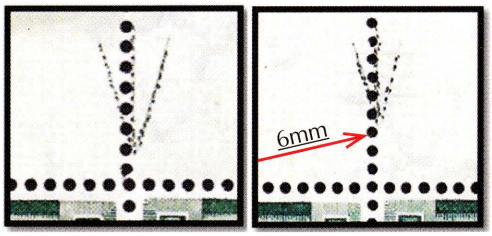
- Yes = Issue 1 or 2. Go to Step 2
- No = Issue 3



Step 2: V4 is present (Issue 1 or 2).
Row 1/1. Is there a white flaw above the 'S' of 'SUIDAFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 1
- No = Issue 2

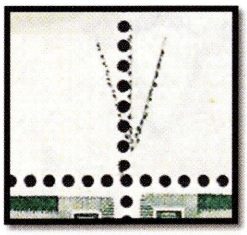
Top Arrow



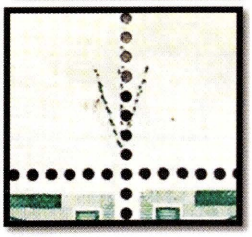
Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

- Yes. = Issues 1 or 3. Go to Step 2
- No. = Issue 2.

In Issues 1 and 3, the arrow is 3mm from the stamp, while in Issue 2, the arrow is 6mm from the stamp.



Top Arrow



Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp (Issue 1 or 3).
Are the side barbs of the arrow long or short?

Long = Issue 1.
Short = Issue 3.

Top right corner



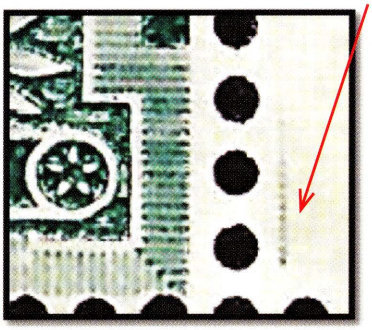
Step 1: is V5 present?
(V5.R1/11. Small green dot on left gutter)

- Yes= Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2.



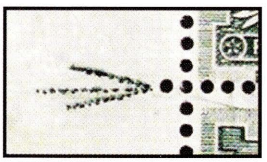
Step 2: V5 is absent (Issue 2 or 3)
Is V6 present? (V6. R1/11. (Green dot in right gutter)

- Yes = Issue 2
- No = Issue 3

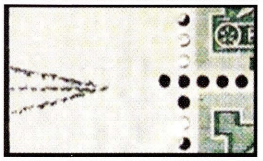


Issue 3 can be confirmed by a green dotted line near the bottom right corner of R1/12.

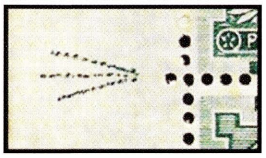
Left Arrow



Issues 1. 3mm



Issue 2. 6.5 mm



Issue 3. 4.5 mm

Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

- Yes = Issues 1 or 3. Go to Step 2.
- No = Issue 2.

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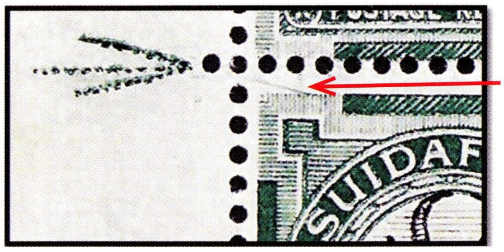
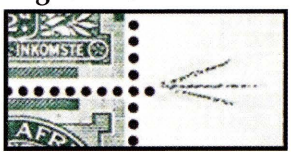


Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp (Issue 1 or 3).

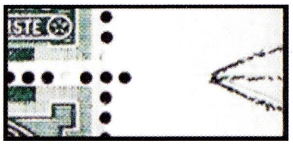
R11/1. Is there a sloping green line in the top left corner?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Issue 3.

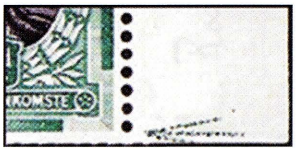
Right Arrow



Issue 1. 3mm



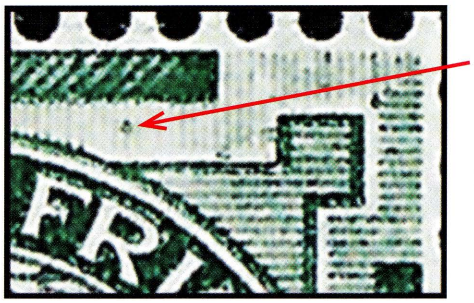
Issue 2. 8mm



Issue 3. 2.5mm

Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

- Yes = Issue 1 or 3. Go to Step 2.
- No = Issue 2.



Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp (Issue 1 or 3).

R11/12. Is there a green dot above the 'R' of 'AFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Issue 3.

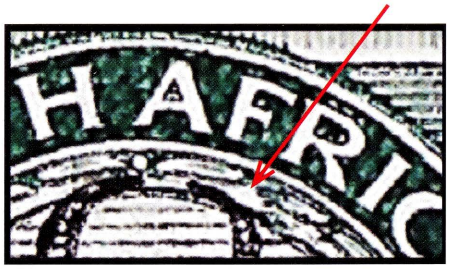
Bottom Left Corner



Step 1: R20/1.

Is there a tail on the 'R' of 'Revenue'?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2.



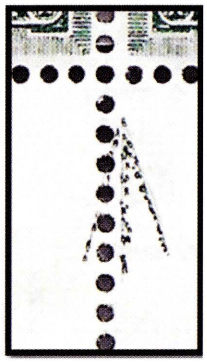
Step 2: R20/1. There is no tail on the 'R' of 'Revenue' (Issue 2 or 3)

R20/1. Is there a triangular white flaw below the 'R' of 'AFRICA'?

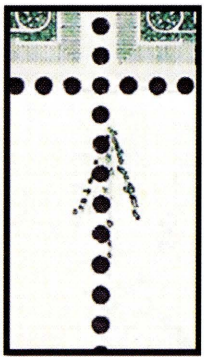
- Yes = Issue 2. *
- No = Issue 3.

* This flaw may be absent in the 'Cleaned Plate' and the 'Splintered Horns' print, but the pieces are identifiable by looking at the vignette.

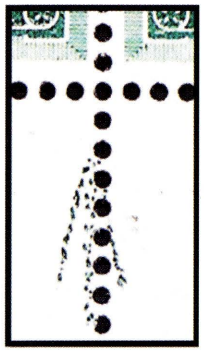
Bottom Arrow



Issue 1. 3mm



Issue 2. 3mm



Issue 3. 5mm

Step 1: Are the side barbs of the arrow long?

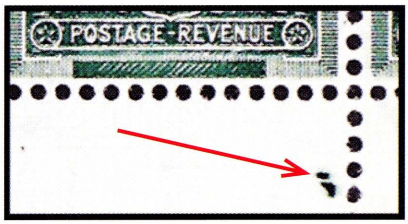
- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2

Step 2: The side barbs of the arrow are short (Issue 2 or 3).

Is the arrow shifted left?

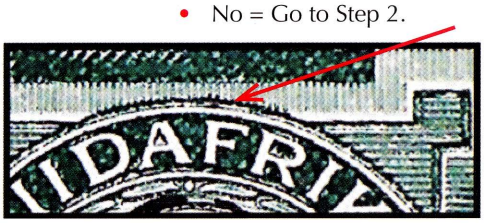
- Yes = Issue 3.
- No= Issue 2.

Bottom Right Corner



Step 1: R20/11. Are there green smudges below the stamp?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2.



Step 2: There are no smudges below R20/11 (Issues 2 or 3).

R20/12. Is there thickening in the line above the 'F' of 'SUIDAFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 2.
- No = Issue 3.

Summary

In trying to allocate a particular piece to the correct issue, the following steps are recommended.

Step 1: Does the piece belong to the 'Cleaned Plate' or the 'Splintered Horns' Printing?
If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 2: Are there smudges in the left margin?
If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 3: Is the watermark inverted?
If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 4: Consult the list of varieties above

**EDITORIAL NOTE:*
'Old-time' Union collectors strove to assemble 'miniature-sheets' comprising the eight 'Key pieces', i.e. the four corner blocks and the four arrow blocks, preferably in blocks of four.

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A closer look at MODERN STAMPS — Philately for Fun

by Moira Bleazard, Eastrand Philatelic Society



BUZZING AROUND

Writing this on 1st September, Spring has now officially sprung - the willows are green, the peach blossoms are out and a pair of Hadedas strut about collecting twigs to refurbish the untidy nest they build every year in one of our big trees.

Unfortunately, we also have a swarm of bees that has returned to a hole in the garage wall, trying to re-establish the colony they had there a few years back. A beekeeper closed the gap but said other bees could return to the same spot in the future and he was right. Quite a few scouts are buzzing around trying to find an entrance to their old 'homestead', from which they were unceremoniously banished one dark night. Isn't it amazing that after such a long time, the residue smell of honey or other 'bee-odours' can still attract others to the same spot? Bees are fascinating creatures and here are a few more facts about them that you may enjoy. See also the SAPO *Bees for Africa* sheetlet on page 175 in our New Issue feature.

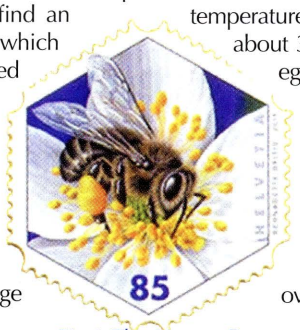

Fig.1:The Honey Bee - note the bulging pollen sac

The best known bee is the common European Honeybee or *Apis mellifera* (Fig.1). Bees live in colonies which may contain up to fifty thousand inhabitants. Today they mainly live in domesticated hives, but when these become too crowded, some bees will move to a new location - perhaps a hollow tree, under house eaves or in my garage wall. The hive is filled with vertical combs of wax secreted by the bees formed in perfect hexagonal cells (Fig.2). The art of beekeeping is called apiculture and stems from ancient times. Three castes of bees inhabit the hive - a queen, the drones and worker bees (Fig.3).



Fig 2: Perfect hexagonal cells of wax

The Queen is larger than the worker bees and although longer than the drones, she is not as broad. As a larva, the queen is fed only royal jelly and hence attains her bigger size and dominant position. She plays a purely reproductive role and is the mother of all the bees.

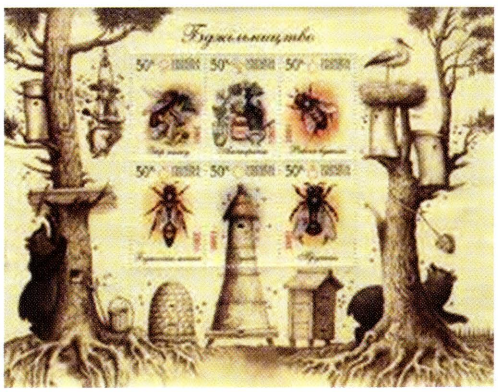

Fig.3: Bee castes within the hive

Drones serve as potential mates for the queen but when the nectar supply runs low and honey production stops, the worker bees prevent the drones from eating and when weakened, the workers carry the drones from the hive and leave them outside to die.

Worker bees feed and care for the larvae (Fig.4). They also produce the beeswax and clean, ventilate and guard the hive. Worker bees also collect water, nectar and pollen from which they make the honey.

Bees are extremely susceptible to extremes of temperature. When the outside temperature is too high, the workers fan the air in the hive with their wings to cool it down. At low temperatures they can't fly and instead huddle together in a 'dormant' state to conserve heat and energy.

In areas where the climate is temperate all year round, summer activities continue and no dormant sequence occurs. The queen needs the temperature in the hive to reach about 32°C to begin laying her eggs. In late spring, the hive becomes over-crowded and some bees begin to swarm and leave the hive with the 'old' queen to establish a new colony (Fig.5). The new queen then takes over the hive.



Fig.4: Caring for the larvae



Fig.5: A new colony is formed

In summer when there is an abundance of nectar-producing flowers, scouts head out to find the rich food sources. On their return to the hive they perform a 'waggle' dance which gives extraordinarily accurate directions to the crop of flowers (Fig.6). The scouts also bring back a sample of the nectar for the others, who then search for the same nectar.

Honey consists of nectar (for energy) and pollen (protein and nutrients) and is the food source for the larvae.



Fig 7: Collecting honey

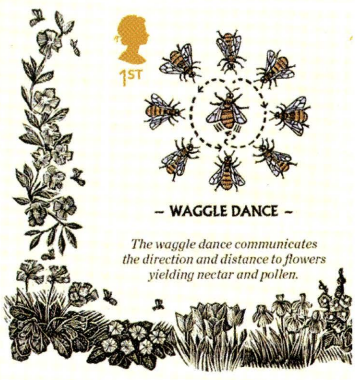

Fig 6: The 'waggle dance'

Nectar is a watery solution of mainly fructose, glucose and sucrose, with the sugar content depending on the type of flower, soil condition and moisture in the air. Obviously the bees will go for high sugar content flowers and avoid plants that offer less than 15% sugar content in the nectar. Nectar is changed into honey by enzymes in the salivary glands of the worker bees, when the water content evaporates and the sugar content reaches about 80%.

Collecting the honey requires the beekeeper to protect himself with a hat, veil and gloves (Fig.7). A cool, overcast day is the best time to work and a smoke source helps to keep the bees calm. The apiarist who removed the bees from our garden preferred to work in the early evening when the bees were 'asleep'.

Bees play a crucial role in the pollination of plants to produce seeds and fruit. Vegetables, fruit trees, legumes, clovers – all rely on insect pollination and on bees in particular. Bees have a number of natural predators like the honey badger and bee-eaters but these are insignificant when compared to the devastating effects of humans. Rapid urbanization has destroyed the bees' natural habitat, whilst climate change has resulted in the spread of drought conditions in many countries. With the use of herbicides to control weeds and kill pests in cultivated crops and at roadsides, pollinators are also destroyed. When there are no bees left how will mankind survive? The time is now to save our bees (Fig.8).



Fig.8: Save our bees!

REFERENCES:

Wikipedia

Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol 3.

Postage stamps from Botswana, Fiji, Helvetia, Israel, Poland, Royal Mail, USA.

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Sandafayre

SERIOUS ABOUT STAMPS

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MISSING "C" IN WATERMARK



WATERMARK INVERTED



WATERMARK INVERTED & REVERSED



OVERPRINT DOUBLE - ONE ALBINO



WATERMARK REVERSED



WATERMARK INVERTED



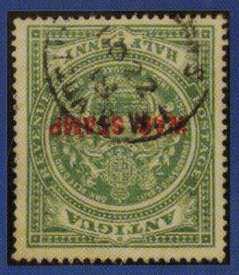
WATERMARK REVERSED



WATERMARK INVERTED



"A" OF "CA" MISSING FROM WATERMARK



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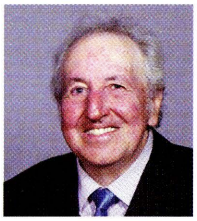
Swaziland 1961: The 50c on 5/- Decimal Surcharge

by Dr Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



The Context

When in Swaziland the currency was converted on 14 February 1961 to Rands and Cents from the prior Sterling system of Pounds, Shillings and Pence, at the rate of £1 = 2 Rand, some of the lower stamp duties had already been printed in decimal currency in anticipation of the new currency, but probably in the interest of economy, all available stocks of stamps denominated in Imperial Currency were surcharged with their decimal equivalent value, except for the 1/3d duty. These surcharged stamps were issued on 14 February 1961 and when exhausted, were replaced by the definitive duties where available..



Fig.1: 5/- original stamp from the 2 July 1956 set



Fig.2: 50c on 5/-Type I

The surcharging was done by the South African Government Printer in Pretoria. The lowest value was ½c on the ½d stamp, whilst the highest value was R2 on the £1 stamp. One of these stamps was the new 50 cent value, surcharged on the 5/- (deep lilac and slate-black) stamp, which depicted a Swazi Warrior together with the head of Queen Elizabeth II. This 5/- stamp was originally issued as part of the Swaziland definitive set on 2 July 1956 (Fig.1).

The 50c Surcharge Types

The initial 50c surcharge - known as Type I - was soon followed by a second surcharging on the 5/- stamp taking place. The second surcharge had a different typeface known as Type II. This was followed by a third surcharge – known as Type III – which was to become the most valuable of all the decimal surcharges (excluding errors and varieties) of the 1961 Swaziland surcharged set.

The surcharging of the 50c value could roughly match what van der Molen (2013 p285) described as 'three waves of surcharging'. Van der Molen described what took place as follows: "(The first surcharging was) on the stocks of stamps held at the Union Post Office Store at Pretoria. (The second surcharging) on the stocks held at the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau in London which were sent to Pretoria and (the third) on the stocks which were returned from the Post Offices in the territory after Decimalisation Day". A contributory reason for the three surcharging could be to avoid a shortage of the 50c surcharged stamps because that duty was one of the last to be reprinted with the 50c denomination by Bradbury Wilkinson in England.

50c on 5/- Type I

This was the original surcharge issued on 14 February 1961. Known as Type I (Fig.2) the surcharge was in 18pt. Tempo Bold. A total of 54,000 stamps were surcharged (900 sheets of 60 stamps) whilst 16,260 stamps (271 sheets) were destroyed when the issue was withdrawn, leaving a total number of 37,740 stamps sold.



Fig.3: 50c on 5/- Type I

Due to the irregular trim of the original 5/- sheets, the exact position on the sheet of the 50c surcharge varied (Fig.3). There are numerous such examples of the 50c on 5/- Type I stamps, where the surcharge position varied from stamp to stamp. Fig.4 illustrates a pair where the shift goes into the margin.



Fig.4: 50c on 5/- Type I

Further Fig.5 illustrates the bottom row of six 50c on 5/- stamps, together with margins. It can be clearly seen that the 50c surcharge slants slightly upwards, giving a 1.5mm rise. The reason is likely due to a possible out of square trim or in-feed of the original sheet.

50c on 5/- Type II

This surcharge appeared on a short run of a 110 sheets of 60 stamps, totalling 6,600 stamps. (Fig.6), the surcharge typeface was 18pt. Bodoni. The surcharge position was middle left.



Fig.6: 50c on 5/-Type II

On at least two sheets this Type II exists with the surcharge placed bottom left and not middle left where the printing was meant to be. Van der Molen (*Swaziland Philately to 1968*) states that these stamps *"are believed to have originated from a 'trial sheet'"*. It does however appear that there must have been at least two of these trial sheets. The reason is that there is a 'spacing error' in row 7, where the vertical spacing between surcharges in row 6 and 7 is 37.5mm and between row 7 and 8 is 33.5mm. (Fig.7). The result is that the surcharge on row 7 vertically straddles the perforation. Only one sheet of this error is believed to exist since this 'spacing error' does not exist on the second discovered sheet. The reason why these 'trial sheets' made their way onto the market is believed to be the result of the Government Printer in Pretoria returning each and every sheet supplied, to Swaziland which would include sheets which were meant to have been destroyed, once they reached the Swaziland postal authorities, and not distributed. Somehow these two sheets found their way onto the market. Hence, a maximum of 120 of these stamps with surcharge placed bottom left can exist,



Fig.5: 50c on 5/- Type I

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Fig.7: 50c on 5/-Type II, spacing error

assuming there were no more than two sheets.

50c on 5/- Type III

For some unknown reason a small quantity of 6 sheets were surcharged with a new type face (Fig.8). It is believed that in an attempt to utilize all existing remaining stock of certain values, the Government Printer in Pretoria was instructed to surcharge whatever sheets were left over with the designated new decimal value. These 6 sheets were so surcharged with the 18pt. Tempo Medium typeface.

Franco Frescura, writing in the 1978 *Robemark Catalogue Handbook of the Stamps of Swaziland* stated: "The Type III was limited to an issue of a mere six sheets giving a maximum possible of 360 stamps which could be in existence. These stamps were placed on sale to the public and four sheets had been used up on postal matter and telegrams before the difference was noticed. Of the remaining two sheets, some stamps were found to be creased so that the number of the existing mint stamps can be little more than one hundred".



Fig.8: 50c on 5/-Type III

This can be compared to what P.N. Bullivant writing in the '*Shelley Catalogue of the Decimal Surcharges on the Stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland*', published in November 1968 had stated: "Of 360 copies of the 50c Type III only two sheets of 60 are thought to have been made available for postal use and of those some were found to be either creased or damaged".

A number of copies of this stamp do exist in a cancelled state. This indicates that unless cancelled by special favour, some stamps from the remaining sheets were used for postal purposes. Further, there is a possibility that someone realising the philatelic importance of these stamps, bought some over the counter. It is generally accepted that less than a hundred of this 50c surcharge (Type III) survived.

A variety of this Type III surcharge has also been noticed by van der Molen (2013 p295) with a short 'c': This exists in row 1, 6. Van der Molen goes on to state: "... the writer has seen two copies – his own ... (see Fig.9) and another with the top margin missing. The other four were probably used".



Fig.9: 50c on 5/-Type III with short 'c' (in bottom loop)

An interesting variety, which affected the original sheet on which the 50c Type III was surcharged, concerns a printing flaw. The sheets of the 5/- stamp, on which the 50c was surcharged, contained a number with what Stanley Gibbons has referred to as a 'fish hook' printing flaw. This was caused by a foreign body in the plate, on the right hand side on one of the stamps on the sheet. This could be rather unique, with respect to the 50c on 5s Type III, as only six could exist. In the light of less than two sheets being discovered, the chance of more than two of this 'fish hook' example existing is slim. Fig.10 illustrates this 'fish hook' in the right hand frame.

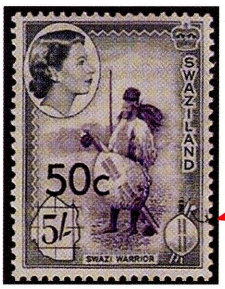


Fig.10: 50c on 5/-Type III with 'fishhook'

This 50c Type III surcharge has become the show piece of the 1961 Swaziland decimal surcharges. It is also recognised as the rarest of all the standard surcharges which occurred with respect to the three British Protectorates - namely Swaziland, Basutoland and Bechuanaland - during the process of decimalisation of their currencies in 1961. This needless to say excludes any errors and varieties.

The question still remains as to why there was such a limited number of this particular surcharge? Why by way of example was the previous run (Type II) not increased by the remaining six sheets, assuming that there were only six sheets left? Also why after a total of 76,860 stamps of this denomination were printed was it necessary to print a further six sheets? Van der Molen's hypothesis of the 'three waves of surcharging' noted earlier appears to be the only possible answer. However the result is that the 50c on 5/- Type III has become one of the rarest of the standard (ie non-error) surcharges, and in many instances the 'face' of the Swaziland decimal surcharges.

The 50c Definitive:

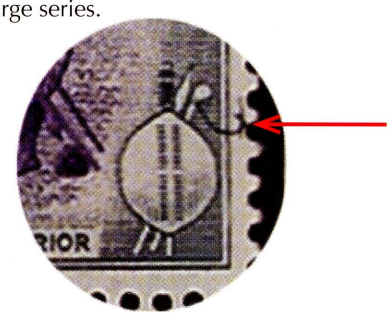
The surcharge process of the 50c value, was followed by the issue of a 50c definitive stamp, on 10 September 1961 (Fig.11), nearly seven months after decimalisation.



Fig.11: 50c definitive issue

Summing-up:

The 50c on 5/- Swaziland decimal surcharge makes for an interesting study. Three separate surcharges exist with the show piece being the Type III 50c value. In addition the small trial run of Type II adds further interest to this 50c value. Of all the decimal surcharges, the 50c value Type III, in terms of standard surcharges, has received the greatest attention and further has achieved the highest value. It has become a key item in any collection of Swaziland stamps especially with respect to the 1961 decimal surcharge series.



References:

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2. Frescura, Franco. *The Provisional Decimal Surcharges of Swaziland,* ca. 1980, published in the Robemark Catalogue.
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Punch Magazine's Anti-Graham Campaign of the 1840s

by Dr Robert McLennan-Smith, Highway Philatelic Society

In 1844 it came to the attention of the British public that the Foreign Office was intercepting and reading mail under the auspices of the Secretary of the Home Office, Sir James Graham (fig.1). The campaign against mail interception started with the MP Thomas Slingsby Duncombe (fig.2), and was taken on by *Punch Magazine* and one of its illustrators, John Leech (fig.3).

Sir James Graham was a British Statesman and Member of Parliament from 1818 until his death in 1861 (fig.4). He held the positions of 1st Lord of the Admiralty 1830 - 1834 and Secretary of the Home Office 1841 - 1846.



Fig.1: A portrait of Sir James Graham

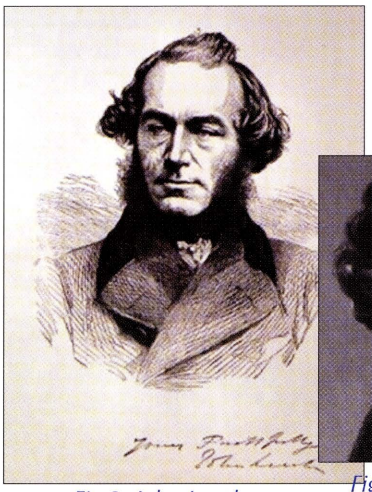

Fig.3: John Leech

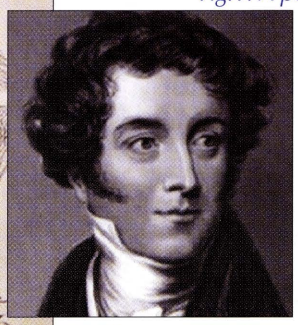

Fig.2: Thomas Slingsby Duncombe, MP.

In June 1844 another MP, Thomas Slingsby Duncombe announced in Parliament that the Home Office under the control of Sir James Graham was intercepting and copying mail at the St Martins le Grand Central Post Office in London.

The letters that were opened were addressed to the Italian freedom fighter and refugee, Giuseppe Mazzini (fig.5). These letters had been sent by his followers in Corfu, Emilio and Attilo Bandiera. The contents disclosed their plan to take part in an armed attack on Calabria in south west Italy. When they landed at the pre-arranged beach, they were arrested and executed by soldiers from the Neapolitan Government.

Duncombe told parliament that these killings were a direct result of the mail interception by the Home Office which had then informed the Austrian and Neopolitan Governments of the planned insurrection. Graham vigorously defended his actions, stating that his department had the power to issue warrants directing letters to be opened.

Giuseppe Mazzini (1805 - 1872) was an Italian politician and journalist who spearheaded the Italian Revolutionary Movement to unify Italy from its several separate states, many of which were dominated by foreign powers. When he became aware of the Home Office interception of his mail and the consequences, he took it up with the British Parliament and gained support from the outraged Liberals, the general public and the British press, led by *Punch Magazine*.

Punch approached John Leech, one of its artists, to design an Anti-Graham envelope. Leech was well known as the designer of one of the most popular early Mulready Caricatures, Fore's Comic Envelope No.1 (fig.6).

The *Punch* 'Anti-Graham' design shows various scenes of midgets in top hats, some with wings, spying on people, reading letters over their shoulders, intercepting their mails and opening them (fig.7). At the feet of Britannia is a snake in the grass with the head of Sir James Graham. Below the snake is the name W.J. Linton (fig.8), who engraved the design. William James Linton was a famous English born American wood engraver, author, painter and political reformer. In 1844 he was prominent in exposing the violation by the Post Office of Mazzini's correspondence. This led to a long standing friendship with Mazzini.

The *Punch* 'Anti-Graham' Envelope comes in two designs. Design 2 is without the inscription at the top (fig.9). At the same time as the envelope *Punch* also produced a sheet of 'Anti-Graham' Wafers initiated by



Fig.5: Photograph of Giuseppe Mazzini by Domenico Lama



Fig.4: A personalised envelope sent by Sir James Graham with a parliamentary free franking handstamp of 5th September 1836.

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Fig.6: Fore's Comic Envelope No. 1 by John Leech sent from Belfast to Cork on 6th Nov 1840 with a 1d Black plate 1b , which has been lifted and replaced, and cancelled by a red Maltese Cross.

Henry Mayhew, to be used to seal envelopes with 'extra strong' adhesive on the rear to make it more difficult to open by the Post Office (fig.10).

The design, drawn by H.G Hine, is of sixteen green wafers with differing inscriptions relating to mail tampering. They are surrounded by a design in brown with witty scenes of letter opening and another snake in the grass (fig.11). The wafers are gummed on the reverse. The sheet was published by *Punch* in 1844 and sold for 2d. A later sheet was produced in 1850 in a pale green. The campaign had the desired effect and the Post Office interceptions ceased but Sir James Graham managed to keep his job as Home Secretary for a further two years!

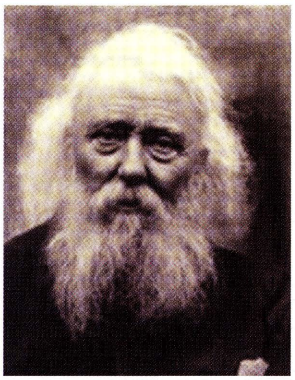

Fig.8: William James Linton

Fig.7: Design 1 of Punch's *Anti-Graham envelope by John Leech. It is franked with an 1844 imperforate 1d Red plate 4 2 and cancelled with the 1844 numbered obliterator of Exeter. On the rear there are circular datestamps of Exeter and the receiving office of Lewes dated 18 th August 1844.*

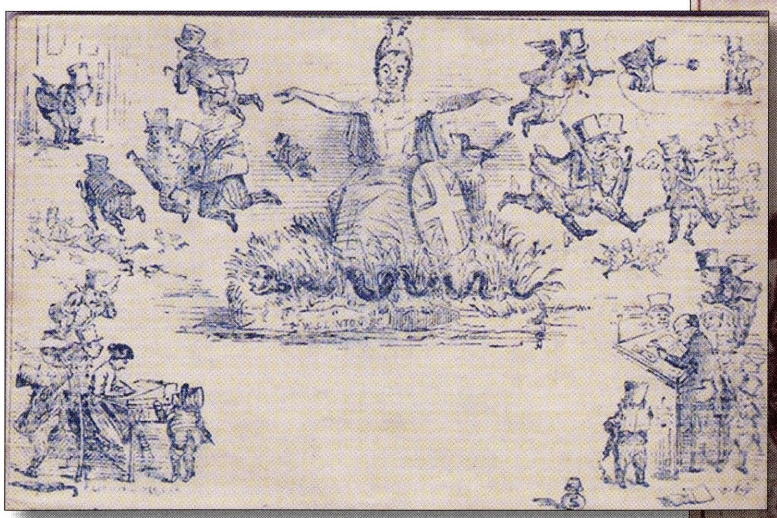

Fig.9: Design 2 with no inscription and subtle changes in the design, notably Britannia's face. This is a Deraedemaker identical copy of the design, with his name bottom left

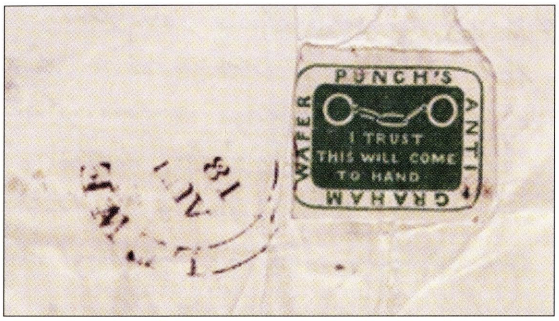

Fig.10: On the rear of the envelope in Fig.7 - Punch's Anti-Graham Wafer 'handcuffs' seal



Fig.11 A sheet of the 1844 Punch's 'Anti-Graham' Wafers (reduced in size-original is 25.4 x 19.6 cm).

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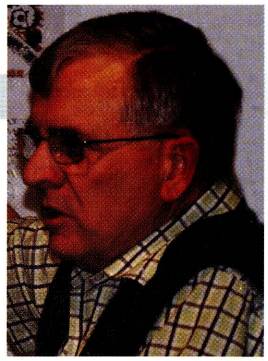
Nuwe inligting oor seëlhandelaars in die Vrystaat en die Moederstad

deur Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Filatelies Vereeniging



ENGLISH SUMMARY:

NEW INFORMATION ABOUT OLD STAMP DEALERS IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND THE MOTHER CITY

The particulars of these stamp dealers are as scarce as hen's teeth.

The two letters I received from a family member and the cover I found in a scratch box of a dealer at a Stamp Fair. Judging by the price, I don't think the dealer realised the rarity of the item he no longer possesses.

1931 - Boville Stamp Co. Kroonstad:

The company advertised in *The South African Philatelist* between February 1931 and July 1932 only seven times.

1955 - J E Frouws, Cilliersstraat 32A, Heilbron: I could find no advertisements in *The South African Philatelist*. His business practices were of special interest: Cash with Order, every order under 5/- required 3d postage and if you spent 5/- or more you had to register the packet.

1955 - Stamp Mail Order House, Cape Town:

The letter was signed JSC. No advertisements could be traced in *The South African Philatelist* at the time. With the kind assistance of Mary Rogers and David Watts of the *Royal Philatelic Society* of Cape Town it now can be established that Mr J Schrage Cohen was the stamp dealer. He lived in Seymour Avenue Vredehoek, Cape Town and also ran a photography business at 30 Darling Street, Cape Town.

Posseëlversameling, sê iemand op 'n dag, is die koning van stokperdjies, asook die stokperdjie van konings. Daarom is ons almal 'konings' en 'koninginne' wanneer ons met ons stokperdjie besig is. Navorsing het nog altyd vir my, veral op die gebied van posgeskiedenis, groot vreugde gegee. Enigiets, van 'n ou brief tot 'n koevert met pragtige posmerke, trek altyd my aandag. Mag ek hiermee 'n lansie breek vir posgeskiedenis? As u op seëlskoue en seëlbeurse kom, raak 'n krapper! Die handelaars sal maar te bly wees. Bly positief jou dag kom, die verrassing is op hande.

Die afgelope jare het ek dikwels deur versamelings van afgestorwenes gewerk om raad aan familie te gee. Twee van die briewe van seëlhandelaars in hierdie artikel kom uit so'n familieversameling. Die koevert van die Kroonstadhandelaar het ek by 'n seëlbeurs in 'n krapboksie van 'n handelaar gevind. Te oordeel aan die prys het die handelaar definitief nie besef watter rariteit hy nou nie meer besit nie!

Ongelukkig moet ek verskoning vra. Die besonderhede oor die drie handelaars is so skaars soos hoendertande. Daar is min of niks bekend oor hulle bedrywighede nie.

1931 – Boville Stamp Co. Kroonstad:

Boville Stamp Company was, glo ek, 'n een man besigheid. Te oordeel aan die drukwerk op die koevert het die eienaar ook 'n kwekery besit. Die kwekerykoeverte is ook vir sy seëlbesigheid gebruik. Die drukwerk op die besigheidskoevert is verander van Boville Nursery na Boville Stamp Co.

Datumstempel: 28mm sirkel; verdeelde binnesirkel met datum 4 MAR 31 7 – PM

Ek het die uitgawes van The South African Philatelist 1931-1933 deurgewerk en gevind dat Boville Stamp Co. vir ses maande in 1931, Februarie – Augustus advertensies geplaas het. Gedurende Mei is geen SAP uitgegee nie. Die laaste advertensie was in die Small Advertisements Julie 1932.

1955 – J E Frouws, Cilliersstraat 32A, Heilbron:

Hier het ons ten minste die handelaar se naam en huisadres. Hierdie omsendbrief is gerig aan 'Geagte Aanvraer'. Bestellings is Kontant met Bestelling. As jou bestelling onder 5/- bedra moet jy 3d posgeld bysit! Indien 'n koper meer as 5/- spandeer moet hy die pakkie laat registreer om diefstal te voorkom.



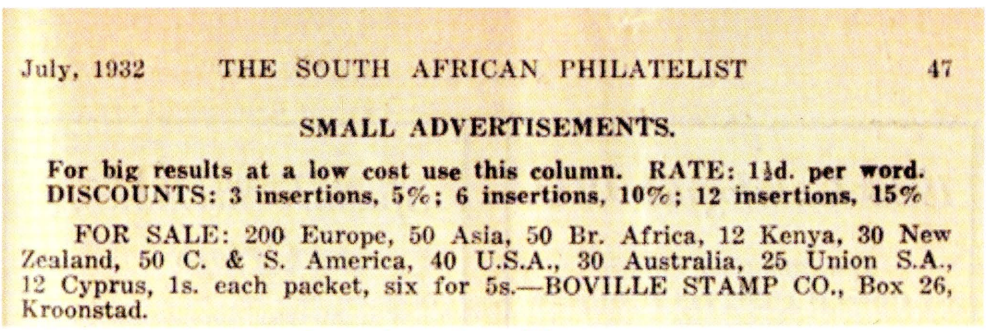
FREE.—Any one of the undermentioned Packets to anyone ordering all five of the others.

50 diff. British South and East Africa from 12 Colonies. Price 1/-
75 diff. British Empire. Price .. 1/-
12 diff. Kenya (incl. the 1/-) Price 1/-
9 diff. Canada (set 1c. to 20c. pictorial). Price 1/-
80 diff. Africa. Price 1/-
200 diff. Europe. Price 1/-

Packet list on application.
Approvals on request.

BOVILLE STAMP CO.,
BOX 26 - - - - - - - KROONSTAD.

Advertensie SAP Maart 1931



July, 1932 THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST 47

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

For big results at a low cost use this column. RATE: 1½d. per word. DISCOUNTS: 3 insertions, 5%; 6 insertions, 10%; 12 insertions, 15%

FOR SALE: 200 Europe, 50 Asia, 50 Br. Africa, 12 Kenya, 30 New Zealand, 50 C. & S. America, 40 U.S.A., 30 Australia, 25 Union S.A., 12 Cyprus, 1s. each packet, six for 5s.—BOVILLE STAMP CO., Box 26, Kroonstad.

Laaste advertensie wat ek kon opspoor.

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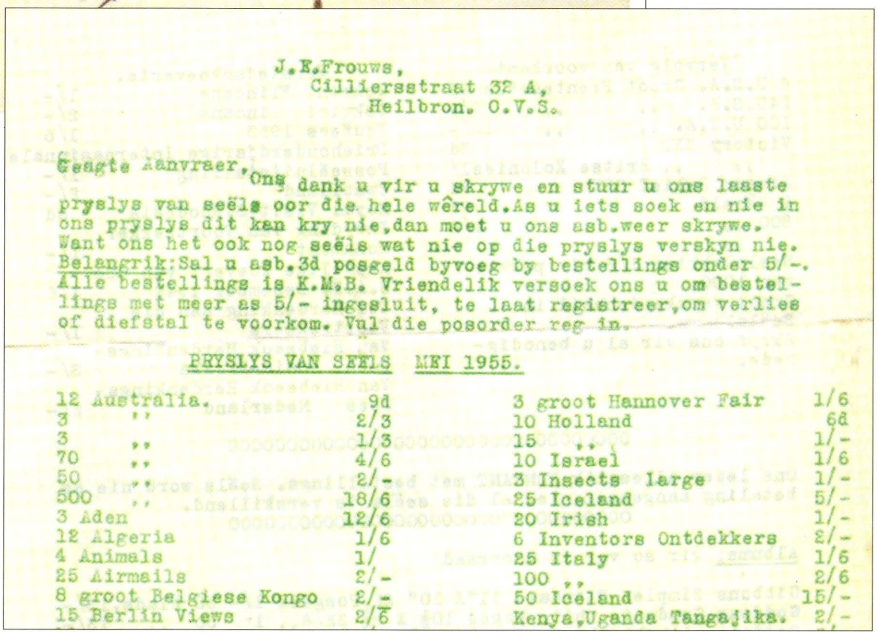
Besigheidskoevert van Boville Stamp Co Kroonstad



J.E.Frouws,
Cilliersstraat 32 A,
Heilbron. O.V.S.

Geagte Aanvraer, Ons dank u vir u skrywe en stuur u ons laaste pryslys van seëls oor die hele wêreld. As u iets soek en nie in ons pryslys dit kan kry nie, dan moet u ons asb. weer skrywe. Want ons het ook nog seëls wat nie op die pryslys verskyn nie. Belangrik: Sal u asb. 3d posgeld byvoeg by bestellings onder 5/-. Alle bestellings is K.M.B. Vriendelik versoek ons u om bestellings met meer as 5/- ingesluit, te laat registreer, om verlies of diefstal te voorkom. Vul die posorder reg in.

PRYSLYS VAN SEELS MEI 1955.

12 Australia.	9d	3 groot Hannover Fair	1/6
3 "	2/3	10 Holland	6d
3 "	1/3	15 "	1/-
70 "	4/6	10 Israel	1/6
50 "	2/-	3 Insects large	1/-
500 "	18/6	25 Iceland	5/-
3 Aden	12/6	20 Irish	1/-
12 Algeria	1/6	6 Inventors Ontdekkers	2/-
4 Animals	1/	25 Italy	1/6
25 Airmails	2/-	100 "	2/6
8 groot Belgiese Kongo	2/-	50 Iceland	15/-
15 Berlin Views	2/6	Kenya, Uganda Tangajika.	2/-

J E Frouws: Deel van 'n lang brief/pryslys aan sy kliënte.

Hierdie handelaar het behalwe 'n groot verskeidenheid seëls ook Gibbons, Goddons, Stirling en Trafalgar Albums verkoop. Sy goue reël met sy kliënte was: "Sal u asb altyd 'n tweede en 'n derde keuse vermeld ingeval die eerste of tweede een uitverkoop is?"

Geen advertensie kon in *The South African Philatelist* opgespoor word nie.

1955 – Stamp Mail Order House, Kaapstad:

Hierdie briefhoof bevat interessante inligting maar niks wat die handelaar identifiseer nie. Die brief is wel geteken JSC. Geen advertensie kon in The South African Philatelist gevind word nie. Wel, dis lekker om altyd seëlvriende te hê, konings en koninginne! Een oproep aan Verena Mary Rogers, President, Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, het vir my groot vreugde gebring. 'n Vriend van haar, David Watts, het die raaisel grootliks opgelos.

David het in sy *Cape Times Cape Peninsula Diary* 1953-4 onderstaande besonderhede gevind: Posbus 4067 is gehuur deur J S Cohen. Verder het J Schrage Cohen ook in die Cloutsgebou, Darlingstraat 30, 'n Fotografie-besigheid gehad met Posbus 4052. Cohen se huisadres was Anmar Mansions 3, Seymour Avenue, Vredehoek. So die eienaar van hierdie seëlbesigheid was J Schrage Cohen.

Ek vertrou ek kon hiermee 'n paar legkaartstukkies van ons mooi stokperdjie by mekaar inpas.



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Society Auctions - Observations and Experiences



by Johan Bezuidenhout, Bellville Philatelic Society

I joined the Bellville Philatelic Society four years ago and continue to enjoy my membership. One of the interesting activities at our society is its bi-annual stamp auction, which I find to be a great source of new material for my collection at affordable prices. However, I have realised that there is much more to it than that and the purpose of this article is to share my personal experiences and provide a framework for other societies to consider.

Firstly, I believe that the reason for our society's continued success of our auctions is that we deem it to be a service to the community, to the members and to philately in general. Our auction material comes from a plethora of sources, including a local hospice, estates, ex-collectors and even members from other societies. We have established good relationships with repeat sellers, regularly have announcements of our meetings and auctions in two local newspapers, and have a website as well as a Facebook page. We are regularly contacted by potential sellers and can truly claim that we are a community based service provider.

The success of our auctions is built on relationships, trust and reliability, which started with our previous President, Wobbe Vegter, who created a network of repeat sellers and buyers from not only the Western Cape, but also distant buyers from all over SA. With our exposure to Facebook, we even have interested parties from other countries.

Sellers are more than happy to get rid of material about which they know nothing, or which they no longer collect, while buyers are exposed to a wide variety of philatelic material, varying from simple stamps torn from envelopes, to country collections in old pre-WW2 albums. This serves philately as it recycles philatelic items, sometimes even rare material, which has not been available before. Prices vary from very low – occasionally we do auction lots for R1 - up to a few thousand rands, but we seldom exceed R5,000. This results in interest even for a collector with limited funds.

Furthermore, the structure which seems to be a successful is to prepare a proper auction list distributed well in advance of the auction; at least one month ahead. The auction listing describes each lot in great detail, which ensures the attraction of non-local bidders, as evidenced by the many email bidders who regularly participate. As on all auction lists, we allocate an advisory price at which bidding will start. In some cases this results in a bidding war, meaning we missed something and the bidder has spotted an interesting item; we cannot check every individual stamp, so sometimes buyers are extremely lucky.

The auction itself takes roughly two hours, in which we sell 95% of all lots – we handle about 160 lots in these two hours. We operate with a nifty spreadsheet, thanks to our secretary Reanie de Villiers, where, prior to the auction, we record all bidders and sellers. During the auction all successful bids are also recorded live. When the last lot has been hammered down, we press a few buttons and we have all information required immediately available: total sales, total commission, list of items sold per seller, list of lots bought per buyer with the total due. Payments can be processed immediately afterwards or are done via EFT; lots are only released after payment has been received. Sellers are paid out usually within one week after the auction.

This auction structure generates an ever growing popularity in our geographic area, to the extent that we usually have an oversupply of auction material. The result is that we create not only a reliable means of selling the community's philatelic related material, but also generate additional revenue for our society.

Finally, the purpose of this article is to open constructive dialogue regarding society auctions. We are all volunteers, trying our best to serve the local community, as well as the broader philatelic community and I hope that my contribution will improve society auctions in South Africa.



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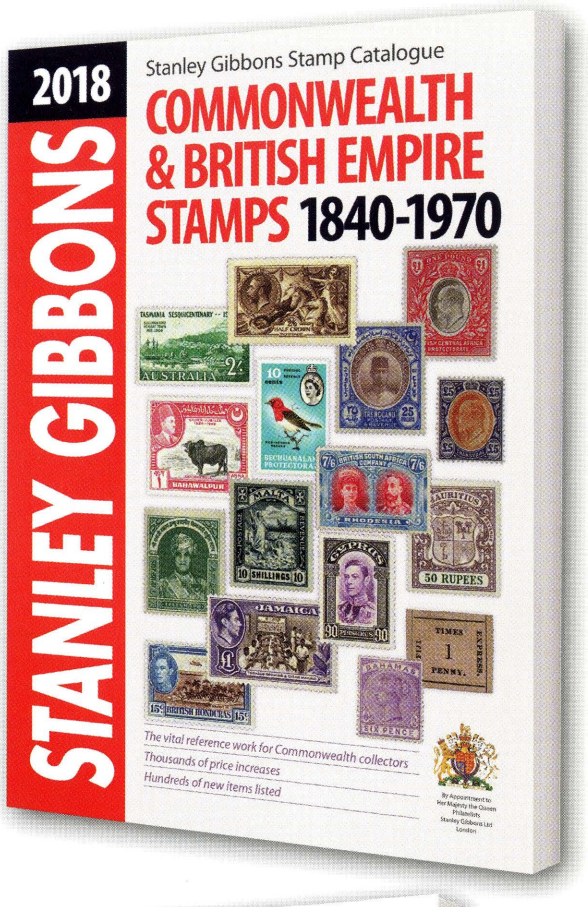
New 2018 Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970



The standard work of reference for collectors of Commonwealth Stamps all over the World

• 736 Pages • 120th Edition 2018

The 120th edition of 'Part 1', due to be published in September includes a number of new additions and improvements, probably the most welcome of which is a full listing of Indian stamps used in Aden. This includes separate priced listings of usage in the smaller offices, such as Kamaran, Khormaksar and Sheikh Othman. Also listed for the first time in this catalogue are the surcharges on the stamps of Denmark issued during the British occupation of the Faroe Islands in World War II.

Prices have, as always, been meticulously checked throughout the catalogue, from Abu Dhabi to Zanzibar, with an enormous number of changes, mostly upwards and some of them spectacular, so any dealer or collector who is thinking of 'making do' with the 2017 edition for another year places themselves at a distinct disadvantage!

CODE: R2813-18 R2,200



King George V Album (1910-1936)

The King George V set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue. For all Postage, Air, Due, Postal Fiscal and Official Stamps. There are spaces for all perforation and watermark changes (including sideways but not inverted or reversed), different plates, Types and Dies. Shades and varieties are not included. In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers have been included.

King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album CODE: R3413 R13,375

King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album with mounts CODE: R3413-HL R18,750



St. Helena, Ascension & Tristan Da Cunha

CODE: R2875-17 R450

Our representative is our Southern African distributor Peter Bale of Peter Bale Philatelics (cell: 082 330 3925) to contact for all of your requirements.

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN PHILATELISTS STANLEY GIBBONS LTD LONDON

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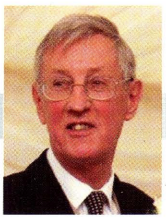
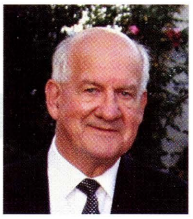
The Cullinan Diamond

by Bryan McGee and Colin Whittle





The Cullinan diamond (Fig.1) discovered during the pre-Union period played a symbolic role in the reconciliation between the Boers and British around the time of Union and thereafter, but the high hopes for peace were eventually dashed by increasingly recalcitrant politics in later periods.



Fig.1: The Cullinan Diamond I & II

We have passed the centenary of the adoption of the *South Africa Act* by the British parliament in September 1909, after which the Union of South Africa was inaugurated on 31 May 1910. This took place on the eighth anniversary of the Treaty of Vereeniging, which had brought the Anglo-Boer War to an end (Fig.2). Regrettably, this significant anniversary passed by without adequate recognition either in South Africa or in Great Britain.



Fig.2: Table on which the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed, Melrose House, Pretoria.

The *South Africa Act* represented the culmination of nearly seven years of acrimonious post-war negotiations between four parties, the two British colonies (the Cape and Natal) and the two former Boer republics (Transvaal and the Orange Free State), to agree a framework for a unified independent state within the British Empire. At first the prospect of creating a unified state seemed bleak, as the High Commissioner, Lord Milner, who had taken a hard line in his negotiations for the Treaty did not endear the British ideal to the defeated Boers, especially the 'bitter einders'. The eventual foundation for the reconciliation between the parties was laid after Jan Smuts had pleaded his case with the new British Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, in February 1906. Campbell-Bannerman, having shown his commitment to ameliorating the terms of the Treaty prompted Smuts to later write: *"They (the British) gave us back our country in everything but name. After four years. Has such a miracle of trust and magnanimity ever happened before."* It was this agreement which created the climate for the gift of the Cullinan Diamond to the King, by the government of the Transvaal in the following year.

The celebrated diamond was discovered in January 1905 by Captain Frederick Wells at the Premier Mine in the Transvaal (Fig.3), whose chairman was Thomas (later Sir Thomas) Cullinan. The gem, at 3,106 metric carats (almost 1½ pounds), is the largest



Fig.3: Premier Diamond Mine

diamond ever found and created a sensation both in South Africa and abroad. The Premier Mine, subsequently owned by De Beers has been the source of a quarter of all large diamonds ever discovered and is now only rivalled in that respect by the Letseng Mine in Botswana. De Beers, still the world's largest diamond mining and trading company, was formed by Cecil Rhodes in 1872 in Kimberley. In 1927 it was taken over by Ernest Oppenheimer, who had formed Anglo-American ten years earlier. In 2011 the Oppenheimer family sold their controlling interest in the Company.

The government of the Transvaal purchased the Cullinan stone prior to Union and at the instigation of its Prime Minister, Louis Botha, former Commandant General of the Transvaal forces during the Anglo-Boer War and one of the great figures in the creation of a united South Africa, the stone was presented to King Edward VII in 1907 as a *'token of the loyalty and attachment of the people of Transvaal...'* (Fig.4). This was only five years after the end of the war with its bitter legacy still fresh in the minds of the participants. Botha was encouraged to make this gesture by David Pieter de Villiers Graaff, former mayor of Cape Town and a member of the Cape Legislature and the proposal was overwhelmingly approved by 42 votes to 19 in the Volksraad. Under the circumstances at the time, this was a generous act of extraordinary reconciliation.

The King was delighted with the gift and it was agreed that Joseph Asscher & Co of Amsterdam would produce two large flawless gems and that Asschers should retain the 'cleavings' as payment for their work. On 21 November 1909 these two largest diamonds, Cullinan I and II, were formally presented to King Edward VII at Windsor Castle. They were, and still remain, the two largest flawless colourless (blue/white) cut diamonds in the world. They were temporarily mounted as a brooch for Queen Alexandra, but after the King's death in 1910, King George V commanded that they be respectively mounted in the Sceptre and Imperial State Crown to form part of the Crown Jewels where they remain today; although they are detachable and were occasionally worn by Queen Mary.

Cullinan I, a pear-shaped blue-white gem of 530 carat is the centrepiece of the Sceptre and is known as *The Great Star of Africa* (Fig. 5). The Sceptre is an important symbolic item of the regalia used during the Coronation ceremony.



Fig 4: Prime Minister Louis Botha and King Edward VII

Cullinan II, at 317 carats, is known by some as *The Lesser Star of Africa* and is set in the Imperial State Crown (Fig.6) which is worn annually by the Sovereign when presiding over the State Opening of Parliament.

Cullinans I and II are viewed daily by countless visitors to the Tower of London (Fig.7) where the Crown Jewels have recently



Fig 5: The Royal Sceptre

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been given an impressive new display which, appropriately, has been in part sponsored by De Beers. Queens Alexandra and Mary are the only queens to have actually worn I and II as individual gems.



Fig 6: The Imperial State Crown

From the cleavings of the Cullinan, Asschers produced seven more significant gems, Cullinans III to IX which range from 94.4 to 4.4 carats, as well as about 96 smaller stones. King Edward purchased the 11.5 carat Cullinan VI as a personal gift for his wife, Queen Alexandra. Cullinan VI is now generally worn as a pendant to Cullinan VIII

In 1910 Louis Botha, then Prime Minister of the new Union of South Africa, insisted that all the remaining gems, that is the remaining six Cullinans as well as the 96 smaller gems, be purchased by his government lest they become dispersed to private individuals. The government planned to present them to Princess Mary, then Princess of Wales, when her husband, the future George V, presided over the State Opening of the first parliament of the Union in Cape Town. The tour was however cancelled, due to the unexpected death of King Edward. Instead, the gems were presented to her as Queen Mary, in London in June 1910 by Sir Richard Solomon, High Commissioner of the new Union of South Africa.

Botha died in office in 1919 at the tragically early age of 57 and was succeeded by Jan Smuts, who embodied similar high minded ideals and objectives (Fig 8). Smuts, of course, went on to take a leading role in both national and international affairs until his final retirement in 1948.



Fig 7: Tower of London

In 1947, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, with their two daughters undertook a post-war tour of South Africa (Fig.9) to express appreciation for the country's contribution to the Allied cause in WW2. Princess Elizabeth's 21st birthday, on 21 April, was declared a public holiday. Field-Marshal Smuts, in his last year in office as Prime Minister, presented her with a splendid long necklace of 21 large diamonds of up to 10 carats, interspersed with smaller ones, all cut and polished in South Africa. In addition, during her visit to the Big Hole in Kimberley, Mary, the granddaughter of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Chairman of De Beers (Fig.10), presented the Princess with a superb round-cut 6 carat blue/white diamond.

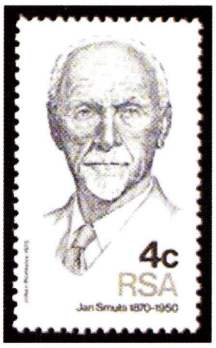


Fig 8: General Smuts

All these stones were later reset to form a shorter necklace and bracelet that the Princess wore to the ball preceding her marriage to Prince Philip and which she has continued to wear throughout her reign. Due to the personal nature of the gifts she is reputed to refer to them as 'my best diamonds'. They thus form another lasting bond between the British Crown and the people of South Africa.

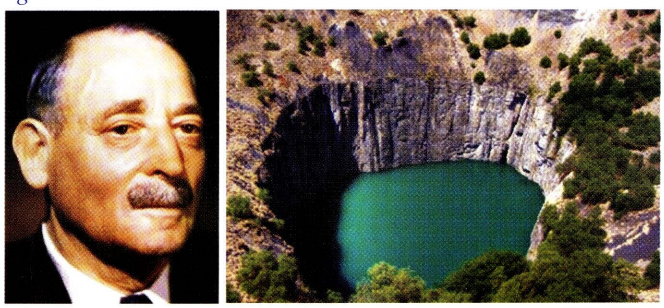


Fig 10: Sir Ernest Oppenheimer and the De Beers 'Big Hole' Diamond Mine in Kimberley

In 2012, the 60th Anniversary of the King's death and thus the Diamond Jubilee of H.M. the Queen, most of the principal gems that were cut from the Cullinan, i.e. Cullinans III to IX were displayed at



Fig 9: The Royal Visit

a special exhibition in Buckingham Palace (Fig.11) during the summer opening. Look for www.royalcollection.org.uk

Bibliography:

- *The Unification of South Africa 1902-1910* by Prof L.M.Thompson, Oxford University Press, 1960
- *Cullinan Diamonds – Dreams and Discoveries* by Phillida Brooke Simons, Ferwood Press, 2004
- *The Jewels of Queen Elizabeth II – Her Personal Collection* by Leslie Field, Thames and Hudson, 1992
- Website: www.famousdiamonds.tripod.com
- *DIAMONDS - A Jubilee Celebration* by Caroline de Guitaut, Royal Collection Trust, 2012
- *The Queen's Diamonds* by H. Roberts, 2012
- *Winston Churchill vol 2* by Randolph Churchill
- *Greater South Africa – Plans for a Better World* by J.C.Smuts, The Truth Legion, 1940
- *Jan Smuts - Man of Courage and Vision* by Antony Lentin, Jonathan Ball, 2010
- *Sir David Pieter de Villiers Graaff - First Baronet of de Grendel* by Ebbe Dommisse, Tafelberg, 2011



Fig 11: Buckingham Palace



GUESS THE STAMP

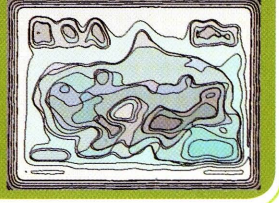
Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image - Guess correctly - send your answer to the Editorial Board and you stand to WIN a stationery hamper!

The August issue stamp - the fish eagle on SACC 997 - the R20 additional value to the definitive issue of the day: Thank you Chris Cullen of Hillcrest, KZN who is the winner and the first correct entry drawn.

Send your answer to janice@gdb.co.za by 12th November 2017

*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

NOW GUESS WHAT THIS IS?



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My Favourite Cover

by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

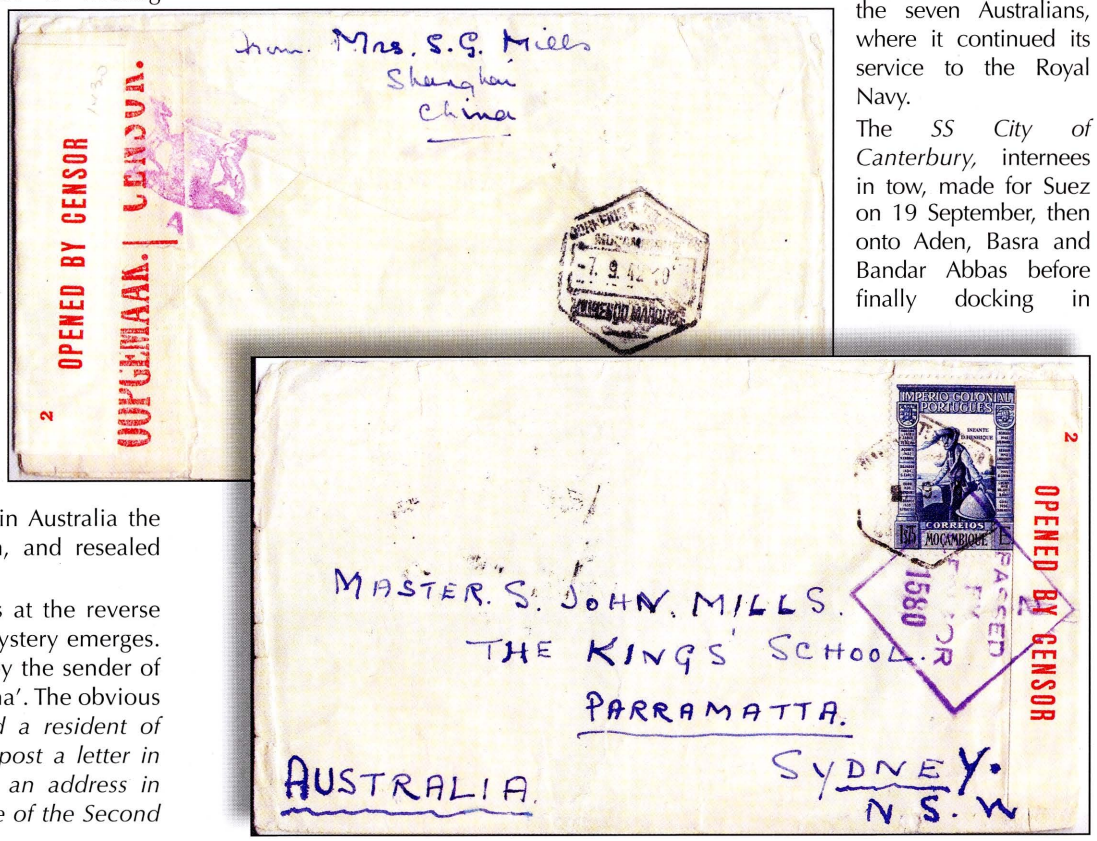


Introduction

While attending the FIAP exhibition in Melbourne during March 2017, I was alerted to a postal history item from Portuguese East Africa that was coming up for sale at an Australian auction. Needless to say, my interest was piqued, and in due course the cover made its way into my collection.

On the face of it, there is nothing remarkable about this cover, except perhaps for the uncommon Antipodean destination.

The cover was posted in Lourenço Marques on 7 September 1942 and addressed to Australia using a fairly common stamp to pay the correct 1E75 foreign surface rate. The cover travelled by steamer to Durban where it was censored and resealed with censor tape, and then again by ship across the Indian Ocean to Australia. Upon arrival in Australia the cover was censored again, and resealed with censor tape.



However, when one looks at the reverse of the cover, a veritable mystery emerges. The return address given by the sender of the cover is 'Shanghai China'. The obvious question arises: *'How did a resident of Shanghai China come to post a letter in Portuguese East Africa to an address in Australia during the middle of the Second World War?'*

Exchanges of Civilian Internees during World War II

World War II was the first 'total' war, directly affecting not only combatants of the warring nations, but also non-combatants of both hostile and neutral nations. In addition, many civilians of combatant nations were interned after being caught on the wrong side of the front at the outbreak of the War. This was especially true in the case of Japan on the one hand, and the United States, Great Britain and the Commonwealth nations on the other, due to the abrupt outbreak of hostilities in the Far East after Japan's surprise attacks on Pearl harbour and the European colonies in the Far East.

Within a week of the commencement of hostilities the United States and Japan began negotiating to exchange civilian internees. Through their intermediaries, Spain for Japan and Switzerland for the United States, an exchange was agreed.

The first exchange of civilians took place in Lourenço Marques during July 1942. Lourenço Marques was selected as it was a colony of Portugal, a neutral nation, and the closest large neutral port to both sets of belligerents. The *MS Gripsholm*, a Swedish ship contracted by the United States government, carried approximately 1,500 Japanese passengers from the United States and Brazil to Lourenço Marques arriving on 20 July. On 22 July, two Japanese ships – the *Asama Maru* and the *Conte Verde*, an Italian liner contracted by the Japanese government, delivered 1,554 Allied civilians to Lourenço Marques. The exchange of internees took place on the following day.

The Exchange of Australian and Japanese Civilians

The first exchange of civilians between Japan and Great Britain and the Dominions was agreed in July 1942, following a Swiss proposal to both sides in February 1942. The agreement encompassed two sets of exchanges, all of which were to take place at Lourenço Marques. This first exchange took place on 31 August, and involved the British diplomatic staff in Japan.

On 6 September 1942, the second (and what proved to be the final) exchange of British civilians took place. This second exchange included Australian diplomatic staff. The Japanese liner *Kamakura Maru* departed from Shanghai on 17 August and delivered 150 internees, including seven Australian diplomatic staff from Shanghai, to Lourenço Marques. The Japanese internees from Australia, 871 in all, were conveyed to Lourenço Marques by the *SS City of Canterbury* that had departed Melbourne on 16 August.

Somewhat surprisingly, no alternative arrangements were made for the Australians to return home. The *SS City of Canterbury* was not scheduled to return to Australia and instead headed for Durban on 16 September carrying 115 internees, including the seven Australians, where it continued its service to the Royal Navy.

The *SS City of Canterbury*, internees in tow, made for Suez on 19 September, then onto Aden, Basra and Bandar Abbas before finally docking in Bombay on 16 November 1942. Here the Australians were left to find their own way home!

Conclusion

This cover, posted at Lourenço Marques on the day after the arrival of the Australian internees in the port, is no coincidence. Given the manner in which the Japanese authorities treated internees and prisoners of war, it is most likely that this was the first opportunity that the writer had to communicate with her family.

To date this is the only known cover posted by an internee from the Japanese liner *Kamakura Maru* in Lourenço Marques. However, as this is an area where little or no philatelic research has been conducted, it is quite possible that more covers will now come to light. Happy hunting!

References

- *Lifeline Across the Sea: Mercy Ships of the Second World War and their Repatriation Missions* by David L. Williams, The History Press 2015.
- Australian War Memorial archives 54 Series: 780/2/4/ - *History of Prisoners of War and Internees Administration in Australia, 1946.*

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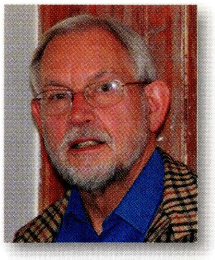
New South African Stamp Issues 2017 - Part IV



by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

12 July 2017 – BEES FOR AFRICA

Denominations: 3 x International Small Letter (R9.15)
Designer: Jessica Delaney, depicting the two species of honeybees found in South Africa.
Stamp 1: African bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*);
Stamp 2: Cape bee (*Apis mellifera capensis*);
Stamp 3: A bee performing a natural function of pollinating crops.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp sizes: 38 x 38mm
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 153 x 109mm comprising two se tenant strips of the three designs arranged one above the other.
Phosphor: Yellow-green bands along right (3mm wide) and bottom (4mm wide) margins of each stamp.
Quantity: 50,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8513 (blue), 8514 (red), 8515 (yellow) and 8516 (black).
Perforation: Die-cut simulated of gauge 11.75. Stamps are separated by 6mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Printing sheet size: 710 x 500 mm, comprising 16 sheetlets arranged in four rows of four
First Day Cover: No. 8.107 of standard size, of which 1000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.954 – 'PAARL 12-07-2017'.



10 August 2017 – SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS (Part 3)

Denominations: 5 x Registered Small Letter (R27.30)
Designer: Thea Clemons, from photos supplied by SAN Parks, depicting the following:
Top row 'Golden Gate Highlands National Park';
Middle row 'Garden Route National Park – Tsitsikamma' and 'Camdeboo National Park';
Bottom row 'Bontebok National Park' and 'Table Mountain National Park'
Printer: Cartor Security Print, France
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp sizes: 65 x 26mm
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 166 x 152mm comprising the 5 different designs arranged as illustrated
Quantity: 15,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8417 (blue), 8418 (red), 8419 (yellow) and 8420 (black)
Perforation: Die-cut simulated of gauge 11. Stamps are separated by 5mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: Yellow-green bands in an 'L' shape along left (4mm wide) and bottom (3mm wide) margins of each stamp.
Printing sheet size: 403mm x 605mm, comprising eight sheetlets arranged in four rows of two.
First Day Covers: Nos. 8.108 of standard size, of which 1,000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.96 – 'Bethlehem / 10.08.2017'.



SAPDAPEX 2017 – 11 – 14 October 2017

The miniature sheet illustrated on the front cover is a Corporate Product sponsored by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa to raise funds. The sheet incorporates a valid postage stamp denominated Standard Postage (R3.90) and will be available at SAPDAPEX 2017 at a cost of R20.00. Technical details are not yet available but will be reported on in the next issue of *The South African Philatelist.*

2015 FIRST DAY COVER

At the time of issue, First Day Covers for the first four stamp issues of 2015 were not available.
The following are now available:

- **2 February 2015 – SA AVIATION CORPS CENTENARY - Cover No. 8.78**
- **3 March 2015 – ANIMAL POACHING AWARENESS – Cover No. 8.79**
- **2 April 2015 – 8th NEPHROLOGY CONGRESS – Cover No. 8.80**
- **4 May 2015 – INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY – Covers Nos. 8.81 and 8.82**

Only 1,000 of each cover were printed and serviced by La Poste of France. The stamps are no longer available from Philatelic Services but the prices of the covers reflect the postage rates at the date of issue.

Acknowledgement:
This information was collated from the electronic edition of *SETEMPE* (Vol 22 No 2 May - Aug 2017), Philatelic Services newsletter *WHAT'S NEWS?* (July 2017), newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group and personal observations. The images shown here are of original artwork, supplied by courtesy of Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services and may differ slightly from the issued stamps.

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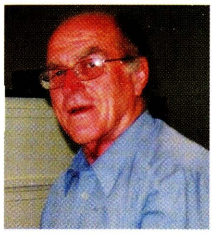

FIELD POST OFFICE 3 AT THE RAND SHOW, JOHANNESBURG, 2017

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and S.A. Military Mail Study Group

As in 2011 and each subsequent year, the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was a major exhibitor at the Johannesburg Rand Show from 14 to 23 April 2017. This annual trade and industry show is held at the Exhibition Centre (Expo Centre) in the suburb of Nasrec over the Easter holiday period. Field Post Office 3 (FPO 3) has participated at the Rand Show since 2011.

In 2016 FPO 3 functioned from 25 March to 3 April. (See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2011* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 87, No. 5, October 2011; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2012* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 88, No. 3, June 2012; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2013* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 90, No. 1, February 2014; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2014 and 2015* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 91, No. 4, August 2015.)

As described previously, the SANDF display included the functional FPO 3 which is under 11 Field Postal Unit. A special 'Rand Show' datestamp was commissioned in 2011 and was again used during the period of each of the shows to date, which is illustrated on the cover in Fig.1. The souvenir postcard, the same format as illustrated in 2014 and 2015, was produced by the staff of FPO 3 and handed out to visitors as a souvenir.

The first day of the show and of FPO 3 functioning was 14 April 2017, which was Good Friday, a public holiday in South Africa. Again, this was perhaps the only functioning Post Office open in South Africa on this day.

For the record, the datestamp is 9-pointed with a maximum diameter of 29mm. It incorporates the 11 Field Postal Unit emblem at the top between the words 'RAND' and 'SHOW' with the alphanumerical date in the middle and 'FPO3' at the bottom.

FPO 3 was scheduled to be at the SANDF exhibition at the Bloemfontein Show from 27 April to 7 May 2017 but due to budget constraints, the FPO 3 did not participate in this show.



Fig. 1: A privately produced cover of FPO 3 at the 2017 Rand Show. (Image reduced)





The Editor. SA Philatelist

Dear Editor

BOFEX 2017 Serviced covers

The Bloemfontein electronic philatelic exhibition, BOFEX 2017, was held on 14 & 15 July 2017. To commemorate the event, a limited number of covers with date stamps of both days were made and cancelled at the nearby Bloemspruit (code 9364) and Renosterspruit (code 9326) Post Offices.

The choice of these two Post Offices was because the BOFEX venue is situated on the confluence of the two streams (Afr = spruite). Covers were cancelled at Bloemspruit on the Friday, because it is closed over weekends, and Renosterspruit on the Saturday. The canceller of the latter is distorted and the date not clearly visible. That is because the canceller was broken, but the office granted the wish of the organizers for the special purpose. The covers are available from the OFS Philatelic Society at R30.00 apiece.

Garry Osthoff

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Society News

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

11 October Favourite Cover/s
8 November Second Competitive Evening
6 December President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*

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

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.

Exhibit programme 2017 :
Oct 18 : My favourite (Max- one frame) & thematics
Nov 15 : Inter-society quiz, invited exhibits
Nov 29 : 5th Wed - Festive Function

Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments & safe parking.

President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com *Treasurer:* Tom Dooley; dickens@global.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome.

For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. *Chairman* or Ian Walker, *Secretary*.Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

Meet on 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.

- *Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393*
- *Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927*

Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every last Tuesday of the month, *Contact:* Peter Gutsche, PO Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise amongst them.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. ***Contact:*** Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Smalls

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

WANTED: CHRISTMAS BOOKLETS. SA collector looking to buy South African Christmas Stamp Booklets (1934-1965) to complete collection. Outstanding list can be provided. *Contact* Dirk Strooberg dirkstrooberg@telkomsa.net

EXCHANGE: Italian / Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

WANTED: I am looking for specific year issues of South African revenues (both Union and Republic period). Please send an email to ronald.paul.rong@gmail.com for a copy of my wants list.

FOR SALE: Contact Emil Minnaar 061 983 2942.
Antigua QE2 SG180-195 u/m mint - R215.00
Gambia GVI SG150-161 Fine used - R125.00
Gambia QE2 SG171-185 lightly mounted mint - R380.00
Gambia QE2 SG193-205 lightly mounted mint - R340.00

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

STAMP FAIRS:

*All **SAPDA** run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

- **PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:**

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- **TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:**

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- **KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:**

2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za
Directions: From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- **EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:**

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. Contact: Kenny Napier 083 4440249 mail: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

- **KZN STAMP FAIR:**

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- **BLUFF STAMP FAIR:**

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za

- **DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:**

Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. *As usual, dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc.* **Meeting dates 2017:** 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). Note: All on the 1st Saturday of the month. If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair - mark it clearly with your details.

International Exhibitions

PRAGA 2018

Venue: Prague, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
Commisioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for Programme details.*

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662. Andrew Mclaren 0737542856. 021 6844361 (work).

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gassprekers, ervaar praatjies/demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting.
Besoekers altyd welkom.
Visitors always welcome.
Join us. Kom saam of kontak robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE
Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President:* Dave Young, email: davsue@telkomsa.net *Secretary:* Volker Janssen. **Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS**

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm
Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510.
St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai.
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.
President: Japie de Vos 082 767 5004
Tel / Faks: 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie 082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 email: francois@softchem.co.za
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
***MEETINGS** always on **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*
2017 meeting dates: 2 Oct, (Venue unavailable 6/11/17), 30 October. *Be advised the December President's evening - 29 November in the form of a supper and not on 4* December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. ***Contact**:* Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082. email davehmcwil@lantic.net *Secretary*: J.Muller. Tel 043 721 0327.

CASPIP
CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby. *President*: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com *Secretary:* Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za *Membership*: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za Bev McNaught-Davis, telephone: 031 904 1522 or 081 270 2873.

Established in 1924
MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Venue: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
The Thematics Group meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. Venue: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie. ***Secretary:*** Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. burncree45@telkomsa.net *Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.* Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager, Janet Kimmince - Membership,Graham Bruce - Librarian, Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, Val de Jager - Catering Officer

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are now held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
Contacts : *Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kawecki (Vice-President) 0829686888 Email zeptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris, (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162*
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Louise Oswin Residence, 1 Beach Road Southport 4230. PO Box 228. Anerley 4230. *Meetings*: 3rd Saturday of the month at 14h00. *Contact:* Noel Lavery: 039 695 1642, Cell 082 440 5501. email noel@accessweb.co.za *Secretary*: Louise Oswin. Tel 039 681 3265 cell 079 505 6044 email: oswin@telehost.co.za

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 25 Oct, 29 Nov.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time. Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

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DECEMBER
2017

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 93:6. 945

www.stamps.org.za



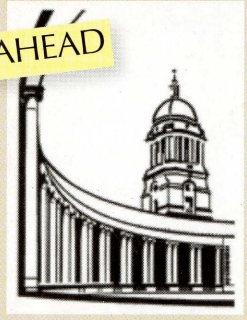
Looking ahead to 2021... The first of a set of postcards illustrated by Julia Birkhead, created to raise funds for the International in Cape Town

FUNDRAISER FOR THE 2021 EXHIBITION

REPORT BACK

SAPDAPEX 2017
National Philatelic Exhibition
and the
79th National Congress of the Philatelic Federation

PLAN AHEAD



NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018
to be held in Pretoria
17 to 20 October 2018



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ISSN 0038-2566



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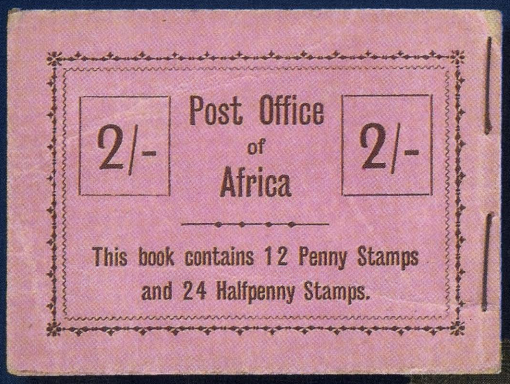
ORANGE RIVER COLONY

That "Missing" Booklet...

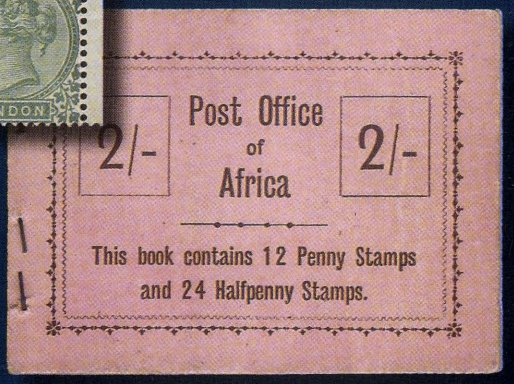


1905 De La Rue "Post Office of Africa" SAMPLE BOOKLET TRIAL provided in response to a request from the Orange River Colony postal authorities for a 2/- booklet. Salmon covers with interleaves between four panes of green (½d) and two panes of red (1d) De La Rue dummy stamps. VF intact unexploded. An exhibition showpiece for connoisseur, likely unique from the De La Rue Archives.



The booklet proposal remained unaccepted. Buckley & Marriott (1976) illustrate the ORC booklet trial with commentary "There is a complete booklet in the De La Rue Archives and a dismembered booklet in the Reginald Phillips GB collection in the National Postal Museum, London. No other examples appear to have been recorded."

GBP4500



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The South African Philatelist

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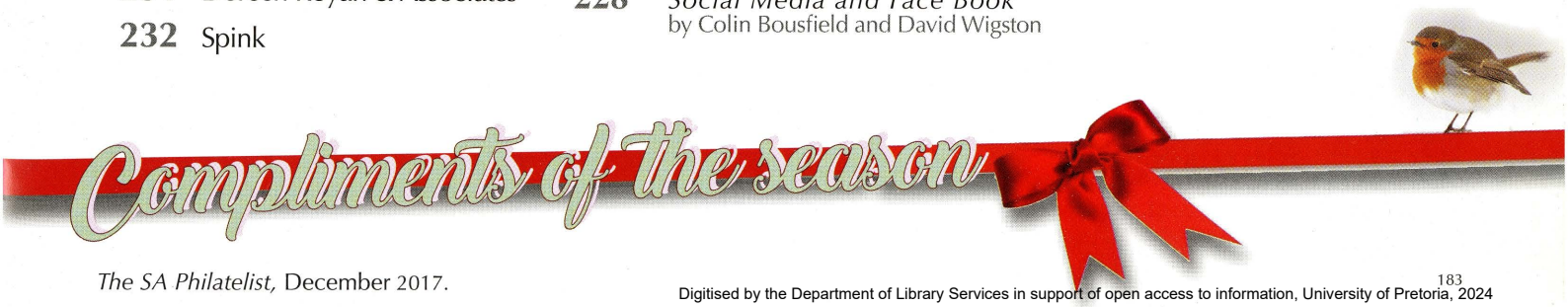

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The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of advertising material to avoid late delivery. Articles should be submitted in the month prior:

- ***February*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018
- ***April*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018
- ***June*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018
- ***August*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018
- ***October*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 5. 950 : 10/09/2018

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Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

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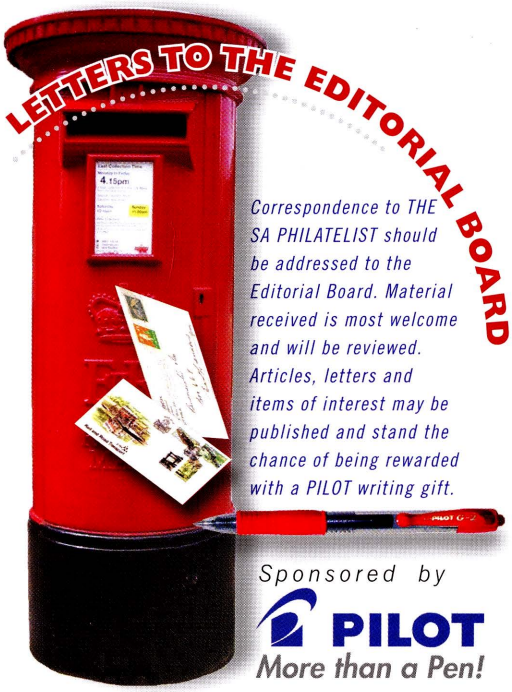

2018 and beyond - Diarise them now!

- World International Stamp Day
  Tuesday, October 9, 2018
  WPD marks the anniversary of the Universal Postal Union's establishment.
- National Stamp Exhibition - hosted by the Pretoria Philatelic Society - Wednesday October 17 to Sunday 21 October, 2018 at Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel, Centurion.
- Cape Town 2021 International Stamp Exhibition. *The 'provisional' dates have been set for 12 to 16 May 2021.*

Local societies 'adopt' a local school and run the club on its behalf?

Youth Philately - We need new Princes to become Kings

The Editorial Board

Many years ago, possibly around 1987/88 we had a vibrant youth participation within the Highway Philatelic Society in Pinetown, of which my children were active participants.

Today, I fail to see any promotional work being undertaken in encouraging the current youth in Philately as a hobby or educational tool.

I have spoken to several Teachers at local schools in and around Durban who have no information on who would be accountable for directing and assisting in this buy-in from Schools and possibly included into Life skills or other subjects at either a local or provincial government level.

My children sadly, have now lost their interests and find boyfriends and social networks more challenging and it is a real pity that the benefits from the historical and education stand-point of stamp collecting appears to have died almost entirely with the youth and educational institutions at primary and secondary schools. (We had a vibrant stamp club during my early school years in the 60s which sparked my interest which still continues today)

Would this not be a fantastic project for SAPDA and Postal Services to embrace, particularly around an education platform for less advantaged pupils and schools.

With what to appears to be a 'dying' hobby and declining prices of FDCs and common South African stamps post 1961, these collections could perhaps be handed over to participating schools for education purposes and hopefully increase the interest of our future business leaders.

This, coupled with access to Internet and wonderful on-line Stamp Sites, may lead to the hobby of Kings becoming more accessible to all.

It would be interesting feedback for our *SA Philatelist* magazine readers to report on their local clubs initiatives along these lines as well.

Kind regards in Philately

Barry Livsey of Westville, Durban.
livsey@netsolutions.co.za

***Jill Redmond RDPSA** offers a comment on this letter - find it on the next page -185*

DISCLAIMER:

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

While every effort is made to ensure accuracy and honesty in the editorial columns of this magazine, the publisher and editor cannot be held responsible for inaccurate information supplied and consequently published.

Publication of articles is subject to availability of space and cannot be guaranteed in each edition. Copyright for material published in this magazine is strictly reserved.

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

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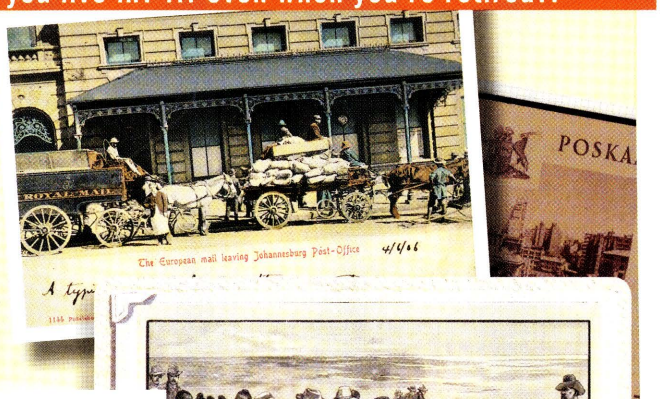
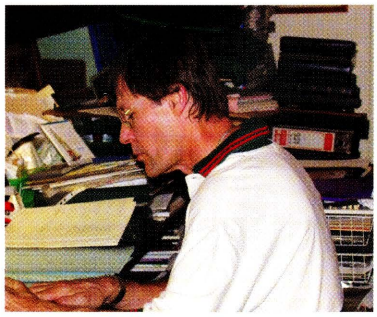
Do you want to get your spirit in touch with the history of your country or adopted country? Do you want to retain your sense of wonder about the world you live in? ... even when you're retired?!

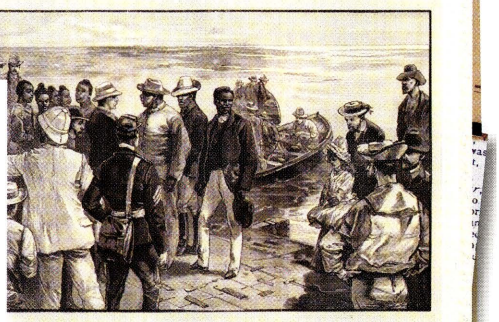
There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the stamps which would assist you in doing this and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value. But don't you want to go further ...want to link yourself to a process which offers you the ability to spell out to your offspring the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt?

Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately can do this for you. Further, it's the only segment which attracts non-collectors of stamps to have a close-up look. That makes your exhibit special. Half of your 'Open Class' exhibit could include key family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which turned your life around, even letters and documents from persons who similarly shared your losses and victories.

There are but a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness in your life, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.







Zulu Chief Dimuzulu kaCetshwayo exiled by the British authorities in the Colony of Natal between 1890 and 1897.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
trading as
RAND STAMPS

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SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

A PROUD MEMBER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEALERS ASSOCIATION

A response from Jill Redmond RDPSA regarding ***Barry Livsey*** *of Westville* ***Youth Philately*** *(page 184)*

Yes, there was a vibrant youth movement - **was**. The Youth Committee held its inaugural meeting in 1982 and the first JUNASS (Junior National Stamp Show) in 1984, an annual event until 2005 with at least a hundred frames being filled in the good days. There was a JUNASS in 1998 by the Highway Society, Pinetown in a shopping mall that attracted great attention.

The Youth Committee has had a succession of Chairmen since 2005 with little success. After 2005 JUNASS became part of the senior national exhibitions due to a lack of volunteers to run JUNASS and fewer youth exhibits.

Prior to that a quarterly newsletter was mailed to youth clubs (at least 35 at one time), four informative pamphlets on the hobby were issued plus *Guidelines on Starting and Running a Youth Club* and *Guidelines on Organising JUNASS*; seminar/forums and workshops were also held.

Exhibits from South African youngsters were entered into two international exhibitions and in 1998 two South African youngsters entered a live youth philatelic competition in Germany. In 1996 three excerpts on the South African youth stamp collector movement were televised.

What has happened?

Technology has taken over – social networking, computer games, smart phones, more and more schoolwork and emails rather than letter-writing - pointless anyway with a dodgy postal service and lack of stamps.

The Education Department has never been interested in promoting the hobby. Various teachers have at times run stamp clubs. On a high note a student has just started a stamp club in a Pretoria school.

There is one club in a 'disadvantaged' area but little progress has been made over many years even with guidance from the Youth Committee and a SAPO officer. For many the main objectives are a roof over their heads, sustenance, medical attention and formal education.

SAPDA feel that an older age group is a better target for promotion - once the career has been launched and funds and time more freely available. The SA Post Office has more pressing problems at present than promoting youth. They did have a youth officer or two in the past and they attended JUNASS where much fun was had by all.

I do agree that stamps make a wonderful addition to a school project and that much maybe learned from the hobby such as the various currencies of countries, geography, history and so on.

However, how to convince the younger generation of the benefits of this great hobby is quite a challenge when one considers all the other interests in their lives and the lack of local stamps. Remember that in the past most boys and some girls collected stamps, passing on the enthusiasm to their own children in due time. This is no longer the case judging by the number of enquiries I receive on how to sell their parents' collections.

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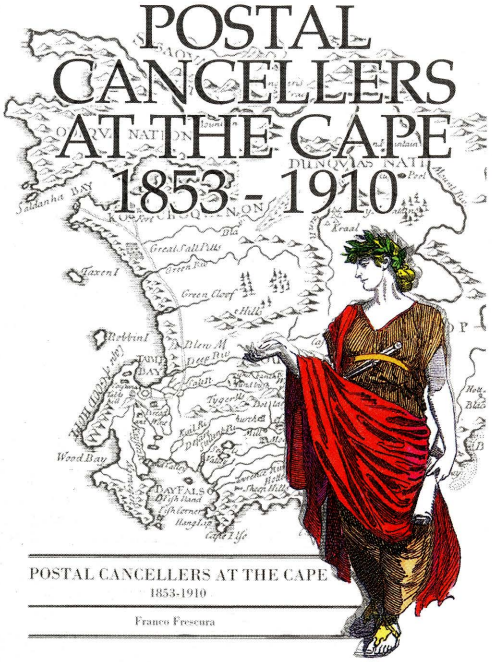
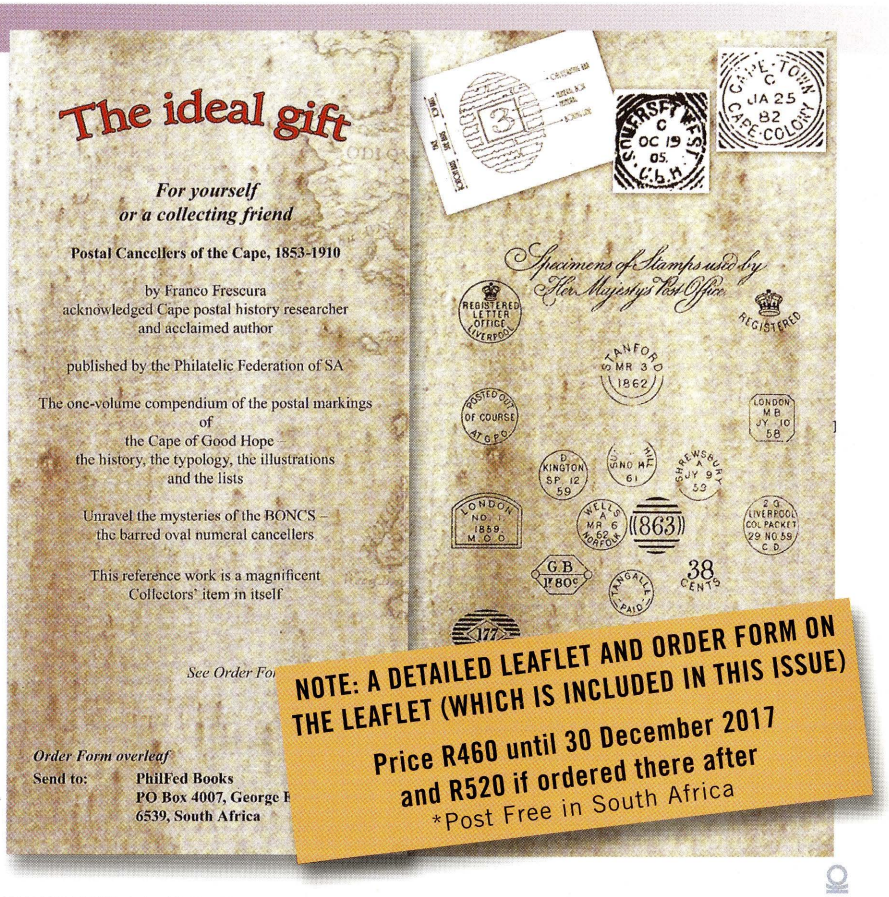
A NEW BOOK by Prof Franco Frescura





NOTE: A DETAILED LEAFLET AND ORDER FORM ON THE LEAFLET (WHICH IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE)

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BSV Gaildorf Großtauschtag
5. November 2017



Waldkauz (Strix aluco) © NABU/D. Nill

Vogel des Jahres 2017

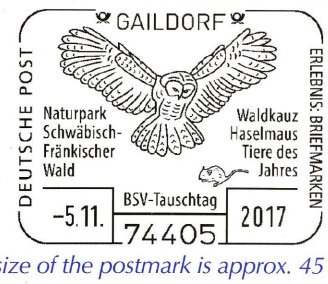


BIRD OF THE YEAR 2017 – The Owl

Submitted by Herwig Kussing RDPSA

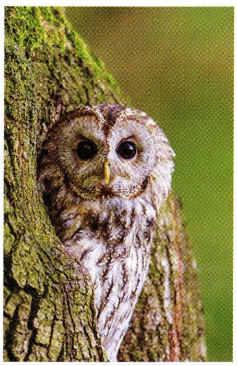
This year the German Town Gaildorf is again having an exchange stamp day on 5 November 2017. This is an opportunity to obtain an envelope or postcard with a special postmark, depicting an owl and a common dormouse. If you are interested you can write to Axel Brockmann, Postfach 13, 74536 Rosengarten, Germany Axel.Brockmann@t-online.de

Do not forget to enclose an International Reply Coupon.



(The size of the postmark is approx. 45 x 35 mm

BSV Gaildorf Ostalb-Großtauschtag
Waldkauz - Vogel des Jahres 2017



Waldkauz (Strix aluco) © NABU/Bosch





NATIONAL STAMP DAY

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Established February 1924

In their latest NEWSLETTER, the Society decided to celebrate this important day by participating at the Hobbies Fair. The members begged the question "Do we simply relegate this International Day to the annals of history or is it worth trying to make an effort to revive and celebrate the occasion?"

Monday 09 October 2017 - World International Stamp Day, and the Maritzburg PS pointed out that nothing was being done about it in South Africa.

The Post Office had not announced the issue of a cover or stamp for the occasion and there had been no news from Federation or any Societies. They pose this question:

"What is your opinion?"

A spokesperson for the SA Post Office acknowledged that the release of 'The 50th Anniversary of Mail-sorting by Machine' was released on the 9.10.17

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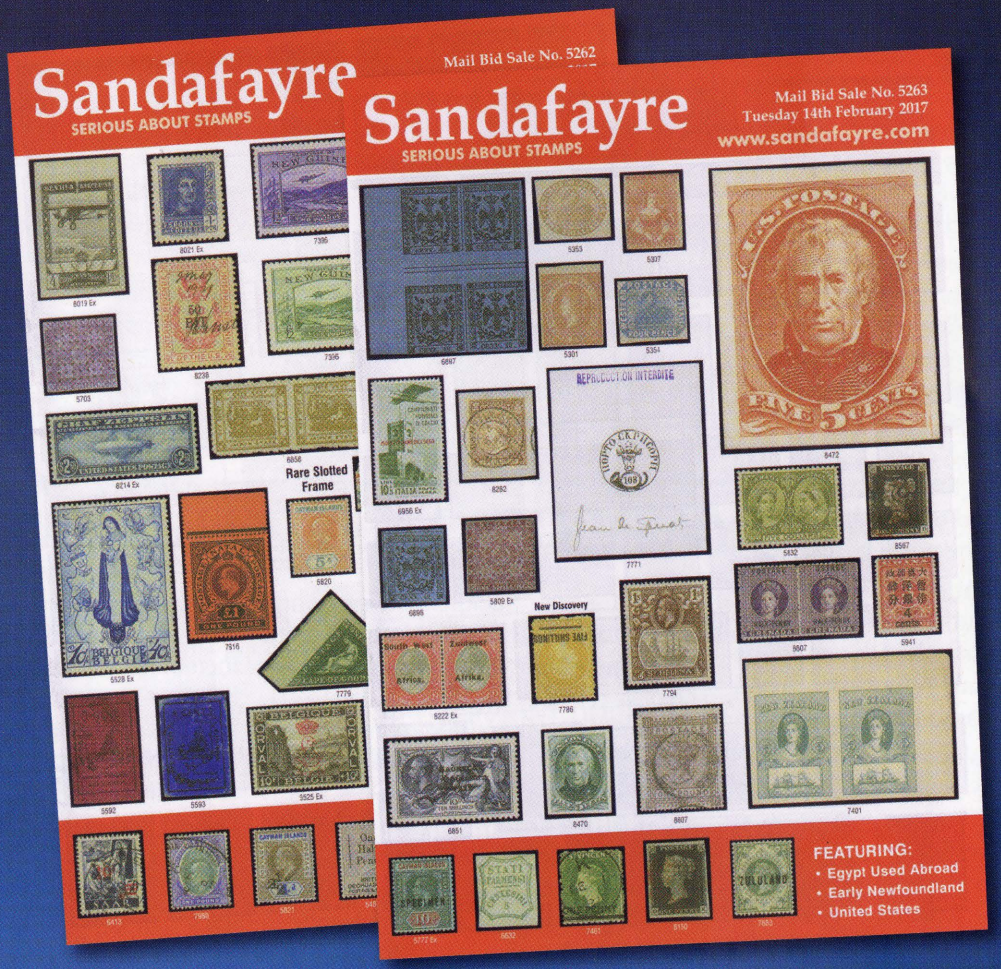

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LETTER FROM LONDON



by Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Autumn Stampex has come and gone. Invited exhibits, as the main theme of the exhibition, were by the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain and the Sarawak Specialists Society. The former celebrated the 150th anniversary of the first Hungarian stamp issue with a wide range of Hungarian material. The 1867 first issue was well represented as were postal history, postage dues and revenue items. The Sarawak Society, celebrating its 70th anniversary, showed a comprehensive coverage of British Borneo philately. Of particular interest were the early Labuan covers.

However, the most impressive exhibit of 'classic' material was Joseph Hackmey's *Western Australia*, with large multiples, varieties and splendid covers.

The Court of Honour featured the '*Forrester Collection of Queen Elizabeth II Commemorative Essays, Errors and Varieties*' from 1961 to date. This was a treat for modern philately enthusiast, with its virtually complete coverage of G.B. imperforates, missing colours and errors of colour. Certainly the most spectacular assembly of rare and unique items of this period it has been my privilege to view.

The Inter-Federation Competition at Stampex included an excellent, meticulously researched one-frame exhibit of the South African 1927- 54 5/- 'Ox Wagon' stamp by John Shaw.

The commercial side of Stampex was disappointing. The "over 100 philatelic dealers" generally catered for the high end of the market, while there was a dearth of good medium range material and what there was, was often overpriced. While there were competitions for junior collectors, there was no material available for them to purchase. Children are not interested in postal history items, they want stamps. There should be packets of 50 or 100 all different country or thematic issues, short sets, on paper mixtures and cheap hardbound albums available from dealers. None of these were in evidence, nor were young collectors.

On a more positive note, the spacious new Postal Museum has opened at Mount Pleasant, London. Displays are targeted at the general public as well as philatelists and there is a philatelic library open to the public. The Mail Rail at the Postal Museum has also opened. *(see page 224)*. Work on this underground railway for mail transport, between Paddington and Liverpool Street, commenced in 1913. Interrupted by World War I, work recommenced in 1924. The system, run by means of battery-operated locomotives, was in use from 1927 to 2003 for 22 hours per day solely for carrying mail. It has reopened as a tourist attraction, carrying passengers.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London started its 'Season', as is the custom, with an exhibit from the Royal Collection. A 52-frame exhibit of Bahamas, Jamaica and the Cayman Islands was viewed and appreciated by 173 members of the Society. The Bahamas display commenced with die and plate proofs of the 1859 Chalon Heads issue, reminiscent of the contemporary Natal issue. These lovely stamps were mainly in mint condition (except S.G.1) and, while the Queen's collection includes virtually no postal history material, were a pleasure to view. An 1860 1d with the Perkins, Bacon 'CANCELLED' handstamp caught the eye. The early 20th Century multiples were remarkable for their fresh colours.

The Jamaica section started off similarly and did include a number of early bisects - some uncatalogued. The iconic 20th Century items of Jamaican philately were present. The 1920 1/- value with inverted frame, as well as the 1921 unissued 6d '*Abolition of Slavery*' stamp, which was withdrawn for political reasons, were included. The latter was shown, with both watermarks, in mint marginal blocks of four! The unissued Jamaica 1956 £1 '*Tobacco Growing*' rarity was shown in a plate block of four. The issue was suppressed and the three singles recorded are in collections in the British Library, none are in private hands.

The Cayman Islands exhibit did not include any Jamaican stamps used in the colony, but was redolent with 1907 - 08 provisional overprints. All, but for the 1d inverted overprint, were included.

The next meeting provided a complete contrast, a stunning exhibit of '*Geneva- From Cantonal to Federal Post*' by Jean Voruz, which covered the years 1843-1852. This superbly presented display, with all recorded rate covers has received Grand Prixs at Philakorea 2014 and Finlandia 2017.



1843. Double Geneva,'beyond the walls' rate. (Courtesy of J.Voruz)

The combined display by the Deutscher Altbriefsammler Verein in October was an incredible display of exceptional material by the German society. The hardbound handout was superb too. Material from the German States and contemporary European issues included the only known first day cover of the Bavaria 1849 1Kr., the unique complete unused sheet of Saxony 1850 3pf. red stamps, and one of the three recorded Baden 1851 9Kr. errors of colour on green instead of rose paper.

There were notable covers too from Finland (one to Malta), Norway, Netherlands and Ionian Islands and also a fine exhibit of British hand illustrated covers.

Auction houses always provide interest, even early in the Season. Spink's September auction of a further portion of the Pitts Collection saw a Trinidad 1847 'Lady McLeod' cover sell for £22,000, a bit below estimate. A superb strike of a Trinidad 1804 horseshoe datestamp realised £4,000. The earliest incoming cover from U.K. to Grand Cayman bearing two pairs of the 1d lilac in 1885

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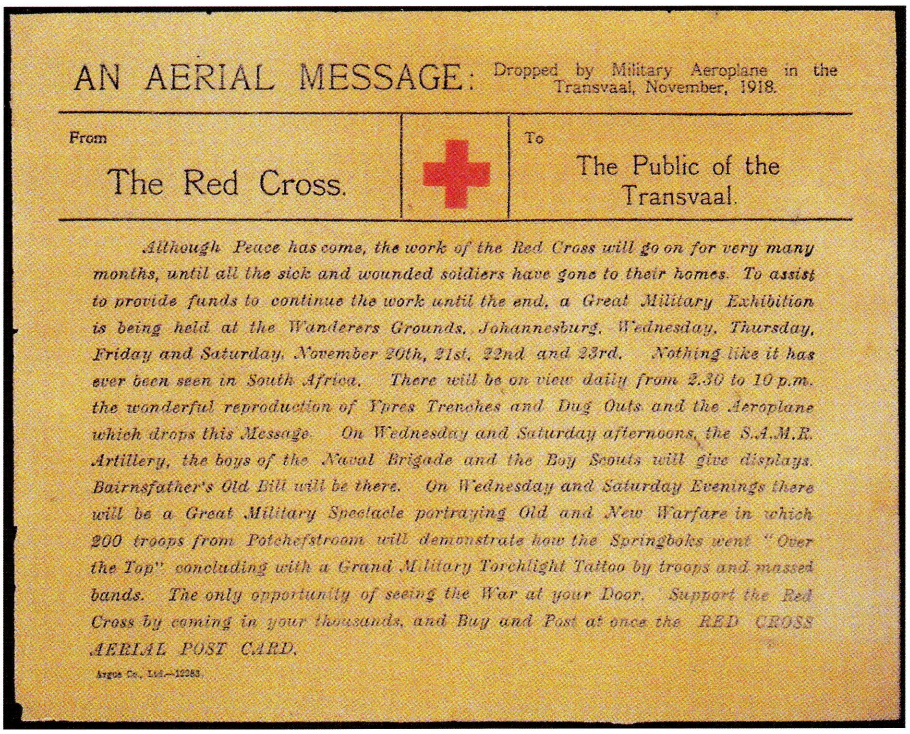
made £2,400.

Postal history was again to the fore at Argyll Etkin's September sale. The usual eclectic mix included specialised Antarctic material. A selection of ten French, Antarctic Expedition covers of 1945-'56, estimated at £120, realised £850. A similar lot of 1955-'57 Falkland Islands Dependency Aerial Survey items was sold for £1,400, against an estimate of £350.

A cover from the 1926 Cairo to Cape Town Survey Flight's return leg from Abercorn, Northern Rhodesia, with an upper estimate of £1,800, realised an eye-watering £5,500. The rare November 1918 Red Cross leaflet dropped by Lt. Gearing over Johannesburg or Benoni, and estimated at £600, fetched £1,600.



AN AERIAL MESSAGE: Dropped by Military Aeroplane in the Transvaal, November, 1918.

From The Red Cross. To The Public of the Transvaal.

Although Peace has come, the work of the Red Cross will go on for very many months, until all the sick and wounded soldiers have gone to their homes. To assist to provide funds to continue the work until the end, a Great Military Exhibition is being held at the Wanderers Grounds, Johannesburg, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Nothing like it has ever been seen in South Africa. There will be on view daily from 2.30 to 10 p.m. the wonderful reproduction of Ypres Trenches and Dug Outs and the Aeroplane which drops this Message. On Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, the S.A.M.R. Artillery, the boys of the Naval Brigade and the Boy Scouts will give displays. Bairnsfather's Old Bill will be there. On Wednesday and Saturday Evenings there will be a Great Military Spectacle portraying Old and New Warfare in which 200 troops from Potchefstroom will demonstrate how the Springboks went "Over the Top" concluding with a Grand Military Torchlight Tattoo by troops and massed bands. The only opportunity of seeing the War at your Door. Support the Red Cross by coming in your thousands, and Buy and Post at once the RED CROSS AERIAL POST CARD.

Argus Co., Ltd.—12283.

November 1918 - 'An aerial message from 'The Red Cross to the Republic of Transvaal' dropped by Lt Gearing over Johannesburg (20 Nov) and Benoni (30 Nov)

The Cape Town Peace Celebrations pigeon post of 1919 reached its estimate at £1,300. It all shows that postal history retains its popularity.

Stanley Gibbons Auctions marketed an 'old fashioned' Great Britain and British Commonwealth collection. The Dunlop collection from Aden - Zululand, 1840 to date, covered all aspects of stamp collecting. There was very little postal history content, but the collection included items such as the India 1852 'Scinde Dawk' ½a. red, Australia 1913 £2 on piece, Newfoundland 1857 1/-, 'Newfoundland 1919 'Hawker' and 1930 Columbian airmail issues, Canada 1949 O.H.M.S. $1 with missing stop after 'S', Malta 1919 10/- black used and so many more elusive and rare items. The sections of Australia, Canada and Indian States were particularly extensive. Almost any item valued above £50 had a Certificate of Authenticity. Unfortunately it was not possible to access prices realised. I doubt whether this collection could be duplicated. (All the auction houses charge approximately 20% commission.)

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2018,

JRF

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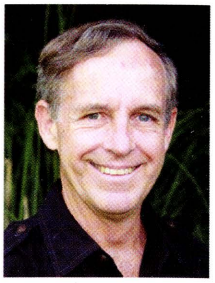
Phun with postmarks

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



Mobile post offices

Mobile post offices (MPO) were vans or buses fitted out as post offices with all the facilities and services of a regular post office. Each MPO had a daily schedule to move chiefly through suburbia of major towns where postal facilities were needed. A total of 25 numbered MPOs operated with MPO No. 1 opening for service on 25.1.1937 (Figure 1a shows the first day cancel). Many of the offices closed during the 1980s and early 1990s, when they were replaced by Postal Agencies.

These MPOs must not be confused with the Travelling Post Offices, which were special vans attached to a mainline trains. Its purpose was for mail matter to be sorted and its delivery expedited. This was practical for mail arriving in Cape Town on the weekly mail ship from the UK. Mail matter was accepted at intermediate stations, but no other services were rendered.

There are many markings that were applied, and Figures 1b and 1c show later postmarks of MPO No. 1 with the inscription No. 1. Figure 2 shows date stamps of MPO No. 25 which was first based in Durban and later in Westville, not supported by the date stamps. These numbered postmarks are a popular collecting field and information about the postmarks is well defined. Actual dates that MPOs were closed or moved to another town or city are vague as date stamp impressions do not correspond with the information published in PO Circulars. This requires further research.

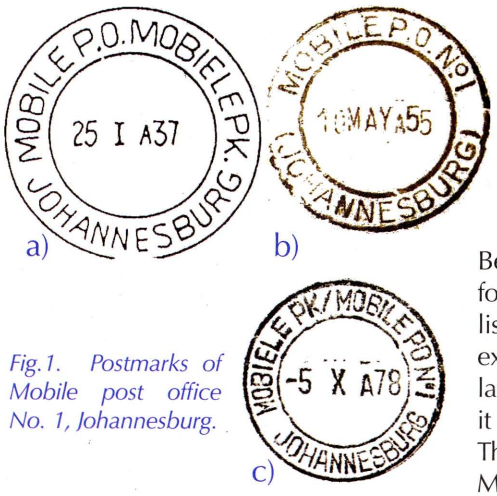


Fig.1. Postmarks of Mobile post office No. 1, Johannesburg.

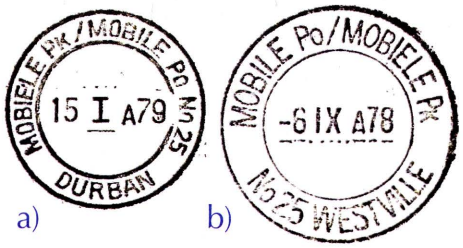


Fig.2. Postmarks of Mobile post office No. 25.

Two MPOs without numbers operated during the 1990s. A MPO operated in Mossel Bay evidently in 1995/6 when the main Mossel Bay post office burnt down, and the MPO served as a temporary measure (see Fig.3a). A postmark has also been recorded for a Pietersburg MPO dated 6.3.1995 (Fig.3b). No further information is available despite attempts to discover more about this MPO, and any additional information would be greatly appreciated.

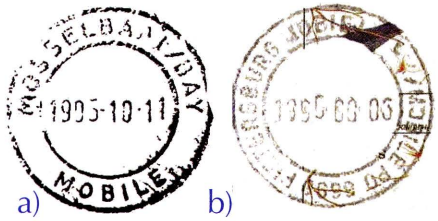


Fig.3. Postmarks of the unnumbered Mossel Bay and Pietersburg MPOs.

On p.294 of Volume 6 of the *Putzel Postmark Book* there is a note that MPO designations were changed and they became extensions of post offices which was extracted from an undated *SAP*. He listed MPO No. 1 as being part of Alberton and MPOs Nos. 2 and 9 being part of Johannesburg. No further information was given. Fortunately I obtained several covers with a manuscript notation of the last day of MPO use and first day of PO use. Suddenly covers with a MPO registration label but cancelled with a PO date stamp in my collection made sense. Where I had thought that uncancelled stamps where cancelled in the mail room, it was now evident that this was an extension of the PO. Besides the three offices listed by Putzel four further MPOs could be added to the list. Table 1 shows the offices that were extensions, together with the earliest and latest recorded date (no evidence that it was used at MPO during full period). The date stamps are shown in Figure 4. MPO No. 1 is questioned as there is no evidence that Alberton had a MPO, as No. 1 was used in Johannesburg, or had it moved? The East London date stamp has a time code letter H, which is the identifying mark, as I had mailed letters from the MPO.

Table 1. Post office date stamps used at MPOs

MPO number	Place; Putzel No.	Earliest recorded date	Latest recorded date
1?	Alberton, 24	10.2.1982	6.5.1992
2	Johannesburg, 528	1.3.1979	18.9.1989
9	Johannesburg, 312y	1.3.1979	2.3.1979
11	Bloemfontein; 79	5.5.1981	2.11.1989
13	East London, 35	9.10.1981	22.12.1994
14	Pietermaritzburg, 47x	27.11.1979	7.2.1985
18	Vereeniging, 65	17.1.1989	4.3.1994

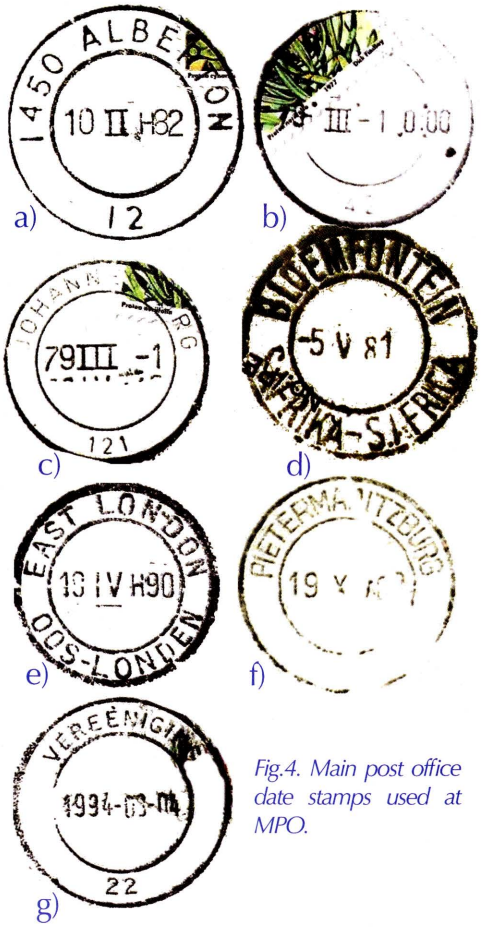


Fig.4. Main post office date stamps used at MPO.

With the assistance of a fellow collector, Brian Folley, who has been updating the status of post offices and postal agencies with the kind co-operation of post office staff. Great was our surprise that a new generation of MPOs have been resurrected, with no reference to the previous numbering system. Table 2 shows the names, region where deployed, the listed opening date and

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Barberton Put 56s MOBILE 7
2011-07-12

known status. All the MPOs have two counters, except MOBILE 1 which only has one.

Table 2. Listing of new generation MPOs

MPO name	Region.	Opening date	Status
MOBILE 1	Mthatha	1.11.2011	At Holy Cross, not in service.
MOBILE 2	Bloemfontein	28.3.2013	Not in service.
MOBILE 3	Emalahleni	1.11.2011	Parked at Siyabuswa
MOBILE 4	Ethikweni	25.2.2013	
MOBILE 5	Mthatha	1. 9. 2014	
MOBILE 6	Bloemfontein	1. 9. 2014	Not in service.
MOBILE 7	Capricorn	1. 9. 2014	Used temporarily as Sevenstad branch after storm damage. Sevenstad date stamps.
MOBILE 8	Tzaneen	1. 9. 2014	Used while Sun City post office is under renovation. SunCity date stamps.
MOBILE 9	Ulundi	1. 9. 2014	

Brian has also been able to discover which date stamps were used at some of the MPOs. The postmarks ordered for MOBILE 3 are shown as Figure 5a and b, hence the fictitious dates. At MOBILE 7 presumably the current Sevenstad date stamp, shown as Figure 5c, was used. At MOBILE 8 two Sun City date stamps were used determined from the daily control sheets. The impressions received dated 2.9.2017 were worn and better earlier impressions are shown in Figures 5d and e.

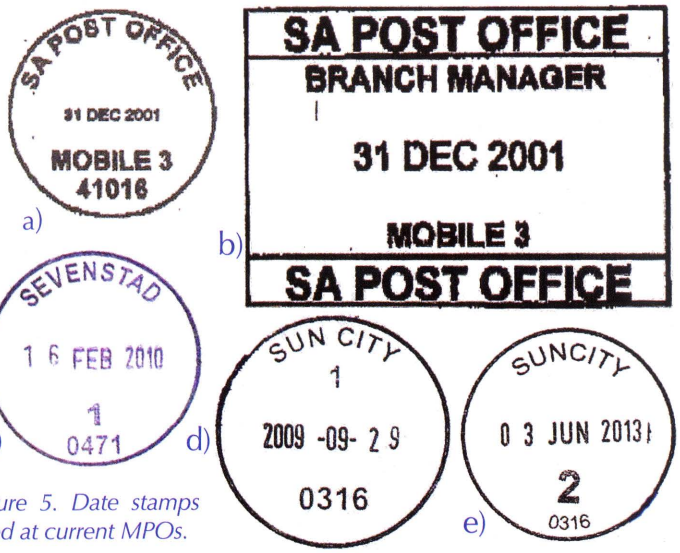

Figure 5. Date stamps used at current MPOs.

As usual, any corrections or missing information would be greatly appreciated.

Die gebruik van Mobiele Poskantore (MPK) het toegang tot posdienste verskaf aan gebiede waar daar geen nabygeleë poskantore was nie. Die meeste van hierdie dienste is in die 1990s gesluit. In tye van nood, soos die beskadiging van poskantore of in gebiede van vinnige verstedeliking, is 'n nuwe generasie MPK gevestig. Tans is inligting nog skraps, en alle bydraes oor hierdie onderwerp sal met groot vreugde verwelkom word.



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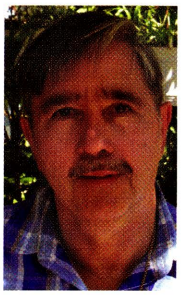


ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY CAPE TOWN
- WESTERN CAPE JUNIOR STAMP COMPETITION

The Royal invited all the Cape Groups to the event, only the Fish Hoek group attended and sent three Exhibitors with four exhibits by Victor Millard, Hon Secretary, Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town

On 25 September 2017 the Royal hosted a meeting of the Junior members of the Western Cape.

On the evening of the event only two Junior Stamp Clubs participated, Pinelands North Primary School (PNPS) and Fishhoek Stamp Circle (FSC). Many parents attended the meeting with their stamp collecting youngsters.

The atmosphere was wonderful and the venue full. There was a stamp scratch box, donated by Robbie Harm and Victor Millard, which had many of the participants searching for some stamps for their collections. Even the parents joined in the fun.

There were eighteen exhibits in all, fourteen from Pinelands North Primary school and four from Fishhoek Stamp Circle.

Note that everyone who exhibited received a medal for participation.

The competition was keen and the exhibits were judged by Hugh Amoore RDPSA, FRPSL

The following received awards:

- The 2017 Jaffe Cup was won by Sara Knight (Fishhoek) for her exhibit on 'Cats'
- The RPSCT Primary Shield was won by Jaluca Bester (PNPS) for his exhibit on South West Africa
- The Jaffa Interschool Shield was won by Pinelands North Primary School.

Certificates were awarded to:

- Kate Langdon (Jury's Commendation for Cats)
- Jason Blight (Jury's Commendation for War on Stamps).

The final certificate of the evening went to David Sinclair for Meritorious Service in encouraging and helping junior collectors, specifically by starting and building up a new junior stamp club at Pinelands North Primary School that now has some 15 members.

Participants:

- Koresh Bohms. 11 - Cartoons (PNPS)
- Chander Bohms. 11 - Olympics (PNPS)
- Jordan Kock. 10 - Australia (PNPS)
- Keane Castle-Malyon. 10 - Zimbabwe (PNPS)
- Asher Anderson. 12 - Birds (PNPS)
- Jacob Rae. 10 - USA (PNPS)
- Farin Kalil. 8 - Cartoons (PNPS)



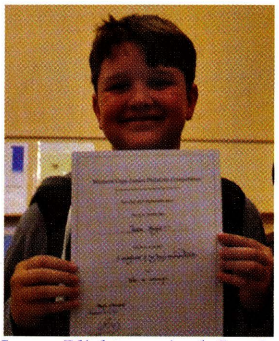
Some of the PNPS exhibitors with David Sinclair. Back: J Blight, K & C Bohms, A Anderson, J Rae, J Holland, D Sinclair. Front: K Langdon, B Prati, J Kock, K. Binos, F Kalil.



Sara Jenna Knight of the Fishhoek society received the cup for her exhibit on Cats.



Kate Langdon received the Jury's Commendation for her exhibit on Cats.



Jason Blight received Jury's Commendation for War on Stamps.



At right: RPSCT presented David Sinclair with a certificate for Meritorious Service in encouraging junior stamp collectors especially at Pinelands North Junior School.



A general view of the audience attending the meeting.



PLEASE NOTE that all photos of the children had parental permission for publishing

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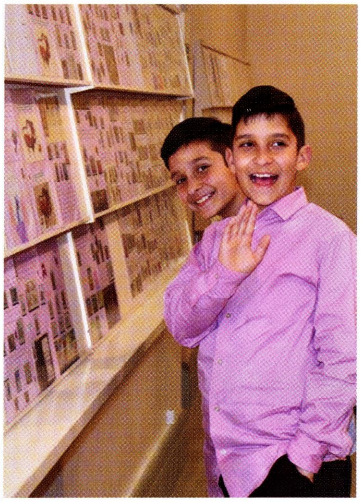
- Kate Langdon. 8 - Cats (PNPS)
- Kayden Watt. 8 - Butterflies (PNPS)
- Jamie Holland. 8 - Scouts & Cubs (PNPS)
- Jason Blight. 9 - War (PNPS)
- Kate Binos. 7 - Birds (PNPS)
- Benadetta Prati. 8 - Flowers (PNPS)
- Giamaria Prati. 13 - Italy (PNPS)
- Jaluca Bester. 13 - SWA (PNPS)
- Sara Knight. 13 - Cats and Myths and Legends (FSC)
- Jamie Haakonsen. 9 - Birds from round the world. (FSC)
- Abigail Benade. 10 - Celebration of Olympics (FSC)



The Bohms twins inspecting the competition.



Jaluca Bester received the shield for his exhibit on South West Africa.



The school Shield, presented to Pinelands North Junior School and accepted by Asher Anderson on behalf of the school.



Parents at scratch box: A scratch box was set up where the parents and Juniors looked for stamps to advance their exhibits.



Koresh Bohms posing with his exhibit on Olympics.

On the day of the Juniors Meeting the following ad was sent out and broadcast on radio:

That old-time collection in your attic/your cupboard

"Do you have 'an album of old stamps in an attic wondering what to do with it'?

Did your father/grandfather/uncle (or aunt) leave you an album – or do you have your old 'schoolboy' collection and do not know what to do about it?

Do you think you are sitting on something of value? Probably not: but you won't know unless you do something about it?

Monday 25 September 2017 presents you with an opportunity to find out. Come to the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town.

At the Athenaeum, (in the complex next to the Newlands cricket ground);

Between 10h00 and 15h00

Seasoned collectors will be there to look at what you have, and advise you. (These are collectors, not dealers) and will be here to talk to you and give you advice."

The result of this advert brought many people out to see if they had something of value. Hugh Amoore and Jannie Hofmeyr were kept busy from 09:30 till 16:00 without a break. The people streamed in, some went away pleased and others not so pleased. Some people waited for hours to see the experts. We supplied them with tea and coffee while they waited. It was a great success.



Hugh Amoore RDPSA, FRPSL (standing) and Jannie Hofmeyr (middle) discussing some of the final albums while notes were made for later reference.

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SAPDAPEX 2017
National Philatelic Exhibition

WEDNESDAY 11 October to
SATURDAY 14 October 2017

THE EXHIBITION

The SAPDAPEX 2017 exhibition held from Wednesday 11 to Saturday 14 October, was presented by the South African Dealers' Association at the same venue as it was in 2016, viz the Italian Club in Bedfordview. The Organising Committee was initially chaired by Steven van den Hurk, but after his tragic death was run by Kenny Napier, and comprised Chris Bennett, Paul van Zeyl RDPSA and Andrew Fischer, with Herwig Kussing RDPSA in the Bin Room.

Exhibits for a total of 214 competitive 16 page frames were received, representing 43 competitive entries, together with a small number of frames required for informative and publicity purpose, and 4 Literature entries. The results are fully detailed in the Awards Listing. The Exhibition Catalogue was sent out with *The SA Philatelist* August 2017 issue.



Ms Neli Shuping, General Manager Products and Channel, SA Post Office, handing over the Federation miniature sheet to Organising Chairman, Kenny Napier with Dr Ian Matheson Acting Deputy President on far right.



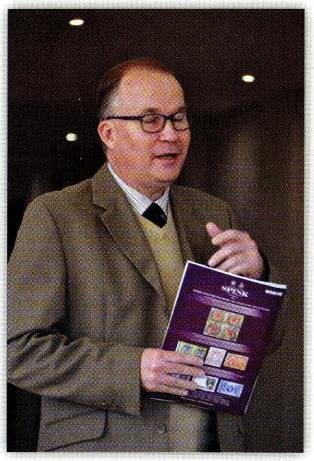
THE OFFICIAL OPENING

As a first stage, there was an official hand-over ceremony shown at top and right, of the Miniature sheet issued by the South African Post Office, with a single 'Standard Rate' stamp depicting a Kingfisher. This miniature sheet sold at R20, including the premium in support of Organised Philately. This re-introduced an annual issue known as '*Foundation Miniature Sheets*' which had been discontinued after 1995 and has been greatly welcomed by collectors.

For the main ceremony, the Master of Ceremonies was Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, with guest speaker Dr Paul Bayliss who has served in the role of Absa Art and Money Museum Curator since January 2011; he is regarded as one of South Africa's leading numismatic specialists.

As the Absa Art and Museum Curator, Paul's management of Absa's art collection of approximately 18,000 artworks, co-ordinates the *L'Atelier* art competition across Africa; and, managing the Absa Gallery, The Money Museum, and Absa Archives means that he fully appreciates the concept of 'collecting' and considers philately no different to collecting artworks.

In his opening address he said: "Unfortunately, collecting is not inspired amongst the younger generation. The challenge we have is that kids today are no longer kids. They want to grow up to be adults and immerse themselves in the adult world. They are only able to be a kid when they retire! How can we inspire our youth to take an interest in our heritage, our culture and in reading? We find that kids come to the Money Museum but they don't read. They may read something on Face Book or Instagram, but few delve into a 'proper' book these days.



Dr Paul Bayliss, guest speaker

What we have with philately and with numismatics is the preservation of our heritage and history for the next generation. The items we collect - a stamp, coin or art work - mean nothing, until we unpack the story behind it and that is what we collectors and hobbyists do. If we did not, most of the items we see here today would be residing in private collections overseas and would be inaccessible to most South Africans.

I know very little about stamp collecting, so started off by Googling philately and an interesting statistic came up. Apparently, 25% of the world's population has at one time or another, been involved in stamp collecting. Considering we have a population of about several billion people, there is a huge market out there. How we tap into it and then grow it is the challenge we face.

When you look at stamps, what is the attraction? Well, they capture the moment when the postmark is applied. They offer global universality - every country produces stamps. They are a silent ambassador for their country of origin and represent something of that place. The different stamp designs are forever changing, reflecting the past and the present of the country and its people. Stamps also promote

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the country; they cater to tourists and commemorate significant events.

Art, stamps and coins are an appreciating asset, and are probably one of the fastest growing appreciating assets that we have. If you get it right, they can create wealth.

So, to each of you, continue what you are doing. Keep collecting and keep the hobby going, and as the envelope said to the stamp, stick with me! We will go places. Thank you."

The Official Opening was followed by a reception hosted by the Organising Committee, where a copious amount of delicious snacks were served.

DEALERS IN ATTENDANCE

From Port Elizabeth, Johnson Philatelics Filat AG, in attendance was Richard and Colin Johnson. Also from the eastern Cape, Stamp's Friend - Francois Friend. From the Cape, Michael Wigmore, who survived a collision with a taxi while in Gauteng.

Doreen Royan & Associates was represented by Howard Green RDPSA and the author of the Colour Catalogue, Nick Troester. The Stanley Gibbons catalogues were also available from their stand at the exhibition.

International dealers included Alan MacGregor and Mike Deverell, David Morrison and his lovely wife Jean.

Spink was once again represented by David Parsons and Ian Shapiro. Also from London, Mark from John and Mark Taylor and Gerald Bodily were welcomed.

Stamp & Coin was represented by Lord Morné De La Guerre and Gert Theron acted for the South African Postal Services.

Domenico Martino of DM Philatelic and the interesting tables of Kenny Napier, Mr. Thematic - Chris Bennett, Jaques Kuun and Paul van Zeyl of Rand Stamps.

SAPDAPEX JURY

Consisted of eight and led by Andrew Fischer as Chairman of the jury, with Jan Hofmeyr and Francoise Friend as learner judges. Dr Neil Cronjé as vice - chair and Michael Wigmore as a consultant. In addition three international judges brought their expertise to the event: David Parson, Gerald Bodily and as an exchange jury member, Philip Levine from Australia.



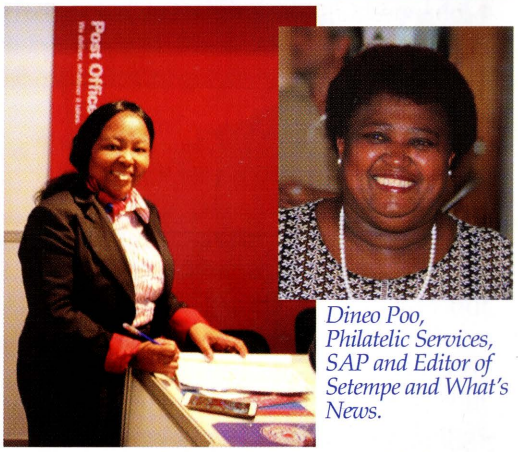








Ladies at the front desk, Arlene Luyt & Marge Viljoen.



Dineo Poo, Philatelic Services, SAP and Editor of Setempe and What's News.

Mmama Phalatse, the lady responsible for the Philatelic Services database and the emails with 'What's News' and Setempe.



Rosettes to show Trophy Awards at the frames. Kindly donated by NOTHSA MEDALS, Springs - www.nothsamedals.co.za



The stalwarts of philately: Jill Redmond RDPSA and Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services

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AWARDS LISTING OF EXHIBITS

LARGE GOLD (90+)

- Entertainment Tax in South Africa
  Matheson, Dr I.A RDPSA
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
  * **Grand Prix Award** *(best exhibit of the show)*

- The Road to Democracy in SA up to 1994
  Kamffer, Dr H.J.G RDPSA
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
  Champion Class Entry

- Sea Mails of Natal 1837 to 1910
  Porter, Mr R.N
  Cape & Natal Study Circle
  Champion Class Entry

GOLD (85-89)

- Forerunner Postal History of Basutoland
  Gardiner, Mr S.E
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
  *D.G.Crocker Cup *(best Postal History Exhibit)*

- The Double Head Stamps of Rhodesia and their Usage 1910 to 1913
  Flanagan, Mr Patrick RDPSA
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
  * **Royal Medallion** *(best British Commonwealth)*
  * **Rhodesian Study Circle Cup** *(best Rhodesian exhibit)*

- The Revenue Stamps of the Union of SA (1910-1961): A usage analysis
  Kamffer, Dr H.J.G RDPSA
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
  * **SA Post Office Shield** *(best Exhibit SA Philately)*

- Johannesburg, The Empire Exhibition and JIPEX
  Du Plessis, Mr A Pretoria Philatelic Society
  * **PEPS Open Class Trophy**
  * **Dawid de Villiers Display Trophy** *(best Presented exhibit)*

- Strike A Light
  Figg, Mr David
  Australian Postcard Society
  * **Picture Postcard Thematic Cup** *(best Postcard Exhibit not Southern Africa)*

- South Africa Postage Due Stamps - Union Period
  Brown, Mr Gary
  Australian Philatelic Federation
  * **South African Stamp Study Circle Award** *(best SA Exhibit after 1910)*

- Germany, Mail Postilion on Postcards
  Kussing, Mr H RDPSA
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
  * **Total Stampex 95 Trophy** *(best Exhibit from an area outside SA with at least a vermeil)*
  * **Terence Radue Shield** *(best Foreign Exhibit)*

- British Guiana - The Airmail Story
  Beston, Mr Bernard
  Australian Philatelic Federation
  * **Dawie Uys Memorial Award** *(best Aerophilately Exhibit)*

- Madagascar and Dependencies
  Scheepers, Mr D RDPSA
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
  * **Ilsapex Award** *(Special Award at the Discretion of the Jury)*

LARGE VERMEIL (80-84)

- The 2nd RSA ('De Jong') Definitives-1974 -1979
  Amoore, Mr Hugh RDPSA
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
  * **Potch 78 Award** *(best Exhibit Post-WW II)*
  * **C.E.D. Enoch Trophy** *(best Philatelic Research)*

- BLOEMFONTEIN - Fountain of flowers (revised 2017)
  Dove, Prof M.G
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
  * **SAPRG Archie Atkinson Trophy** *(best Picture Postcard Exhibit of Southern Africa)*

- Entertainment Tax in South Africa, Four Papers. Book by Ian Matheson and Andrew Macclellan
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
  * **Jonas Michelson Literature Award** *(best Literature)*

- Postal History WWI East Africa
  Collins, Mr Murray
  Australia Philatelic Fed
  * **Ilsapex Award** *(Special Award at the Discretion of the Jury)*

- Southern Rhodesia - the George V Field Marshal Definitive issue of 1931 -1937
  Flanagan, Mr Patrick RDPSA
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

- Pietermaritzburg - The history of the city Maritzburg Philatelic Society
  Maritzburg Philatelic Society
  (... see footnote on page 227)

- The Union's Georgians - A Postal Potpourie (revised 2017)
  Dove, Prof M.G
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
  * **Claude Malan Trophy** *(best Postal History of S.A. Union)*

- Airmail Postal History of the Caribbean
  Fuller, Mr Darryl
  Australian Philatelic Fed

- 1910 Union of South Africa
  Boezak, Mr R
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

- Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika - Postal Stationery
  Collins , Mr Murray
  Australian Philatelic Fed
  * **Ilsapex Award** *(Special Award at the Discretion of the Jury)*

- The 'Officials' of South Africa
  Matheson, Dr I.A RDPSA & Dr R Hisey
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

- Third Definitive Protea Series - Values 5c - R2
  Tonking, Mr M.J.H RDPSA
  Stamp Study Circle

VERMEIL (75-79)

- Issued Kings-Heads definitives of the Union of South Africa
  Erasmus, Dr L.D Pretoria P.S.

- The 'Bittereinder' Rebellion & the Union's entry into WW1 in Germany SWA
  Van Zeyl, Mr Paul RDPSA
  Pretoria Philatelic Society

- The Rise and Decline of the National Party, 1948/ 94
  Van Zeyl, Mr Paul RDPSA
  Pretoria Philatelic Society

LARGE SILVER (70-74)

- Stamps & Varieties of the Hyphenated issues of 1933-1954
  Du Plessis, Mr A Pretoria Philatelic Society

- Men on the Moon *Junior Medal Class*
  Erasmus, Miss M
  Filaffie - youth club affilated to The Afrikaans Filatelievereniging Pretoria

SILVER (65-69)

- The Year of the Scout - Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Scout Movement
  Pienaar, Mr G.D
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

- 150 Years of Railways in Southern Africa
  Dulez, Mr J.A
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

- The Apple Express
  Smith, Mr N.C Belville P.S.

- The Design Development of the 1926 Union of SA Pictorial Definitives
  Van Beukering, Mr Jan
  Orange Free State Philatelic Society

- Lesotho - 1984- Butterfly Stamps
  Barit, Dr A
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

- The Union's WWII Stamps, Varieties and Slogans
  Du Plessis, Mr A Pretoria P. S.

- The Machin Head Stamps *(Literature)*
  Schmidt, Mr Robbie Witwatersrand P.S.

SILVER BRONZE (60-64)

- Great Britain - Missing Queen's Head Errors
  Barit Dr S Witwatersrand P.S.

- Swaziland - 1961 Decimal Overprints
  Barit, Miss C Witwatersrand P.S

- Bechuanaland - The 1961 Decimal Overprints
  Barit, Dr S Witwatersrand P.S.

- Beautiful Bodies - The Nude in Art History
  Bowles, Mr A.W Maritzburg P.S.

- Basutoland - 1961 Decimal Overprints
  Barit, Dr A Witwatersrand P.S.

- Namibia - The Overprints of the 2000s and their origin
  Barit, Miss G Witwatersrand P.S.

- The Baobab Tree - 'The Upside Down Tree'
  Bowles, Mr A.W Maritzburg P.S.

- Filaffie *Junior Medal Class*
  Filaffie Seelpret Filaffie - youth club affilated to The Afrikaans Filatelievereniging Pretoria

- Durban Postcard Register
  Jansen, Mr B.C P S of Johannesburg

- Northern Rhodesia and Postmarks
  Wenger, Mr R.J Witwatersrand PS

BRONZE (50-59)

- Safe Arrivals,'Incoming International Mail' - A service of the U.P.U.
  Van Wyk, Mr J.W Sasolburg PS

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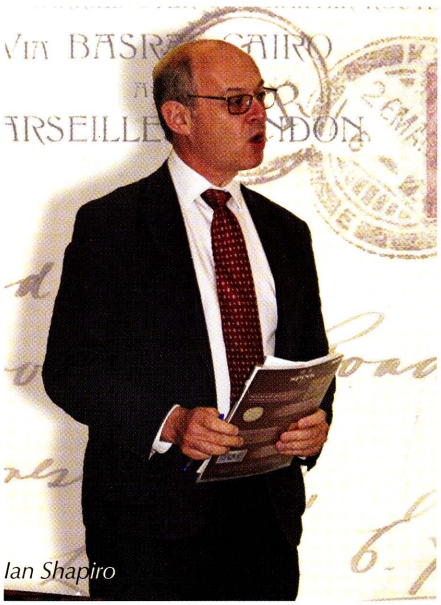
Philatelic Federation of South Africa 79th Congress

This Congress was held on Friday 13 October 2017 at the exhhibition venue, and was attended by some 21 Delegates representing some 19 Affiliated Societies, together with 5 Observers.



Ian Shapiro

OFFICIAL OPENING

by Mr Ian Shapiro of Spink.

Ian thanked everyone for inviting him back after his open and frank message to Congress in Cape Town in 2015.

The challenges he highlighted previously, which face organised philately in South Africa and internationally, remain and it is necessary to deal with them in a realistic manner. Past practices need a fresh approach since they have been overtaken by technological advances and different ways of sales promotion that appeal to a new generation.

Globalisation means the increased interaction of people through the flow of money, ideas and culture. The interest in Southern Africa philately is immense and includes VOC letters, postal history, provincial stamps and related items that document wars, annexations, the Black struggle, British sovereignty, Empire, and the Boer Republics. Specialist societies in the UK and USA take a keen interest in these areas, having frequent meetings and regularly publishing books and journals.

Many of these subjects are covered in the outstanding *South African Philatelist*. A major mission should be to further publicise the journal internationally, to offset competition from other journals; the *SAP* should feature a cover price and be accessible to every collector worldwide who is interested in Southern Africa. This is where the technological revolution becomes important,. Physical magazines go hand in hand with online publications which should be available to subscribers. South African philately needs 'project outreach' both locally and abroad.

To attract new collectors in, say, their forties who may have leisure time and wish to pursue a new interest, internet searches using key words can lead them to the world of philately. The current venue is ideal for bringing philately to the target market, since people visiting the Italian Club may be attracted by the national exhibition. Auctions and regular fairs should, costs allowing, be held in similar venues where there is the opportunity of attracting fresh interest.

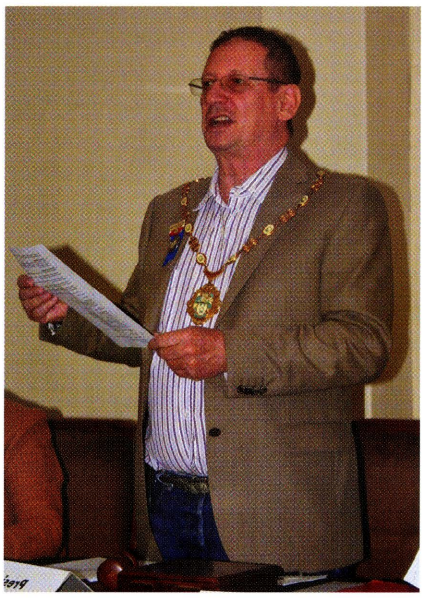
Essentially it is an appeal to the collector base and a link to the art and antique world is feasible, as both are active and enthusiastic, and involve the younger generation. Spink will be showcasing their collectables before a different audience at the six-day Olympia Fine Arts and Antique Fair in London, where it hopes to stimulate new interest, and not just from those wishing to sell inherited collections. The objective is to maintain, stimulate and expand the growth of philately.

To link up with societies abroad, place your society newsletters on the internet; Federation should ensure that every affiliated society has its own website. Excite interest and motivate a casual browser; make information accessible to a worldwide audience; be transparent about achievements and share them. It is all about imagination and enthusiasm.

With the welfare of South African philately in mind, Ian hoped the deliberations of Congress would be governed by common sense. It would be hard work but well rewarded. A hearty round of applause followed.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

13th October 2017, Italian Club, Bedfordview, by Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, Deputy President (Acting)



Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, Deputy President

Ian began by reflecting on the sad passing of many important collectors since Congress 2016. The year commenced with Jan van Beukering at the helm and Ian thanked him in his absence for taking on the role.

A huge debt is owed to the Management Committee under Dr Neil Cronjé. Some feel the Committee moves too slowly or in the wrong direction but the same voices complain without themselves participating. Ian agreed with many of the suggestions, but people are needed to make things happen; Volunteers are scarce, even to fill the role of Vice-President!

All agree the website should be vibrant and informative but someone has to



Hon Life President Peter van der Molen, Chairman of Management Committee Neil Cronjé, Acting-Deputy President Ian Matheson, Secretary Jill Redmond and Treasurer Andrew Fischer

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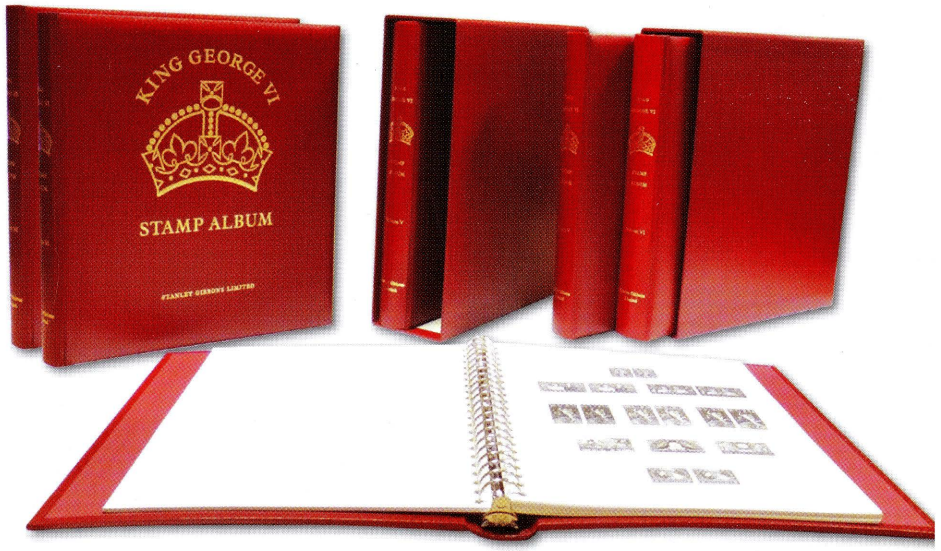
King George VI Album (1936-1952)



The King George VI set has now been completely updated. The cream leaves are pre-printed with spaces for all King George VI stamps including watermark and colour changes and for the first time, Postage Dues, Officials sideway watermarks, different Types and Dies and changes of perforation are now included. The six volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in three slipcases. Blank leaves and additional binders are available for you to expand your collection.

	CODE	PRICE
King George VI Loose Leaf 6-Volume Album	R3417	R10875
King George VI Loose Leaf 6-Volume Album Hingeless	R3417HL	R16250
Additional King George VI Binders (titled Volume 7 & 8)	R3417B	R2750
King George VI Extra Blank Leaves (Per 25)	R3418	R325
King George VI Indian States (1936-1952)	R3417IS	R2250
King George VI Indian States Complete Album Hingeless	R3417IS-HL	R4500

	CODE	PRICE
NEW King George VI Japanese Occupation Only Stamp Album	R3417JO	R1750
NEW King George VI Japanese Occupation Only Stamp Album Hingeless	R3417JO-HL	R3375

King George V Album (1910-1936)



The King George V set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue for all Postage, Air, Due, Postal Fiscal and Official Stamps there are spaces for all perforation and watermark changes (including sideways but not inverted or reversed), different plate Types and Dies. Shades and varieties are not included. **In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers have been included.** There are information pages before page 1 and many illustrations of Types and Dies to aid in identifying the correct space for a stamp. The eight volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in four slipcases.

The KGV Indian States album now available as a separate two volume set.
Blank leaves and additional binders are available for you to expand your collection.

	CODE	PRICE
King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album	R3413	R13375
King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album Hingeless	R3413-HL	R18750

	CODE	PRICE
KGV Indian States	R3413IS	R3000
KGV Indian States Hingeless	R3413IS-HL	R5250

COMING SOON



Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

- *5th Edition 2017*

This catalogue provides a comprehensive priced listing of the stamps of Brunei, Malaysia, Malaysian States and Singapore.

New for this edition:

- The 1933 telegraph stamps of Sarawak are listed for the first time.
- New plate and watermark varieties include the 'Ant-trail' on the 1939 1c. stamp of North Borneo.

CODE: R2879-17 R675

Our representative is our Southern African distributor Peter Bale of Peter Bale Philatelics (cell: 082 330 3925) to contact for all of your requirements.

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN PHILATELISTS STANLEY GIBBONS LTD LONDON

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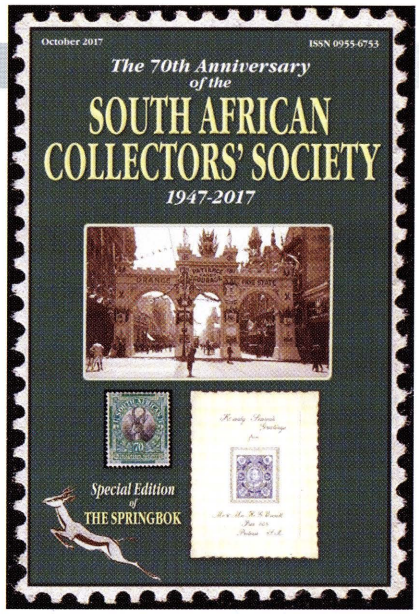
70th Anniversary of the South African Collectors' Society



www.southafricacollector.com

The Society was formed circa October 1947 by Eric Sherwood from Sale in Manchester, England. Eric was a specialist dealer of South Africa stamps and a well known figure in the stamp trade. He passed away at a ripe old age in January 1987.

At first the members circulated a 'News folder' but that became impractical as the membership progressed to three figures. In January 1953 the first society journal was published called *The Springbok* which is still going strong for more than 60 years. For almost 40 years it was a bi-monthly publication and from 1993 it became a quarterly journal. Issue No 339 was published in August 2017.

Eric Sherwood promoted and advertised the Society in *The South African Philatelist* starting in October 1949 and this 'PR' exercise continued to the end of December 1972. In January 2014 a Society website came 'online' and has been developed into a valuable source of information, especially a section entitled *'Collect Southern Africa'*.

The website includes an Index to all journals *The Springbok* and there is an extensive list of the Society's comprehensive Library. Regular meetings are held in the North and the South plus a Philatelic weekend in May/June in the Midlands. Each year in November the Society hosts an Annual Southern Africa Philatelic Conference and is already in its 16th year. This important annual event is open to all the various societies with an interest in southern Africa Philately.

On the Saturday there are invited displays and on Sunday morning it is open to anyone wishing to present a short display. The Conference is concluded on Sunday afternoon with a 'live' auction.

The 70th Anniversary is being celebrated by a customised webpage that may be accessed from our Home page, also a sixteen page Special (Souvenir) Edition of *The Springbok* has been published and may be downloaded free in PDF format from our website.

By 1954 the Society boasted 229 members and nowaday smembership is about 130. The society is run in a casual and friendly manner ... thus if anyone has an interest in this area of collecting they ought to consider joining. The current annual subscription is UK £18, Europe £22 and Overseas £25. There is a PDF option for a mere £10 per year. Enquiries may be directed to info@southafricacollector.com or write to our Secretary Chris Oliver, 46 Woodville Road, Ham, Richmond TW10 7QN. email olivers.of_ham@virgin.net

Royal Acquires Invaluable Archive

The Royal Philatelic Society London has acquired an invaluable archival resource from the late Edward B. Proud RDP.

Edward ('Ted') Proud was a prolific writer, researcher and collector who published a phenomenal 68 books covering the postal history of the British Colonies. This indispensable collection and source of information has now been generously transferred to The Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL), where they will be made available online, cementing the incredible legacy and lifetime of dedication to the unique history of the postal service.

Ted Proud was a trustee of the International Postal Museum, which he tirelessly developed over many years with the late Professor John West RDP. Ted's son and surviving trustee, Christopher Proud, has, according to his family's wishes, now donated the entirety of the Museum to The Royal Philatelic Society London.

The extensive online archive will be an incredibly important asset for the RPSL and will render a wealth of information accessible for the very first time. Much of this newly uncovered data from Colonial postal administrations was unpublished and will now be indexed and made accessible. This will enable a wealth of data to be shared and explored on the relaunched RPSL website in 2018.

Ted Proud was a remarkable man with an enormous enthusiasm for and expertise in postal history. In 2008 he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists after a lifetime spent researching, dealing in stamps and procuring an encyclopaedic knowledge of philatelic matters. The International Postal Museum, Ted's many books, and his meticulously produced archives, are a testament to a life-enduring fascination with postal history, which can now be enjoyed by Ted's fellow enthusiasts and historians.

Edward Proud's family is keen for the transfer of this important archive to the RPSL to take place as a legacy for today's and future philatelists and as a testament to a lifetime's work and achievement in creating this archive.

Initially enquiries for books should be made to adminmanager@rpsl.org.uk.

Nominations sought for The Crawford Medal

The prestigious Crawford Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London will be awarded in 2018 *'for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period'*. It is open to all authors, whether members of the Society or not.

The medal is open to worldwide competition. In the case of joint authorship the Council of the Royal may award a medal to each author, but in the case of books compiled as a result of collaboration on the part of more than two authors, Council may award a medal to the sponsors or editors of the work instead of to the authors.

Nominations are invited of books published in 2016 or 2017 to be considered by the selection committee, who will make a recommendation to Council. Nominations close on 1 February 2018.

Brief details should be submitted by email to secretary@rpsl.org.uk or by letter to the Society at 41 Devonshire Place London WS1G 6JY, in every case using the subject 'Crawford Nomination' or marking the envelope in the same way.

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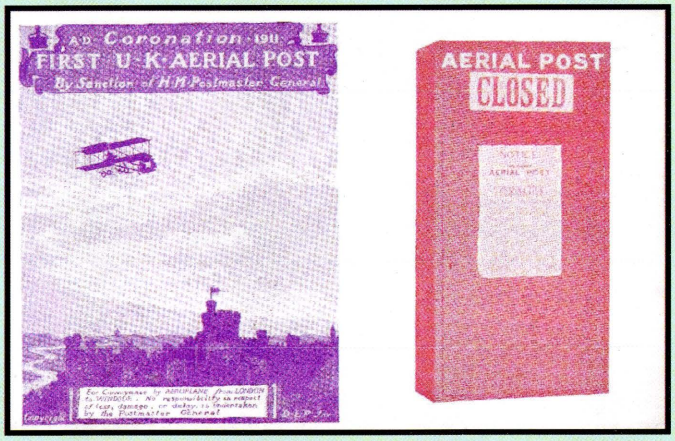

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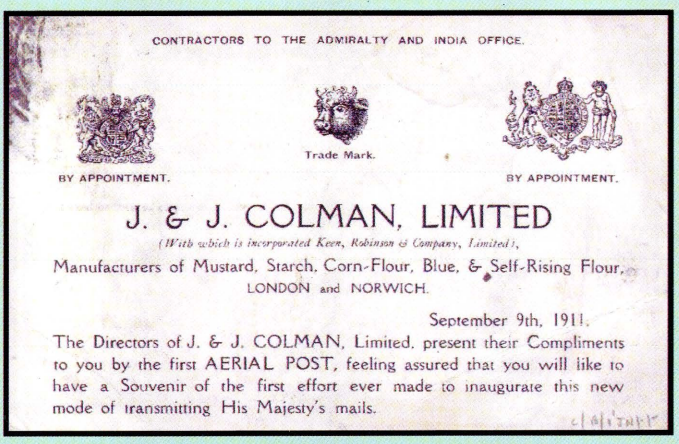

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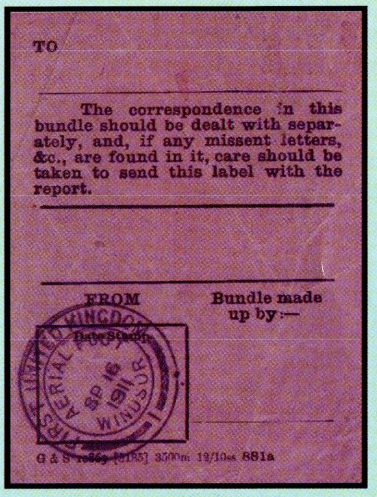

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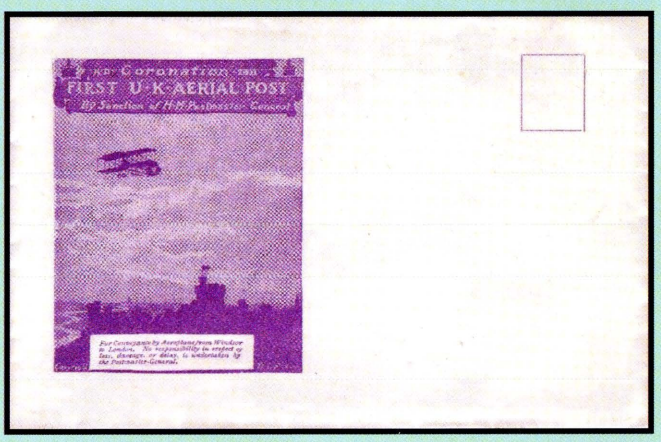

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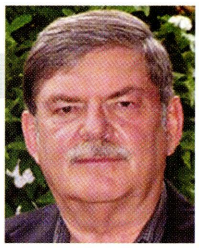
THE FIRST REVENUE SERIES OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (1913-1930) THE LARGE KING'S HEADS

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



THE VARIOUS VALUES OF REVENUE STAMPS

The Stamp Duties and Fees Act, Act No. 30 of 1911, came into operation on the first day of July 1911. This Act formed the basis for the various values of revenue stamps to be issued for the Union of South Africa.

In a letter dated 7 April 1911, addressed to the Secretary for Finance in Pretoria, the Acting Commissioner for Inland Revenue indicated to him that based on the Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911, provision should be made to stock Union revenue stamps of the following values: 1d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1. He also indicated that "for make-up purposes when large sums of duty are payable" the following additional values of revenue stamps were proposed: £5, £10 and £25. In manuscript on the side of the letter the following was noted: "Add 3d".

It was also indicated that experiments had shown that there was a defect in the colouring of existing issues of Provincial revenue stamps *"which permits chemical cleaning being applied which obliterates ordinary ink defacement while allowing the stamp to remain in appearance uninjured, with the possibility of being used again"*. The Acting Commissioner for Inland Revenue, at this early stage, expressed the wish that the same process should be used for producing the Union Revenue stamps that the Imperial Inland Revenue authorities were using. Various articles appeared in newspapers regarding the 'illegal manipulation' of especially high-value Natal revenue stamps.

In a memorandum dated 28 March 1911, the Distributor of Stamps in Pretoria, L.S. Wilkinson, indicated to the Acting Secretary for Finance that he also tested the various revenue stamps from the Provinces and he attached the results to show that it was possible to erase ink marks on most of the fiscal stamps.

In a document published by Thos. De La Rue & Co. it was indicated that in the case of postage stamps, the obliteration is always made by the Post Office officials and it is therefore possible to enforce the use of a hand stamp. But with revenue stamps which have to be used on various documents the case is different as the duty of cancelling the stamp usually devolves upon the user thereof. Such stamps must therefore be cancelled by the simple process of writing across them. The ink in which revenue stamps are printed, consequently has to fulfil a totally different function to that for which postage stamps are printed. In the case of revenue stamps it is imperative to employ an ink which would be fugitive to such reagents as could be used for removing a written cancellation. That is why Thos. De La Rue brought into use what they called 'doubly fugitive' ink which they employed for the printing of revenue stamps.

Various designs were proposed for the Union's first revenue series (figs.1 & 2).



Fig.1: £25 red-brown vignette with purple frame. (Ex De la Rue Archives).



Fig.2: £25 dark green vignette with purple frame. (Ex De la Rue Archives).

The vignette consists of the familiar McKennal head of King George V so well known to Union collectors (fig.3). Thirteen values of revenue stamps were issued from 1 September 1913. However, as was indicated in the article in the October 2017 *SAP* page 152, towards the end of the Interprovincial Period shortages occured of 3d, 6d and £1 revenue stamps and the 6d and £1 values of the King George V series were released early on 17 July 1913.

Details of the 3d stamp, issued on 8 September 1913 is as follows: perforation 14, format 28,5mm wide and 33mm high, printed by Messrs De la Rue & Co in two colours with watermark the single Springbok head.

According to the records in the Post Office Archives in Pretoria the different values were issued as follows:

3d - 8 September 1913,
6d - 17 July 1913,
1s - 9 January 1914,
2s - 8 December 1913,
2/6 - 3 November 1913,
3s - 20 June 1914,
5s - 21 February 1914,
10s - 21 February 1914,
£1 - 17 July 1913,
£2 - 20 June 1914,
£5 - 21 February 1914,
£10 - 21 February 1914,
£25 - 21 February 1914.

A second batch of stamps was ordered and it was indicated by the office of the Union High Commissioner in London that the following number of sheets with 60 stamps were to be delivered by De La Rue before 1 July 1914:

Value	Sheets	Value	Sheets
3d	4 000	5/-	3 000
6d	60 000	10/-	2 000
1/-	30 000	£1	2 500
2/-	8 000	£5	100
2/6	3 000		

The deduction can be made from the order placed that the highest demand was for the 6d and 1/- revenue stamps. The reason for the high demand for 1/- stamps was that the basic rate of duty or fee on the following documents was 1/-: affidavit or solemn or attested declaration, agreement or contract and a certificate or a duplicate of an original of any instrument.

THE COLOURS SUBMITTED FOR THE 3/- VALUE AND THE CHANGE IN COLOUR OF THE 1/-, £1 AND £2 STAMPS DURING 1914

In a letter dated 25 March 1914 from De La Rue to the High Commissioner in London regarding the proposed colour combinations for the 3/- and £2 stamps, it was indicated by the printers that the new colours selected for the 3/- stamp when viewed by artificial light, did not render it sufficiently distinct from the 2/6 duty. In correspondence dated 23 April 1914 De La Rue submitted fresh colour proofs for the 3/- and £2 stamps (fig. 4).

	Existing issue		Altered to	
	Centre	Ground	Centre	Ground
1/-	Purple	Blue	Purple	Purple
£1	Blue	Grey	Green*	Red °
£2	Orange	Grey	Purple^	Orange+

*As in existing £5 stamp
°As in existing 6d stamp
^As in existing 10/- stamp
+As in existing 2/6 stamp

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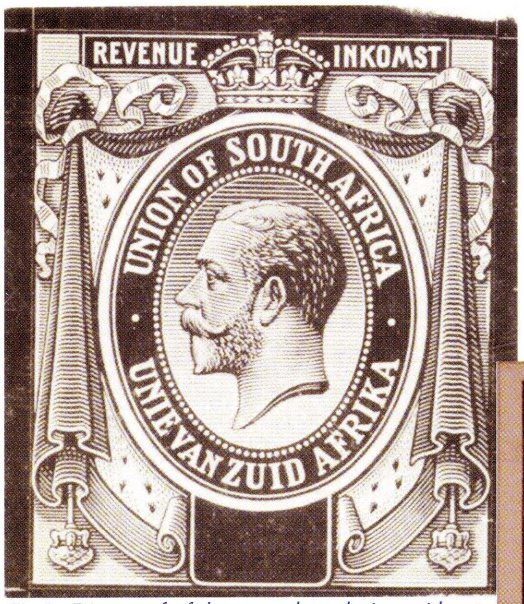

Fig.3: Die proof of the complete design without value tablet that was approved for the first series. Actual size of proof is 34mm x 28mm wide and high, enlarged here to show detail. Card size: 92mm x 61mm.

Comments from De La Rue in a letter dated 23 April 1915 to the High Commissioner in London: *"With reference to the alteration in colour we would remind you that it was decided to print your revenue stamps in doubly-fugitive and sensitive inks as a protection against erasure of an aniline or written cancellation. We therefore propose to print the head of the 1/- stamp in doubly-fugitive purple and the border in a sensitive ink as near as possible to the colour of the doubly-fugitive purple"* (fig.5). They went further to indicate that: *"In the case of the £1, both the colours selected by the Government are sensitive inks. We would suggest, with your authority, to use doubly-fugitive green similar to the head in the 3d stamp and also of the 5/- stamp"*.

In the case of the £2 grey - black and orange stamp these colour changes explain why this stamp was only in use for a period of 9 months. The stamp was issued in June 1914, printed by Thos. De La Rue and its usage was terminated more or less during January 1915 (fig.6). This stamp was replaced by a purple and orange £2 stamp (fig.7).

It was also stated in the order from the Department of Finance in the Union that the 3/- and £2 stamps were urgently required and shipment should be made at the earliest date. A total of 150,000 stamps were ordered for the 3/- and a total of 24,000 stamps for the £2 revenue stamps at a cost of 1/3d per 1,000 stamps.

One of the requirements when collecting revenue stamps is to illustrate the usage of the stamps on a variety of documents (fig.8, also figs.9 & 10 - illustrated p210 & 211).



Fig.4: Proof colour for the £2 stamp. Actual size 34mm x 28mm (Ex De La Rue Archives)



Fig.5: Stamp printed in 'doubly'-fugitive ink.



Fig.6: Specimen copy of the stamp. (Ex De La Rue Archives)



Fig.7: Purple and orange printing that replaced the original £2 stamp.

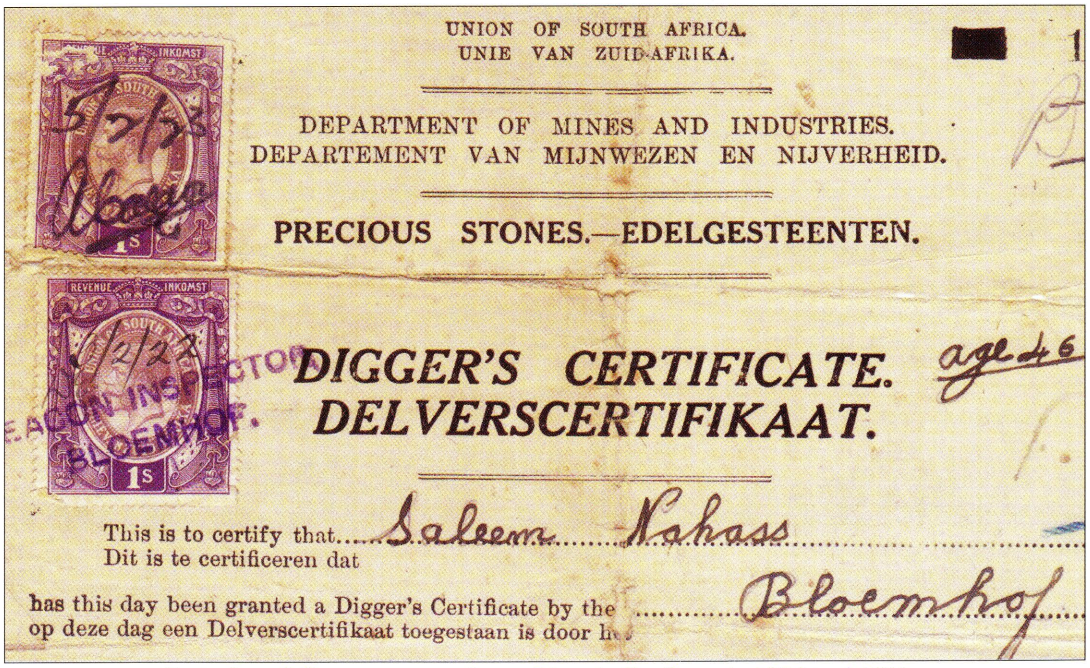

Fig.8: One shilling stamps used on a Digger's Certificate in 1922 and 1923.

OVERPRINTS ON THE REVENUE STAMPS OF THE FIRST SERIES

Collecting the overprints on some of these stamps can be very interesting. These overprints are also regarded as revenue stamps and should be included in any Union Revenue collection. Certain values of the '1913' issue were overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria for 'Penalty', 'Assize', 'Fee for Additional Stock' and 'Consular' purposes. This series was also overprinted for use as revenue stamps in South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.

- Revenue stamps were overprinted 'PENALTY' and 'BOETE'. It was clearly stated in the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911 that: *"Every instrument liable to duty which is executed within the Union shall, save as is otherwise specially provided in the Act, be stamped before or at the time of execution. If through inadvertence an instrument liable to duty be not stamped at or within the prescribed time a validating penalty shall be paid. The penalty payable shall be denoted by an appropriate penalty*

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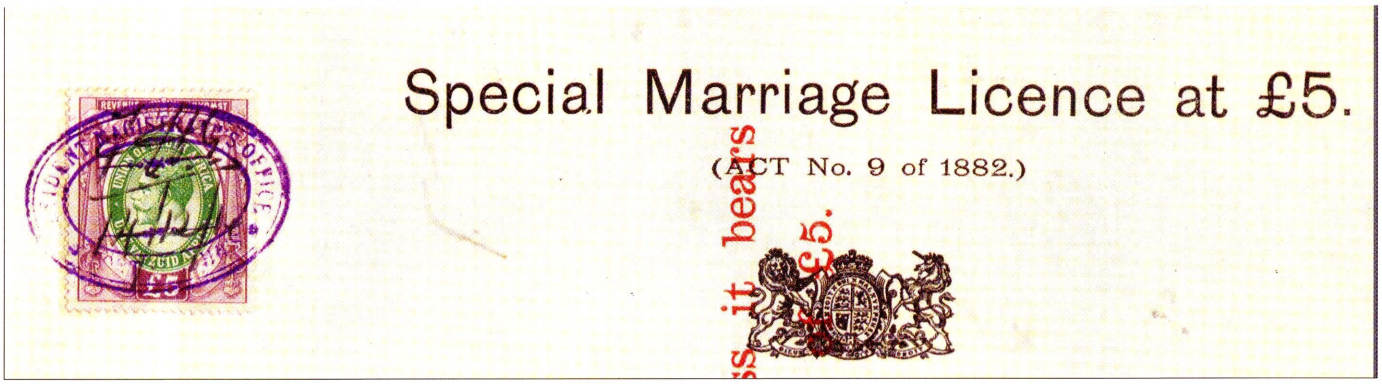

Fig.9: Part of a Special Marriage Licence with a KGV £5 revenue stamp issued in Port St Johns on 14 December 1914.

stamp affixed to the instrument and the stamps representing the duty and the penalty shall be defaced by an authorized revenue officer by his initials and by impressing his office date stamp." (figs.11,12&13).

• **Assize/Yk overprints:** The first 'Assize' overprints took place in April 1927. Revenue stamps and postage/revenue stamps were overprinted bilingually in English and Afrikaans ASSIZE/ YK for use by the Assize Division of the Department of Commerce and Industries. In addition to the overprint the stamps were divided in to two parts marked 'A' and 'B'. Traders who used in their businesses containers for liquids, measures of length and scales, were obliged by law to have these examined for accuracy each year (fig.14).



Fig.11: 'BOETE' overprint.



Fig.12: 'PENALTY' overprint.



Fig. 15: Consular/Konsulair overprint

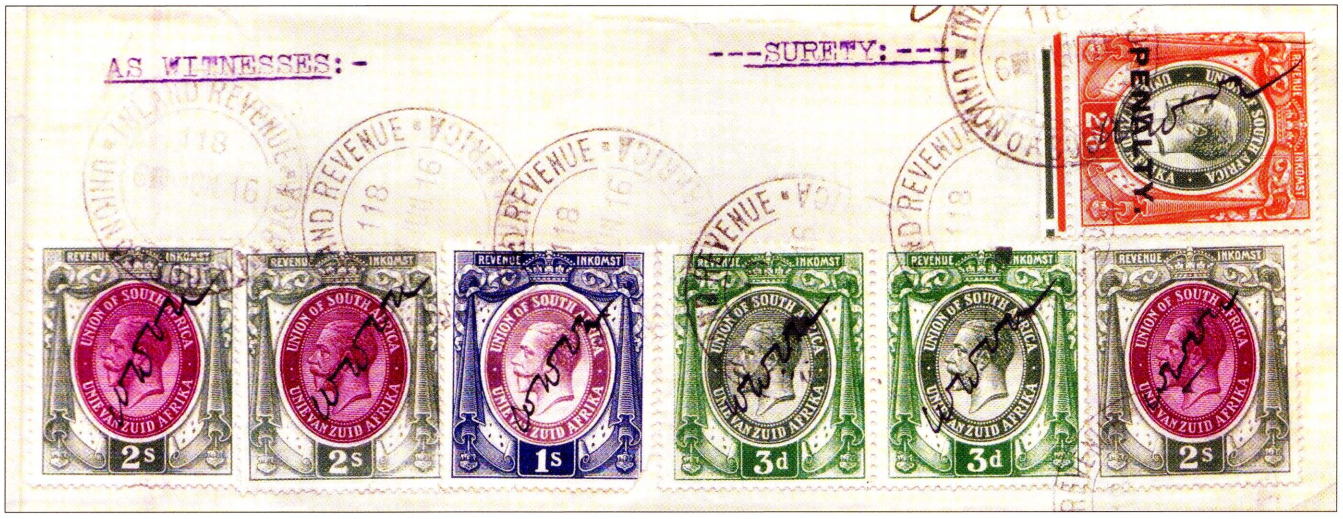

Fig.13: Part of an Agreement of Lease document signed on 10 April 1916 but only stamped on the 6 June 1916 (26 days later) and therefore attracting the minimum penalty of 2/6 under the Stamp Duties and Fees Act.

• **Consular/Konsulair overprints:** The first revenue stamps overprinted 'Consular' were issued on 7 November 1930. These stamps were overprinted 'CONSULAR/ KONSULAIR' for use in the Union consular offices abroad. These stamps were affixed in foreign passports of visitors to South Africa. Normal general revenue stamps were used for other passports fees of South African nationals. These stamps were kept in stock at most of the Union embassies abroad (fig.15).



Fig.14: Variety of ASSIZE/YK overprints. Note the Dutch spelling: 'IJK'. (Collection: Werner Barnard)

• **Fee for additional stock overprints:** The first stamps overprinted 'Fee for Additional Stock' were issued in June 1927. The fee formed part of native taxation in the Union. A document was issued by the Department of Native Affairs in the case where an agreement was reached with a 'Native' tenant to use Crown lands for the grazing of stock. The normal rate was one pound and ten shillings for ten head of cattle. If any additional cattle were to be held an additional fee was paid (fig.16).

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Fig.10: Stamps applied on the front of a Deed of Hypothecation (partly illustrated) and cancelled at the Deeds Registry Office in Cape Town on 16 June 1930.



Sources:

- Document published by Thos. De La Rue & Co: *A Brief Description of Thos. De La Rue & CO's Fugitive and Doubly-Fugitive Adhesive Printing Inks.* Date unknown.
- Dodd, L.J., *The Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa*, in *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956 and December 1959.
- Post Office Archives, Pretoria: *Inventory Records of the Government Printer from 1949. State Archives, Pretoria*: Union of South Africa, National Treasury, NTS 2548, File 622/293.
- Strange Arnold M., *The De La Rue Archives: South Africa 1910-1921*, Published document. Date unknown.
- *Union of South Africa, Regulations 1910-1916, Vol III, I – MI*, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1917.
- *Union of South Africa, Stamp Duties Handbook*, Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911 as amended, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1940.

NOTE: All items illustrated are from the author's collection unless otherwise stated.

Fig.16: Fee for additional stock overprint. An example of part of a 'Department of Native Affairs' document issued to a tenant for 325 head of cattle in 1930. The name of the tenant 'Kambane' and the name of the Chief of the area 'Nogobe' also appears on the document. 'Fee for additional stock' stamps cancelled at the office of the 'Native Commissioner Tzaneen' on 5 July 1930.

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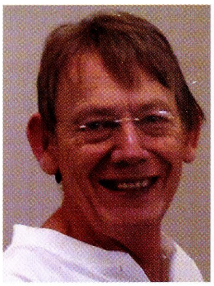
POSTCARD FROM THE PAST

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



A simple postcard such as that in Fig.1, probably a souvenir of a trip, holds a wealth of history waiting to be unlocked. This postcard epitomises two aspects of collecting: the serendipitous nature of finding the item, followed by the sleuth work in uncovering the narrative pertaining to the item. And that is the essence of what philately is about. Obviously we do need to make a number of assumptions regarding this item while trying to fit all the pieces together.

Background

During WWII, Libya became a major theatre of war from June 1940, ending 23 January 1942 when the German forces withdrew to Tunisia. The purpose was to prevent Axis forces seizing the Suez Canal, a vital transport conduit for the Allies. Tripolitania, a province of Libya, was placed under British Administration, along with Cyrenaica, the French occupied Fezzan.



Fig.1

The stamps

Initially British stamps were overprinted M.E.F. and used until 1948. From 1 July 1948 the current King George VI definitives were overprinted B.M.A. TRIPOLITANIA (British Military Administration), with the value in M.A.L. (Military Administration Lire). After the change to civil administration in February 1950, the overprint was changed to B.A. The Kingdom of Libya was proclaimed in December 1951 when and the British stamps were withdrawn.

The postcard (Fig.1), dated 7 October 1948, displays the first ten of the B.M.A. overprints, with the top three high values (Fig.3) missing. It's a matter of speculation why these three stamps were omitted from, what is obviously, a philatelic item. Either the writer was short of money or these stamps were just not available at RAF Castel Benito that day.

Note: at least 99% of aerophilatelic items can be considered as philatelic as opposed to commercial. However, without these manufactured items, there would be no record of the development of aviation, and therefore are acceptable.

The aircraft

The four-engined DC-4 Skymaster was first used as a troop transport during WWII. Following the cessation of hostilities, the DC-4 was one of the more important aircraft to be used on long-distance routes. It entered service with SAA in May 1946 with a weekly service to London. Once all seven DC-4s were received the frequency increased to six flights per week. The DC-4s were replaced, first by Lockheed Constellations and then by four DC-7Bs starting 21st April 1956 which cut travelling time to London to 20 hours. The stop at Castel Benito fell away being replaced by a stop at Kano, Nigeria. The DC-4 was then relegated to local services, eventually being sold to the SAAF in 1967.



Fig.2

The DC-4 shown in the postcard (Fig.2) was handed over to SAA at Santa Monica, California, on 10 May 1946, registered ZS-AUB and named *Outeniqua*. The aircraft arrived at Palmietfontein 16 May 1946 delivered by an American crew. Ironically, *Outeniqua* was bought back from the SAAF by SAA in December 1995 as part of the Historic Flight eventually moving to Rand Airport, on 18 September 2006, as part of the Transnet Heritage Foundation. It was later transferred to SAA Museum Society, on 20 December 2007, along with ZS-BMH *Lebombo*. Both aircraft are still operational, being used for charter flights operated by Skyclass Aviation.

During 1948 the livery consisted of a blue cheat line* along the all-aluminium fuselage ending with the springbok logo (Fig.6) under the cockpit window, with the name on the nose, hence the logo *'The Blue and Silver Fleet'* (Fig.5). A blue strip ran horizontally across the tail. It was also during 1948 that the SAA logo was replaced by a more stylised springbok (Fig.7).

The flight

Despite the disappointment of faint cancellations, it is still possible to uncover a number of things about this postcard. An inscription in the bottom left-hand corner tells us the postcard

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was mailed at Castel Benito on 7 October 1948. From the picture side (Fig.2) this was a postcard typical of those provided on board a South African Airways flight. This means the sender was a passenger on board (TSH Taylor sending a postcard to him/herself as a memento of the trip?).



Fig.3

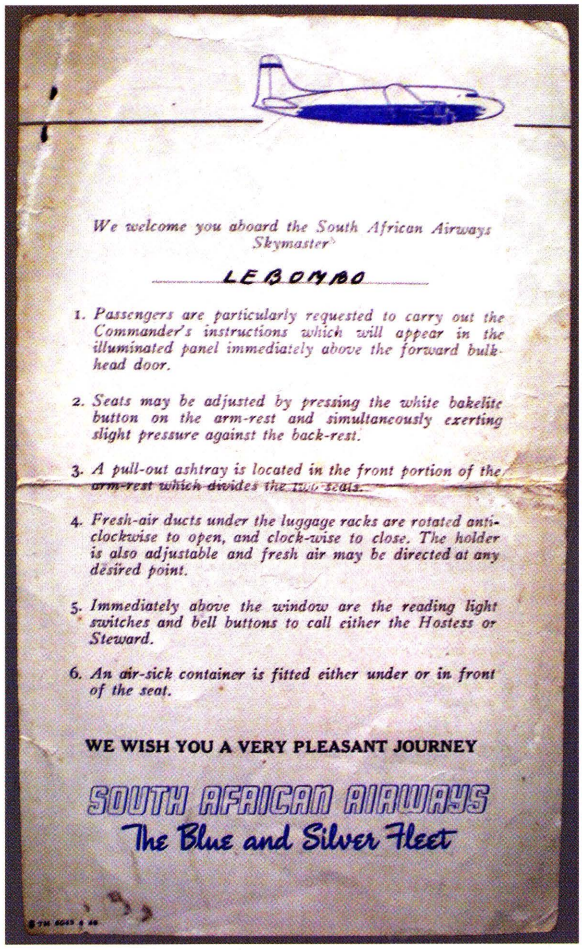
To establish which flight was involved here, the first step was to establish on which the day of the week 7 October 1948 fell. This was easy to work out from a perpetual calendar, readily available from the internet. It was a Thursday. The next step was to find out what flight(s) passed through Castel Benito on a Thursday. This information can be determined from a timetable of the period. These can be found on dedicated airline timetable websites. The only SAA flight passing through Castel Benito on a Thursday was the London-Johannesburg service (Fig.4). Assuming the writer was resident in South Africa, this makes it a return flight. The route can also be established from the timetable.

JOHANNESBURG-LONDON/LONDEN-JOHANNESBURG
Springbok Service/Springbokdiens
O S.A.A./S.A.L. SKYMASTER O

D/V	0030	(2)(5)(7)	Johannesburg (Palmietfontein)	A	2155	
A	1010		Nairobi	D/V	1425	
D/V	1140		,,	A	1255	
A	1620		Khartoum/	D/V	0615	
D/V	1720		Kartoem	A	0515	(3)(5)(1)
A	0105	(3)(6)(1)	Castel Benito	D/V	2015	
D/V	0235		,,	A	1845	
A	1020		London/Londen	D/V	1145	(2)(4)(7)

Fig.4

The *Springbok Service* started on 10 November 1945, following the armistice, using converted Avro York aircraft taking 2½ days. This was also SAA's first intercontinental service. The DC-4 Skymaster was introduced 8 July 1946, eventually replacing the last of the Avro Yorks in the autumn of 1947. Flights were operated out of Palmietfontein Airport as the runways at Rand Airport, Germiston, were too short for the new aircraft. Palmietfontein was a temporary solution prior to the opening of Jan Smuts Airport (now OR Tambo Airport) located in Kempton Park, October 1953. Interestingly, no announcements were made on-board during the flight. Rather, an information sheet was passed round the passengers, an example of which can be seen in Fig.5.


We welcome you aboard the South African Airways Skymaster

LEBOMBO

1. Passengers are particularly requested to carry out the Commander's instructions which will appear in the illuminated panel immediately above the forward bulkhead door.
2. Seats may be adjusted by pressing the white bakelite button on the arm-rest and simultaneously exerting slight pressure against the back-rest.
3. A pull-out ashtray is located in the front portion of the arm-rest which divides the two seats.
4. Fresh-air ducts under the luggage racks are rotated anti-clockwise to open, and clock-wise to close. The holder is also adjustable and fresh air may be directed at any desired point.
5. Immediately above the window are the reading light switches and bell buttons to call either the Hostess or Steward.
6. An air-sick container is fitted either under or in front of the seat.

WE WISH YOU A VERY PLEASANT JOURNEY

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS
The Blue and Silver Fleet

Fig.5

The airport

Castel Benito, originally known as Tripoli – Castel Benito Airport, was a small airport built by the Italians during their occupation of Libya, approximately 34 kilometres from central Tripoli. Following occupation by the British in 1943 it became RAF Castel Benito, later renamed in 1951 as RAF Idris until 1966 when it became Tripoli Idris Airport when the RAF withdrew. Today it is known as Tripoli International Airport.

What was Castel Benito like in the late 1940s? Geoff Sharwood-Smith provides us with a brief description of Castel Benito, albeit related to a BOAC flight when he was a school boy *en route* to his parents in Nigeria.

School was a very distant memory when we touched down at RAF Castel Benito a few hours later. Stirred from our sleep by the cabin staff we descended the lighted metal stairway to find ourselves on a tarmac apron in the desert under a canopy of stars and planets. Looking back as we made our way to the terminal building the four engined C4 Argonaut airliner was an impressive sight as the Union flag fluttered from a small mast at the open cockpit window. It was truly a ship of the skies. Lit up by yellow interior lights the cabin crew could be seen through rectangular windows as they hurried to clean up for the final leg to Kano. Service trucks and a tanker were already clustered around the undercarriage while an engineer on a metal ladder checked out one of the four piston engines that would soon power us across more than fifteen hundred miles of desert.

Inside the flood-lit hangar there was a makeshift civilian air terminal. Groups of cane chairs and tables were arranged on the terrace in front of a single storey inner building containing a bar and some offices. Large three bladed fans, suspended from the ceiling, swished lazily over a sweaty barman who served us bottles of iced cola in exchange for our BOAC transit cards.

Waiting for our aircraft to be refuelled we picked up some friends and wandered out to explore the limits of the passenger area. The Libyan policemen were the main quarry as they guarded the boundary. We gathered round them, fascinated by their snappy Italian serge uniforms, the high peaked caps and the shades tucked into top pockets – not to mention their long shiny boots and white gaiters. Most fascinating of all, and slightly sinister too, was the brown leather hand gun holster, the butt of the weapon just visible where a looped cord attached it to a leather belt. Once it became clear that we were not showing sufficient respect we were angrily waved back to the terminal to await our call.

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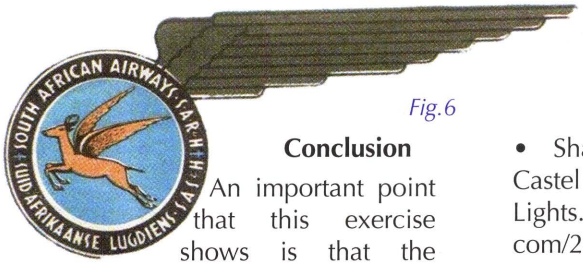

Fig.6

Conclusion

An important point that this exercise shows is that the importance of material is not always limited to highly priced items. What was probably the result of a spur of the moment decision to while away the time spent at Castel Benito airport before resuming the journey has become a milestone in the philatelic history of SAA. It records a specific period in the development of the airline. Indeed a lucky find despite several limitations, such as the illegible cancellations, as to date there are no known SAA first flight covers from Castel Benito. We owe a small debt of gratitude to the author of the postcard.

References

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- SAA Museum. n.d. 'Outeniqua' Douglas DC-4 1009 ZS-AUB. [O.] http://www.saamuseum.co.za/our-aircraft/70.html
- Sharwood-Smith, G. 2015. Castel Benito – Follow the Blue Lights. [O.] https://drsabbatical.com/2015/02/25/castel-benito
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- Wikipedia. 2017 RAF Castel Benito [O.] https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=RAF_Castel_Benito&oldid=783190091
- Wikipedia. 2017 *Tripoli International Airport*. [O.] https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Tripoli_International_Airport&oldid=800578257

* '***cheat line***', *a technical term used to describe a line running the length of an aircraft.*



Fig.7



NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018

to be held in Pretoria
17 to 20 October 2018

Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel, Centurion

This event will host two sections:

- **Non-Competitive** - consisting of a Court of Honour and Invited Exhibits.
- **Competitive** - this segment will host all the traditional classes as well as the FIP Experimental classes.

. . . in addition

there will be an opportunity for a **'No rules'** non-competitive class open to anyone who wishes to exhibit and not be judged under FIP rules, but rather enjoy the benefit of comments from fellow collectors.

- Expect to find a number of local and international SAPDA Dealers at the event. Find the Prospectus in this issue - we look forward to hearing from you.

Inviting dealers from the numismatic and telephone card fields is also envisaged.

Andre du Plessis

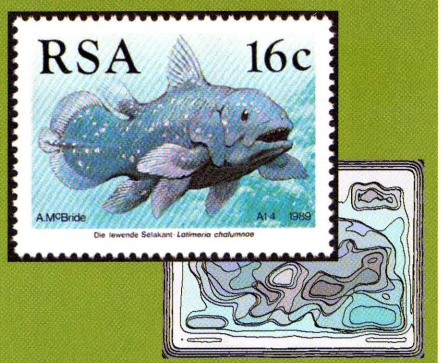
e-mail: andredupfs@gmail.com

cell:083 399 1755

THE FINAL IN OUR SERIES OF 'GUESS THE STAMP'

LOOK OUT FOR AN EXCITING NEW GAME, NEXT ISSUE

This pixelated* image was guessed correctly by Garry Osthoff - the first correct entry drawn.



Garry had this to say: "I enjoy the guess the stamp riddles. The stamp on p 173 of October issue *SAP* is SACC 691 16c Live Coelecanth issued 9 Feb 1989"

The coelacanth, a fish first discovered on 23 December 1938, when the *Nerine* entered port after a stint trawling off the mouth of the Chalumna River, near East London.

*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

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

***Episode 45 of:* Errors on Stamps...**

PRESIDENTIAL VANITY

The Presidents of the three West African countries -



Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia had a meeting in Guinea's capital Conakry on 11-12 July 1986. Guinea issued a commemorative stamp, showing the two visiting Presidents shaking hands and the Guinean President General Conte in the middle, who when he saw the stamp was not happy with the way he looked.

He ordered the withdrawal of the stamp and the replacement with another one where his face looked good enough to meet with his approval.

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by Moira Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS

Further to my August article asking philatelists to encourage their children and grandkids to 'catch the collecting bug,' I thought a piece on Father Christmas would be fun to end the year (Fig.1). Please show it to your offspring – they may just be motivated to start collecting these colourful stamps.



Fig.1.An Australian Father Christmas reads his mail

Legend has it that a rich young man called Nicholas lived in Myra, Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) during the 4th Century. He was kind and generous and often gave secret gifts to those in need. A poor man who lived in the village had three daughters, for whom he could not afford marriage dowries. On hearing of his plight, Nicholas secretly dropped a piece of gold down the poor man's chimney. It fell into a stocking left drying by the fire, thus enabling the eldest girl to marry. When her younger sister received the same gift, the old man kept watch and caught Nicholas in the act of dropping a gold nugget for the third daughter. Although sworn to secrecy, word soon got out and because of his ongoing acts of charity, Nicholas became a Bishop of the church and was later venerated as a Saint.



Fig.2. During the year he and his elves make toys



Fig.3. He travels no matter how bad the UK weather

At first he represented the spirit of good tidings and the joy of Christmas rather than the source of gifts, but after the Reformation in the 16th Century, stories and traditions about St Nicholas became unpopular in Northern Europe. Children's presents, however, still had to be delivered, so in the UK he became known as Father Christmas or Old Man Christmas, after a character in plays written during the Middle Ages. In France he was called *Père Noël*, while Dutch settlers took the name *Sinterklaas* to America, which then became Santa Claus.

In many European countries St Nicholas' Day is celebrated on 6 December. In Holland, children leave their clogs out the night before to be filled with presents. They set out hay and carrots for St Nicholas' horse, hoping to receive sweets in return. Of course, reindeer also enjoy carrots, so they don't go uneaten if the conveyance is different.



Fig. 4. His sleigh is pulled by eight reindeer



Fig.5. Can he fit down that chimney?

Children disagree on where Father Christmas resides during the year making the toys needed in December (Fig.2). Some think the North Pole, others Greenland, while Finnish children claim he lives in Lapland, a northern province of their country. But they all agree that he travels by sleigh no matter what the weather (Fig.3).

During the Victorian Era, when St Nicholas had again became popular, the 1823 poem *'Twas the Night before Christmas* gave names to the eight reindeer who pull his sleigh (Fig.4) – *Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen* - surprisingly not the name *Rudolph*. This only became popular with the song *Rudolph, the Red-nosed Reindeer* recorded in 1949.

Anyway, on arriving at the appropriate house Father Christmas comes down the chimney (Fig.5) to place presents in the fireplace, or at the family Christmas tree or in stockings beside the beds of well-behaved children. Placing a Tangerine or Satsuma fruit at the bottom of the stocking is reminiscent of the gold pieces that St Nicholas left for the impoverished family.

Father Christmas' outfit has changed over the years. St Nicholas wore red Bishop's robes, but also favoured green and sometimes a blue cloak with brown fur trim (Fig.6).

The notion that Coca Cola influenced the choice of red costume is incorrect. The red and white became popular between 1900 and 1930, but it was only in 1920 that Coca Cola portrayed Santa Claus in their advertisements, wearing a red suit and enjoying a Coke.

But whatever he wears, the message he conveys to all children the world over is the same:

May Christmas bring
you many joys
Lots of fun and heaps
of toys.

(Words on a post card, 22 Dec 1905)



Fig.6. 'Hold to Light' postcard depicting a 'blue' Father Christmas

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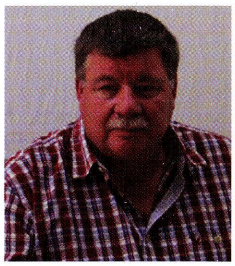
VARIETIES OF THE AIR MAIL STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA PART 2.

by André du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society



There were three issues of air mail stamps by the Union of South Africa. The first issue appeared in 1925; the second in 1929 and the third in 1936. This part deals with the Varieties found on these issues.

The 1925 issue

Artists were not invited to submit designs but the Department of Post and Telegraphs approved a design of a Bi plane in flight. An order was placed with the Cape Times, Cape Town for the printing of the stamps at a cost of three shillings per thousand stamps.

This design was finally drawn by Arthur Cooper, an engraver employed by the *Cape Times*.



Stamps were placed on sale on 26 February 1925.

Printing was done under the tight supervision of a Post Office official. Three firsts can be associated with these stamps:

1) They were the first stamps to be designed and printed in the Union of South Africa.

2) For the first-time stamps were printed and issued with Afrikaans inscriptions. In 1925 Afrikaans replaced Dutch as an official language. SUIDAFRIKA, spelled without a hyphen, replaced 'ZUID AFRIKA' (Dutch) as printed on the first Union stamp and first Definitive Issue.

3) These were the first definitive Air Mail stamps to be officially issued within the British Empire.

Considering the fact that the Cape times did not possess the specialist equipment necessary for stamp printing, they did an astounding job and printing errors and flaws are few. Slight colour differences are found in all four values.

Forgeries of these stamps exist and will be dealt with at a later stage.

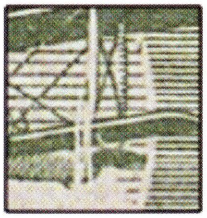
VARIETIES

VARIETIES 1d



Imperforate at left margin. UHB – V4

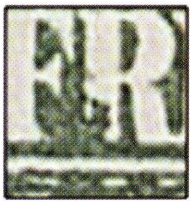
VARIETIES 9d



'Extended strut' flaw ex Row 5 and 11/1 UHB – V1



Oblique stroke through left value tablet ex Row 5 and 11/6 UHB – V2



Broken 'R' in SUIDAFRIKA ex Row 12/8 UHB – V3



- Inking variety - Airman's face in solid colour Various positions on sheet

VARIETIES 1d



Missing serif to 'd' in left value tablet ex Row 6 and 12/2 UHB – V1



Smudge on 'R' of SUIDAFRIKA ex Row 7/9 UHB – V2



Top of 'R' in SUIDAFRIKA open ex Row 11/10 UHB V3



Reversed 'h' for 'd' in left value tablet ex Row 11/8



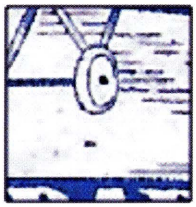
- Inking variety - Airman face in solid colour. Various positions on sheet



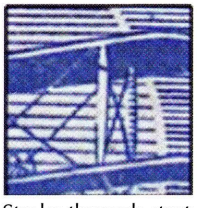
Imperforate bottom margin Row 6

UHB – V5

VARIETIES 3d



Dash under wheel ex Row 3 and 9/8 UHB – V1



Stroke through strut ex Row 3 and 9/9 UHB – V2

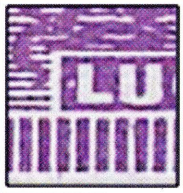


Imperforate at left margin UHB – V3



- Inking variety - Airmans face in solid colour. Various positions on sheet

VARIETIES 6d



Stop in front of LUGPOS ex Row 1 and 7/6 UHB – V1



Circle between 'I' and 'R' of AIR ex Row 3/9 UHB – V2



Flaw in 'G' of LUGPOS ex Row 1/10



- Inking variety - Airmans face in solid colour. Various positions on sheet

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VARIETIES 9d



Imperforate at left margin. UHB – V4



Imperforate at left margin with extended strut (Bottom left stamp) ex Row 5/1
(It also appears on Row 11/1) UHB – V4

SECOND AIR MAIL STAMPS

The establishment of a regular Air Mail service in the Union of South Africa in August 1929 necessitate the amendment of the postal rates. Government Notice 1280 of 19 July 1929 reads: *"A supplementary charge for the conveying of postal articles (exclusive of parcels) by Union Air Mail, 4d per ounce..."*

It was decided to issue two Air Mail stamps of the denominations 4d and 1/- that were placed on sale on 16 August 1929.

As for the 1925 stamps, no invitations were extended for submission for stamp design. A design by a staff member of the Government Printer, who printed the stamps, was accepted. Shades of colour exist in both values.

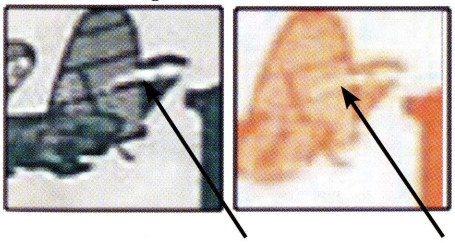




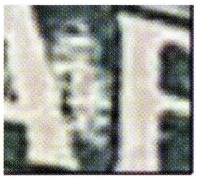
The design depicts a sideview drawing of a De Havilland 60 Cirrus Moth in flight against the background of Table Mountain, Cape Town.

CHARACTERISTIC

A characteristic appears on every stamp of both values. It takes the form of an oblique white line through the tail.



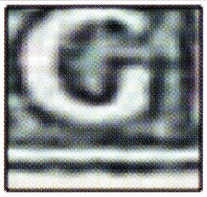
VARIETIES 4d



White blob between 'A' and 'F' of AFRICA ex Row 3/8 (Top pane only) UHB – V1



Short 'I' in AIR ex Row 3 an 9/9 (Top and bottom pane) UHB – V2

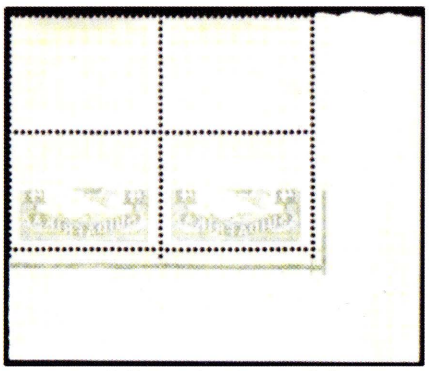


Retouched frame under 'U' and 'G' of LUGPOS ex Row 12/5 (Bottom pane only) UHB – V3



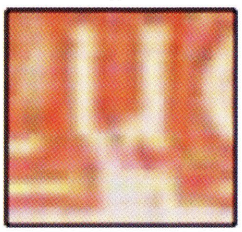
Retouched clouds ex Row 12/9 (Bottom pane only) UHB – V4

VARIETIES 4d

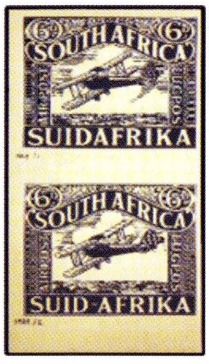


Offset at back - partial UHB – V5

1/-



White blob under 'U' of LUGPOS ex Row 12/5 (Bottom pane only) UHB – V1



Two slightly different essays for a 6d value in black on stout, surfaced paper, each measuring 103 x 82mm. Small differences in the background & side ornamentation as well as the landscapeNumbered '1929/1' and '1929 /2' in black ink

Mr. Thematic

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SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

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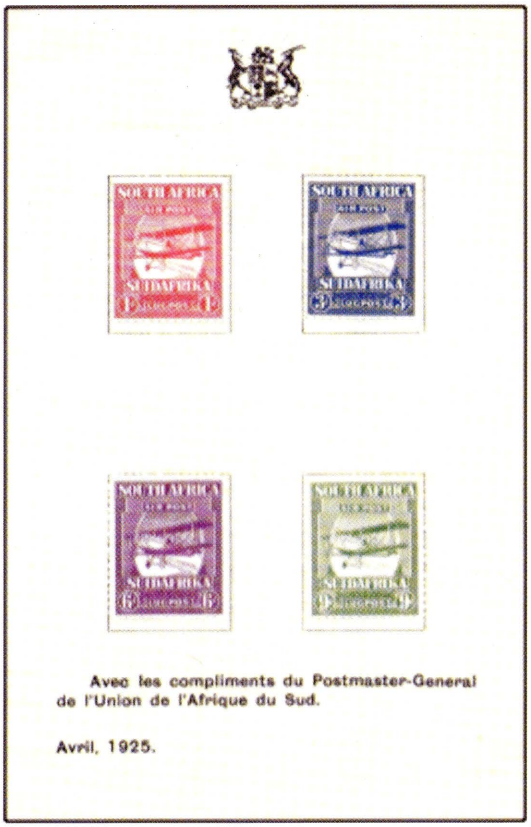
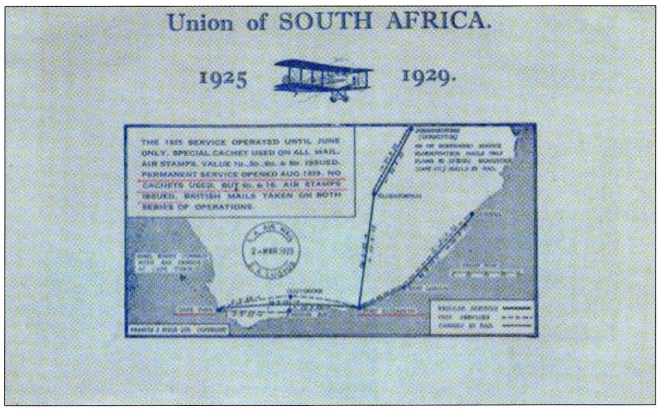
MEMORABILIA

To endorse the 1925 experimental service, it was decided to print special presentation cards on which to mount a full set of stamps.





Cards signed by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs or the Postmaster-General were presented as a souvenir to the pilots and other persons associated with the service. No official record was kept of the number used for this purpose, but it is believed that less than 30 of these cards were presented and are of very great rarity.



Official souvenir card inscribed in French dated April 1925, issued to members of the Universal Postal Union

Map folder published by BCM/AIRFIELD, LONDON to commemorate the Air Mail Service by the Union Government in 1929. The folder indicates the routes flown by the services in 1925 and 1929.

Comments

A further variety 'Offset at back' is described in the Union Handbook for the 6d and 1/- and is not illustrated above. (I have never come across one).

Please note that images are not according to scale.

Acknowledgement

Permission from Spink to publish appropriate images from auction catalogues are acknowledged with thanks.

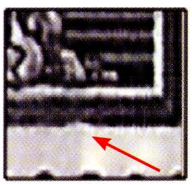
References

- *Handbook/Catalogue – Union of South Africa Stamps* 26.03.1952: Dr A Kaplan/Sam Legator/William N Sheffield, pp 33 - 49
- South African Airmails 2008: N Arrow: pp 27 – 29 The Airposts of South Africa 1936: L A Wyndham (Aerophilatelic Society of SA Feb. 1980): pp 17 - 28, 95 - 99
- *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa* 1910–1961: Handbook catalogue, Definitive Issue 1986: SJ Hagger - pp 18 – 21

THE 1½d STAMP OF 1936

CHARACTERISTIC

On every Afrikaans stamp a small curved dent appear near the right-hand end of the bottom frame line.



ISSUES 1 TO 3

In all three issues only the exterior cylinders were screened. The first stamps of Issue 1 appeared with an inverted watermark. In later printings, it appears upright as well as for Issues 2 and 3.

Printed in metallic-gold and slate green and Yellow-buff and greenish slate. Shades of metallic-gold and slate green;- pale, deep or brownish buff or grey-green.

An English stamp appear as first stamp on the sheet.



Stamp size: 3 x 24mm.

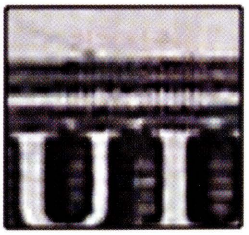
The design is symbolic of the gold mining industry in South Africa and depicts the headgear and dump of a gold mine against a golden background. Shades of colour exist in all printings.

The language above a stamp indicate the language setting of the stamp on which the variety appears.

MULTIPOSITIVE

The same multipositive was used to etch more than one cylinder. It follows that any flaw that had appeared on it during the preparation stage will be repeated. Also with each new use, ones would appear or removed.

AFRIKAANS



Tiny green dot in gutter above 'U' of SUID (ex Row 20/3) UHB – V1

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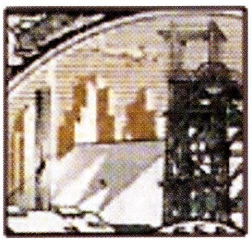
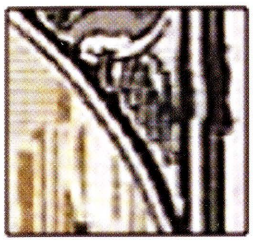
ISSUE 1
Headplate 6933: Frameplates 62
November 1936

AFRIKAANS



Broken chimney and top of headgear much fainter (ex Row 11/6) UHB – V2

AFRIKAANS



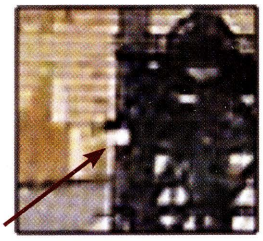
Bulge in right frame above centre (ex Row 13/2) UHB – V3

ENGLISH



Short green line 'Ladder' above bottom right corner, (ex Row 15/5) UHB – V4

ENGLISH



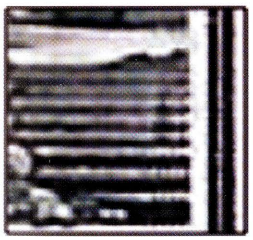
Nick in left of headgear near centre (ex Row 16/6) UHB – V5

ENGLISH



Flag on small chimney at right (Row 20/2) UHB – V6

ENGLISH



Short faint vertical green line above bottom right corner (ex Row 20/4) UHB – V7

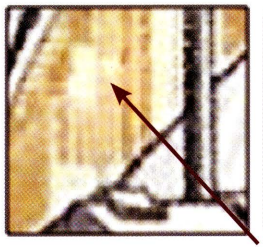
VARIOUS



Completely / Partially missing shading on mine dump (Various positions on sheet) UHB - V8

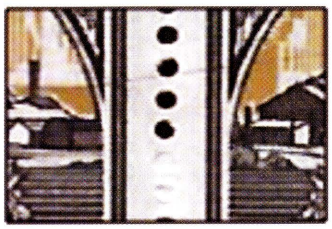
ISSUE 2 and 3
Headplates 62 and 6930: Frameplate 15
November 1936

AFRIKAANS



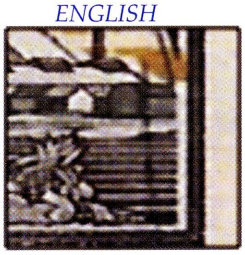
white spot near center of two parallel columns on building at left (ex Row 20/3) UHB – V9
ISSUE 2 ONLY

ENGLISH/AFRIKAANS



Thin green line running upward through the lower right hand to centre and showing best where it enters and leaves the frames (ex Row 4/2 &3) UHB – V16
ISSUE 3 ONLY

ENGLISH



Long green line 'Ladder' in bottom right corner (ex Row 3/5) UHB – V10

ENGLISH



Thinned frame line below large '1' of 1½d (ex Row 9/1) UHB – V11

AFRIKAANS



Green 'ball' in bottom right corner (ex Row 11/4) USB – V12

AFRIKAANS



Nick in top frame above 'D' of SUID (ex Row 12/1) UHB – V13

AFRIKAANS



Serrated outside edge and smears in side lower right frame line. (ex Row 17/6) USB – V14

AFRIKAANS

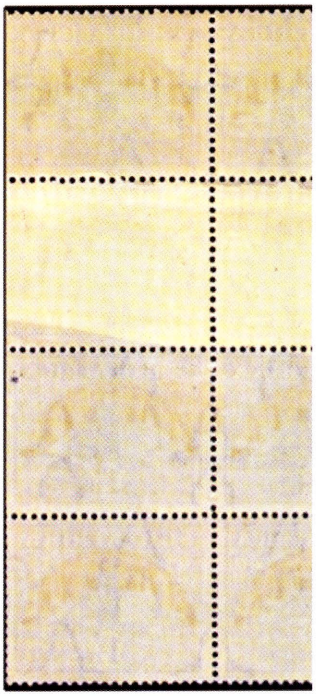


Nick in top of larger one of 1½d. (ex Row 20/5) UHB – V15

GENERAL

Green over the gold of vignette - middle stamp Various positions UHB- V19

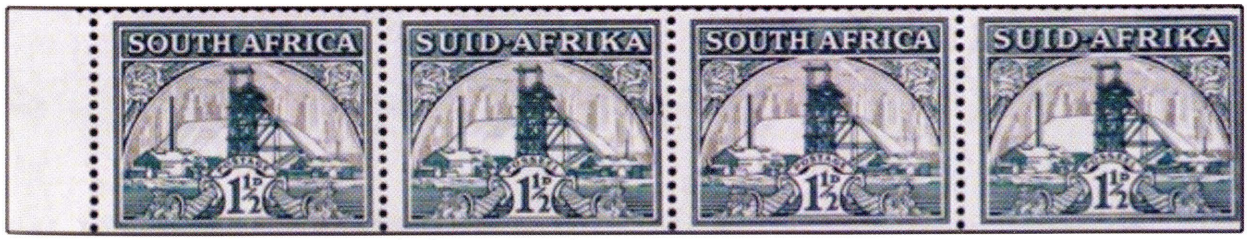




Joined paper UHB - V17

Missing centre (Various positions) UHB – V18. Although listed, I have never come across any of these and confirmed by 4 leading Union philatelists. Any information on this variety will be appreciated

VARIOUS POSITIONS ON SHEET



Partially/ Completely missing shading on mine dump (UHB - V8)

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Morgan Farrel, Mike Tonking, Peter Pannall and Moody Tidwell for their support.

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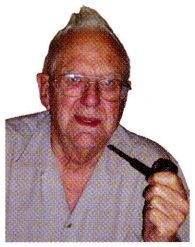

THIRD DEFINITIVE – 20c ISSUE TWO PERFORATION PROBLEMS

by M.J.H. Tonking RDPSA, South African Stamp Study Circle

The second issue of the third definitive 20c value, first printing, was plagued with perforation problems. Some 635,900 sheets were delivered against an order for 600,000 sheets, with the first delivery dated 16.2.78 and the final delivery on 10.4.80.

It was printed on the 841 Press which was equipped with an in-built perforator, which unfortunately was out of order and use had to be made of the Grover two row perforator of gauge 14 x 13.75. This was where the problems started. The perforator had alignment pegs to position the sheets correctly for perforation. It was necessary to drill a single punch hole in the top and bottom margins of the 'B' pane in order to fit the perforator alignment pegs (Figs.1&2). It is reported that these holes were drilled with a paper drill. This method of perforating was slow and unsatisfactory and was soon abandoned in favour of a second Grover perforator, which used a cradle for sheet alignment. In this case, the perforation gauge was changed from 14 x 13.75 to 12.5 x 12.5 (Figs.3, 4 and 5).

Despite the change, deliveries were below the required rate and in order to meet demand, the Walter Kroll single perforator, gauge 12.5 x 12.5, was brought into operation (Fig.6).

Examples are known of both the Grover and Walter Kroll (both with gauge 12.5 x 12.5) with the 'B' panes having punch holes in the top and bottom margins. It is surmised that when perforation by the Grover 14 x 13.75 was abandoned, a number of punched sheets were left over, which were then perforated on the Grover and Walter Kroll perforators to gauge 12.5 x 12.5.

Thus, after numerous perforator problems the final delivery of this issue was completed, which must have been a relief to the Government Printer.

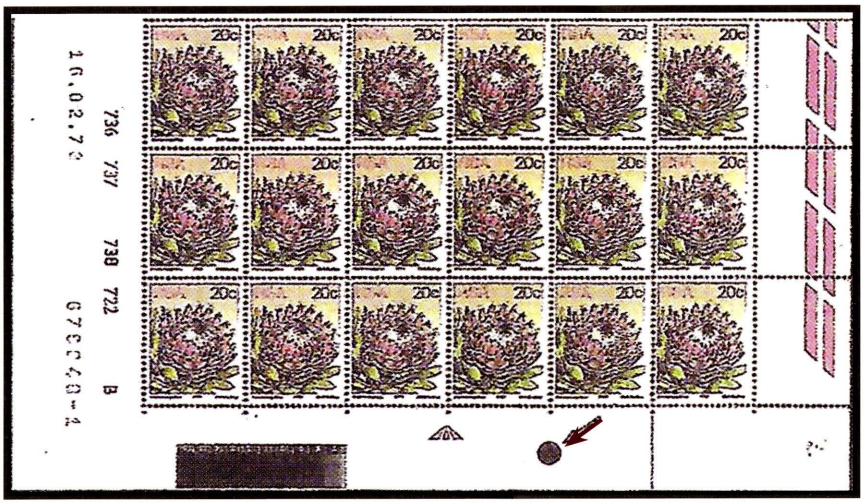

Fig.1: Grover two row perforator gauge 14 x 13.75 Pane 'B' with punch hole in bottom margin between columns 6 and 7

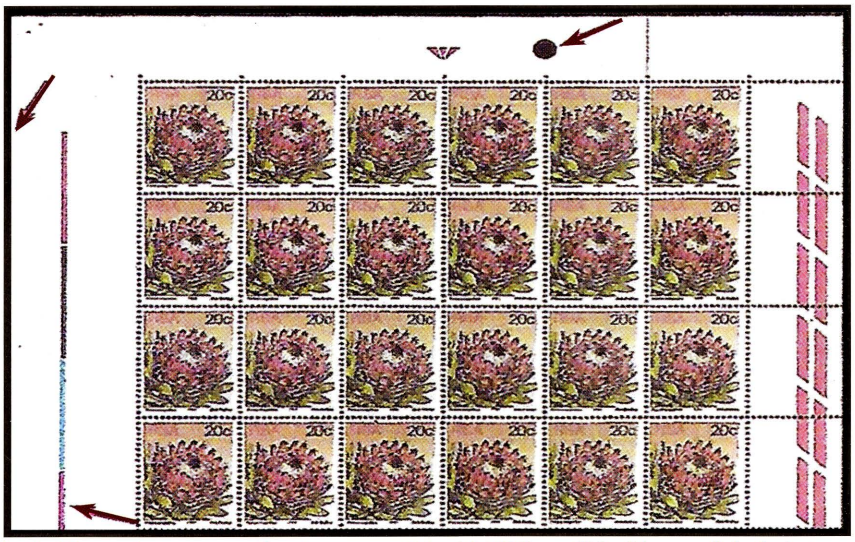

Fig.2: Grover two row perforator gauge 14 x 13.75 Pane 'B' with punch hole in top margin between columns 6 and 7

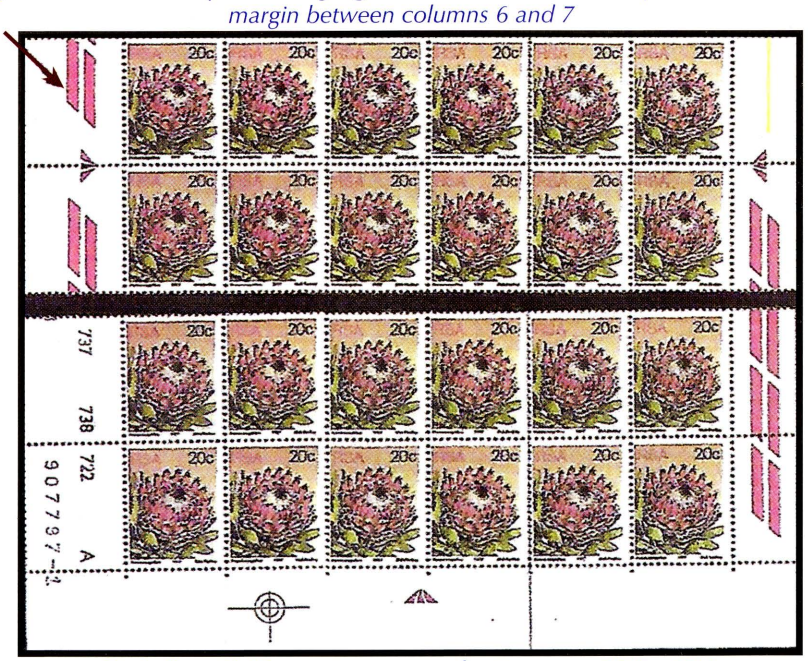

Fig.3: Pane 'A 'Grover two row perforator gauge 12,5 x 12.5

REFERENCES:

- Sorour,V. 1977, *Protea Third Definitive Series*.
- *South African Stamp Study Circle Newsletters* – 221/5 and 223/6

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Figs.4 & 5: Pane 'B' Grover two row perforator gauge 12,5 x 12.5
Two types of perforation recorded

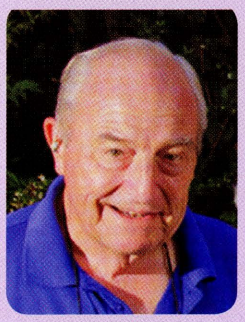


At right - Fig.6: Pane 'B' Walter Kroll perforator 12,5 x 12.5

Footnote: 'It should be noted that in Figs.1 to 3, the blocks have been folded between columns 2 & 3 and between columns 3 & 4, thus hiding stamps in columns 3 and 4. In addition it would appear that there are further folds to the right.'

FAREWELL TO PHILATELIC FRIENDS

E.A Reynolds- A Tribute



From his early years, Ted collected various postal items, starting with envelopes addressed to his Mother, from his Father who was stationed in Egypt and Italy during the Second World War. This interest bore philatelic fruit many years later.

At the Inauguration Meeting of the Klerksdorp Philatelic Club on 11 September 1975, Ted Reynolds was elected Chairman – a positon he held for more than 14 years!

Ted served on the Organising Committee of POTCH '78 and it was at that national exhibition where Ted first showed his 1961 Used Definitives collection, which received a Bronze medal. The exhibit meticulously identified and described the nine groups of the First RSA Definitives, issued between 1961 and 1974.

In 1986, during the 150th Anniversary celebrations of the establishment of the city of Klerksdorp, Ted, on behalf of the Klerksdorp PS, was instrumental in organising a successful Mini-Stamp Exhibition in the Town Hall.

He also organised a Mail Order Service for philatelists over a number of years, before opening the Klerksdorp Stamp Shop in 1999, in the central business district. This was later relocated to his home, where stamp enthusiasts enjoyed many hours talking to Ted, learning from his vast philatelic knowledge and searching for that elusive item in his large stock. This business flourished for about 15 years, until his ill-health necessitated its closure in 2014.

In November 2012, Ted was awarded the W.E. Lea Trophy for 35 years of dedicated service to South African philately – a well-deserved accolade.

T.W. Downard, Chairman,
Klerksdorp Stamp Group

Obituary - Mark Chutter

Mark passed away on 5 August 2017 in Howick, KZN Midlands at the age of 84. Born in the UK; at the age of four his family came to South Africa and settled in Natal. A brilliant academic career culminated in the achievement of a Doctorate from Rhodes University and Mark then spent his entire career at the CSIR in Pretoria in various branches of the National Institute for Water Research.

Mark's collecting interests were the postmarks of Natal and Bechuanaland. He joined the Pretoria Philatelic Society in February 1968 where he served as President 1979/1980 and also managed the Exchange Packet circuits for a period. He was an active member of the Postmark and Postal History Society where he also served as President and Exchange Superintendent. Mark was made an Honorary Member of this latter Society after his retirement. On his retirement Mark and his wife moved to Howick, where he joined the Howick Stamp Club and the Ambers Stamp Club. Mark possessed a profound knowledge of all postage stamp matters but alongside this was his humility and helpfulness, particularly in respect of Postmarks of his two favourite subjects, namely Natal and Bechuanaland.

Mark was an all-rounder - squash player, trout fisherman, keen gardener, an excellent bridge player and he loved walking. After being diagnosed with Parkinson Disease, he took to serious walking - staying fit helped in his fight against the disease for 15 years. Unfortunately after breaking his hip in 2014 he spent his last three years in frail care. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Marlene, his two daughters and their families. May Mark Chutter rest in peace.

Marge Viljoen & Nick J. Smith

R.I.P. Brian Leslie Gruzd

It is with deep sadness that I have to inform you that Brian Gruzd passed away on Saturday, 11 November 2017, from a massive heart attack. The funeral took place on Sunday, 12 November 2017, at the West Park Cemetery at 13h15. Brian was the auditor for both the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and the Philatelic Foundation. He joined the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society as an away-members fifteen years ago and on the demise of the Society of Israeli Philately, he became a home member. A full obituary will appear in the Feb 2018 issue.

Herbie Schaffler

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WRITING UP A COLLECTION

PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

Should you want to share a favourite collection with a group of collectors in a 'formal' manner, these are some process recommendations:

1. Select a fairly simple and unambiguous title that suits and describes the collection/exhibit.

2. **Write up should be concise, crisp and convey only the essential information.**

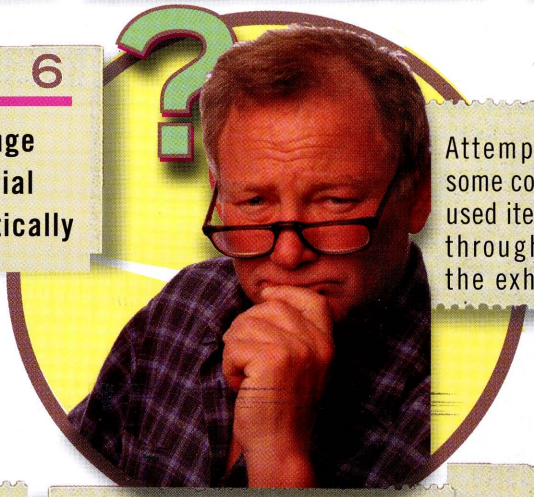
3. Tell a story with a beginning, middle part and end.
   Revise the beginning after you've completed the exhibit...
   - one usually only becomes aware of your collection's interest and depth after you've really studied it.

4. **NOTE -**
   'ONE FRAMERS'
   should **not** be an extract of pages from a bigger exhibit.
   *It should tell the **whole** story on a frame of 16 pages.*

5. Attempt to show some commercially used items/covers throughout the exhibit.

6. **Arrange material systematically**

7. **Include the documenting of philatelic as well as non-philatelic knowledge, which will add interest / value.**



8. Rule of thumb is that one should show the best quality one can afford, and really know your subject and material.

9. **Don't be too sentimental, do not show a favourite item if it doesn't really fit in, even if it is an expensive item!**

10. DO USE
    - 'Chapter' breaks
    - A larger font
    - Bold-up the font

11. **UNDERLINE**
    SEGMENT TITLES
    Excessive space & 'white' spaces on pages:
    try to 'balance' all pages, slight 'overcrowding' is preferable to excessive 'white space'.

- Avoid 'padding' - (duplication of items), just to fill a page.
- Duplication of wording in the write-up should also be avoided.
- Highlight rare items:
  ••• ***There are many ways to do it -***
  find an non-disturbing, attractive way. For instance, do not use RED, rather a subtle pastel colour
  ••• Try using different font
- What information should feature on the title page:
- Exhibit plan (to guide your treatment of the material)
- Purpose and scope of the exhibit (what viewers should expect to find)
- Provide a bibliography: viewers & especially judges want to know what research has been done
- Whatever's specified on the first page should be found in the exhibit, that's why the first page should be revised at the conclusion of the write-up
- Present more detail information for the under standing of a segment of the exhibit at its start. *Basically, a short introduction per segment*

•••Note that the write-up of some pages will take longer than others.

•••Give yourself enough time and plan your time accordingly

•••Draw up a roster to keep track of your progress

ENJOY, THIS IS PHILATHERAPY!!

Source: Pretoria Philatelic Society Layout by Janice Botes 2017

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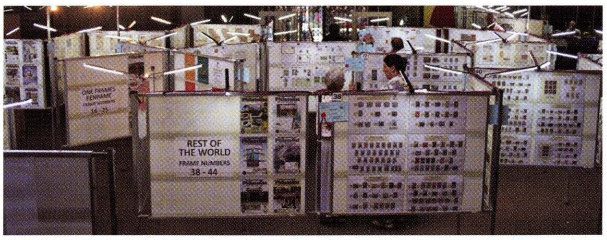
SASOLBURG Inter-Club Competition



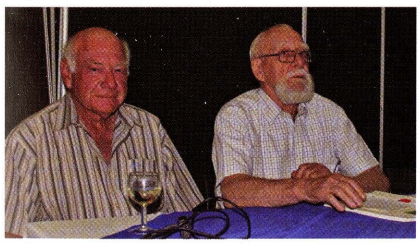


This was the 34th time that Oilfilat has staged the inter-club competition. This competition is between Oilfilat, the society located in Sasolburg and East Rand Philatelic Society. It took place over the week 28 October to 4 November 2017 in the Sasolburg Public Library. The exhibition was open to the public during normal hours of the public library from 30 October to 3 November 2017. The prize giving was held in the library on Saturday,with a wonderful spread of eats provided by Oilfilat.

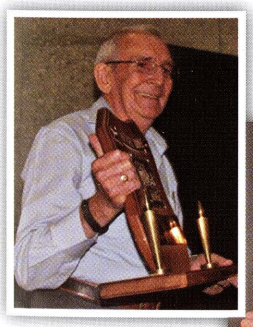
This year marked a deviation from previous competitions - Oilfilat replaced their existing frames with 15-page aluminum frames donated by Federation. Set up to resemble a maze rather than the straight line usually seen at exhibitions, making the layout more interesting and different. This arrangement was the brain-child of Andre van Wyk of Oilfilat. There were six exhibitors from each society; Oilfilat entering 42 frames, ERPS only entered 13 frames. Despite a 3:1 advantage by Oilfilat, East Rand PS still took the competition with two exhibits gaining gold. Despite this, there was good camaraderie and Judge Lourens Erasmus, in reporting back at the prize giving, was pleased to say the judges saw a definite improvement in the standard of exhibits over the previous year. The exhibits offered a good variety of material and exhibitors were encouraged to enter the 2018 National.

An amazing effort by a small club - long may it continue.

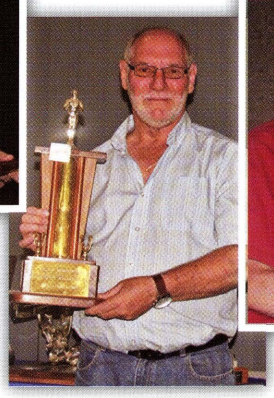
Name	Society	Title of exhibit	Award	Points	Trophy
One Frame					
CJ Kok	Oilfilat	*Did you Know?*	B	48	
JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	*Lawn Bowling - Real Sport of Kings*	Vermeil	76	*Rita Pretorius*
L Jacobson	Oilfilat	*SWA Postage Dues 1923-1929*	Vermeil	78	*Jules Danneels*
L Jacobson	Oilfilat	*Walvis Bay under the CHP and SWA Postal Administrations*	Vermeil	74	
P vd Molen	ERPS	*The 2012 London Olympics and Paraolympics - British Gold Winner Stamps*	Vermeil	75	
D Mostert	ERPS	*Bulk Posting and Permit Mail*	B	44	
Union and RSA					
ASN Nel	Oilfilat	*Namibia en SA/RSA*	S/B	55	*Walthof*
CJ Kok	Oilfilat	*Gedenkseëls van Rhodesië*	S	69	
JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	*Rhodesia - Officially Used Aerogrammes 1961-1973*	Vermeil	77	*CMGM*
Rest of the World					
BA Easley	Oilfilat	*Austrian Stamps of the Second Republic*	B	40	
Thematic					
C Rogers	ERPS	*The Uprooted Tree*	S	68	*Anker*
C Rogers	ERPS	*Utopia*	S	64	
E Minnaar	ERPS	*The Life of Jesus of Nazareth*	Gold	80	*Frustration*
C Rogers	ERPS	*They Shaped Our Century*	S	66	
Postal History					
L Jacobson	Oilfilat	*SWA Registered Mail, 1914-1960*	Vermeil	76	*Old Mutual*
D Wigston	ERPS	*The Airgraph Service 1941-1945*	Gold	82	*Grand Prix*
CJ Kok	Oilfilat	*SA Spesiale Stempels*	Vermeil	72	
Open Section					
EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	*Soogdiere*	Vermeil	73	
JW van Wyk	Oilfilat	*SAPO Confusing Labelling*	Vermeil	72	
EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	*Queen Mum, 100 Years Old*	S	65	
EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	*5000 Jaar van Skilderkuns van Suid-Korea*	S	64	
EJ Pretorius	Oilfilat	*Lepidoptera*	S	61	
J Mitchell	ERPS	*By Air – Aeroplane to Zepplin*	Vermeil	78	*Piet Schillings*



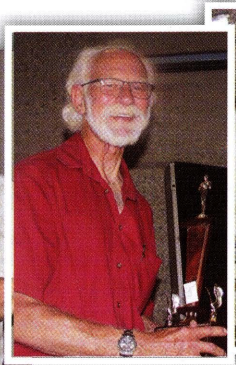
Johan van Wyk, Vice President and at right, Dr Eddie Pretorius, President of Oilfilat



ERPS Chairman, Jimmy Mitchel with the winners shield



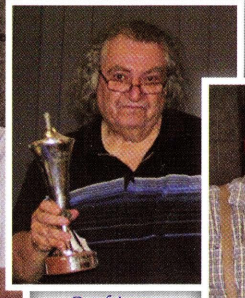
At right: Andre Nel winner of the WALTHOF Award



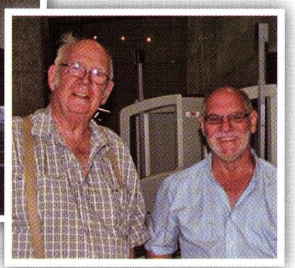
Charles Rogers, ERPS



David Wigston with the GRAND PRIX award



Prof Leon Jacobson



Left Hugh Grant; right Andre Nel

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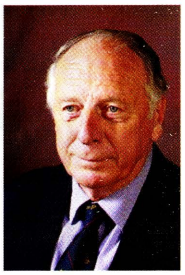
The Evolution of Post Office Museums in London

by Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL, East Rand Philatelic Society



1 - London City Location

When I first visited the National Postal Museum (NPM) in London around 1990, it was housed in the magnificent King Edward Building (fig.1), which at the time was the General Post Office Headquarters. Situated in the City close to St Paul's cathedral, the public halls were resplendent with much shiny mahogany woodwork and gleaming brasswork. In the centre front of the building there was a statue of Sir Rowland Hill with the inscription "He founded uniform penny postage 1840" (fig.2). The first NPM had been opened there by the H.M. Queen in 1966 and principally contained Post Office archives and records, including all artwork and other information for all UK stamp issues, the RM Phillips Collection of Victorian philately and the De La Rue Archives of Colonial Stamp production; the latter was my main interest. Their collection of artefacts (such as pillar boxes, uniforms, vans, etc.) was stored off-site. During subsequent visits I was twice evacuated because of IRA bomb scares, through areas not normally open to the public. The building was sold in 1998 to Bank of America Merryl Lynch to serve as their London headquarters, and the Museum Collections were largely transferred to the Post Office's Mount Pleasant Mail Centre (fig.3), the main Central London mail processing site which had been opened there in 1934.





Fig 1.King Edward Building and Fig.2. Statue of Sir Rowland Hill by sculptor Onslow Ford

2 - Mount Pleasant location

On the Mount Pleasant site, the NPM was located in Freeling House which had restricted access for the public. The NPM was re-named the Heritage unit; the Post Office itself went through a period of consolidation and re-organisation and was renamed 'Consignia' and subsequently 'The Royal Mail Group'. The Royal Mail Group then decided to transfer the work of their Heritage unit to an independent Postal Heritage Trust in April 2004, which was branded as 'The British Postal Museum & Archive'. In 2016 the BPMA was renamed 'The Postal Museum' and converted some buildings on a site across the road from the Mount Pleasant complex, to a modern purpose-built museum with exhibition and research facilities, although the collection of artefacts remains largely off-site in Debden, London.

3 – The new Postal Museum (fig.4)

Located at 15-20 Phoenix Place, WC1 XODA, this museum was opened on 28 July 2017. I had an opportunity to visit it on 12th September last and it was most impressive, far superior to any of its predecessors. It features a spacious exhibition hall with most interesting exhibits, the highlight being a complete plate proof sheet of 240 Penny Blacks without check letters mounted in a special cabinet, which is only illuminated when a person stands close to it. There is also a souvenir and coffee shop. It has excellent facilities for researchers – the staff's pride is a large digital table where digitised images can be viewed and manipulated to show incredible magnifications for research purposes. But the greatest innovation was the addition of a part of the London Mail Rail system to the Postal Museum's attractions.



Fig.3. The Post Office's Mount Pleasant complex

4 – The Mail Rail addition to the Postal Museum

Little known until quite recently, the Post Office in the 1920ies had built an underground miniature railway system to speed up the transport of mail between the principal London District Post Offices and the main railway termini, which all handled large volumes of mail. The congested streets of London were seen to impede rapid transport by surface means and earlier experiments with pneumatic mail transport had not shown promising results. The trains ran on a 610 mm wide track at speeds up to 64 km/hr and consisted of an engine unit, powered electrically by batteries, with a number of carriages to hold bags of mail and were unmanned, with the overall control centre located at Mount Pleasant. A contemporary image shows the loading and unloading of a train in fig.5. The system was constructed in phases and when completed, covered a distance of some 10.5 kms, roughly in an East to West direction, some 20 metres under central London where there were 8 stations (fig.6). The engineering effort in that project was a remarkable achievement which can only be admired.

The system was officially opened on 3 December 1927 and operated until it was closed on 31 May 2003, but it was mothballed in case it became needed again. In 2013 the BPMA announced that Mail Rail would be integrated into the Museum and stated its intention to open a part of the network to the public, a circular route beneath the depot at Mount Pleasant, which would be covered in some 20 minutes. As

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Fig.4. The New Postal Museum. The entrance is through a court yard on the right.



Fig.5. Unloading of Mail Train

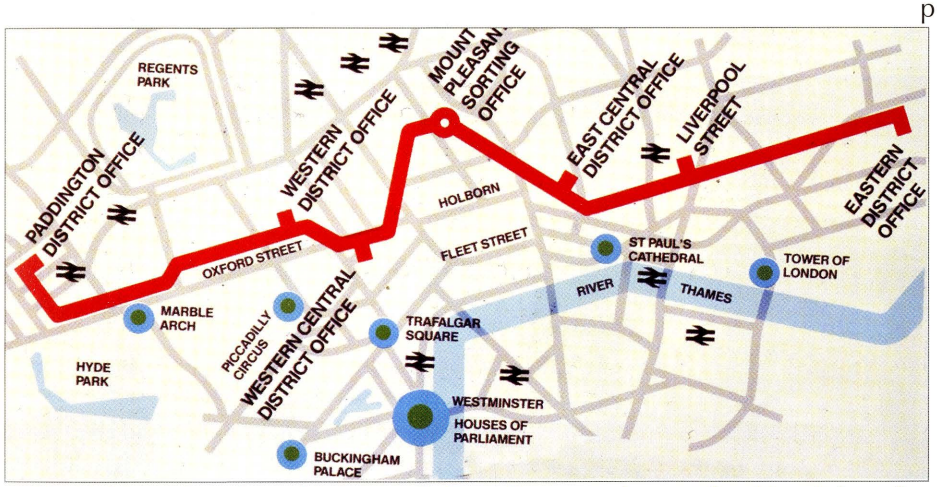

Fig.6. Map of stations. Note - only 7 stations are shown after King Edward Building station was closed.

part of fundraising, 'The Friends of the BPMA' were invited to sponsor a sleeper on the section to be opened, where a small plaque would be placed on 'their' sleeper to record the sponsorship (fig.7).

Work commenced on the 'Museum' Rail section in 2014 and the Mail Rail Museum was opened on 5 September 2017. The entrance (fig.8) is located opposite the main Postal Museum, a short distance down the road, on the edge of the Mount Pleasant complex. In the entrance area there is a souvenir section, then one proceeds into the station area where there is a large and informative audio-visual presentation, together with exhibits covering many aspects of Mail Rail and other postal services. A ride on the train departs from the platform and is operated in newly constructed carriages with perspex canopies. Passengers can thus fully enjoy the ride and view audio-visual presentations projected on walls en-route. Because of restricted tunnel height, the carriages are a touch cramped for tall persons; see fig.5 to gauge the height of the canopy. On my visit in September 2017 I found the overall Mail Rail trip an unforgettable experience and heartily recommend it. For sponsors of sleepers, a tour on foot, called "walk the rails" of some 40 minutes' duration, can be arranged periodically so they can view 'their' plaques which will remain in situ for 25 years.With participants suitably attired with hard hats and luminous safety jackets, such a tour is quite an experience too.

If there were to be a Michelin Guide to Philately, the new Postal Museum and Mail Rail should surely be awarded a three star rating: "*vaut le voyage*" – worth the journey.



At left - Fig.7. Author's plaque on 'sleeper' number 200.



Above - Fig.8. Mail Rail Museum entrance

Acknowledgements

- Figs 1, 2 - donated by Quintin Lake Architectur Photography
- Figs 5, 6 - National Postal Museum.
- All other images by the author
- Information from the Postal Museum and their website: www.postalmuseum.org
- Wikipedia

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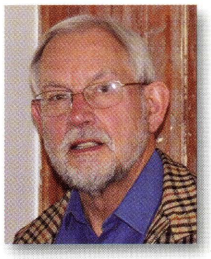
New South African Stamp Issues 2017 - Part V

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle



8 September 2017 - HOMO NALEDI

In 2015 an announcement was made of the discovery, in the Sterkfontein Caves, west of Krugersdorp, and now included in the 'Cradle of Mankind' heritage area, of more than 1,500 fossil bones belonging to at least 15 individuals of a virtually unknown *hominin* that was to become known as *Homo Naledi*. These fossils are estimated to be about 300,000 years old.

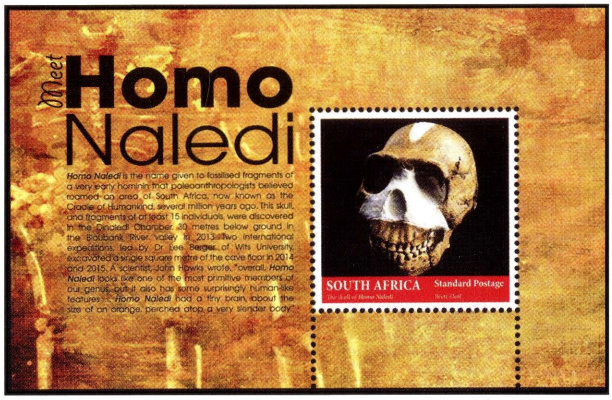


Image reduced to 75%

Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.90)
Design: Layout by Cyril Maphumulo from photographs by Brett Eloff of Wits University
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 35 x 34.5mm, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: Phosphor coated paper
Quantity: 15,000 miniature sheets
Cylinder numbers: None
Perforation: Gauge 14.3 x 13.8, extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet
Printing sheet size: 705 x 605 mm, comprising 30 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of five
First Day Cover: No. 8.109 of standard size (189 x 102mm) of which 1000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.97 – '2017·09·08' / 'KRUGERSDORP'

Perforation: Gauge 13.5 x 13.4, extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet
Phosphor: Phosphor coated paper
Printing sheet size: not yet seen
First Day Covers: None
Canceller: No. 8.103 - 'Orlando 26.09.2017'

26 September 2017 – WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA, who celebrated her 80th birthday in 2016.

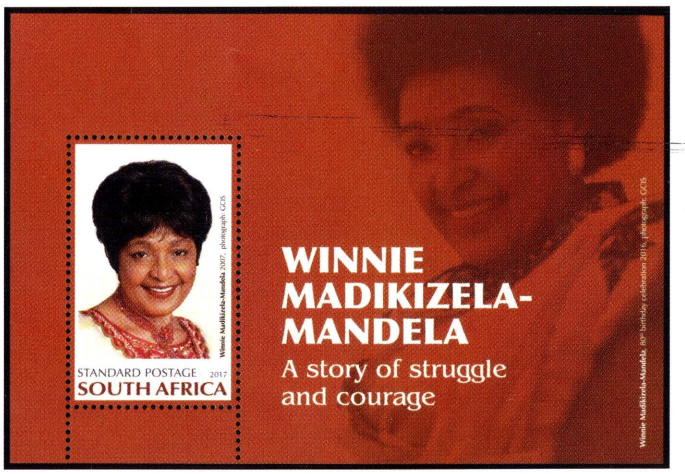


Image reduced to 75%

Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.90)
Design: Rachel-Mari Ackermann, from a photograph supplied by GCIS
Printer: Joh Enschedé Stamps, Netherlands
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp size: 30 x 48mm, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 115 x 80mm
Gum: PVA
Quantity: 30,000 miniature sheets
Cylinder numbers: None

6 October 2017 - WINEMAKING IN SOUTH AFRICA



Image reduced to 75%

Denominations: 5 x International Small Letter (R9.15)
Designer: Rachel-Mari Ackermann from photographs
Printer: Phil@poste, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 38mm square
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 165 x 110mm, comprising the five designs in two rows as in illustration
Quantity: 100,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8521 (blue), 8522 (red), 8523 (yellow) and 8524 (black)
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 6mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the right, top and bottom sheetlet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: Yellow-green frame 1.5mm wide around each stamp, also printed in phosphor an 18mm line of 8 wine glasses centred along the lower edge of the design.
Printing sheet size: 510 x 360mm comprising four sheetlets arranged in two rows of two
First Day Cover: No. 8.110 of standard size, of which 1,000 were produced
Canceller: No.8.98 – 'Stellenbosch' / '06·10·2017'

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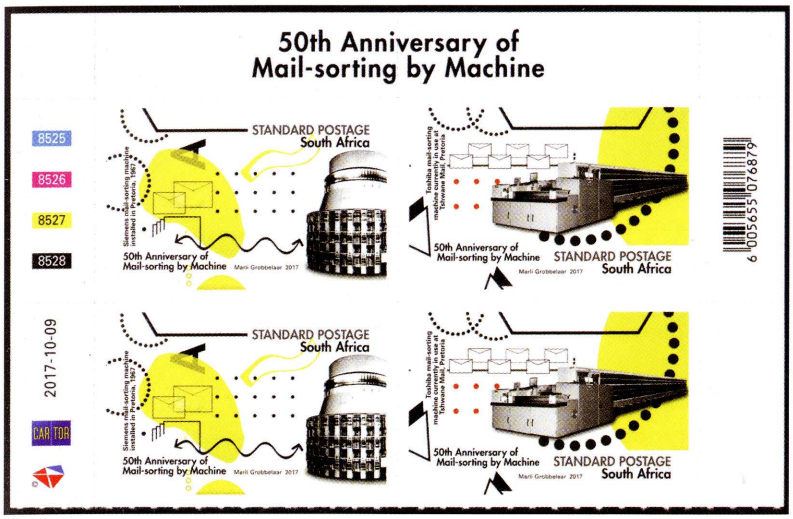


Image reduced to 75%

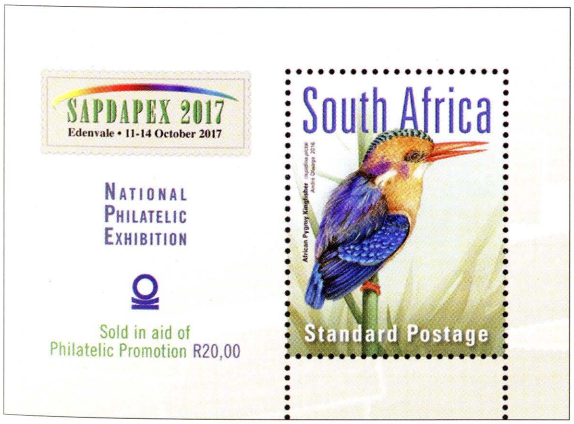
9 October 2017 – 50th ANNIVERSARY OF MAIL-SORTING BY MACHINE

This issue also celebrates World Post Day.
Denominations: 2 x Standard Postage (R3.90)
Designer: Marli Grobbelaar, depicting the original Siemens machine (1967) and the current Toshiba machine installed in 2006.
Printer: Cartor Security Print, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 48 x 30mm
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 138 x 212mm, comprising five rows of *se tenant* pairs
Quantity: 250,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8525 (blue), 8526 (red), 8527 (yellow) and 8528 (black)
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 6mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the sheetlet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm bands in 'L' shape along left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Printing sheet size: 466 x 666mm comprising eight sheetlets arranged in two rows of four
First Day Cover: No. 8.111 of standard size, of which 1,000 were produced
Canceller: No.8.99 – 'Pretoria · 09.10.2017'

11 October 2017 – SAPDAPEX 2017 - National Philatelic Exhibition

Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.90), sold at R20.00 in aid of Philatelic Promotion
Designer: Thea Clemons featuring an existing stamp design from the *'Kingfishers of South Africa'* issue of 31 August 2016. The chosen design depicts the African Pigmy Kingfisher (Ispidina picta) from a painting by André Olwage.
Printer: Cartor Security Print, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 28 x 38.5mm, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 75 x 55mm
Gum: PVA
Quantity: 20,000 miniature sheets
Cylinder numbers: None
Perforation: Gauge 12.8 x 13.1, extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet
Phosphor: Phosphor coated paper
Printing sheet size: 475 x 595mm comprising 30 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of five
First Day Cover: None, but some covers were done by dealers at the exhibition.
Canceller: No.2017-02 – 'SAPDAPEX' / '2017' / 'EDENVALE' / '11-14 OCT 2017'

Acknowledgement: The above information was collated from the electronic, edition of *SETEMPE* (vol22. no3 Sep-Dec 2017), Newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group, produced by Jan de Jong and personal observations.



CLASSIFIEDS & SOCIETY NEWS

STAMP FAIRS:

*All **SAPDA** run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.*

Other fairs are run independently by societies.

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria.
Contact: Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.

- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:

1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:

2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Kenny Napier:083 4440249 email> kenny.napier@mweb.co.za *Directions:* From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. Contact: Kenny Napier 083 4440249 mail: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

- KZN STAMP FAIR:

Last Sunday of all months, except December. Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. *Contact:* Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

- BLUFF STAMP FAIR:

1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. *Contact:* John Bracey Tel: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: john@rsastamps.co.za

- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:

All on the 1st Saturday of the month; *Venue*: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. *Contact:* Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. *Dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc.* **Next meeting for 2017:** 2 Dec (auction day). Note: If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair - mark it clearly with your details.

The Tatham Art Gallery have graciously invited the MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY, which has a proud history since February 1924, to exhibit their "*PIETERMARITZBURG - the philatelic history of a City*", in the prestigious Ferguson Room at the Gallery from 11 Feb to 11 March 2018. This is quite an honour - their 8 frame exhibit will be complemented by other National and Club Exhibits in addition to Philatelic material that will appeal to viewers of all ages. Schools will be invited to send Learners and members of the public are invited to view the exhibit as well. In support of the exhibit, talks will be given by their very own Dr Michael 'Jock' O'Connor. DON"T MISS IT - make a point of stopping in to support this society.

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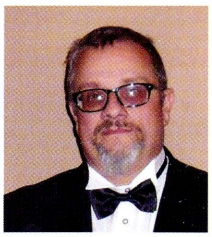


Social Media and Face Book

by Colin.Bousfield, Edenvale Philatelic Society and David Wigston of ERPS

PFSA - FACE BOOK PAGE

Colin.Bousfield@za.bellequipment.com

I am pleased to announce that the Federation face book page is up and running - "Its Alive"

Here are a few 'clues' on how to enter the FB site.

Very simple:

1) join Face Book
2) do a search for ' The Philatelic Federation of South Africa'
3) click the join button
4) Colin.Bousfield will then 'approve' your joining

Once you join, you will get updates on your face book feed whenever there is a new item or posting.

I have started the process of adding as many members that are known to me as possible - currently I can only directly add those who are direct Face Book 'Friends' of mine - all others will need to go to the page and request to join and I will in turn add them.

I have linked the basic Federation web page to the FB page for now and will expand on it in due course - I will need assistance from various team members in adding in regular information updates going forward and would suggest a plan of items, articles etc be discussed and scheduled so that the FB page can become a living place to be.

File types EXPLAINED DESIGN + BRANDING

Do you know what these acronyms are ?

jpg, eps, png, gif, psd, hi res, lo res

It has become part of every day vocabularly, but we realise that it can be MEGA confusing to everyone else. So here are a few explainations…

Firstly, image file types fall into 2 categories: RASTER (also commonly called bitmaps) These are files that are made up of a grid of lots and lots of little dots (pixels) of varying colour or shade.

VECTOR These files use mathematically calculated paths and anchor points to create the image. They present as flat colour - almost like old silkscreen posters of the early 30s - 50s.

Now for more of the Jargon:

• **jpg** - (pronounced JAY-peg) an acronym for *JOINT PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERTS GROUP.* The most common file format for digital images because of its ability to compress the image. The rate of compression can be controlled, but this comes at a loss of quality. Not ideal for line drawings where sharp contrast is needed. Also not ideal for multiple editing as some image quality will be lost. It dates back to 1992.

• eps - *ENCAPSULATED POSTSCRIPT* is a format intended for use with text and line drawings and is associated with Adobe programs. EPS files can be placed inside another PostScript file which allows for a low-resolution preview.

• **png** - (pronounced Ping) an acronym for *PORTABLE NETWORK GRAPHICS.* This is a single-image file format that can compress the data, particularly for small images, without loss of quality and a wide range of colours. Used for the transfer of files via the internet and not for quality printing requiring CMYK. Supports transparency in an image. Originally intended to replace GIF files. Dates back to 1996.

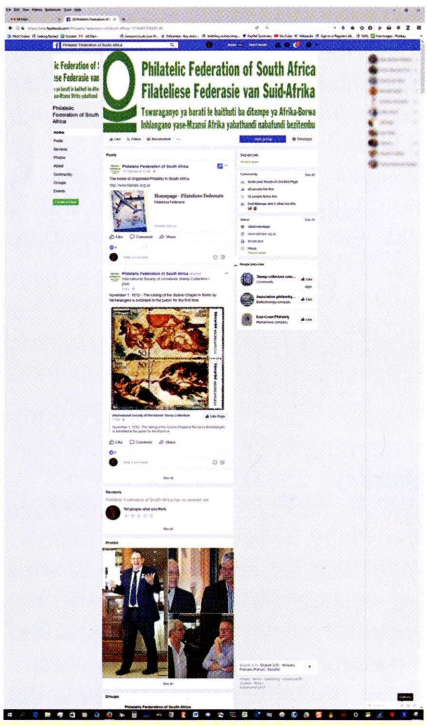
• **gif** - (pronounced GHIF) an acronym for *GRAPHICS INTERCHANGE FORMAT.* Suitable for sharp-edged images, but can only accommodate 256 colours and is therefore less suitable for photos. Can compress images without loss of data and also supports transparency. A big advantage of a GIF file is that it allows for animation. Dates back to 1987.

• **psd** - Stands for *PHOTO SHOP DOCUMENT,* this is the default format for Adobe Photoshop. It can capture all the image options available in Photoshop. Given the popularity of Photoshop, PSD files can be opened by most graphics programs. Photoshop is considered the industrial standard for image editing. Dates back to 1987.

• **dpi** - This is a *measurement* used in digital printing based on the number of dots that can be placed along a line measuring one inch. The higher the number, the more detailed the image. Digital files record the DPI in order to let the printer know the intended quality of the image. However, computer screens use pixels and not dots. For printing purposes the optimum dpi is considered to be 300 (high resolution).

• **resolution** - This refers to the degree of detail visible in a digital image when printed based on the dpi captured inside the image file. The higher the dpi, the better the quality of the image. A low resolution file (72 or 96 dpi) will transfer quickly over the internet, but produce blurred and fuzzy images. Such images cannot be rescued for printing and are often discarded.

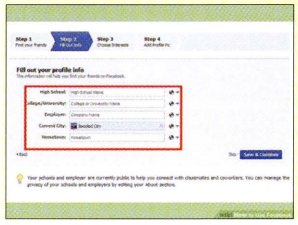
www.stamps.org.za



How to access Facebook

If you are not already on Facebook, here's how to get started. Go to the FaceBook homepage (http://facebook.com). On the home page fill in the Sign Up form and then click on the 'Sign Up' button. You will need to enter the captcha phrase to prove you're human. You then need to click on the 'Sign Up' button again. Just follow the on-screen instructions. If you are still confused, please refer to How to Use Facebook which can be found at www://wikihow.com/use-facebook. You can also refer back to the instructions given in the Oct 2017 issue of the *SAP* on p 154. Now go the Federation Facebook page and ask to be included. You probably will only get an e-mail response a day or two later. Follow the instructions and you will be part of the Federation Facebook page.





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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings 2017
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

6 December President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*

Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join.

Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357. *Meetings:* 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. *Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.*

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking.

President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tom Dooley; dickens@global.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet on 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. *Chairman* or Ian Walker, *Secretary.* Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet at 7:30pm - first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen. Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

- *Andre du Plessis (President) 083 399 1755*
- *Alex Visser* (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets last Tuesday of every month *Contact:* Peter Gutsche, Box 11933, Bendor Park 0713. Tel 083 276 1124. email: pmgutsche@mweb.co.za

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise amongst them.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday monthly at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. ***Contact:*** Mike Fox, tallyho@mango.zw landline 495408; cellphone 0772 376994

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos
082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts:
Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
email zeptepi@3i.co.za
Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162

'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...

'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors.

Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & "Show-and-tell" Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings.

President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com *Secretary:* Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za *Membership:* Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za

Established in 1924 MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville ***The Club*** meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. ***The Thematics Group*** meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. VENUE: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.

President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. burncree45@telkomsa.net

Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles. Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager, Janet Kimmince - Membership,Graham Bruce - Librarian, Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, Val de Jager - Catering Officer

International Exhibitions

PRAGA 2018

Venue: PRAGUE, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
Commisioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

THAILAND 2018

28 Nov – 3 Dec 2018 - Bangkok
General World All Classes
Commissioner TBA

MACAO 2018

south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
Commisioner:
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.



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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. President's Evening: at home of Werner Barnard, D'urbanvale. *Thursday, 7 December 2017 Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *Website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.*

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.
Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662 *(President)*; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary)*;
Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

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

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord,Webers-valleiweg /Road, Stellenbosch. Ons hou uitstallings, ontvang gasprekers, ervaar praatjies/demonstrasies, monthly newsletters with news on local philatelic activities, Show, Tell and Ask sessions covering all aspects of the hobby of stamp collecting. Besoekers altyd welkom. Visitors always welcome. Join us. Kom saam of kontak stellenboschstamp@gmail.com

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filateliste, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:*
Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410 gawiehugo@gmail.com of Riaan Crafford: 022 4824005 n/u craffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society.
The society meets every first Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek.
President: Dave Young, email: davsue@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Volker Janssen.

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 email: francois@softchem.co.za
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
***MEETINGS** always on **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*
Be advised the December President's evening - 29 Nov in the form of a supper and not on 4 December.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East.
Contact: Dave McWilliams: 043 748 1378, Cell 082 898 7082 email davehmcwil@lantic.net
Secretary: J.Muller. Tel: 043 721 0327

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 25 Oct, 29 Nov.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; editor of the Newsletters TBA. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za
PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626,email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time.
Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

Back Issues *of the journal can be obtained by writing to: The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: <Emil@Minnaar.org>*

Smalls

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

DURBAN AREA AEROPHILATELISTS
If you are interested in starting an association please contact me - Norman Prince at norman@pitlochry.co.za

EXCHANGE: Italian / Canadian collector, including exchanges FD covers SA used stamps. *Contact:* Vittorio Zanoncelli. 20 St Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201 Zanoncelli@telkomsa.net

WANTED: I am looking for specific year issues of South African revenues (both Union and Republic period). Please send an email to ronald.paul.rong@gmail.com for a copy of my wants list.

FOR SALE: Contact Emil Minnaar 061 983 2942
Cayman Islands GVI SG115-126 plus 115a,116a,119a,120a ,121a,122b,123a,124a,126a *lightly mounted mint* R340.00
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