THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

FEBRUARY 1998

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Vol 74:1 826

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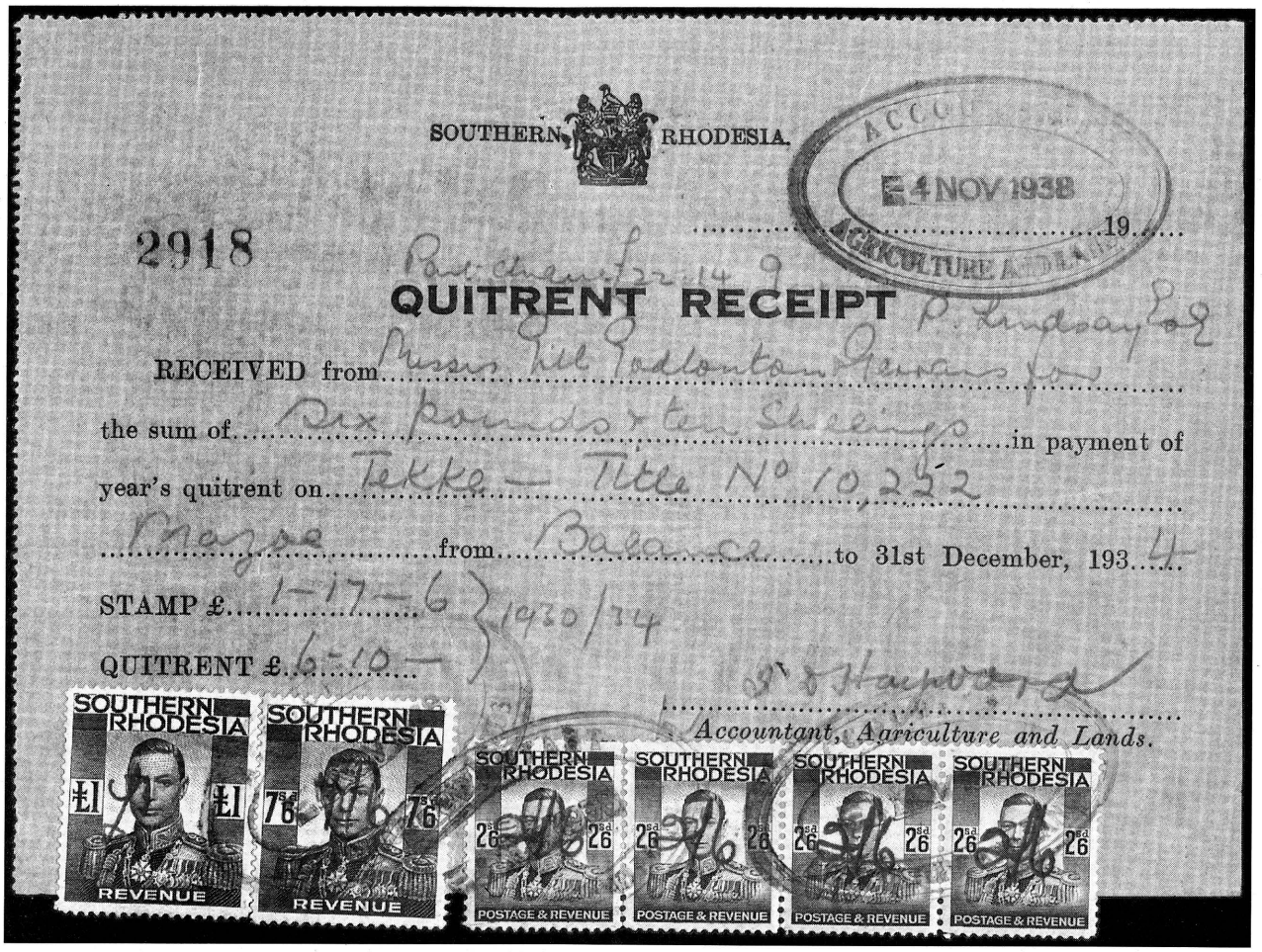

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Inhoud/Contents

Diplomatieke pos en die pos van ambassades....4
Petra Heath
Metermerke van lugdienste in Suid-Afrika....5
George van den Hurk RDPSA
Notes on the surcharging of two CGH rectangular stamps....7
David Mordant
Mixed franking of Austrian and German stamps before WW II....8
Robert Wenger
Slagspreuke straal steeds van foute....10
Frank van Rensburg
Updating the bibliography of *The SA Philatelist*....15
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
In memoriam: Herbert C Nöckler....21
Gunter von Schumann RDPSA
● **Centre pages: Index to** *The SA Philatelist* for 1997

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag....2
The SA Philatelist: Looking Back....12
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag....12
Neville Gomm
Nuwe uitgawes/New issues....17
Howard Godwin
Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf....20
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
Op die velrand/In the margin....22
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse....24
Onderonsies/Society News....27

In my view/Soos ek dit sien

The Editor/Die Redakteur

ONE of our most industrious correspondents recently wrote a heartfelt letter, prompting much food for thought. A simple question was posed: What is the matter with our philatelic community?

One glaring example was pointed out where a philatelist had undertaken – voluntarily – to compile much needed data, and appealed for some basic co-operation. In 1988 the Hon Life President of the Federation, Jonas Michelson RDPSA, planned a biographical reference of South African philatelists. He had less than fifty reactions, and gave up.

The project was taken up again by another volunteer in 1994, this time reduced to the neccessity of at least documenting the stories of the signatories to the Federation's Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa. It was taken up again in these columns, repeatedly, in 1996 and 1997.

Little eventuated – much information has already been lost for ever.

Perhaps it is the kind of issue which needs that much required kick in the pants called a deadline. In October this year, the Federation is holding its sixtieth congress – a sesquicentenary of sorts. If there were only sixty more efforts from the philatelic community – including personal CVs from all those RDPSAs still alive and reading this – by 30 June 1998, a modest commemorative booklet of this nature could still be produced as a fitting memento.

Let *The SA Philatelist* have the memoirs, memories, references and CVs. Now. And something, at least, will have been accomplished.

'n MENS huiwer om die kwessie van gebrek aan Afrikaans op seëls aan te raak, omdat dit die emosies so gaande maak. Dit blyk nie alleen uit briewe in *The SA Philatelist* se kolomme nie, maar ook uit kommentaar in verskeie nuusbriewe van geaffilieerde verenigings.

Wil lesers nie koelkop oor die saak nadink nie, en oplossings aan die hand doen? Tot dusver was verontwaardiging die oorwegende reaksie – dit skep egter ongelukkig nie enige konstruktiewe voorstelle nie.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Afrikaans is 'n ankertaal

J de Vos van Bloemfontein skryf: Die brief van prof WJ Verwoerd in *The SA Philatelist* (Desember 1997, p170) het betrekking.

Net soos prof Verwoerd het ek as Afrikaanssprekende met ontsteltenis kennis geneem van die feit dat Afrikaans gaan verdwyn van die posseëls van Suid-Afrika. Dit is 'n klassieke geval van politicke gedienstigheid aan 'n bewind wat Afrikaans stelselmatig uitfaseer uit alle vlakke van die samelewing. Dit is 'n blatante miskenning van Afrikaans as 'n belangrike ankertaal in Suid-Afrika.

Die SA Poskantoor se bestuursraad kan gerus kennis neem van die feit dat miljoene Afrikaanssprekendes, en dit strek oor alle rassegrense heen, goeie en getroue verbruikers was en is van die poskantoor se produkte, seëls ingeslote. Dat Afrikaans op ons seëls so misken word, dra net nog verder by tot die verharding in verhoudinge, en word die poging tot versoening net nog verder gekelder.

Prof Verwoerd se oplossing was dat die neutrale RSA behou moet word, omdat Suid-Afrika al vir jare so bekend is op ons seëls. Persoonlik deel ek sy standpunt.

Kan posstukke teruggehou word as daar op 'n seël geskryf is?

Die tweede versetaksie wat hy voorstel is dat die woorde "Suid-Afrika" met die hand bo–oor die seël geskryf word, of dat dit met 'n drukker op die scëls gedruk word. As dit blyk dat die poskantoor en die staat voortgaan met die eensydige gebruik van slegs Engels op ons scëls, is dit beslis die weg wat ek persoonlik sal inslaan om my weersin en verset te toon.

Die vraag wat ek graag wil stel is of dit onwettig is om dit te doen? Kan posstukke teruggehou word as daar op 'n seël geskryf is?

Net by wyse van opmerking: vroeër jare was daar die gebruik om seëls uit te bring waarop daar slegs "Suid-Afrika" of "South Africa" gedruk is. Ek verwys na seëls hier in 1926, en tot so laat as 1955 met die seëls vir die Voortrekker Gelofte. Dit het vandag groot versamelaarswaarde.

Hoekom kan die poskantoor nie weer hierdie gebruik laat voortleef nie? Dan kan gebruikers die seëls van hulle keuse koop, en almal is tevrede. Ek meen die verskaffers van hierdie seëls sal tot hul verbasing agterkom dat die Afrikaanse seëls die beste verkopers sal wees!

Punt is egter: as die SA Poskantoor voortgaan met die diskriminasie teen Afrikaans, dit in stryd is met die huidige grondwet, en dat hulle verset kan verwag. Daar is nog tyd om oor hierdie ondeurdagte besluit te besin. Ons hoop maar dit is spoedig.

An old contemporary surfaces

Mary Bromfield of Roodepoort writes: Sorting through some old stamp magazines recently I came across the item below – now 50 years ago! – in *STAMPS A weekly magazine of Philately* (Vol 63 no 11, whole no 822, 12 June 1948). It was published by HL Lindquist in New York.

Here is the item:

"*Elizabeth Stamp Album* Published by the African Collectors Exchange, P O Box 5403, Johannesburg, South Africa. Cost of album $12.00 (In a spring-back cover and including pages to Princess Elizabeth's wedding day. Additional pages to be printed as new stamps appear to cost no more than $1.00 each.) Specimen pages from a new specialized album for stamps with the portrait of Princess Elizabeth. Developed from a series of articles by Capt R E Oakes. Pages are attractively printed in more than one color with decorative backgrounds. Page size is smaller than most American albums being 7¼ x 9⅛ inches. Additional pages are planned as more stamps with her portrait are printed. The first such album to be printed in South Africa."

Although I have seen numerous old albums in my time, I have never come across this one.

What caught my eye was "Published by the African Collectors Exchange . . . Johannesburg, South Africa". Who was the "African Collectors Exchange" run by and where was it? $12.00 sounds a bit hight for 1948. It works out to around £5 (R10) which is high considering that the Gibbons Catalogue Part 3 "United States" is priced at 3/8d (sic) in the same article.

I am most intrigued, and wonder if *additional* pages were ever printed and if so for how long? I certainly never came across it when I returned to serious collecting in the early sixties.

Anyone know anything about it?

(Editor's note: On my long list of things yet to do is to properly research the publishing histories of some local philatelic periodicals I have acquired from time to time. One of them is ACE, Official Organ, African Collectors' Exchange.

The earliest copy I have is for July 1939, Vol 2 no 4, and the latest is Sept-Octr (sic) 1947, No 11. The address throughout is the Johannesburg PO Box number given above. The "Founder and Manager" is Capt Robert E Oakes, also mentioned above. The representative for USA and Canada was EB Felleman of New York.

It must be admitted that not only the paper – possibly due to war-time conditions – is rather grotty, but so are some of the cartoon contents. Like our correspondent, the Editor would welcome any further information.)

One taxe query answered and another raised

Andrew Wilkie of Henley on Klip writes: With reference to Mr Hanman's taxe calculation query (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1997, p139) on his cover from Southern Rhodesia, I think that I can supply a plausible answer. The letter rate from Southern Rhodesia to South Africa at this time was 1½d *per* ½oz. Although there is no indication evident from the cover shown, it may have weighed in excess of a ½oz. Therefore:

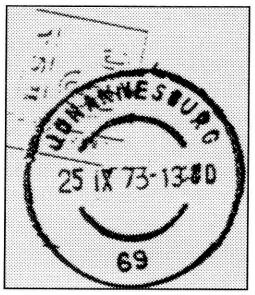
1st ½oz.	=	1½d.
2nd ½oz.	=	1½d.
Train fee	=	1d
		4d.
Paid		2d.
Underpaid		2d.
Double deficiency	=	4d.

To move forward 30 years to the 1970s, I have a query of my own which concerns the 1972 "TO PAY" stamps of South Africa.

What I find unusual is that all of those stamps are tied with a Johannesburg (No. 69) cds.

In the past 18 months I have come across a number of genuine used commercial covers in the period 1973 to 1979 with destinations noted of Braamfontein, Springs and the suburb of Killarney in Johannesburg. All have "TO PAY" stamps attached, ranging from 2 cents to 8 cents, or in combination to make up the Taxe deficiency indicated.

What I find unusual is that all of those stamps are tied with a Johannesburg (No. 69) cds. Surely, the Post Office of destination of the letter would be responsible for the collection of postage due and, as such, would apply the "TO PAY" stamps and cancel them?



My initial reaction was that the "TO PAY" stamps were added to the covers at some later date and cancelled by favour by someone in the Johannesburg Post Office. However, there is always the possibility that the collection of postage due were centralised in Johannesburg for the letters delivered in the CBD and surrounding suburbs? However, this arrangement, if it existed, would not have included Springs, which is some 50km. to the East of Johannesburg!

Would any reader care to comment?

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A new kind of postal history club proposed

David Mordant of Florida Hills writes: While reading your issue of December 1997, as a lover of postal history and its invariable historical connotations, I wondered whether there would be interest among your readers to become members of a proposed *Thematic Postal History Club*.

Other than all the topics of a thematic stamp club that would also qualify for a thematic postal history club so long as the items were used as postal history – just think of all the other possible topics:

Items to a specific addressee, e.g. E Burmester

Items to a group of related addressees, e.g. kings/queens of England

Items by an addressor, e.g. WS Churchill

Cover dates: 25 December, etc

Or classification according to the contents of postal history items, e.g. railway time tables, stock market prices, pharmaceutical price lists.

Would such a collection not have historical interest? I think it would.

Anyway: If anyone interested in joining such a society or club would get in touch with me at PO Box 921, Florida Hills 1716, South Africa, I will get the ball rolling if there is sufficient response.

A footnote about the East Rand PS

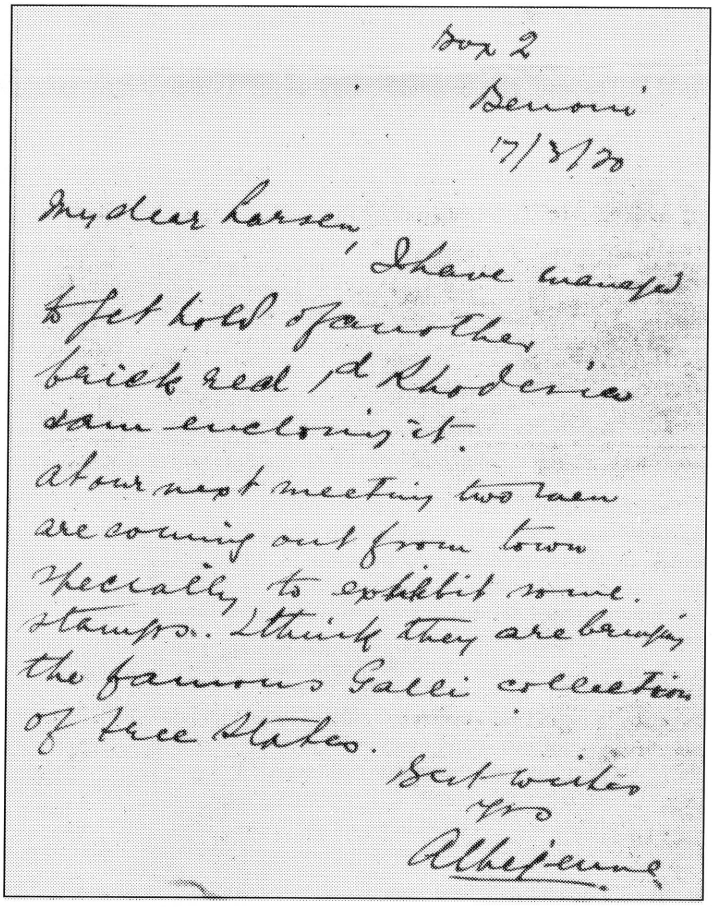
Howard L Godwin of Montagu writes: In the December 1996 issue of *The SA Philatelist* (p185) there was an item from David Allison relevant to the history of the OFS Philatelic Society, with the suggestion that other societies submit similar items.

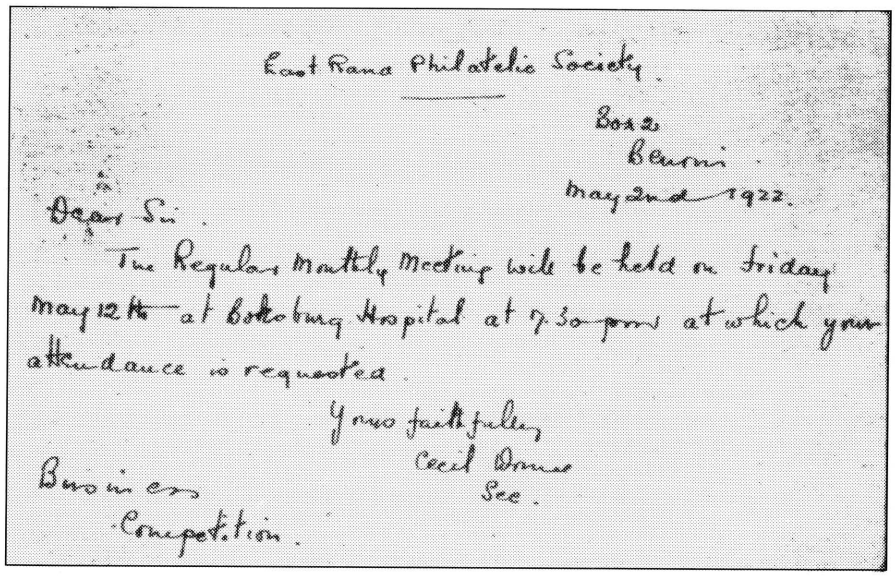
The East Rand Philatelic Society is one of the oldest in South Africa. It was founded in 1919 at a meeting held in Boksburg. Regular monthly meetings have been held ever since.

As was the custom in days of yore, members were notified of the forthcoming meeting by way of a postcard. They cards illustrated make mention of the April 1920 and May 1922 meetings respectively. Both cards are addressed to W L Larsen.

The first, a letter card postmarked BENONI, 15 MAR 20 6.30 AM, was written by A Lejeune and mentions "At our next meeting two men are coming out from town specially to exhibit some stamps. I think they are bringing the famous Galli collection of Free State."

The second item is an advice of "the meeting to be held on Friday, May 12 at Boksburg Hospital" The secretary at that time was Cecil Driver and the card was postmarked BENONI 3 MAY 22 5.0PM.


Box 2
Benoni
17/3/20
My dear Larsen
I have managed to get hold of another brick red 1d Rhodesia and enclosing it.
At our next meeting two men are coming out from town specially to exhibit some stamps. I think they are bringing the famous Galli collection of Free States.
Best wishes
Yrs
A Lejeune


East Rand Philatelic Society
Box 2
Benoni
May 2nd 1922.
Dear Sir
The Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on Friday May 12th at Boksburg Hospital at 7.30 pm at which your attendance is requested
Yours faithfully
Cecil Driver
Sec.
Business
Competition.

Extending the Federation

Neville Gomm of Struben Valley writes: One reads to an increasing extent these days about the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and about what is happening to develop co-operation between the members of the community.

The November 1997 issue of *Xpress*, the staff newspaper of the South African Post Office, carries an article about the establishing of a philatelic services marketing agency for the 12 members of the community. This is to be done as a high priority in terms of an initiative introduced more than two years ago.

Flowing from the above, it would seem that the philatelists of the SADC should also be getting together to promote their hobby. We do have the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, but does our federation include all 12 members of the SADC? What are the chances of our federation organising a seminar during the next national exhibition to get greater publicity for and co-operation among the philatelic fraternity of the SADC?

The sources of the objects that we collect are now being properly organised and promoted on a wider and more appropriate scale. What are we doing about the other side of the matter?

Philatelists of the SADC should also be getting together to promote their hobby.

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■ **PETRA HEATH** *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, Pretoria*

Diplomatieke pos en die pos van ambassades

'N ARTIKEL wat in Augustus 1996 in *The SA Philatelist* verskyn het (p116), kan 'n bietjie beter toegelig word. Daardie artikel handel oor die pos van diplomate, oftewel, pos wat deur ambassades aan instansies in Suid-Afrika gestuur word.

Daar is egter 'n groot verskil tussen die pos van diplomate en ambassadepos. Die artikel het oppervlakkig verwys na betrekkinge en die styl wat gevolg word.

Ambassadepos van 'n bilaterale aard kan gestuur of ontvang word aan en van enige denkbare instelling of persoon in die land van akkreditasie (Fig. 1). Multilaterale pos word in hoofsaak aan multilaterale organisasies gestuur.

'n Ander vorm van ambassadepos is dokumente wat ontvang word van, of terugversend word na, die ambassadeur se eie land. Sulke pos word op twee wyses gestuur of ontvang. Dit is geklassifiseerde pos in 'n diplomatieke sak (Fig. 2), en ander pos wat in 'n normale vragsak gestuur word.

> *Daar is 'n groot verskil tussen die pos van diplomate en ambassadepos.*

Pos van diplomate is hoofsaaklik pos van die diplomaat se land van oorsprong wat aan hom as persoon gerig is. Ten einde die versendingstyd te verkort, kan 'n diplomaat sy pos in die vragsak stuur, gefrankeer met seëls van sy eie land, aan persone of instansies in sy land.

Normaalweg stuur 'n ambassade, afhangende van sy grootte, twee sakke per week of soms net een per maand.

Diplomate se pos na persone of instellings in die land waar hulle werksaam is, word altyd op amptelike papier en amptelike koeverte onder die naam van die ambassadeur uitgestuur. Die studieveld kan nou geweldig wyd getrek word.

Diplomatieke pos kom van 'n ambassade, 'n konsul-generaal (ressorteer onder 'n ambassade), konsulaat (ook onder 'n ambassade), 'n ere-konsul (Fig. 3), 'n handelsverteenwoordiger, 'n belangekantoor, en internasionale organisasies.

Ten einde Suid-Afrikaanse diplomate se pos vinniger en veiliger te versend en te ontvang, is die vergunning gemaak om privaat pos met die vragsak te stuur. Teen 'n vasgestelde lugpostarief ontvang 'n oorgeplaaste amptenaar 'n vragsak nommer (Fig. 4). Briewe word dan deur die Departement van Buitelandse Sake aan hom versend.

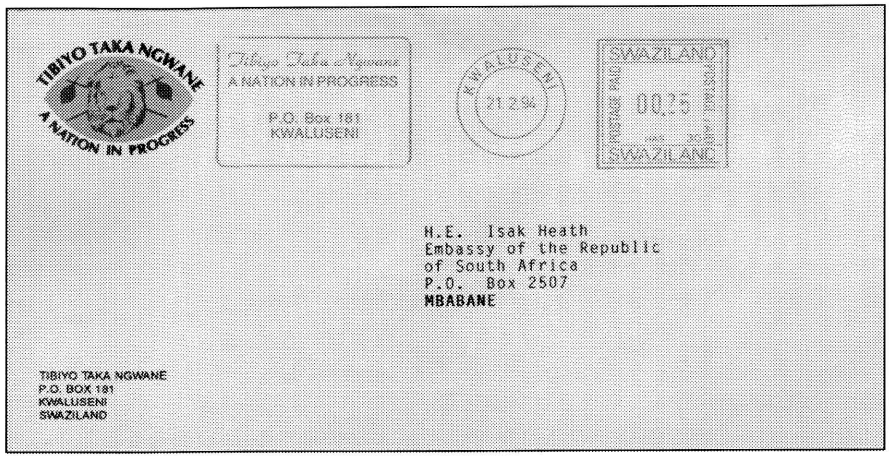

Fig. 1

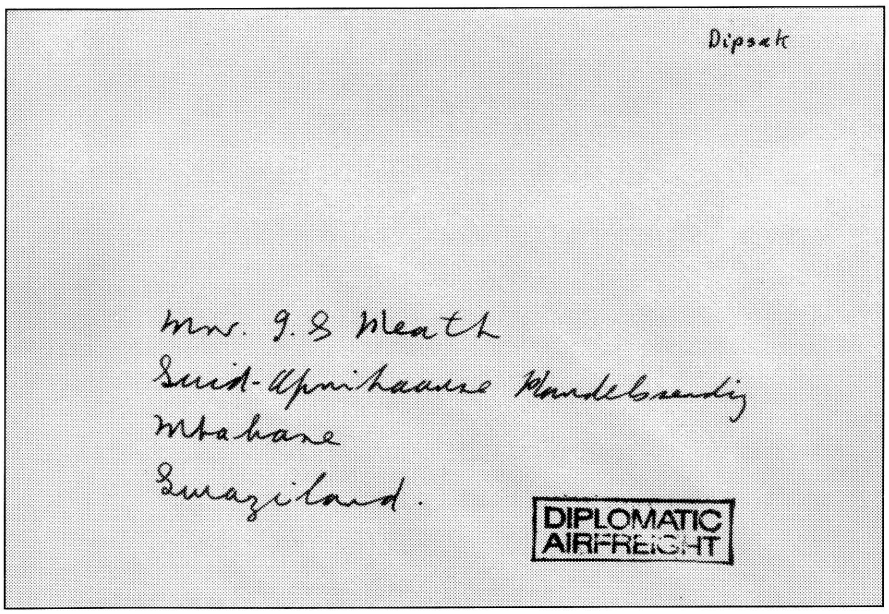

Fig. 2

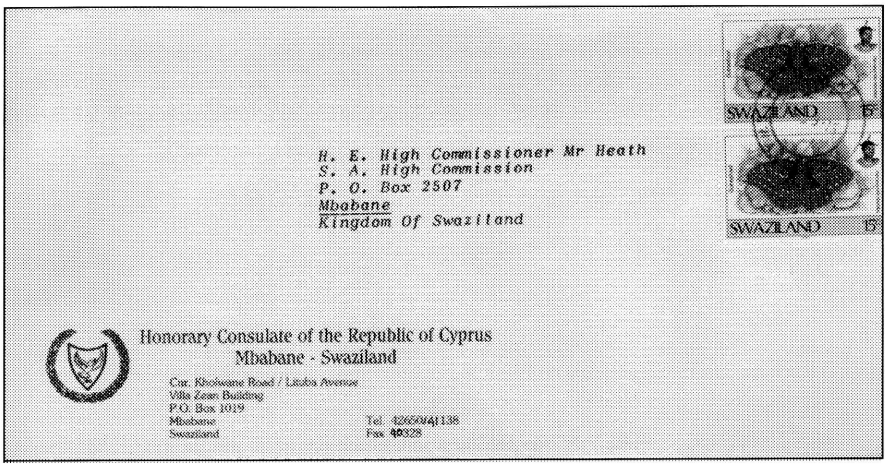

Fig. 3

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Daar is verskillende tariewe vir tydskrifte en swaarder posstukke wat aan 'n amptenaar in sy privaat hoedanigheid gestuur word.

Indien iets anders deur middel van die vragsak versend word, is die amptenaar vir die posgeld verantwoordelik. Amptelike goedkeuring hiervoor moet egter vooraf verkry word. Hier word veral gedink aan items soos spesiale medisyne en entstof.

Party ambassades wat in 'n bepaalde land geleë is, kan egter ook in ander nabygeleë lande geakkrediteer wees.

'n Verdere studieveld kan die bilaterale pos tussen 'n ambassade en die regering van die land van akkreditasie wees.

Voor 1992 het Suid-Afrika diplomatieke bande met 29 lande gehad. Die getal sendings het intussen tot meer as 100 vermeerder. So is daar byvoorbeeld 'n missie in Bangkok geopen (Fig. 5).

Ook, as gevolg van SA se hertoelating tot die Gemenebes het die ambassades in lidlande verander na die status van 'n Hoë Kommisariaat (sien adressering op Fig. 3).

Vir diegene wat in die posgeskiedenis belangstel is die pos van die diplomasie beslis 'n interessante veld teen geringe koste, maar ek moet waarsku – met definitief veel moeite. ■

Nota: *Die skrywer van die artikel in 1996, Neville Gomm, sê: Ek erken dat ek die onderwerp sonder grondige kennis voorberei het. Die doel van die artikel was egter hoofsaaklik om te wys op 'n versamelgebied in die filatelie na aanleiding van 'n klagte van 'n persoon wat nie geweet het wat om te versamel nie. Ook, die onderwerp is een waaroor daar nog bra min geskryf is. Is daar iemand wat spesialiseer in die versameling van diplomatieke pos of pos van diplomate – dit is nou van Suid-Afrika? Petra Heath moet gelukgewens word dat sy die onderwerp vir ons beter verduidelik het, en verdien ons dank.*

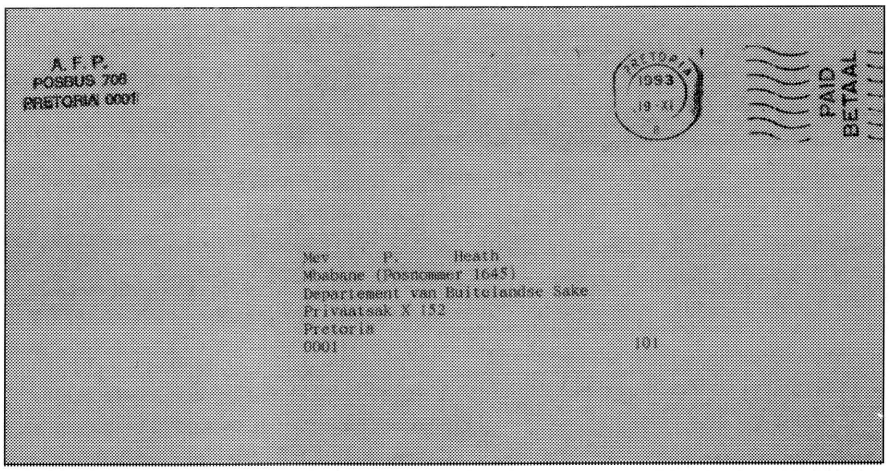

Fig. 4

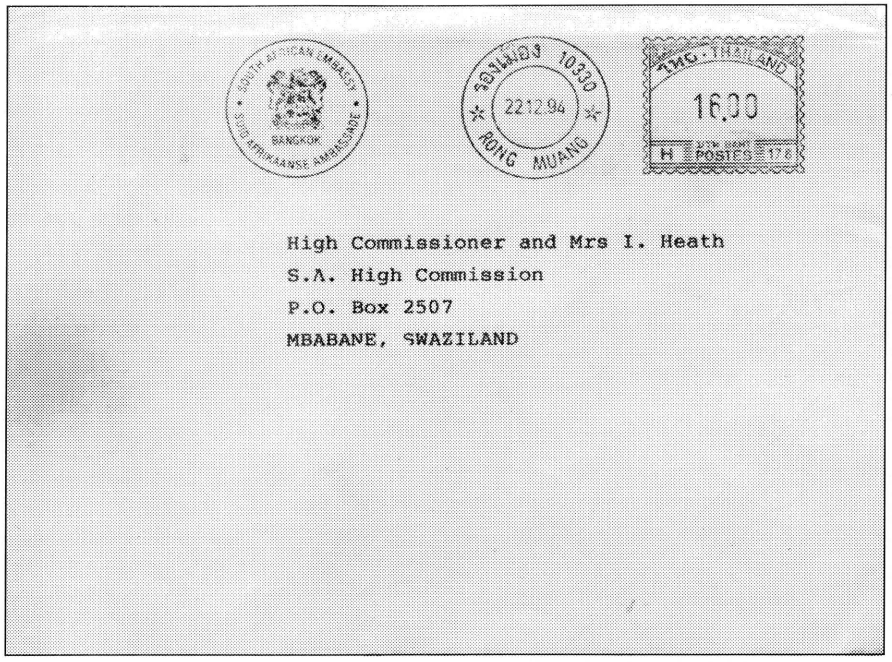

Fig. 5

■ **GEORGE VAN DEN HURK RDPSA, FRPSL** *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging*

Metermerke van lugdienste in Suid-Afrika

MET die lees van Jan A Bakker se "Afterthoughts about aviation in South Africa" in *The SA Philatelist,* (Februarie 1995, p6) wat gehandel het oor die Paasseëls van 1975 se afbeeldings van vliegtuie, het 'n ander soort Aspoester my te binne geskiet.

Dit is die metermerke wat lugdienste gebruik het om hul dienste te adverteer, en wat vir my ook 'n bron van bykomende inligting skyn te wees oor die Suid-Afrikaanse lugvaartgeskiedenis.

Die resultaat is die bygaande twintigtal illustrasies op p6 van metermerke, hoofsaaklik van buitelandse lugdienste, maar ook van ander lugdiensverwante ondernemings (Atlantic Petrol en Piper). Die slagspreuke self is maklik leesbaar, en die illustrasies is chronologies georden – die illustrasies vertel dus hul eie verhaal, en sonder twyfel kan dit aansienlik aangevul word. Soortgelyke materiaal wat net op die SAL betrekking het, kom by 'n latere geleentheid aan die beurt. ■

DIE skrywer, wat intussen ook die administratiewe sekretaris van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika geword het, se laaste twee bydraes tot *The SA Philatelist* was die artikels "Johannesburg DCDS with numeral" in April 1995, p32, en "Escaped POWs, World War II", Desember 1996, p195.

George van den Hurk is in 1991 genooi om die Ererol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suider-Afrika te onderteken, en het die vorige jaar die Manfred Weinstein Medalje ontvang.

Terwyl sy groot belangstelling nog altyd sekere aspekte van die Transvaal se stempels en posgeskiedenis is, is daar weinig van hierdie eeu waarvoor hy nie ook tyd inruim nie.

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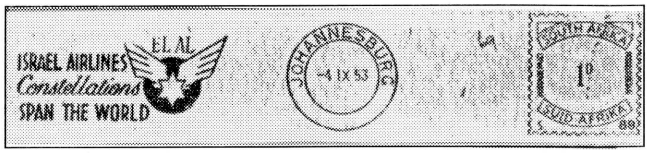
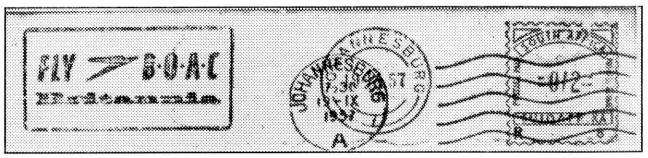
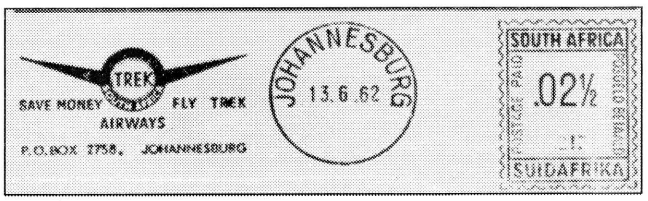
Verwys onderaan p5

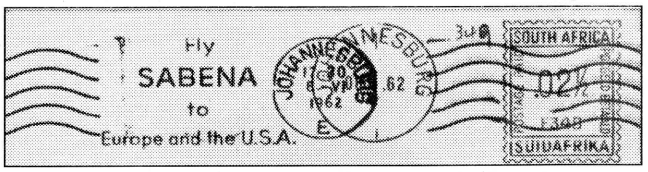


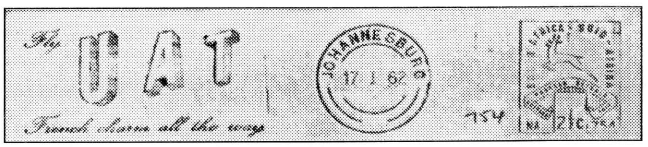




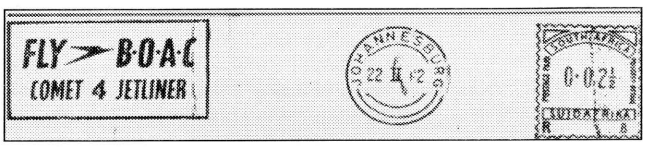




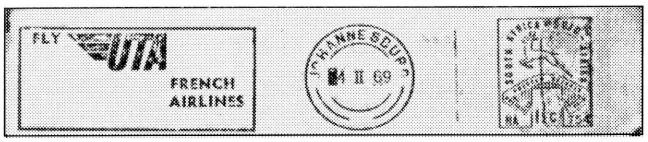




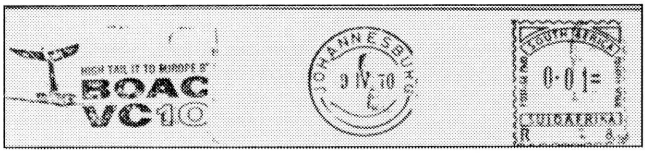


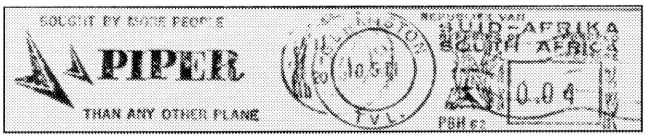


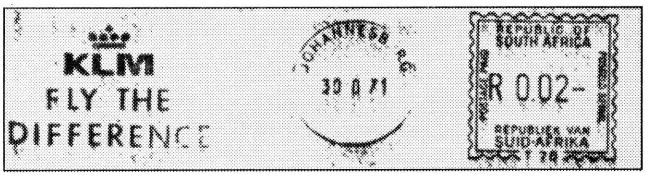


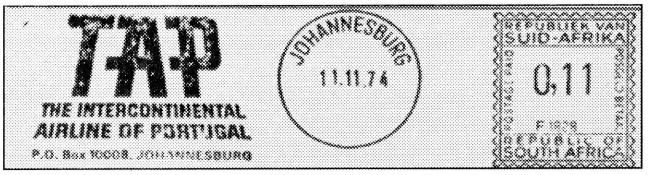


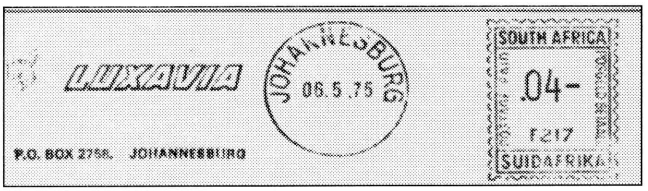


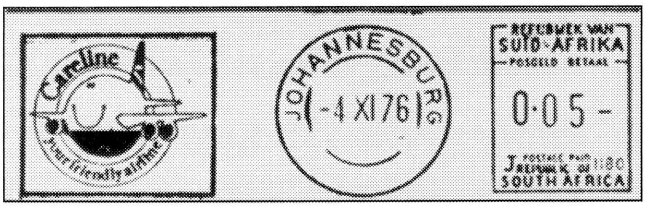




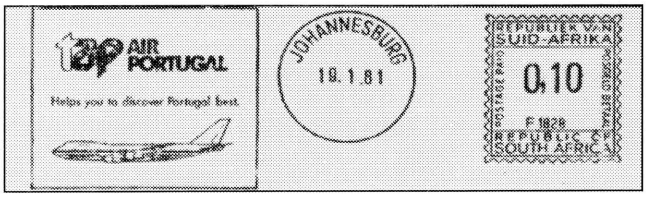












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■ DAVID MORDANT

Notes on the surcharging of two CGH rectangular stamps

The "3" surcharge of August 1880 was extended to 1881

SOON after the 3d pale dull rose appeared in CGH post offices from 1 July 1880 onwards, the authorities realised that their staff were confusing the issue with that of the 1d pale carmine red of 1872, by virtue of the similarities in colour, especially in gloomy light.

Accordingly the Cape Colony pinters Saul Solomon and Co, were commissioned to surcharge the 3d pale dull rose with the number "3" in black. Allis (1930) maintains that 7 925 sheets of 240 stamps each were initially so overprinted in pages of 60 at a time, in the ratio of nine rows of the rounded three and one row of the narrow three.

Colour definition in stamps over 100 years of age can be suspect.

This ratio of nine to one equates with the author's collection of ten covers with the rounded three and one with the narrow three.

Only 1 000 sheets of the original 3d pale dull rose printing were issued unoverprinted. The remaining 10 167 sheets of the original De La Rue issue were probably subsequently overprinted also by Messrs. Saul Solomon and Co.

Colour definition in stamps over 100 years of age can be suspect especially in used (and washed) specimens. However there is accumulating evidence that some sheets of the 3d pale claret of January 1881 were also overprinted with the "3" surcharge.

The author has an undoubted mint specimen in his collection and some of the examples on cover are much closer in colour to claret than to dull rose.

Allis does not note this surcharge.

The inverted rounded "3" surcharge is not all that rare – about one in six of this surcharge is found inverted.

Conversely the narrow "3" in inverted form is exceedingly rare and probably only occurred as one specimen per page and then maybe in only one of two or three surcharge printings. It is not known mint.

An undescribed variety of the Half-penny surcharge of July 1882

THE stamp concerned here is the one half-penny overprint on the 3d claret on Crown CC watermarked paper, catalogued SG41 or SACC 36.

Under Act No 4 of 1882 of the Cape Colony, the charge for newspapers transmitted inland was reduced to ½d each. The demand for ½d stamps increased dramatically, while that for 3d stamps decreased at the same time, as the postal tariff inland for the half-ounce letter was decreased from 3d to 2d.

Additional ½d stamps were not available quickly enough, and it was decided to overprint stocks of the 3d. Accordingly Saul Solomon & Co were commissioned to overprint 1 000 sheets. Of these 428 sheets were destroyed due to poor overprinting (mainly greatly "off centre") and the remaining 572 sheets circulated.

Of these 572 sheets (137 280 stamps), the vast majority were on Crown CA watermarked paper, and only a few on Crown CC watermarked paper. The ratio is unknown, but in the author's collection CA paper outnumbers CC paper by more than six to one.

Thus it could be construed that about 80 sheets of the 3d on Crown CC watermarked paper, overprinted one half-penny, were circulated (19 200 stamps).

Therefore the one half-penny overprint of 3d claret of July 1882 on Crown CC watermarked paper is probably the rarest Cape rectangular after the 5/- Crown CA stamp of August 1883 (6 000 stamps issued).

A large number of minor varieties of overprint are known, for example broken and weak letters and shifts to the left, but the only distinctive variety of overprint described thus far is the missing hyphen between half and penny. This is an extremely rare item and is unknown mint.

Now a previously undescribed variety with "no stop after penny" is illustrated herewith. This is on Crown CC watermarked paper.

As far as I am aware this particular variety on CA watermarked paper has yet to turn up. ■



The Philatelic Federation of SA has a new post box

CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

The Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa

The SA Philatelist
For all administrative matters
(The editorial address is unchanged.)

PO Box 412505
Craighall 2024
South Africa

Forty-seven years ago on page 33 of the March 1951 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, the editorial announcement was made: "Now we have obtained our own box, and there should be no further changes." That was PO Box 375, Johannesburg.

Time moves on, and now the change has come. Quite obviously, everybody reading this should please immediately note the new postal address. Forwarding facilities from the old to the new postbox address are limited to two months.

Please note that the editorial address of *The SA Philatelist* remains unchanged, but that subscription and circulation enquiries should be directed at the new address.

VERANDERING VAN POSDRES

Die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika

Die Filateliese Stigting van Suider-Afrika

The SA Philatelist
Vir alle administratiewe sake
(Die redaksionele adres verander nie.)

Posbus 412505
Craighall 2024

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■ **ROBERT WENGER** *Edenvale Philatelic Society*

Mixed franking of Austrian and German stamps before WWII

THE date 13 March 1998 heralds the 60th anniversary of the Nazi Anschluss of Austria in 1938 by the Germans and I thought it appropriate to recall some of its aspects.

The last definitive issue of Austrian stamps prior to the Stormtroopers of Nazi Germany occupying Austria, was the "Nosegay in a Vase" Christmas Greeting issue of 12 December, 1937. Designed by Professor Willi Dachauer, these stamps of 12 groschen and 24 groschen denomination had a rose in the centre of the posy, in which according to common belief, one could see the upset face of a bandaged Hitler when viewed upside down! This was supposed to herald the demise of the German Third Reich a few years later.

Be that as it may, the first cover shown (Fig. 1) shows a mixture of pure Austrian stamps on an airmail cover addressed to the then Austrian Consul in Johannesburg, Alfred Fraenkel. Cancelled at the Wien No. 1 post office on New Years Eve, 1937, it includes the 12 groschen "Nosegay" in its franking.

My father, who arrived in South Africa in 1936, corresponded regularly with his parents in Vienna until they left for South Africa themselves in 1939.

Franking with purely Austrian stamps was allowed after the Anschluss of 13 March 1938 only in Austria itself, but this was gradually superseded by German Reich stamps from 4 April 1938. The Austrian postage stamps were valid for postage only until 31 October 1938, when only German Reich stamps were allowed for postage.

Fig. 2 shows another cover sent to Alfred Fraenkel in Johannesburg on 17 March 1938 with the special circular cachet "DER FÜHRER IN WIEN", with swastika in the centre. Despatched only four days after the Anschluss, it typified the Nazi invasion of civil life, even into the postal services.

Among the registered covers then sent airmail (Fig. 3) to my father, are those which feature the mixed franking of both Austrian and German Reich stamps. The Zeppelin issues of 5 July 1938 in two denomiations i.e. 25 and 50 pfenning (Michel No. 669 & 670), issued to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Graf Zeppelin, were tied to these covers with an assortment of the airmail stamps of Austria of 1935.

Fig. 3 also features the rare 5 schilling "Builders" stamp (Michel No. 587) from the Costumes set of 1934.

Further covers prove that Austrian stamps were disallowed for postal usage, as they were franked purely with current German issues. On 11 July 1938, for example, my grandfather sent a registered cover featuring the Zeppelin stamps in blocks of four.

Figs. 4 and 5 show the single high values of the air set of 1934, showing Otto Lilienthal on the 2 RM and Graf Zeppelin

THE author's previous article for *The SA Philatelist* appeared in April 1996, p41. It was "Censored WWII mail from Switzerland", and it generated not only comment, but further articles on Switzerland and its position in this war.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

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Fig. 3

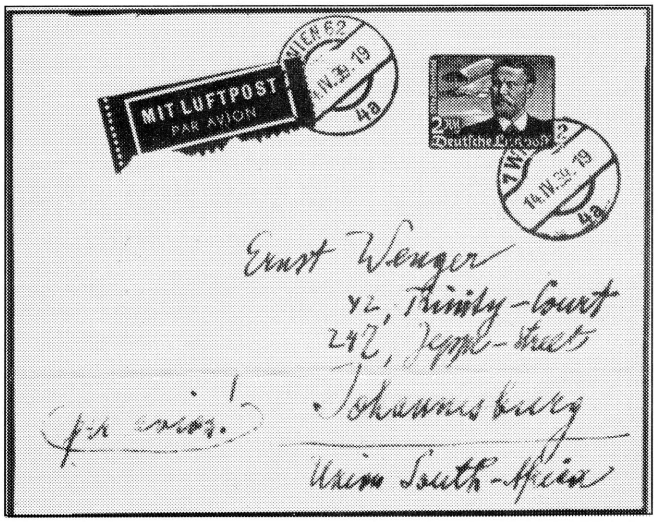

Fig. 4

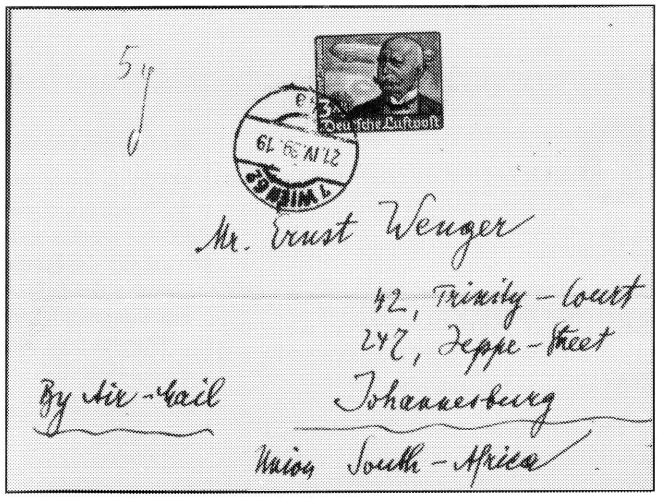

Fig. 5

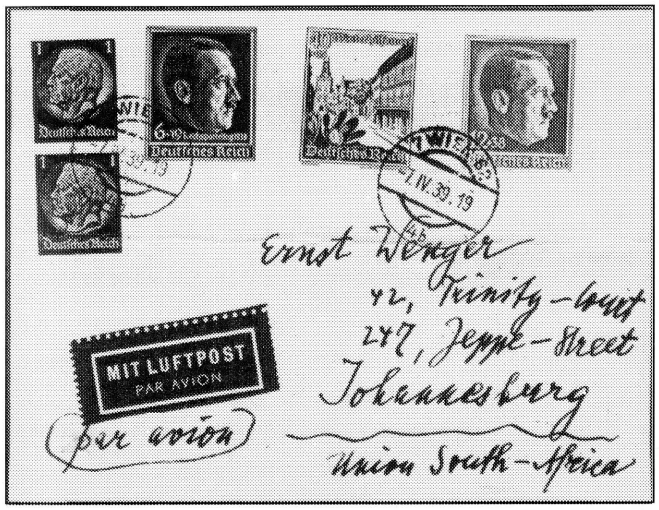

Fig. 6

on the 3 RM values, sent to Johannesburg on 14 and 21 April 1939, respectively.

Finally, I show a real German mixture on cover. On 7 April 1939 an airmail cover (Fig. 6) was sent to my father in Johannesburg, tied with a vertical pair of the 1 pfenning Hindenburg, the 40 + 35 pfenning from the Winter Charity Ostmark flowers and landscape set (Michel No. 683) and two Hitler portrait stamps, the 49th Birthday issue (Mi. No. 664) and also the tenth anniversary of the Reichsparteitag commemorative issue of 1938 (Mi. No. 672).

Austria was renamed OSTMARK by the Nazi regime and this name remained so for the duration of the Second World War. Austria remained an integral part of Germany until its liberation in 1945, when stamps bearing the name "ÖSTERREICH" were again issued. ■

Help in preparing stamp collections for exhibition

TURNING a collection, be it a thematic, one simply of stamps, postal history or airmails, into a philatelic exhibit has long been one of the major bugbears for those who decide to enter competitive exhibiting. All too often a first-time exhibitor does not grasp the basics of preparing an exhibit, is disappointed at his first award – and unfortunately gives up.

Help is at hand!

Some years ago the Australian Philatelic Federation published a booklet written by Ray Kelly, a well-known philatelist and Australian judge, to help first-time exhibitors. Entitled *Preparing Stamp Collections for Exhibition*, a version of this booklet has now been prepared by the Chairman of the Judging Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Richard Knight, RDPSA, FRPSL, with the permission of the Australian Philatelic Federation, for use in South Africa.

It covers Guidelines and Regulations and how to understand them, planning and preparing an exhibit, layout, the problems of rarity and importance, the materials (colour of paper, protectors) and the skills which may be needed, and suggests some further reading – all in 25 pages.

Although for first-time exhibitors, the booklet is useful for experienced national exhibitors who are taking their first steps into the international field, and may even refresh the memories of judges at national exhibitions of some of the basics!

The booklet is published by The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and one copy is being distributed free of charge to each philatelic society in South Africa affiliated to the Federation.

Further copies are obtainable at R6,00 each, including p & p, from: RC Knight, PO Box 22592, Fish Hoek 7974. Cheques and postal orders should please be made payable to RC Knight.

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■ **FRANK VAN RENSBURG** *West Rand Philatelic Society*

Slagspreuke straal steeds van foute

REEDS in Junie 1995 (p66) en April 1996 (p38) het Frank van Rensburg in *The SA Philatelist* studies gelewer oor die aard en gebruik van die Franse Imaje toerusting wat vir slagspreuke gebruik word. Albei artikels is met Kongrestoekennings vereer.

Hiermee volg van sy verdere waarnemings die afgelope tyd.

DAAR het tevore reeds voorbeelde verskyn van geradbraakte inkstraalslagspreuke. Hier volg nog 'n paar.

Op 09-01-96 het Witspos "TERUGSENDING ADRES" (twee woorde) met die "W" van WITSPOS links en regs van "N". Fig. 1 en 2.

Op 04-06-96 is dit "TERUGSENDING" en "TERUGSENDINGS" (met 'n "S") – steeds twee woorde, en WITSPOS is heel regs. Fig. 3 en 4.

"TERUGSENDINGADRES" asook "TERUGSENDINGSADRES" is op 05-08-96 een woord. Fig. 5 en 6.

In Fig. 7 is dit "VERSTREEK" (twee "E"'s). Die "N" waar dit voorkom in Fig. 6 en 7 lyk ook alte na 'n "M". Vergelyk dit met "M" in Fig. 8.

Wat hou die toekoms vir ons in? Kan ons moontlik "VER STREK" (lang arms hê) of "VERSTEEK" (iets wegsteek) verwag?

Pretoria bly effens konserwatief alhoewel ons darem "VOOKOM" i.p.v. "VOORKOM" gehad het. Fig. 9 en 10.

Op 13 Mei 1997 gebruik Witspos die slagspreuk "A LETTER IS FOR KEEPS WRITE ONE NOW!" In die Afrikaanse slagspreuk is "VIRALTYD" een woord (Fig. 11 en 12). Pretoria het laat waai met "Pretoriai" (bykomende "i") en in die onderkas (Fig. 13).

Met "DO NOT GIVE A STREET ADDRESS . . ." vanaf Witspos kry ons "ADDRESS IF" en "ADDRESSIF" albei op dieselfde dag (Fig. 14 en 15).

Gedurende dié tydperk was die slagspreuk soms te ver na regs gestel en word geen kantoornaam of datum van afsending aangedui nie (Fig. 16).

Met Vadersdag het Witspos gesorg dat pa 'n vaderdagkaartjie kry. In Pretoria het dit egter beter gegaan aangesien hy daar 'n "KAATTJIE" gekry het (Fig. 17 en 18). Hoop nie dit was 'n wilde kaattjie nie – of dat die wederhelfte haar ontdek het.

En lank voordat die "crime buster" slagspreuk verskyn het *(The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1997, p197) het die poskantoor blykbaar besef dat daar iets in die drinkwater dryf.

Ons word dus vermaan om die "correct post" te gebruik, maar die "code" het van die koevert afgeval (Fig. 19). Die kodemerke elders dui aan dat die slagspreuk by Witspos gebruik is. ■

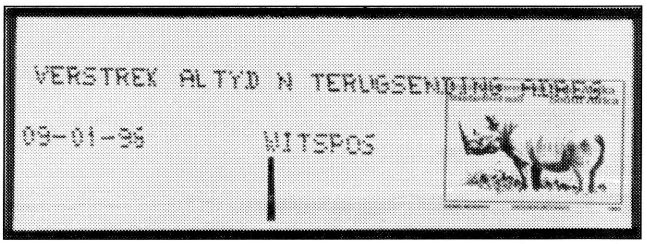

Fig. 1

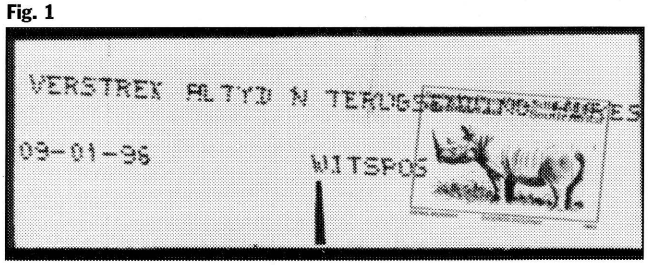

Fig. 2

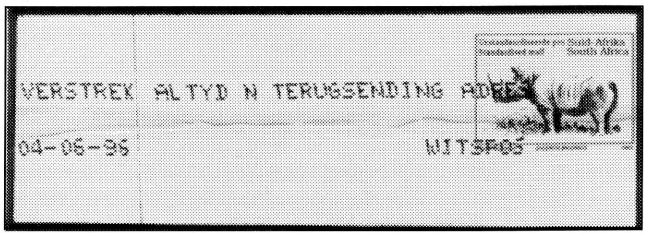

Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

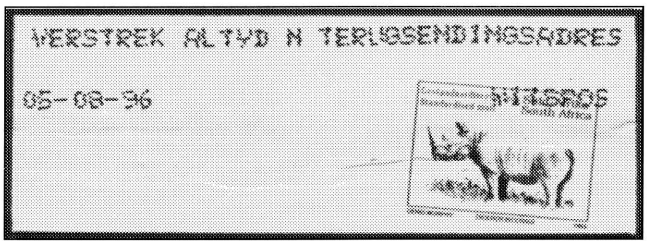

Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

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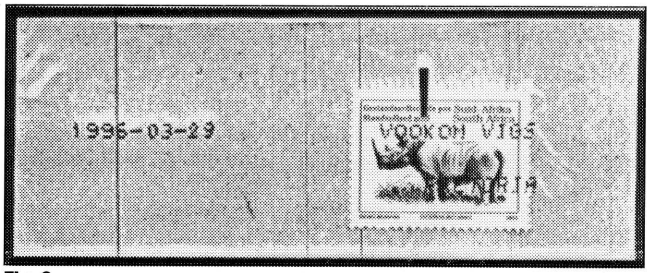

Fig. 9

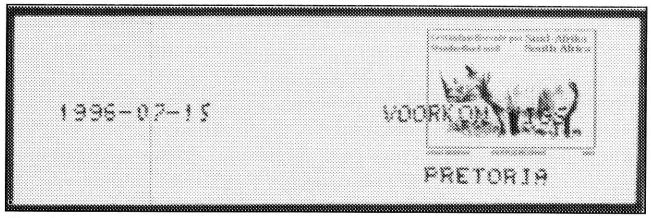

Fig. 10

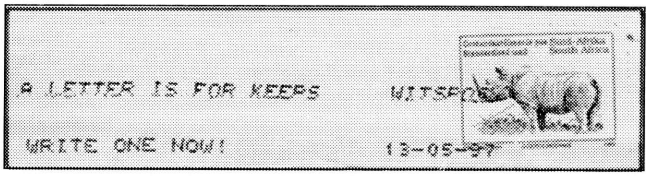

Fig. 11

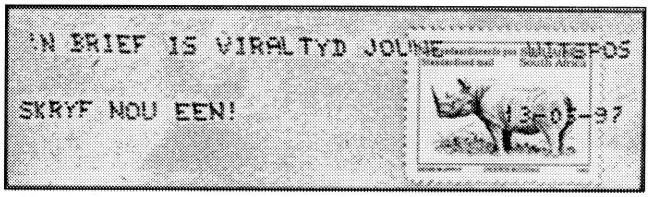

Fig. 12

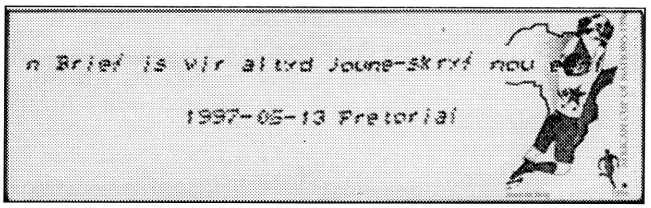

Fig. 13

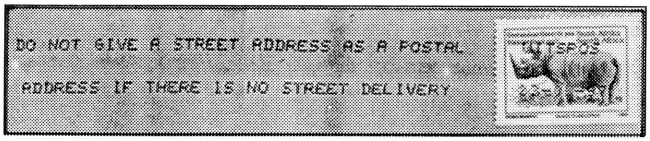

Fig. 14

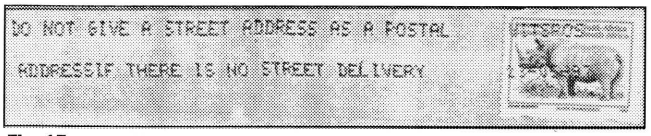

Fig. 15

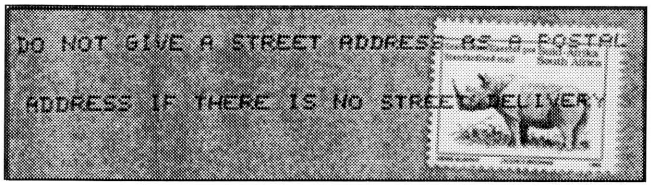

Fig. 16

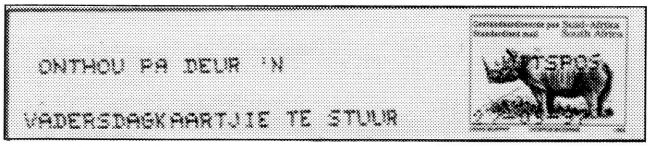

Fig. 17

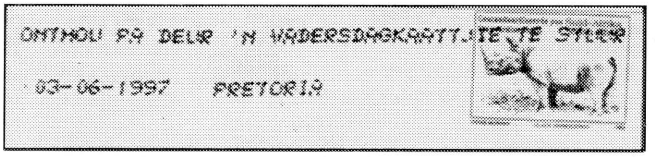

Fig. 18

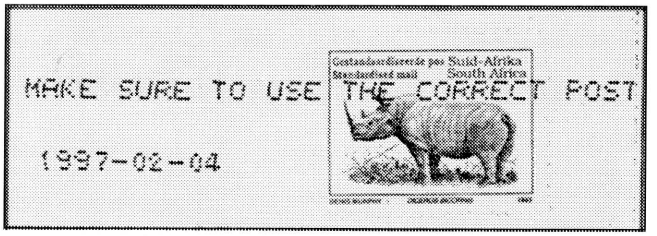

Fig. 19

Kaapse ontdekking en Mauritius by Feldman

DIE skaars 4d Kaapse Drichoek in swart, waarvan tot dusver net elf eksemplare bekend was, het nou 'n twaalfde maat bygekry. Dit moet voortaan ook aangeteken word in LN Williams se *Encyclopaedia of Rare and Famous Stamps Vol 2* "The Biographies", (Genève, 1997), wat die eerste elf vanaf p30 lys en beskryf.

Hierdie jongste eksemplaar het eers in Julie 1997 onder die aandag van die Switserse afslaers David Feldman gekom, wat dit as Lot 32981 in hul katalogus vir die veiling van 16 tot 21 November 1997 aangebied het. Dit is geraam op 10 000 Sw.f, en is toegslaan op 'n bod van 15 000. (Saam met die koperspremie van 15 persent is dit ongeveer R59 000.)

Die geheim van hierdie swart weergawe is nog nie opgelos nie. Die seël is eenduidig van die korrekte plaat af gedruk, op die gebruiklike papier met 'n anker as watermerk, maar waarom in hierdie kleur?

Die ander groot trekpleister op die veiling, wat op 20 November 1997 in 'n luukse-katalogus van sy eie aangebied is, was die sogenaamde Ball Invitation Envelope. Vir haar kostuumbal op 30 September 1847 het die goewerneur van Mauritius se gade, lady Gomm, vir die aardigheid die uitnodigings per pos versend, terwyl daar dan nou pas hierdie nuwigheid, 'n posseël, in omloop gekom het.

Net drie sulke koeverte is bekend. Die ander twee is in die Britse Museum, en in die versameling van Elizabeth II. Die omslag is met die 1d. oranje-rooi "Post Office" gefrankeer. Dit is as Lot 2 aangebied, geraam op 2 tot 2,5 miljoen Sw.f, en toegeslaan op 2 miljoen. Koperspremie bygetel is dit sowat R7,8 mijoen.

Ewe interessant was Lot 1: 'n versameling van proewe – drie, en 'n stel van twee in duplikaat – wat as een lot aangebied is. Dit het, omgereken, rondom R195 000 gehaal. Daaronder was die proewe wat die graveur van die Mauritius "Post Office", Joseph Osmond Barnard, oorspronklik in 1847 getrek het. Die duplikaatstel is in 1912 in Parys gemaak van die oorspronklike plaat in die besit van kol. Dominic Henry Colnaghi, wat op 22 Maart 1950 in Nuweland, Kaapstad, oorlede is.

Hoewel Williams reeds in die eerste volume van sy *Encyclopaedia* (p190, "The Stories", 1993) daarop gewys het dat Colnaghi nie, soos beweer, die kleinseun van Gomm was nie, wat kinderloos gesterf het, word hierdie disinformasie in die jongste veilingkatalogus herhaal.

Katalogusse

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■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal* Philatelic Society of Cape Town

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
February 1938

Sunset Covers of South Africa

When in December last the Union Government gave official notice that all Pre-Union postage stamps of Cape, Natal, OFS and Transvaal would become obsolete and loose their franking power on 31st December 1937, I considered that such a great interesting philatelic event ought not to be passed over silently, but should be philatelically celebrated and thereby become a memorial to present and future stamp collectors of South African stamps.

After consulting a few friends about this matter, we now have a very limited series of real Sunset Covers, namely, covers franked with only Cape stamps, posted in OFS and sent to Natal, also OFS stamps posted in Natal to Transvaal and similar ones; further a series of one or two stamps of each of the four colonies mixed and posted in one colony for transmission to another colony.

Emil Tamsen RDPSA

(On the page opposite this excerpt two such covers are illustrated, one to Tamsen, the other to Dr JH Harvey Pirie, then the Hon Editor of The SA Philatelist.)

30 years ago
February 1968

Associated Societies

We extend a sincere welcome to the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, the Orange Free State Study Circle and the Transvaal Study Circle, all resident in Great Britain upon their election as Associate Societies of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. May their association be of mutual interest and benefit to South African philately.

Editorial announcement

60 years ago
March 1938

Empire Air Mail Scheme

The second step in the Empire Air Mail Scheme will be inaugurated when the air service now operating between Great Britain and the Union of South Africa is extended as far as Malaya.

The new route proceeds East of Egypt via Palestine, Trans-Jordan, India and Burma, and in addition to these countries other places adjacent to the route as well as Canada and Newfoundland will be brought within the scope of the Scheme.

The change will have effect in the Union and South-West Africa on the 18th February 1938.

News Item

30 jaar gelede
Maart 1968

Inflasie en die waarde van seëls

As 'n mens terugkyk na die pryse van seëls oor die afgelope twintig of dertig jaar, dan is dit duidelik dat daar 'n geleidelike styging in die waarde van goeie seëls plaasgevind het. Seëls van Groot-Brittanje en Wes-Europese lande het gedurende die laaste paar jaar skielik gestyg, 'n teken dat die aanvraag groter word. Deur al die jare was daar geen onrusbarende teken van daling in pryse nie, maar wel 'n stilstand in handel wanneer depressie of selfs inflasie intree. Goeie seëls van bogenoemde lande verloor nie waarde nie, selfs in tye van inflasie is goeie seëls 'n goeie belegging, 'n vorm van besparing.

Wat vir die seëls van meeste lande geld, is ook vir die seëls van Suid-Afrika van toepassing. Daar was 'n tyd toe die aanvraag na ons seëls swak was, maar die waarde van die seëls het nie gedaal nie; die seëlhandel het ook hier sy getye.

Nico Combrink, "Iets vir Almal"

■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag

THE future of philately seems to be assured. The July 1997 issue (Vol. 7 No. 1, p1) of the Post Office staff newspaper *Xpress* says that letter volumes worldwide are expected to increase between now and 2005. The increase is expected in spite of an expected loss of market share to electronic media and other service providers. This is one of the findings of a study on postal traffic trends in years ahead, which was undertaken by the Universal Postal Union.

The same issue of *Xpress* gave details of the "signature-on-delivery letter service (no compensation payable)". This service was introduced on 1 September 1997. It is very similar to the registered letter service.

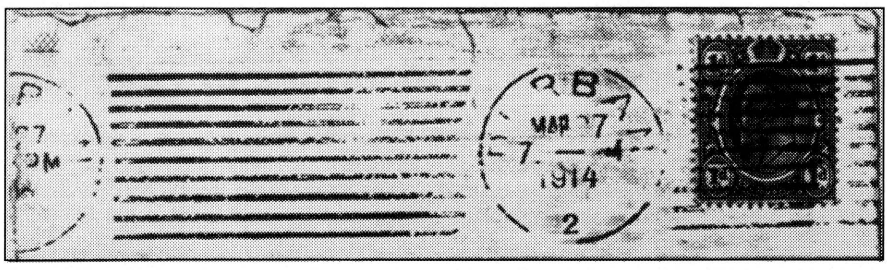
Also in that issue was news that nine task teams had been "formed to crack crime in the Post Office". The task teams were to prepare a policy to address various crime aspects nationally in the short, medium and long term.

Post Office rate information

My local postpoint received a supply of the folders detailing the rates applicable from 7 April 1997 onwards, but only in July. An interesting addition to the new rates folder is a glossary of postal products and services giving valuable information. This is the first time that such a glossary forms part of the rates folder.

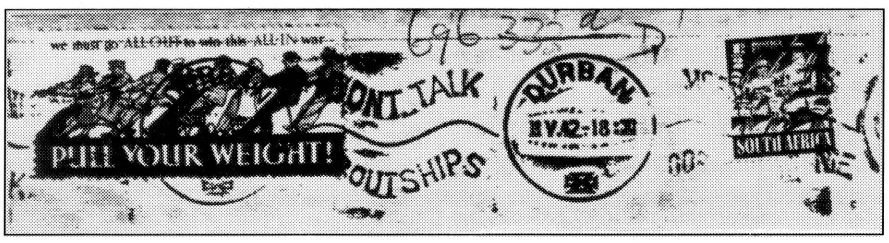
A strange machine postmark

Are there readers who can provide details of what kind of machine made the postmark on the item illustrated? It is the first time I have seen a machine applying a postmark with ten horizontal lines between the datestamps. The item was posted in Durban and was addressed to Bloemfontein. **(David Allison)**



Cinderella from the war

Cinderellas are not often featured in this column. The illustration shows an item from World War II with a postmark of 13 May 1942. Does anyone have more information about this one? **(David Allison)**



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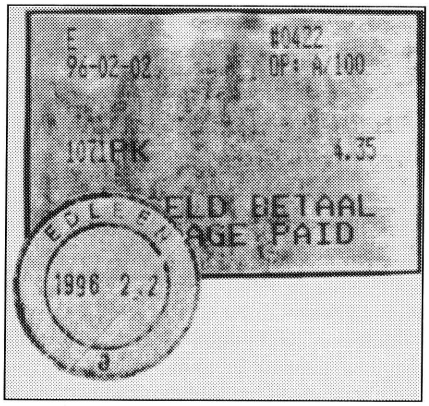
Registerkwitansies bly foutvol

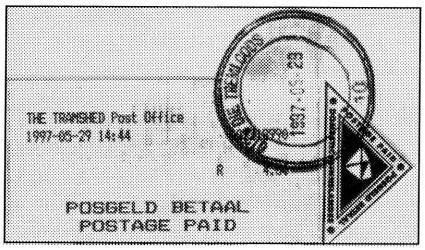
Nie almal hou van toonbanke se registerkwitansies nie, maar dit bly weens die aantal foute wat op hulle voorkom, 'n bron van versamelbare items.



Die illustrasie is van 'n kwitansie wat by die Edleen poskantoor uitgereik is. Die kantoor se naam verskyn slegs as "E". Gelukkig was daar 'n datumstempel afdruk op die rugkant om die kantoor van herkoms aan te dui. (**Carel Breedt**)

Een poskantoor, twee tale

Tweetaligheid kom dikwels in die name van poskantore voor. Een so 'n kantoor is Die Tremloods. Die kantoor se Trodat stempels het almal die Afrikaanse naam. Die poskodelys sowel as die lys van poskantore gee egter ook die Engelse weergawe van die naam.

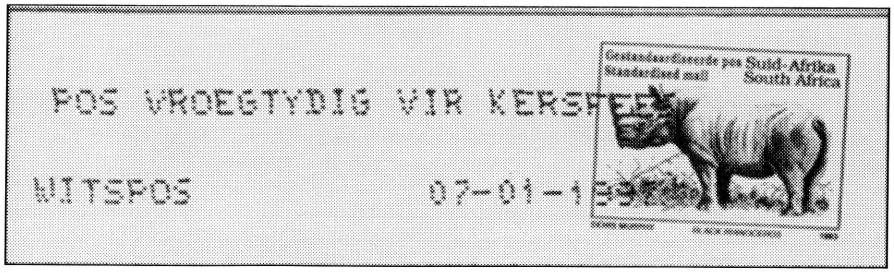


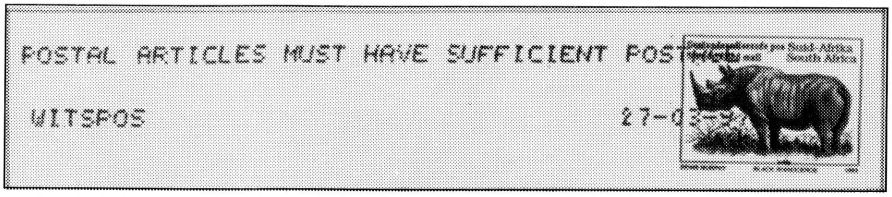
'n Voorbeeld van die gebruik van die Engelse naam verskyn op die toonbankregisterkwitansie wat geïllustreer word. 'n Soortgelyke item van Hatfield het in die April 1997 uitgawe (p54) van die rubriek verskyn. (**Carel Breedt**)

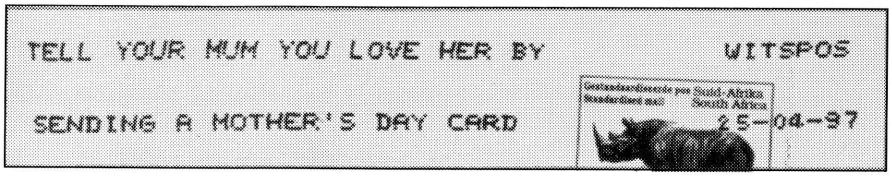
Inkstrale vir die Kersfees

Sedert die instelling daarvan op 15 November 1962, het die bewoording van die Kersfees slagspreuk tot in 1995 onveranderd gebly as POS KERSFEESPOS VROEGTYDIG. Met die koms van inkstraalrojering is die bewoording verander, en is dit nou soos in die illustrasie. Die datum in die item wat gewys word, is 07-01-1997. Die laat gebruik van die Kersfees slagspreuk deur die een of ander kantoor kom feitlik elke jaar voor. (**John Hodgson**)

Nog 'n slagspreuk wat veranderde bewoording in sy inkstraal weergawe gekry





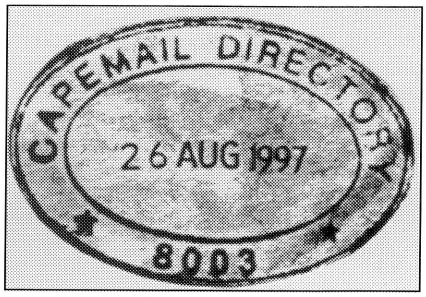


het, is INSUFFICIENT POSTAGE CAUSES DELAY. Die nuwe bewoording verskyn in die illustrasie. (**George van den Hurk RDPSA**)

In die April 1997 uitgawe van hierdie tydskrif het daar op bladsy 55 'n artikel oor die 1997 slagspreuke verskyn. Een daarvan handel oor Moedersdag, die eerste keer dat hierdie onderwerp in die vorm van 'n slagspreuk verskyn. Die Engelse weergawe daarvan word geïllustreer.

Capemail Directory surfaces again

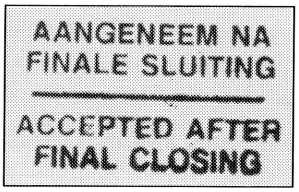
The December 1996 issue of this feature illustrated a not too clear impression of an oval rubber stamp applied at the Capemail mail handling centre near Cape Town (p187). A better impression of the rubber stamp is illustrated.

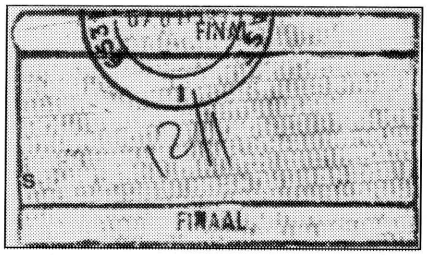


The impression appeared on an envelope in which there was a small parcel that had been found open or damaged and had been officially secured by the postal authorities. (**John Hodgson**)

Post Office rubber stamps

The illustration shows an impression applied to a letter handed in at the Dunswart post office for express despatch to Cape Town. Almost all postal offices





have a rubber stamp of this nature. They are of various designs and sizes, and are applied to items that cannot be despatched on the day on which they are accepted for despatch. (**David Allison**)

The second illustration shows an impression of a rubber stamp used at Cape Town post office registered letter section. It has the words FINAL FINAAL, and a date in manuscript. It was used to indicate that a final notification had been given for the letter to be collected, failing which it would be returned to the sender. The date is 12 January 1993. (**John Hodgson**)

Die handroller stempels

By 'n vorige geleentheid het ek gevra of daar lesers is wat spesialiseer in die versameling van die afdrukke van handrollers. Tot nou toe het ek nog geen reaksie gehad nie. Dit wil dus voorkom of niemand 'n spesialisversameling het nie. Waar is dan nou die mense wat na 'n tema soek?

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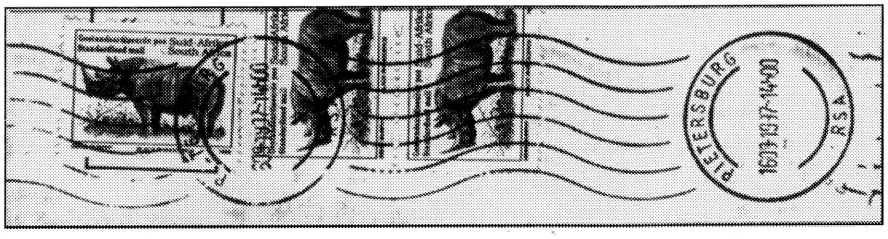
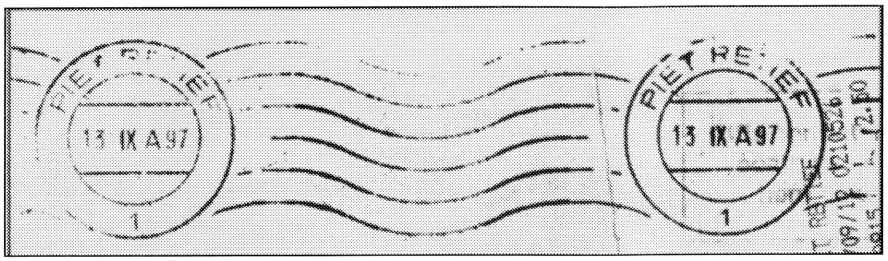
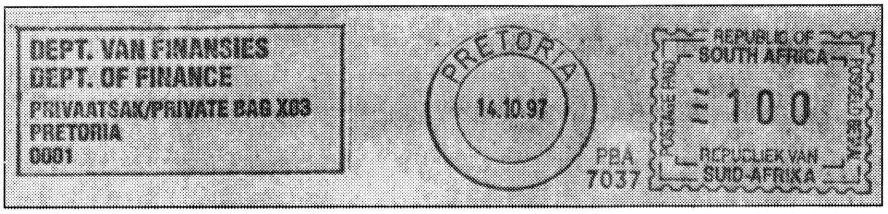


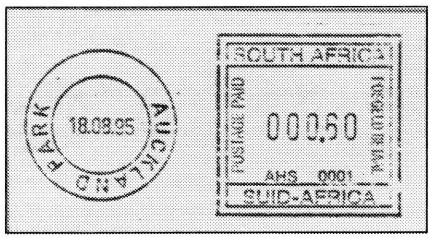




Afdrukke van items van Pietersburg en Piet Retief word geïllustreer. (**David Allison**)

Amptelike pos van departemente

Die amptelike pos van sommige van die staatsddepartemente bly nog uit die vorge bedeling herkenbaar. Die illustrasie kom van 'n item wat deur die Departement van Finansies versend is. Aan die agterkant verskyn die staatswapen op die flap van die koevert.



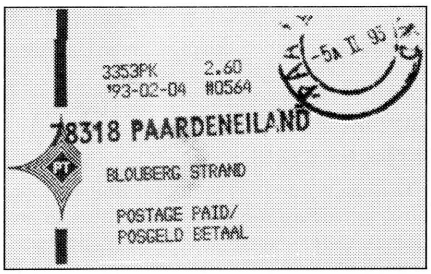
Meter machines keep up their surprises

The marks made by meter machines remain a source of interesting developments. In the impression illustrated, the name of the post office is inverted in the datestamp. Also note that in the Afrikaans version of the country name, it is incorrectly spelt with a C instead of a K. (**David Allison**)

Etikette van geregistreerde briewe

Hierdie items behoort gereeld na gekyk te word want hulle lewer elke nou en dan 'n versamelbare afwyking. Die etiket van Grabouw wat geïllustreer word, het verskyn op 'n brief wat op 28 Julie 1993 gepos is. (**John Hodgson**)

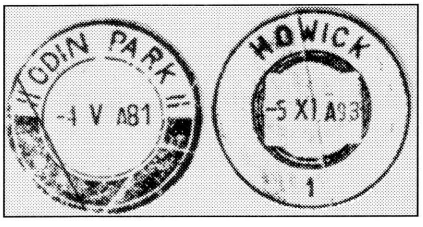




Terwyl geregistreerde briewe onder bespreking is, is daar ook 'n voorbeeld van 'n behandeling wat die eerste keer in die Junie 1989 uitgawe van die rubriek genoem is. Die illustrasie wys gedeelte van 'n geregistreerde koevert wat op 4 Februarie 1993 by die Bloubergstrand poskantoor naby Kaapstad gekoop is. Die koevert is die volgende dag by die Paardeneiland poskantoor ingehandig vir registrasie en versending.

Relief cancellers still in use

From time to time relief cancellers still surface here and there. Odin Park has Lenasia near Johannesburg in the Gauteng Province as its head office. (**David Allison**)



As is evident from the Odin Park illustration, relief cancellers normally have two vertical lines at the beginning and at the end of the post office name. The Howick item shown here does not have such lines, but for the rest it is similar to an Adendorp item shown in the June 1995 issue of this feature, and also to a Port Elizabeth item shown here in August 1995. (**John Hodgson**)

Die Poskantoor Museum se stempels

Die Februarie 1994 uitgawe van die rubriek het besonderhede bevat van die rubberstempels wat deur die Poskantoor Museum gebruik is nadat die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese ontbind is, en in twee afsonderlike maatskappye opgegaan het. Die Poskantoor Wysigingswet wat op 19 Junie 1991 in die Staatskoerant gepromulgeer is, het vir die stigting van die maatskappye voorsiening gemaak.



'n Rubberstempel wat waarskynlik al voor maatskappystigting in gebruik was, is in Junie 1992 nog gebruik op 'n brief wat aan die skrywer gerig is.

The mark V for Victory

In the February 1997 issue of the feature (p21) a World War II envelope was illustrated on which the sender had put a bold V, presumably to show faith in ultimate victory. It would seem that this was quite a popular practice during the war years.

The illustration shows a cover with a big V sent from Springs to Standerton. It went "OFFICIAL FREE" as the cachet of the Governor-General's National War Fund indicates.

Also shown is a block that was printed on the reverse of the envelope. Does any reader have anything philatelic associated with that carnival? ■



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The South African Philatelist

INDEX to Vol 73, 1997. Whole numbers 820 to 825
Compiled by the Editor

No 1 (820) February, 1 – 32 (+ iv)
No 2 (821) April, 33 – 68
No 3 (822) June, 69 – 100 (+ viii)
No 4 (823) August, 101 – 136
No 5 (824) October, 137 – 168
No 6 (820) December, 169 – 208

A separate list of articles indexed by author (indicated in the main index only by the surname) follows in greater detail at the end. Book titles are followed by the surname of the author (in brackets) under the headings **Book Reviews** or **Literature**, or wherever else the title may appear.

New stamp issues for countries other than South Africa and Namibia are indexed only if accompanied by an illustration.

This index for 1997 appears as a supplement in the centre of the February 1998 issue, for easy removal and binding with Vol 73, and is separately paginated from i to iv. The index for 1996 appeared as a supplement in the February 1997 issue, wrapped around the editorial matter, also separately paginated from i to iv.

The June 1997 issue of Vol 73, no 3 (822) contained separately a "Rendezvous Supplement", detailing the officials, services and affiliated membership of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, paginated i – viii, compiled by the Federation's administrative secretary, George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPSL.

AEROPHILATELY
- Boxed markings on Swiss WWII airmails (Collyer) 81
- *British External Airmails until 1934* (book) 96
- Harmers auctions Alexander S Newall collection 125
- *Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid–Afrika/Republiek van Zuid–Afrika* Dele 1 en 2 (book) 31
- Namibia first flight commemorative cards 61 to 65 24
- World War II mails from Switzerland to destinations outside Europe (Collyer) 15

ASCENSION ISLAND
- New issues 122

ANGLO-BOER WAR
- Exhibition (see there)

AUCTIONS
- Christie's London: 24 (See also Spink)
- Harmers, London: 14 & 15 May '97 125
- International Philatelic Service: 23 November '96 57
- Manning, Greg: 29 May/8 June '97 159
- Spink: 24, 57, 80; 8 May '97 125, 15 July '97 159
- Welz, Stephan & Co: 19 March '97 80, 25 June '97 125, 22 October '97 198

AUDIOVISUALS
- Mathews Memorial lecture 199
- Mevifil 97 135
- Report 59th Congress 202

AUSTRALIA
- New issues 91, 152, 189
- Social philately in – 158

BARBADOS
- New issues 49, 90

BOOKLETS
- Namibia – issued 61, 163, 164
- Policy and issues of SA – 58
- Spelling mistakes on – (letter) 3
- Thulamela – 161

BOOK REVIEWS (See also: Literature)
- *Early Postal History of the Mlanje District, British Central Africa, The* (Drysdall) 66
- *Listing of the Stamps of the first South African Republic and a Guide to their Identification, A* (Drysdall) 66
- *Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid–Afrika/Republiek van Zuid–Afrika* Dele 1 en 2 (Crandel) 31
- *Norgeskatalogen 97* (Oslo Filatelistklubb) 153
- *Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies* Vol 5 (Putzel) 30
- *South African franking meter marks, An introduction to* (Van der Walt) 31
- *Switzerland Catalogue* (ed. Katcher) 31
- *Transvaal Railway Stamps and Travelling Post Offices* (Drysdall) 98

BOTSWANA
- New issues 51, 121, 150, 188

BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY
- New issues 191

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA
- *Early Postal History of the Mlanje Dstrict, British Central Africa, The* (book) 66
- Governor and the post office messenger: Nyasaland, 1948, The (Baker) 85

CANADA
- New issues 50, 123, 153, 191, 192

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
- Challenge of postal history, The (Steyl) 182
- Further notes on the life and times of Adriaan Albert Jurgens (Grütter) 45, (letter) 72
- GB 6d lilac on 1858 – cover (letter) 105
- Mail transport claim (letter) 34
- Postcard centenary issue (not postally valid) 26
- *Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies* Vol 5 (book) 30

CATALOGUES
- *Collect Channel Islands & Isle of Man Stamps* (Gibbons checklist) 31
- *GB Specialised* Vol 2 (Gibbons, "The Four Kings") 32
- *Germany* (Gibbons Part 7) 32
- *Great Britain Concise*, (Gibbons) 32
- *Middle East* (Gibbons Part 19) 32
- *Norgeskatalogen 97* (Oslo Filatelistklubb) 153
- *Switzerland Catalogue* (ed. Katcher) 31
- Yvert & Tellier – on I-net 25

CHANNEL ISLANDS
- *Collect Channel Islands & Isle of Man Stamps* (Gibbons checklist) 31

CINDERELLAS
- Battis – sought (letter) 105
- Big Five-in-one sticker 61
- "Botha Souvenir New Zealand's Tribute 1915" 83, (letter) 105

CONTEMPORARY PHILATELY
- Gomm, Neville: 51, 154

DENMARK
- Most popular stamp 83
- New issues 153, 192

ERITREA
- World Wildlife Fund 200th issue 24

EXHIBITING
- Committee report 59th Congress 202
- Exhibition Study Group 24
- FDC class specialist jury 28
- First-time exhibits (letter) 170
- Federation adjusts medal levels 28
- Frugal philately proposed 28
- Open class, Swiss 24, Ibra 99 28
- Trophies (national) renamed 64

EXHIBITIONS
- Abophil 100 (editorial) 101, 133
- Afrikaans trophies awarded (Sasolburg) 65
- Anglo-Boer War Centenary 99 97 (renamed Abophil 100, see there)
- Australia 99 World Stamp Expo 158
- Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair 28, 98, reports and awards (Wigston) 130
- Bloemfontein 150 28
- Calendar of – 202, 203
- Cape Stamp Show 97 postcards proposed 60, issued 196; 132, (editorial) 137, 165; report and awards, analysis (Van Beukering) 199
- Ibra 99 28
- Ilsapex 98 28, 97, 132, 166
- Israel 98 28
- Junass 97 (see Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair)
- Junass 98 98, 106, 166
- Mevifil 97 (audio-visuals) 135
- Monaco 97 (world rarities) 83
- Norwex 97 65, reports and awards (Grütter) 92, correction (letter) 106
- Oilfilat mini (Sasolburg) 28
- Pacific 97 65, reports and awards (Swart) 134, 160
- Philatelic exhibitions in Southern Africa outside the Union and Republic of South Africa (Michelson) 141
- Rare Stamps of the World 58
- Sapex 97 97
- Swiss Stamp Open 96 24
- Welkom 50 regional exhibition (Oliver) 135

FéDéRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATéLIE
- Revenues recognised as class (editorial) 33, 65
- Report 59th Congress 202
- Rules first applied at Cape Town Show 97 199
- SA judges accredited 92, 166
- Updates 28, 65

FIJI
- New issues 90

FIRST DAY COVERS (See: Souvenir material)

FISCALS (See: Revenue stamps)

FORGERIES
- *Oneiglia Engraved Forgeries, The* (book) 96

FRANKING METERS (See: Postmarks)

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GERMANY
Gibbons Part 7 *Germany* (catalogue) 32
GIBRALTAR
New issues 50
GREAT BRITAIN
British Empire shrinks 159
Collect Channel Islands & Isle of Man Stamps (Gibbons checklist) 31
GB 6d lilac on 1858 Cape cover (letter) 105
GB Specialised Vol 2 ("The Four Kings", catalogue) 32
Great Britain Concise, (catalogue) 32
Royal Signals Museum covers 19 & 20 57
GUERNSEY
New issues 49
HONG KONG
Diana issues sold out on death 160
Post offices re-opened, World War II (letter) 171
INDIA
Four Annas lithographed stamps of India 1854 – 55, The (book) 66
INKJET SLOGANS (See: Postmarks)
INTERNET
Bellville Philatelic Society on – (letter) 36
Nampost Philatelic Services on – 163
Yvert & Tellier catalogues on – 25
IN THE MARGIN
Philatelic Services news: 26, 58, 93, 129, 161, 193 (Burger)
ISLE OF MAN
Collect Channel Islands & Isle of Man Stamps (Gibbons checklist) 31
ISRAEL
New issues 153
JERSEY
New issues 49
JUDGING
Jury reports: Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair (Matheson) 130, Cape Stamp Show 97 (Knight) 199
National judges accredited 106
Report 59th congress 202
SA judges accredited to FIP 92, 166
KENYA
New issues 50, 89
KIRIBATI
New issues 151
KOREA
New issues 152
LITERATURE (See also: Book reviews)
British External Airmails until 1934 (Newall) 96
Collect Channel Islands & Isle of Man Stamps (Gibbons checklist) 31
Encyclopaedia of Rare and Famous Stamps Vol 2 "The Stories" (Williams) 128
Four Annas lithographed stamps of India 1854 – 55, The (Martin & Smythies) 66
GB Specialised Vol 2 ("The Four Kings", catalogue) 32
Gibbons Part 7 *Germany* (catalogue) 32
Gibbons Part 19 *Middle East* (catalogue) 32
Great Britain Concise, Gibbons (catalogue) 32
Natal & Zululand Post (journal of Natal & Zululand Study Circle) 128
Oneglia Engraved Forgeries, The (Robson Lowe & Walske) 96
Postal History and Markings of the Forwarding Agents, The (Rowe) 96
Principality of Serbia 1830 – 1882 (Kardosch) 96
Southern Rhodesia handbook progress 66
Springbok, The (journal of SA Collectors' Society, GB) 128
Stamping Around/Seëlsrondomtalie (SA youth philately newsletter, editorial) 137
Torchbearer (journal of Society of Olympic Collectors) 126
LOOKING BACK
Grütter, Wilhelm, RDPSA: 23, (letter) 139; 55, 97, 110, 160, 185
MACAU
New issues 193
MACHINE CANCELS (See: Postmarks)
MALAWI
New issues 89
MAURITIUS
New issues 151
MIDDLE EAST
Gibbons Part 19 *Middle East* (catalogue) 32
MILITARY MAIL (See also: World Wars I & II)
Giovanetti WJ – to (letters) 4, 36, 71, 110
Weza Prisoner-of-War Camp, The (Findlay) 84
MISCELLANEOUS
Afrikaans disregarded in stamp design (letter) 170
Art installation *Pushing the Envelope* 140
Dating game, The: a thorough examination of calendars (Bakker J) 172
Hong Kong Diana issues sold out on death 160
Ian Mathews Memorial lecture 132, 199
Philatelic thought, A 128
Society is due to celebrate its centenary, A (Burger) 186
Suid-Afrikaanse filateliese politiek (Van Tonder) 7
WH Coetzer's contribution to postage stamps in South Africa (Nel) 75
Who's Who proposed (note Gomm) 88, letter 171
NAMIBIA (See also South West Africa)
Designers sought 61
First flight commemorative cards 61 to 65 24
Issue plans and policy 60, 95, 163
Nampost Philatelic Services on the I-net 163
Nampost Youth Day (photo) 165
New issues '96: Stars in the Southern Sky 26; Pastoral pottery 27
New issues '97: listed 27, added 60, 95, 163; booklets 61; inland postcard 62; Ancient Ruins 62; Hong Kong 97 MS 62, reprint 163; Heinrich von Stephan 62; Jackass Penguin 63; Greetings stamps 95, ill 96, booklets 164; Definitives 95; Small Wild Cats 95, 164; Namibian basketry 95; Third definitives 162; Waxbills booklet 163; inland postcard 164
Reprints 58, 163
Sale of SWA stock, apology 61
NATAL
Postcard centenary issue (not postally valid) 26
Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies Vol 5 (book) 30
NATIONAL STAMP DAY
Reports 202
NETHERLANDS
Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid-Afrika/Republiek van Zuid-Afrika Dele 1 en 2 (book) 31
NEW ISSUES (See also under country names)
Godwin, Howard: 47, 89, 121, 150, 188
South Africa – 26, 58, 93, 129, 161, 193
NEW ZEALAND
Cinderella "Botha Souvenir New Zealand's Tribute 1915" 83, (letter) 105
New issues 90, 123, 151, 193
Teddy bear debacle 23
NORFOLK ISLAND
New issues 123
NORWAY
Norgeskatalogen (Oslo Filatelistklubb, catalogue) 153
NYASALAND
Governor and the post office messenger: Nyasaland, 1948, The (Baker) 85
OBITUARIES
Baker, Clem (Savidge) 206
Lowe, Robson 157
Morris, John (Bush) 134
ORANGE FREE STATE
Postcard centenary issue (not postally valid) 26
Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies Vol 5 (book) 30
Stamped provisional postcards of the OFS: Part II, The (Cheminais) 117
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
New issues 123
PERSONALIA
Baker, Clem (obituary, Savidge) 206
Cheminais, John, receives OFS Study Circle President's Award 64
Giovanetti WJ (letters) 4, 36, 71, 110
Further notes on the life and times of Adriaan Albert Jurgens (Grütter) 45, (letters) 72, 103
Hoffman, Colin M (RDPSA '97) 204
Jonkers, Dr Gerrit RDPSA 132, 199, 205
Lionel Phillips in die kollig van geskiedkundige filatelie (Bakker A) 43, (letters) 72, 105
Lowe, Robson (obituary) 157
McIntosh, Philippa (RDPSA '97) 203
Meintjies, Hannes 205
Michelson, Jonas RDPSA 205
Morris, John (obituary, Bush) 134
Simpkins, Bertie, honoured by West Rand PS 64
Tamsen, Emil RDP, RDPSA (letters) 102, 140, (correction) 171
WH Coetzer's contribution to postage stamps in South Africa (Nel) 75
Who's Who proposed (Gomm) 88, letter 171
Wilkinson HS (letter) 105
PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Awards, 59th Congress 203
FDC class specialist jury 28
Junior philately 106
Mail theft, concern expressed 201, 206
Medal levels adjusted 28
National judges accredited 106
National trophies renamed 64
New issues liaison, Congress report 202
Officebearers '98 203
Philatelic exhibitions in Southern Africa outside the Union and Republic of South Africa (Michelson) 141
Presidential address, 59th Congress 200
Publications Committee rescuscitated 98, 166
Rendezvous (services, senior, specialist and junior societies) Supplement 73:3
Reports, 59th Congress: Annual collectors' survey '97, Treasurer's report, Philatelic Services 201; Committees: Management, *The SA Philatelist*, Exhibitions, Publications, Expert, Audio-visual, Jud-

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ging, Youth, FIP, New issues liaison, Foundation 202
SA judges accredited to FIP 92, 166
Social philately in Australia 158
Society is due to celebrate its centenary, A (Burger) 186
59th Congress 200

PHILATELIC FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Involvement in Publications committee 98, 166
Report 59th Congress 202

PHILATELIC SERVICES
Big Five-in-one sticker 61
Booklet policy and issues 58
Collector information (editorial) 101, 129, (editorial) 169, 195
Commemorative issue programme '98 195
Commemorative postcard policy 195
Definitives phased in during '98 194
Franking value queried (letter) 73
Gift offered to join societies 98
In the margin 26, 58, 93, 129, 161, 193 (Burger)
Issue programme for '97 revised 58, issues for '98 195
Postage rates '97 58
Post office service (letter) 36, audit 74, theft from 201, 206
Report 59th Congress 201
Stamp issuing policy (editorial) 1, annual survey '96 28, survey '97 201
Stamp programme committee to be renewed 195
Standing orders speeded up 195

PICTURE POSTCARDS (See also Postal stationery)
Commemorative postcard policy 195
Postcards proposed for Cape Town Stamp Show 97 60, issued 196
SA centenary issue (not postally valid) 26

PITCAIRN ISLANDS
New issues 189

POSTAGE DUES
Union tax marks and postage dues (letters) 18, 34, 35, 70, 71, 72, 103, 104, 139

POSTAL HISTORY
Beginnings of faster mail, The (Van Rensburg) 179
Boxed markings on Swiss WWII airmails (Collyer) 81
Challenge of postal history, The (Steyl) 182
Dating game, The: a thorough examination of calendars (Bakker J) 172
Hong Kong post offices re-opened, World War II (letter) 171
Lionel Phillips in die kollig van geskiedkundige filatelie (Bakker A) 43, (letters) 72, 105
Mail transport claim (letter) 34
Postal History and Markings of the Forwarding Agents, The (book) 96
Postal rates compiled for Union and RSA 128
Rol van die veldkornet in die poswese van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek tot 1870, Die (Kamffer) 37
Schuckmannsburg: Discovery of a Caprivi Strip postcard (Von Schumann) 107
Three postal routes used in the South of German Southwest Africa, The (Hermann) 40, letter) 72
Transvaal Railway Stamps and Travelling Post Offices (book) 98
Weza Prisoner-of-War Camp, The (Findlay) 84
WH Coetzer's contribution to postage stamps in South Africa (Nel) 75
World War II mails from Switzerland to destinations outside Europe (Collyer) 15

POSTAL STATIONERY (See also Picture postcards)
Centenary postcards not postally valid 26
Commemorative postcard policy 195
Erica postcard series reprinted with bar code 196
Gandhi, ANC pact, Constitution week cards 93
Heritage Postcard Series No 1 196
Namibia inland postcards 62, 164
Stamped provisional postcards of the OFS: Part II, The (Cheminais) 117

POSTCARDS (See: Picture Postcards, Postal Stationery)

POSTMARK RECORD
Gomm, Neville: 18, (73:2 column renamed "Contemporary philately", see there)

POSTMARKS
Boxed markings on Swiss WWII airmails (Collyer) 81
Fake "DRAGONS DERRAIL" (letters) 105, 138
Franking meters to end in USA 127
Inkjet slogan explosion, The (Gomm) 55, new slogans 197
Kromkuil – found (letter) 34
Machine cancels, avoiding wavy lines 24
Paquebot cancellation sleeves query (letter) 139
Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies Vol 5 (book) 30
SA Machine cancels without slogans (Hagger) 4, (letters) 72, 138
South African franking meter marks, An introduction to (book) 31
Stempelslagspreuke in Suid-Afrika – II (Gomm) 111
Union tax marks and postage dues (letters) 18, 34, 35, 70, 71, 72, 103, 104, 139
Vredendal Flower Festival temporary – 126
Weza Prisoner-of-War Camp, The (Findlay) 84

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Report 59th Congress 202
Rescuscitated 98, 166

RAILWAYS
Blue Train issue under the magnifier (Borgstein) 113
Railway platform registered mail query (letter) 139
Transvaal Railway Stamps and Travelling Post Offices (book) 98

RDPSA (See: Roll of Honour)

READERS' RESEARCH QUERIES
Battis Cinderellas sought (letter) 105
Epstein information sought (letter) 139
GB 6d lilac on 1858 Cape cover (letter) 105
Giovanetti WJ (letters) 4, 36, 71, 110
Letters page on – (editorials) 33, 69
Paquebot cancellation sleeves (letter) 139
Railway platform registered mail (letter) 139
Union tax marks and postage dues (letters) 18, 34, 35, 70, 71, 72, 103, 104, 139
Who's Who proposed (Gomm) 88, letter 171
Wilkinson HS information sought (letter) 105

RESEARCH
Photocopies available 98, 117, 128

REVENUE STAMPS
Aspect of apartheid, An – the Native Registration Fee (Palazzo) 112
FIP recognises – as class (editorial) 33, 65

ROLL OF HONOUR
RDPSAs of 1997 203
Recognition at national exhibitions 28, 199
Roll, with revised notes 204

SERBIA
Principality of Serbia 1830 – 1882 (book) 96

SOCIETY NEWS (Excluding meeting reports)
American Topical Association to celebrate half-century 198
Bellville Philatelic Society 36
British Thematic Association 57
Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika celebrates decade 97
Goudveld Philatelic Society 135
OFS Philatelic Society 29
OFS Study Circle honours Cheminais 64
Oilfilat (Sasolburg) 65
Olympic Collectors, Society of 58, 126
Philatelic Writers Society awards 25, 127, 185
Postage Due Mail Study Group 57
Postal Order Society 57
Postal Stationey Society 57
Pretoria Philatelic Society to celebrate centenary 106, (Burger) 186
Rhodesia Study Circle 50th anniversary 65
West Rand Philatelic Society honours Simpkins 64

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, THE
Electronic production 25
Corrections to pagination (editorial) 1
Cumulative index planned 172
Report 59th Congress 202
Supplements: Index for '96 with February '97 (Vol 73:1, i – iv), Rendezvous with June '97 (Vol 73:3, i – viii)

SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE (See: Philatelic Services)

SOUTH AFRICA, REPUBLIC
Beginnings of faster mail, The (Van Rensburg) 179
Bible stamps, sheets 23
Big Five-in-one sticker postally used 61
Blue Train issue under the magnifier (Borgstein) 113
Booklet policy and issues 58
China '96 MS error 198
Commemorative issues '98 195
Commemorative postcard policy 195
Corporate products information 129, reported: Sapda MS, Junass 97 MS, Old Mutual MS, Total Sports MS, Modderfontein Centenary MS 129, (letter) 138; Capetown '97 MS, Harmers The Cape Stamp Show '97 MS, Eastgate Universal Stamps & Coins MS 195/6
Definitives for '98 and essays illustrated 194
Erica postcard series reprinted with bar code 196
Inkjet slogan explosion, The (Gomm) 55, new slogans 197
Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid-Afrika/Republiek van Zuid-Afrika Dele 1 en 2 (book) 31
New issues '96: New Constitution 26; Postcard centenary (not postally valid) 26, China '96 MS error 198
New issues '97: SA Motoring centenary 27; programme revised 58; Hong Kong 97 MS 59, franking value (letter) 73; R20 Definitive 59, issue delayed 91; SA Navy 75th anniversary 60, naming error (let-

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list had been entered in an international literature class, and only the third time that FIP had had a specialised literature exhibition.

Plating supplements are: no 2 (i – xvi), RSA Special Issue National Stamp Day, the running footline reading "April/May 1993"; no 3 (i – xii), RSA Special Issue Signing of the Antarctic Treaty 30 Years Ago, the running footline being "June-/July 1993"; and no 6 (i – xvi), RSA Definitive Issue: Succulents 5c reprint (3rd), with the footline "Desember 1993" alternating with "December".

Following the experience at Hafnia 94, the index for this volume was produced as a four-page centre-spread of the journal's first issue in 1995, which was simple enough to remove and bind or tip into the previous year's volume, i.e. 1994 (i – iv, "Index Supplement *The SA Philatelist* February 1995"). This has since been the case.

There was only one plating supplement in the course of the year, in no 3 (i – xvi), RSA RSA Succulent 50c Reprints (1st), the running footline reading "Junie 1994". For the time being, this was the last of these supplements, of which 26 had appeared since the first one in January 1986.

The researchers and compilers of the bulk of the work over the years were GJ (Guillaumi) de Swardt, MJH (Mike) Tonking and Regina Smith, whose name first appears in February 1989, and who then took over singlehandedly. The name of Vosloo de Lange appears only once, at the outset.

A new correspondent made his appearance in the masthead of the August 1995 issue: Alewyn Burger of Pretoria.

A gremlin struck again, and the volume number on the cover of December 1995 suddenly became "76" instead of "71", but the editorial masthead has it correctly – except that the journal's logo is missing! Even worse, the running footline on all the odd-numbered pages incorrectly gave the issue number for no 6 as no 5.

TABLE 3

Year/Volume	February	April	June	August	October	December
1994/70	1-32	33-68	69-96	97-128	129-172	173-208
Nos/Wh Nos	1/802	2/803	3/804	4/805	5/806	6/807

TABLE 4

Year/Volume	February	April	June	August	October	December
1995/71	1-28	29-64	65-96	97-128	129-160	161-196
Nos/Wh Nos	1/808	2/809	3/810	4/811	5/812	6/813

TABLE 5

Year/Volume	February	April	June	August	October	December
1996/72	1-32	33-64	65-104	105-136	137-176	177-208
Nos/Wh Nos	1/814	2/815	3/816	4/817	5/800	6/801

TABLE 6

Year/Volume	February	April	June	August	October	December
1997/73	1-32	33-68	69-100	105-136	137-168	169-208
Nos/Wh Nos	1/820	2/821	3/822	4/823	5/824	6/801

Perhaps this was only to be expected, as the December 1995 issue was the first to be produced entirely on Planet DOS, i.e. it was fully computer-generated from text and illustrations to complete master negatives.

As the journal carried the 4-page index for 1994, the total page count was 200.

This time the gremlin came up with Vol. 72 no 6 for the editorial masthead of the February issue, while the cover correctly reflects 72:1. More regrettably, Alewyn Burger resigned his correspondentship after the June issue.

A supplement was published with Vol. 72 no 56 (October): Dickson, *The Branch Post Offices of Natal 1852 to 1864*. It was self-covered, the first two pages unnumbered, followed by 1 to 18 (24 in all) – the first one produced entirely from a computer disc, except for some illustrations.

The running footline for the previous year's index (i – iii, second verso not numbered) was "Index Supplement *The SA Philatelist* February 1996". This made 236 pages for 1996.

Misbinding resulted in the "Index Supplement *The SA Philatelist* February 1997" for 1996 (i – iv) appearing as a wrap-around inside the first issue of the year, instead of as the intended centre-spread (mended easily enough with unand re-stapling).

There was a separate "Rendezvous Supplement *The SA Philatelist* June 1997" (i – viii) containing the Philatelic Federation's annual information up-date, which had hitherto been incorporated in the journal around that time.

From the August issue onwards, the editorial masthead also reflected that *The SA Philatelist* had been awarded a Silver-Bronze for the previous year's Vol. 72 at Pacific 97. Together with the supplements, 220 pages were produced. ■

Plating supplements summarised: 1992 to 1994.

1992

March/April	RSA Special Issue Achievements
May/June	RSA Definitive issue 25 cent reprint
July/August	Special Issue SA Post Office and Telkom

1993

April	RSA Special Issue National Stamp Day
June	RSA Special Issue Signing of the Antarctic Treaty 30 Years Ago
December	RSA Definitive Issue: Succulents 5c Reprint (3rd)

1994

June	RSA Succulents 50c Reprints (1st)

Some recent publications to consider

Kimberley in pictures: Richard Oliver, the immediate past vice-president of the Federation for the Free State and Northern Cape, has turned his award winning post card collection of Kimberley (Vermeil with felicitations, and the Archie Atkinson Trophy at Bloem 150) into *Images of Kimberley: A Postcard Collection*. There are 235 cards illustrated, 40 in full colour, and many of them are additionally from the Kimberley Africana Library.

Maureen Rall's text provides the background to buildings and events, including the Siege of Mafeking. Publication, in the Kimberley Africana Library Series no 2, is imminent.

(Orders: Friends of the Library, 180 pp, PO Box 627, Kimberley 8300, R160,00 [standard edition] + R20,00 p & p. Collector's editions [25] and Sponsor's editions [10] may also still be available.)

Robertson Revisited: This is a title by Colin Tabeart, with a sub-title that explains it all: "A study of the Maritime Postal Markings of the British Isles based on the work of Alan W Robertson". No one who knows or possesses – albeit in the modern 80 per cent size reduction made available by the publisher below – Robertson's celebrated *A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles*, can now afford to be without Tabeart. It is not only the classic Robertson thoroughly up-dated, but contains a highly important chapter treating ship letter rates, indicating common misconceptions, and thereby clearing up current confusions.

A proper review is to follow.

(Orders: James Bendon Limited, 330 pp, PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, UK£40, 00 + £1,00 postage. The publisher's complete list as at September 1997 is available from the same address. Address e-mail to bendon@dial.cylink.com.cy).

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■ **HOWARD GODWIN***East Rand Philatelic Society*

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

IN the previous issue of this column, the variety of sub-themes that could be collected under the broad heading of "Christmas on Stamps" was noted. Since then more issues have appeared, and here are some of the more interesting ones.



In light-hearted vein there are four stamps from the Cayman Islands depicting Santa relaxing on the islands after his annual visit. He is shown "Snorkelling at Stingray City" ($1); "Playing Golf" (40c) ; on the "Bluff at Sister Island" (30c) and "Relaxing in a Hammock" (10c) – a cheerful little set.



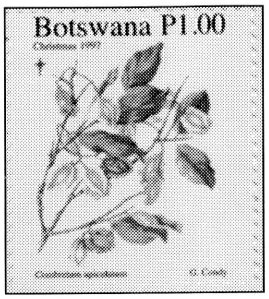
The issue by Fiji depicts four events surrounding the birth of Christ – a feature being the quotation printed on each stamp. The 13c shows the Angel appearing to a shepherd with the wording "Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy". The 31c shows Mary, Joseph and the new born Child with "and she brought forth her firstborn son and laid him in a manger". The Three Wise Men, with the words "when they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy", are on the 87c stamp.

The $1 top value features Mary holding the Child and the words "but Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart". Another attractive set, designed by Jennifer Coombs and printed by Questa.



The Samoan set has a basic design "Towards the Millennium" for all four stamps with a different Christmas decoration on each. The decorations are: a Candle, Bells, a Bauble and a Star which appear on the 70s, 80s, $2 and $3 respectively.

A two value set from Sri Lanka features the "Babe in the Manger" and the "Three Wise Men" on the R2 and R20 values respectively. A souvenir sheet shows the same stamps.

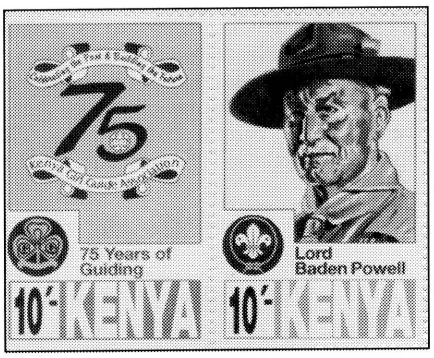


From neighbouring Botswana the Christmas issue was of four stamps all featuring members of the *Combretum* family of flowers. Designed by Gill Condy, the varieties *zeyhen*, *apiculatum*, *molle* and *imberbe* appear on the 35t, P1, P2 and P2.50 values respectively. The wording "Christmas 1997" appears in very small print underneath the country name and the set could easily be overlooked as a Christmas issue.

A different kind of celebration is the Year of the Tiger, which began on 28 January 1998, and we must expect a range of subjects, not just tigers but all types of cats, to adorn the issues which will present us with a range of collectibles.

Jersey Post has already issued a special miniature sheet, value £1, to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. Designed by Victor Ambrus, the subject has been treated in a light-hearted manner in keeping with the celebrations which accompany each New Year.

Out of Africa



THE 75th Anniversary of the Kenya Girl Guide Association was commemorated by the issue of eight stamps in four se-tenant pairs with both stamps in the pair having the same value. The 10/- pair depict Lord Robert Baden Powell alongside the badge for "75 Years of Guiding". Rangers camping and Girl Scouts hiking appear on the 27/- values with Girl Guides planting trees and Boy Scouts doing first aid on the 33/- pair. The 42/- top values show Brownies entertaining the aged and Boy Scouts camping.

Also from Kenya, but promoting Tourist Attractions of East Africa, came a five value set designed by Box Associates of



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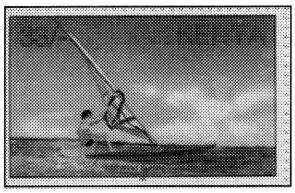
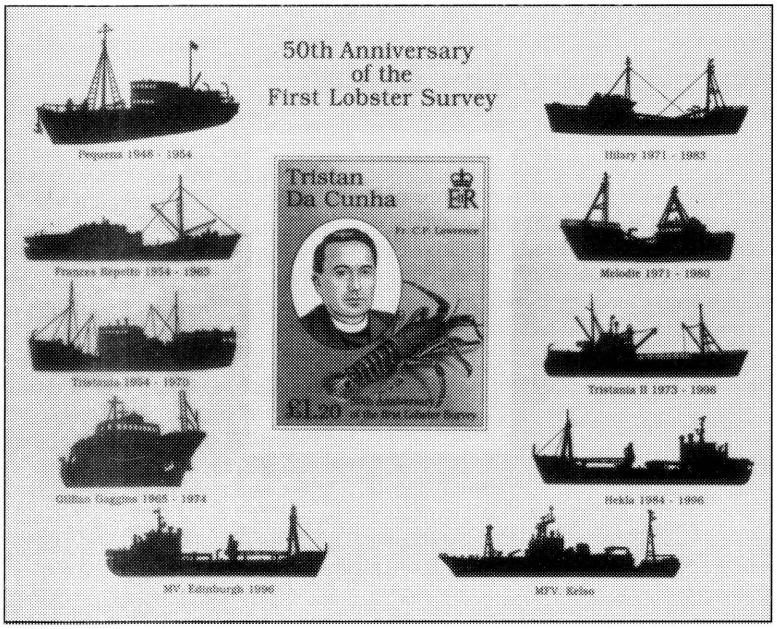


Nairobi. Two of the values, the 10/- and 30/- depict a crocodile and warthog with baby, both creatures found right down to South Africa. The other three values show wind surfing, hot water springs at Lake Bogota and Traditional Huts on the 27/-, 33/- and the 42/- respectively.

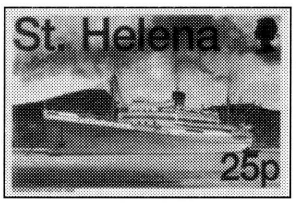
The deepest blue

THE South Atlantic ocean has seen many ships over the years – some of these are depicted on the set issued by Tristan da Cunha to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the First Lobster Survey. The five stamps each show two vessels and the years in which they operated. The 15p shows the *Hilary* (1971-1983) and *Melodie* (1971-1980).



On the 20p the *Tristiana II* (1973-1996) and *Helka* (1984-1996) appear, while the *Pequena* (1948-1954) and *Frances Repetto* (1954-1965) are on the 30p value.

The original *Tristiana* (1954-1970) and *Gillian Gaggins* (1965-1974) are shown on the 45p with the latest arrivals, the MFV *Kelso* and MV *Edinburgh* (1996) . The £1.20 stamp in the souvenir sheet is the only stamp without ships and the only stamp to show a lobster, along with a portrait of Fr CP Lawrence. The border of the sheet shows each of the ships appearing on the five stamps in silhouette, and makes a most effective centre-piece for the issue.





The Union-Castle mailships which served St Helena from 1900 to 1977 are commemorated in an attractive set of four stamps. The *Avondale Castle* (20p) was the first to call in 1900. She also had a distinguished career in World War I, where she served as a troop carrier and later as a hospital ship.

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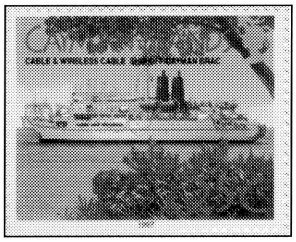
The *Dunottar Castle* (25p) made her maiden voyage in 1936. She saw service in World War II, first as an armed merchant cruiser and later as a troop carrier. She resumed the Round Africa service in 1949 and was later decommissioned after her 94th voyage.

The 30p value shows the *Llandovery Castle*, built in 1925. She entered the Round Africa service that year. She was converted, and commissioned as HM Hospital Ship No 39 in May 1941. She resumed her Round Africa service in 1947 and in 1952 ended her final voyage in London.

The *Good Hope Castle* (80p) was handed over in December 1965. In 1973 a fire which involved the engine room and passenger accommodation caused her to be abandoned while en route Ascension and St Helena. (This resulted in some sought-after modern wreck mail.) Following repairs, she returned to service and served St Helena until 1977 when the contract expired.

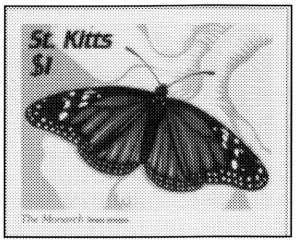
An interesting set with South African connections – all the vessels were seen in our ports.

Communication by ship has now given way to telecommunications, however without quite cutting out a sea vessel. A Cayman Islands set features four ways of communicating. One of the subjects is the Cable & Wireless Cable Ship (25c) which laid the undersea fibre optic cable between the Caymans and Jamaica. The Internet (10c) was introduced by Cable & Wireless in 1995 and, as elsewhere, has grown in popularity in all sections of the community.



The islands can dial directly to over 220 countries around the world via a Standard Satellite B Earth Station (60c), and in September 1997 the Cayman Islands received their own Area Code, 345, (30c). The previous 809 code was shared between all the Caribbean islands and Bermuda and Puerto Rico.

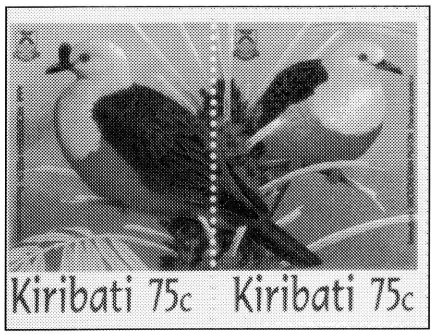
On the wing



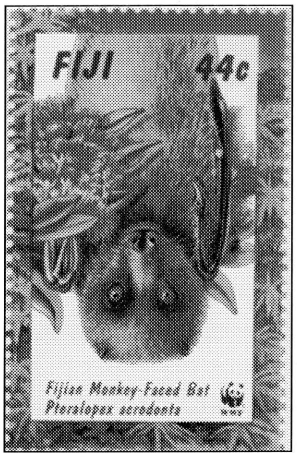


An attractive new definitive set of Butterflies has been released by St Kitts, comprising 14 values ranging from 10c to $10.00. Among the varieties pictured are the Common Long-tail Skipper, the White Peacock and the Caribbean Buckeye which appear on the 10c, 15c and 25c values respectively. The top values show the Zebra, the Southern Dagger Tail, the Polydamus Swallowtail and the Tropical Chequered Skipper, which appear on the $1.60, $3.00, $5.00 and $10.00 values.

Kiribati has again produced an outstanding set of three se-tenant pairs (6 stamps). Each pair makes a single picture, for example an Immature Rock Dove and an Adult Rock Dove are shown on the two 50c values which, when separated



each show one bird. The other two values, the 60c pair and the 75c pair, show an Immature Pacific Pigeon and an adult bird, and an Immature Micronesian Pigeon, with the adult. Norman Arlott designed this colourful set.



Then Fiji has a four stamp set featuring Bats. Each stamp has, in the bottom right-hand corner, the logo of the WWF, making the set viable for collectors under two headings. The Fijian Monkey-faced Bat (*Pteralopex acrodonta*) is the subject of all four stamps, showing the bat in tree foliage. The result is a surprisingly unrepulsive set of flying mammals.

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■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

Meesterlike werk verskyn oor die Nieuwe Republiek

The New Republic in South Africa 1884 – 1888; deur dr GH Jonkers RDPSA.
251 pp, ill., uitgegee deur die skrywer (1997), beskikbaar van Filatelic Phriends, Posbus 26456, Hout Baai 7872, Suid-Afrika, R150,00.

IN 1989 reeds het die skrywer onder 'n byna gelykluidende titel (*De Nieuwe Republiek 1884-1888*, teks in Nederlands) sy studie oor die kortstondige bestaan van hierdie filateliese gebied gepubliseer. Destyds wou 'n mens byna die gevoel kry – daar bly niks meer oor om te sê nie.

Maar steeds is die navorsing aangevul, onder meer met personalia, wat vir verskeie artikels in *The SA Philatelist* gesorg het, en nou het die destydse werk, wat maar 76 bladsye getel het, meer as drievoudig aangegroei.

> *Hy word beskou as die gesaghebbendste boekstawer en versamelaar van sy gekose onderwerp.*

Dr Jonkers, wat in 1993 genooi is om die ererol van die Suider-Afrikaanse Federasie te onderteken, kan sonder vrees vir teenspraak beskou word as die gesaghebbendste boekstawer en versamelaar van sy gekose onderwerp, wat vroeër ook al die aandag geniet het van filateliste soos Tamsen, De Raay en Harvey Pirie.

Sy werkywer is, soos mense sal getuig wat hom soms al op versoek bygestaan het, as legendaries te beskryf. Geen nuwe vraag wat by hom opkom, hoe onbenullig ook al op die oog af, word sonder ondersoek links laat lê nie.

Ook die werk van sy voorgangers word krities aan die soeklig van nuwe insigte onderwerp. Soos so dikwels blyk dit dan dat die een by die ander afgeskryf het, en dat mistastinge 'n veel langer leeftog gegun is as wat dit verdien.

Dit is dan ook geen wonder dat daar aan hierdie boek 'n Vermeil in die literatuurklas toegeken is by die Cape Stamp Show 97 nie, en dat Jonkers ook by dieselfde geleentheid met 'n nie-mededingende Goud bekroon is vir sy voortreflike studieversameling van die Nieuwe Republiek.

The New Republic – teks hierdie keer in Engels – bestaan eerstens uit 'n deeglike en boeiende geskiedkundige relaas van die klein republiek en sy persoonlikhede se wel en wee, wat op sy eie reeds meer as 'n monografie is. Van die tiende van die 19 hoofstukke af word die seëls en posgeskiedenis in die fynste besonderhede behandel.

Wat nou ook weer opval, is Jonkers se statistiese benadering en uitmuntende beskrywende vermoë met tabelle. Was daar maar meer filateliese skrywers met die gawe om hul navorsing en gevolgtrekkings so toeganklik en verstaanbaar beskikbaar te stel.

Sy motto voor in die boek is 'n aanhaling van die Britse staatsman, Benjamin Disraeli: "The best way to become familiar with a subject is to write a book about it." Dit is voor die hand liggend om dit te parafraseer: die beste manier om met die Nieuwe Republiek vetroud te raak, is om hierdie boek te lees.

In die filatelie is ondersoek nooit voltooi nie, maar hierdie publikasie sal bepaald 'n dekade of twee sy gesag as standaardwerk handhaaf.

Military, Mobile and Maritime mails feature in new "Putzel"

The Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies, Vol. 6, Ma–Mo; by Ralph Putzel RDPSA.
300 pp, ill., published by the author (1997), available from PO Box 3008, Tokai 7966, South Africa, hard cover R345,00 soft cover R245,00.

POSTMARK by postmark, and here and there with covers, this sixth volume in what must be one of the few compilations of its kind in the world for a single territory, takes the reader from Maandagshoek in the Transvaal to Modkop Rail in the Cape – the latter a place for which even the indefatigable Putzel has been unable as yet to record a postmark!

> *It must be one of the few compilationts of its kind in the world for a single territory.*

That it may yet turn up is not impossible.

True to his passion for completeness, the author has already given eight pages of addenda for the letters K and L at the beginning of this volume.

Once again, the new volume springs the surprise of treating a whole group of postmarks under a useful generic heading, and who would have expected to find three of them between Ma and Mo?

These are Maritime Mail, Military Mail (encompassing marks from the Anglo-Boer War to World War II and beyond to recent South African Field Post Offices) and finally Mobile Post Offices – 25 numbered and one (Mossel Bay) unnumbered.

Such groupings are, of course, of particular interest in examining a defined subject at a glance.

This is proved by the Maritime section, from pp 98 to 108, which is introduced by a useful explanatory section of where marks might be found that one would otherwise expect here. There is also a note on the origin and usage of Paquebot marks, a subject which some collectors find confusing.

The bulk of the strikes shown are, in fact, Paquebots, as the Ocean Post Office operations are to be dealt with later under O, but there is a sprinkling of naval censor marks and others as well.

> *It should also be mentioned that this massive compilation of information is still available from the word go.*

The author acknowledges that Military Mail is such a vast subject that it cannot possibly be covered in depth at any point. However, his 54 pages are quite enough to whet the appetite.

In particular the World War II markings of South Africa should give non-specialists some serious food for thought in terms of possibly tackling a rather neglected area.

One has become accustomed to seeing the new "Putzel" once a year, and Vols. 7 and 8 are already well advanced. They will complete, respectively, M, N and O, with P in the eighth volume.

Projected prices for these are R390,00 for the hardcover, and R290,00 for the softcover versions.

It should also be mentioned that this massive compilation of information is still available from the word go.

The first four volumes, covering altogether from A–Ka, are available as a set at R940,00 in hardcover (soft cover, R678), and Volume 5 (Ke–Ly) costs the same as the volume reviewed above.

The author's *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices*, which appeared in four volumes and is profusely illustrated with pictures, is also available.

It is in hardcover, at R490,00 for the set – a very reasonable price, as the final volume was completed before inflation really struck after 1990.

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In memoriam

Herbert C Nöckler 29 November 1997

OUR most senior member and veteran of South West Africa/Namibia Philately passed away quietly on Saturday 29 November in the Susanne Grau Home.

Herbert Nöckler was born on 13 March 1906 in Bloemfontein, son of a well known Freestate farmer and former member of the Free State Artillery Corps serving under Major Friedrich Albrecht. After matriculating Herbert attended the Bloemfontein University where he obtained his BA-HED degree first class. His main subjects were English, German and Latin. As a student he obtained Free State colours in athletics and was a regular player in the first league tennis team.

At first he was highly upset, he said many years later, when ordered to fill a teaching post at the Swakopmund Secondary School. His intention was to apply immediately for a transfer back to South Africa. However, he quickly made friends with various other colleagues, and after a short period discovered that life was not that bad after all in the desert town of Swakopmund. Eventually he stayed there for 16 years which, according to him, were the best years in his teaching profession. It was in Swakopmund that he met and married Gertrud, daughter of the wellknown professional photographer and picture postcard producer Karl Schulte, in 1932. In 1931 he obtained his MA degree at the Unisa.

Nöckler's outstanding leadership resulted in him being appointed to various demanding teaching assignments in his career as high school principal. In July 1947 he became principal of the German Private School in Lüderitzbucht. As a result of his efforts a critical shortage of teachers was solved and the school placed in a sound financial position. During his term of office from 1951 to 1957 at the German High School in Hillbrow (Johannesburg) a sound foundation was laid, and the school achieved outstanding results, especially in matric.

From 1958 to 1962 Herbert Nöckler was assigned the task of introducing the post Matric year (Abitur or 13th year) at the German Private High School in Windhoek. Again this assignment was highly successful, and at present up to 50 learners attend the post matric classes annually. Finally, until his retirement in 1971, he was Educational Advisor in the Ministry of Education.

His profound linguistic knowledge resulted in his appointment as part-time translator for amongst others the High Court of South Africa. For Foreign Affairs he was alo involved in the translation of various legal papers during the UN Court Case against South Africa in 1966.

Herbert Nöckler was author of numerous articles concerning education, mainly in South West Africa. His study on "The role of the Boer in the settlement and language in early South West Africa", published in the *Journal of the SWA Scientific Society* Vol. 14/1959 and his book *A Study of blending and borrowing in SWA Languages* are both well known. Under his guidance as President of the Namibia Scientific Society (a position he held for 7 years) a congress on scientific topics concerning Namibia was held in Swakopmund from 20 to 24 April 1962. It was attended and addressed by various well known international scientists.

Where his philatelic interests are concerned, it is known Herbert Nöckler started collecting at a very young age. In Bloemfontein he had compiled a Free State postal history collection which he eventually swopped for a King's Head collection. According to him, this was the best investment he had ever made. We have it from him that when the King's Head collection was eventually auctioned it paid for a handsome deposit for a house in Windhoek. In addition he was able to take his family on a trip to Europe, and a further 5 week holiday excursion to the far East.

Herbert Nöckler's input into philately in South West Africa is indisputable. After his arrival in Swakopmund he formed the first youth stamp club in that town, which was eventually supported by many adults. In 1936 he organized the first successful stamp show in Swakopmund. Through his efforts the South West Africa Stamp Club was eventually founded.

Once again under his chairmanship in 1956, a local stamp exhibition was held in Windhoek to promote stamp collecting. As a great supporter of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, he was mainly instrumental in seeing to it that the SWA Stamp Club became the first South West African member of Federation. Since the early 1950s he regularly attended Congress and philatelic exhibitions in South Africa.

In 1988 he was awarded the WE Lea Trophy by Congress in recognition of his tireless promotion of philately in SWA.

His deep involvement in philately in SWA/Namibia is reflected today in most of the large and highly reputed exhibits in this country, which include items which had originally passed through his hands. For many years a study group gathered under his guidance once a month which resulted in many questions about SWA philately being unraveled. This underlined by the fact that in the important Namibian philatelic literature, such as works by Putzel, Friedemann, Bothe, Burrell and others, one finds his expert contributions.

Herbert Nöckler is survived by his wife Gertrud, three daughters, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, to whom sincere condolences are extended.

Gunter von Schumann RDPSA
Windhoek Philatelic Society

There are Olympian worries at FIP level

THE so-called elite of collecting communities, as exemplified for instance at international level by the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie, is frequently accused of not caring for the "ordinary collector". That this is not the case can be seen in an article by Knud Mohr, one the FIP Vice-Presidents, in the December 1997 issue of *FIP Flash* (no 62).

He, as is FIP of course, is just as concerned at the proliferation of issues worldwide which are threatening the hobby precisely because the "ordinary collector" is thereby threatened.

Mohr presents an analysis of the issues for the Olympic Summer Games from 1896 to 1996. In the first 40 years, from Athens 1896 to Berlin 1936, there were 86 catalogued stamps.

From 1940 (Tokyo and Helsinki) to Helsinki (1952) the number exactly doubled to 172 – and of course there were no Games in 1944. The real shocker is that by the time Atlanta was history in 1996, the figure was no less than 8 610! The figure has multiplied a hundredfold in the last 60 as opposed to the first 40 years of the Games.

Mohr writes; "You will understand that many collectors will stop collecting simply because they cannot afford it any more." (An Olympic collecting acquaintance told the Editor that to obtain all the Atlanta 1996 world-wide issues alone would have cost him well over R1 000.)

What is next? Ballroom dancing?

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Op die velrand/In the margin

New plans for postcards are being considered

VARIOUS options are being explored by the SA Post Office in the revision of its postcard issuing policy. Members of the Postcard Society of Southern Africa (formerly the Cape Postcard Society) were recently asked for their views in a letter from Dr Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services.

Among the plans are:

The current Ericas set, with a blank reverse for correspondence, will from April 1998 onwards have the design on the reverse, with the message and address panel sharing the front (thereby obviously effectively halving the space available for the message).

A "competition card" without designs or frills is to be introduced. At the same time, people will no longer be allowed to stick competition entry forms on postcards.

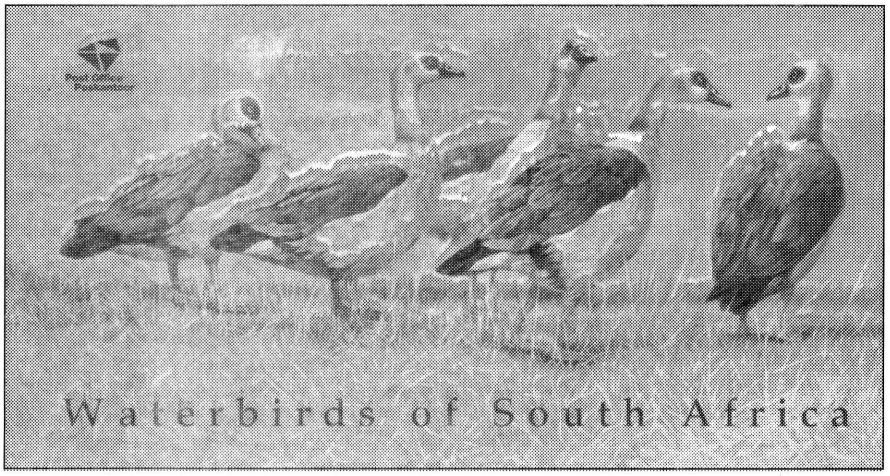
Consideration is being given to increasing the size of postcards from the current 148 x 90 mm to 179 x 96 mm. (Cards would thus be 29 per cent larger.)

Apart from the commemorative cards planned for 1998 (see *The SA Philatelist*, December 1997, p195) similar corporate cards with an advertising message on the front are also under consideration.

The society's input was also requested concerning a suitable subject for a series of "Heritage Cards" for Ilsapex 98, in line with those for the Cape Stamp Show 97 (see *The SA Philatelist*, December 1997, p196).

Postcard Society of Southern Africa Newsletter no 146, November 1997





Two souvenir booklets appear

NO exact issue date beyond "early December" was given for two handsome booklets designated "Souvenir Stamp Booklet Series" Nos. 1 and 2. The first one is titled *1997 Year of Cultural Experiences* and the second *Waterbirds of South Africa.*

No. 1 contains two sheetlets, reprints of the ten stamps in the standard rate Year of Cultural Experiences issue of 17 May 1997 (see *The SA Philatelist*, June 1997, p93), and is sold at R20,00, which is face value. Counting the inside front and back covers, there are a further eight numbered pages of additional illustrated information.The stamps were originally issued to commemorate International Museum Day.

Booklet no 2 is identical in all but one respect, and contains the set of Waterbirds issued on 5 June 1997 (see *The SA Philatelist*, June 1997, p94), to commemorate World Environment Day. The only difference is that the additional pages are not numbered.

This is the first time that the SA Post Office has issued booklets in this format, and the first time since 1927 that South African stamps were not printed by the Government Printer. Printing was by The House of Questa, London, which for the first time in the world used a specialised printing process known as Superlitho, employing a very fine screen.

The technical information states, *inter alia*, that 200 000 of each booklet were printed.

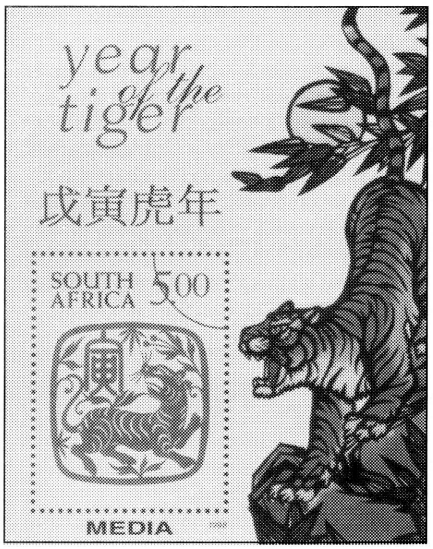
News releases

Jaar van die Tier bespring ons

'n MINIATUURVEL met 'n sigwaarde van R5,00 is op 28 Januarie 1998 uitgereik, die dag waarop die Chinese Jaar van die Tier begin, wat duur tot 15 Februarie 1999.

Dit is ontwerp deur Thea Swanepoel, en die spesiale kansellasie is by die poskantoor Tiegerpoort in die poskantoorstreek Noordelike Provinsie (die kode is 0056), 'n plek waar daar geen straataflewering van pos is nie.

Die Oosterse kalender behels 'n siklus van 12 benaamde jare, elkeen genoem na 'n dier met 'n bepaalde simboliese betekenis wat, volgens Oosterse geloof, ook sy



invloed en eienskappe oordra aan mense wat in dié besondere jaar gebore is.

Die diere is die rot (die eerste maal dat Suid-Afrika 'n soortgelyke miniatuurvel uitgereik het, sien *The SA Philatelist*, Augustus 1996, p128), os (sien Augustus 1997, p129), tier, haas, draak, slang, perd, bok, aap, haan, hond en vark.

Nuusvrystelling

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Marine vessel on a stamp

THE National Sea Rescue Institute of SA (NSRI) was founded on 29 May 1967, and "in appreciation of the Institute's dedicated service to the people of South Africa", a standard rate postage stamp and FDC are being issued on 11 February 1998.



The stamp shows the vessel *Rescue 8*, and was designed by Dennis Bagnall. The cancellation is at Hout Bay.

The NSRI's two objectives are to save lives at sea and to promote water and boating safety. In its 31 years of operation the institute's voluntary crews have set out on over 8 000 rescue missions, saving and assisting nearly 15 000 people.

The institute has its headquarters in Cape Town, with regional offices in Durban, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg, and there are 18 paid staff members and 650 trained volunteers. There are 24 coastal stations and one inland (Vaal Dam), and the fleet of 54 rescue craft has a replacement value of R38,5 million.

News release

Namibia's issues for 1998

THE recently issued Namibian stamp programe for 1998 thus far comprises the following:

15 January 1998

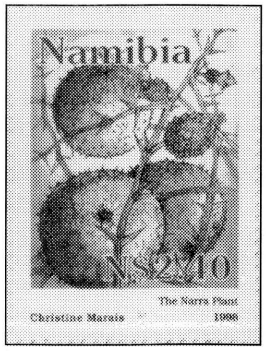
Gabriel Taapopi, 1 stamp and FDC

26 January 1998

Large Wild Cats, 4 stamps, MS, FDC (Values N$1,20, 1,90, 2,00, 2,50, designer Sheila Nowers, see illustration)

9 February 1998





Narra Plant, 1 stamp, FDC, (Value N $2,40, designer Christine Marais, see illustration)

23 March 1998

Water Awareness,1 stamp, FDC

1 April 1998

Owls, 5 stamps, booklet

14 May 1998

Shells, Expo 98 (Portugal), 4 stamps, MS, FDC

5 June 1998

World Environment Day, 4 stamps, FDC

18 June 1998

Animals with their young, Juvalux (Luxembourg), strip of 5 stamps, FDC

3 August 1998

Special greetings, 5 stamps, booklet

26 September 1998

Caprivi, 10 stamps, sheetlet

20 October 1998

Black Rhino, Ilsapex 98 (Johannesburg), MS, FDC

Artist honoured in Namibia

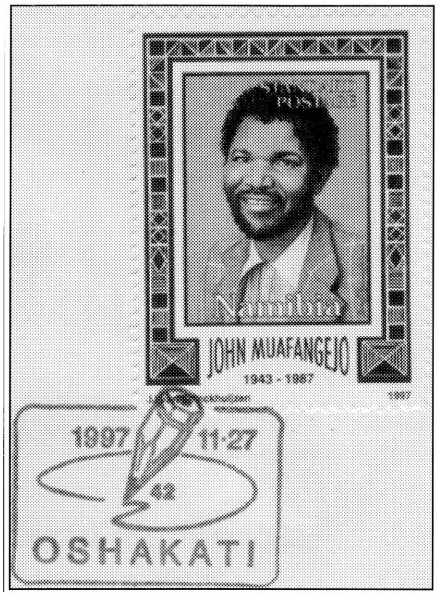
THE internationally acclaimed artist John N Muafangejo (1943-1987) was depicted on a standard rate stamp issued by Namibia on 27 November 1997. The FDC datestamp was at Oshakati, and the cover depicted a detail of his *Etosha Pan Wildlife* linocut of 1982.

The stamp design was by JJ van Ellinckhuijzen.

Muafangejo was born at Etunda lo Nghadi on the Angolan side of Oukwanyama as the sixth of eight children. He began carving out drawings on trees while still a herdboy. He was educated at various Anglican schools and, with the aid of a scholarship, studied art at the Arts and Crafts Centre of the Lutheran Church at Rorke's Drift in Natal.

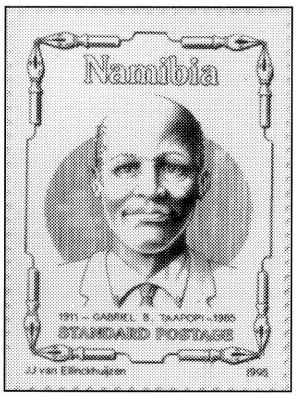
While he learned various styles and techniques, economy dictated that he confined himself to linocuts. From 1970 he taught art at the Odibo mission school for four years.

FDC insert



Educator is featured

THE well known Namibian educator Gabriel B Taapopi (1911-1985) was the subject of the country's first issue for 1998 on 15 January. The design, at the standard rate, was by JJ van Ellinckhuijzen, and the FDC datestamp was at Oshakati. The printing was by Joh. Enschedé



Taapopi was born in 1911 near Endola in the Kwanyama tribal area, spent some years at the Finnish mission Ongwediva, and did migratory labour. He began teaching in 1935, and qualified as a teacher at the Stofberg Commemorative School in the then Orange Free State in 1940.

Returning to Ongwediva, he was a schoolmaster for 12 years before becoming tribal secretary in the Kwaluudhi area from 1953 to 1963. From 1964 to 1977, when he was pensioned, Taapopi was assistant for the Kwanyama language at the Native Language Bureau in Windhoek.

FDC insert

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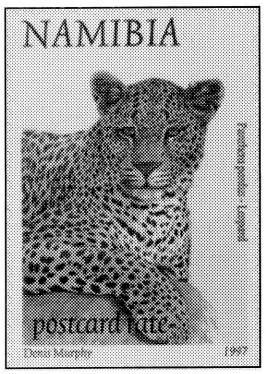


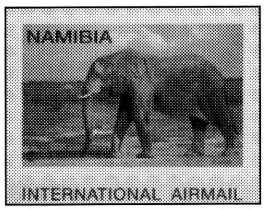
Namibia Third Definitives now in self-adhesives and booklets

NAMPOST has made its first three self-adhesive stamps available, grouped ten to a sheet. The designs are all from the Third Definitive issue (see *The SA Philatelist*, October 1997, p162) and the values are the standard rate (the Rosyfaced lovebird), postcard rate (Leopard) and N$1, 00 (Lilacbreasted roller).

Three booklets featuring stamps from this Fauna and Flora issue have also been made available. One of them contains all the values in the series (18 stamps), and the other two contain respectively 10 standard and 10 postcard rate stamps.

All the booklets were printed by Enschedé, in quantities of 50 000 each for the latter two, and 100 000 of the complete series booklet.

News releases



An elephant with the imprint INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL is on the latest aerogramme issued by Nampost.

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

New Ilsapex 98 Bulletin is out

WITH the appearance of Bulletin No 2 for Ilsapex 98 (20 to 25 October 1998 at Gallagher Estate, Johannesburg) comes the news that the exhibition was oversubscribed and, from this point of view, can already be regarded a a success.

From overseas 42 countries are supporting Ilsapex 98, and a major feature will be the exhibition, for the first time anywhere in the world including Israel, of material from the philatelic archives of the Israel Postal Authority.

This is the first South African exhibition which takes place with the support of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP), and which is to be judged according to FIP rules. The jury, chaired by David Crocker RDPSA, consists of 21 South Africans and 13 jurors from UK, Israel, the USA, France, Singapore, Germany, Canada and Namibia. There are also five learners jurors from South Africa.

There are two philatelic articles in the bulletin, namely: "Transvaal – Internal, Interstate and UK Letter Rates 1859-1900" by George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPSL, and "Israel 1948-1949 Taxed Mail" by Yacov Tsachor, one of the two vice-chairmen of the jury.

In his message in the bulletin, Dr Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, points out that international exhibitions are not neccessarily "a gathering of outdated menfolks speaking in archaic tongues and dealing in fossilized concepts. . . exhibitions act as a showcase for philately. This is where new research is aired, where new styles of exhibition are explored, and new ideas are exchanged and compared."

Just about half the bulletin is devoted to essential information for intending visitors, both local and overseas, and it is available free from Ilsapex 98, PO Box 1916, Houghton 2041, South Africa.

The chairman of the organising committee, David Stern RDPSA, can be contacted at ☎ (011) 784-8312/3/4 (office hours), 444-4243 (after hours), 784-8315 (fax) and by e-mail at dstern-@iafrica.com

Reports from the Management Committee

SEVERAL items of general interest were minuted at the meeting of the Management Committee held on 21 November 1997.

- **Regions and Vice-Presidents:** For general societies in areas outside South Africa, Dr HU (Ulli) Bantz is now the vice-president, while for specialised societies in these areas, it is John Cheminais. There are five societies in the former group, and seven in the latter.
- **Junior exhibitions:** It was confirmed that Junass 98, to be held from 10 to 12 July 1998 at Pinetown, would be able to occupy the required premises at Umdoni Centre free of rent. The jury will consist of Martin East (chairman), Coen Slagt RDPSA, Glen Carpendale, Howard Lenton and a learner juror.

Final dates for Junass 99, to be held at the Centurion Library during June 1999 around Youth Day (16 June) are still to be determined. Chairman of the jury will be David Wigston.

It was decided that a fifth age group (19 to 21 years, age determined at 1 January in the year of exhibition) will be added to junior exhibitions, in line with FIP regulations.

- **Congress 1998:** Thursday 22 October 1998, in the course of Ilsapex 98, has been confirmed as the date for the 60th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.
- **New South African judges:** On the recommendation of the Judging Committee, Moira Bleazard, Brian Franklin and Pauw Steyl, who were learner jurors at the Cape Stamp Show 97, have been placed on the Federation's list of accredited judges.

Juniors show in Australia

FIVE junior philatelists represented South Africa at Stampshow 97 (3 to 6 October 1997) held at Fremantle, Western Australia.

Leon Beukes (Centurion) and Geo de Kock (Odendaalsrus) were awarded Bronze, Dawie Conradie (Odendaalsrus) got Large Silver, Willie Conradie (Odendaalsrus) achieved Vermeil and the Youth Encouragement Award, while Lizette Scheepers (Yaccy Postal Stamp Club) also had a Vermeil and the Youth Runner-up Award.

Three juniors – Lizette Scheepers, Dori Kawalsky and Wilie Conradie – have been accepted for Israel 98, and nine have applied to Ilsapex 98.

- The Youth Committee (PO Box 9248, Cinda Park, 1463) has available three pamphlets "For the learner stamp collector". The titles are "Why join a stamp club?", "From shoebox to showing" and "Condition and care of stamps and covers".

International exhibition news

SOUTH AFRICA is supporting two FIP exhibitions in 1999: Ibra 99 at Nuremberg, Germany (27 April to 4 May), for which a commissioner has yet to be appointed, and China 99 in Beijing (21 to 30 August), where Peter van der Molen is the commisioner.

Thus far only The Stamp Show 2000 is on the calendar for the year of the millennium. It is to be held from 22 to 28 May

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2000, and Harry Birkhead RDPSA is the South African commissioner.

FIP board considers juror age

THE most recent two FIP newsletters (*FIP Flash* nos. 61 and 62, September and December 1997) have reported in detail on what is being perceived as a problem. In a nutshell: FIP currenty has 385 accredited jurors, and there is not sufficient opportunity world-wide to deploy their services. As a result, younger jurors have little chance of serving.

A thorough age analysis showed that only 10 per cent of FIP jurors were under 50, while 25 per cent are over 70 years old. The largest percentage is 34 (60 to 70 years) followed by 28 (50 to 60).

A great deal of nuanced discussion took place about this at a meeting of the FIP board, which tentatively suggested that only apprentice jurors not older than 55 to 60 years should be nominated for service and possible accreditation.

As was to be expected, subsequent responses varied considerably. The German, Austrian and Swiss federations declared themselves in favour of the suggestion. The American Philatelic Society however, threatened to leave FIP if an age limit were introduced as, in its view, any form of discrimination would be contrary to the American constitution.

The prickly problem was to be further discussed by the board in the course of Indepex 97 during December in New Delhi. Also, FIP member federations were to be asked to ensure that they nominated their accredited jurors within 3 to 4 years of accreditation being granted.

Society in Namibia is looking for varieties

THE Windhoek Philatelic Society is updating "Stamps and Varieties of South West Africa and Namibia", and invites co-operation.

If collectors know of, or have, stamps or varieties in their possession which are not listed in *The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue*, they should send the society a brief description accompanied by a clear photocopy. It would be helpful if they would indicate at the same time whether they would allow a photograph or colour photocopy of the item.

The address is: Windhoek Philatelic Society, PO Box 2285, Windhoek, Namibia.

Newsletter

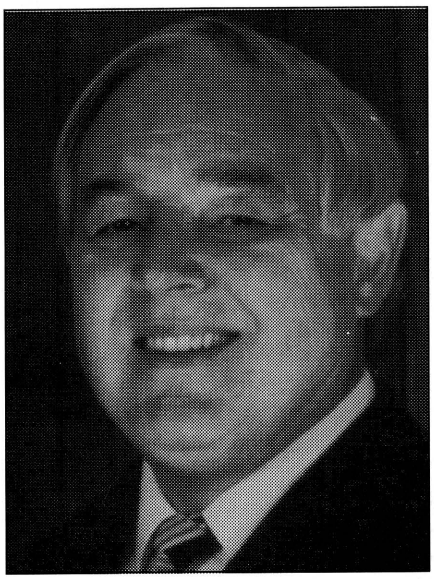
50th anniversary in style

IT is expected that many members of the Rhodesia Study Circle around the world will visit Zimbabwe in the course of April 1998. A Philatelic Week to celebrate the circle's 50th anniversary is to be held from 17 to 24 April in Harare, culminating in a 50th Anniversary Dinner.

The Mashonaland Philatelic Society is hosting the affair, which includes three days of displays of major collections, an auction and plenty of distractions for non-philatelic partners.

The South African representative of the study circle is Danny Swart RDPSA, who can be contacted at ☎ (011) 880-3125 (work) or 465-3246 (home).

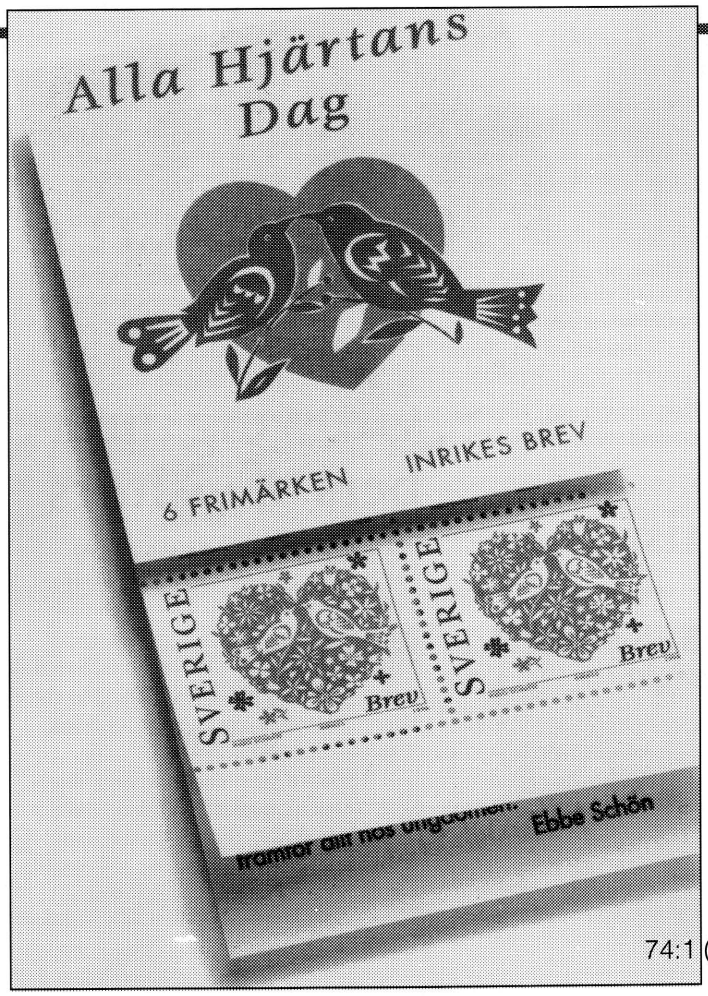
Journal, RSC



Colin Hoffman RDPSA, chairman of the RSC (see *The SA Philatelist*, December 1997, p204)

Afrikaans kan gaan leen: Op 15 Januarie 1998 het Swede sy gebruiklike seël uitgereik ter viering van wat in Suid-Afrika Valentynsdag genoem word. Dit is 'n "geen-waarde" seël wat die standaard brieftarief dek (5 Sweedse kroner) en word in boekies van ses beskikbaar gestel.

Interessant is egter dat toe die gewoonte om 14 Februarie aan spesiaal verliefdes te wy in 1956 van Amerika na Swede oorgewaai het, het hulle besluit om 'n ander naam te soek – miskien omdat Swede oorwegend Luthers (Protestants) is, en die naam van 'n Rooms-Katolieke heilige weinig betekenis sou hê. Dit het toe "Alla Hjärtens Dag" geword, wat soepel en taalkundig korrek in Afrikaans Alle Hartensdag sou kan word. (*Die Redakteur*).



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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Advertising & Subscription

The SA Philatelist is published six times a year by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. It is the mouthpiece of organised philately in the region, and has been in existence since 1923. It is widely read and respected both locally and overseas.

A single copy costs R10,00, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R50,00. In the rest of the world, Africa elsewhere included, the subscription rate is R80,00, post paid. Overseas readers who wish to receive their copies by air mail pay a subscription rate of R150,00.

Subscription orders and enquiries should be directed at the Hon Circulation Manager, ✉412505, Craighall 2024, RSA.

Dimensions

1/1 = 26 x 17,5 cm
2/3 landscape = 17 x 17,5 cm
2/3 upright = 26 x 11,5 cm
1/2 landscape = 12,75 x 17,5 cm
1/2 upright = 19,5 x 11,5 cm
1/3 landscape = 8,5 x 17,5 cm
1/3 upright = 26 x 5,5 cm
1/4 upright= 12,75 x 8,5 cm
1/4 landscape = 6 x 17,5 cm
1/8 = 6 x 8,5 cm
Bantam = 3 x 5,5 cm (maximum 35 words*)

● Note: All measurements are given Vertical x Horizontal.

*Bantam advertisements are type-set free of charge by *The SA Philatelist*

Rates in SA rand.....(plus VAT*)

Full page (1/1) = **R430,00**.....**R60,20**
Two-third page (2/3) = **R320,00**..**R44,80**
Half page (1/2) = **R240,00**.....**R33,60**
One-third page (1/3) = **R165,00**...**R23,10**
Quarter page (1/4) = **R130,00**.....**R18,20**
Eight page (1/8) = **R75,00**.....**R85,50**
Bantam size = **R20,00**.....**R2,80**

● Note that there is a 5 per cent discount for six consecutive insertions.

*VAT is deductible by local advertisers as input tax, and is not payable by advertisers outside South Africa.

Special Position Advertisements

Apply to the Hon. Advertising Manager (see below) for rates and availability of the front cover, the inside front and back covers, and the back cover.

Smalls advertisements: 30 cents per word, minimum charge R3,60. There is a discount of 25 per cent for six identical, consecutive insertions. Smalls advertisements are type-set free of charge by *The SA Philatelist.*

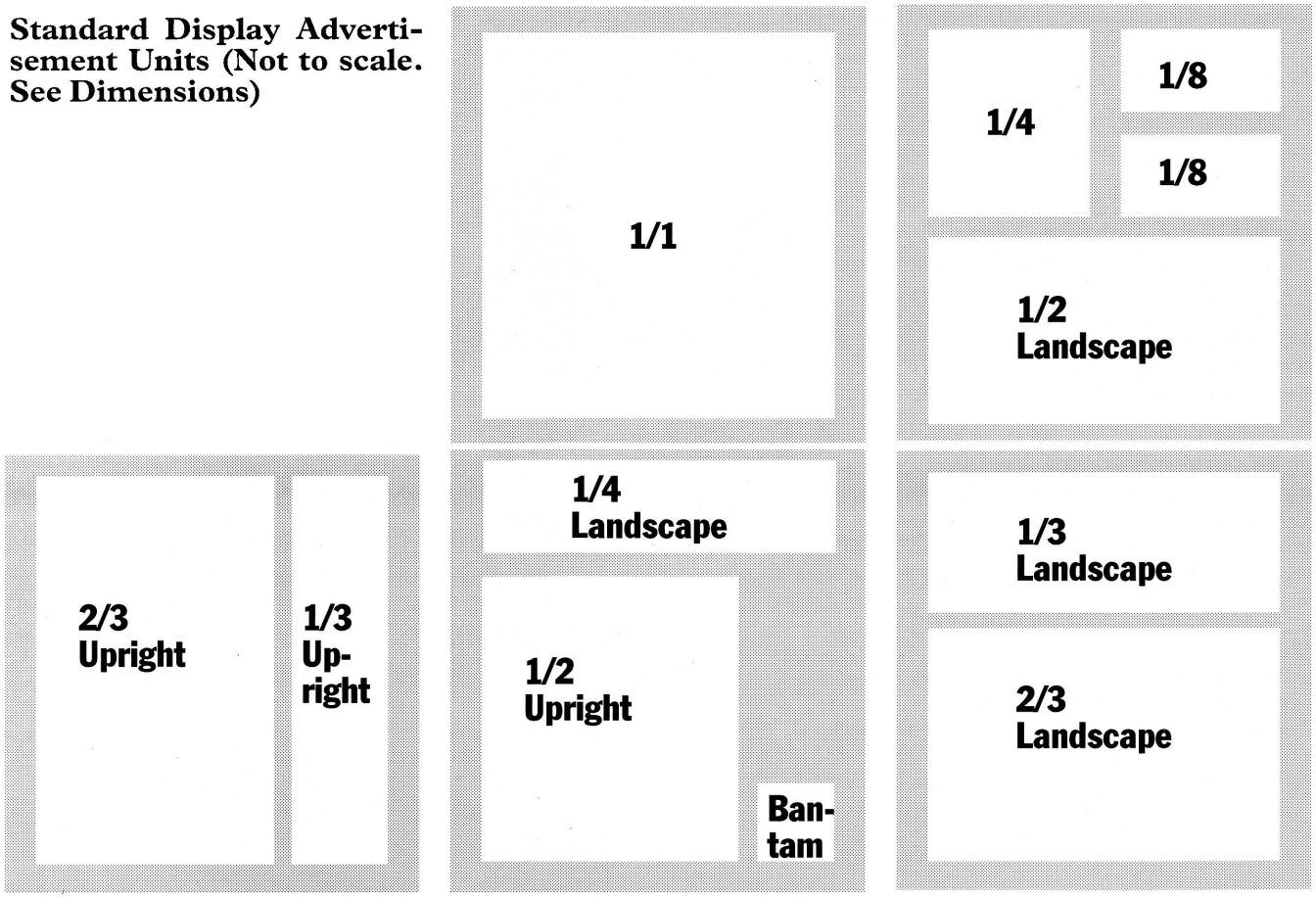
Advertising deadlines

Camera-ready copy or film negatives-/positives must be in the hands of the Hon Advertising Manager on the fifth day of the month preceding publication. This means:

5 January for February
5 March for April
5 May for June
5 July for August
5 September for October
5 November for December

All orders and further technical enquiries regarding advertising in *The SA Philatelist* should be directed to the Hon Adertising Manager, J. Michelson RDPSA, ✉9314, Johannesburg 2000, RSA, at ☎+27 (011) 493-6260, or fax (011) 493-0602, or cell ☎ 083 266 4359.

Standard Display Advertisement Units (Not to scale. See Dimensions)



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Onderonsies/Society news

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

November 1997: Seven members studied Mr Thompson's Cape Town 97 exhibit "Aspects of SWA Postal History during the period 1914-1918" which was awarded Vermeil and the East Rand Philatelic Society Trophy for the best first time exhibit.

Mr Thompson discussed the more elusive items in his collection and then listed some of the critical comments and suggestions received from the judges on his exhibit in order to improve it to Gold: less information on military matters and persons; refine the information related to postal matters; add more variety to the exhibit by replacing some of the postcards with covers; do not design the exhibit on a page by page basis; take the makeup of the whole frame into account; items on each page should be mounted at the same distance from the top line of a pre-printed border; large items should not be mounted across a pre-printed border – rather turn the sheet over, mount on the reverse and draw your own border by hand; no photographs of soldiers, camp life etc. ("human interest" is not the aim a postal history exhibit); and lastly: do not include philatelic fabrications and souvenirs.

H U Bantz

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

October 1997: John Bleazard showed, on behalf of Moira, an improved exhibit of her masterpiece "Aliya" which she had exhibited before.

Moira has been working on this favourite exhibit of hers, showing continuous research for new ideas and improvements, and the result is excellent – beautifully written up and well presented.

Lester Frankel gave us the surprise of the decade after attending our meetings for many years, but never exhibiting – always protesting he has only "bits and pieces". Lester showed a beautifully writen up (by computer) and splendid exhibition entitled "Calligraphy and Illuminations" which took our breath away. We believe him when he admitted to spending late nights getting it ready.

Willie Mann showed part of his vast collection of official Israeli Postal Stationery.

November: Lester Frankel sprung another big surprise, this time with an exhibit of SWA Definitives, all beautifully written up and arranged, showing how he has become a serious collector. We are looking forward to seeing some more "surprises" in the coming years from a new exhibitor of a very high standard.

Willie Mann showed the last five years of Isle of Man, some with very high values, and all masterpieces of modern design and printing.

Frank Friedman showed his favourite collection of "Diamonds" – true to his trade – which gained a vermeil at the recent exhibition in Cape Town. Frank covers so many aspects of the subject, including some real diamonds, that it requires a lot of concentration to absorb his pages.

Letters from people to people, some very famous – including Cecil Rhodes, and a Standard Bank cheque from him – are part of the exhibit, as are areas and countries of processing, and types and colours of stones. It makes a real history of diamonds.

December: Although poorly attended (holidays?) we all enjoyed a get together with talk on stamps and the year's activities and, of course, about the forthcoming Ilsapex exhibition due in October 1998, on which our senior members and ex-chairman spent so many years in planning, assisted by our committee.

Willie Mann

MARITZBURG PS

October: Mike Dyer gave a special welcome to our guest of honour, Brian Dennis, "the Perfin Man" who is retiring to Somerset West, and who has been a member for more than 20 years! Mike hopes that he will find a new club, and may he give them as much pleasure as he has given us.

Francis Eustace reported that up to now the Willowton Hub had used a canceller "POSTE RESTANTE", now it says "STAMP ROOM"!

Peter Southwood showed his Hong Kong Frama labels bought at Stanley Gibbons in London.

Angus Pringle, our exhibitor for the evening then put up his exhibit of 37 pages. He spoke about the changes he had noted in the Building issue. They had stopped putting the a, b, c, d on sheets and that the 12c and 50c were found to be much darker. An extract from the Study Circle Newsletter reports change from photogravure to litho.

He showed the strange "S" under the Jan Smuts issue and some values from 1984 changing over to litho. Francis asked whether this could not have been rechromed? Angus said an article had been written by Regina Smith on this issue.

The Kirstenbosch issue showed the cylinder block numbers at opposite ends of the sheets. He mentioned a forgery that he had bought on postal auction which showed Harrison paper with RSA watermark – probably the Government Printer needing additional sheets.

The ITU issue had also unwatermarked and RSA paper. The Conservation issue of 1976 showed some on yellow paper, the Cheetah, for example.

Kees de Jong said the catalogue says all strips in that issue have yellow paper and Angus agreed. He added that in the present definitive issue there is a green gum noticed. After a general exchange of suggestions and ideas the meeting closed.

Peter Southwood

MASHONALAND PS

October: 25 Members and one guest came to the meeting, and saw Adrian de Bourbon's "1 000 miles from nowhere", an entry for the Peinke Cup. This turned out to be the stamps and postal history of the Seychelles, 1861-1976. Adrian first went there on honeymoon in 1976 and has been back several times.

He said: "From a stamp collecting perspective it is very varied and interesting – and not too expensive!"

Adrian gave the history of the islands and noted that although they got their first post office in 1861, they only got their own stamps in 1890. In the meantime they used the stamps of Mauritius, which their post office cancelled with the B64 Seychelles obliterator. Indeed the islands were administered from Mauritius all through the 19th century, only becoming a colony in their own right as late as 1903.

From 1861 to 1901 their one and only post office was the one in the capital, Victoria. Only from 1901 did a few other post offices open. Like other colonies, Seychelles used postal stationery, but its use proved uneconomic and was discontinued in about 1960.

Adrian exhibited the stamps and postal stationery in their entirety, but noted that the postmark section was incomplete. As he said, Seychelles postmarks "are hard to come by, particularly in this part of the world." He hoped that the exhibit "brings to mind white sands and blue seas, as well as a rich postal tradition."

The One-Page Competition (letter Q) was won by Mrs Morrison and Mr Duffey. They managed to achieve a tie with their "Queens" and "Quarter of 80" (the latter referring to a stamp of Bavaria, so I was told).

Recent months have been unusually social ones for the society: a Sunday lunchtime braai at Highlands Sports Club at the end of September, and the annual dinner at Gee Gee's (the restaurant at the Borrowdale Race Course) at the beginning of November.

Ian Johnstone

The longer 'Dennis Murphy'

David Sinclair and David Watts

AN interesting new setting has appeared on the Rhino standardized rate stamp. The letters under the bottom margin have been enlarged and thinned. This can be immediately recognized by the length of DENNIS MURPHY, the name of the designer – now almost one letter longer.

In the sheet form, the new setting comes from the same cylinder and date as the last printing, that is Cyl 2820-2823; dated 1996-07-01.

Other details of this distinctive setting are: The c of South Africa is directly under the a of Afrika in the new printing, whereas in the previous printing it was slightly to the left; the black margin round the rhino is slightly larger in the new printing; and finally, the positioning of the figure 2820 in the new cylinder is towards the top of the block, whereas in the previous one it is towards the bottom of the rectangle in which it is contained.

The stamps also have a distinctive reddish hue to the Rhino, and the setting also appears on the ESI miniature sheet.

Postcards are also affected, with the following issues showing the new setting:

The Erica reprints
The Cape Town Ladies
The Gordon House Corporate card
The SA Post Office Promotional Card

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News and notes/Aktualiteit

A souvenir for collectors of Judaica

THE Leicester Synagogue in Great Britain celebrates its centenary this year, and a commemorative cover has been produced to mark the occasion.

The cover bears a set of the four Golden Wedding stamps issued in Britain in honour of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh, and the special canceller, dated 24 March 1998, depicts the synagogue. The edifice also appears in a larger drawing in blue-grey on the left of the cover.

It can be ordered, at £5,00, from S Kacher, 17 Craighill Road, Leicester LE2 3FD, UK. **News release**

Own a piece of the action

AN offer which one may not refuse – or maybe will, after all – is open until 31 March 1998.

It appears that a syndicate has been formed known as Stamp Collection No 1. What happened is this: Shortly after the sale of the fabled Swedish Treskilling Yellow by David Feldman in 1996 (knocked down at Sfr 2,875 million, about R9,6 million) an option was negotiated with the purchaser to buy it at a fixed price.

In addition, the unique so-called Danish Full Sheet was thrown in for the syndicate at a total of Sfr 3,8 million. This sheet is the only known imperforate example of the 1905 issue of the Danish Christian IX 100 ore stamp, described as "probably the most valuable item in Danish 20th century philately".

Now 1 000 shares are offered by the syndicate, and "co-owners" must take up at least one, at Dkr 22 500,00 per share. (That makes R161 700.)

Information about "the attractive performance of collectors' stamps as an investment object" is also available from Amaliegade 28, DK 1256, Copenhagen. **News release**

Swiss auction announced

THE firm of Hans R Schwarzenbach will be holding its next public auction on 5 and 6 June 1998 at Oberdorfstrasse 8, CH-8024, Zürich 1. **News release**

Philatelic finders/Snuffelgids

30 cents per word, R3,60 minimum (VAT included), payment with order. 10 per cent discount on 6 identical, consecutive insertions.
30 sent per woord, R3,60 minimum (BTW ingesluit), betaling met bestelling. 10 persent afslag op 6 identiese, agtereenvolgende plasings.

TE KOOP/FOR SALE

MINT RSA Stamps, Controls, FDC, MS, Maxicards. Most items 30% SACC Prices. Write to C Jackson-Moss, PO Box 2085, Grahamstown 6140.

RANDBURG COIN – PO Box 2434 Randburg 2125. Tel 789-2233 Fax (011) 886-6404. Krugerrands, World Gold, Proof Sets, Medallions, War Medals, SA and World Banknotes.

STAMP MAGAZINE (British monthly). Complete May 1968 – October 1988. Any offers? ES Whitlock, Box 88, Graaff-Reinet 6280, tel (0491) 2-2479.

STAMP PACKETS. 1 000 World R15, 1 000 SA R10 + R3 postage. Write PO Box 12, Vierfontein 2615.

STAMPS FROM 05c to R500 in booklets circulated two to three times a month. Thousands of stamps and postmarks to choose from. To become part of this circuit join the East London Philatelic Society. For further information contact Arthur Bush PO Box 925 East London phone 41-2751 or fax 2-6863 on code 0431.

WANTED/GEVRA

BOPHUTHATSWANA. Want used on or off cover, also revenues and postal stationery. Anything else specialised. Will Ross, 21820 Burbank Blvd. Suite 235, Woodland Hills, CA-91367 USA Email: rossw-@pacbell.net.

FISH HOEK, NOORDHOEK, KOMMETJIE pre-1960 postal history to and from, including post office cancellations and postcards. Please contact Roy Stuart, 14 Herschel Road, Fish Hoek, 7975. Tel (021) 785-2054.

GB MINT DECIMAL STAMPS Can be rusted, torn, creased, etc. Must have original gum. Write with details to Robert Smith, 84 Mount Road, Port Elizabeth 6001 for offer.

PARROTS Philatelic material, including essays, stamps, miniature sheets, postcards and Cinderella stamps relating to the wide parrot family of birds. Please contact Roy Stuart, 14 Herschel Road, Fish Hoek, 7975. Tel (021) 785-2054.

PHONECARDS – buying 30 rand set mint, 8 rand set used. Prompt payment. Selling overseas phonecards. Send for list. Adam Cooke, First Phonecard, PO Box 2111, London NW11 OHW, England.

VICTORIA FALLS– any period. BRITISH ASSOCIATION VISIT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA – 1905. Please send details of any material for sale relating to these topics to C Cordes, PO Box 62362, Marshalltown 2107, South Africa.

WANTED: Set of 1979 El Salvador Pre-historic Animals in mint condition SG Vol 1 nos 1611-1616. Also set of Uganda 1992 Pre-historic Animals mint condition SG Vol 3 nos 1084-1091 AND set 1983 Uganda Elephants mint condition SG Vol 3 nos 406-409 OR Uganda Elephants SG Vol 3 nos 1988-1991 in mint condition. JJM Coetzee, 50 Cragg Street, Rynfield, Benoni 1501.

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Hungary: János Cserkuti, Fillér u. 6, 1024 Budapest has a large stock of predominantly Hungarian stamps which he would like to exchange on Scott or Michel catalogue base.

Russia: Vladimir Krishenko, Frunzenskaya nabereznaya 36-297, 119146 Moscow, is looking for mint stamps and FDCs of South Africa, as well as a South African catalogue. He will exchange this for a Russian one, and for stamps of Russia, Japan, Hungary, Canada, Indonesia and Nepal. *En, sê Vladimir, mense kan maar in Afrikaans ook aan hom skryf!*

Russia: Michael Romanov, PO Box 303, 198261 St Petersburg, offers USSR and Russian material (mint) from 1958 onwards, as well as thematics, used, in complete sets from 1961-1992, and the controversial provisionals of the Ukraine, Georgia, Touva, St. Petersburg and others. He is interested in mint and thematic material of the RSA and the rest of Africa.

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SOUTH AFRICA



1959 3d Academy
Blue omitted SG169a
Six exist UMM £1500



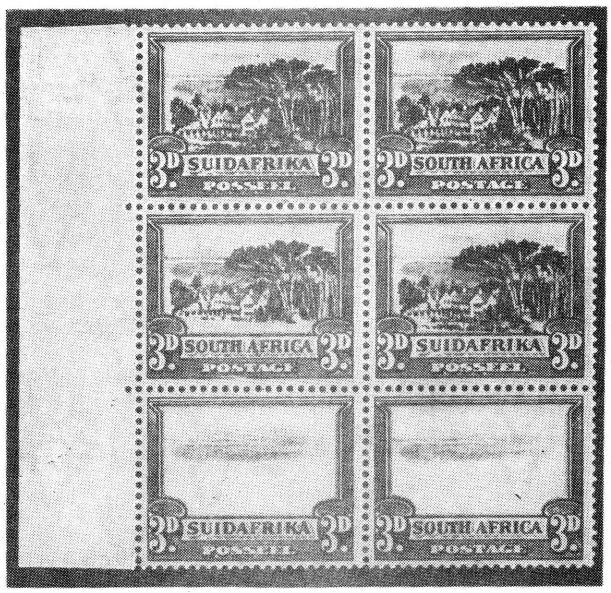
1963 Red Cross omitted
in pair with normal
SG226a UMM £1500



1913 6d SG11
Partial
omission due
to intrusion
Mint £650



1939 1/- Frame completely and
partially omitted SG62a
Spectacular Variety UMM £6500



1937 (Sept) 3d 4th Ptg SG45b
Centre totally omitted on lower pair
Possibly unique, other examples seen
are partial omissions. Clear 1997
B.P.A. Certificate. To be listed in
next Stanley Gibbons Catalogue.
Major KGVI & Union Variety P.O.R.

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

APRIL
1998

R10,00 BTW inkl.

ISSN 0038-2566

Vol 74:2 827

- Chronicle of the Namibia 'Chinese issues'
- SA's Rhinos are reviewed and tabulated
- The first KLM flight sixty years ago
- A new column for thematic collectors
- Afrikaans kuier in Sasolburg
- First meter found in USA

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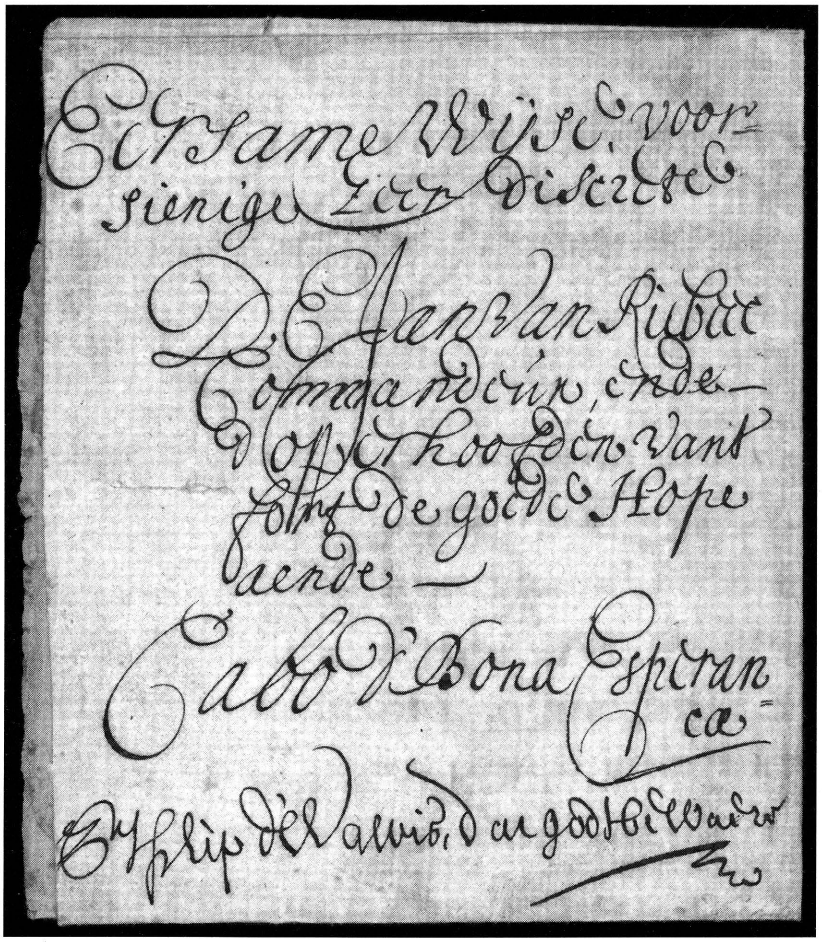
WITH FINE PRE-STAMP POSTAL HISTORY



Wrapper addressed to Jan van Riebeeck
Carried by the ship "Walvis" - Est R20000-25000

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PHILATELIST

APRIL 1998 Vol 74 Nr 2 Heel Nr 827

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Inhoud/Contents

The Rhino standardised mail stamp 1993-1997 – a brief survey....33
David Sinclair
The KLM "first flight" to South Africa of 6 December 1938....36
LMA Crandel FRPSL
In memoriam: Frank Snyman....54
Gunter von Schumann RDPSA

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag....30
The SA Philatelist: Looking Back....32
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
Themafrica....38
Ds JC (Cassie) Carstens
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag....40
Neville Gomm
Nuwe uitgawes/New issues....44
Howard Godwin
Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf....49
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
Op die velrand/In the margin....51
News and notes/Aktualiteit....55
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse....57
Onderonsies/Society News....59
Philatelic Finders/Snuffelgids....60

In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

ONS leef in 'n wonderlike tegnologiese tydvak van hierdie eeu, een wat sekere dinge soveel makliker en eenvoudiger maak. Die produksie van hierdie tydskrif, byvoorbeeld, is oneindig vergemaklik deur elektroniese kommunikasie en met die gebruik van 'n moderne rekenaarstelsel om setwerk, redigering, uitleg en selfs bladsynegatiewe se produksie van ure na minute te verminder.

Maar aan die einde van die millennium kyk 'n mens tog soms terug na bepaalde outydse waardes en gebruike wat nog so min as vyftig jaar gelede in swang was. En jy wonder of ons regtig afstand moet doen van so veel daarvan.

Trouens, die een wat waarskynlik die ergste gemis word, is die gebruik waaraan ons ons hele stokperdjie te danke het: die skryf van 'n brief. Moderne maniere om met mekaar in aanraking te kom, sal op die ou end nie die stokperdjie ondermyn nie, soos so dikwels gevrees word.

Maar, o wee, effektiewe kommunikasie suig al hoe meer aan die agterste speen wanneer, was die boodskap maar net behoorlik neergeskryf en gepos, die moeite aansienlik minder sou gewees het. Stel jou voor:

Die sekretaris van 'n nasionale vereniging doen navraag by 'n instansie. (Dit het alles onlangs werklik gebeur, terloops.) Die instansie het egter iemand van buite aangestel om sulke werkies te behartig, en faks dit aan dié buiteperd. Dié het geen benul van die omstandighede nie, en bowendien verloor die faks-transmissie die adres waarheen die navraag beantwoord moet word.

Talle plaaslike en nasionale telefoonoproepe later kom die antwoord by 'n ander bestuurslid van die vereniging uit, wat dit ewe gedwee afskryf – en pos!

Sit dit op papier!

THIS issue carries a lengthy chronology of the initial results of Namibia's Stamp Awareness programme which, if it is not reconsidered, is set to cause modern collecting – and the initiator – almost irreparable harm.

However, there is always the sincere hope that it is not too late to review the whole programme and to mend the damaged fences. It is so obviously in the best interests of current philately that this is done as soon as possible that one is somewhat surprised not to have heard already that this is being done.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

A BDONC confirmed

David Mordant of Florida Hills writes: In an unpublished preliminary manuscript, Frescura (1990) allocates numeral 8 of the Barred Diamond Oval Numeral Canceller (BDONC) of the Cape of Good Hope series to Langford and to Douglas. This can now be confirmed through covers that have recently come into my possession.



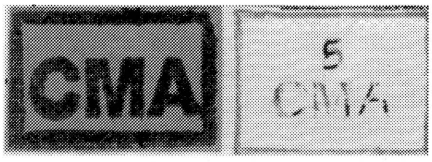
According to Putzel (1987) Langford (with head office at Hopetown) only possessed a post office from 1880-1883. The proving cover I have shows usage on 31 January 1882, employing also the Double Arc datestamp of 1857.

It appears that when Langford was closed in 1883 the BDONC was moved to Douglas, and has been recorded as being used there between 1883 (6 October) and 1901 (5 September).

The proving cover illustrated here is dated 6 July 1892.

"CMA" is not a misprint

John Hodgson of Plumstead writes: For those collectors in the Western Cape who are puzzled by the appearance of this cachet on mail, the following is the explanation provided by Jacques Kriel of Cape Postal Services:



"CMA is an abbreviation for Cape Mail and this cachet is applied when mail which has been mis-sorted eventually finds its way to the Cape Mail sorters. For example, when mail travels from Pretoria to Bloemfontein and is found at Cape Mail, then it is stamped with this mark and redirected to the correct venue.

"This CMA cachet can also sometimes be accompanied by a number which indicated the number of the staff member who sorted the mis-directed mail."

It has taken me some six months to get this! It is interesting to note that the full covers bearing the CMA examples all had the original Cape Mail cancellation – also the correct destination post code!

More light shed on a POW camp of World War I

F A Clark of Derby, UK (a member of the SA Collectors' Society) writes: Further to the article by Jamie Smith in *The SA Philatelist*, November 1988, p288 concerning "Fort Napier, the P.O.W. internment camp from World War I", the cover illustrated below as Fig. 1 would seem to add to the known postal history published regarding this camp.

The crowned oval mark worded "Defence Department – Prisoners of War Camp – Official Free 1" is the only such mark I have seen to date. The CDS of Pietermaritzburg (1-Jun-15) confirms that all mail from this camp, including O.H.M.S. mail, passed through this office. The cover is backstamped "Belfast – 3 JUN 1915".

The second item illustrated, Fig. 2, may possibly claim the title as the earliest known cover from Fort Napier, as it is postmarked Pietermaritzburg "4 NOV. 14", that is six days earlier than the one shown in Smith's article.

It shows that Fort Napier was in full operation as a POW camp by that date.

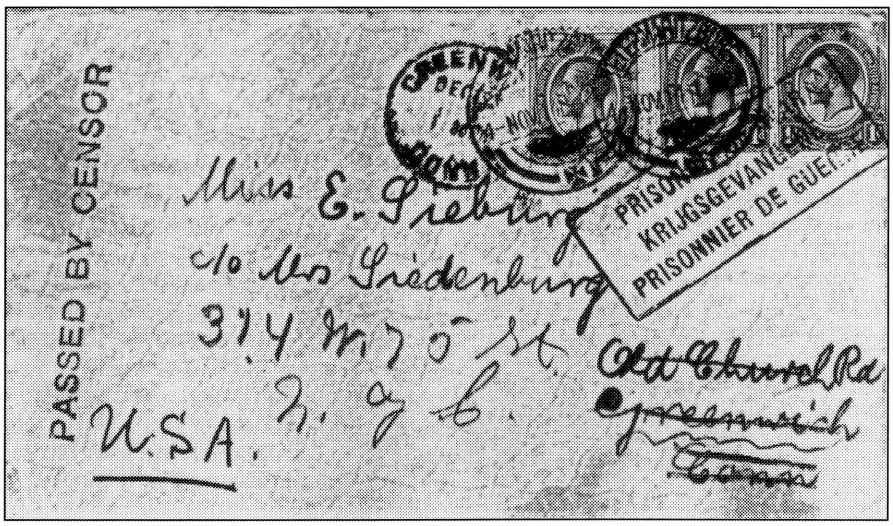
Postal services are of concern to German collector

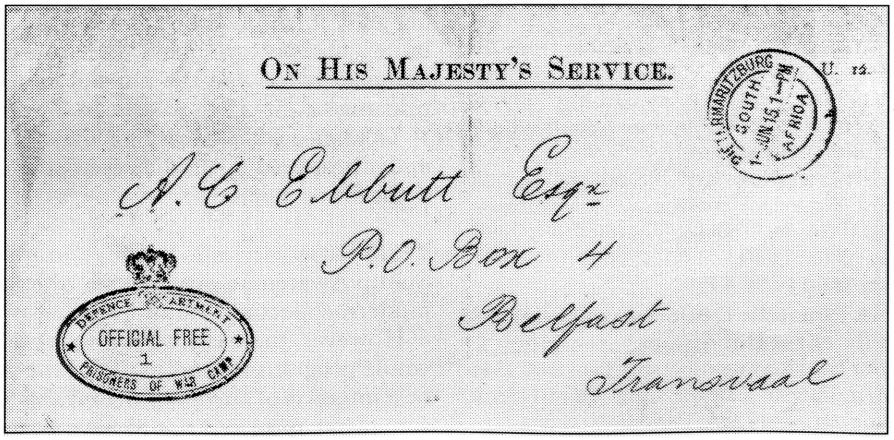
Rudolf Lasar of Cologne writes: With this letter I am enclosing photostats of six receipts for registered letters that were posted from Germany between 04.09.97 and 09.10.97. As yet, not one of these covers arrived at the destination.

Our postal services as well as the addressees caused investigations on the matter; so far all we can say is that the covers left Germany.

I was sent some cuttings from South African newspapers which you also will find as photostats. What is to be read sounds alarming.

May I supplement this bad news with reporting my experience with covers that I sent to South African postmasters for cancelling stamps. While some (inter alia,





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Homeleigh) did their service correctly and kindly, as I have been used to for years, mail to others disappeared altogether.

I think the slump in service quality and correctness appears to be so deep that everybody should do his or her best to discourage criminals. If the newspapers are reporting the truth, there are many more people who have to complain about damage to their property and their confidence. Possibly, you can arrange an inspection of mail distribution and sorting centers and report what is going on there.

Never leave the thief in peace. Apart from that, the question of responsibility of the management of postal services appears acute. Why did it work earlier, but not now?

The Royal Tour of 1947

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes: I was recently reading a copy of *Royal Tour Cancellations, Cachets and Adhesives,* by F H Scott. In this booklet, he covers worldwide royal tours, and included is a short item on the 1947 Royal visit to Southern Africa.

He makes the point that as the Royals did not visit South West Africa, although South African overprinted stamps were issued, there were no particular postmarks or cachets. However, he does note a violet straight line cancellation reading "Windhoek Rv".

This sent me scurrying to my small cache of Royal Visit covers and, sure enough, there was the straight line hand stamp. This only appears on the Windhoek cancelled covers, covers from other centres were not so cancelled.

It also drew my attention to the fact that there was also a numerical strike on covers passing over Windhoek counters (see illustration). The numbers I have, which all seem to come from a sequential numbering machinge which may have been employed by the manufacturers of the covers, are 0946, 4494 and 6737.

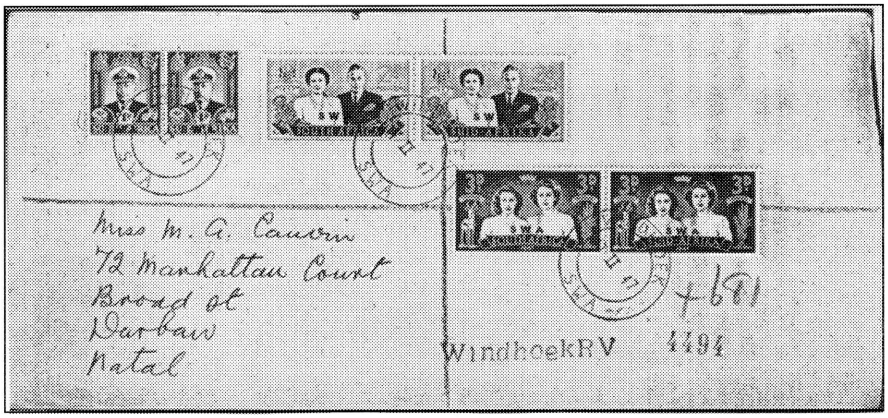
It was further noted that a cover dated 18 March 1947 had a similarly cachet.

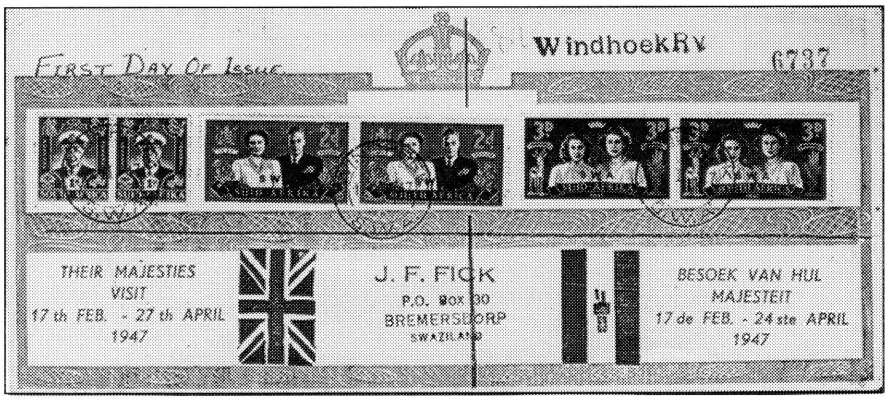
There would appear to be two such straight-line handstamps – "Windhoek Rv " and Windhoek RV", the V in capitals this time.

The handstamp and numerical stamp did not appear on all covers.

I enclose photocopies of the relevant covers, these have been taken at random across a selection of correspondence.

Putzel in his *Handbook of the Post Marks of German S.W.A./Namibia* makes no reference to this handstamp. Does any other reader have any information or thoughts on the matter?







More slogan fun

Mrs M Fish of East London writes: I was particularly interested in Frank van Rensburg's article "Slagspreuke straal steeds van foute" (*The SA Philatelist*, February 1998, p10).



To the mistakes he records for the slogan in Figs. 1 to 7, I can add "VERTREK (missing S) ALTYD 'N TERUGSENDINGADRES".

Postal history stands corrected

Pauw Steyl of George writes: I have had a short letter from David Allison in connection with my article in *The SA Philatelist*, "The Challenge of Postal History" (December 1997, p182). He wrote inter alia:

"May I suggest, however, that you misread the name of the Wesleyan Methodist minister at Cape Town. According to J Whiteside (in *History of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of South Africa*, published in London and in Cape Town in 1906, pp72-75) the Rev T L Hodgson was stationed in Cape Town from 1836 until his death in 1850. I imagine that the old-fashioned long 's' looked like an 'f' in the manuscript, and I can well imagine that the crossed writing made your problem of deciphering the name much harder."

Well, I unfolded the old letter very carefully for scrutiny. My friend David was quite right. There was the old-fashioned long "s" and there was the name "Hodgson" quite clearly. So Mary Townley's letter in that particular sentence must read: "*I agree entirely with good dear Mr Hodgson in Cape Town, the Superintendent of the Wesleyans.*"

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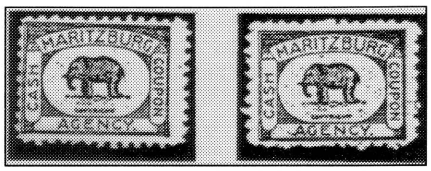
My apologies to Mary Townley and my thanks to David Allison!

My apologies to Mary Townley and my thanks to David Allison!



Local Cinderellas come to light

Giovanni Palazzo of Durban writes: I am looking for information about the local Maritzburg cash coupon illustrated here. It is unrecorded, unusual, and fairly small, and was issued by an unknown "agency" in Pietermaritzburg.

It is printed on unwatermarked, laid paper, in pearl-grey on a white background, and has been found with two types of perforations: 13 x 11,5 or 11,5.

The design, quite primitive, shows an elephant, symbol of the City of Pietermaritzburg, enclosed in an oval frame with the wording "Copyright" in tiny letters at the bottom of the design within the oval.

Three items so far are recorded, of which one is in H Cook's thematic collection of Elephants, and two are in my Natal Revenue and Locals collection.

Some Tristan lore revealed

The Revd Father M N W Edwards of Alfreton UK writes: Some time ago I had been searching in all the magazines and books I had to discover anything and everything to do with the visit/s of the P & O SS *Chusan* to Tristan da Cunha. Whilst I was chaplain on the island I took the opportunity of checking all shipping movements from the old Service Registers, which most of my predecessors had been assiduous in keeping.

In the course of my search I came across a letter written by Dr Boetie Davidson, in *ICN* of Nov-Dec., 1972, Vol 17, No 6, which was headed, "Believed 'Pequena' carried Bloom's Tristan letter".

I discovered from the Service Register that the *Pequena* sailed for Cape Town on 27 November 1951, and that Fr. Wilkinson, (the Chaplain), recorded that she "had crew troubles". However, on 20 December 1951 the *Isolda* (re-named *Tristania II*), sailed to Cape Town, with "Mrs Wilkinson & Chdn., Mr and Mrs Malan & Family; and Mr Henderson". So the cover dated 19 December 1951 was possibly by this vessel.

There were periods when the comings and goings of vessels were not recorded, but from time to time covers come to light.

I write this as it may be of general Tristan interest.

Can you help?

The Editor writes: I am anxious to acquire, for love or money, the catalogues of the international exhibitions held in Durban in 1913 and 1928, and any ancillary material.

■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
April 1938

Bilingual Stamps

In view of the forthcoming Centenary Celebrations of the Voortrekkers on Dingaans Day, we most respectfully wish to make the following suggestions and comments in the event of a Commemorative issue of stamps being printed.

Amongst the Stamp Collecting World the South African Government hold a high place in their estimation due to its conservative policy in the issuing of stamps. And that position would be still further enhanced were a fully bi-lingual stamp being issued instead of two, at present.

As an example of what can be done, there are enclosed two stamps issued by Canada, which are partly bi-lingual. There is space for making it a fully bi-lingual stamp and still leave room enough for the representation of scenes dealing with the life of the Voortrekkers, and of the monument itself. . .

FHH Knight, Hon. Sec. and Treas. Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society

(*Letter addressed to JJ Scheepers Esq., MP, c/o The Speaker, House of Assembly.*)

30 years ago
April 1968

The Show Train

A Show Train which is at present travelling around the country started at Milner Park Station, Johannesburg, on the 27th of February 1968. It will return to Milner Park on the 3rd of December 1968. Portion of coach 5 will be occupied by a postal agency where the sale of postage stamps and the datestamping and registration of souvenir cards and envelopes are undertaken.

The organisers of the show have issued a special souvenir postcard, measuring 140 x 110 mm, on sale at 5c. A special datestamp, from the post office, will be used. It is round, 30 mm in diameter, and shows the front of an early railway engine with "SKOUTREIN" on the left and "SHOW TRAIN" on the right. Across the centre is a panel with the date. This date is movable and starts on 27.II.68.

News item

60 years ago
May 1938

Why he gave up the S.A.P.

A former reader in S. Rhodesia writes: "I do not wish to renew my subscription, but you mustn't be discouraged as I could never stand more than three months of *any* magazine.

"But it is a mistake to go on sending your paper to people whose sub. has expired. Every month I thought I had seen the last of you but you kept rolling in. "If you think you should be paid for these extra copies that I didn't want I will send you a P.O. but really they are not worth more than 2d. each to me as I have given up stamps and gone in for Whisky Bottle Labels, yours truly."

Letter to the Editor

30 jaar gelede
Mei 1968

Briewebus

The South African Philatelist van Desember het so pas by my aangekom en ek merk op dat u die vraag stel, hoe voel mens oor die benaming RSA op ons jongste seëls. Ek gee geredelik toe dat die gebruik van 'n hele lang "storie" in twee tale die taak van 'n posseëlontwerper bemoeilik en, as versamelaar vir ruim veertig jaar, hou ek van 'n mooi ontwerp. Maar om so ver te gaan om slegs letters te gebruik is myns insiens net belaglik. Tweetaligheid is 'n vereiste – trouens, een doel wat ons seëls in die buiteland dien, is om juis hierdie feit in die buiteland te bewys – maar dis nie só moeilik om die woorde "SUID-AFRIKA/SOUTH AFRICA" op 'n seël te gebruik nie, en dis al wat nodig is. . . En met die gedagte dat drie onbekende letters die buitewêreld se nuuskierigheid sal prikkel kan ek net nie saamgaan nie. . . Die uwe, JH Selfe, Suid-Afrikaanse Permanente Missie, Genève.

Brief aan "Iets vir Almal"

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■ **DAVID SINCLAIR** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The Rhino standardised mail stamp 1993-1997 – a brief survey

THE report by Alewyn Burger in *The SA Philatelist* (December 1997, p193) notes the demise of the Rhino standardised mail stamp. A new definitive series of 'Easy fix stamps', together with ordinary sheet stamps, will eventually be produced and, alarmingly for collectors, will be introduced as and when stocks of the old stamps are used up.

One can foresee problems establishing the actual first day of usage as against the theoretical first day of the machine cancels from Philatelic Services.

It is, perhaps, the moment to take a closer look at the variations of the Rhino standardised mail stamp that have been issued since it's inception in 1993, at an initial cost of 45c. It is an interesting stamp because of the changes that ensued. The following comments attempt to enlarge on the bare facts published in chart form in *Setempe* (Vol 2 No 6, p17) and to collate available information.

One can foresee problems establishing the actual first day of usage as against the theoretical first day of the machine cancels from Philatelic Services.

Initially the stamp was issued in booklet form on 4 August 1993. This, in itself, is possibly unique for a South African definitive. The sheets of 100, with cylinder numbers 2463-2466, were issued with the rest of the definitives on 3 September 1993. The inscription along the base, as with the rest of the 6th Definitives, was in Latin. (Fig. 1)

THE author not only specialises in the Australian King's Heads, but has an avid interest in current South African issues.

He contributed "SA Pre-Paid Envelopes charted" to *The SA Philatelist* (October 1995, p32) and at the Cape Stamp Show 1997 was awarded a Silver for his exhibit of "The South African 4th Definitive Series, the 'Buildings' 1982-1988".

The initial booklet printing seems scarce, even though 55 000 sheets were reported as having been produced. Firstly, some of the Rhino stamps were used to fill surplus Aviation folders and, secondly, the rest were then used to make up the booklet using the newly designed 'Rhino' folder. Comparative numbers do not seem to be known.

Frank van Rensburg pointed out in the RSA Stamp Study Group journal of November 1993 (No 109) that the keen demand for booklets, together with a surplus of Aviation covers and a depletion of stock of Aviation stamps, was the reason for the Post Office's pre-release of the Rhino stamp in booklet format.

This first booklet printing can be distinguished by the narrow selvedge, being some seven perforations wide, whereas following booklet printings have the selvedge ten and later up to twelve perforations wide.

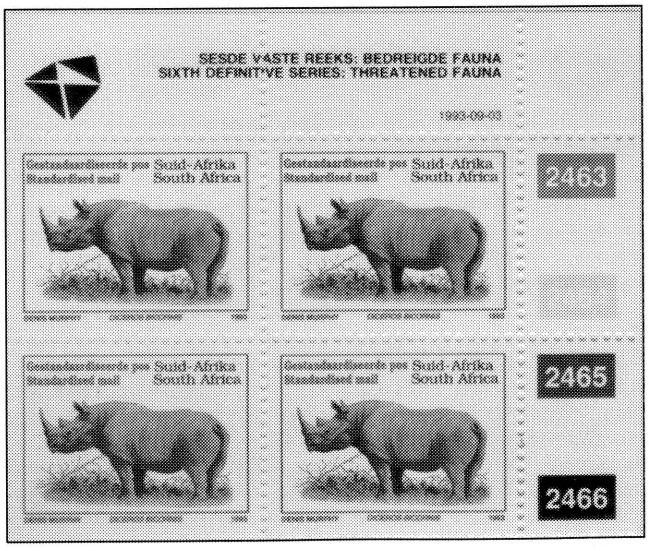

Fig. 1

The Rhino stamps in the Aeroplane booklets had this narrow selvedge, but the first Rhino booklet with Rhino stamps contained both the narrow selvedge pane and later the wider selvedge pane, the folders being identical. The wider selvedge booklet is designated the second printing.

Both printings carry the black Post Office emblem in the selvedge and thus are distinguished from the sheet form. Apart from these emblems in the selvedge, no design difference has been reported between the sheet and booklet stamps.

During 1994 several booklet printings occurred, with a new Easipost cover being produced. These and the booklets that followed are a fascinating study in themselves, but outside the scope of this discussion. The Rhino stamp itself did not vary from the original during this 1993-94 period, except for the gum. Some booklet panes exist with clear and some with tinted gums. They are distinct when placed next to each other and thus are collectible.

A further printing occurred of the sheet Rhino which was dated 17 October 1994, and had cylinder numbers 2656-2659. This was the last printing before the Latin name, *Diceros bicornis*, was changed to Black Rhinoceros. However, there appears to be a further collectible printing (rerun?) as later sheets appeared with a tinted gum and a changed UV gum reaction.

The next collectible change was the appearance of guillotined sheetlets in Easipost booklet covers. Some of these also appeared with tinted and clear gum and had the usual black Post Office emblem in the margin.

The notes provided by Franco Frescura and published in the RSA Stamp Study Group journal No 145 state that half of these booklet sheets were fully perforated, on an experimental basis, and then guillotined, whereas the rest were perforated vertically and every second row then cut. They thus provide two types of collectible guillotined varieties.

A major design change occurred with the next booklet production. Whilst the folders used were variously dated, the booklet pane was dated 1996-04-09 in the margin and had the Post Office emblem coloured blue and red above this date. The margin is wider, now having 12 perforations. These panes were perforated vertically and every second horizontal row, and then guillotined.

This was the first appearance of the English inscription and the redrawn larger design of the Rhinoceros itself. Again, these panes are collectible in clear and tinted gums.

The next collectible change was the appearance of guillotined sheetlets in Easipost booklet covers.

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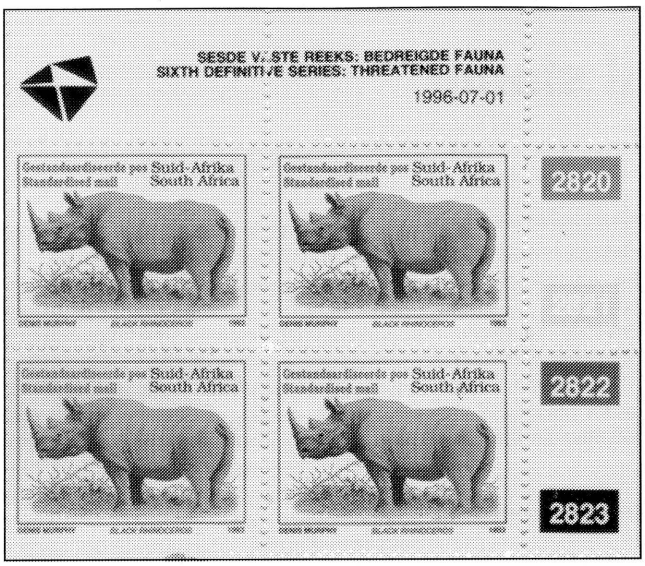

Fig. 2

A second margin date 28-05-96 followed. The Post Office emblem was unchanged as was the stamp itself. The sheet form of the large Rhino with English inscription was dated 1 July 1996 with cyl 2820-2823 (Fig. 2) and produced two interesting variations – one with normal perforations and the other with 'security' or oval perforations.

A third variation is reported. CTP (Cape and Transvaal Printers) were given the contract to supply a proportion of the sheets required (*Setempe*, Vol 2 No 5, p10). However, no discernible variation has been reported, apart from a perforation variety, according to Frank van Rensburg, consisting of an unperforated hole. Obtaining such a variety seems to be the only way to prove one has a CTP printing.

An interesting and possibly rare variety is the 'missing date'. Only the red and blue emblems appears in the margin of the booklet pane.

An interesting and possibly rare variety is the 'missing date'. Only the red and blue emblem appears in the margin of this booklet pane, with the flap of the cover unnumbered. This plain flap places the booklet as probably being the 28-05-96 printing. Since this was sent to the lucky recipient as part of a standing order from Philatelic Services, more are most likely lurking unrecognized in collections.

The final two booklet variations in 1997 were dated 1997-04-22 and 1997-07-18, both having the Post Office coloured emblem above. These are guillotined panes and have no discernible stamp changes from the previous 'English' issues. These are listed as available in uncut panes with cylinder numbers.

A final Rhino booklet is still supposed to occur in 1998.

And there the matter may well have rested, but for a chance close examination of the ESI'97 miniature sheet, which contains a single Rhino stamp. The setting of DENIS MURPHY, BLACK RHINOCEROS and 1993 looked different, the printing being slightly larger and finer. In particular, DENIS MURPHY is almost one character longer than on a 'normal' stamp.

A more distinctive and easier way of determining the difference between the settings is to consider the relative position of Suid-Afrika and South Africa. The 'old look' Rhino has the final 'a' of Suid-Afrika above 'ca' of South Africa whereas on the 'new look' Rhino, the setting of the 'a' of Suid-Afrika is directly above the 'c' of South Africa. Hence this is another clear variety of the Rhino stamp.

This setting kept appearing on commercial mail, and obviously could not be coming from ESI sheets alone. Further, on every commercial usage, the Rhino had a distinct reddish hue. A 'return address' was contacted, and a helpful company in Salt River let me have the remainder of a sheet they bought, a block of 16. The chase was on to find a cylinder block showing this variation, and to determine the new cylinder numbers.

Henk Goedhart found the first block in the Waterfront Post Office, late in December 1997 showing, surprisingly, that it was the same date and cylinder number as the last sheet printing – cylinder 2820-2823 (Fig. 3) with the same date: 1996-07-01. How this came to be has yet to be explained.

For the collector who includes the post-paid cards, the original Rhino postcard setting had the 'old look' but the reprint with the barcode has the 'new look' setting, as has the 'Cape Town Ladies' set of Heritage Cards.

Looking at the Corporate Products list (*Setempe*, Vol 2 No 6, p13) two other postcards are listed with Rhino stamps. The Gordon Harris card has the 'new look' setting, but to date I have not seen the advertised Post Office promotional card.

The above is a brief introduction to the Rhino variations. There are, then, just three basic designs of Rhino stamp to collect (as illustrated), but if one includes the selvedge and gum as well, then the list blossoms.

There are just three basic designs of Rhino stamp to collect.

The following chart gives a summation of such collectible variations. Perhaps the greater challenge would be to have a collection of Rhino stamps, with appropriate selvedge, postmarked during their period of use.

In the chart, for both stamps and postcards:

1. The 'Latin' designation also implies the smaller original design Rhino
2. The 'English' designation also implies a redrawn larger Rhino

It is to be noted that the following list may well be far from exhaustive; it is expected that collectors will report further variations. For example, the availability of clear and tinted gums has yet to be finalised, the ones listed are those that have been reported in the literature.

Further reporting is also needed as to which widths of selvedge exist in the earlier booklet printings.

The author wishes to acknowledge the articles published in *Setempe*, the RSA Study Group Bulletins and, in particular, the personal help and guidance of Frank van Rensburg.

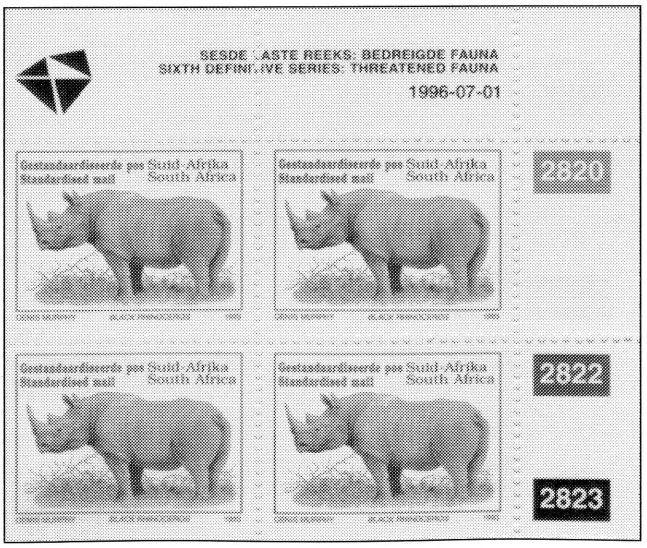

Fig. 3

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Type	Source	Date	Latin or English	Selvedge width	Selvedge Design	Gum (i) Clear (ii)Tinted	Setting: (i) a / ac (ii) a / c	Fully perfed (i) One or two sides imperf (ii)	Booklet Printing	Further Comment
1)	Booklet	4/8/93	Latin	7 perfs	Black Emblem	(i)	(i)	(i)	1	
2)	Booklet	1994	Latin	10 & 11 perfs	Black Emblem	(i)	(i)	(i)	2	
3)	Sheet	3/9/93	Latin		Normal for sheets	(i)	(i)	(i)		Cylinder 2463-66
4)	Booklet	1994	Latin	10 to 11,5 perfs	Black Emblem	(i) & (ii)	(i)	(i)	3	see note
5)	Sheet	17/9/94	Latin		Normal for sheets	(i)	(i)	(i)		Cylinder 2656-59
6)	Booklet	1995	Latin	10 to 11,5 perfs	Black Emblem	(i)	(i)	(i)	4	Hand burst
6a)	Booklet	1994/5	Latin	10 to 11,5 perfs	Black Emblem	(i) & (ii)	(i)	(i)	4	Guill. perfs
7)	Booklet	1994/5	Latin	10	Black Emblem	(i) & (ii)	(i)	(ii)	4	
8)	Booklet	9/4/96	English	12 perfs	Red Emblem and date	(i)	(i)	(i)	5	
9)	Booklet	28/5/96	English	12 perfs	Red Emblem and date	(i)	(i)	(i)	6	
10)	Sheet	1/7/96	English		Normal for sheet Ordinary perfs	(i)	(i)	(i)		Cylinder 2820-23 (also CTP printing
11)	Sheet	1/7/96	English		Normal for sheet Security perfs	(i)	(i)	(i)		Cylinder 2820-23
12)	Booklet	22/4/97	English	12 perfs	Red Emblem and date	(i) & (ii)	(i)	(ii)	7	Cyl 2927-30 (Uncut pane)
13)	Booklet	18/797	English	12 perfs	Red Emblem and date	(i) (ii)	(i)	(ii)	8	Cyl 2979-82 (Uncut pane)
14)	ESI 97	11/797	English		Specific to ESI	(i)	(ii)	(i)		Miniature sheet
15)	Sheet	Dated: 1/7/96	English		Normal for sheets	(i)	(ii)	(i)		

POSTCARDS WITH RHINO STAMP

16) Original set of post-paid cards:	Latin	(i)
17) Reprint set of post-paid cards (Barcode on face)	English	(ii)
18) Cape Town Ladies	English	(ii)
19) South African Post Office Promotional postcard:	?	?
20) Gordon Harris Corporate Product	English	(ii)

NOTE

Type 4 and type 2. The clear gum panes are identical. Similarly, Type 6 is identical in design to both types 4 and 2. Hence one pane of each gum covers these variations.

Type 6a can be distinguished by the characteristic straight edge cut to the perforations.

Important new Southern Africa literature

Rhodesia postmarks imminent: The first title produced by the Federation's newly revitalised Publications Committee is *The Postmarks of Rhodesia 1888-1980* by Jon and Jenifer Barry.

A loose-leaf insert in this issue of *The SA Philatelist* contains full details of the contents and an order form. Orders received before 30 April 1998 qualify for a discount of more than 20 percent – from May 1998 onwards the price is R220,00 (£40,00 or US$75,00).

Rhodesia Handbook advances: One of the most important sections of Part II of the Rhodesian Study Circle's Handbook has now appeared. This is "A Guide to Literature on the Stamps and Postal History" on Southern Rhodesia to Zimbabwe 1924-1998. It contains no less than 96 pages, punched to fit the ringbinder provided for the previous sections of the handbook. All sections of the RSC Handbook are free to members, and are available free on request to new members. Applications for membership should be made to Keith Harrop, 817 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 8RT, UK. The handbook editor and chairman of the study circle, Colin Hoffman RDPSA, reports that the only part which is running out is Part V: the cumulative Index of the RSC Journal, produced by Alan Drysdall RDPSA. The section 1970-1994 is being replaced by a full index to celebrate the study circle's 50th anniversary this year.

SA postal stationery handbook: The Netherlands based Filatelisten Vereeniging Zuidelijk Afrika (FVZA) has published a new bi-lingual (English/Dutch) handbook/catalogue dealing with the postal stationery of South Africa – a pioneering work in local philately. Part 1 treats the material of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal and Zululand, Orange Free State, and Transvaal and New Republic, (158 pages) and Part 2 the Union and Republic of South Africa (200 pages). The South African distributor is Filatelic Phriends, PO Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872, and the price is R150,00 per volume.

Volumes can be ordered separately by those who want only the one or the other.

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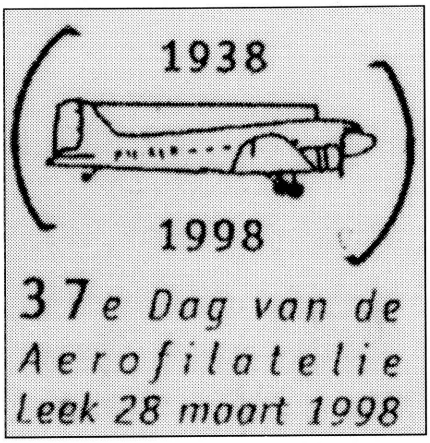

Fig 1 Special commemorative datestamp

Philatelists in Holland celebrated their 37th Day of Aerophilately in March 1998 by recalling the first flight to South Africa by KLM. A special commemorative datestamp and cover (Figs. 1 and 2) were issued.

Leo Crandel, who was formerly employed in Johannesburg, and who attended Bloemfontein 150 as a visiting juror, recalls the event of 1938.

The author regularly represents his country as commissioner at international events, and will be visiting Ilsapex 98 in this capacity later this year.

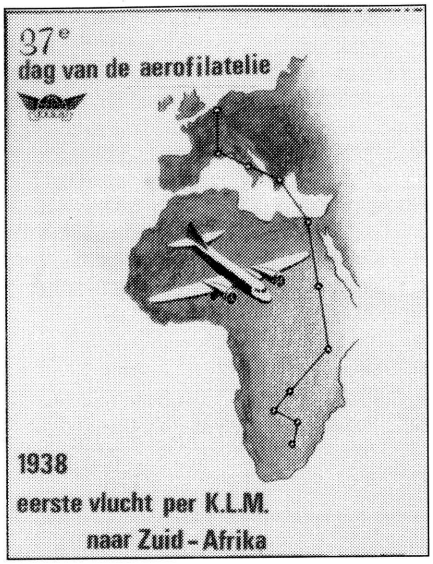

Fig 2 Commemorative cover design

■ **L M A Crandel FRPSL** *Filatelisten Vereeniging Zuidelijk Afrika*

The KLM "first flight" to South Africa of 6 December 1938.

THIS year it is 60 years ago that KLM got permission to fly to Johannesburg and to carry mail to and from that city. In 1938 that permission was extraordinary as the transport of mail to and from Johannesburg was a monopoly of Imperial Airways. It was not only a "first flight" but also the first time a Douglas (Dakota) DC 3 landed in South Africa.

The K.L.M. used a Douglas DC 3-G2 = PH-ALR *Reiger,* and the crew was:

Captain J.B. Scholte (pilot)
Captain A. Viruly (co-pilot)
Radio operator J.B. Pestman
Flight engineer P. Dunk
Steward A. Eggenhuizen.

There were 11 passengers to Johannesburg, and from Johannesburg 12.

Route:

6 December: Amsterdam – Marseille – Naples;

7 December: Naples – Athens) Cairo;

8 December: Cairo – Wadi Halfa – Khartoum;

9 December: Khartoum – Juba – Nairobi;

10 December: Nairobi – Broken Hill – Bulawayo;

11 December: Bulawayo – Pretoria (Zwartkop Air Station); Zwartkop Air Station – Johannesburg (Rand Airport-Germiston);

26 December: Return flight to Amsterdam, same route as outward journey, only an extra stop in Brussels;

31 December: Arrival in Amsterdam (Schiphol).

On 22 November 1938 the Dutch PTT issued a special stamp for "Bijzondere Vluchten" (special flights). The stamp, dark blue and dark grey, face value 12½ cent, depicted a flying crow.



Fig 3 12½ cent, 1938

Not only in the *Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie* but also in several national and regional newspapers long articles appeared, written especially for the philatelist, about this special flight and about the "First Flight" covers. Editors also tried to explain what one had to do to obtain the special "First Flight" cover.

The KLM archives have some information about the covers and leaflets they had printed for the Dutch PTT. There were 20 000 covers and leaflets printed, for which KLM paid fl 536,70. Some covers are imprinted: "Bijzondere stempe" instead of "Bijzondere stempel".

It was a very nice looking leaflet, but hardly anybody understood the contents. The leaflet must have been very complicated. *PTT Nieuws* (PTT News) of 16 January 1939 wrote:

> "In a post office an official was sitting with his hands over his ears reading the 'Dienstorders' he had received that morning. Asked what he was doing he answered that he was studying for his Dingaansexam.
> "The 'First flight party' started on 21 November. That day one official was busy with the special 'First flight' orders, the next day two, the very next day four, after that ten officials were engaged. Bags full of postal orders, covers, reply coupons etc, came in. The last day a total of 40 officials was needed to deal with the enormous amount of work for this 'First flight' ".

The *Nederlandsche Maandblad voor Philatelie* published an article about the special covers.

> "The KLM in co-operation with the PTT issued a special cover. The very large cover has enough space for a lot of stamps and even for the special cancellations and the stamp of arrival. The covers will look nice in an album, not only as a philatelic item but also as a souvenir of a historic flight.
> "It is a very interesting cover – the front used for the outward flight and the reverse for the return flight. But if one wants to show both sides you must have two envelopes. The secret of this special cover is that if one turns the cover over the reverse is upside down.
> "If one were to slit the cover on three sides and fold it open it would be possible to show both sides. That will be very nice in your album".
> *(I am glad that only a few collectors have done so. L Cr.)*

In the leaflet one could read that the PTT was willing to service the covers. No less than 14 000 covers had to be served by the PTT officials. They stuck on the covers: a 12½ cent and a 30 cent "Bijzondere Vluchten" stamp, a Jubilee set (Wilhelmina, 40 years queen) and stamps from the definitive set. More than 100 000 stamps were stuck on the covers.

If one looks very carefully, a special code is discovered on the covers. The code is in Roman numerals I, II, III, IV, V and VI, sometimes with an extra A, or "Agt". (A/Agt="Aantekenen/Aangetekend", i.e. Registered). Sometimes there is an Arabic numeral, for instance 4.

(Current postal rates from South Africa: sea mail 3d; airmail to all countries 1/-;

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registration: 4d.)

- Mail with final destination South Africa. Code I, or no code at all.
- Mail to South Africa by air and return journey by sea mail (to all countries except Holland), Code II. (From South Africa 2 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps, on registered mail 4 x 1d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps extra).
- Mail to South Africa by air and return journey by sea mail to Holland, Code III. (From South Africa on this mail 2 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps, on registered mail 4 x 1d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps extra).
- Mail to South Africa by air and returned by air to all countries: Code IV. (From South Africa on this mail 6 x 1d and 2 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps, on registered mail 4 x 1d and 6 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps extra).

That was the information in the PTT leaflet. But there were more possibilities.

- Mail to South Africa by air and returned by air to all countries: Code V. (From South Africa on this mail one set Voortrekker Commemoration stamps with surcharge, and 3 x 1d and 2 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps, on registered mail 4 x 1d and 4 x 1½d, or 1d and 6 x 1d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps extra).
- Mail to South Africa by air and returned by air to all countries: Code VI. (From South Africa on this mail two sets Voortrekker Commemoration stamps with surcharge, on registered mail 1 x 1d and 2 x 1½d Voortrekker Commemoration stamps extra).

Registration was very important to the officials of the South African post office.

If we look carefully we discover a special code on the covers.

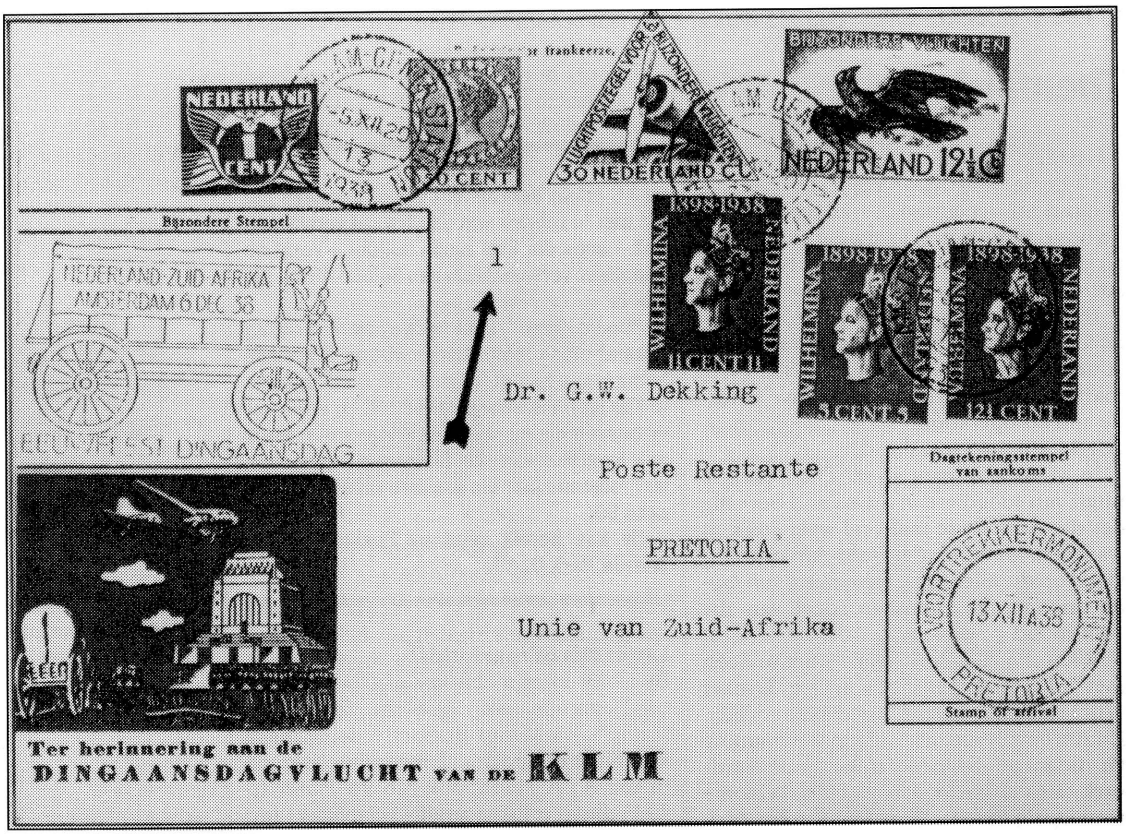

Fig 4 Code I cover

Registered covers with codes II and III were returned by air to Amsterdam, although only sea mail was pre-paid. However, the senders paid no extra for this service. It did not cost the post office much, as there were only 88 registered covers with that code.

In Amsterdam the post office did a good job. They made up bundles of the differently coded covers, which was of great help to their South African colleagues.

The covers were cancelled in Pretoria for return:

Code I: The arrival datestamp was 13.XII.38. Registered covers: arrival and departure datestamps: 13.XII.38
Code II: Arrival and departure datestamp: 14.XII.38. For registered covers the arrival and departure datestamp was 14.XII.38
Code III: As Code II.
Code IV: The arrival datestamp was 12.XII.38, the departure datestamp 15.XII.38. Registered covers: arrival and departure datestamp: 15.XII.38
Code V: As Code IV.
Code VI: As Code IV.

Some datestamps had an extra A. or B. after XII. This could be "morning" or "afternoon".

Very interesting is that the Code II and III covers are cancelled on 14 December 1938, that is on the first day of issue of the Voortrekker stamps.

The officials at the Voortrekker Monument post office started sticking on the stamps and cancelling the covers immediately after the DC 3 *Reiger* arrived. Very few mistakes were made. There are a few covers of which the stamps are cancelled: 12.XII.38 (two days before the "First day").

Very interesting is that the code II. and III. covers are cancelled on the 14 December, that is the first day of issue of the "Voortrekker" stamps.

On 26 December the *Reiger* left South Africa and arrived in Amsterdam on 31 December 1938. For the passengers it was nice to be home again. For the post office officials it was a nightmare.

All mail had to be dealt with immediately. All registered letters had to be cancelled and made ready for delivery. The rest of the mail had to wait until 2 January. All the letters, however, received a datestamp (eight cancellers were used) of 31.XII.1938.

The amount of mail was: Amsterdam to Johannesburg = 138 kg, consisting of 23 184 letters/cards. From Johannesburg to Amsterdam = 208 kg, 28 221 letters/cards. ■

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Crandel L M A – *Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid Afrika/Republiek Zuid Afrika 1938-1989. Parts 1 and 2.*

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■ **DS J C (CASSIE) CARSTENS** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

Themafrica

THEMES of Africa? Themes from Africa? Themes for Africa? Yes, I suppose this column will accommodate all these – but I do hope many more! I actually want to cater for thematic-style news of Southern African countries, especially new issues.

But I cannot do it alone – I urgently need your help, your advice, your input, your support, and also your critical remarks. Thank you for your positive attitude and co-operation!

Afrikaans in Swaziland?

'n Mens kan maar so sê! Die onlangse uitgif van soogdiere in Swaziland bevestig dat die Afrikaanse taal veel wyer strek as wat mens dink, en dat Suid-Afrika se invloed op die alledaagse benaming van *fauna* en *flora* 'n onmisbare deel van die volksmond geword het.

Want die "engilse" Swazi's het te doen met 'n Klipspringer (50c), 'n Grey Duiker (70c) en ook 'n Cape Clawless Otter (E2). En Antbear is maar 'n onlangse benaming vir die meer algemene en bekende Aardvark (E1). Hierdie 4 seëls is 'n welkome toevoeging tot die *fauna* van Suider-Afrika. (Volledige illustrasies het al verskyn in *The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1997, p188.)

- Die Klipspringer (*Oreotragus oreotragus* : SA Diernommer 315) het reeds verskyn op seëls van die omliggende Malawi (1971: Stanley Gibbons 381), Lesotho (1977: SG 332) en Botswana (1991). Wanneer gaan ons en Zimbabwe volg?
- Die Gewone Duiker (*Sylvicarpa grimmia*: SA 313) is ook 'n gunsteling op seëls – Zimbabwe (1987) en Botswana (1987). Die volksnaam "duiker" verwys na die bokkie se kenmerkende gewoonte om wanneer versteur met 'n aantal spronge vinnig weg te hardloop en in 'n skuiling in te duik. Die benaming "Grysduiker" (Grey Duiker) is ietwat onvanpas, omdat hulle taamlik rooi gekleurd is in sekere dele van die Suider-Afrikaanse substreek.
- Die Groototter (*Aonyx capensis*: SA 260) maak sy buiging op seëls van Ghana (1982: SG 979), Burundi, Lesotho (1987) en Botswana. Die Engelse "clawless" is toepaslik omdat die kloue afwesig is terwyl dit by die ander een (die Kleinotter) voorkom. Die "Cape" word behou omdat dit help om hulle te onderskei van die naverwante soort otter in Zaïre (tans die Demokratiese Republiek van die Kongo).
- Die Erdvark (*Orycteropus afer*: SA 288) versier reeds die seëls van Kenia (1966: SG 22), Mosambiek (1981: SG 858), Zambië (1988: SG 558) en ons eie Bophuthatswana (1977: SACC 14). Die Engelse benaming "Antbear" is 'n ongelukkige keuse, want hierdie dier het geen verwantskap of uiterlike ooreenkoms met bere nie.

Ds J C (alom bekend as Cassie) Carstens begin met 'n rubriek wat van tyd sal verskyn en wat – soos die titel reeds aandui – veral op tematiese versamelaars van Suider-Afrika gemik is.

"Doom Boom", soos hy in sy eie vereniging bekend staan, spits hom veral op inheemse bome toe, waaroor hy reeds verskeie bydraes in *The SA Philatelist* gelewer het. Hy is nie net sy tuisvereniging se ere-sekretaris nie, maar ook jeugleier van die Centurion Seëlmaats, wat volgende jaar die gashere sal wees vir Junass 99.

Hy kan bereik word by Posbus 52011, Wierda Park 0149.

Littoralis of marlothii?

In 1953, after a century of "South African" stamps, we have the first "tree stamp" – a stamp distinctly depicting a specific tree-species. I recently observed in the ATA Handbook No 94 *Plants* (p 111) that it is listed as *Aloe rubrolutea* (and being not quite sure, *A. ferox* is added in brackets).

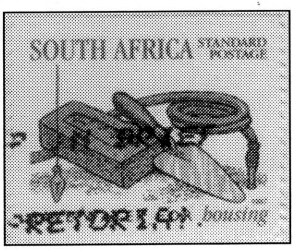
A. rubrolutea was renamed *Aloe littoralis* (Mopane Aloe/Mopanie aalwyn) – a tree that occurs in Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, and also in the most northern parts of South Africa's Northern Province. (*A. ferox* is found in the Southern and Eastern Cape).



Is the *A. littoralis* depicted on the 1/6d stamp (South Africa: SG 148)? Emphatically no, I don't think so! I would rather say it is the *Aloe marlothii* (SA Tree no 295 = Mountain Aloe/Bergaalwyn) – this aloe dominates large areas of the northern parts of South Africa, especially Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces, and also Swaziland, Northern KwaZulu-Natal and Botswana.

The inflorescence (yellow to yellow-orange) is so distinctive that it serves to identify the species immediately – it is a single much-branched panicle arising from a rosette; the long slender racemes are never held upright but at an angle and often *perfectly horizontally*, with the flowers crowded on the upper side. And that is precisely what we have on the 1953 stamp!

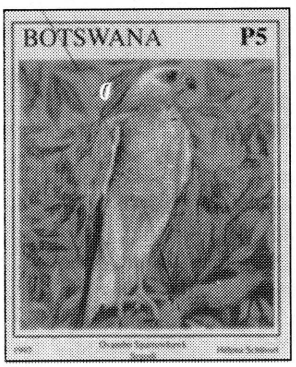
Will someone with more knowledge please be so kind to comment on this?

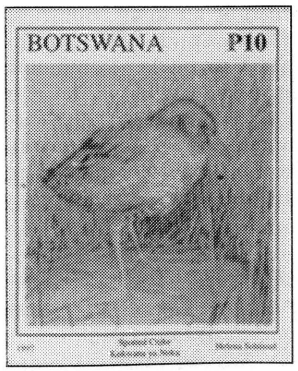


Skietlood (plumb)

Sou daar nog iewers in die wêreld 'n skietlood op 'n seël verskyn? Vergelyk in hierdie verband die onlangse "Spaar Water" uitgif van die RSA. Please send me a checklist of stamps depicting a plumb (or is it a plummet?)







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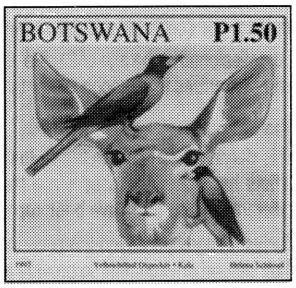


Botswana Birds
To the best of my knowledge four of the recent 7th Definitive Series : "Birds of Botswana" do not previously occur on stamps (please help me if I am wrong): Yellowbilled Oxpecker/ Geelbekrenostervoël (*Buphagus africanus*: SA Bird 771, value P1,50), Ovambo Sparrowhawk/ Ovambosperwer (*Accipiter Ovampensis*: SA 156, P5,00), Spotted Crake/ Gevlekte Riethaan (*Porzana porzana*: SA 214, P10, 00) and the Redbilled Buffalo Weaver/ Buffelwewer (*Bubalornis niger*: SA 798, 50t).

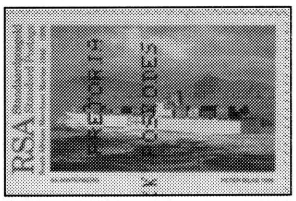
In contrast the Sacred Ibis/ Skoorsteenveër (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*: SA 91), Purple Heron/ Rooireier (*Ardea purpurea*: SA 65) and the White Stork/ Witooievaar (*Ciconia ciconia*: SA 83) are somewhat overstocked on the world philatelic market.



Speaking of storks
The Jaribu or Blacknecked Stork (*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*) is the only Australian species of stork. This eastern species' only counterpart is the well-known Saddlebill Stork in Africa (*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*: SA 88). These are the only two species of this specific genus.

Knoffel/ Garlic
Kan iemand dalk help met 'n kontrolelys (checklist) en/of seëls van die *Allium sativum* (Liliaceae)? Ek weet reeds van die volgende maar kon nog niks raakloop nie.
- Bulgarye 1958 (Landboupropaganda) SG 1108
- Egipte 1966: 706
- Noord-Korea 1993 (Vrugte en Groente): N3304
- Libië 1986 (Groente): 1839
- Liechtenstein 1986 (Veldgewasse): 905
- Monaco 1984 (Kersfees, kripfigure van Provence): 1687 (Knoffelverkoper)

Topical Time
The following articles in the journal of the American Topical Association (July-August 1997: #284) are worth reading:
"Parachutes (Descending from Great Heights)"
"Electricity in Medicine"
"Sociological Aspects of Topicals" (an interesting addition to topicals)
"Polar-Orbiting Weather Satellites"

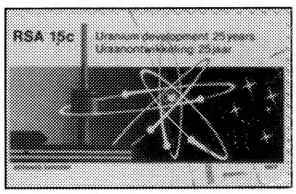


"Container Ships" (this is a positive connection to our RSA issue of 1996).

Het u geweet?
Amerika het die meeste seëlversamelaars in die wêreld. Per kop van die bevolking het Duitsland egter die meeste. Ek weet nie waar Suid-Afrika lys nie. . . allermins per kop!

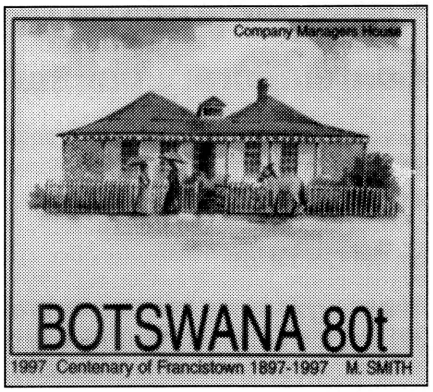


Die Blou Bulle
My gunsteling rugbyspan kon nou wel nie hierdie afgelope seisoen enige bekers wen of noemenswaardige prestasies behaal nie, maar daar is darem 'n "bulseël" ter ere van hulle uitgegee – en dit wil gedoen wees, hoor!

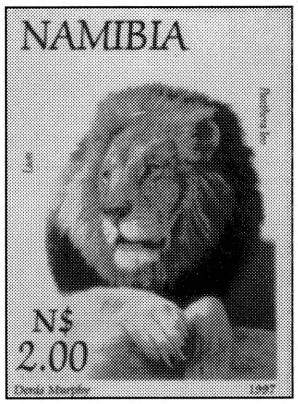


Themescene
"The Structure of the Atom (The History of a fascinating Adventure through Postage Stamps)" by Alberto Lumachi is worth reading in the latest journal of the British Thematic Association (December 1997 #49). With Pelindaba closing down, it can become quite nostalgic!

Zimbabwe Stamp Programme 1998
- 20 January: Lesser Known Animals (4 values)
- 14 April: Bees and Beekeeping (6)
- 21 July: Fossils (4)
- 20 October: Birds (series 3, 6 values)



To travel by donkey
A donkey in front of the Company Manager's House. . .? I don't believe it!



Tien uit tien
Dit gaan aan Namibië met hulle pragtige Fauna en Flora op 3 November 1997 (vaste reeks). Só word 'n land mos filatelies geadverteer, of hoe?



Santa Kersfees
Nogal mooi, dié 10 Santa seëls, so met die Kersfees saam. Dis kleurvol, nostalgies en verrassend anders. Maar, ag, daai laaste enetjie – is dit nou 'n swart "ingeltjie" of dalk 'n wyse man? So met sy geel ANC klere en allewraggies 'n stralekrans om die koppie. . . Auk!

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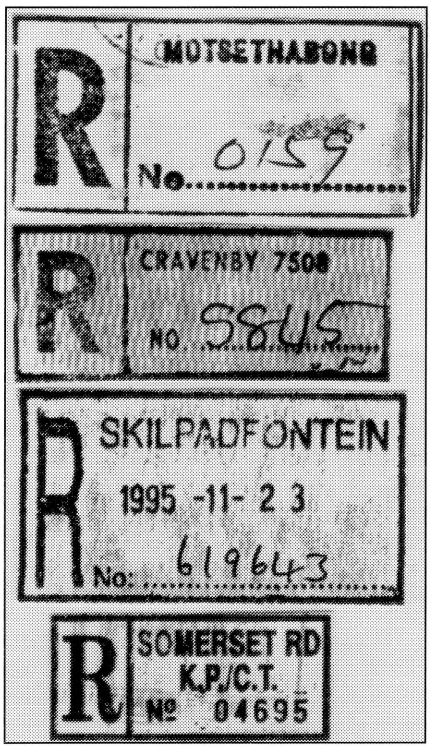
■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag

Several R-labels illustrated

Details of Motsethabong post office in the town of the same name outside the City of Welkom in the Free State Province appeared in the July 1991, October 1993, August 1994 and October 1994 issues of this column. A related reply to the first lot of details appeared in the "Mailbag" September 1991.

The Motsethabong rubber stamp R label has not yet been illustrated. It was in use on 15 October 1987. (**Carel Breedt**)



Cravenby was using a rubber stamp R-label as illustrated, on 5 September 1994. Cravenby is a conventional type post office (money order office) with Parow as head office. It resorts under the Capemail hub in the Western Cape Post Office Region.

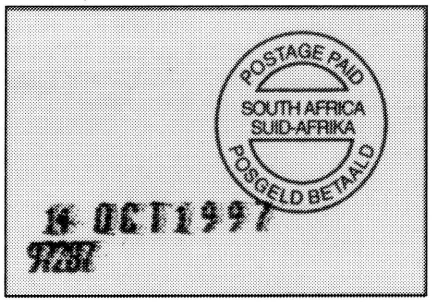
The rubber stamp R-label impression from Skilpadfontein is unusual for the date that appears in the block. Does any reader know whether the date is an integral part of the rubber stamp, or was it applied with a separate rubber stamp? Skilpadfontein is a conventional type money order post office with Warmbad, north of Pretoria, as head office. (**David Allison**)

The Somerset Road post office in the Mother City no longer appears in the official list of post offices and agencies. Its name was given officially as SOMERSET ROAD CAPE TOWN/ SOMERSET-WEG KAAPSTAD.

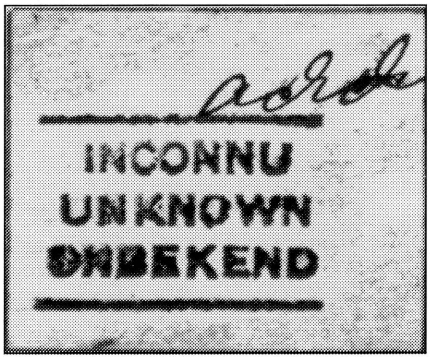
In the R-label illustrated, the post office name appears in English only, but the place name is in Afrikaans and English codes. The Afrikaans code of K.P. is unusual. An official list of code letters for post offices published in 1987, gave the code letters for Cape Town as CT for English and Afrikaans. (**John Hodgson**)

Nog 'n soort drukker?

Wie weet watter soort masjien gebruik word om die datumbesonderhede in die illustrasie op 'n koevert aan te bring? Die drukwerk is taamlik geklad, wat die indruk skep dat die ink op die koevert gespuit is. Die besonderhede van die posmerk is die datum 14 OCT 1997, met die nommer 97287 daaronder.



Ongelukkig het die vensterkoevert waarop die besonderhede verskyn, geen ander besonderhede daarop wat as leidrade kan dien vir verdere uitkenning nie. (**Nita Venter**)



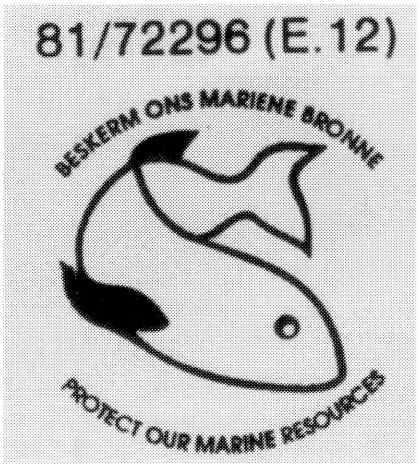
"Onbekend" raak skaars

Die ONBEKEND stempelafdrukke, met Frans en Engels daarby, word deesdae meesal op ouer items gevind. Tans is die gebruik om 'n etiket op te plak om 'n onbekende geadresseerde aan te dui.

Die stempel waarvan die afdruk geïllustreer word, was in Oktober 1951 in Bloemfontein in gebruik.

Campaigning by mail

Government envelopes have for years been used to draw attention to worthy causes, and this has been illustrated in previous issues of this feature.



A window envelope which has come to hand, has the South African coat of arms on the reverse flap. On the front there is a call for the protection of South Africa's marine resources. South Africa held its first national marine day on 2 December 1988, and has held one every year since then.

Tzaneen se stempels en boetes

Op 'n koevert wat **David Allison** aangestuur het, verskyn Tzaneen se masjienslagspreuk in swart ink, en ook 'n afdruk in rooi ink van 'n boetestempel met 50c daarby geskryf, soos in die illustrasie.

Ek skryf toe 'n brief aan die posmeester van Tzaneen om meer besonderhede te bekom, en kry 'n mooi volledige antwoord. Eerstens het hy duidelike afdrukke van die Afrikaanse en Engelse weergawes van Tzaneen se slagspreuk gestuur. HullewordgeXllustreer.

Die slagspreuk is sedert 18 Januarie 1991 in gebruik. Die hulse, een in Afrikaans gegraveer en die ander in Engels, word maandeliks gewissel. Die masjien wat ten tye van die beantwoording van my navraag op 13 Januarie 1994 in gebruik was, was 'n Pitney Bowes Model 3920 rojeermasjien, wat op 1 Julie 1985 op Tzaneen in gebruik geneem is.

Wat die boetestempel betref, het die posmeester eweneens 'n verduideliking en illustrasies verskaf. Wanneer 'n posstuk on- of ondergefrankeer is, is dit veronderstel om netjies met 'n T-stempel in die middel van die boonste helfte van die adreskant gemerk te word.

Waar 'n posstuk nie korrek gefrankeer is nie, en vir die buiteland bestem is, moet die boeteberekening duidelik in die vorm van 'n breuk by die T-stempel aangedui word, soos hier met 12c/30c. Die teller van die breuk moet die werklike tekort aan posgeld verteenwoordig en die noemer die enkelbedrag posgeld vir die eerste massatrap van 'n landposbrief in die internasionale diens.

Op posstukke vir aflewering binne Suid-Afrika wat nie korrek gefrankeer is

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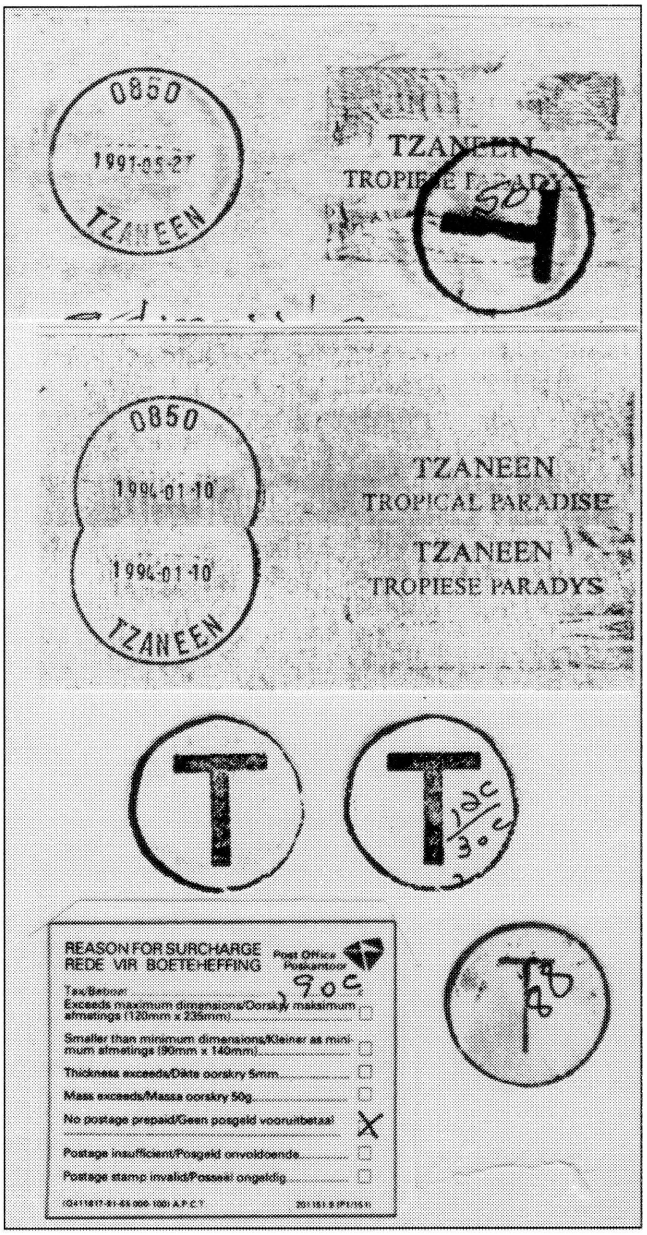
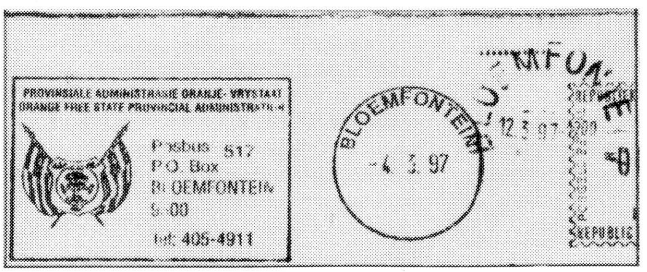


nie, word die boetes gehef deur 'n P1/151 etiket op die adreskant van 'n posstuk te plak. Die bedrag van die boete word op die betrokke plek geskryf, en die rede vir die heffing van die boete word met 'n X aangedui soos in die illustrasie.

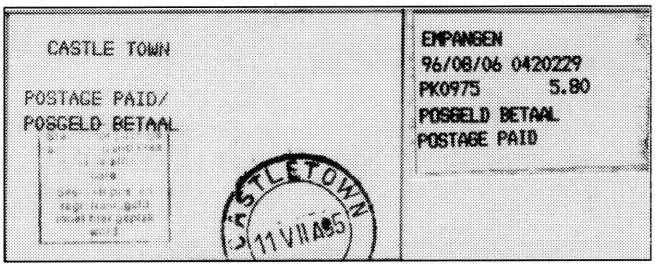
Dit is dus duidelik dat die posstuk wat David Allison aangestuur het, nie korrek behandel is nie. Die T-stempel met die "50c" daarby geskryf is vermoedelik per abuis aangebring, of weens van 'n uitgeputte voorraad P1/151 etikette.

En dan: 'n boetemerk wat nog nie in die rubriek verskyn het nie, word geïllustreer. Dit verskyn op 'n brief wat op 18 Desember 1991 in Groenpunt, Kaapstad, gepos is vir aflewering in Higgovale, Kaapstad.



Out-dated names and dates

The meter illustrated below,left, still has the old name of the Free State Province, a considerable time after the official name change. Note that there is a difference of 8 days between the meter and the post office slogan date. (**Wilhelm Grütter**)



Kasregisterstrokies bly steeds versamelbaar

Toonbankregister kwitansies gaan nog lank buitengewone items vir 'n versameling lewer. Die illustrasie van Castletown gee die naam verkeerdelik met twee woorde aan, terwyl die datumstempel die korrekte spelling het. Castletown poskantoor is intussen gesluit.

Empangeni in die KwaZulu-Natal Provinsie se register nommer 0420229 het op 6 Augustus 1996 die poskantoor se naam verkeerd gespel gehad.



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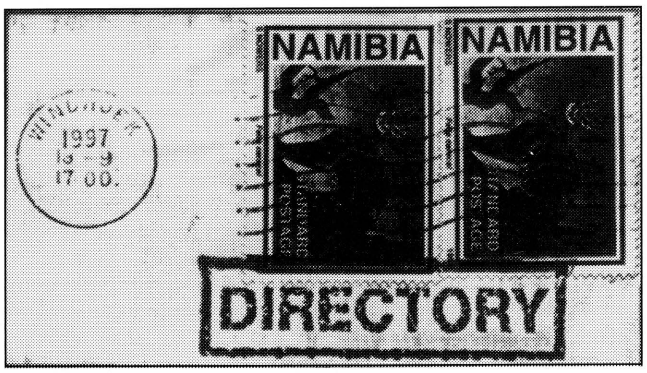
King William's Town het die volgende verskeidenheid register kwitansies gelewer. Kyk mooi na die verskille in die verstellings van die naamlyn van die poskantoor.

Die datums op die kwitansies strek van 18 Januarie 1991 tot 20 April 1993. (**Peter Southwood**)

Someone please direct us

What is a DIRECTORY? On two previous occasions I have already mentioned an oval rubber datestamp impression of the CAPEMAIL DIRECTORY.



Some more impressions of DIRECTORY rubber stamps have come to hand, of the type illustrated here.

The illustration is from a letter posted in the Namibian capital of Windhoek on 13 September 1997 and addressed to a post office box in Diepkloof in Soweto near Johannesburg. Two items from the Cape Town area have been seen with a similar boxed impression.

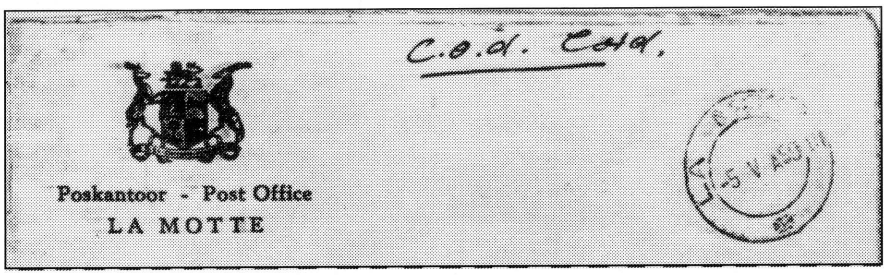


Trodat tipes verskil blykbaar

Kuilsrivier se nuwe stempelafdruk lyk of dit een van die Trodat tipe is. Dit wil voorkom asof hierdie handmasjientjies hulle eie verskeidenheid gaan oplewer.

Kuilsrivier se illustrasie hierby toon datumsyfers en letters wat merkbaar groter is as soortgelyke stempels. (Die syfer onder tussen die twee sirkels is 'n 5.)

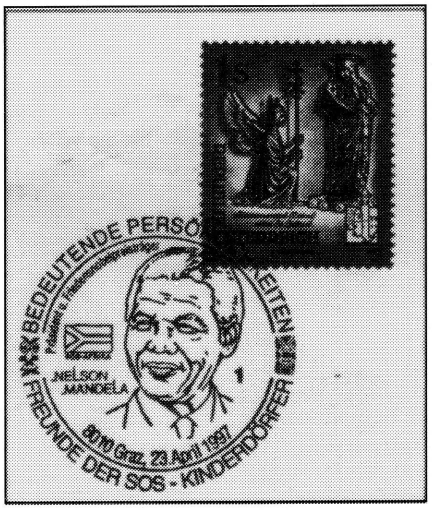
Die verwringing dui egter moontlik op 'n rubber tipe stempel. Is daar lesers wat weet watter soort stempel Kuilsrivier gebruik? Vir iemand wat iets nuut soek om te versamel, is die Trodat en soortgelyke masjientjies se stempelafdrukke 'n ideale versamelveld.



A postal stationery puzzle

La Motte post office stationery is een in the form of an envelope (top half shown) with the state coat of arms and the post office name, which was used on 5 May 1959. The printing was done in a very dark blue ink. The envelope bears the manuscript legend "C.O.D. card".

Did all post offices have such distinguishing stationery, and does anybody have a collection of such items? Why was it necessary to write "C.O.D. card" on the cover? La Motte post office is in the vicinity of Franschhoek near Cape Town.



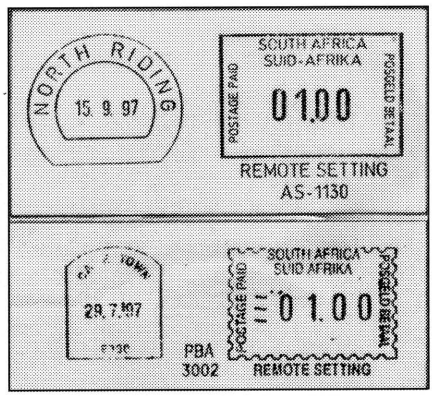
Mandela druk sy stempel af

'n Buitelandse stempel wat moontlik vir Suid-Afrikaanse versamelaars interessant kan wees, is van **Christian Nedome** ontvang. Die Oostenrykse stempel van Graz het 'n portret van President Nelson Mandela en die Suid-Afrikaanse vlag. Daar was twee eenderse stempels en hulle word onderskei deur die syfers 1 en 2.

Die stempels is deel van 'n reeks oor belangrike mense wat vriende is van die SOS Kinderdorpe. Navrae oor die stempels kan in Engels aan Christian Nedome gerig word by Staargasse 61, A-1140 Wenen, Oostenryk.

New development in meter marks

Meter marks and the various machines that make them seem to be developing constantly. The illustrations show a development introduced in 1997. Companies with meter machines can now connect the machines to a Post Office point, from where the meter can be adjusted remotely.



This means that it no longer has to be taken physically to the post office of registration for credit payment, adjustment and sealing. The shape of the datestamp being used in new machines also seems to be moving away from the customary circle, as in the two examples illustrated.

Current post office stationery

An item that was placed in my post office mail box in 1996 does not need much explanation. One wonders what led the Post Office to go to this length? Is it then not the aim that a post office box renter should receive only mail addressed to his own box?

On 17 December 1983, the Auckland Park post office was using a card with stationery number P 1/130, which is self-explanatory. The reference number label (with the number 2007) pasted onto the card is dark yellow.

Voorbeelde van possak etikette is voorheen in die rubriek gewys. Die illustrasie hierby is van 'n etiket wat van die Krugersdorp naafkantoor in die Witwatersrand Poskantoorstreek afkomstig is. Die etiket is van 'n ou tipe wat blykbaar in die proses van vervanging is.

'n Nuwe soort etiket, wat klaarblyklik met massapos te doen het, en wat die eer-

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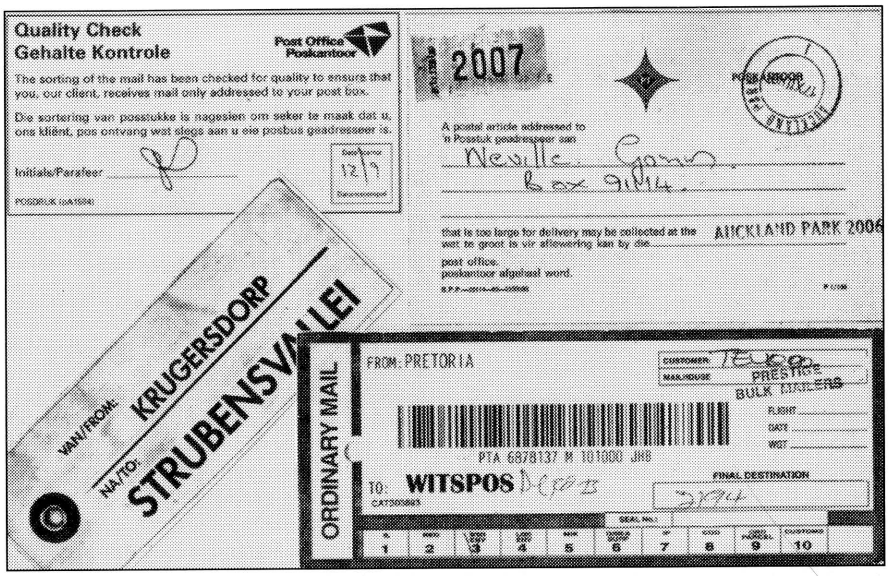
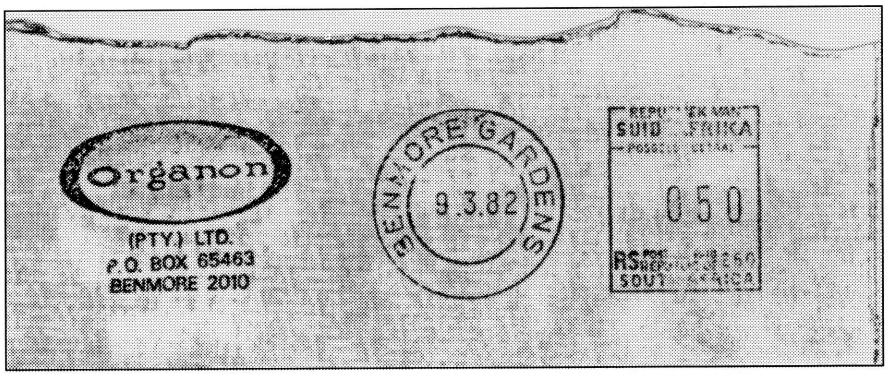


ste keer in 1997 gesien is, word ook geïllustreer. Hierdie item laat heelwat vrae ontstaan. Is daar 'n leser wat vir ons die storie kan vertel?

Weeding through the names

Benmore *Gardens*? The illustration demonstrates once again that one always has to keep an eagle eye open. It would appear that Benmore Gardens is a suburb of Sandton, one of Johannesburg's neighbouring cities. There is also a suburb called Benmore.

But: there was no post office named Benmore Gardens on 9 March 1982, the date on which the item illustrated was mailed. Meter machines used to have to be registered at a post office, and had to have the name of the post office of registration in the datestamp. Someone seems to have slipped up in this case.



Another reminder/Onthou tog asseblief

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and the Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa have a new postal address. Please make a note of this now if you have not already done so.

The address is:

PO Box 412505
Craighall 2024
South Africa

This is also the address for all administrative matters concerning *The SA Philatelist*. The editorial address of the jounal remains unchanged.

Die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika en die Filateliese Stigting van Suider-Afrika het 'n nuwe posadres. Teken dit asseblief nou aan as u dit nie reeds gedoen het nie.

Die adres is:

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Suid-Afrika

Dit is terselfdertyd ook die adres vir alle administratiewe sake van *The SA Philatelist*. Die redaksionele adres van die blad verander nie.

POST OFFICE NEWS

THE first edition of this feature appeared in March 1989, which means that it is now entering its tenth year. Some fresh thinking seemed called for, and this column introduces an ancillary feature which collectors of contemporary philately might find useful, namely a watch on post offices, obtained chiefly from official sources unless otherwise indicated.

Readers are welcome to contribute similar news direct to Neville Gomm, PO Box 179, Strubens Valley 1735.

The numbering system is intended for easy reference backwards and forwards. The first digits are a straight-forward sequential numbering of all reports. The second group gives the month in which the report appeared in *The SA Philatelist*, and the third represents the last two digits of the year. (If the feature proves useful and popular, 00 may well crop up!)

1/4/98 – Boleu retail postal agency with Groblersdal as head office and with office code 11814, was opened in the Mpumalanga Post Office provincial region with effect from 19 February 1998.

2/4/98 – Botterkloof retail postal agency with Riversdale as head office and with office code 62692, was closed in the Western Cape Post Office provincial region with effect from 28 February 1998.

3/4/98 – Cedarville conventional type money order post office with Matatiele as head office and with office code 63555 and in the KwaZulu-Natal Post Office provincial region was converted to a retail postal agency with effect from 31 March 1997.

4/4/98 – Danckertville conventional type money order post office with Malmesbury as head office and with office code 64515, was closed in the Western Cape Post Office provincial region with effect from 30 January 1998.

5/4/98 – The Post Office says in its staff newspaper *Express* that it expects to see the Excellpos post office computerised counter system implemented nationally in the course of 1998.

The first conversion to the Excellpos system was at Hatfield post office early in February 1996. In November 1996, the Hercules, Belle Ombre and Daspoort post offices were converted, followed by Tram Shed in December 1996. All these offices are in the Pretoria area.

In October 1997, the Brandhof, Rosettenville, East End and Goodwood post offices were converted, and in November 1997, the Newton Park post office followed.

The Post Office says that Excellpos is focusing on resolving computer software problems. Once the system has been stabilised to an acceptable level, more post offices will have their counter equipment converted to Excellpos in 1998.

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■ **HOWARD GODWIN***East Rand Philatelic Society*

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

SOMETHING new has been added for the collectors of New Zealand stamps – New Zealand Post Ltd has released their CD-ROM *New Zealand Stamps – A Virtual Album*. It has taken a year to produce and is said to be "the most advanced, interactive product of its type currently available in the philatelic world."

Particular items of interest would seem to be the written and visual record of all New Zealand postage stamps, including miniature sheets, from 1855-1997 and "the ability to keep a visual and written record of your own stamps by creating password protected custom albums and adding your own notes.".

It would seem that for the collector of any aspect of their stamps, New Zealand Post has provided a magnificent reference work at a cost of NZ$69,95 (approximately R200).

How the Chinese year works

Previously, the Year of the Tiger was noted, and the comment made that this was a potential new subject for a thematic/topical collection. As forecast, there have been some interesting issues. Some will no doubt fall into themes other than the Chinese Lunar Year, but the variety of material being produced for each year is possibly the key as to whether or not to start on a new theme.

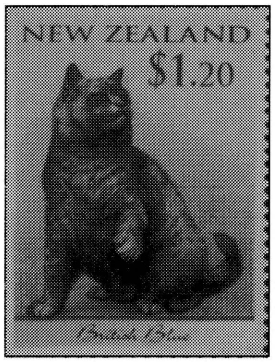
Should you decide to start a Chinese Lunar Year collection, the following information, extracted from the Canada Post Corporation news release, may help you decide.

"The Chinese New Year is based on a twelve year cycle with every year represented by an animal. The cycle begins with the Rat and follows with the Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig, the twelve animals thought to have been loyal to Buddha. More than anything else, the New Year is a celebration of family and friends and a renewal of values. It is the single most important festival of the Chinese calendar."

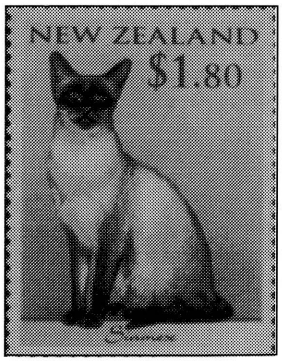
The Canadian 45c commemorative issued for the Year of the Tiger features the head and shoulders of a tiger with calligraphy that signifies "Year of the Tiger". Red is the dominant colour, with the denomination and Chinese characters in gold. Apart from the stamps in sheet form, there was a diamond shaped two-stamp souvenir sheet. The stamp was designed by Raymond Mah with calligraphy by Leung Hon Kwan – printing was by Ashton-Potter Ltd.



The United States of America issued its sixth in the series of Lunar New Year stamps, the 32c value featuring a paper cut, multicoloured tiger in the centre with the words "Happy New Year" at top right and the Chinese calligraphy signifying the same at left. Clarence Lee has designed all six American Lunar Year issues to date and has already been commissioned to design the remaining six stamps – up to the year 2003!







Felines of a smaller, but not always milder, variety grace the six stamp issue from New Zealand. According to New Zealand Post the "Favourite Felines stamp issue pays tribute to the cat in all its different forms from the domestic moggy to the British Blue".

The six breeds of cat most commonly found in New Zealand homes are honoured – the Domestic Moggy, the Burmese and the Birman appear on the 40c, 80c and $1 values respectively. The British Blue, the Persian and the Siamese are on the $1,20, $1,50 and $1,80 stamps. Timed to coincide with the Lunar New Year, a Tiger is depicted on the gutter strip.

Christmas Island, whose stamps also bear the word Australia, issued two 45c se-tenant stamps in sheet form and as a souvenir sheet. The stamps each show a stylised tiger with the border depicting Chinese children wearing tiger caps to protect them from danger. The Chinese text for "The Year of the Tiger" is in gold foil. Red, representing joy and happiness, is the predominant colour.

Setting sail again

Another Australian issue which is sure to be popular is the Maritime Heritage set of four featuring some of the sailing ships which were crucial for the survival of the colony.

The *Flying Cloud* (45c) was perhaps the most celebrated of all the clippers built by Donald McKay in Boston. The Canadian built *Marco Polo* (85c) was bought by the English Black Ball Line which catered especially for emigrant traffic to Australia. A little barque rigged ship, *Chusan* ($1, 00) was the first steamer to carry passengers and mail to Australia. While her 80 horsepower engine could propel her at eight knots, her sails were in reality her main motive power.

The $1,20 top value depicts the clipper *Heather* which was a wooden three masted sailing ship built in Aberdeen in 1855. Designed by Brian Sadgrove, this attractive set will be continued in September.

From the British Virgin Islands comes another commemorative issue which is a little baffling in its timing – the 420th anniversary of Drake's World Voyage.

An attractive souvenir sheet showing the modern ship *Sir Francis Drake* under sail against a Caribbean background has a $2,00 value. Another miniature sheet of 12 x 40c, which shows Drake's route round the world is unfortunately too large for reproduction.

More ships come in a miniature sheet of 12 x 24p values from the British Indian Ocean Territory. Under the heading

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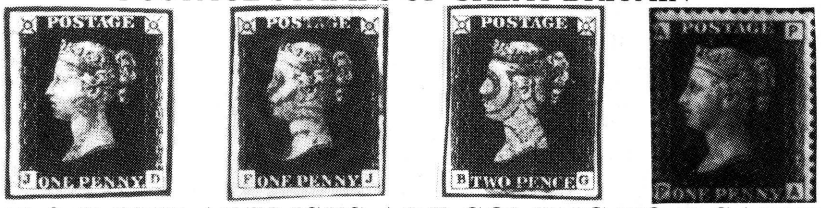





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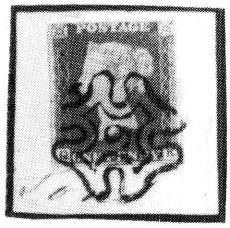



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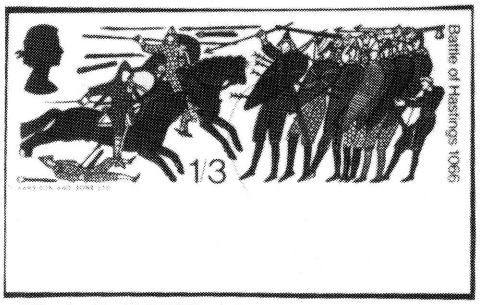
We look forward to meeting you at ILSAPEX which is to be held in Johannesburg at Exhibition Hall No. 2 at the Gallagher Estate from 20 October through to the 25 October 1998. Please contact us with your wants lists now so that we can try and accommodate you at the show.







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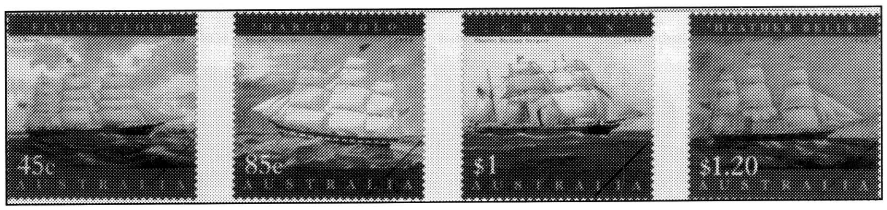


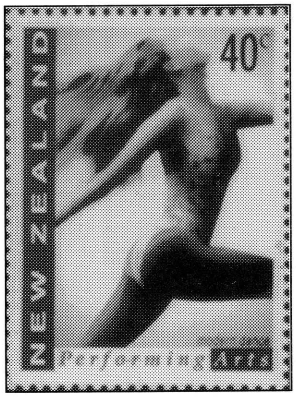


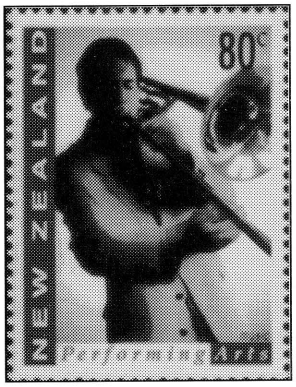
"Exercise 'Ocean Wave' ", ten vessels are shown, some singly such as HMY *Britannia* and HMS *Illustrious*. Others are grouped two and three to a stamp: HMS *Richmond*, HMS *Beaver* and HMS *Gloucester* appear together, and so do RFA *Diligence* and HMS *Trenchant*.

That the Royal Yacht took part in fleet manoeuvres is unusual, as is its being photographed in such company.

From dance to Swazi ceremonies

"The Performing Arts" is the title of a six value set from New Zealand. Represented in stylised form are Modern Dance and Music on the 40c and 80c values, while Opera and Theatre appear on the $1,00 and $1,20. The two top values depict Song ($1,50) and Ballet ($1.80). This is another colourful set for the entertainment collector.





The 75th anniversary of the Jersey Motor Transport Company (JMT) was commemorated by the Jersey postal administration with the issue of a set of six stamps, each featuring a bus from a different period of the company's history.

The JMT Bristol Bus 4 Tonner (ca 1923) is shown on the 20p with the SCS Double Decker (ca 1934-37) and Slade's Dennis Lancet (ca 1930) appearing on the 24p and 31p values.





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- 5 ☐ QUEEN VICTORIA - PENNY REDS 1841-1880
- 7 ☐ KING GEORGE V
- 10 ☐ KING EDWARD VII
- 11 ☐ KING GEORGE V
- 19 ☐ WRECK MAIL
- 22 ☐ POSTAL NOTICES
- 27 ☐ POSTAL STATIONERY
- 28 ☐ LONDON POSTAL HISTORY
- 29 ☐ IRISH POSTAL HISTORY
- 31 ☐ SCOTTISH POSTAL HISTORY
- 32 ☐ MARITIME/SHIP LETTERS
- 33 ☐ MULREADY/ILLUSTRATED COVERS
- 34 ☐ VALENTINES
- 35 ☐ MILITARY/NAVAL
- 36 ☐ WELSH POSTAL HISTORY
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- 45 ☐ 1840 2d BLUES SG 4-6
- 49 ☐ 1d REDS - BLACKS PLATES SG 7
- 51 ☐ 1d REDS IMPERF SG 8-12
- 73 ☐ 1841 2d BLUES SG 13-15
- 80 ☐ 2d BLUES PERFORATED PLATES 4-6
- 83 ☐ 1854 1d PERFORATED SG 17-22
- 84 ☐ 1855 1d DIE II ALP II SG 21+
- 85 ☐ 1857 1d DIE II ALP III & IV SG 40+
- 90 ☐ 1858 1d PLATE NUMBERS SG 43/4
- 95 ☐ 1858 2d PLATES SG 45/47
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The 37p features the Tantivvy Leyland PLSC Lion (1947) and the JBS Morris Bus of 1958 is on the 43p. The 63p top value has the JMT TitanTD4 Double Decker of the late 1950s and early 60s.

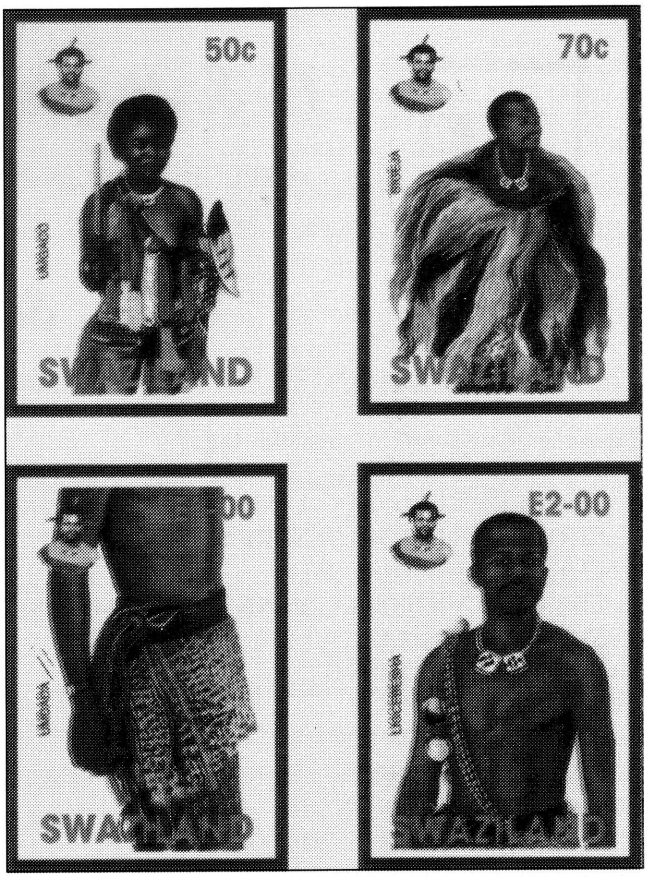
The stamps were designed by Alan R Copp and printed by BDT Ltd, Dublin.

The Israel postal authority has issued a NIS5,35 stamp to honour the country's sixth president, Chaim Herzog, who died last year. Herzog was a brilliant man, and author of several books about Israel and military matters. He was Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, and was later elected to the Knesset. He became president in 1983 and was elected to a second term in 1988.



Two further additions to the Israeli Sports definitive series are the NIS2,20 value depicting White Water Rafting and NIS1,80 for Water Skiing – both are seldom seen events on stamps.

Swaziland has released a four value set of commemorative stamps titled Swazi Decorations-/Costumes.



The Umgaco (50c) is made from colourful wool and is worn by young maidens during umhlanga dances and during traditional weddings. The Sigeja (70c) is an oxtail cape which is tied around the neck and hangs down from the shoulders to just above the waist. It is worn by men during the incwala ceremony.

The E1,00 value shows the Umdada which is the most important item worn during incwala ceremony. The Umdada is a Swazi necklace made of small colourful beads. Worn by both men and women, it is specifically worn by men when going to pay tribute to their elders in the area when summoned.

An interesting set, designed by Daniel Aryeequaye and printed by Cartor Security Printers.

Philatelic publisher continues steady growth

THE Cyprus based publisher and distributor of philatelic literature, James Bendon Limited, is continually adding to his lists. He has now reported as "just received" the following titles:

Early Forces Mail by Barrie Jay describes mail from the British forces involved in the major European campaigns of the 17th and 18th centuries: these are the Thirty Years' War, the War of the Grand Alliance, the War of the Spanish Succession, the War of the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years' War.

Also included are chapters dealing with the Armée d'Angleterre and Prisoner of War Mail. It is illustrated with letters, documents, maps and five colour plates. (76pp, card cover, £20,00).

Another such title is *The Travelling Post Offices of South Australia* by Anthony D Presgrave. The first chapter deals with the little-known subject of the early Road Mails; the remainder of the book with the Railway TPOs.

There is much background information on the railways, the rolling stock (with photographs and drawings) and also timetables are provided. A total of 75 types of datestamp used on the TPOs are illustrated. (142pp, card cover, £25,00).

Among the titles which Bendon has previously announced are *Ottoman Empire Postal Rates* by Wolfgang Schmidt and Andreas Birken (100 pp, card cover £12, 00), *Under the Gum* by James A Mackay, an account of the evolution of British stamps in their first hundred years (536pp, hardbound, £52,50) and *Mexican Maritime Mail* by Karl H Schimmer and John M Heath (427 pp, hardbound, £58,50).

By permission of the British Philatelic Trust, Bendon has also now been able to make available a reproduction of the second edition of Robson Lowe's celebrated *The Work of Jean de Sperati*. The plates have now been placed at the end of each section of the text, rather than being bound as a seperate volume. (384pp, hardbound, £75,00).

A further title in recent months has been *The French Post Office in Yokohama* by Jun Ichi Matsumoto, covering the period from 1865 to 1880. (234pp, hardbound, £40,00).

Postage of £1,00 per book is charged, and the publisher accepts credit cards. He also distributes a regular newsletter by e-mail, and can be reached for orders of this or of publications at the postal address: James Bendon Ltd, PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus.
(E-mail: jbendon@ibm.net)

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■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

An indispensable record and analysis of British ship letter rates and markings

Robertson Revisited; Colin Tabeart. 314 pp, ill., published by James Bendon Limited (1997), PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, £40,00+£1,00 postage.

EVEN though Robertson's celebrated *A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles*, part-published between 1955 and 1964, is such a vexingly complex work, it remains a cornerstone of the philatelic subject which it treats. This is aptly – one might almost say, reverently – acknowledged by the title of Colin Tabeart's new work: *Robertson Revisited*. The sub-title makes this acknowledgement abundantly explicit: "A study of the Maritime Postal Markings of the British Isles based on the work of Alan W Robertson".

Pre-viewing the book in *The SA Philatelist* (February 1998, p16), it was observed that no one who knows or possesses – albeit in the modern 80 per cent size reduction made available by the same publisher – can now afford to be without Tabeart. Close reading since then has not revised this opinion.

This is not only a thorough up-dating of the classic Robertson (but more of that later). Principally, Tabeart has obviously added what new dates, markings and usages for the various alphabetically listed British ports have since come to light. This proves once again the never-ending need for on-going research, even in subjects which would superficially seem to be quite exhausted.

Hosking's research and publications on paquebots, and Gould's substantial similar contributions on the Royal Navy, have also now skilfully been added to the edifice which Robertson began.

The result is an accumulation of over 1 400 British marks illustrated, with usages succinctly described, and one can not doubt the claim that this is currently the most comprehensive record of Britain's maritime datestamps.

Lest it be thought though that Tabeart has merely provided a fresh edition of Robertson, it is important to note his highly significant introductory chapter. This treats the whole question of ship letter rates from what one could call a structural point of view. In other words, he examines the principles of how the rate as a whole was put together, and how these principles changed.

Understanding these underlying principles is vital in clearing up common misconceptions and confusions. Tabeart clearly demonstrates what is too frequently overlooked when one tries to match the scribblings on covers to known rates at the time. This is that until internationally agreed "through" rates became established comparatively late in the previous century, there is a whole palimpsest of bilateral rate agreements and contractual charges to battle through.

His most important point is perhaps that the gratuity which was paid to masters of vessels as an incentive to land their letters at the earliest convenient point in the inland postal system was never added to the postal charges. (Robertson was, unfortunately, not correct on this point.)

Tabeart is quite unequivocal: "Gratuities were entirely separate from postage rates, and never formed part of the rate charged to the recipient." At first the gratuity was 1d, and after the Ship Letter Act of 1799 it was 2d. These amounts have too frequently been added in, or calculated as double and triple charges, so as to arrive at the "correct" amounts to fit the manuscript rate marks.

Taken in all, *Robertson Revisited* is therefore not only a complete compendium of the details of its subject – it is an indispensable tool in arriving at the correct theoretical understanding underlying the rate structures.

Getting exhibits into gear

Preparing Stamp Collections for Exhibition; by Ray Kelly. (South African edition by Richard Knight.) 24 pp, published by The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa (1998), available from RC Knight, PO Box 22592, Fish Hoek 7974, R6,00 p + p included. (Payable to RC Knight.)

ALTHOUGH the Federation is distributing one copy of this monograph free of charge to each of its affiliated societies, the price is not exactly prohibitive of individual ownership. And this is highly recommended.

Experience shows that it is at dead of night, all alone in the struggle to perfect an exhibit in its final stages, that one is suddenly assailed by a niggling doubt. And that is not the moment to phone the Society Librarian.

That is where a quick reference to this easily understandable guide helps one clear the hurdle in no time. (After, perhaps, referring once again to the prospectus of the exhibition for which the exhibit is being prepared. Funny how often this is overlooked!)

An admirable job has been done by the chairman of the Federation's judging committee, Richard Knight, RDPSA, FRPSL, in adapting the Australian Philatelic Federation's booklet by Ray Kelly to local practice. The contents have already been summarised in *The SA Philatelist* (February 1998, p9) and need not be repeated here. (In fact, why not have a look

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at them in your library for yourself?)

The point is that whether one is a first-time exhibitor or seasoned campaigner, the booklet provides the basic reassurance everyone needs at some stage or other, and it does so in readily understandable and accessible form.

(Oh, you don't exhibit, do you? Ah well, satisfy yourself at least that you are missing nothing.)

'n Waardige gedenkstuk

PPS 100 1898-1998: Pretoria Philatelic Society Centenary Chronicle and Exhibition Catalogue.
81 pp, ill., uitgegee deur die Pretoria Philatelic Society (1998), beskikbaar van die PPS, Posbus 36473, Menlo Park 0102, R65,00 p + p ingesluit.

DIE anonieme skrywers en samestellers van hierdie eeufeespublikasie moet gelukgewens word met 'n model van 'n stuk werk. Daar is nie baie verenigings in die land wat met hierdie een se oorlewing kan spog nie, maar die tyd stap vir almal nader, en dit is omtrent gebiedend noodsaaklik vir ten minste elke vereniging om 'n eksemplaar hiervan aan te skaf om te sien hoe dit gedoen moet word.

Gans afgesien daarvan. Alewyn Burger het reeds 'n beknopte oorsig van die PPS se geskiedenis gegee in *The SA Philatelist* (Desember 1997, p186). Hier het 'n mens egter die volle storie, in al sy volle kleur en geur.

Bowendien het die redaksie van *PPS 100* ons Federasie 'n oneindige guns bewys met die biografieë van die meer prominente lede van die vereniging wat hier verskyn. Nie minder nie as 27 daarvan – elkeen onberispelik nagevors en van 'n gepaste illustrasie voorsien.

Hierdie werk vul dus 'n yslike leemte in ons filateliese geheue, naamlik inligting oor die doen en late van vroeë Suid-Afrikaanse versamelaars. Oproepe om hierdie leemte te probeer uitwis is reeds male sonder tal gedoen, sonder dat dit ooit enigsins gevorder het nie. Hierdie biografieë is nie alleen die begin van so 'n projek nie, maar weens hul deeglikheid 'n rigtinggewende vingerwysing vir enige toekomstige werkwyse.

Die lewenslope wat gebied word is bondig, interessant en veral hoogs leesbaar. Belangrik is ook dat daar juis nie alleenlik aandag bestee is byvoorbeeld aan persoonlikhede wat deur die Federasie uitgesonder is om die Ererol te onderteken nie. Dit sou die maklike uitweg gewees het, om daarmee die streep te trek.

'n Mens dink hier net aan twee voorbeelde. Daar is die biografie van Bertram Lilburne Cairncross, wat nooit ten toon gestel het nie, maar oneindig baie kennis oorgedra het in sy bydraes tot *The SA Philatelist*, en wat trouens die blad se getrouste ondersteuner ooit was (sien *The SA Philatelist*, Augustus 1989, p195).

En dan: Giovanetti. So onlangs as in *The SA Philatelist* van Februarie 1997, p4 was daar 'n navraag asof hy heeltemal vergete sou wees. Die antwoorde het wel verbasend vinnig verskyn. Maar waar was die Suid-Afrikaanse filateliese naslaanwerk wat dit in die eerste plek sou moes kon verskaf het?

Die vereniging se eeufees is gevier met 'n tentoonstelling van 18 van die land se voorste versamelings. Die katalogus hiervan, met van die beste stukke oorwegend in kleur geïllustreer, is alleen reeds 'n besonder waardevolle rekord.

Uiteindelik: hierdie is 'n keurig versorgde publikasie ook in elke tegniese aspek. Teen die prys wat die vereniging daarvoor vra, is dit 'n winskopie van lekker-lees inligting.

An overview of the stamps of the Queen Victoria era

British Victorian Stamps, by James Mackay.
12 pp, ill., published by Royal Mail (1997), available from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, £2,95.

THIS monograph, No 4 in a series from the *The British Philatelic Bulletin*, coincides with the recent reopening of the National Postal Museum, and is based – as far as illustrations are concerned – chiefly on its Reginald M Phillips collection.

The author, as the saying goes, needs no introduction. James Mackay's style and vast knowledge are displayed perfectly in summarising and pointing out the highlights of a philatelic era which has already spawned hundreds of more detailed and specialised publications.

What is probably most important to collectors are the illustrations of items which, alas, have forever been withdrawn from the philatelic market. At the same time, there is an admirably clear overview of a collecting field which will never pall.

Some recent publications to consider

Postal Orders have a society: A complimentary copy of *Postal Order News*, journal of the Postal Order Society, has been received. The society was formed in 1985, and this issue is already no 46. Although based in Britain, its members' interests are obviously world-wide. Apart from an article on QEII postal orders, the issue contains information about similar material of Tanzania, Zambia and about the early "postal notes" issued by the Australian territory Victoria. The journal is free to members, and overseas society subscription is £9,00 by air and £6,00 surface mail. The secretary is Mal Tedds, 1 Fairham Court, Wilford, Nottingham NG11 7EN, UK.

Forces postal history: Recently published by the Western Australia Study Group is *Western Australia: The Forces, Prisoner of War and Censor Mail* by Bruce Haynes and Brian Pope. While the book places the emphasis on the postal system of the geographical territory which is the study circle's concern, it contains wide-ranging information from 1826 to the present including, for example, an explanation of rates applicable in the territory for the Boer War. The price is A$95,00, and the book (864 pages in B5 format) can be ordered from the study group at PO Box 423, Claremont, Western Australia 6910.

Two volumes of postmarks: Publishing on behalf of the Western Cover Society, Leonard H Hartmann recently produced *California Town Postmarks 1849-1935* by John H Williams. The 1 504 pages, with over 17 000 full size drawings of markings, appear in two hardbound volumes which are not to be reprinted. The price is US$105,00 (or US$110,00 which includes a "county finder" index on floppy disc which also appears in the printed version) . In addition, Hartmann always has a current catalogue of hundreds of titles available at US$12,50. The address is PO Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233, USA. (Internet: http://pbbooks.com).

For the thematic collector: Since the American Topical Association (ATA) published its first handbook under the title *Adventures in Topical Stamp Collecting* in 1981, thematics have shown several advances. This new edition, by the same authors – George Griffenhagen and Jerome Husak – is described as an essential guide for the beginner as well as the advanced thematic collector. The emphasis now lies on the philatelic elements which should enhance collections (and exhibits) and contains 68 full colour illustrations. An appendix lists over 200 periodicals world-wide, devoted to over 50 themes, and periodicals published by thematic associations in 23 countries. The book is available at US $22,00 from the ATA, PO Box 65749, Tucson, AZ 85728, USA.

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Op die velrand/In the margin





Illustrasies van drie nuwe SA seëluitreikings ontvang

DIE eerste drie hersiene groter ontwerpe sonder raam in die Sesde Vaste Reeks is hier. Omdat daar van nou af waardes na behoefte aan die SA Poskantoor voorsien word, is geen "eerste dag van uitreiking" aangegee nie, en versamelaars sal 'n plan moet maak om te laat weet wat die vroegste stempeldatum is, en waar dit vandaan kom.

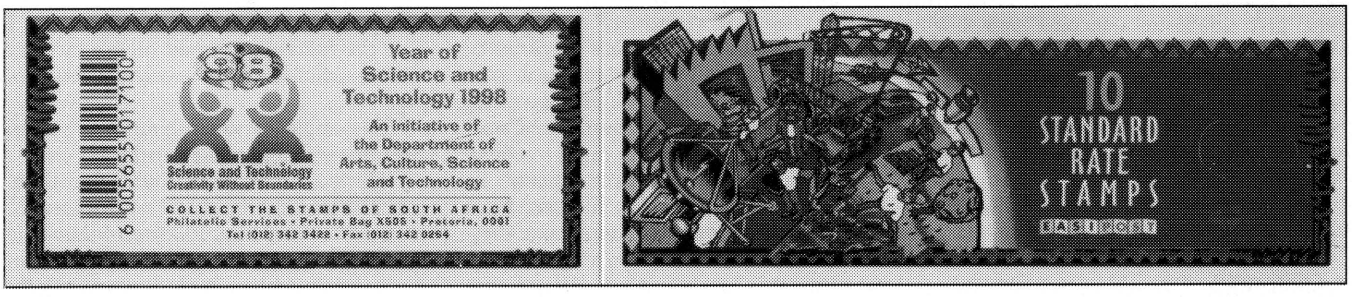
Die enigste datum wat op die oomblik beskikbaar is, is die een in die velrand, die drukdatum. Vir die 70c is dit 1997-12-18, vir die 90c waarde is dit 1997-12-19, en die waarde van R1 is gedruk op 1997-12-12.



New Rhino booklet appears

THE only clue to the earliest possible date after which the latest Rhino booklet could have come into use is that given by the printer in the margin, namely 16 01 1998. It is worth noting that these stamps were printed by CTP (Cape and Transvaal Printers).

The booklet is illustrated folded out, inside and outside.





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News from Namibia

New manager appointed

NAMIBIA Post appointed Ruth Hamilton as Manager Philately Services on 1 November 1997. Mrs Hamilton began her career with Nampost in 1993 as accountant. In October 1996 she was transferred to the Philately Service Department, and in March 1997 she was promoted to Production Controller at Philately Service.

The beginnings of a furore about Namibia's "Chinese issues"

LATE last year, on 30 December 1997 to be exact, Jan de Jong sent an e-mail message to *The SA Philatelist* at a time when the Editor was on leave. De Jong's would seem to be the first alarm raised about the "Chinese issues". The salient points are recorded here:

"By this time you are most likely aware of the Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme and the products that were released for this purpose. I've had some e-mail correspondence with the Namibian postal authorities on this subject." (*The Editor was quite unaware.*)

"It is clear from the contents of the correspondence that these items were (a) additional to their philatelic programme and (b) the items were not available to the general public in Namibia. My first mail to them was on 15 December 1997:

"I am shocked, dismayed and disappointed at your un-announced issue of what looks like gummed wrapping paper for fire works/Christmas crackers! And then you still have the audacity to print 'Namibian Stamp Awareness Program' on the issue as well!

"What you most likely have achieved is a quick-kill of any beginner in stamp collecting, and most advanced collectors will also give this issue a second look. I will most definitely not stand for another issue like this. I have been collecting SWA and now Namibia for almost 30 years, but I will not hesitate to give it up if NamPost insists on joining 'Banana Republics' with issues like this.

"Their reply, from Mrs Retha Strydom, Public Relations:

". . .I was dismayed to find your letter commenting on our recent Christmas stamp issue. I then contacted our agents and together with our counter clerks could not find another complaint re this issue. Most comments were very positive and the issue was very well received here and abroad. (*The comment on the Christmas issue is irrelevant – that was plainly not the reason for the objection. Editor.*)

"We are certainly not planning to join 'Banana Republics' as you are suggesting, and the issue was announced (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1997, p165, *Global Stamp News*, May 1997, p76, our annual printed programme, our Website http://www.nampost.com.na and more international publications).

"Also, the words Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme were not printed onto this issue."

(*There was no announcement about the Awareness Programme in the issue of* The SA Philatelist *referred to above, or in any other. In a caption to a photograph of an information session for children, it was said that Nampost had been busy with an extensive programme of promoting stamp awareness among youth. The Christmas issue was mentioned on the same page – 165. Editor.*)

The reply to Jan de Jong continues:

"Our Namibian Stamp Awareness programme consists of a series of minisheets only, which are being printed with the cooperation of our international agents. The aim is to make the philatelic publics in those areas aware of: first the fact that our country exists, and secondly that we run a competitive and at the same time conservative stamp issuing policy. Of course one then has to take into account the tastes and preferences of that specific region according to that specific market. As explained to all our clients the Stamp Awareness Programme products are being run separately from our normal stamp issuing programme. More information on this will be sent in our February newsletter."

(*The Editor was also promised further information in the course of a follow-up telephone call, which consisted of a press release dealt with below.*)

Jan de Jong replied to NamPost on 23 December 1997: ". . .your last paragraph actually contains a potential can of worms.

"1. You wrote: '. . .the Stamp Awareness Programme products are being run separately from our normal stamp issuing programme.'

"Question: Exactly what does that mean? Are the 'products' referred to stamps, or labels? Will these products be available to the public in Namibia at your post offices? Or, will these products only be available at philatelic counters? Could it also mean that there are more to come?

"These stamps/miniature sheets are clearly marked 'Namibia', and each has a face value. As far as I can determine these stamps will have postal validity, and the fact that they are being issued separately from your stamp issuing programme does therefore not matter to the Namibia collector. These mini-sheets are philatelic items from Namibia, and if they are missing from a collection, the collection is incomplete!

"2. You wrote: 'The aim is to make the philatelic publics in those areas aware of: . .'

"Question: Could this possibly mean that this issue will only be available in 'those areas'? This issue seems to be primarily aimed at (or for) the People's Republic of China and its territories.

"3. You wrote: '. . .that we run a competitive and at the same time conservative stamp issuing policy.'

"Your stamp issuing policy and yearly programme have always been conservative and attractive. But issuing 4 large sheetlets of such design that the collector has no choice but to buy the complete sheet, plus 5 miniature sheets, with a total face value of N$87,50, is most definitely not conservative by any standard, even if it is separate from the normal issuing programme. . ."

"Then their reply (Retha Strydom):

"Re our potential can of worms, thanks for your comments, they will be read and discussed during our first meeting this year on 12 January.

"Re the products, they are only minisheets, they have been targeted at the Chinese territories only, but we have given our customers the opportunity to choose whether they want to receive these products as well or not. So, it is available from our Philatelic Services, but only as part of this specific marketing project called the Namibian Stamp Awareness programme. There will be more, but not as many of one issue.

"We are planning a minisheet with Germany as well as another one with our agent in London, more news about it later. . . Nevertheless, more information to you as soon as possible, thank you for sharing your concerns with us.

"Jan de Jong to *The SA Philatelist*:

"I am looking forward to their February newsletter!"

(*The Editor was able to take up the correspondence only on 28 January 1998, as production of the current issue of the magazine took precedence, and De Jong wrote*:)

"I have since discovered that not all their agents and sales points in South Africa have received the same distribution/complete set of this issue. To try and clarify the exact contents of this issue I sent the following e-mail on 12 January 1998 to which I have not yet received a reply.

"The saga of your Namibia Stamp Awareness Programme continues!

"This past weekend I found that there is one more sheetlet that I was not aware of. On checking around I found that only one dealer had this particular sheetlet in stock, other dealers, including your agent Eastgate Universal Stamps & Coins, all claim that there are only 9 sheetlets! Yet I have the following:

- Lunar New Year: One large and one small.
- 25th Anniversary Shanghai Communiqué: One large and one small.
- Happy Lunar New Year: One large and one small.
- 1999 Macau Returns to China: One large and *two* small.
- The Reunified China: One small only.

"A total of 10 sheetlets. Are there any more in this particular issue? For example

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matching large ones for the 'Reunified China' and the other '1999 Macau Returns to China'?"

This is where the correspondence ended. It has since been established that the full list of issues under discussion is:

1 Sheet, Macao returns to China 1999, 3 stamps of N$4,50 each.

2 Sheet, Reunify the country, Strengthen the Motherland, 4 stamps of N$3,50 each, being "Beijing national capital", "Return of Hong Kong", "Return of Macao", "The Taiwan region".

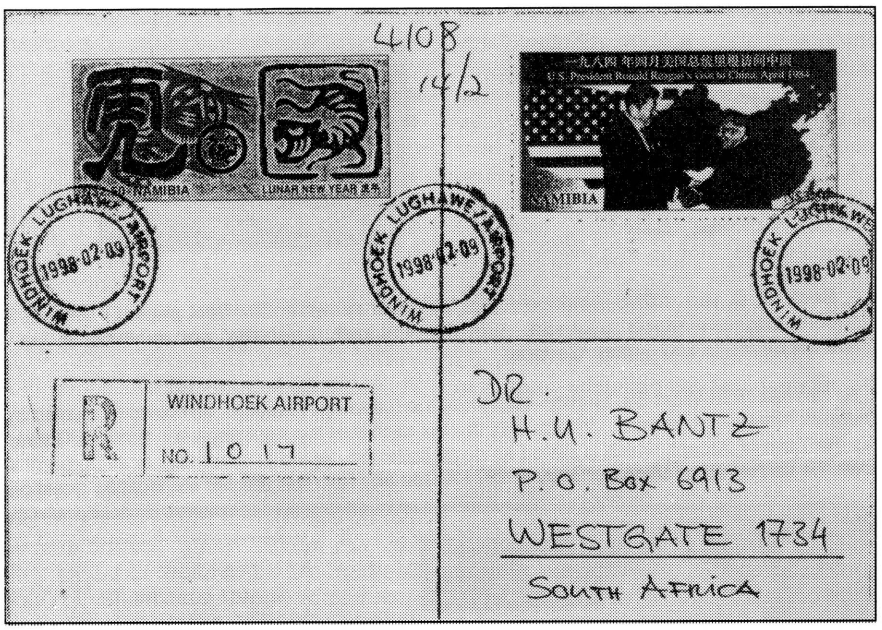
3 Sheet, Lunar new year, 6 stamps of N $2,50 each.

4 Sheet, 25th anniversary of Shanghai Communiqué, 4 stamps of N$3,50 each (Nixon and other presidential visits).

5 Sheet, Chinese symbols, 6 stamps of N $2,50 each.

6 Sheet, Deng Xiaoping's Towering Achievement, Macao returns, 3 stamps of N$4,50 each.

7 Each of the above topics in a sheetlet with one stamp of N$6.



A registered cover bearing one of the six stamps listed under 3., and one of the four stamps of item 4.

Further details faxed about the controversial Namibia issues

A faxed press release was received from Philatelic Services of Namibia Post Limited on 22 January 1998. Information not already dealt with above is the following:

The first product of the programme is a series of minisheets issued for the Chinese market and consists of twelve minisheets which were recently released at the Shanghai exhibition in November 1997.

The minisheets were designed by a Chinese artist and each minisheet bears the phrase: Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme. The minisheets depict purely Chinese themes and the style and techniques are typical to the philatelic taste of that region. The aim of this is to gradually inform the Chinese buyers of Namibia as a country which produces high quality and competitive stamp products.

According to the Chinese Lunar twelve years cycle calendar 1998 is the year of the tiger. This theme was thus chosen for four of the minisheets that depict the colourful fireworks and lion dance which are the traditional activities celebrating the Lunar New Year in that country.

Another milestone in the history of the Chinese people is the 25th anniversary of the visit of the US president Richard Nixon to that country in 1972 during which diplomatic relations were established between the two countries. This commemoration of the Shanghai Communiqué is now also being depicted on four of the minisheets.

The third topic which is depicted is the fact that China will regain sovereignty over Macau in 1999. The picture of Beijing, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan symbolises the unity of China.

The programme will continue for the next three years and will end in the year 2000. More products being planned for 1998 are the following: a single minisheet with the German agent George Roll and a single minisheet with a commemorative envelope with Crown Agents form Europe.

The theme for the German minisheet will be either ships or historical buildings in Namibia. The theme for the joint minisheet with the Crown agents will be a tribute to Diana, the late Princess of Wales. Namibia Post Philatelic Services will depict Diana in her role as a campaigner against landmines in Southern Africa, an issue that extends very much to our country as well!

Three more minisheets are being planned with purely Namibian topics such as marine diamond mining technology and tourism in Namibia as well as one depicting Frank Fredericks sprinting with a cheetah. A World Cup Soccer minisheet was designed by Namibian artist Joe Madisia and will be available to commemorate this special international event as well.

Please note that these products do not form part of our usual annual stamp programme and collectors have a choice whether to add them to their collections or not. It will not be sold over counters and can only be ordered by mail. A limited quantity of 100 special collector's packs will be available at the end of each year as well as a complete pack containing the whole collection at the end of the programme in (the year) 2000.

Philatelic Services intend to continue with its past conservative stamp issuing policy and to continue producing philatelic products of a high quality using world class printers and artists. It will also depict only Namibian related themes according to the Universal Postal Union's stamp issuing policy.

Collectors are to note that Namibia Post Philatelic Services do not intend to lose its own identity nor are they carelessly giving away their good name to foreign countries. The aim is to create an awareness, to promote and to expand our current philatelic borders with a unique series of minisheets.

SA Federation acts swiftly

A statement headed "Namibia stuns collectors with Chinese stamps" was issued by Joh Groenewald RDPSA, President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, on 26 January 1998. This reads:

Stamp collectors are stunned by a marketing ploy of the Namibia Post Office in having Namibia stamps issued in China, with Chinese motifs.

A total of 32 stamps, in 12 sheetlets, were issued in Shanghai on 23 November 1997 by a Chinese stamp dealer, acting for the Namibia Post Office (Nampost).

South African stamp collectors first heard about this "flood of fabrications" by the middle of January. Representatives of organised philately immediately approached Nampost, which thereupon confirmed the "venture" in a press statement in Windhoek last week (22 January 1998).

In a statement today the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, the umbrella body of stamp collectors on the subcontinent, said the stamps would be blacklisted with immediate effect.

The Philatelic Federation said the "venture" was a multiple contravention of the Universal Postal Union's philatelic code of ethics, which was instituted at the 20th UPU world congress in 1990. As a result of the code the UPU maintains a blacklist of undesirable or "abusive" stamp issues in conjunction with the International Philatelic Federation (FIP), the International Federation of Stamp

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Dealers' Associations (IFSDA) and the International Association of Stamp Catalogue Editors (ASCAT).

In its statement Nampost said its series of 12 mini-sheets was issued "for the Chinese market" and "were designed by a Chinese artist". (The stamps detailed above are then listed.)

The Nampost statement said the stamps would "not be sold over counters and can only be ordered by mail". The head of Nampost Philatelic Services, however, earlier told the enquiring stamp club representatives that the items would be obtainable at the philatelic counter in Windhoek.

She confirmed that, although not issued in Namibia, the stamps would be acceptable as legal postage at any Namibian post office.

The Philatelic Federation said collectors believed that the Chinese venture wold cause irreparable harm to the popularity of Namibia as a country to collect. Hitherto Namibia had followed a conservative stamp issuing policy, with –

- limited numbers of new stamps;
- stamp values relating to actual postal rates;
- themes and subjects pertaining to the country itself;
- and reasonably to well designed stamps.

"It was an exemplary stamp-issuing country with growing international appeal and popularity, and we are saddened by the ill-conceived marketing ploy," the Philatelic Federation said. It added that Nampost's stamp advisory committee was not consulted, having last met in February 1997.

The blacklisting of the stamps means that they are barred from national, regional or junior stamp exhibitions in Southern Africa, while collections with such stamps would be disqualified at club competitions.

The Philatelic Federation has supplied full details to the relevant international bodies.

Namibian controversy continues

FURTHER reaction to the Namibian "Chinese issues" has been that the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) has already indicated its willingness to consider blacklisting the issues.

Dutch collectors were made aware of the controversy in a report in *Philatelie* (March 1998, p169) headed "Protesten tegen niet-reguliere 'Chinese' zegels van Namibië". This summarised the reaction of the Federation given above.

The newsletter of the Windhoek Philatelic Society of March/April 1998 (No 2 98) devoted 15 of its 20 pages to reflecting the furore which arose about the issue in Namibia, and which spilled over into the non-philatelic press.

In memoriam

Frank Snyman 30 January 1998

WITH the sudden death of Frank Snyman, Namibia lost a pioneer in various fields. He was highly successful in his business ventures, a great hunter, an outstanding cricket player, and reached the highest honors in his hobby philately.

His highest priority in philately was to unravel yet unknown secrets in the scope of German South West African postal history and to make all relevant researched information known to collectors in as wide a field as possible.

Frank was born on 4 July 1936 at Prieska and spent his early years at Marydale. After completing matric he obtained his BA Hon at Bloemfontein majoring in mathematics, commerce and history. He played cricket for the university, and it was in Bloemfontein that Frank met his future wife Betty, where they married.

He joined Nasionale Pers, starting in their Nasionale Boekhandel division. His managing capabilities were soon realized, and he was sent to establish a branch in Umtata. In 1967 he went to Windhoek on a similar mission, where Nasionale Boekhandel became the largest schoolbook and stationery supplier in Namibia.

His highest honours Frank achieved in the field of philately. When he arrived in Windhoek he first joined the South West Africa Stamp Club. In time he however noticed that not enough time was spent with junior collectors. Thus, together with a few other club members, he established a club where young collectors would also feel at home.

In June 1978 a meeting was held in the Tal Park Club which resulted in the Windhoek Philatelic Society being finally founded in July 1978. Under Frank's strong guidance as chairman the club succeeded especially in drawing collectors who had never before belonged to any philatelic society.

From the start Frank saw to it that members annually held a mini club exhibition to promote philatelic knowledge. In addition some collectors were put on the right track, resulting in their eventual participation at national level.

Another advantage of these club exhibitions was that senior collectors from South Africa assisted annually in the judging, thereby helping to establish a strong philatelic foundation in Namibia. During 1982 club members, for the first time, participated at two mini stamp exhibitions in Swakopmund and Windhoek.

Under Frank's chairmanship the first special national exhibition was held in Windhoek to commemorate South West Africa 100 years. Exhibitors from Namibia, South Africa, Germany and Switzerland participated. During 1988 another successful special national exhibition was staged to commemorate 100 years official postal services in Namibia.

At national level Namibian exhibitors accounted themselves well, amongst whom Frank also advanced from a silver medal to vermeil, eventually being crowned with great success when he was awarded a Gold in 1988 for his German South West Africa postal history exhibit.

Frank continued to improve his collection, and in 1996 he was awarded the Grand Prix at the national exhibition in Bloemfontein. It was the first time that a collector from Namibia had won the State President's Trophy. It was a fitting achievement for someone who had done so much to promote the philately of his country. Frank's large collection has partly been taken up in Putzel's handbook on South West Africa/Namibia. Thus his input into philately is always available to future collectors.

In earlier years collectors used to gather during tea break on Friday mornings in Frank's office in the center of town. Normally these very popular, informal Kaiserstrasse meetings centered around plate flaws, colour variations, forgeries and similar subjects, which often resulted in one collector or another landing in trouble at work for overspending the time of his tea break.

It was also Frank who promoted firm contact with collectors in South Africa. Through him some Namibian collectors were supported financially to attend the national exhibitions annually since 1971. In 1982 three club members began to attend judging courses in South Africa.

As a result of Frank's efforts various well known South Africans also became interested in the promotion of Namibian philately. Here one thinks especially of David Crocker, Danny Swart and Coen Slagt who for many years visited Windhoek regularly, at their own expense, to promote philately and to assist with the training of local junior judges.

Finally one should also mention Frank's generosity in supporting young philatelists with especially superb older

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SWA stamp material which he had collected over the years, but could not use in his own postal history collection.

The Windhoek Philatelic Society mourns the loss of one of its corner stones. Frank Snyman is survived by his wife Betty, three sons, one daughter and three great-grandchildren, to whom sincere condolences are extended.

Gunter von Schumann RDPSA

DIE Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika huldig die gedagtenis van Frank Snyman, grondlegger van die Windhoek Filatelieklub, en die afgelope kwarteeu 'n voorste vaandeldraer van die filatelie van Namibië.

Frank Snyman was veel meer as 'n versamelaar. Hy was 'n student van die posgeskiedenis van die land, 'n yweraar vir die stokperdjie, 'n seëlvriend van internasionale aansien. 'n Paslike erkenning van sy prestasies was toe sy versameling van die posgeskiedenis van Duits-Suidwes-Afrika anderhalf jaar gelede, in 1996, by die Suid-Afrikaanse nasionale seëluitstalling aangewys is as die oorhoofse wenner en bekroon is met die nasionale grand prix, naamlik die Staatspresidentstrofee.

Frank Snyman se naam sal voortleef in die annale van ons stokperdjie.

Joh Groenewald RDPSA
President, Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika

News and notes/Aktualiteit

Stempel en kasjet van Walvisbaai om te soek

PAS is die aandag weer gevestig op 'n stempel wat by die Walvisbaaise skeepsradiostasie gebruik is om seëls op telegramme en briewe te rojeer, en op 'n kasjet uit dieselfde kantoor. Die stempel is afgebeeld in Putzel se werk oor SWA stempels onder Suid-Afrikaanse administrasie (soos hierby), en sy bekende datums strek van 18 V 47 tot 21 IX 75.

Arnold Kuppen skryf in *Die Posduif*, lyfblad van die Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria (Maart 1998, Jaargang 44 nr 3, heelnommer 424) volledige daaroor:

Gedurende die Tweede Wêreldoorlog is bevind dat 'n skeepsradiostasie te Walvisbaai van groot belang sal wees vir die veiligheid van skepe wat langs die gevaarlike Kus van die Dood vaar.

In 1947 word die radiostasie met die internasionale morsekode roepsein ZSV hier gevestig. Sedertdien word die SOS, en ander internasionale veiligheidseine gereeld hier ontvang.

'n Wit baksteengebou met 'n ronde groen dak is opgerig op die oop stuk grond tussen 11de straat en die hoofpad na Swakopmund.

Die radiomaste was van hout, en die yster antennekabels is as gevolg van die vinnige oksidasie elke drie maande vervang. In 1969 was die totale bemanning een hoofsuperintendent (sien kasjet) en vyf telegrafiste.

Die radiostasie is 24 uur per dag beman en dit is na ure oop vir skeepskantore en inwoners van die dorp, om van telegraafdienste na die binneland gebruik te maak.

Betaling hiervoor is gedoen deur middel van seëls wat op die telegramvorms geplak, en dan met die Walvisbaai Radio datumstempel gekanselleer is.

Privaatpos van personeellede is elke dag van en na die poskantoor in die dorp geneem, en dit is bekend dat heelwat briewe met die radiostasie se datumstempel gekanselleer is.

Bo en behalwe die radiodiens vir skepe en vissersbote, word 'n radio-telefoniediens met die navorsingstasie te Gobabeb gehandhaaf, en word die roepsein ZUN33 hiervoor gebruik. Permanente radiokontak word ook met die vuurtoring op Pelikaanpunt gehou, veral om meteorologiese observasies deur te stuur.

Sedert die inlywing by Namibië op 1 Maart 1994, het die internasionale roepsien van die radiostasie verander.



World's first meter stamp surfaces at Pacific 97

A cover obtained in the course of Pacific 97 (29 May to 8 June 1997 in San Francisco) is deemed to carry the very first meter stamp ever issued. George van den Hurk RDPSA sent a copy of the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the American Meter Stamp Society (Whole no 236, Fall 1997), which tells the story.

In the May 1996 issue of the *American Philatelist* Ken Lawrence described a coin-operated, self-service machine invented and patented by Count Detalmo di Brazza Savorgnan of Rome. He received American patents for a "coin-freed letter posting or stamping machine" on 30 June and 28 July 1896, according to a report in the *New York Times* of 7 October 1897. In that year three of the machines were on public trial for six weeks.



The cover from Pacific 97, a hundred years later, appears to be the first known from these machines, preceding the Ucherman and Ucherman/ Krag machines of Norway by several years.

The stamp consists of the town name at top, the date at right, the machine number (M4) and "REGISTERED" at bottom, and the register number at left. The meaning of REGISTERED in this context is what is now call *metered.*

The machine recorded on a mechanical register (or meter) each purchase of postage. According to the "register" number on this cover, it was the 401st item stamped and mailed by the machine since its last resetting.

At the cover's top right is a handstamp, also in purple, announcing a change in location of another di Brazza machine.

According to the patents, the customer first deposited coins totalling the desired postage (two 2c for domestic, and 5c for foreign destinations), inserted the letter, and then pulled a lever. The machine was sophisticated enough to determine if a letter was short paid by weight, and would

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eject such letters for additional postage.

The March 1, 1897 date on the cover is some months earlier than the *New York Times* article, implying there may have been more than one test. The machine number "M4" implies more machines than the three mentioned in the article.

A printed corner card "DO NOT DESTROY THIS ENVELOPE. . ." implies the di Brazza machines possibly provided empty envelopes of a uniform size for customers. Besides being a convenience for passersby, such proffered envelopes might have served to reduce the number of attempted mailings of letters larger or smaller than the machine's tolerances.

Although the di Brazza machines automated the franking and deposit of mail and enabled such service 24 hours a day, postal clerks still had to cancel the metered stamps and, for a time at least, apply an additional handstamp. The machines probably did not reduce the Post Office workload, although they may have been a convenience for the public. Much more research is needed into the di Brazza story.

Harmers tops half-million

AT their two-session sale on 16 December 1997, Harmers of London realised – including buyers' premium of 11,75 per cent – £519 821 for 1 832 lots.

An exceptional collection of Monaco in two albums (Lot 577) fetched the single largest amount of £23 468, having been estimated at £16 000. Described as "one of the great rarities of the QE II reign" a 1964 Battle of the Falkland Islands 6d (Falkland Islands issue) was knocked down at £8 940, just below the estimate of £9 000.

A 1694 Governor's Letter to Simon van der Stel went for £190, however, one to Cornelius van der Graaff, with his signature and a 6 st VOC handstamp, remained unsold, estimated at £200.

A tempting Natal cover of 7 September 1858 (Lot 1507) fetched £1 118 as against an estimate of £800. It bore the 1858 1d rose. Orange Free State was well represented with 45 lots, with prices generally in the lower hundreds. An unsold lot here (1556) was the 1868-94 double print variety 1/- orange-yellow, in the opinion of the auctioneer grossly under-catalogued at £2 500, and estimated at £5 000.

High-powered collectors of South Africa might well want to go on the look-out for another unsold lot (1643) consisting of four cards bearing photographs of essays for an Edward VIII Coronation issue in 1936 which, of course, never eventuated.

Catalogue and realisations

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Ilsapex 98 promises exceptional exhibits and dealer participation

AT least three stunning exhibits relating to the philately of the Cape of Good Hope are assured for Ilsapex 98 (20 to 25 October 1998) at Gallagher Estate in Johannesburg.

According to Nic Zerbst, who saw the Ad Indusophon exhibit of Cape Triangulars when he visited Indepex 97 (15 to 22 December 1997) in New Delhi, this really grabbed the imagination. "It was astounding to see blocks upon blocks of mint triangulars, some in large multiples, in their bright, original colours".

This exhibit from Thailand will be competing at Ilsapex 98 – at New Delhi it was seen in the Court of Honour. It contains mint copies of the Woodblock error of colour, the 1d in milky blue, of which only two are known, and the 4d vermilion, which is the only copy known in private hands.

David Stern RDPSA, chairman of the organising committee, has confirmed that the Bertolaia collection of Capes will also be there, as well as the Cape postal history exhibit of the American collector, the late Gene Bowman, who exhibited at Johannesburg 100 in 1986 and visited South Africa at the same time.

The Dutch commissioner for Ilsapex 98, Leo Crandel, reports that he is currently doing research at the PTT Museum and at the printers Joh Enschedé in Haarlem. This is in conjunction with the curator of the museum with a view to the PTT exhibit at Gallagher Estate.

Crandel writes, "I believe it is going to be a very nice exhibit. We will be showing the Transvaal proofs from both the museum and the printers, and eight frames of 'Transvaal Republic' will surely be of interest to exhibition visitors."

Ilsapex 98 has also released its first list of exhibition standholders as at the beginning of March 1998. These are:

Local Dealers
Alan MacGregor Philatelist
Allan Raw Philatelist
Andy Kriegler Stamps
Atlasville Stamps
Betty Sandilands
David Crocker
Doreen Royan & Associates (Pty) Ltd
East Rand Stamp Company
Eastgate Universal Stamps & Coins
Filatelic Phriends
International Philatelic Service-Auctions
J P Consultants
Johnson Philatelics
Philimpex
Republic Stamps & Coin
Stamps Unlimited
Stephan Welz & Co (Pty) Ltd
Tony Ferreira Stamps

Overseas Dealers
Argyll Etkin Ltd (England)
Candlish McCleery Ltd (England)
Euro-Yu-Stamp Collecting (England)
H & B Philatelists (England)
Harmers of London (England)
John Deering (England)
Lighthouse Albums (Germany)
Lindner Albums (Germany)
Murray Payne Ltd (England)
Muscott's (England)
Ormskirk Stamps (England)
Postal History International (England)
Spink (England)

Post Office Agencies/Post Offices
Philatelic Services South Africa
Botswana Postal Services
China National Philatelic Corporation
Crown Agent Stamp Bureau England
CTT Correios de Portugal, SA
Kenya Post & Telecom Corporation
Marka Publishing & Trading Centre, Russian Federation
New Caledonia Post & Communications
Namakanish State Enterprise Armenia
Namibia Post Philatelic Bureau
Sweden Post Stamps
Taiwan Post Office
UN Postal Administration, Austria

For further information the Bourse Committee can be contacted: Henk de Lange, Vice Chairman, PO Box 52431, 2132, Saxonwold. Phone ☎(011) 880-3125, Fax (011) 880-2656.

The chairman of the organising committee David Stern RDPSA, can be contacted at ☎(011) 784-8312/3/4 (office) 444-4243 (after hours) 784-8315 (fax) and by e-mail at dstern@iafrica.com

South Africa's audio-visuals do well at Mevifil 97

THE first International Exhibition of Philatelic Media, Audio-Visual & Computer Systems, Mevifil 97, was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina by the Association de Cronistas Filatélicos de la Argentina (Acfa) from 1 to 8 December 1997 under the patronage of the Federation Interamericana de Filatelia (Fiap).

The Audio Visual Committee entered a number of slide and video shows, which were accompanied by Emil Minnaar, chairman of the Federation's Audio-Visual Committee and his wife Diana, as commissioners. The results were:

Videos

In Pursuit of a Hobby – Diana Minnaar, Large Silver

Mafeking Blues – Robert Goldblatt RDPSA,

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Large Silver
Slide Shows
Behind the Stamp – JW Hodgson, Bronze
Stamp Booklets of South Africa – Stan Naylor RDPSA, Vermeil
The Rotogravure Printing Trials 'Darmstadt Trials' – Sam Legator RDPSA, Silver
Union of South Africa Revenue Stamps – Giovani Palazzo, Silver
World War I Charity Issues of the British West Indies – Howard Godwin, Vermeil

In addition Stan Naylor's slide show *Stamp Booklets of South Africa* was awarded the UFINOR award for research sponsored by the Portuguese Philatelic Federation.

Suid-Afrika was by Indepex

IN die afdeling vir Indiese posgeskiedenis by Indepex 97 (15 tot 22 Desember 1997) in Nieu-Delhi het dr Nic Zerbst van George 'n Vergulde Silwer verwerf vir sy *Anglo-Boer War POW Camps in India and Ceylon.*

Die uitstalling was deel van die halfeeuviering van Indië se onafhanklikheid, en dr Zerbst het dit self bygewoon. Hy sê in die Afrika afdeling was daar 'n versameling *Anglo-Boer War* van 'n plaaslike versamelaar, aan wie 'n groot silwer toekenning gedoen is. Hy het dit egter taamlik teleurstellend gevind.

Die meegaande illustrasie van 'n koevert uit dr Zerbst se uitgebreide versameling toon sy belangstelling in alle aspekte van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog. Die posstuk is op 14 Junie 1900 van Villiers in die Oranje-Vrystaat na Marseilles versend – agt dae ná die val van Pretoria en twee dae nadat Buller Volksrust ingeneem het.

Die roete van Villiers was: Frankfort, Vrede, Machadodorp (waar dit op 26 Junie 1900 deur die Boeremagte gesensor is) en Barberton.

Daarop volg 'n "Réunion à Marseilles" skeepstempel van 7 Julie, en met die Franse skip *Djemnah*, wat die posstuk eers in Diego Suarez, Madagaskar aan boord geneem het, het die brief Marseilles op 28 Julie 1900 bereik.

SA exhibitors in Israel finalised

THE Israel 98 World Stamp Exhibition at Tel Aviv (13 to 21 May 1998) is fast approaching. One of the jurors is Richard Knight RDPSA, and the commissioner for South Africa is David Stern RDPSA.

Stern has sent the following list of accepted South African entries. The twelve, who will fill 62 frames, represent 2 per cent out of a total of 558 acceptances. They are:

Birkhead, Harry RDPSA, *South Africa: Anglo Boer War*
Conradie, Willie, *My African Farm*
Daniels, Maurice, *Israel: Definitive Printing Dates 1960-1977*
Frank, Joachim RDPSA, FRPSL, *Canada 1868-1897*
Green, Howard RDPSA, *Cayman Islands 1803-1938*
Kowalsky, Dori, *Republic of South Africa 4th definitives*



Kollrepp, Horst, *Prestamp Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope*
Latinsky, Joel, *Israel New Year 1948 – "The Flying Scrolls"*
Rosenberg, Mervyn, *The Cape Rectangular – Its development and use*
Scheepers, Lizette, *Union of South Africa*
Uria, Selwyn, *The Doar Ivri Issue of the State of Israel*
Van der Molen, Peter, *The 1961 Decimal Surcharges of Basutoland, Bechuanaland*

The Israel Philatelic Service has issued a sheetlet of four stamps with tabs to mark the occasion (illustrated).

Fifty philatelic dealers and 32 postal services and agencies have taken booths. Singapore, Poland and Romania are issuing special stamps to commemorate the exhibition, and Uruguay and the Dominican Republic are issuing stamps to salute Israel's 50th Anniversary.

The Court of Honor will include exhibits from Queen Elizabeth II, the London National Library collection, and philatelic museums of England, Switzerland and the World Olympic Committee. It will also include world famous collections connected with the philately of the eastern region of the Mediterranean.

News releases

Study circle's plans for its fiftieth anniversary

THE Rhodesian Study Circle, now celebrating its 50th Anniversary, has adopted two themes for its world-wide meetings during the year. These are: "The RSC past, present and future" and "The last 50 years and the next 50 years".

These were fully pursued at the RSC Annual Conference at Leamington Spa in the UK on 28 and 29 March 1998, to be continued at the RSC celebratory meetings in June 1998 in London, Manchester and elsewhere to mark the founding of the RSC in June 1948, when the first issue of



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its journal appeared.

A 50th Anniversary meeting will be held in Zimbabwe from 17 to 20 April 1998, with visitors from the UK and South Africa, and the 50th Anniversary themes will be addressed at the regular meetings of members which take place during the year in Scotland, USA, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Further instalments of the RSC Handbook will be issued in 1998 to mark the anniversary, and a cumulative index of the *RSC Journal* for the issues of the past 50 years will be available in June 1998.

The journal is also running a special 50th Anniversary column during 1998 with features about the RSC past, present and future.

Further details are available from the administrative secretary Heather Rudge, 190 Greenfield Crescent, Horndean, Hants P00 9GR, ☎ (01705) 59-2991) or the chairman, Colin Hoffman RDPSA, 9 Oaker Avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2XH, ☎ (0161) 445-8480.

News Release

Afrikaans floreer in Sasolburg

VANJAAR se wedstryd "Kom ons Stal uit in Afrikaans" wat Oilfilat op 28 Februarie 1998 in die biblioteek aangebied het, het besondere belangstelling gaande gemaak. Daar was 18 mededingers om die drie trofeë wat op die spel was, heelwat meer as 'n halwe honderd mense het die geleentheid bygewoon – en hulle het gesukkel om die gasvrye Sasolburgers se kos en versnaperings op te eet!

Jules Danneels, die energieke organiseerder en voorsitter van Oilfilat, het klaarblyklik geblom van die sukses, maar dit was wel verdiend. 'n Besonder hoë standaard is gehandhaaf deur die inskrywings wat, soos die voorsitter van die beoordelaars Henk de Lange ook aangedui het, feitlik 'n mini-nasionaal kon gewees het.

Hulle moes oor drie trofeë besluit wat in die besit van die AFV Johannesburg is. Die "Veka en Rembrandt Kompetisie" is in 1954 deur die AFV in die lewe geroep, en sedertdien het die Anna H Smith Trofee vir posgeskiedenis bygekom. Tot enkele jare gelede het die Johannesburgse vereniging die kompetisie aangebied, daarna die AFV Pretoria, en vir 1997 was die gasheer Oilfilat.

Die wenner van die Veka Trofee vir die beste landsversameling was Ian Laubscher van Oilfilat vir sy "Die Oorlog Bantamseëls van SA en SWA". (Daar moet op gewys word dat dit in Engels bygeskryf was, maar die prospektus het dit duidelik gestel dat hoewel beskrywing "verkieslik in Afrikaans" moet wees, is "Engels ook welkom".)

Omdat hierdie kompetisie tans klaarblyklik groter landwye aandag geniet, is van die geleentheid gebruik gemaak om ook vorige wenners van die trofeë te boekstaaf. Vir die Veka Trofee is dit:

1956 JD Rossouw – *Posstukke uit die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog*
1957 JC le Roux – *Oranje Vrystaat*
1958 MV Mioch – *Nederlands-Indië*
1959 JD Rossouw – *Pietersburg*
1960 NC Combrink – *Kaapse Stempels*
1961 JA Erasmus – *Kanada Offisiële Uitgawes*
1962 Prof. H Gonin – *Nederland*
1963 W Lambert – *Lugpos*
1964 NC Combrink – *Tweede Vryheidsoorlog*
1965 IJ Bernhardt – *RSA*
1966 E Thamm – *Estland*
1967 Dr WP van der Merwe – *Gebouereeks 3 Mark Tipe 1*
1968 A Singels – *Nederland*
1969 Dr WP van der Merwe – *SA Republiek se 1c seëls*
1970 Prof AJE Sorgdrager – *Ierland*
1971 Dr WP van der Merwe – *Duitsland*
1972 A van der Mey – *Nederland*
1973 SJ Vermaak – *Sweedse Militêre Pos*
1974 AJ Bakker – *Nederland Specimens*
1975 A van der Mey – *Suriname*, en J Corstanje – *Betsjoeanaland*
1976 A van der Mey – *Nederlands-Indië*
1977 JN Rossouw – *Bolivia*
1978 D Scheepers – *Unie van SA*
1979 A van der Mey – *SWA*
1980 A van der Mey – *Noord Borneo*
1981 G Kamffer – *Posgeskiedenis van Heidelberg en Standerton*
1982 Prof H Gonin – *Switserland*
1983 Prof AJE Sorgdrager – *Marokko*
1984 AJ Bakker – *Switserland: Eerste Vaste Reeks*
1985 HH Botha – (onderwerp nie bekend)
1986 G Kamffer – *Unie van SA: Inkomsteseëls*
1987 JS Zaayman – *Rhodesië*
1988 A van der Mey – *Curaçao*
1989 A van der Mey – *Noord Borneo*
1990 A van der Mey – *Nederland Boeteseëls*
1991 M Steyn – *RSA*
1992 W Hardÿzer – *Nederland 1852-1935*
1993 M Bauduin – *Tsjeggo-Slowakye*
1994 AJ Bakker – *Nederlands-Indië tot Indonesië 1937-51*
1995 G Kamffer – *Doeaneseëls*, en A Raath – *Krygsgevangene Posgeskiedenis – Anglo-Boereoorlog*
1996 I Laubscher – *1d Skip van SA*

(Nota: Alhoewel die Veka Trofee bedoel is vir 'n landsversameling, is dit in enkele jare aan posgeskiedenis toegeken. In 1975 en in 1995 is die trofee gedeel.)

Vir 1997 is die Rembrandt Trofee vir 'n tematiese versameling toegeken aan Petra Heath van die AFV Pretoria vir "Die Geskiedenis van SA: Vryheidsoorloë". 'n Opgawe van vorige wenners moet nog verkry word.

Die Anna H. Smith Trofee vir posgeskiedenis is toegeken aan Wilhelm Grütter van die Royal Philatelic Society van Kaapstad vir "Grepe uit die Geskiedenis van Swellendam". Vorige wenners was:

1975 E Thamm – *Posgeskiedenis van Estland*
1976 AJ Bakker – *Posgeskiedenis van Nederlands-Indië*
1977 D van Tol – *Frankryk*
1978 GJ van den Hurk – *Moderne RSA*
1980 JA Bakker – *Trieste en sy Geskiedenis*
1982 M Sterkenburg – *Nederlandse Posstukke*
1983 JS Joubert – *Bewakers van ons Grense*
1984 GJ van den Hurk – *Verhaal van die vyfpuntige Ster*
1985 AJ Bakker – *Lombardye en Venesië*
1988 HJG Kamffer – *Posgeskiedenis van Heilbron*
1989 HJG Kamffer – *Transvaalse Posgeskiedenis en Posmerke 1848-1910*
1990 W Hardÿzer – *Oud-Nederland Posgeskiedenis*, en AJ Bakker – *Wêreldoorlog II: SA Verband*
1991 JA Bakker – *Moderne Koeverte Nederland*
1994 JA Bakker – *Nederlandse Lugpos*
1995 AJ Bakker – *Nederland Pre-postaal*
1996 J Raats – *Die Posstuk Vertel*



Ian Laubscher en Wilhelm Grütter in Sasolburg

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(Nota: Besonderhede is neergeskryf soos dit op die voetstuk van die trofee verskyn. Tensy daar plaatjies makeer, was daar dus geen toekennings in 1979, 1981, 1986-7, en 1992-3 nie. In 1990 is die trofee gedeel.)

Dealer no longer Sapda member

IT has been brought to the attention of *The SA Philatelist* that G Reimers of Ballito is using the Sapda logo in his letterhead, although he is not a member of this assocation. Sapda has indicated that it would take legal steps to remedy this if it does not cease.

News release

Rendezvous update due for 1998

THE successful eight-page supplement outlining the Federation's Services and Rendezvous which was published with *The SA Philatelist* in 1997 is due for a new edition in June 1988.

Up-dating and new information must reach the administrative secretary of the Federation, George van den Hurk RDPSA (PO Box 412505, Craighall 2024) immediately. He also has full details of the cost of advertising opportunities.

Management committee meets

AT its most recent meeting on 27 February 1998, the management committee dealt with several subjects of general interest. A summary follows.

The Federation has appointed two new officials. Paul van Zeyl is now the Minutes Secretary, and Gawie van der Walt has become the Awards Custodian. The administrative secretary is meanwhile the caretaker of the Federation's archives and its small library.

Henceforth, the SA Philatelic Dealers' Association will be permanently represented on the management committee.

The Youth Committee is co-operating with the Manager, Marketing (Pauline Delhove) of Philatelic Services in efforts to encourage youth philately. This committee has also received an invitation to participate at Ibra 99 in Nuremberg with two suitable youth candidates.

Jill Redmond, chairman of the Youth Committee, has donated a floating trophy for the fifth (upper) age category in youth philately, 19 to 21 years.

It has been determined that the Day of the Stamp (World Stamp Day) will be 9 October 1998, which to some extent will also focus on Ilsapex.

It was agreed that the Federation send a written tribute regarding the late Robson Lowe RDPSA to the British philatelic press.

Richard Knight RDPSA, chairman of the Federation's judging committee, is investigating the viability of introducing a "judging service" based on photocopied exhibits in South Africa.

The slide show of the New Republic issues, based on the work and collection of Dr Gerrit H Jonkers RDPSA, has been completed. The Federation can be reached by e-mail at ezacces@iafrica.com (mark for attention PFSA).

Minutes

Onderonsies/Society news

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

January 1998: C Wollbrandt showed items from the 1904/1907 Herero war campaign. The early cards had negative post office seals applied to endorse that the items had official character and cold be sent postage free by the members of the Schutztruppe.

The negative seals were later replaced with the regimental Soldatenbrief cachets. Registered covers handed in at the field post offices No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, variations of provisional field-postcards and the use of Wanderstempel on field post was discussed as well.

H U Bantz

MASHONALAND PS

November: Alan Rich's "Philatelic aspects of the Constabulary" was an entry for the Goldblatt Trophy.

He said, "After ploughing through every page of the SG World Simplified, it became fairly obvious that Police was not exactly the most popular of subjects with the postal authorities." (Alan happens to be an ex-policeman).

"By 1975 I had acquired every known stamp which related to the subject, and as far as I can recall it was in the region of 400 stamps."

The display was remarkable in that, although on one theme, it was in three sections which were totally different from each other. The first was the conventional aspect: stamps and postal history relating to police, and very good it was. The second was stamps issued by the police in St Petersburg, Imperial Russia, from 1865 onwards. Apparently citizens who moved from one district of the city to another had to report to the police and get these stamps affixed to the necessary documents.

The third section was also remarkable: in about 1973, when Alan was a senior officer in the police, he had cards printed with his name and address, stuck a stamp on each, and sent them through the police internal mail to each station in the country. He asked them to apply their police cachet, go to their local post office or agency, ensure that a clear datestamp was applied, and have it returned by mail in the normal way. He thus obtained a wonderful and evocative collection, and also obtained a number of cancellations which today are rare.

The New Issues display was a very fine selection, and (for a change) not only New Zealand and Australia. NZ and Oz.

Mrs Morrison won the One-Page Competition (letter "P") with a wonderful and informative collection of "Pangolins."

December: The exhibit which won Derrick Byrom a Silver-Bronze at the Cape Stamp Show 97: "Seldom-seen postmarks of Zimbabwe" was shown. Derrick noted that this country is unusual in having had eight postal administrations in a short time – since 1890. Much has been written on the first seven, but nothing on the eighth, post-1980.

Derrick noted that, despite being so recent, some Zimbabwean postmarks are already of considerable rarity: "Scattered among the pages you will view tonight are items that only exist here and here alone. They are thus recorded for posterity and, after all, collecting or postal history is the search for the elusive items and thus our knowledge is expanded.

"Many of these post offices no longer exist, and some only existed for a very short time. Many were so obscure that I'm sure most attenders had never even heard of them before."

There was unusually strong bidding for the Nyasaland Revenues and the Revenues overprinted "Postage" which Tony Hawken of Malawi had donated to the society. They eventually went for $800.

The One-Page Competition, letter "O", was won by Mrs Morrison's "Orchids."

January: Norman Mewett, visiting from South Africa, was the main attraction. 31 members and two guests came for his talk on "Revenues and Fiscals" and to see his display.

The first part was the world's first revenue stamps: Britain's adhesive, imperforate "Cypher stamps" which came into use in the early 1700s – long before the Penny Black.

Rhodesian revenues were photostats of part of his collection which was recently sold. He noted that "Items of special interest are the 1896 overprints, especially the forgery of the £200 on £10; the large 1896 issue; the 1898 cherry-red £100 showing three copies out of the five fiscally used copies known to be available to collectors (one additional copy is still in the Deeds Office); and the KGVI 7/6 black on a Quitrent receipt."

The display was a wonderful sight for ordinary collectors as well as revenue specialists.

In the New Issues display it was interesting to see so many stamps commemorating Princess Di – but none issued by Britain itself for reasons known to everyone.

The One-Page Competition, letter "N", was won by Dr Plato Mavros with late-usage 1/- BSA Company Double Heads cancelled "Nyamandhlovu", which he suspects was applied for Telegraph usage.

Derrick Byrom spoke about the new simplified judging system, which the society has introduced following Derrick's experience at the recent Cape Stamp Show.

Ian Johnstone

MARITZBURG PS

November: New Issues: Christmas seals 1937-1987. The set is taken from the SANTA Christmas Charity stamps which were issued over the years. Francis Eustace showed a sheet taken from the 1930s.

Francis showed the philatelic bureau's full year's issue, and thought it was good value.

Items of Interest: Francis showed a Christmas envelope with a triangular stamp from Land's End.

January: Philately: Francis Eustace said that for the first meeting of the year, he had obtained a plan for the forthcoming issues. He had no

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idea, however of the need for the "Year of the Tiger" nor the NSRI rescue service issues.

There will be a Soccer issue, and a Raptor issue, which initially had been in the hands of member Gordon Bennett, and the World Ornithological Congress, with artwork by local artist Ingrid Weiersby, which now appears to have been hi-jacked by the Raptor Society.

Items of Interest: Robin Castle showed a mounted magazine article on Roland Hill (with additional stamps of his own), and won a Kit-Kat for the best display of the evening.

Francis showed four postcards picked up in a scratch-box, all with unusual interest factors – one showed the cannon at Old Fort Durban, with the caption rather bungled by the printer. Another was a suspected "patriotic card" showing President Kruger on his stoep.

Anne Southwood showed an excellent Train exhibit.

For the alphabet "A" Alex Duigan showed his Palace of Knossos stamp (A for for Animal – bull) with accompanying illustrations of the floor plan of the palace and how the acrobats soared over the Minotaur.

Peter Southwood

EDENVALE PS

November 1997: Guy Fawkes night did not deter the 22 members and 1 visitor from attending the November meeting. Our president, Eddie Newman, welcomed our quest for the evening – Coen Slagt of Arcade Stamps, Edenvale who later in the evening judged three entries for the Senior Trophy.

These were 3 frames by Robert Wenger on "Austria 1890-1937" and William Scott's 4 frames on "Belgium" and 2 frames on "Hong Kong". William Scott's Belgium was declared the winner and Robert Wenger's Austria a close second.

December: The December meeting, attended by 27 members and 2 visitors, took the form of a bourse.

A regular feature in the secretary's monthly Newsletter has been a "Stamp Stumper" and the previous month's question about the Cook Islands generated considerable discussion. (Did you know that Captain Cook originally named the Cook Islands the Hervey Islands after the then First Lord of the Admiralty?)

January 1998: Some of the interesting items of interest shown by members were the following: Richard Hampton – the RSA 40c Bible stamp of November 1987 and William Scott – a pair of R20 SA Fish Eagle stamps with misplaced horizontal perfs.

Members' philatelic knowledge was put to the test in the form of a Quiz based on the SACC and prepared by Robert Wenger, who unfortunately could not be present due to a shoulder injury sustained in a recent fall. After much head scratching and the usual amusing comments about some of the questions, Eddie Newman was declared the winner.

Eric J Perrett

EAST RAND PS

November: We had a visit from the Centurion PS. Led by their president, Dereck Brown, a founder member of the 50-year old society, they provided three very varied and interesting displays.

The first was a country exhibit of Holland from 1970 to December 1974, by John van Eyk. Comprised of mint stamps and covers, it showed the development of stamp design over this period.

The second display was an unusual, single frame devoted to universities from around the world. Although small it could be the nucleus of an unusual and innovative display.

The final three frames were from the Centurion Society collection showing the progress of SA railways from steam to diesel and electric. The commentary was both informative and knowledgable.

December: The members' exhibition went off well despite the building operations preventing use of the car park. Sterling efforts by Dave and his few helpers in manhandling frames and glass from afar enabled everything to be set up in time. Public participation was expected to be reduced, but the turnout from members was also disappointing. Promised help, exhibits and attendance just didn't materialize and next year's committee must consider the future of this function.

Exhibits were varied. Danie van Zijl surprised us again with his errors of FDCs. With a little effort this could easily be a national entry. Loek's birthday cancellations and Alan's saucy postcards raised a smile, and Maryke's wheelchairs made us think a little.

January: Emil and Diana Minnaar reported back on their visit to the First International Exhibition of Philatelic Media, Audio-Visual and Computer Systems held last December in Buenos Aires.

Emil outlined the latest developments in CD and CD-Rom programmes and showed examples. This is obviously the medium of the future for catalogues, page layouts, auctions and all works of reference. The programme on Japanese forgeries was particularly impressive.

The general discussion showed our interest but also our ignorance on the finer points of computer technology!

Alan Rose

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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The SA Philatelist is published six times a year by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. It is the mouthpiece of organised philately in the region, and has been in existence since 1923. It is widely read and respected both locally and overseas.

A single copy costs R10,00, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R50,00. In the rest of the world, Africa elsewhere included, the subscription rate is R80,00, post paid. Overseas readers who wish to receive their copies by air mail pay a subscription rate of R150,00.

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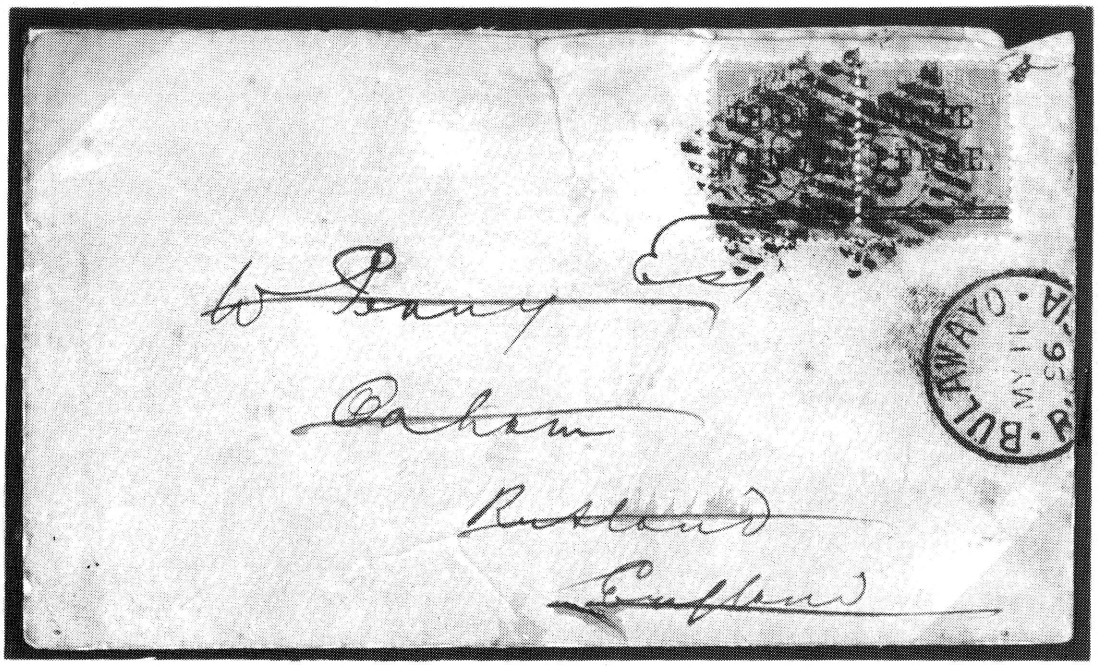

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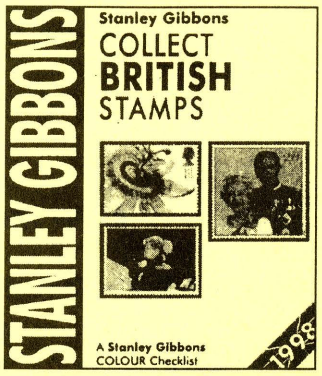



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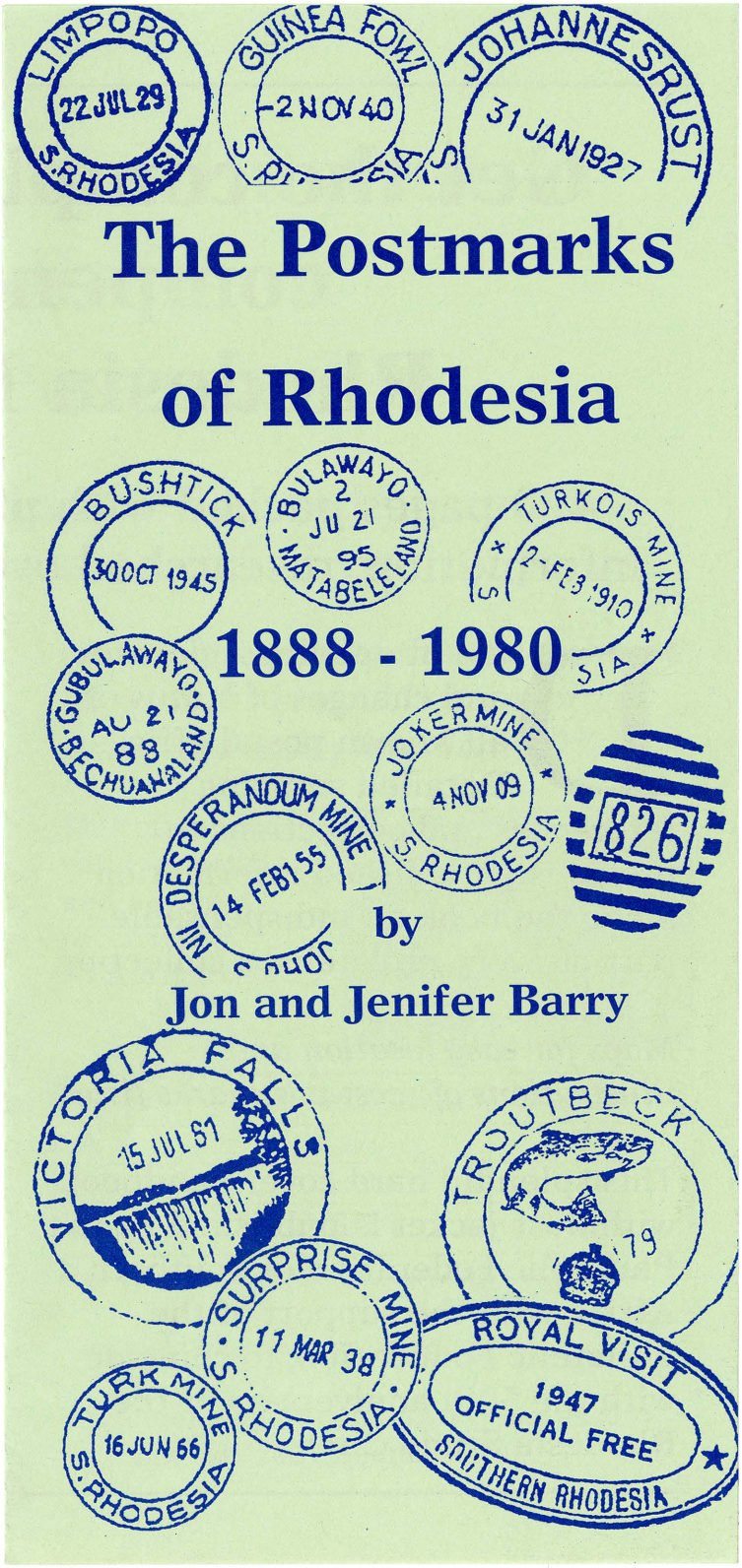

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Vol 74:3 828

- Cancellations applied by SWA train drivers
- Ere-konsul se brief ontduik Kaapse pos
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- Existence of Cape rarity confirmed by find
- RSC celebrates glorious jubilee
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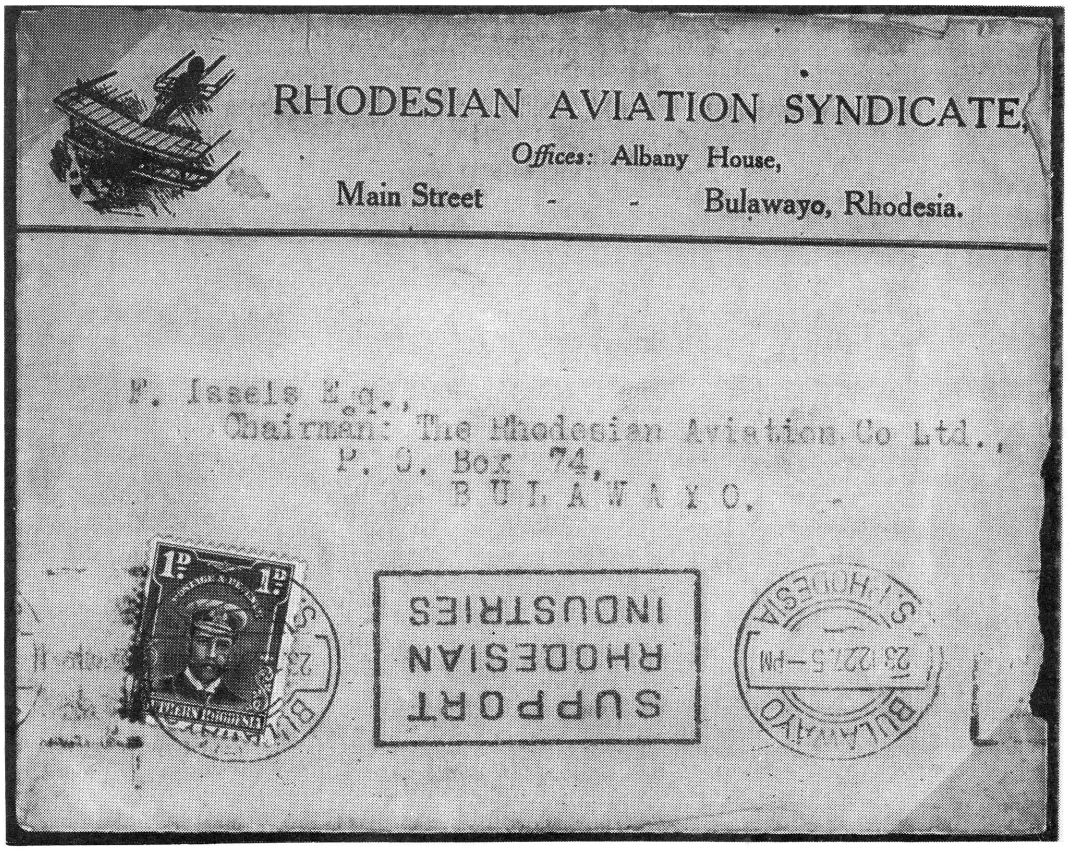

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PHILATELIST

JUNE 1998 Vol 74 No 3 Whole No 828

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Inhoud/Contents

The hand cancellations applied by train drivers in German South West Africa 65
Wolfgang Hermann
The SA Army Post Office 51 in the Second World War 72
J B R Findlay
For the record: Australian efforts towards documenting current philately 74
David Collyer M,APO
Existence of 'lost' Cape postcard rarity confirmed by major discovery 76
WG
The 1998 postal slogan programme in review 82
Neville Gomm
'n Brief van die eerste ere-konsul van Nederland aan die Kaap.....94
George van den Hurk RDPSA
In memoriam: Kobus Esterhuysen 73

● **Separate supplement: Federation Services and Rendezvous 1998**

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag.....62
The SA Philatelist: Looking Back 78
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
ThemAfrica.....79
Ds JC (Cassie) Carstens
News and notes/Aktualiteit.....83
Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf.....85
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
Op die velrand/In the margin.....86
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse.....89
Onderonsies/Society News.....92
Philatelic Finders/Snuffelgids.....96

In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

NOT all collectors are exhibitors, and that is really rather a shame. From club level upwards, there is so much to gain, and the point is made in an eloquent plea by a society secretary in this issue's Federation news columns.

Even the "usefulness" of national exhibitions is questioned at times, often leaving out of account the very real usefulness of being able to talk, see and live stamps for a relaxed day or two, let alone paying a visit to some dealers to whom one otherwise seldom has access, or making one's voice heard at the accompanying congress.

But national exhibiting now needs to be considered in view of a new factor which has come into play: it is the only stepping stone there is for South Africans who wish to do so to qualify for an international exhibition. This year, Ilsapex 98 is pre-empting a national, next year, Abophil does the same.

Qualification is, in fact, impossible until a national in the year 2000. Given the long lead time for internationals, not many South African exhibitors will be able to "travel" their exhibits before 2002 or late in 2001 at best.

An alternative solution should be sought urgently. Possibly so-called mini-nationals – even more than one in a year, at different venues – could provide the answer. The only need is that criteria and credentials for them should be established to set the requisite standards (possibly a Congress matter) – and, of course, a society or three willing to have fun on a modest scale.

'n ONGEWONE hoeveelheid boeke en monografieë word in hierdie uitgawe aangekondig of bespreek. Dit is nie verniet dat posseëlversameling oor die mees uitgebreide bibliografie van enige stokperdjie ter wêreld beskik nie. Dit is die blywende neerslag van die kennis wat met so veel plesier verwerf is – en wat die belangrikste grondslag vir 'n goeie versameling bly.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Write it down now!

Neville Gomm of Strubens Valley writes: I was recently working through past issues of *The SA Philatelist* and came across some items on the Audio-Visual Service started by Arie Bakker in the early 70s. That is more than 20 years ago.

No offence intended, but for oom Arie time has also marched on. What are the chances of the Philatelic Federation asking him to write a history of this committee and its activities while the people involved are still able to make an input?

There have on so many occasions been complaints about the lack of records on philatelic developments. To my mind, and having seen some of those excellent programmes, the history of the committee must be recorded now while information is still available, particularly the unwritten information stored in the memories of the founders. The products of the committee are Africana in their own right. The history simply must be recorded, and now.

Gedagtes oor die beoordeling van tematiese filatelie

(Prof dr) A J E Sorgdrager van Potchefstroom skryf: David Stern skryf (*The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1997, p170) "it was most perturbing to see so many exhibits entered for these nationals which were way below required minimum standards." Dit klink vir my maar na 'n baie wilde bewering.

Die vraag is eerder of beoordelaars altyd op standaard is om sekere uitstallings te beoordeel. Ek neem as voorbeeld 'n uitstalling met 'n geskiedkundige tema. Om so 'n uitstalling onder tematies te plaas, is 'n oordeelsfout.

'n Geskiedkundige versameling moet volgens 'n bepaalde plan verloop. Daardie plan word deur die geskiedenis self bepaal. 'n Uitstalling wat byvoorbeeld die ontstaan van die staat Tsjeggo-Slowakye uitbeeld, is tog nie tematies nie – dan kom die ontplooiing outomaties in gedrang.

Die vraag is eerder of beoordelaars altyd op standaard is om sekere uitstallings te beoordeel.

'n Mens kan selfs beweer dat die filatelistiese kennis dan ondergeskik is aan die geskiedenisnavorsing, wat die eerste prioriteit is. Die historiese gebeure kom eerste, en dit geskied volgens datumvolgorde. Dit vereis kennis van die uitgifte van seëls in die betrokke periode, en dit vereis baie intensiewe navorsing.

So is die Duitse Abstimmungsgebiet 'n noodsaaklike uitvloeisel van die Vrede van Versailles.

Die seëls is moeilik bekombaar al lyk dit volgens kataloguswaarde nie so nie. Die toestand van sulke seëls laat ook baie te wense oor. 'n Historiese versamelaar is nie ingestel op die strepies en kolletjies nie. Dit is weer die gebied van ander versamelaars.

Sulke seëls moes ook werklik in gebruik gewees het. Seëls van die Ostmark (Oostenryk) met die afbeelding van Hitler, word byvoorbeeld ontsier deur die duimdrukke, kurkmerke en ander metodes van afstempeling. Sulke seëls is onooglik, en skaars, maar dit onderstreep die gebeure van die tyd.

Dit is noodsaaklik dat beoordelaars van sulke uitstallings ook kennis moet hê van die geskiedkundige periode, en dit met die nodige "Ahnung" moet kan benader.

Op- en aanmerkings wat origens seker maar goed bedoel is ook, moet 'n mens maar nie ontmoedig nie.

Who knows the answer?

Pat Carter of St. Ives, NSW, Australia, writes: I have been in Australia now for some eight months and your magazine is awaited with great anticipation every issue date.

I enclose a photocopy of a badly misperforated block of ten of the Antique Cape Furniture issue, due to misalignment. (It is catalogued SACC 767b – 776b.) This was bought over the counter, and perhaps a reader, who would be aware of the printing and perforation process, could determine how many may exist.

(Editor's note: There is previous evidence of perforation problems with this issue, as seen in Lot 648 in the Stephan Welz auction of 21 October 1992 – reported in The SA Philatelist *of December 1992/January 1993, p184. The Antique Cape Furniture sheetlet of 10 was offered imperf. between the stamps and the righthand margin, described as "recently bought over the P.O. counter in Natal". It realised R2 400.)*

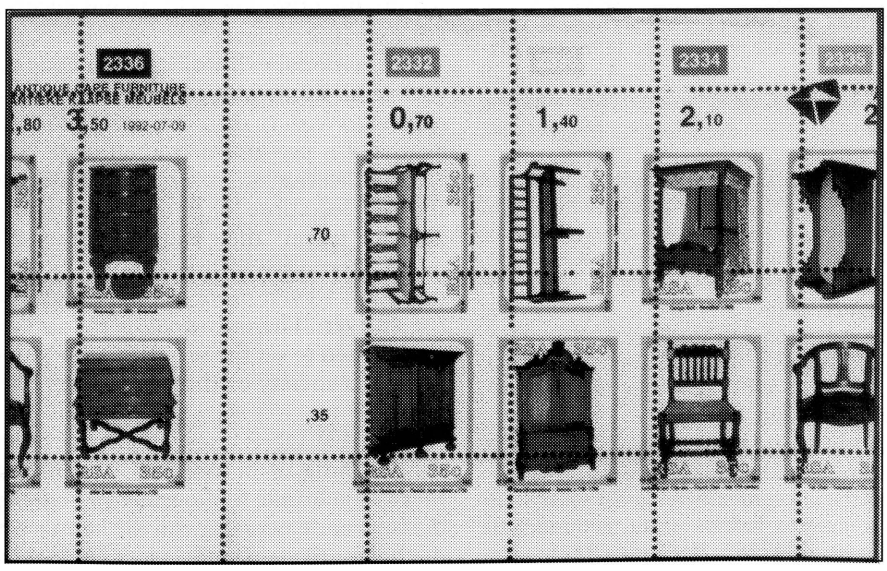
Kan dit 'n ontdekking uit 1929 wees?

Arie Bakker RDPSA van Benoni skryf: Hierby gaan (vir my!) 'n nuwe ontdekking. Die "Officieel – Official" oordruk van 1929 (SACC nr 8) het tussen die oordruklyne 'n spasie van 10 mm (onderste illustrasie van seël).

Die paartjie bo het egter 'n spasie van net 9 mm.

Hagger noem dit nie in sy *Union Hand-*





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book (1986) nie, en die ontdekking slaan my dronk. Ná amper sewentig jaar wonder 'n mens of dit nie al vroeër ontdek is nie. Is dit die eerste keer dat ons dit nou sien? Dit kan tog nie!

The Botswana bird stamps

Graham Burrows of Durban writes: The new column on thematic stamps with an African flavour ("Themafrica") is very welcome. As a collector of stamps depicting birds of Southern Africa, all additional information is useful.

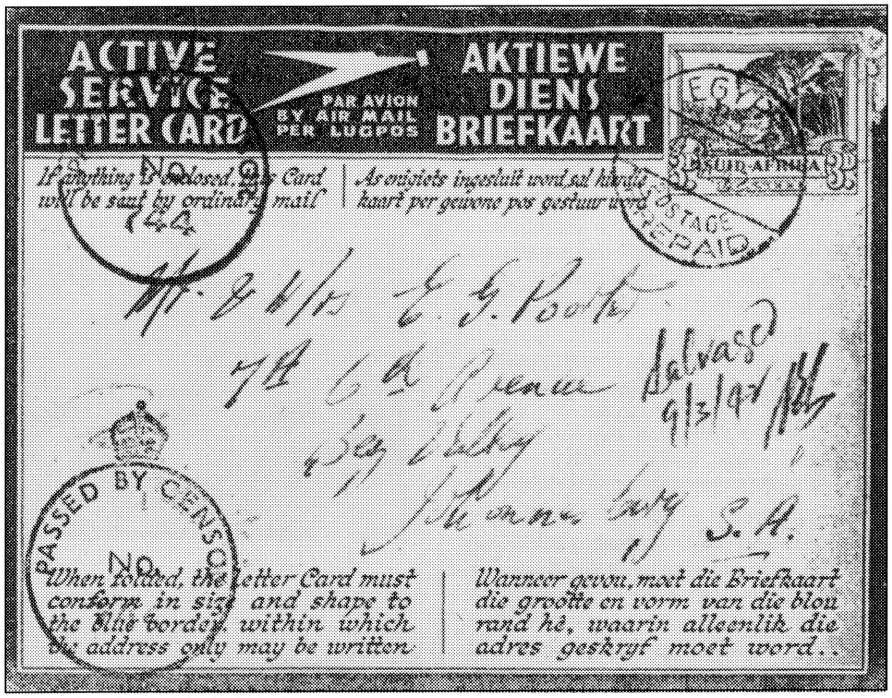
The comment regarding the Botswana bird stamps is, however, incorrect. According to Gibbons *Collect Birds on Stamps* (1996), three of the birds mentioned have appeared previously on stamps.

These are the Yellowbilled Oxpecker (R771) – Central African Republic 180 f stamp in 1983 and Uganda 25 s stamp from 1987; Spotted Crake (R214) – 20 f stamp from Kuwait in 1973; and the Redbilled Buffalo Weaver (R798) – 80 f stamp from Mali in 1978.

One of the difficulties I have found with identifying birds on stamps from other parts of the world is that sometimes both the English and Latin names differ from our commonly used names, and this can call for some detective work to ensure that the right stamps are catalogued. To date I have identified some 3 400 stamps depicting birds that appear in Roberts, this gives rise to a big collection in its own right.

Hulp gevra met 'n briefkaart uit Tweede Wêreldoorlog

Lappe Laubscher van Menlo Park skryf: Ek hoop een van die lesers van *The SA Philatelist* kan my dalk help. Ek het onlangs die Tweede Wêreldoorlog korrespondensie van Bert Poorter in Egipte aan sy broer Ed Poorter in Johannesburg bekom. Onder die korrespondensie is daar een Aktiewe Diens Briefkaart wat my dronkslaan.



Daar is een Aktiewe Diens Briefkaart wat my dronkslaan.

Ongelukkig is die briefkaart nie deur die skrywer gedateer nie. Op die vooraansig is daar twee van die sirkeltipe Britse sensor kasjetmerke (nr 744), asook 'n Egipte 83 "Posgeld Betaal" datumstempel. Die datum op die Egipte 83 stempel is ongelukkig onduidelik.

Wat my egter pla is 'n handgeskrewe nota "Salvaged 9/3/42", onduidelik geparafeer met die voorletters van 'n onbekende persoon. Die briefkaart toon die effense verharding wat tipies is van 'n posstuk wat in water beland het.

Aan die regterkantse boonste hoek van die briefkaart se aansig is daar die wit oorblyfsels van wat moontlik 'n nota of kennisgewing kan wees wat eens opgeplak was.

Aangesien ek die briefkaart saam met 'n hele klomp ander korrespondensie uit dieselfde bron bekom het, twyfel ek nie aan die egtheid nie. Wat my egter pla, is die handgeskrewe "Salvaged 9/3/42".

Kom hierdie bepaalde aanduiding meer dikwels op herwonne pos uit WOII voor?

Enige lig op my probleem sal help.



Dis Hollanders wat so vlieg

Japie de Vos van Bloemfontein skryf: Baie dankie vir die insiggewende artikels in *The SA Philatelist*. In die uitgawe van April 1998, p36, het daar 'n interessante artikel verskyn van L M A (Leo) Crandel. Dit het gehandel oor die eerste KLM vlug na Suid-Afrika op 6 Desember 1938. Ek het ook kennis geneem van sy verwysings in *Luchtpostverbindingen vanuit Nederland met de Unie van Zuid Afrika/Republiek Zuid Afrika 1938-1989*.

Hierby fotostatiese afdrukke van enkele versamelstukke wat ek so langs die pad raakgeloop het oor hierdie en ander KLM vlugte. Ek dink die koevert, gedateer 24.1.1940, wat die tweede retoervlug van

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die Reiger na Suid-Afrika gedenk, is heel besonders. Dit is in Durban gestempel. Dit het egter 'n kasjet "SURFACE MAIL" na Holland.

Vlugte vanaf Holland na Suid-Afrika is waarskynlik met die uitbreek van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog opgeskort.

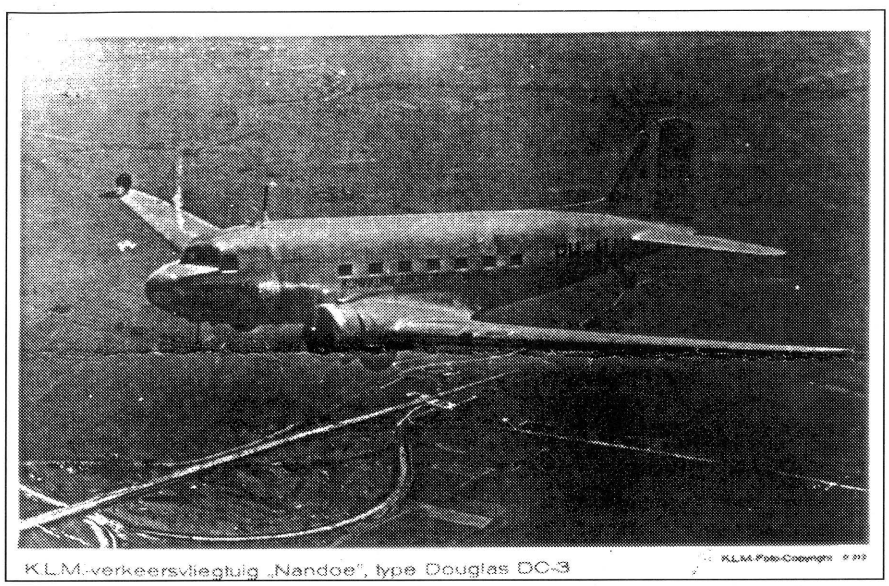
Die "bijsondere vlucht: Nederland – Zuid Afrika" van 6 Oktober 1946, met 'n afbeelding van die ossewa daarop gestempel vertel ook 'n eie geskiedenis.

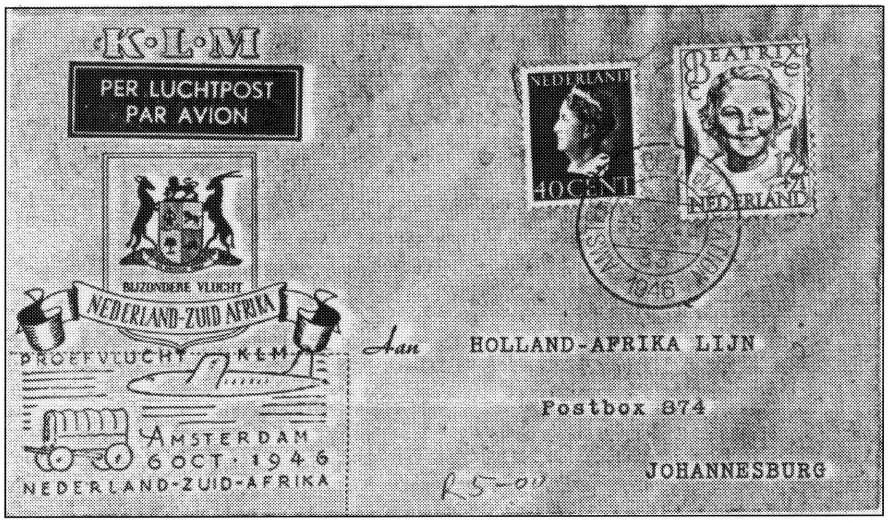
Dit wil egter voorkom asof hierdie brief per skip na Holland versend is.

Ek is ook in besit van die gedenkkoevert wat die Dakota Vereniging van Suid-Afrika op 6 Desember 1988 uitgegee het om die 50 ste herdenkingsjaar van die eerste vlug te gedenk, en van 'n foto van *Nandoe*, 'n KLM Douglas DC-3, met die datumstempel 20.7.1937 op die voorkant van die poskaart waarop dit voorkom.

Dan belangrik: Ek merk ook op dat die Dag van die Aerofilatelie op 28 Maart 1998 met 'n spesiale koevert en datumstempel hierdie eeste vlug gedenk het. Is daar moontlik 'n manier waarop ons in Suid-Afrika van hierdie gedenkartikels kan bekom, moontlik deur Leo Crandel? Ek neem aan dat dié gedenkkoevert (Fig. 4 op p.37 in April) wat die "Dingaansdagvlucht" van Desember 1938 uitbeeld baie skaars sal wees. Moontlik kan iemand my daarmee help.

Sien ook p85 van hierdie uitgawe. Die Redakteur).





Bendon publications out in May

A selection of recently published books that are listed in James Bendon's May 1998 brochure was received by e-mail.

The Travelling Post Offices of Imperial Military Railways by Kenneth Griffith and Alan Drysdall is a detailed and illustrated account of the operation of the IMR during the Second Anglo-Boer War. The appendix describes 260 covers and cards and nearly a hundred pieces and loose stamps, mostly from the Griffith collection, bearing strikes of the datestamps used by IMR TPOs. (Comb bound, 78pp, £12,00.)

Early Forces Mail by Barrie Jay describes mail from the British forces involved in the major European campaigns of the 17th and 18th centuries: the Thirty Years' War, the War of the Grand Alliance, the War of the Spanish Succession, the War of the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years' War. There are chapters dealing with the Armee d'Angleterre and Prisoner of War Mail. It is illustrated with letters, documents and maps; five colour plates. (Card cover, 76pp, £20,00.)

A Crimean War Study by a postal historian is by Francois Xavier Piat Dewavrin, described as a fine study of mail to and from the forces involved in the Crimea, the Baltic and the Pacific. The illustrations include some remarkable covers; and "some of the English used is a little awkward". (Card cover, 64pp, £10,00.)

Meched Stamps according to Karman is a study of the 1902 Provisional Issue for Meched, Bodjnourd and Choutchan by G Karman, covering the provisionals issued by Victor Castaigne, the Belgian postal official in Meched. Karman looks both at the history of Castaigne and the stamps he created under rather mysterious circumstances, and reviews various opinions. There is practical guidance on determining whether a stamp is genuine, a reprint, a second print, a remainder, a trial or a forgery. (40 colour plates, 100 numbered copies, published by the author. Hardbound, 154pp, £60,00.)

The Travelling Post Offices of South Australia by Anthony D Presgrave. The first chapter deals with little-known early Road Mails; the remainder of the book with the Railway TPOs. Much background information on the railways, the rolling stock (with photographs and drawings) and timetables is provided. 75 types of datestamp used on the TPOs, many extremely scarce and two discovered after completion of the manuscript, are illustrated. (Card cover, 142pp, £25,00.)

Postage is £1,00 per book, and orders can be placed with James Bendon Ltd, PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus. E-mail: jbendon@ibm.net, fax: +357 5 31-1228. (www.JamesBendon.com)

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■ **WOLFGANG HERMANN:** *ARGE Sammler Deutscher Kolonial-Postwertzeichen*

The hand cancellations applied by train drivers in German South West Africa

HAND cancellations provided by the German Railway Post Office along the stretch between Swakopmund and Windhoek represent a special sub-area in collections of German South West Africa. These specimens involve cancellations applied to stamps by the train driver at the railway stations.

Railway regulations valid in German South West Africa restricted the authority for train drivers to cancel stamps to those stations at which there was no post office. As a result, the time during which such cancellations were possible was essentially limited to the period between 1897 and 1902, during which the railway line was being constructed.

Hand cancellations applied after this period represent rare exceptions [Ref. 14], as post offices were successively opened in settlements along the new railway line. On 1 March 1901, oval railway postmarks were introduced for use.

Cancellations with ink or with indelible pencil were accordingly applied to the stamps as crosses or pen strokes, in addition to manuscript indications of the date and the railway station.

Cancellation was regulated by the official *Regulations for Railway Personnel Assigned Responsibility for the Transport of Mail in German South West Africa*. Accordingly, the train driver was responsible for cancelling stamps with ink or with indelible pencil at those stations without a post office. Under the cancellation, he was required to write the name of the station – in full or abbreviated – along with the date of cancellation [1].

THIS study of the prevalence of the cancellations applied by train drivers simultaneously provides evidence on the stages of railway construction in German South West Africa.

The author, who is also a member of the German Research Group for German Colonies and Foreign Post Offices, has by now become a well known contributor to *The SA Philatelist*.

His most recent Congress Award, given in 1997, was for the article "The three postal routes used in the South of German South West Africa", which appeared in the April 1997 issue of this journal on p40.

The following questions arise for collectors of these cancellations:

1. When were the individual construction stages of the Swakopmund-Windhoek railway line completed?

2. How rare are such railway hand cancellations? Above the total prevalence, the collector will also be interested in the rarity, say in comparison to the use of Wanderstempel. And what was the relative prevalence of station cancellations with respect to each other?

One must briefly consider what historically preceded these cancellations, as well as how the railway line from Swakopmund to Windhoek was built. It was only the second to be built in all of the German colonies, antedated only by that in German East Africa. The final factor which made the construction of this railway an absolute necessity was the loss of draught animals to the rinderpest epidemic of 1897 – see the postcard from Omaruru addressed to Captain Böhmer, postmarked 4 November 1897 (Fig. 1).

Traditional conveyance by ox wagon was indeed tedious.

Even after the rinderpest abated, however, transport of goods from the coast into the interior remained uncertain and expensive. Governor Theodor Leutwein was therefore compelled to push for construction of a rail line, and went to Germany especially to promote this. Traditional conveyance by ox wagon was indeed tedious. The trip from Swakopmund to Windhoek took around fourteen days. Freight forwarding rates were excessive: around thirty marks for fifty kilograms, for example [2]. Even passenger transport was difficult: around eight days by horsedrawn vehicles.

Unwisely, the government had already contractually granted a monopoly to the South West African Company until 1902 to construct and operate a railway in Damaraland, the so-called Damaraland Concession [3, 4]. Paul Rohrbach reported on the efforts eventually necessary to wrest permission from the English company: "It became necessary to buy the consent of the Southwest African Company to build the railway as a military line by granting it further, substantial extension of their other prospecting concessions." [5]

Under these constraints the German government acceded to the urgent request by Governor Leutwein to build a rail line out of government funds as a military project [6]. The Director of Colonies, von Richthofen, as well as the Com-



Fig. 1 Postcard and reverse announcing the end of the rinderpest.

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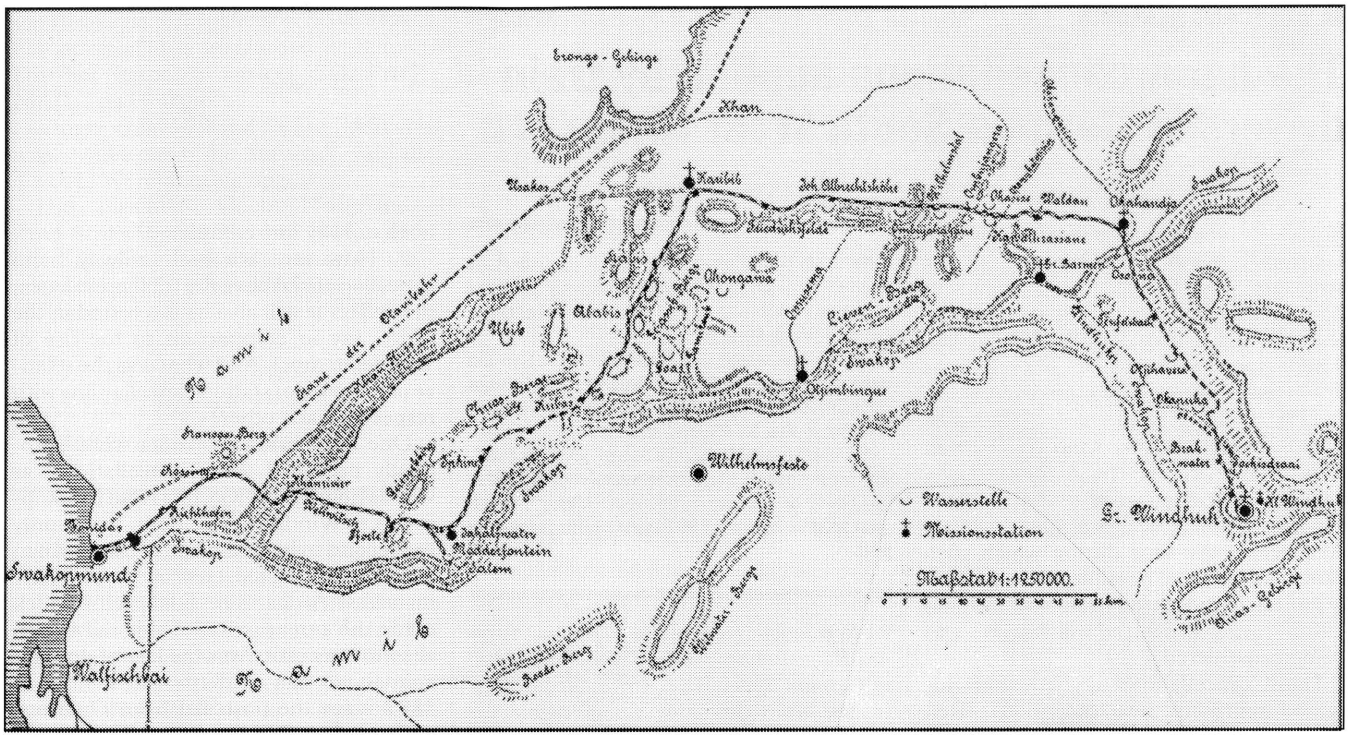

Fig. 2 The final Swakopmund – Windhuk rail route.

mander of the Railway Brigade, von Rössing in Berlin, energeticallly advocated rapid construction of the railway.

Of the several routes to Windhoek considered, only the alternative north of the Swakop River eventually proved feasible. Owing to unfavourable terrain, planners discarded the possibility of a rail route along the old Bay Road trail. This was the reason why the railway included Karibib along the northward route and was not able to pass through Otjimbingue, farther south. The map (Fig. 2) shows the final route [7].

The terrain presented enormous difficulties.

The table (Fig. 3) shows the stations along the rail line, as well as the distance of each from Swakopmund [8].

This military railway – later called the Staatsbahn – had a gauge of 60 cm and was 382 km long. The terrain presented enormous difficulties. The line began at sea level in Swakopmund and rose to an elevation of 1 637 m in Windhoek. The steepest grade was around Khanrivier: 1:21. The railbeds were additionally endangered during the rainy season, when swollen rivers left their banks [10].

A military railway regiment supervised actual laying of the rail line [6]. According to the account by Kurd Schwabe, the following crew was involved in construction of this line in 1899: 20 officers, a civil servant in charge of accounting, 14 noncommissioned officers, 240 white labourers, and 230 black workers [3]. Private companies constructed the railway station buildings.

Verzeichnis der Eisenbahnstationen nebst Entfernung.

Swakopmund—Windhuk.

0,0	Swakopmund.	179,68	Karibib.
9,85	Nonidas.	194,26	Karibib.
19,96	Richthofen.	209,7	Friedrichsfelde.
29,5	H. n. B.*)	219,79	Johann-Albrechtshöhe.
40,21	Rössing.	245,2	Wilhelmstal.
57,63	Khan	256,0	H. n. B.
62,73	Welwitsch.	264,39	Okasise.
83,9	Pforte.	275,5	H. n. B.
86,5	H. n. B.	288,63	Waldau.
98,63	Jakalswater.	306,65	Okalongo H. n. B.
108,0	H. n. B.	311,63	Okahandja.
121,34	Ephing.	318,0	Osona H. n. B.
133,79	Dorfrivier.	334,99	Teufelsbach.
144,35	Kubas.	351,3	Otjihavera.
159,0	H. n. B.	366,57	Arakwater.
165,65	Ababis.	381,75	Windhuk.

*) H. n. B. „Halten nach Bedarf" sind keine eigentlichen Stationen, sondern haben lediglich Vorrichtung zur Wasserergänzung.

Zur Charakterisierung der Leistungsfähigkeit der Bahn in Friedenszeiten dienen folgende Daten:

Ab Swakopmund 7⁰⁰

An Windhuk . . 7²⁰ am nächsten Tage (einmal wöchentlich).

Bei Benutzung anderer Züge waren 4 Tage erforderlich, um nach Windhuk zu gelangen.

Ein Nachtverkehr fand nicht statt und war untersagt. Obiger Zug kam auf eine Durchschnittsgeschwindigkeit von 15,3 km in der Stunde.

Fig. 3 Railway stations and distances.

The following illustrations (Figs. 4, 5 and 6) show some of the stations and the landscape along the route. (Additional

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illustrations can be found in a book by Theodor Leutwein [11]).

The work was arduous. The front page of the *Windhoeker Anzeiger* of 27 April 1899 reports on rail-line construction difficulties caused by unusually heavy rains. A subsequent report from the same newsper, dated 11 April 1900, attributes delays in masonry work on the rail line near Karibib to the lack of sufficient numbers of workers.

And now to the questions posed at the beginning of this article:

When were the individual construction stages of the Swakopmund-Windhoek railway line completed?

Answers to this question also reveal the earliest possible dates for cancellations along the rail line. The table at Fig. 7 shows twelve dates at which the respective stations were completed. (The author took the dates from contemporary Southwest newspapers and other literature.) Although they do not include all the stations along the stretch, the chronological sequence provides a fairly accurate account of the progress of construction. It also furnishes a basis for estimation of the completion dates for the remaining stations [2, 6, 9, 12, 13].

Rectangular railway station postal markings were introduced for use on the Swakopmund-Windhoek line. Such markings occasionally turn up as cancellations on stamps. Fig. 8 depicts two loose stamps postmarked in this way in April 1902 in Swakopmund, and in February 190(?) at Kapenousseu.

In individual cases, the train driver might add by hand "Bahnpost".

In addition to place names and dates, hand cancellations made on the Swakopmund-Windhoek line sometimes take only the form of crosses or pen strokes on the stamps. In individual cases, the train driver might add by hand "Bahnpost" (railway mail service) or "Bauspitze" (the most advanced point of construction) or "Km".

Figs. 9 to 11 illustrate some of the specimens of such hand cancellations from the author's collection.

And now to the second question:

How rare are such railway hand cancellations?

According to information Albert Friedemann published in 1921 [1], these hand cancellations are extant "in great profusion". Friedemann and Wittmann, on the other hand, contradict this: "Rössing, Swakopmund, Nonidas, and Khan (or Khanrivier) are the most frequently encountered; the rest can generally be found only as rarities." [14, p540].

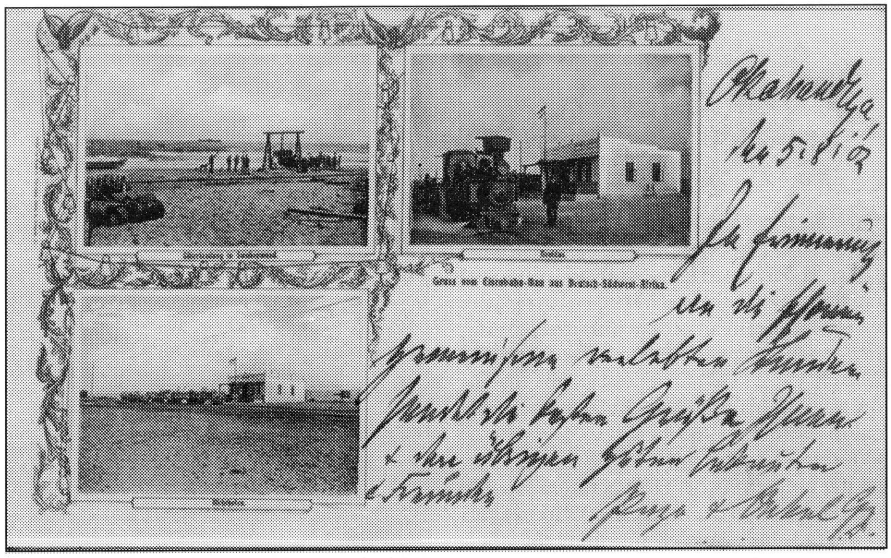

Fig. 4 Three scenes: Loading goods at Swakopmund; Nonidas; and Richthofen.

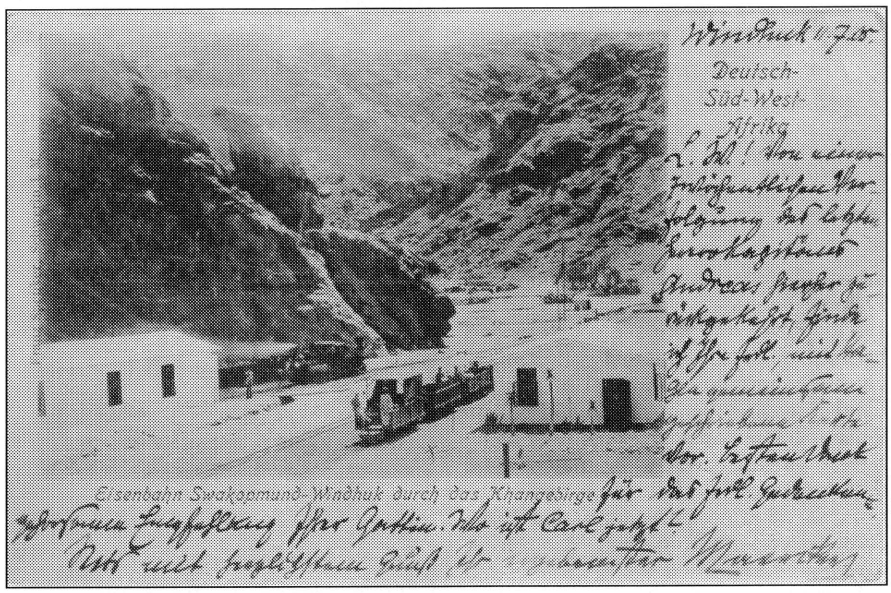

Fig. 5 Rail line Swakopmund – Windhuk through the Khan Mountains.

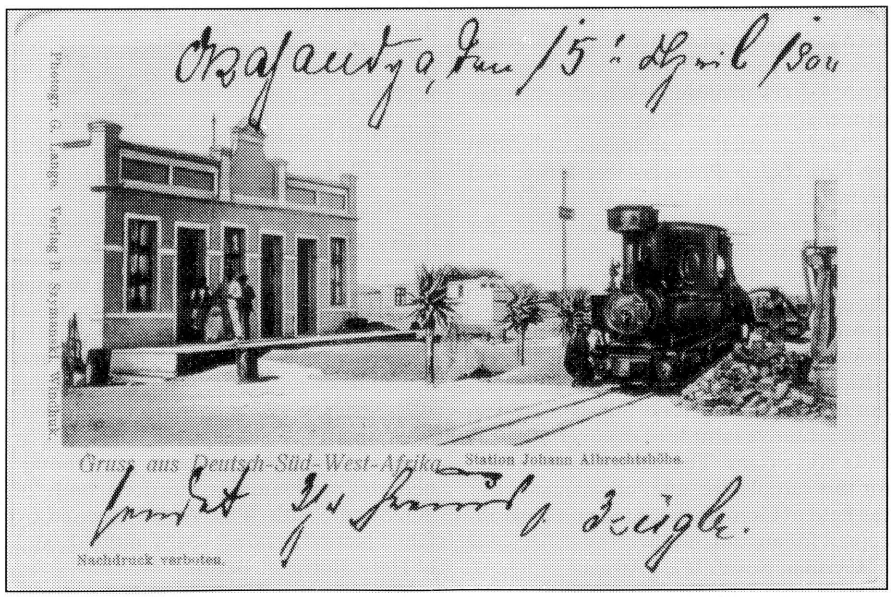

Fig. 6 Station Johann Albrechtshöhe.

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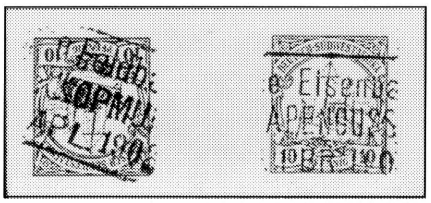

Fig. 8 Rectangular markings

Dr H Kretzschmar confirms this conclusion about the rarity of such railway cancellations in an article published in *Berichte für Kolonialbriefmarkensammler* in March 1952 [15]. Dr F Zistl takes the same view in his report in the same periodical in October 1955 [16].

Kretzschmar reports that – in addition to his collection of 47 specimens – only General Lademann with his 23 items had collected noteworthy numbers of such hand cancellations. According to Kretzschmar's report, a Mr. Siekert also possessed three such specimens, and a Mr Dahmann, one.

The author surveyed nine prominent catalogues containing offers of German colonial stamps.

This totally random sample described by an experienced colonial collector accordingly amounts to a total of only 75 hand-cancelled specimens (including one loose specimen held by Zistl). Judging by Kretzschmar's account, we may assume that the extant figures he gives involve entires. In addition, this author has three cards/covers with hand cancellations train drivers.

Starting from the basis of the data above, the author surveyed nine prominent catalogues containing offers of German colonial stamps, with the following objective: to obtain data on the prevalence of Swakopmund-Windhoek hand cancellations on cards or covers.

The nine auction catalogues published by Kruschel + Philaclassica, HBA, and Heinrich Köhler (17-25) from 1992 to 1996 represent a new sampling made for the purpose of comparison with the original sample for this collecting area. Although the items in these catalogues constitute only a portion of the offerings of colonial items from German South West Africa from the years in question, the author nevertheless believes they constitute a representative sample of the overall quantities still extant. The auctioneers chosen for this sample are, after all, specialists in the field of German colonies who have accepted for auction noteworthy collections of German South West Africa.

From this sampling, how many entires with hand cancellations by train drivers in the service between Swakopmund and Windhoek were offered during the period surveyed? Only 27 such items were found. This finding is all the more surprising in view of the fact that the catalogues contained the specialised collections both of "German South West Africa" owned by Chief Justice Berker from Windhoek, and of Hans Bothe of Berlin.

The conclusion which may be drawn from this investigation is: these hand cancellations are relatively rare. This likewise applies to the small number of stamps on piece offered by the auctioneers. The findings are further confirmed by a comparison made with Wanderstempel offered by the same auctioneers. Although the author did not do an exact count of the Wanderstempel, it is apparent that the number being offered for auction is many times that of the above 27 specimens.

Fertigstellung der Etappen der Bahnpost Swakopmund-Windhoek		
1	2	3
Km/Station	Fertig am	Quelle
0,00 Swakopmund	10.09.1897	2,Lenssen
9,85 Nonidas	20.11.1897	6,Rautenberg
19,96 Richthofen		
29,50 Halten nach Bedarf		
40,21 Rössing		
57,63 Khan(rivier)	10.8.1898	6,Rautenberg
62,73 Welwitsch		
Km 80	Okt. 1898	6,Rautenberg
Km 82		
83,90 Pforte		
Km 85		
86,50 Halten nach Bedarf		
Km 90	27.11.1898	6,Rautenberg
98,63 Jakalswater	11. 4. 1899	12.I.No15.WA
108,00 Halten nach Bedarf		
121,34 Sphinx		
133,79 Dorstrivier		
144,35 Kubas		
159,00 Halten nach Bedarf		
165,65 Abbabis		
179,68 Habis		
194,26 Karibib	01.06.1900	2,Lenssen
209,70 Friedrichsfelde		
219,79 Johann-Albrechtshöhe		
245,20 Wilhelmstal/Kamumb.	11.04.1901	12.III.No 8WA
245,20 Kamumbonde	11.04.1901	12.III.No 8WA
256,00 Halten nach Bedarf		
264,39 Okasise	04.07.1901	12.III.No14WA
275,50 Halten nach Bedarf		
288,63 Waldau	01.10.1901	9,Klebes
306,65 Okakango		
311,63 Okahandja	20.12.1901	13,DSWAZ
318,00 Osona		
334,99 Teufelsbach		
351,30 Otjihavera		
366,57 Brakwater		
381,75 Windhoek	19.06.1902	6,Rautenberg

Fig. 7 Completion of stations along the Swakopmund-Windhoek rail line. (*Fertig am* = Completed on; *Quelle* = Reference; *Halten nach Bedarf* = Whistlestop).

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With only a few exceptions, this figure does not take into account that some specimens were offered more than once among all the catalogues (as seen from the illustrations of some items). As a result, the actual total offering of hand cancellations is in all likelihood even less.

The sum of all specimens – not counting those being offered by more than one

It is apparent that the lion's share of extant cancellations was made at the initial stations along the line.

house – from both samplings is 102. The table at Fig. 12 shows the relative prevalence of hand cancellations made by train drivers.

Columns 3 (Kretzschmar) and 4 (new auction catalogues) have been added to give the total in column 5. Column 6 indicates the relative prevalence – or, actually, the rarity – of cancellations from the individual stations. It is apparent that the lion's share of extant cancellations was made at the initial stations along the line: Swakopmund, Nonidas, Richthofen, Rössing, and Khan(rivier). Hand cancellations from the other stations can be truly designated as rare.

Oval railway postmarks were introduced along the Swakopmund – Windhoek line on 1 March 1901. These cancellations carry the train numbers: 1 to 4. For reasons unknown to the author, the railway postal service used these cancellations for only a very brief period; they were phased out early in 1904. Fig. 13 shows an example dated 12/8 01.

These oval cancellers, however, returned to use some years later. After the occupation of German South West Africa by troops of the Union of South Africa during World War I, postal authorities again used them, but only with the place names Swakopmund and Windhoek on the cancellations. During the occupation period postal authorities deleted from the cancellers the name "Swakopmund" for their use in Windhoek, and they deleted "Windhoek" for cancellations made in Swakopmund. (See Fig. 14). ■

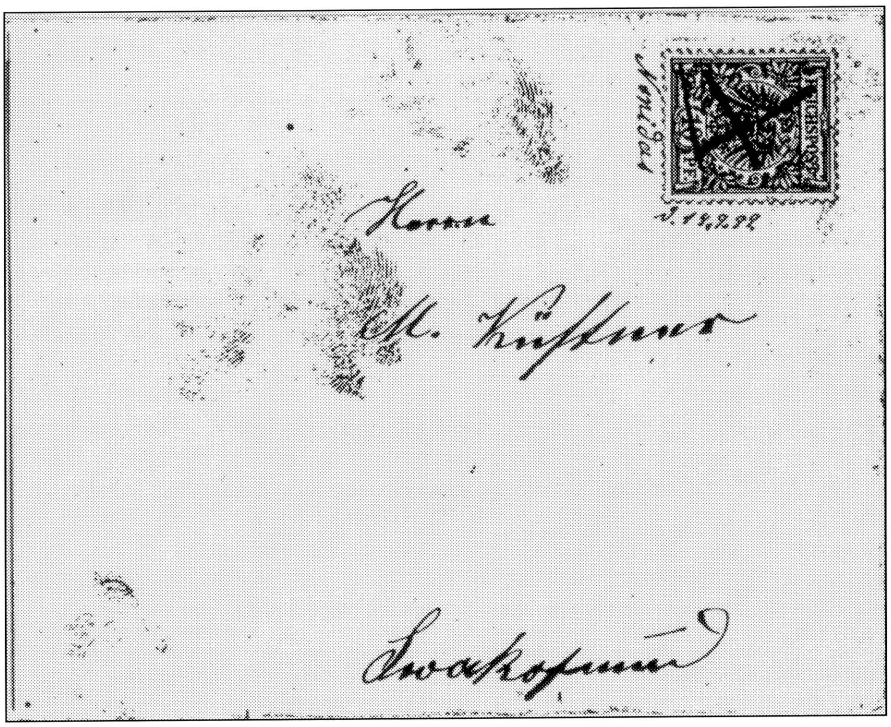

Fig. 9 shows Nonidas in manuscript, also dated 14.9.99.

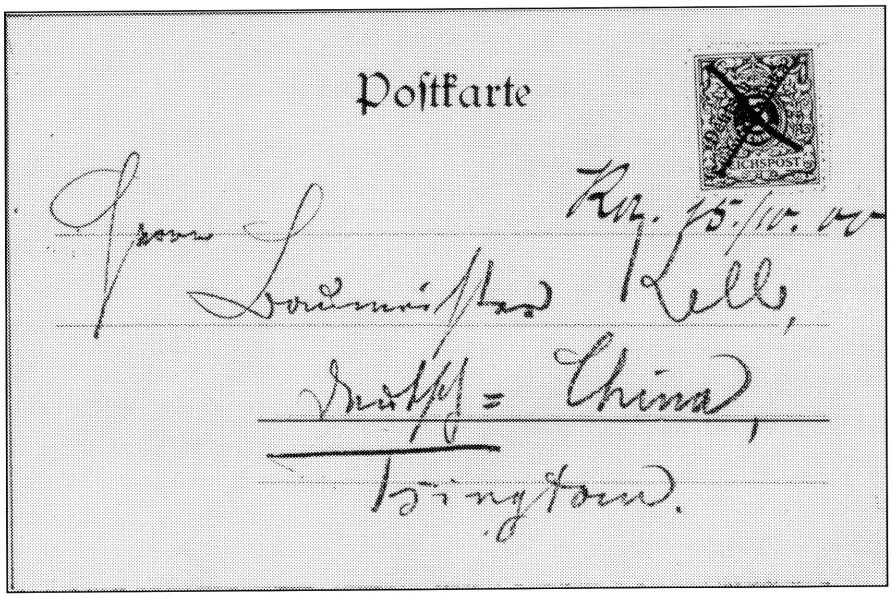

Fig 10 shows Karibib as "Ka. 15./10.00"

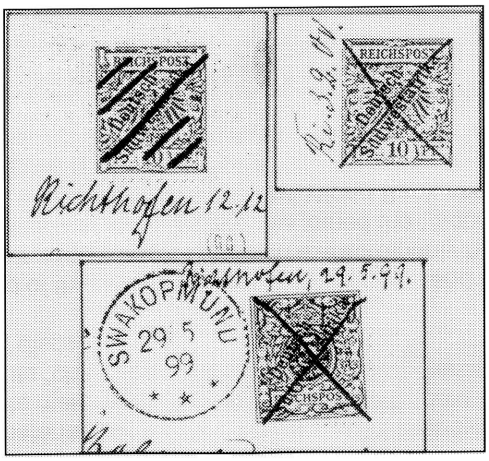

Fig 11 shows three examples of Richthofen (also "Ri") on piece.

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Relative prevalence of hand cancellations made along the railway line from Swakopmund to Windhoek						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
km from Swakopmund	Completed on	No.of cancell.		Total no.	No. 5	Reference
station:		Kretzs.	auctions	3+4	in %	column 2
0.00 Swakopmund	10. Sep 1897	14	5	19	18,63	2.Lenssen
9.85 Nonidas	20. Nov 1897	14	6	20	19,61	6.Rautenberg
19.96 Richthofen		9	5	14	13,73	
29.50 whistle stop				0		
40.21 Rössing		14	5	19	18,63	
57.63 Khan(rivier)	10. Aug 98	9	4	13	12,75	6.Rautenberg
62.73 Welwitsch		2		2	1,96	
Km 80	Oct. 1898			0		6.Rautenberg
Km 82		1		1	0,98	
83.90 Pforte		1		1	0,98	
Km 85		1		1	0,98	
86.50 whistle stop				0		
Km 90	27. Nov 1898			0		6.Rautenberg
98.63 Jakalswater	11. Apr 1899	2		2	1,96	12.I.No15.WA
108.00 whistle stop				0		
121.34 Sphinx		1		1	0,98	
133.79 Dorstrivier				0		
144.35 Kubas				0		
159.00 whistle stop				0		
165.65 Abbabis		1		1	0,98	
179.68 Habis				0		
194.26 Karibib	01. Jun 00	1	2	3	2,94	2.Lenssen
209.70 Friedrichsfelde				0		
219.79 Johann-Albrechtshöhe				0		
245.20 Wilhelmstal/Kamumb.	11. Apr 01			0		12.III.No 8WA
245.20 Kamumbonde	11. Apr 01	1		1	0,98	12.III.No 8WA
256.00 whistle stop				0		
264.39 Okasise	04. Jul 01			0		12.III.No14WA
275.50 whistle stop				0		
288.63 Waldau	01.Oct 1901			0		9.Klebes
306.65 Okakango				0		
311.63 Okahandja	20. Dec 1901			0		13.DSWAZ
318.00 Osona				0		
334.99 Teufelsbach				0		
351.30 Otjihavera				0		
366.57 Brakwater				0		
381.75 Windhoek	19. Jun 02			0		6.Rautenberg
Knaupu		2		2	1,96	
Bahnpost Swakopm.-Jakalsw.		1		1	0,98	
Bahnpost Sw-Ka		1		1	0,98	
Total no.		75	27	102	100,00	

Fig 12 Relative prevalence of Swakopmund – Windhoek cancellations.

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24. Heinrich Köhler, Wiesbaden, 287th auction, 28 September 1995, "Deutsche Auslandspostämter und Kolonien". pp145-148.
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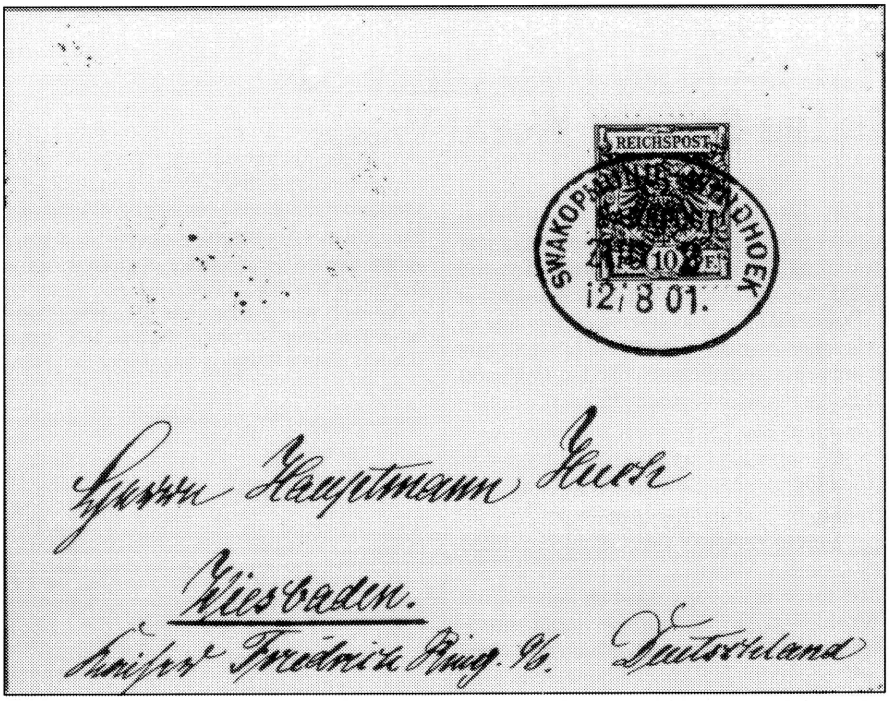

Fig 13 A superb ZUG 2 strike on an entire to Wiesbaden.

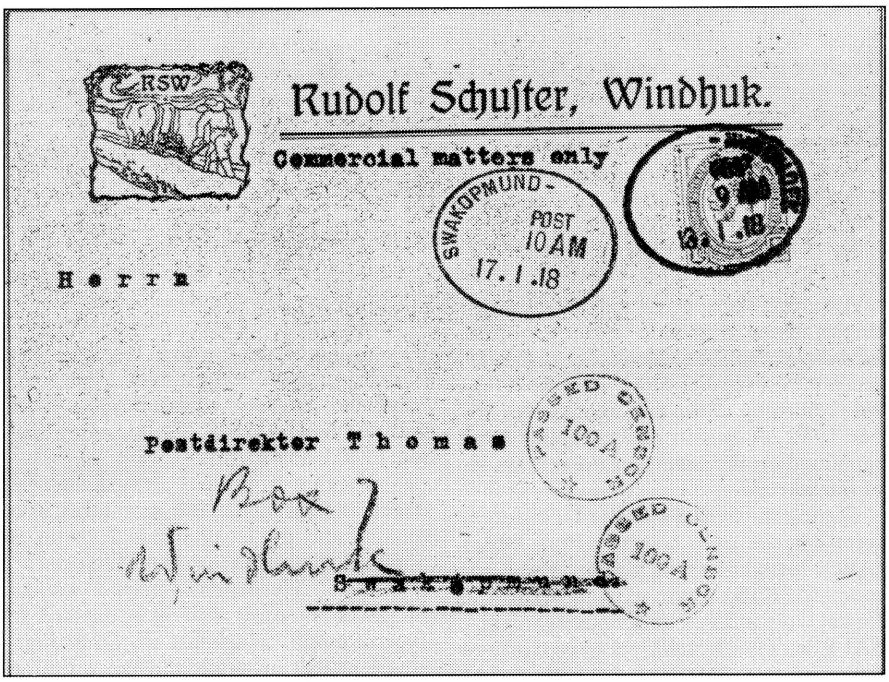

Fig 14 Both adapted oval cancellations on entire.

Self-adhesives are a 'great revolution'

THE Norwegian Stamp Bureau describes the introduction of self-adhesive stamps for Christmas at the end of 1997 as probably the greatest philatelic revolution in Norway since the transition from imperforate to perforated stamps more than 100 years ago. It says it "was just a little anxious about how people would react to this innovation".

A survey proved that the new stamps were favourably received. To the question: "If you can choose freely in the future, will you choose self-adhesive stamps or ordinary stamps that have to be moistened?", 80 per cent of respondents replied that they would choose self-adhesives.

Women were even more in favour than men (84 against 75 per cent), probably because they are keener letter writers, the bureau says.

As a result of the survey, Norway Post is to increase the issuing frequency of self-adhesive stamps, particularly from 1999 onwards. The Christmas stamps of 1998 aside, the definitive stamps in booklets will also be self-adhesive in 1999.

Where countries have introduced self-adhesives, primarily definitives are issued in this form. This has resulted in quite spectacular user figures, says the bureau. In Finland, for example, 60 per cent of the stamps used are now self-adhesive.

Frimerkeposten 2/98

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■ **J B R FINDLAY** *Philatelic Society of Johannesburg*

The SA Army Post Office 51 in the Second World War

THE Union Defence Force Postal Services issued a number Army Post Office datestamps during World War II for the UDF forces. One which is well known is APO-U-MPK 51 as having been used in Madagascar during 1942. It has recently been found to have been used in 1945 and this latter use is of major interest.

Madagascar 1942

The 7th South African Infantry Brigade (7 SAI Bde), commanded by Brig. G T Senescall, and six flights of South African Air Forces (SAAF) aircraft, commanded by Col. SA Melville, were part of the Allied force to occupy Madagascar during World War II. Madagascar was controlled by the Vichy French, which was sympathetic to the Japanese, who were expanding their area of operation in the Indian Ocean to the African coast.

The British forces landed in Madagascar on 5 May 1942 to prevent the very real threat of Japanese invasion of the island. The first SAAF units arrived to support the British forces on 12 May 1942. The 7 SAI Bde, consisting of the First City, Pretoria Regiment, Pretoria Highlanders, A Squadron 1st Armoured Car Commando, 6 Field Regiment and 88 Field Company (SA Engineer Corps) all landed at Diego Suarez on 25 June 1942.

Although there was a serious Japanese threat, there was little fighting on the island and the Vichy Governer surrendered on 2 November 1941 with the 7 SAI Bde returning to the Union on 7 December 1942. A British peacekeeping force remained on the island for the remainder of the war.

During the period that the UDF forces were on the island, Army Post Office (APO) (also known as Militêre Pos Kantoor – MPK) 51 was in use with 7 Brigade Postal Unit and was under command of 7 SAI Bde. The Postal Unit arrived at and departed from Madagascar with 7 SAI Bde and was functional at Sakaramy village from 26 June to 1 December 1942 (but departed on 3 December 1942).

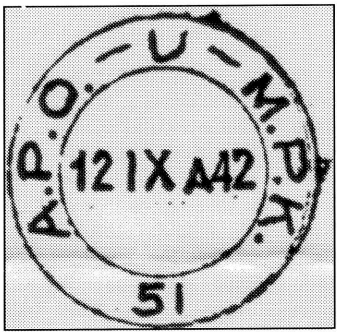

Fig 1: An example of APO 51 used in Madagascar, 1942.

JIM FINDLAY has published several of his findings on the military postal history of South Africa in World War II in *The SA Philatelist*.

The most recent article was "The Weza Prisoner-of-War Camp" on p84 of the June 1997 issue. This was given a Congress Award later that year.

A double circle datestamp APO-UMPK 51 with a diameter of 26 mm, was used. This postal unit was disbanded on 10 February 1943. Other East African APOs (53, 59 & 64) and British FPOs (549, 596, 597 & 599) were in use in Madagascar.

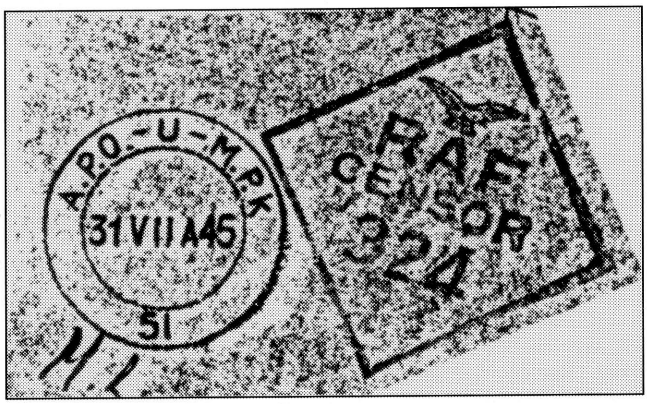

Fig 2: An example of APO 51 used at Zwartkops Air Base, Valhalla, Pretoria, 1945.

After Madagascar

From 1942 to July 1945 there does not appear to be any use of APO 51.

Some time ago I was with Jack Hagger, RDPSA, looking through his extensive military mail collection, which has since been sold, and he had a stampless cover with the APO-UMPK 51 datestamp, dated 23 VII$_A$45 (23 July 1945).

This differs from examples used in Madagascar in that the full stop after K is missing and the letter size is 2,5 mm as opposed to 3,0 mm used in Madagascar. It has an RAF censor 324 mark as a square (29 x 29 mm) and is addressed to Bloemfontein. There are no other markings on the envelope and the question arose as to where this APO 51 was used and by whom?

On going through my collection I found a similar stampless cover with the same APO-MPK 51 datestamp, with the same RAF censor and addressed to the same person in Bloemfontein and this is dated 31 VII$_A$45. On the reverse is the name and address of the sender:

No 607741 A/Cpl M.D. Lewis,
No 6 Detachment, Malalkal,
c/o 4 Group H.Q., 2 A.S.,
P.O. Valhalla,
Pretoria.

This address clearly gave some very valuable clues.

Jack Hagger drew my attention to an article in *The SA Philatelist* of June 1946 titled "South African Army Post Offices" by the late Dr. J H Harvey Pirie. Regarding APO 51, he states "51. Madagascar 26/6/42 to 1/12/42. Originally type F (error) then type A. Although the Directorate makes no mention of it, we fancy this office must have been in East Africa at a much later date as we have a cover endorsed as from Kisumu, with a mark of this office of type, E, the date being 18/VII/45".

I subsequently visited Museum Africa in Johannesburg to study the J H Harvey Pirie World War II postal history collection. There are three examples of APO 51 on piece and they are as follows: (i) APO U 51, type F, dated 27 VI$_A$42, which was an error; (ii) APO-UMPK 51, type A, dates 28 VIII$_A$42; and (iii) APO-UMPK 51, type E, dated 18 VII$_A$45. Although (iii) is the same date as referred to by Harvey Pirie above as being from Kisumu, it is on piece and there is no record of origin.

The Springbok Shuttle

On 1 May 1942, the SAAF formed 4 Group comprised of 5 and 10 Wings and this became known as "The Springbok Shuttle" to bring South African troops from Europe and North Africa back to the Union as the war reached its end.

Initially this service consisted of seven Dakotas and three Lodestars on a weekly flight each, but later it reached a peak of 10 Dakotas and 15 Venturas daily. The route operated from Zwartkops Air Force Base, Valhalla, Pretoria, to Cairo West Air Base in Egypt, and this necessitated a number of refueling stops along the route and a considerable logistic support element.

The HQ of 4 Group was at Zwartkops and the route was from there to Kumalo (Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia now Zimbabwe), Chingola (Northern Rhodesia

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now Zambia), Tambora (Tanganyika now Tanzania), Kisumu (Kenya), Juba (Sudan), Malakal (Sudan), Khartoum (Sudan), Wadi Halfa (Sudan) and Cairo West (Egypt). These air bases were staffed by members of the SAAF and the RAF, thus the RAF censor mark.

If numbers are assigned to the stops on the route moving north, Zwartkops is the HQ, No 1 Detachment would be at Kumalo, No 2 Detachment at Chingola, no 3 at Tabora, No 4 Kisumu, No 5 at Juba, No 6 at Malakal etc. This agrees with the reply address on the cover with APO 51.

I propose that 4 Group needed an APO date stamp and APO 51 ex Madagascar was not available, but the number was, which resulted in the introduction of the APO 51 in the new style, type E.

The APO would be based at the HO at Zwartkops Air Base as it would be very unlikely that each detachment would operate its own APO. Mail would obviously move along the flight route being delivered or collected. Censorship would in all likelihood be done by the senior detachment member at each airbase along the route, and this would account for the use of an RAF censor mark.

Should more of these covers be documented, it would be of interest to establish whether the censor markings can be used to identify the detachment air base. The troops arriving at Zwartkops by air were unlikely to be writing letters for posting as they were on their way home, and the aircrews would probably use the civilian postal system due to the perennial belief that the military postal system is always slower.

The reply address on my envelope includes "2 A.S.", presumably 2 Air School which was based at Randfontein but disbanded on 2 October 1994, which is a bit confusing.

The *History of the South African Gifts and Comforts Fund* states "These posts were at lonely spots in tropical Africa. The staffs manning them were living in a trying climate under unenviable conditions". They were supplied with "glory bags" and cigarettes until February 1946. It would appear that this "Springbok Shuttle" came to an end in February 1946.

4 Group Unit Cachet

On examining various covers with cachets of 4 Group, which are all the same with the boxed wording – SAAF Mail Office, 4 Group, P.O. Valhalla, Pretoria – their dates range from 17 September 1945 to 15 January 1946. Some of these have a Valhalla datestamp, but none seen have APO 51.

This would appear to be a very rare APO datestamp.

However, of interest are two covers in the collection of the South African Museum of Military History which have the sender's name and address on the reverse as Cpl. J.M. du Preez, C? 4752130, 9 Det. 4 Gp 3 AS, P.O. Valhalla, Pretoria. This indicates that other detachments were sending mail to South Africa via the HQ in Valhalla and these two probably came from Cairo West (that is, Detachment 9).

In view of these dates of use, it is possible that APO 51 was in use for 4 Group mail until a suitable "Official Free" unit cachet became available, as the examples of APO 51 used during 1945 were all in the month of July.

Conclusion

The use of APO-U-MPK 51 from May 1945 to February 1946 was at Zwartkops for use by members of 4 Group while the Springbok Shuttle was in service. This would appear to be a very rare APO datestamp as, apart from the above mentioned examples, World War II military mail collectors that I have contacted do not have examples of it.

I would appreciate any additional information or comments from readers on this APO, which can either be via The Editor or to me at PO Box 3474, Parklands, 2121. ■

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Jack Hagger, RDPSA, for his support in this, as well as Ms. Kerrie Nkosi, Curator of Paper and Paintings, Museum Africa, Johannesburg, for her assitance with the Harvey Pirie collection.

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In memoriam

Kobus Esterhuysen – 8 Mei 1998

DIE bekroonde Suid-Afrikaanse seëlversamelaar en ontwerper, Kobus Esterhuysen, is op 8 Mei 1998 in die ouderdom van 78 oorlede.

Esterhuysen, wat ook verantwoordelik was vir die ontwerp van Suid-Afrika se banknote, was 'n gerekende seëlversamelaar, en het dus byna vanselfsprekend terselfdertyd in die veel kleiner medium van posseëls gewerk.

Hy het die 2 ½c Volkspele seël ontwerp, wat op 1 Maart 1962 uitgereik is, en die 4c Merino (15 Mei 1972). Op 9 Oktober 1974 het sy 15c seël verskyn wat die eeufees van die Wêreldposunie herdenk het, en hy was verantwoordelik vir die 10c seël (5 Okotber 1976) om die eeufees van die Brits-Suid-Afrikaanse seeposkontrak te gedenk.

As versamelaar het hy hom veral toegespits op die posgeskiedenis en seëls van die Kaap Kolonie, waarvoor hy verskeie male bekroon is. 'n Belangrike deel van sy versameling op dié gebied is by die Feldman SA veiling van 1 tot 5 November 1994 in Switserland aangebied.

Esterhuysen was ook 'n gesogte nywerheidsontwerper, en het hoofsaaklik bekend geword vir sy indrukwekkende skoupawiljoene vir nasionale instansies, onder meer byna dertig jaar lank vir die Kamer van Mynwese. Sy werk as voorbladtekenaar van die tydskrif Outspan het aanvanklik die aandag op hom gevestig.

In 1956 is hy aangewys as uitstallingontwerper vir die staat, en het hy onder meer pawiljoene vir Truk, die Johannesburgse Stadsraad, die Johannesburgse Aandelebeurs en Windhoek se internasionale lughawe behartig. Hierbenewens het Esterhuysen die dekor en kostuums van meer as tagtig van die Nasionale Toneelorganisasie se opvoerings ontwerp.

Later het hy restourasiewerk aan Suid-Afrikaanse slagvelde gedoen en ook die Bloedrivier Monument in 1970 herbeplan. Esterhuysen het tussen 1936 en tot so laat as 1948 soms spotprente vir dagblaaie in die Vrystaat en die Transvaal geteken. Die FAK het Esterhuysen in 1993 vir sy kulturele bydrae vereer.

Kobus Esterhuysen is in Standerton gebore. Hy het 'n jaar lank argitektuur aan die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand gestudeer voordat hy in 1938 na München, Duitsland, vertrek het.

Hier het hy 'n diploma verwerf aan die Akademie der Bildenden Künste, maar moes na Suid-Afrika terugkeer met die uitbreek van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog.

Esterhuysen se vrou, Isabel, is in 1970 oorlede. Hy word oorleef deur vier seuns en 'n dogter, en hy was 'n broer van die musiekkenner Joubero Malherbe.

Aan almal betuig sy versamelaarsvriende hul innige meegevoel.

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■ **DAVID COLLYER M,APO** *Philatelic Society of New South Wales*

For the record: Australian efforts towards documenting current philately

TO record what is happening now in the philately and postal history of any country is a challenge. One has to create a record, rather than collect what is known. Recent efforts in Australia have developed a model which may apply in other countries.

Philately is the study and collecting of postage stamps, it also includes postal stationery, aerophilately and revenues. An advantage of philately is that it generally has lists of things that can be collected – catalogues – and there are extensive literatures.

Postal historians tend to collect areas where there are few records. A lot of the things that interest postal historians are not considered by postal administrations as "philatelic". These include slogan postmarks, machine generated postage labels, and postal mechanisation markings.

Things that are happening now need to be recorded as soon as possible.

The philatelic literature of a country generally records what has happened regarding the stamps and postal history. Some countries have commercial philatelic newspapers to record such events, whilst society bulletins and journals record research material.

More frequent recording

In mid-1995 a meeting was held in Melbourne to discuss directions in Australian postal history. One outcome was recognition of the need to continue the improvement of Australian postal history journals. The criteria set for the frequency of publication opened a niche in terms of contemporary material. Things that are happening now needed to be recorded as soon as possible so that they could be better understood.

A check of the frequency of Australian philatelic research literature showed that most publications are quarterly, with a small number of bi-monthly titles. To record current events the frequency of publication needed to be increased. Costs could be off-set by restricting the total amount of data to one A4 size sheet which makes for reasonable postage costs on a higher frequency.

The content would cover anything that is not covered by main stream journals. Originally it was thought that the emphasis would be on postal mechanisation and definitive postal stationery. Reality saw the development of a wide range of areas including Olympic philately (as Sydney is to host the 2000 Olympics), machine generated postage labels, postcodes, franking machines and postal rates.

THE author contributed two articles to *The SA Philatelist* in 1997 alone: His "World War II mails from Switzerland to destinations outside Europe" on p15, which received a Congress Award (and where fuller particulars about him are to be found) and "Boxed markings on Swiss WWII mails" on p81 of the 1997 volume.

The former article was also published, with acknowledgments to *The SA Philatelist*, in German translation in the *Berner Briefmarken Zeitung* 12/97.

To provide a frequency of better than monthly a network of correspondents was required. These were people already working in some of these fields who could be interested in others. It was located at strategically across Australia. (Consider that Australia is a federation of six states and two territories, each of which within a national framework tends to work independently of the other.

The network had two members in Brisbane covering events in Queensland, two members in Northern New South Wales which, along with the Gold Coast area of Southern Queensland is a major population growth area, two members in Sydney, one in Canberra to cover the national capital and surrounding areas, and one member in Melbourne to cover Victoria. Data was sent to a correspondent in South Australia who kept local collectors aware of trends.

There are gaps in the net. Western Australia is covered by the Western Australia Study Group. All members of the network attempt to collate data on the Northern Territory, as there are few stamp clubs in the area.

Tasmania had not been covered, although this island state is postally controlled from Victoria. However, with sufficient feedback, it was been possible to produce, on a weekly basis, one double-sided A4 size sheet of information.

Feedback for refinements

After six months of operation the recipients were surveyed as to whether they felt that the project was worthwhile and what they would like to see implemented in the future. One suggestion was that there be a fixed group of subject headings for major areas of interest, with sub-headings for more detailed areas. Meters became a major heading, whilst the term slogans, used in conjunction with them became a sub-heading – Meters – Slogans.

For 1996 it was decided to give each entry a numeric code in sequential order commencing with 96001. This has enabled replies and feedback to refer directly to an item rather than, as previously, to the week of issue. All items contributed, except those by the co-ordinator, are attributed.

Also at the end of 1995 it was suggested that the combined work thus far be published to make it available to collectors and researchers with similar interests. Originally this was to have been a direct reproduction of the weekly sheets. Discussions with a philatelic publisher in Melbourne early in 1996 resulted in an innovative suggestion. Using current computer technology the whole text could be scanned, using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology as a text file. This project became *Australian Contemporary Philately* which was produced as a 44-page monograph and marketed for A$15.

Data for selection

Major Australian commercial and club journals record specialist data on current stamp issues. Frama machines which are still operational also have their own specialist journals. These areas thus are dealt with mainly in passing in the data sheet, or where the information is not known recorded elsewhere.

The situation in the mid 1990s has seen small changes.

Australia Post started to use commercial printers for postage stamp production in the mid 1970s, and by the early 1980s all Australian postage stamp production was handled by non-governmental printers. The situation in the mid 1990s has seen small changes. The re-introduction of recess engraved stamps saw Note Printing Australia (NPA), previously the Note and Stamp Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, come back into postage stamp production for recess stamps, as they had engravers.

The section in Australia Post handling postage stamps is "Stamps and Philatelics". Initially this section used to deal direct with the printers, but since the mid-

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1990s this area has been handled by Sprintpak, a wholly owned subsidiary of Australia Post dealing specifically with printing and packaging. Sprintpak thus contracts out jobs to the various production houses.

For each new printing Australia Post added a code in pictorial form.

One area in which Australia is in the lead internationally is in self-adhesive stamps. Although the technology was developed by others in the 1960s, its usage was limited. In the late 1980s the then current 41c Cyclist definitive was successfully trialed as a self adhesive roll.

The introduction of the Threatened Species letter rate issue, 45c times six separate designs, saw the development of a range of different forms – perforated sheet stamps, self-adhesive booklets of 10 stamps, self adhesive sheetlets of 5 stamps and self-adhesive rolls of 100 and 200. For each new printing Australia Post added a code in pictorial form, reprints 1 to 4 using a Koala and the 5th repring using a Kangaroo. To add spice to this already complex field, the self adhesive issues were produced by both photo-litography and typography by different printers who also used different styles of luminescence.

Definitive issues have always been the lifeblood of philatelic research and will remain so. One also needs to be aware of technical innovation which may occur in commemorative issues. The use of gold blocking on the 1995 'Thinking of You' issue and the use of holograms on the Opals issue are cases at point.

Watching for neglected areas

One area which is not dealt with comprehensively in most journals is definitive postal stationery, particularly envelopes. All Australian envelopes are produced by Mercury-Walsh of Hobart, Tasmania. Since 1990 definitive envelopes have been of a No Value Indicated type, and are called PPE's (Postage Prepaid Envelopes). Since 1992 under the rear sealing flap there has been a series of code numbers which indicate the printing of an individual envelope.

Definitive issues have always been the life blood of philatelic research.

Australia Post has also introduced customised stationery: a business can apply at its local post office to have its logo printed on envelopes – a minimum quantity of 500 is requied. Australia Post also produces Commemorative PSEs, of which few have been studied recently.

Like South Africa, the Australian postal authorities have developed label printing technologies. This area gets considerable coverage in the data sheets because it is not covered regularly elsewhere. At the time the project started there were four types of label printing technology current. The original label printing machines were called PCCs (Postal Charges Calculators) and where introduced in the mid 1980s. Whilst many of these were replaced by the mid 1990s, some had been given new electronics and called PSUs (Postal Service Units).

In 1990 a second generation machine CSC (Combined Scales Calculators) was introduced and in late 1995, due to legal difficulties most, had their label printing capabilities immobilised. The current Australia Post Label printer is EPOS, a multi-functional machine.

In 1993 Australia Post introduced Counter Printed Stamps (CPS) machines, which used a self-adhesive label onto which a value could be printed. This overcame the difficulty of non-attractive designs. The machines proved to be temperamental and were removed from some states. This lead to the trialing of the French LISA machines in Perth, Western Australian as from May 1996. If successful more of these were to be introduced.

Since its devolution from Telecommunications, Australia Post has been constantly redefining itself, and since 1989 it is a corporation charged with showing an annual profit, rather than being a commission providing a service to the community.

At the shop front level this has meant diversifying the retail side so that the sales and service functions of a post office have now become a Post Shop. For stock control and security purposes special markings have been introduced to mark stock, particularly postal stationery. Each State has developed its own types of markings for this purpose.

Sorting functions generate data

The sorting functions of the Post Office have been centralised in mail centres. (The South African equivalent is Capemail and other regional centres.) Each Australian state has developed its own pattern for mail centres, and major cities can be serviced by more than one of them.

When mail arrives at a centre, it undergoes several processes. The first three – culling, facing and cancelling – is undertaken by one machine called CFC (Culler, Facer, Canceller). Culling sorts the envelopes by size and extracts the larger ones. Facing turns all the envelopes facing the same way. Cancelling is the process of applying a machine postmark. Australia Post uses Toshiba CFCs, the majority of which are models 42, 81 or 85. The main characteristic is that only a postmark is applied to indicate that mail has gone through a machine. Since June 1994 there has been Toshiba TSC 17 RAP CFC introduced which applies an ink jet marking to show the processing centre, the signal strength of the luminescence as well as other details. These markings are collectable and so far have mainly been recorded in the data sheets.

These markings are collectable.

The mail is now ready for sorting to destination postcode. Postal codes were introduced in Australia in 1967 but it was not until 1990 that fully automated mail sorting was introduced. Besides suburban postcodes there are special postcodes for post office box addresses and large volume receivers. Automated mail sorting is carried out by AEG OCR mail sorters. These were originally configured as 40 stacker machines, but have now been expanded to 96 to 120 stacker capacity. Australian OCR mail sorters apply the destination postcode as a bar code and the number of the OCR machine as a separate bar code. Some OCR mail sorters have ink jet printers attached to cancel mail from postboxes or bulk postings.

If the OCR rejects an item it is processed by the Letter Indexing Desk (LID) which applies the bar code manually. If all else fails manual sorting is also available. In fact the Darwin Mail Centre in the Northern Territory, one of the few dependent on manual sorting, has recently redesigned its sorting frames. The information was available only in the Australia Post in-house journal. Also one would not find postal markings associated with this development.

Processes become part of history

It is useful for both the philatelist and the postal historian to understand the processes that are being studied. In collecting stamps this not only includes the stamps themselves, but how a printing works is set out and the technologies that are available. A knowledge of distribution may also be useful to explain why something may have happened. A similar set of criteria can be used by the postal historian who is dealing more directly with the processing and movement of mails. In both cases analogies can be useful, but one should be aware that changes will occur because of local conditions.

If practical, it is important to record what is happening with stamps and postal service as events occur. Some may only be of a short duration, and will not be around a month later. If the "record as it happens" approach is used, it is equally important to update material as new information becomes available. ■

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Existence of 'lost' Cape postcard rarity confirmed by major discovery

AN item of the postal stationery of the Cape of Good Hope which at best was described as "known to exist", and has probably not been seen for many decades, has found its way to the British dealers, Argyll Etkin, who classed it as "not previously recorded" by them.

This is a version of the first post card issued by the Cape of Good Hope on 1 March 1878, locally printed in red by Saul Solomon and Co on a cream board, the duty 1d. However, the specimen which has now come to light shows the entire card printed in black, on a flimsier board than the regularly catalogued officially issued card in red.

This black specimen is used locally within Port Elizabeth, cancelled by the BONC 2, with the sender's private cachet on the reverse. The outer circle of the cachet is a cogwheel, the inner circle serrated, and it reads, in capitals, "Surveyor & D Engineer's Office. / Midland District." The horizontal straight-line date, between upper and lower printers' ornaments is "5 – NOV.90".

It is addressed to G.A. Meyer Esq, Port Elizabeth, and the reverse reads "Found at Lady Frere. P.O." and "Retain this as a great curiosity". It is signed G. Kirby.

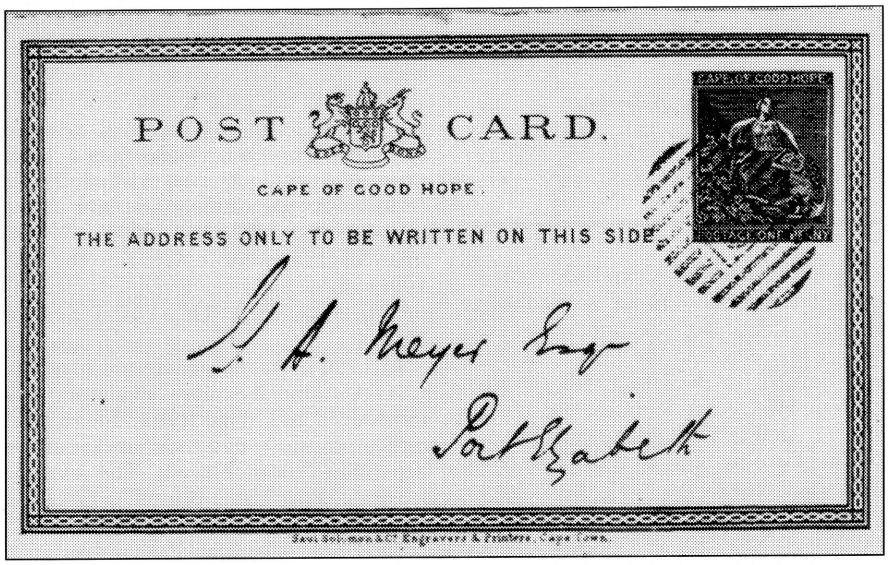
John George Kirby, according to the research undertaken by Argyll Etkin, was surveyor for the Midland District from 1889 to 1897-98, and also postmaster at Port Elizabeth at this time.

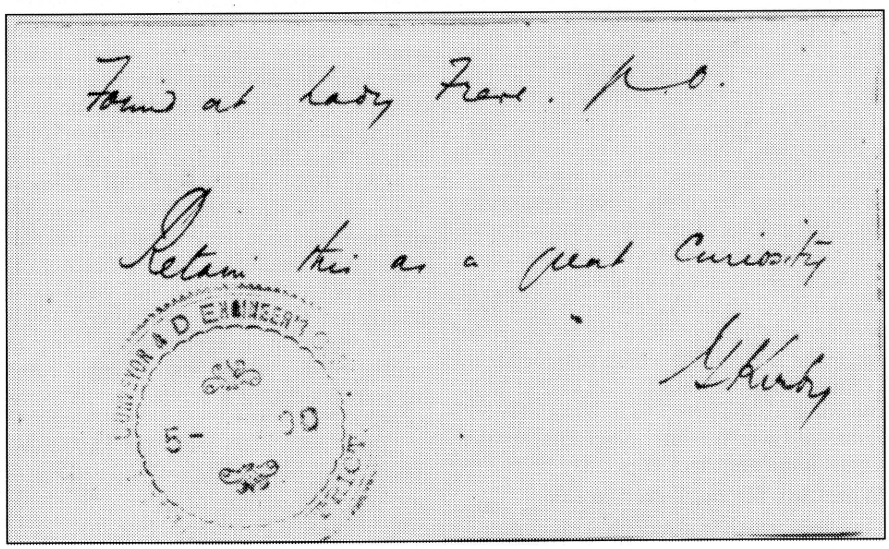
Initially, the black card is quite well documented in philatelic literature. Probably the earliest reference is in *A Catalogue for Collectors of Postage Stamps, stamped Envelopes, Wrappers and Postcards* by Edward B Evans, published by Pemberton, Wilson & Co, London, in 1882. The 1878 1d postcard in red is catalogued on p35. In the Appendix, on p247, under postcards, it appears as: "Date (?) Type, &c., of 1878, but printed in black, probably in error, unless the specimens known are 'proofs' that have been issued to the public unintentionally."

The most extensive treatment is in *The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards. . . of the British Colonies. . . in Africa* (Part I), compiled by R B Yardley under the general editorship of Edward (later sir) Bacon and published by The Philatelic Society, London, (subsequently Royal) in London in 1895.

The postcard in red is described on p61, followed by:

> *Remarks.* – Specimens of this card are known printed in *black*. These are without doubt printers' essays, but from particulars given in Mr E D Bacon's *Preliminary Notes* it seems probable that some of these *black* cards became mixed in with the *red* ones, and were issued without the mistake being discovered.





Bacon's extensive "Preliminary Notes" were a paper read before The Philatelic Society, London, on 1 January 1892, and reprinted from *The London Philatelist* of January, February and March that year, "with some alterations". His particulars in the notes relating to the 1d card in black are given on p43 of "Africa":

> Specimens are known printed in *black*, in place of the *red* of the usual colour of issue. An extract from a correspondent's letter, in *The Philatelic Record* for October 1883, says that the Postmaster-General of the Colony states the black card "is a decided error". I wrote to the Postmaster-General upon this subject, and he replied, under date 12th June 1889, as follows: "I cannot gather from the enquiries which I have made that postcards printed in black were ever issued to the public."
>
> No doubt proofs of the card were taken in black, as usual, before commencing the printing off of an order, and some of these may have got into the hands of persons interested in Philately. The mere fact of one of these "black" cards having passed through the post, as mentioned in the paragraph of *The Philatelic Record* I have alluded to above, does not in any way prove that the card was issued to the public by the Post Office. For instance, many collectors can show specimens of extraordinary anomalies that have passed through the post, without attracting the attention of the officials, our own country being by no means exempt in this respect.
>
> Mr McDonald, the correspondent of *The Philatelic Record*, however states that he found three black specimens in a packet of cards he purchased at the Post Office, so if the black variety was an essay, some of the copies apparently got mixed up with the red cards.

The journal *The Philatelic Record* appeared monthly from February 1897 to December 1914. At the time referred to by Bacon, it was published by Pemberton,

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Wilson & Co, London, the publishers of the Evans catalogue of 1882, which recorded the black card in its appendix. (The Postmaster-General at the Cape to whom Bacon refers is G W Aitchison.)

The card was last listed in Robson Lowe's *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps*, (Volume II, The Empire in Africa), published by Robson Lowe Ltd, London, in 1949.

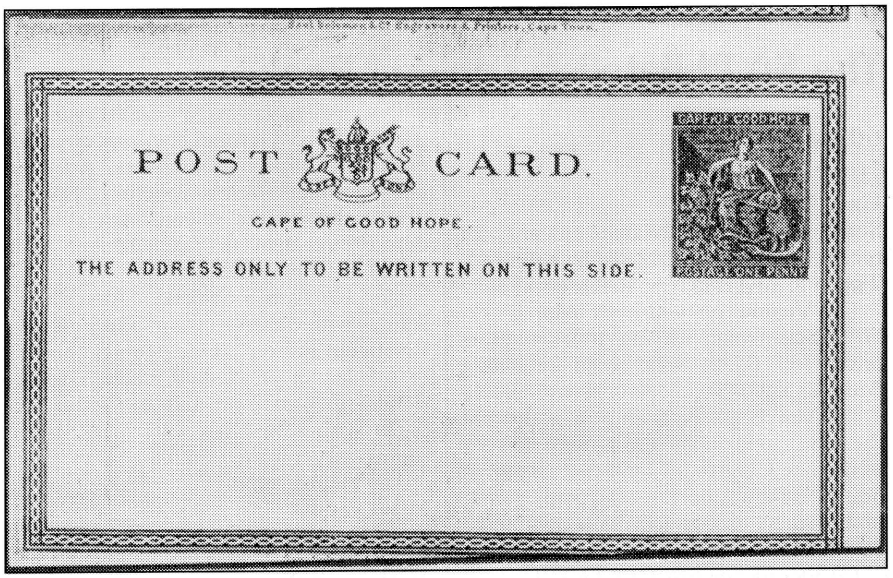
The 1878 1d postcard in red is catalogued on p49, followed by the remark "This is known printed in black, probably essays issued in error".

The black card is not listed in Gibbons' 1897 *Priced Catalogue of Envelopes and Wrappers*, or in its last cataloguing of such material, namely the *Priced Catalogue of the Envelopes, Post Cards and Wrappers of the World* of 1900. Neither is it noted in Dr Siegfried Ascher's *Grosser Ganzsachenkatalog* which appeared in two volumes in 1925-26, in Higgins & Gage (1982), or in *The Postal Stationery of South Africa* Part 1, published this year by the Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (Quik & Jonkers). (See also p85)

Whether Robson Lowe was the only person to see this card this century, as he was the only one to catalogue it, must remain speculation. At the very least he must have been convinced by the rather substantial early documentation.

The card and message illustrated herewith would seem to put the matter beyond doubt. The Port Elizabeth postmaster Kirby, subsequent to Aitchison's enquiries, must have been fully aware that the card "Found at Lady Frere. P.O." was "a great curiosity", and was doing his friend Meyer a favour – philatelic beyond doubt, of course, but that was then a common practice.

One other general circumstance strongly supports the very first description given, namely that by Evans: "the specimens known are 'proofs' that have been issued to the public unintentionally." This is that Saul Solomon & Co's craftsmanship left much to be desired.



For one, the duty on the card is patently not printed from a proper die. The firm had just recently imported a new-fangled stereo (zinc plate-making) machine, and took a short cut. They made a stereo from the 1d Cape rectangular which was then in issue, and the result really looks rather rotten.

Secondly, they chose the wrong board. It was too flimsy for the purpose, the cards were never popular, and of the 10 000 issued, a substantial number were still for sale more than six years later.

Then, any number of the cards issued in red were also very sloppily trimmed, as an example in the accompanying illustration shows.

On several counts the overall performance of Saul Solomon & Co can be characterised as slap-dash, and it is hardly surprising that all subsequent issues of Cape postal stationery were printed by De La Rue.

One must finally postulate that the black card, printed on even flimsier board than the red, was a brief run to make-ready the printing press and perhaps check the imposition of the formes.

That some of these make-ready sheets should carelessly have landed on the wrong pile, and then trimmed to size and made up into packets along with the cards of the correct colour, should surprise noone.

Thus: machine proofs issued in error.
WG

Some blurbs about books for collectors

Literature catalogue: The 1998 *Catalogue of Philatelic Literature* of Edenbridge Philatelic Lit appeared recently. It has 84 ringbound A5 pages, listing (at a rough guess) over 2 000 publications, catalogues and periodicals worldwide. Copies at US$5,00 are available from PO Box 4025, Eden, NC 27289 USA.
(E-mail: edenbrdg@interloc.com).

Gibbons catalogues: September 1998 is the planned publication date for the 1999 SG British Commonwealth "Part 1", as usual now in two volumes. The fourth edition of Part 10, which is Russia, should appear in the same month. Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the 1999 Stamps of the World will appear at monthly intervals from September 1998 onwards. A second edition of Part 15 – Central America – is planned for February 1999. Now available free is the brochure *The Collectors Bookshelf*, subtitled "1998 Reading List", which catalogues over 1 000 current and past titles by other publishers and includes works deemed to be out of print. The address is 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, UK.
(E-mail: shop@stangiblondon.demon.co.uk).

The index to Harry Hayes Philatelic Auction Realizations compiled by Ray Price is now complete. Leonard Hartman already has it on computer disk (US$14,00 to addresses outside the USA). Another new title is *The Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes, Forgeries. . . of U.S.* by Larry Lyons. It is described as a major work for any classic US collector, and two volumes are ready, covering "Ackers to Empire" and "Essex to Putman". Volume 3 is to appear late this year. The price per volume is US$88,50, plus $12,00 postage for both volumes. (E-mail address below.)

Finnish author on forgeries: Hartmann will soon have in stock the *World Forgery Catalogue*, a new work from the Finnish author G Kock. It is a compilation of forgeries listings, mostly of the classic stamps, which are listed by Scott number. "In essence you look up the stamp and it gives the references to the forgery literature" says Hartmann. (It has 90 pages, US $15,00.)

Readers who wish to be kept constantly up-to-date can let him have their e-mail address. He also maintains a website at www.pbbooks.com
(E-mail: pbbooks@ibm.net)

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■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
June 1938

Exit Austria

Some interesting philatelic records of recent events in Austria can be collected. The following might be included:

(1) Vienna postmark of March 12. "Mit Schussnigg für ein freies Oesterreich? Ja!" (With Schussnigg for a free Austria? Yes!)

(2) March 14. Notices posted up that the three (mourning) stamps with portrait of the late Chancellor Dolfuss were invalid, effective at once. Such stamps could, however, be exchanged for others up to 30 March.

(3) Vienna postmark of March 15 – 17. "Der Führer in Wien" (The Leader in Vienna) with a large swastika.

(4) 4 April. German stamps current in Austria. "Combination covers" Austrian and German stamps together. Special postmark with the slogan "Am 10 Apr. dem Führer dein 'Ja' " (On 10 Apr. your "Yes" for the Leader).

(5) 10 April. Special "Anschluss" stamps with the inscription "Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer" (One people, one state, one leader), 6 pf. dark green. Two varieties, the one, printed in Berlin, on paper with a swastika watermark, has a slightly larger format than the other, printed in Vienna, on unwatermarked paper.

News report

30 years ago
June 1968

South Africa – Lesotho

In the March issue of *The SA Philatelist* it was reported that COMAIR (on behalf of Lesotho Airways) and South African Airways had established air mail services from Maseru to Jan Smuts Airport on 2.X.67 and 6.X.67, but that no mail had been carried in the reverse direction.

Both these airlines commenced to fly mail, at very short notice, from South Africa to Lesotho on 26 February and 1 March respectively. Very few items appear to have been flown on these inaugural flights and those seen are on plain covers with the "Comair" rubber stamp impression in purple, and official South African Airways envelopes.

I H C Godfrey

60 years ago
July 1938

Johannesburg Philatelic Library

A step has recently been taken which the (Philatelic) Society (of Johannesburg) hopes will make its library of more service, not only to its own members, but to other philatelists.

The library has been handed over in its entirety to the City's Public Library, where it is being kept as unit in the Reference Department. The magazines (or most of them, at any rate) are being bound, and any philatelic literature already in the Library has been added to the unit.

It will be added to in future through purchase by the Library of books, whilst the Society will continue to hand over the magazines for which they subscribe. The *South African Philatelist* has also handed in its accumulation of books sent for review, and its exchange magazines.

Editorial (excerpt)

30 jaar gelede
Julie 1968

Moeg vir die stortvloed?

Met al die onsekerheid wat die wêreld deesdae teister het die finansiers en kapitaliste vertroue in geld verloor. Goud en diamante is ook nie meer veilig nie. Die gevolg is dat hulle al hoe meer seëlwaarts keer. Vir die posseëlversamelaar het dit ongelukkige en onuithoudbare gevolge meegebring. . .

Net waar hy gaan of draai word hy toegegooi onder 'n stortvloed kleurvolle plaatjies wat nie vir posdeoleindes uitgegee word nie, maar net om die skatkoffers te vul. . .

Nou ja, wat dan? Wat van 'n studieversameling posgeskiedenis, posstempels, krygsfilatelie of iets dergeliks? Weliswaar lyk so 'n versameling uit die aard van die saak nie so netjies en mooi soos 'n versameling van posseëls nie, maar dit verryk die versamelaar se kennis en gee hom baie plesier en voldoening.

Uit eie bodem kan 'n versameling Suid-Afrikaanse posmerke saamgestel word. Daar is reeds 'n aantal versamelaars wat hulle hierop toelê, en 'n nuttige handleiding is beskikbaar. (*Berry se* Routine Handstruck Cancellations *is bedoel.*)

"Iets vir Almal" (uittreksel)

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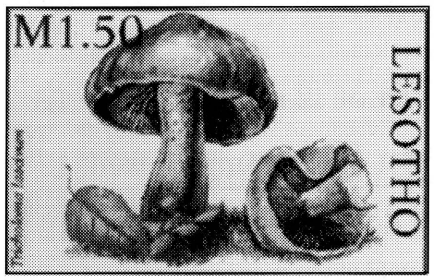
■ **DS. CASSIE CARSTENS** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

ThemAfrica

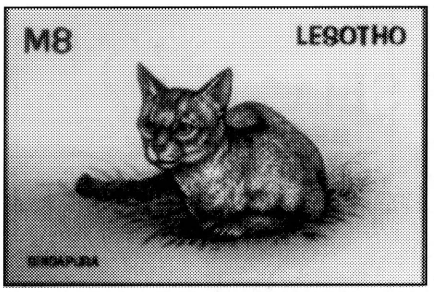
Lesotho raak katools

HIERDIE "former British protectorate situated in Southern Africa" raak nou heeltemal die kluts kwyt met hulle uitgifte. En in dié proses bring hulle groot skade op hulleself én die Britse Statebond.



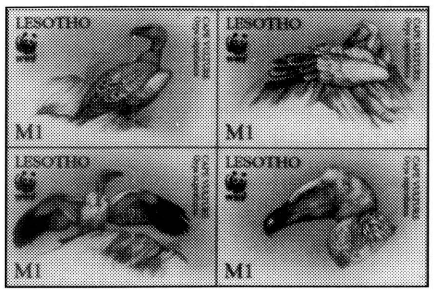
● Die *sampioene* lyk al te fraai, maar waarom die "wêreld" se gifgoeters uitbeeld?

Die volvel met 12 x 1 maloti is ook nog verstaanbaar (want daarmee bevind hulle hul in goeie Suider-Afrikaanse foefiegeselskap), maar is die 2 miniatuurvelle teen R8 stuk regtig nodig, asook die stel van 5 (die waarde is M11,20)? 'n Versamelaar van sampioene moet M39,20 uithaal vir dié hele uitgif – vir 'n kind toetentaal buite sy begroting!



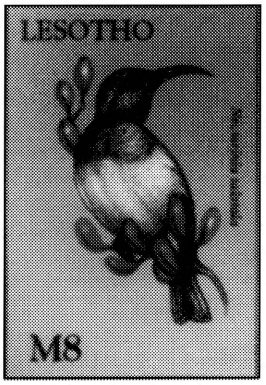
● Die spul *katte* se totale koste beloop M41,70. Ek vra maar uit pure dommigheid: waarvoor gaan die M2-seëls in die volvelle benut word? Vir lugpos? Wat jy waar in Lesotho kry? Hierdie is 'n klinkklare katoolse foefie om net geld uit versamelaars te maak!

Oor die *fauna en flora* (al weer van die hele wêreld. . .) kan mens maar net jou kop skud: volvel van 20 x M1, nog 'n volvel met 9 x M1,50; sowaar vier miniatuurvelle teen R8 elk, en dan 'n se-tenant vel



met 4 x M1 (wat nie eens op die bestelvorm verskyn nie). Totale koste? 'n Massiewe M69,50. En dan wonder 'n mens boonop waar die *flora* is. . .

● Ek kan nie juis saampraat oor die sampioene nie, maar met die fauna het ons darem so 'n ietsie bruikbaar vir die Suider-Afrikaanse *voëlversamelings*. Die Kransaasvoël/Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*: SA 122) op die se-tenant vier is 'n positiewe en bruikbare wins. Die Witpenssuikerbekkie/Whitebellied Sunbird (*Nectarinia talatala*: SA 787) is natuurlik 'n welkome toevoeging tot die Venda uitgif van 1981 (SACC 40: 20c). Maar al daardie ander "wêreld"-voëls?!



Die wilde diere is geen wins nie – al sewe die uitgebeelde *Suider-Afrikaanse soogdiere* het reeds verskeie kere op seëls verskyn. Mens wou amper bly word oor die Noordkaper/Right Whale (*Eubalaena australis*), omdat dit naby-familie van die Suidelike Noordkaper (*Balaena glacialis*) is. Maar die res? Ag, nee wat!

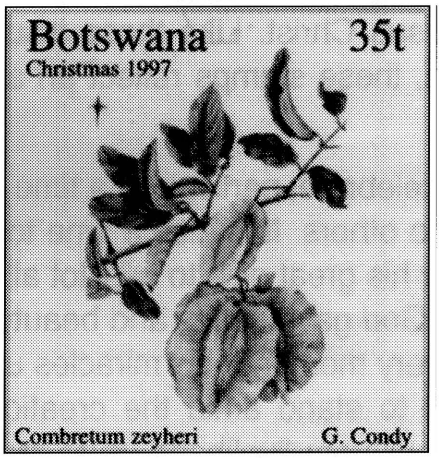
In kort: sies, Lesotho! Julle verdien om op die FIP se swartlys geplaas te word! (En so tussen hakies: *katools* het verskeie hittige betekenisse, maar in hierdie verband dui dit op *verspot* en *gek*).

Botswana Trees

The Combretum stamps are really beautiful, a wonderful Christmas present from Botswana. *Combretaceae* are widely distributed through tropical and sub-tropical countries of the world (some 16 genera, about 200 species). In Southern Africa thee are five genera – the *Combretum* being the largest, with 30 species.

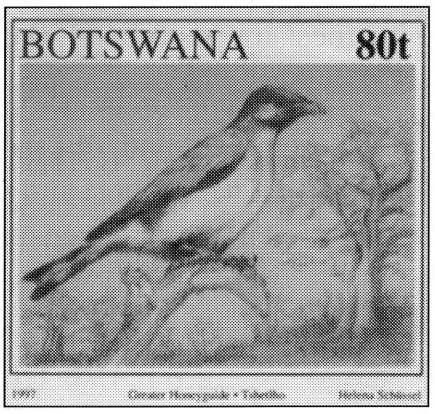
Combretums occur as trees, shrubs and climbers, often dominating the landscape. The trees are best known for their distinctive four-winged seed pods, which hang in pale or russet-brown clusters, sometimes remaining on the branch long after the leaves have fallen.

Depicted on stamps, the Soutern African combretums are actually somewhat scarce. I have listed only two: the *Combretum collinum subsp gazense*: SA 541, which is the Rhodesian Bushwillow/ Rhodesiese Boswilg (Zambia 1981, World Forestry Day, 32n, SG 332) and *C. microphyllum*: SA 545, Flame Creeper/ Vlamklimop (Venda 1984, additional value Definitive – Flowers, SACC 91). Are there any more that I have missed? Please let me know.



● The Botswana Christmas Issue 1997 depicts the *C. zeyheri*: SA 546, 35t (Large-fruited Bushwillow/ Raasblaar), which bears the largest of the combretum fruits; *C. apiculatum subsp apiculatum*: SA 532, P1 (Red Bushwillow/ Rooiboswilg), well known for its valuable fodder and "braaivleishout"; the *C. molle*: SA 537, P2 (Velvet Bushwillow/ Fluweelboswilg); and the largest of the combretums, the *C. imberbe*: SA 539, P2,50 (Leadwood/ Hardekool).

In Namibia and in northwestern Botswana this tree is venerated and called Omumborombonga; it is believed that the earliest ancestors and all animals emerged from a large specimen of this tree growing in southern Ovamboland at the beginning of time.



● Also worth mentioning for tree or botany collectors are the four bird stamps of the new Botswana Definitive Issue, depicting very clearly the following trees: *Adansonia digitata*: SA 467, 80t (Baobab/

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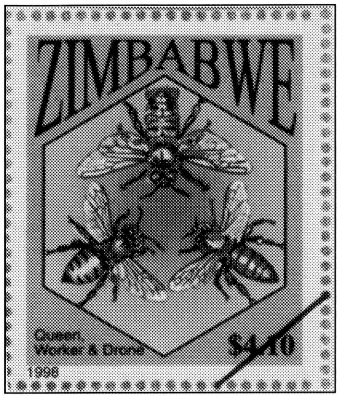
Kremetart); *Acacia erioloba*: SA 168, 50t (Camel Thorn/ Kameeldoring); *Terminalia prunioides*: SA 550, 15t (Lowveld Cluster-leaf/ Sterkbos) and the *Aloe marlothii*: SA 29.5: 25t (Mountain Aloe/ Bergaalwyn).



Swazi Oxtail

I must say: I am willing to trade my whole Transkei collection for oxtail stew, but to wear an oxtail cape around my neck? Aikôna!

● The Swazi Decorations and Costumes are quite fascinating, from the young maiden's woolly breast (50c) to the gentleman's titbits (E2). I suppose the skin of the leopard (*Panthera pardus*: E1) and the tails of the oxen (70c) are on the line for fauna collectors.



Zoembabwe se bye

● Vanaf die werkerby met die pootjies vol stuifmeel tot by die ware jakob op tafel: heuning, kerse, seep, en so meer – hierdie interessante ses zoemzoem-seëls kompleteer die Venda uitgif van 1992 (Bysoorte, SACC 238-241) asook Suidwes-Afrika se Nuttige Insekte van 1987 (SACC 492).

Is daar dalk nog ander Suider-Afrikaanse seëls met bye as tema? Laat weet, asseblief!

Some other topics

In the January-February 1998 issue of *Topical Time* (#287), journal of the American Topical Association, the following articles catch the eye:

"The Circumnavigation" (Three men who changed the world, Ferdinand Magellan, Francis Drake and James Cook). It reminds one of the Ciskei 1993 stamps (SACC 228-232), depicting the three gentlemen, but also Vasco da Gama and Abel Tasman.

"World Organization of Meteorology".

"Cyclamens on stamps" – did you know there are less than 30 stamps in the world depicting cyclamens?

"Thornton Wilder" (American novelist and playwright).

Tongknopers?

Nee, eerder die lekkerste Afrikaans as dit by *vlinders* kom: Bergsandmannetjie, Grasveldwitjie, Vaalkortstertjie, Swartbontrooitjie. Dis maar net 'n paar van Lesotho se November 1997-uitgif.

● Dit kos natuurlik 'n plaas se geld om dié 9 x M1,50 seëls en 2 x M8 miniatuurvelle aan te koop (R29,90), maar dis tog die moeite werd: ek kon persoonlik ten minste ses by my boomversameling as lar-

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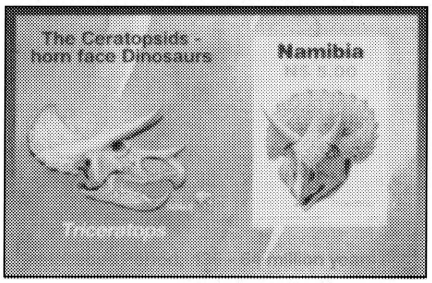
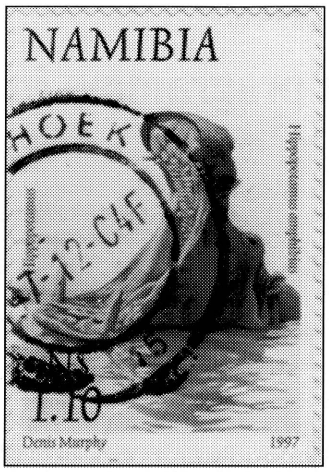
vale gasheerplante inpas.

Namibië se treffers

Dit lyk my ons bure is ietwat in die sop oor hulle Chiniese konneksies, maar feit bly: hulle gewone binnelandse seëls is filateliese treffers!







● Daardie klomp kleurryke tarentale – veral die ene in die bed!

● Die Driehoring-oerdier (MV N$5) – Triceratops bly "tops"!

● Die oopbek Seekoei (*Hippopotamus amphibius)* – dis my persoonlike gunsteling in die nuwe vaste reeks.

En die bome, die bome, die bome – ongelooflik mooi! Doe zoo voort!

Groente en 'n windpomp

Wie het vir ons 'n kontrolelys van Pampoene, Wortels, Mielies en Windpompe?

● Sien die onlangse "Spaar Water" reeks van die RSA.

Ek weet van slegs twee ander *windpompe* op die volgende Suider-Afrikaanse seëls: Transkei 1979: Water Resources, SACC 54, 4c; en Namibia 1993, Simmenthaler Cattle, SACC 74, 20c



Is daar nog? En wat van die pampoene en geelwortels?

Mielies is daar seker baie, né? ■

(Redakteursnota: Daar is bedenkinge geopper dat die titel van hierdie rubriek misleidend sou wees, omdat dit nie temaversameling aanspreek soos die FIP en nasionale juries dit verwag nie.

Uit die inhoud van die rubriek behoort dit egter vanselfsprekend te wees dat dit bedoel is om inligting te bied vir onderwerp- eerder as tematiese versameling.

Wat laasgenoemde dan betref: die FIP (SREV, Art. 3) sê "A thematic exhibit uses all types of related appropriate philatelic material". Martin East skryf, in sy artikel in The SA Philatelist, *Februarie 1996, p10 onder meer, "In essence, a thematic exhibit is a pictorial essay – the portrayal of a subject through postal elements".)*

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■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

The 1998 postal slogan programme in review

THE slogan programme is again as extensive as it was last year and it contains several that are repetitions. In all, there will be 40 slogans in use this year.
The programme is:
16-22 February: Postage-paid envelopes are for sale at all post offices
23 February-1 March: Bank with Postbank
2-8 March: Speed up your Postal deliveries with Fastmail
9-15 March: Use a Remote-meter setting franking machine for bulk mail
16-22 March: Support charity - Use donation coupons
16-29 March: Visit the Post Office at the Rand Easter Show (Witspos only)
23-29 March: Speed Services Couriers International. Door delivery to more than 200 countries
30 March-12 April: Are you aware of the new Postal rates?
13-19 April: Need to pay? Use Pay a Bill or Postal Orders
20-26 April: Use the registered letter services for your valuable letters. Enquiries toll-free 0800 111 502
27 April-3 May: Let's fight crime together and make it a peaceful country for all
4-10 May: Remember Mom by sending a Mother's Day card
11-17 May: Use Parcelplus for excellent parcel distribution
18-24 May: This space is available for advertising. Call your local sales representatives
25-31 May: Post mail early in the day
1-7 June: Remember Dad by sending him a Father's Day card
8-14 June: Are you using the correct postcode?
15-28 June: Use signature on Delivery for important letters or documents. Enquiries toll-free 0800 111 502
29 June-5 July: Watch your money as it grows in Postbank
6-12 July: The South African Post Office – We're working for you
13-19 July: Speed Services Couriers: Delivery from Monday to Friday
20-26 July: Faxmail: Making it easy for you
27 July-2 August: South African Post Office Internet website – http://www.-sapo.co.za
3-23 August: Postage-paid envelopes are for sale at all post offices
24 August-6 September: Insufficient postage will delay the delivery of mail
7-13 September: Postbank 0800 535 455 toll-free
14-20 September: Need to send money? Use postal orders
21 September-4 October: Always furnish a return address on your mail item
5-11 October: Speed Services Couriers 0800 023 133 toll-free
12-18 October: South African Post Codes now on the Internet – http://www.-sapo.co.za
19-25 October: Post International Christmas mail early
26 October-8 November: Post early in the day
9-15 November: Moving? Change of address? Have you notified your post office?
16-22 November: Speed Services Couriers: Choice is freedom
23 November-20 December: Post Christmas mail early
7-13 December: Customer Services 0800 1144 88
14-20 December: South African Post Office crime buster toll-free hotline 08000 33554
21 December 1998-3 January 1999: The South African Post Office wishes you a happy festive season

The following slogan is run permanently on one of the machines at Witspos only: "South African Post Office crime buster toll-free hotline 08000 33554".

The Post Office has indicated that the programme could be changed during the year to update developments or to provide for unforeseen events. ■

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News and Notes/Aktualiteit

Gibbons has been bought by mail order house

IN a £13,5 deal Flying Flowers Limited (FFL) has acquired Stanley Gibbons, which came under new ownership in May 1998.

FFL is a mail order horticultural specialist based in Jersey, and floated on the London stock market in 1993. It also owns the FDC producers Benham.

Walter Goldsmith, the FFL chairman, said: "The Stanley Gibbons business fits our previously stated acquisition criteria, namely market leading brands in profitable niche markets in the mail order sector with organic growth opportunities."

Stanley Gibbons viewed the acquisition as "a very positive development", which will provide the stamp and catalogue firm "with additional database and direct marketing skills which will allow it to develop further to the benefit of the group and to the hobby as a whole".

International Stamp & Exhibition News



Denemarke kies Seël van die Jaar

SOOS gebruiklik het die Deense posowerheid versamelaars genooi om te stem vir watter van hul seëls die afgelope jaar (1997) vir hulle die mooiste was. Nie minder nie as 18 392 stemme is getel, waarvan 3 162 die wenner aangewys het: J F Willumsen se *Vroulike Bergklimmer* (1912) in 'n reeks skilderye deur inheemse kunstenaars.

Tweede was die dubbele fotoportret van koningin Margrethe en kroonprins Frederik, en derde weer 'n skildery, die keer Vilhelm Hammershoi se *Stof wat Dans in die Son* (1900).

Post Danmark

Young airman on WWII stamp dies at 77



COMMANDANT Robert ("Bob") Harold Carlisle Robert Kershaw, DSO, DFC and bar, died at Knysna on 6 May 1998, at the age of 77. First decorated when he was 19, he was later shot down over Italy and marched over the Alps to a POW camp in Germany.

It is the young Bob Kershaw whom South African stamp collectors know from the large as well as the Bantam World War II issues. He is the airman depicted on the 1 ½d stamp which appeared on 12 January 1942.

The portrait was by the war artist Neville Lewis. Kershaw is believed to be the last of the people depicted on that series who was still alive this year.

The others were Barbara Robey Palmer (later Friedländer) the nurse on the 1d stamp, Clive Edward Peter, the sailor (2d) and Elizabeth ("Iza") Liebenberg (later Taylor, the signals sub-lieutenant on the 3d value. (See *The SA Philatelist*, November 1989, p266).

All those who attended the Palmares banquet at Elpex in East London on 10 August 1985 will remember his modest and gripping speech as guest of honour – the Lewis portrait displayed behind him.

He recalled the wartime exploit (saving his CO in a dramatic rescue when the latter was forced down on an enemy airfield) which made him the first South African in World War II to be awarded a DSO. In particular, he expanded on how meaningful this experience and the camaraderie of war proved in later life.

After his retirement from the SA Air Force he was called by the SAAF Chief, General Bob Rogers (now also living at Knysna), to establish and head the Light Aircraft Command, a civilian unit. Kershaw was in command of this unit for four years.

Bob Kershaw is survived by his wife Mrs R H C Kershaw, two daughters and a son, five grandchildren and a great-grandchild, to whom *The SA Philatelist* extends its sincere sympathy.

Stamp use gains in Norway

COLOURFUL definitives, the introduction of self-adhesive stamps and a gradual change in stamp issuing policy, placing more emphasis on more modern subjects, are probably the reasons behind the increase in the share of stamp-franked mail in 1997, says the Norwegian Post Office.

Over the past ten years, more and more mail was cancelled by machine. Medium-sized and small companies and organisations followed the example of big institutions by using franking machines. Collectors' sources were drying up, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to find well-cancelled stamps.

However, figures for 1997 showed an upswing. The share of mail franked with stamps rose from 13,7 to 13,9 per cent.

The choice of flowers for the definitives was probably one of the reasons for this turnabout, the Post Office thinks. Along with the choice of other, more modern stamp subjects, this has resulted in the wish to use stamps as part of the communication message.

The issue of self-adhesive stamps was also very well received and undoubtedly also played a part. (See page 71.)

Frimerkeposten 2/98

Stamp market holds up

THE Welz sale of 25 March 1998, an afternoon and evening affair of only 545 lots, proved once again that superior material holds an unassailed position in the marketplace. The total realisation was R1 575 941,50 – including a spectacular surprise.

This was Lot 322, a 2d carmine mint bottom marginal pair of the KG VI 1938-44 Nyasaland Definitives, variety "imperf. on bottom margin" (SG 133a). The estimate had been R6 000 to R8 000, and by the time the hammer fell, the successful bidder had paid R57 200.



Major surprise at R57 200

Seven more items sold at above R20 000, and quite a few came close to that. Among them are: Lot 24, a worldwide used accumulation in 25 albums and stock books, covering more or less 1890 to 1985 (R20 900); a modern error, namely the 13c Avocet in the 1966-73 Australian Decimal Definitives with

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A star item from Stellaland

grey completely missing, in a bottom left marginal sheet block of ten (Lot 152, R24 200) and Lots 410 and 411, essays for the 1/3 and 5/- values of the 1960 Kariba issue of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, which fetched R22 000 and R23 100 respectively.

A star item was Lot 160, an 1884 Stellaland combination cover to Kimberley, which outstripped the upper estimate of R40 000 by realising R49 500.

Lot 526 was a 1938 quitrent receipt bearing the extremely scarce KG VI 7/6 revenue duty of Southern Rhodesia, one of only three such documents known to the auctioneers. This one realised R33 000, as opposed to the previous one sold ex Norman C Mewett by Welz on 23 October 1996 for R39 600. (See *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996 p165 and December 1996 p189.)

Catalogue and realisations

Dianas are identified

THAT Britain finally issued its Diana stamps on 3 February 1998 is by now stale news. What may be useful to collectors are the design details.

The whole set was designed by Barry Robinson, Royal Mail's design director, shortly after her death, each stamp with a purple border as a mark of respect. The photographs were taken by, from left to right:

- Lord Snowden, for the Christie's catalogue of the auction of her gowns in May 1997,
- John Stillwell, when she visited the British Lung Foundation in April 1997,
- Lord Snowden, on the eve of an official visit to Pakistan in 1981,
- Tim Graham, at the National Institute of Conductive Education in Birmingham in 1995, and
- Terence Donovan, in 1987.

Some 120 million of the 26p stamps were printed in photogravure in September 1997 by the firm then still known as Harrison's, with its imprint on the selvedge.

Thus far no news of a rumoured reprint has been received. Harrison's have since been taken over by De La Rue Security Printers. Should there be a reprint, there could be a different selvedge imprint.

***The Philatelic Exporter* Feb. 1998**

Herman Herst bows out

THE often quoted American philatelic institution, Herman Herst, a prolific author of 16 books, thousands of articles, and doyen of the stamp trade in his own country, has been forced to end his writing by Parkinson's disease, which struck in 1987.

He was also an occasional contributor to *The SA Philatelist*, and his presence will be missed.

Herst began his business in the fabled Nassau Street in New York on 16 September 1934. His first auction in 1935 brought in $700, when it cost him 1c to mail the catalogue, and 15c each to have it printed. (See also *The SA Philatelist*, March 1989, p61.)

Personal communication

Forgeries are of interest

AT the Harmers of London sale of 27 and 28 January 1998, which realised a total of £760 338 for the just over 2 000 lots on offer, there were several items of interest in Southern Africa.

For example Lot 1262, a selection of 49 Griqualand West used and mint stamps, including forged overprints, was estimated at £75 and "necessarily offered 'as is' ". None the less, the realisation was £134.

A large format Mafeking Baden-Powell 3d pale blue with margins (lower right corner) in very fine condition realised £3 353 as against an estimate of £2 500.

Double Head collectors must have had a field day, with no less than 174 lots on offer. Lot 1778 was the star item: a 7/6 carmine and pale blue (position 2, long gash on ear) was estimated at £500 and ended realising £1 676.

A Union collection of miscellaneous stamps and covers, from 1910 to 1954 (Lot 1920), including some air covers and JIPEX material, was estimated at £650 and realised £615. Progressive colour trials of the SWA 1964 Opening of the Legislature 3c (three speciemens) and 1965 Windhoek Anniversary 3c (two specimens) beat the estimate of £500 by £59.

Catalogue and realisations



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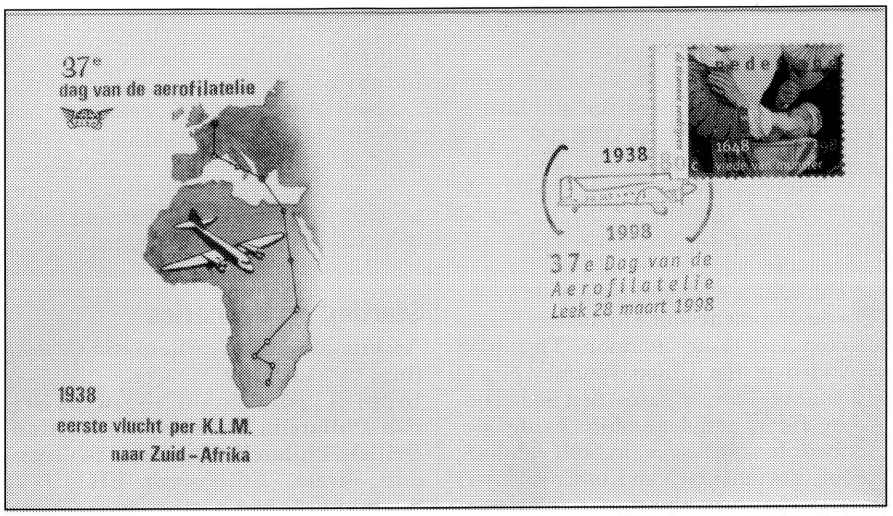
Nuwe tariewe laat die wenkbroue lig

OOR die nuwe standaardtarief van R1,10 vir briewe is weinig weens die verhoging gehoor, maar wat verbaas het, is dat feitlik niks hieroor en ander tariewe bekend gemaak is nie.

Daar was wel 'n inkstraalrojering wat gevra het "Are you aware of the new postal rates?", en dit was byvoorbeeld op 9 April 1998. Uit die redakteur se eie ervaring is geen bekendmaking, soos gebruiklik, aan die pers gestuur nie. Op 14 April sou die nuwe tariewe amptelik wees.

Op daardie tydstip het die hoofposkantoor in Kaapstad se personeel om 'n vuurwarm fotostaatmasjien gespook om kopieë te maak van 'n interne inligtingstuk om die honderde navrae by die toonbanke te bevredig. Die amptelike blaadjie het meer as 'n week later eers sy verskyning gemaak.

Op 22 April 1998 het Frank van Rensburg die redakteur per brief ingelig oor die ongenadig hoë kommissies op die nuwe "oop waarde" posorders. Vir die eerste R50 is dit R8, plus R1 vir die volgende R50, en nog R3 vir die R50 daarna. Dit beteken R12 kommissie op R149,99, 'n volle 8 persent.

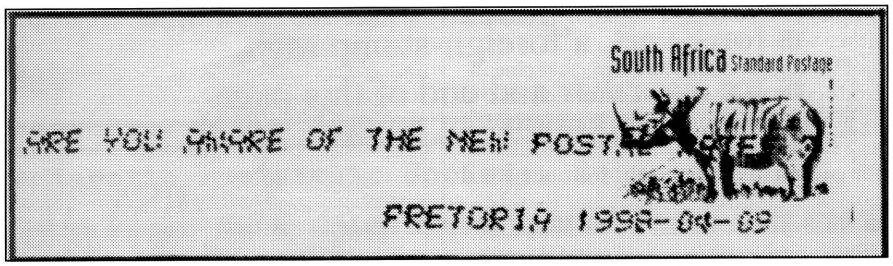


Die Nederlandse aerofilateliese omslag van 28 Maart 1998 om die eerste KLM vlug na Suid-Afrika in 1938 te gedenk, waaroor *The SA Philatelist* in April 1998, p 36, berig het.

Op die boonste trap by R249,99 is dit 6 persent, op die trap van R499,99 is dit 3,6 persent, en van R500 tot R999,99 geld R22, oftewel 2,2 persent, bereken op die boonste trap. Bereken op R500, is dit 4,4 persent.

'n Kaapse dagblad, die *Cape Argus*, het op 30 April 1998 berig dat die tariewe die volgende dag in werking sou tree, maar dat die poskantoor nog geen aankondiging daaroor gedoen het nie.

Die koerant het uitgewys dat dit juis die armer deel van die bevolking is, diegene wat oor geen ander geriewe beskik vir die oorplasing van geld nie, wat die swaarste getref sou word.



Auctions at Phillips

FUTURE auction dates set by Phillips in London are 4 June 1998 for Specialised Great Britain, 18 June for British Commonwealth and 25 June for Postage Stamps and Covers of the World, with a similar auction on 30 July.

This is followed by auctions of Great Britain, World and Commonwealth on 10, 17 and 24 September 1998.

Auction brochure

■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

First comprehensive catalogue of the postal stationery of South Africa is here

De Postwaardestukken van Zuid-Afrika; W J Quik and Dr G Jonkers. Part 1: 158 pp; Part 2: 200 pp, ill., published by Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (1998), order from Filatelic Phriends, PO Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872, R150,00 per volume.

PERHAPS for those who collect postal stationery it is all to the good that it is commonly rated as "back-of-the-book" material. Little interest, and even less competition, make for a blissfully uneventful and highly satisfying life. These two volumes are, however, probably set to change this scene.

The text is in Dutch and in English. Volume 1 deals with the postal stationery issued in South Africa by the pre-Union territories of the Cape, Natal, New Republic, Orange Free State, Transvaal and Zululand. This was compiled by both authors mentioned above. Volume 2, which takes South Africa – that is Union and Republic – from 1910 to 1977, is the work of Quick alone.

It is an effort which has not been attempted previously, and must be described as a pioneering work, particularly as it goes beyond a mere listing and tentative pricing of known items.

It would have been easy enough to pick out the relevant bits and pieces of previous catalogues and systematically string them together, and this is patently where an effort like this begins. But then follows critical review of the listings and, above all, cross-referencing and evaluating differences, and the consultation of other sources for final consolidation.

Referencing has been quite generous. A monograph (Chilton, *The Pictorial Stationery Cards of the Union of South Africa*, a supplement to *The SA Philatelist*, January/February 1992), the newsletter of the Southern Africa Postcard Research Group, various auction catalogues and numerous issues of *The SA Philatelist* are cited.

The result is a modicum of historical information and background comment that goes well beyond the check list stage, and simply whets the appetite for more. Or better still, should stimulate further on-going research.

For example, the comment about post-Union use of prior issues: "In this period there was at times a shortage of some items of postal stationery. They were re-

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printed in Pretoria, also sometimes by De La Rue." Ha! Which items? How many? Where? By whom? When?

Interestingly enough, Volume 1 includes the cards issued by the administrations of the Cape, Natal, OFS and Transvaal which were "printed to private order" with illustrations on the reverse. In purist terms, they do not belong, but in collecting terms, they are highly desireable, growing more so by the day.

The editors have also been wide awake to a development which to this day has attracted next to no attention. They have included in the Union volume (No 2) Change of Address Cards, first issued only in 1985, and heretofore hardly described. In some cases, in both volumes, proof, documentary and other ancillary material has been shown.

Pricing (an entirely separate list in A5 format accompanies the volumes) is a fair attempt at reflecting the market, particularly where mint material is concerned. Used material is notoriously difficult to gauge: While one collector will give his eye teeth for a proving BONC, another would value the same card for its made-up rate or the route it took.

For both the specialist and the collector who has now been awakened to the possible interest to be found in postal stationery, these two volumes present ready-made frames of reference. They are as up to date as can be, both in terms of issues and in the basic research status, and it merely remains to choose among them in terms of country and type.

The choice is wide: post cards, of course, and letter cards, and aerogrammes are perhaps best known. Registered envelopes, pre-paid envelopes and newspaper wrappers are further fields. All of them offer intricate possibilities of specialisation, ranging from the obvious to the obscure.

South African postal stationery has, with this publication, shed its glass slippers of Cinderelladom. There should now be any number of princes coming forward to present a well deserved crown to whichever princess is chosen.

Starting on thematics

An introduction to Thematic Collecting; by Margaret Morris.
16 pp, ill., publication No 5 of the British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, Scotland, £2,95.

THIS well illustrated brochure in full colour is a solid, rock-bottom basic introduction to its subject. However, it is well thought out, and through its lay-out and careful attention to the choice of material shown, proves to be rather stimulating.

Margaret Morris, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London, has an approachable, friendly and down-to-earth style. While her own thematic collecting (Astronomy, and Captain Cook, for example) is clearly at a superior level, she never writes down.

The suggestion, therefore, that this introduction will be found extremely useful at junior level is not in the least intended as a slight – this is an excellent foundation for getting the basics right from the word go.

● No 3 in this series, *Burns Bicentenary 1996*, and No 4, *British Victorian Stamps*, both by James Mackay, are still available. (See *The SA Philatelist*, April 1998, p50 for a review of the latter.)

Crocker lists OFS: The Montagu dealer David Crocker has previously listed Southern African material in various stock catalogues, all of which were sufficiently extensive to be up-to-date references. His *Orange Free State* Price List, 48 pages in A5 format, is no exception, and can be obtained from him at PO Box 294, Montagu 6720 (☎ 0234 4-1424).

Articles assembled: Tom Wilson, a retired pharmacist who is no stranger to the readers of *The SA Philatelist*, has assembled 25 articles about *Health and Medecine on Stamps* which have appeared from his pen in various philatelic magazines over the past decade. Subjects are as diverse as malaria, nursing, and celebrities in medecine. The A4 publication of 117 pages, with numerous black/white illustrations, is indexed and comb bound. It can be ordered from him at £12,00 – which includes postage – at 162 Canterbury Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 9QD, England.

Update on South African Coils: The redoubtable R D Allen has gathered further information from several sources to update his previous work on the coil and roll stamps of South Africa (Union and Republic). The 24 A4 pages, illustrated and comb bound, are available at £3,00 plus postage from the author at 82c Hackford Road, London SW9 0RG. (Payment can be made in SA rand – enquire from the author.)

Op die velrand/In the margin



Sapda miniatuurvel is kolle se tier

DIE Sapda 98 Seëlskou – wat van 1 tot 3 Mei 1998 in Rosebank, Johannesburg gehou is, het ook op 1 Mei 'n miniatuurvel meegebring.

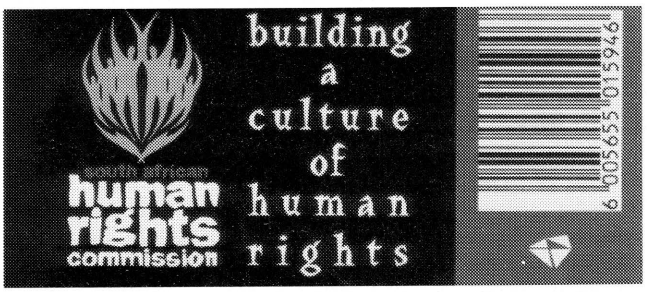
Die sigwaarde is R5, 00, en dit word verkoop ten bate van georganiseerde filatelie in Suid-Afrika.

Dit beeld 'n luiperd (*Panthera pardus*) uit, en is deur Jack Swanepoel ontwerp.

Die luiperd is 'n alleenlopende, nagtelike roofdier wat dig beboste rivieroewers, gebroke landskap, klipheuwels of bergagtige gebiede verkies, maar is baie aanpasbaar en word selfs in woestyngebiede aangetref.

Soos bekend is dit die Chinese jaar van die Tier, en moontlik is die Chinese inskripsie bedoel om daarby aan te sluit. (Luiperds het kolle pleks van strepe, en tel ook nie onder die tiersoorte nie – al praat die Afrikaanse volksmond van 'n luiperd as 'n tier of tierkat.)

Dit is nie bekend wat die Chinese inskripsie op die miniatuurvel sê nie.



The standard inland postage rate Rhino has appeared in a booklet with a new inscription, reading "Building a culture of human rights".

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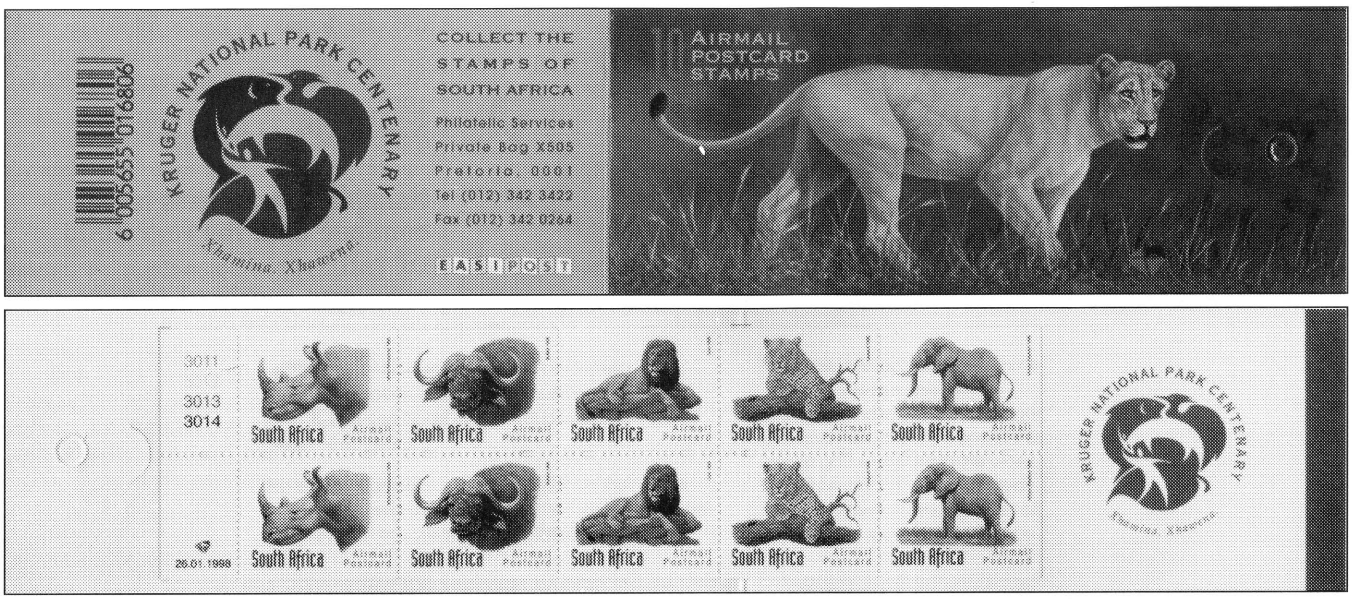
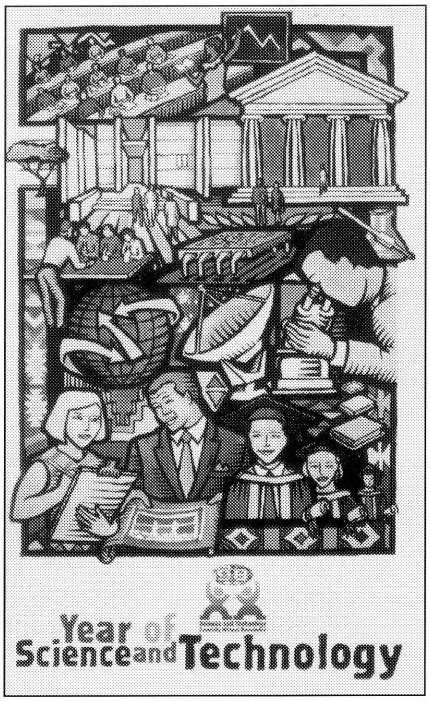


Die voor- en agterkant van die Groot Vyf seëlboekie wat ter geleentheid van die Eeufees van die Kruger Nasionale Wildtuin verskyn het. Ook die binnekant, met die seëls teen die standaard internasionale lugpostarief vir poskaarte, word getoon.



The Masakhane inland postcard

News from Namibia

Issuing programmes for 1998 and 1999

NAMIBIA Post has announced two additions to its issuing programme for 1998. (This was published in *The SA Philatelist* of February 1998, p23.)

The additions are:

23 October 1998

Whales, a joint issue with South Africa and Norfolk Island for the Ilsapex 98 and Italia 98 international exhibitions. These will be in minisheets, joining the Black Rhino minisheet already planned for Ilsapex 98, which is to be issued on 20 October. An omnibus of three minisheets will be available.

3 November 1998

Christmas, an issue of four stamps, a minisheet and an FDC. The issuing post office will be Ausspannplatz.

The provisional programme for 1999 was also announced. It is:

Namibian ocean resources
Namibian wetlands
Namibian head-dresses
Fun stamps for children
Namibian Falcons
Gliders at Bitterwasser
Orchids in Namibia
Map of our country Namibia
Christmas
First Herero woman teacher
Namibian Hare minisheet
Special message booklet

The collection will consist of one booklet, one official minisheet and ten other stamp issues, totalling not more than 35 stamps.

News release

Details of Namibia's Diana minisheet

THIS is termed the second minisheet of the Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme. The following details were made available:

The minisheet, issued on 31 March 1998, consists of four stamps and depicts Princess Diana while campaigning in Angola against the devastating effect landmines have on the people in southern Africa. It forms part of an omnibus co-ordinated by Crown Agents Stamp Bureau in England on behalf of 22 postal administrations.

All the stamps were approved by Her Majesty The Queen. The designs, copyrights and style have been sanctioned by The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.

Each country has chosen four different photographs for its minisheet, but the main layout and colour will be the same for all countries. The Namibian minisheet also has the words "Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme".

It was designed by Derek Miller of the United Kingdom, ensuring a continuity in design which will make the omnibus a sought after collector's item. Major promotions have been organised for these minisheets in the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong



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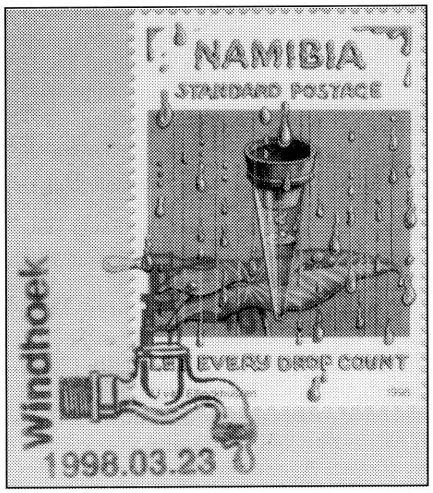


and the rest of Europe.

A commemorative envelope depicting the rose named after Diana, Princess of Wales will also be issued.

Surcharged amounts on international sales made through the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau will be donated to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. Namibia Post Philatelic Services will donate N$1,00 per sheet to local charities from its own sales in Namibian post offices. The sheet costs N$4,00 and the stamps are valid for postage.

The five stamps issued by Royal Mail of the United Kingdom will also be available at Windhoek Philatelic Services.

News release

Some Namibia issues illustrated

ONE stamp to carry the message of Water Awareness was issued on 1 April 1998, and an attractive Owls booklet appeared on 14 May 1998. The values in the booklet are a 55c stamp, and two each at N$1, 50 and N$1,90.

Four stamps, a miniature sheet and a souvenir cover of shells is timed to appear on 18 June 1998 to coincide with Expo 98 (Portugal). The designer is Mary Jane Volkman.

The shells are *Patella granatina* (standard postage rate), *Cymatium cutaceum africanum* (N$1,10), *Conus mozambicus* (N$1,50) and *Venus verrucosa* (N$6,00).

The self-adhesive rosy-faced lovebird at the standard rate has also appeared.

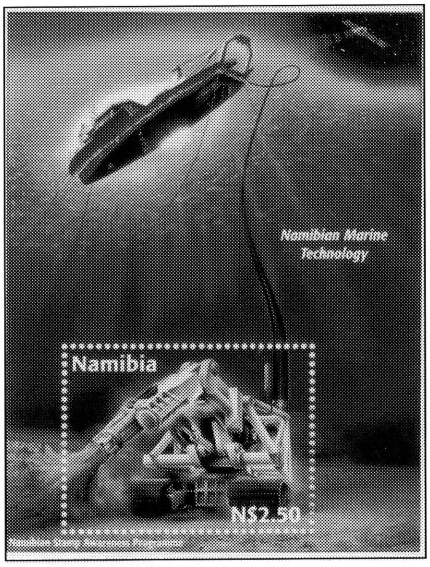
In the Namibian Awareness programme (see below) a single minisheet with one N$2,50 stamp depicting Namibian Marine Technology appeared on 18 May 1998.

Namibia Post Limited



Namibia's awareness issues continue until the year 2000

DETAILS of Namibian stamp awareness issues were introduced with the statement: "A national and international Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme was launched at the end of 1997 and will last till the year 2000! The aim of this programme is to market Namibian stamps within the country itself as well as the international philatelic markets".



The rest of the programme for 1998 is:

31 March 1998

A tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales (see report above).

18 May 1998

Namibian Marine Technology
(see report and illustration above).

5 June 1998

Frank & Cheetah

Single minisheet with two stamps. Total value of sheet N$5,00. The subject is an award winning photograph of silver medallist 100 and 200m athlete Frank Frederick sprinting with Chinga the Cheetah on the Africat Foundation farm in Namibia to see who is the fastest.

15 June 1998

Soccer World Cup

Single minisheet with one stamp. Total value: N$5,00. Though Namibia is not participating in the World Cup in France, soccer as a sport and the World Cup event are extremely popular among the majority of the population in Namibia.

Two more minisheets are currently being planned with Nampost's agent in Germany.

(Editor's note: *It is possible that this refers to two undated and undescribed subjects on the*

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summarised issue schedule, after June 1998, given only as "Ubena ship" and "Tiegerentin & Namibian character".)

The announcement concludes with the following: "The Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme includes various programmes aimed at the local Namibian public. Recent issues such as the Special Messages stamp booklets and the new designs of the full sheets are but two examples of our new approach.

"A youth team has already started with slide shows at schools all over Namibia to get the youth interested. More activities are being planned for them for this year such as workshops, stamp fairs and stamp exhibition competitions.

"Please note that all themes are chosen after careful market reseach in co-operation with our national and international philatelic agents and dealers. The aim is to create an awareness, to promote and to expand our current philatelic borders with a unique series of minisheets and of course of commemorative and definitive stamps!"

News release

Namibia wishes to clarify the Shanghai minisheets

DETAILS across a broad front about what are now termed the Shanghai minisheets were first published in *The SA Philatelist* in April 1998, pp 52 to 54, referred to as the "Chinese issues". Namibia Post Limited has since issued the following statement:

We have recently come unter attack from the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa regarding our first minisheet issue of our three-year Namibian Stamp Awareness project.

The first of this series of minisheets, aimed at promoting our name and products at the Shanghai exibition in China in November 1997, has been severely criticised by them, with incorrect allegations.

Background information

Namibia Post attended an international philatelic exhibition in Shanghai, China in October 1997. A special set of twelve minisheets was printed for this purpose with the aim of promoting Namibian stamps on the Chinese philatelic market. This special issue commemorates historical and Current Chinese events and themes on Namibian stamps in a minisheet form.

The manager of the Philatelic Services, Margaret de Bruyn, personally attended the exhibition in China where she represented Namibia Post together with the NamPost Chinese agency's personnel. The aim of promoting Namibian stamps at this exhibition was highly successful and the colourful minisheets were very popular.

Namibia Post Philatelic Services has since been visited by the regional representative of the UPU, and the programme and minisheets were highly praised and Namibia cleared of any allegations regarding the breaking of UPU regulations.

The Chinese stamp agent acted with our full co-operation, and the Manager, Philatelic Services was personally present at the Shanghai exhibition supervising the promotion and sales. The Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme was fully approved of by the Namibia Post Board of Directors. The stamps are freely available at counters in Namibia. The tariffs are also valid postage rates within Namibia.

Collectors should remember that this was a once-off project aimed at reaching into the Chinese market. The issue was highly successful and has proved to be much more successful than all the previous minisheets issued for international exhibitions such as the Capex Lynx, the Hong Kong Sanga Ox and the Singapore Warthog.

In reply to the allegations by the Philatelic Federation we would like to state the following:

The Federation can under no circumstances speak for a sovereign country like Namibia, which has always and always will issue stamps according to the international Universal Postal Union's stamp issuing policy. Nor can the Federation speak for the vast number of international collectors worldwide.

The allegations of fraud, of issuing a "flood of fabrications" and the alleged violation of the UPE code of ethics are far-fetched and untrue. The blacklist which is referred to is merely the fact that these stamps cannot be exhibited at a philatelic exhibition under the patronage of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, an organisation from which Namibia Post has resigned a year ago.

NamPost fears that its resignation from the said organisation may have a bearing on the aggressive and unwarranted abusive manner in which the issue is being criticised.

(Editor's note: *The blacklist referred to above does is not from the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, but from the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP). As reported in our issue of April 1998, p54, FIP has indicated that blacklisting of the controversial issues is under consideration.*

No indication has been received from the International Association of Stamp Catalogue Editors (ASCAT), which has been made aware of the controversy, whether it will accord the issues catalogue status or not.

It should also be clarified that the UPU is a regulatory body between stamp issuing authorities, primarily concerned with smoothing the international flow of the mails. It does not impose binding decisions on members, but it does suspend membership.

Its adoption of a Philatelic Code of Ethics at the 20th UPU World Congress in 1990 was a matter of consensus, clearly issued as "recommendations", of no more than moral force. This code was published in full in The SA Philatelist, *March/April 1991, p47.*)

Stamp issue policy summarised

UNDER the heading "Namibia Post Stamp issuing policy" the following statement was received:

Namibia Post Philatelic Services intend to continue with their past stamp issuing policy and to continue producing philatelic products of a high quality using world class printers and artists. It will also depict only Namibian related themes on commemorative and definitive issues. Collectors are to note that Namibia Post Philatelic Services does not intend to lose their own indentity nor are we carelessly giving away our good name for foreign countries.

The philatelic world is, like all other sciences, in a process of continuous development. Namibia Post recently issued self adhesive stamps as part of its new definitive Fauna and Flora stamp issue which has received many international accolades so far. Stamp collecting as a hobby is in the process of being revived all over the world with new innovative stamps and designs.

News release

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Rhodesian Study Circle has glorious 50th Anniversary

Colin Hoffman RDPSA

OVER the weekend from 17 to 20 April 1998 a 50th Anniversary meeting of the Rhodesian Study Circle was held in Harare, Zimbabwe. The RSC is one of the specialist societies affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

The meeting ended in a celebratory dinner on the last day, when the RSC Chairman, Colin Hoffman, signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa, to which he was elected at the 59th Congress of the Federation on 9 October 1997. The Roll had been brought to Harare for the occasion by Joh Groenewald RDPSA, the Chairman of the Management Committee and current president of the Philatelic Federation of

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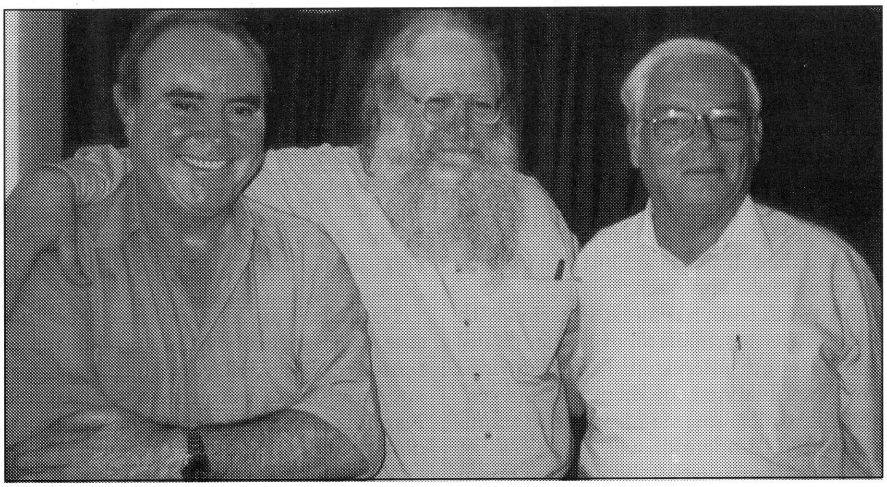
Southern Africa.

The appointments of Derek Byrom, Henk De Lange and Don Mitchell as Fellows of the RSC were also announced.

During the three-day conference at Conquenar House more than twenty papers were presented, and displays of materials shown covering the whole range of stamps and postal history from the 1890s to the present.

More than seventy members and visitors attended the various meetings, including the welcome braai on Friday evening and the dinner on Monday.

There were several visitors from the UK and even one from the USA. South Africans included Joh Groenewald, RDPSA and Danny Swart, RDPSA, FRPSL who was recently appointed an Honorary Life Vice President of the RSC.



Dave Collis (Australia), Steven Reah Johnson (United States) and Cecil Russell (President of the RSC) at the Golden Jubilee meeting in Harare.

The story of the RSC

IN 1948 the Rhodesian Study Circle came into being following advertisements in the philatelic press in England and South Africa by Wilfrid Nodder, inviting "collectors of the stamps of Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland" to join in forming a study circle. The aims were to encourage interest in the stamp issues, circulate information about varieties and flaws and postmarks, and write a handbook.

The first issue of the *RSC Journal*, edited by Nodder, appeared in June 1948 and listed nine members. During the next six years the *Journal* appeared quarterly, the Circle increased in numbers to about 70 and many of its members won awards at exhibitions, including the London International in 1950 and the South African Tercentenary International Exhibition in 1952.

Unfortunately, there followed a 2-year period when the Circle almost disappeared, only to be rescued in 1956 by Gerald Simpson, Bernard Livermore and Ian Hamilton. These three played a significant role in driving the Circle for the next twenty years, with Colin Donaldson providing the secretarial support.

After this steady period of gradual expansion, Maragaret Harris became secretary of the RSC in the mid 1970s and inspired a major increase in its membership. Her "1980 Double Our Membership Year" was a great success.

The *Journal* became an A4 publication, with much more space for material, and Margaret provided significant back-up to the editor. More and more members were encouraged to contribute, and attendance at meetings was high.

This was the period when the RSC achieved television fame. Margaret Harris won the "Mastermind 1984" title with the subjects "The Life and Work of Cecil Rhodes" and "Postal History and Philately of Southern Africa 1853-1960". This was a high profile event to match the display by Gerald Simpson at the Royal Philatelic Society, London, in November 1978, which was televised by the BBC as part of a series to publicise stamp collecting.

The Study Circle in the 1980s doubled its membership to over 300, and it is now over 400, with some 160 members outside the UK. Meetings have been held regularly in far flung places, starting with Cape Town during DISA 1979, and extending, in the last twelve months for example, to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, San Francisco (Pacific 97), Johannesburg, Durban and Zimbabwe.

UK meetings take place in London, Manchester, Scotland and Leamington Spa. A network of overseas and local representatives provides the framework for meetings of members of the Circle, and currently work is progressing on a Handbook to cover the stamps and postal history from 1890 to date of the territories which today are called Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Membership currently costs £10 per annum and all members can obtain on request the parts of the Handbook produced to date free of charge. A new cumulative index of the Journal covering the first fifty years (1948 to 1997) by Dr Alan Drysdall RDPSA will be ready to coincide with the 50th Anniversary meeting of the RSC in the UK in June 1998. It too will be issued free of charge on request.

All this material can be made available to members on these terms because, with the support of four hundred members worldwide, and careful housekeeping over the years, there is sufficient in the kitty to put funds back into providing all members with comprehensive reference material to enhance their collecting.

New members would be given the same support – the unofficial motto of the RSC, coined more than forty years ago, is "If you are an expert, we'll learn from you – if you are a novice, we will teach you all we know".

Membership details can be had from Administrative Secretary, Heather Rudge, 190 Greenfield Crescent, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hants, PO8 9ER, (☎0 1705 59-2991)

CH

An overall view of the RSC's Golden Jubilee celebrations

Richard Knight RDPSA

ALTHOUGH the Rhodesian Study Circle is based in the United Kingdom it was felt, for obvious reasons, that Zimbabwe would be an an appropriate place for a celebratory function – and what a function it was! (The Circle must be one of the larger of those currently in existence.)

Starting with a "get-together" braai on 17 April – at which all those attending received a beautifully bound and numbered book, containing all the details of the weekend and subsequent tours – the next morning (Saturday) saw some 50 philatelists gathered at a very suitable venue to begin the serious celebration.

The 15 visitors included a contingent of seven from South Africa, headed by Joh Groenewald RDPSA, and included Harry Birkhead, RDPSA, Danny Swart RDPSA, and Henk de Lange from Gauteng, Don Mitchell from Durban and Alan Macgregor and Richard Knight, RDPSA, FRPSL, from Cape Town.

Further there was a contingent of four, headed by Colin Hoffman, RDPSA, FRPSL, the Chairman of the Study Circle, from the UK, and three members from Australia, the USA and Canada.

Proceedings ran from 9 am to 5 pm each day, with breaks for teas and lunch; displays with a talk on the display by the exhibitor took about 30 to 40 minutes each, and there was sufficient time for those present to view and discuss the displays, as well as to chat about matters of common interest.

The first day and the morning of the second day (Sunday) were devoted to Zimbabwe members, who produced a superb series of displays covering a very wide ran-

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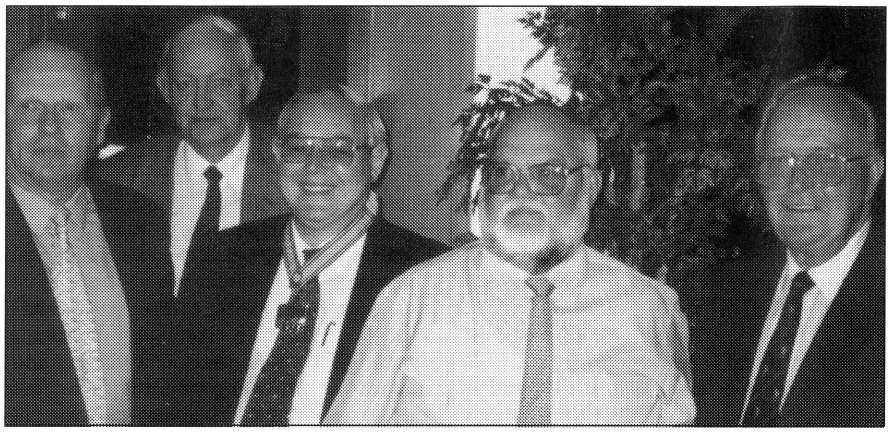
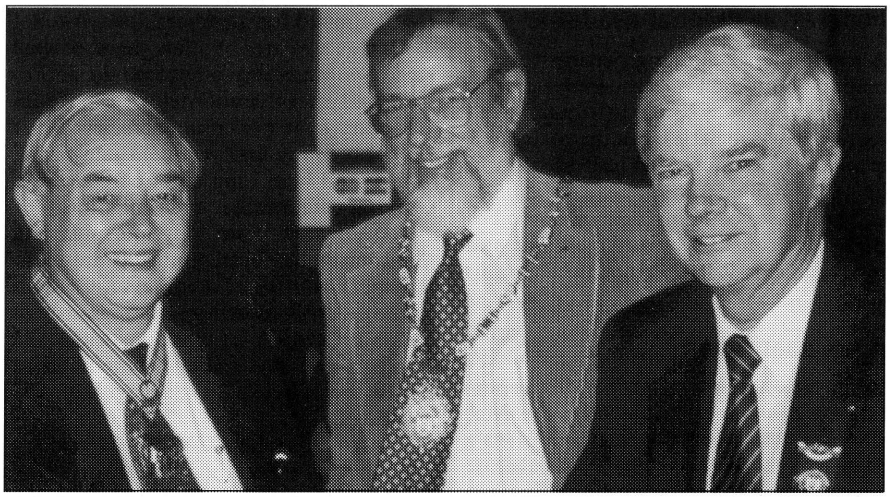


Henk de Lange, Richard Knight, Colin Hoffman, Derek Byrom (chairman of the RSC's host, the Mashonaland Philatelic Society) and Don Mitchell.



Colin Hoffman, Joh Groenewald and Danny Swart after Colin had signed the Roll of Honour.

ge of Rhodesian philately.

There was particular emphasis on the ever-popular Double Head issues, but there were also fascinating displays on the Admirals, Large and Small Arms and 1905 Victoria Falls issues, as well as Southern Rhodesia, currency cards, stationery and revenues and Fiscals. There were also displays of postmarks both early and modern, and an interesting "social philately" exhibit.

The Sunday afternoon was devoted to Northern Rhodesia and a learned disquisition on the BSA Company Admirals issue. It was a warm afternoon and a good lunch ensured that at least some of those present missed part of the displays – one member had to be woken to prevent his snores from disturbing those trying to absorb the very learned exposition by Andrew Wilson from the United Kingdom! The afternoon ended on a more light-hearted note with a talk by Richard Knight on exhibiting, designed to help those who wished to enter the world of competitive exhibiting.

The Monday was devoted to displays by the visitors, all of whom had brought coloured photocopies of their material to obviate any difficulties with the Customs along their routes.

Postal History was rather more to the fore, since five of the visitors were showing various aspects of this field: postmarks, Rhodesian involvement in the Anglo-Boer War, Airmails, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, and early postage rates and routes.

But the visitors also held their own in the field of stamps, with a fascinating display by Colin Hoffman of proofs, essays and forgeries, and a display of Double Heads by Stephen Reah Johnson from the United States which can only be described as breathtaking – as indeed was the exhibitor's erudition in this field.

Additionally, there were displays of the 1905 Victoria Falls issue and a selection of Southern and Northern Rhodesian material.

The weekend was rounded off with a dinner, which was notable for its excellence in every way – food, company and speeches by the Chairman of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society, the Chairman of the Study Circle, with a word of thanks by a representative of the visitors for a really enjoyable, well-organised and interesting weekend.

Following the weekend, tours to places of interest in and around Harare had been arranged for those able to stay; these included a visit to the National Archives and the tobacco auctions and a stamp auction by Zimbabwe Stamp Company.

Developments in Federation's Expert Committee

RECENT changes have been made to the complement and workings of the Federation's Expert Committee.

Howard Godwin and Wikus van Heerden have retired, the former having been secretary for the past eleven years. At a dinner hosted by the committee's chairman, David Crocker RDPSA, suitable bottled presentations were made to both gentlemen to thank them for their contributions over the years.

He also announced the following new appointments to the Expert Committee:

Alan MacGregor – a professional philatelist, whose particular interests in Bechuanaland and the Rhodesias will be of great value, and Anne Marie Wigmore – the new Secretary to the Expert Committee. She is an experienced philatelist in her own right and she takes over the job bringing with her a wealth of experience in computer-based administration and book-keeping.

As part of her duties, she has already commenced a complete overhaul and update of the committee's administrative systems and records.

Allied to this, the committee's officers are acting on the wish expressed previously to update the form of certificate issued from that involving the need for time-consuming photography to direct computer scanning. The use of this technology not only brings the style of certificate into line with those being introduced in Europe and elsewhere, but also represents a significant advance in the very necessary security aspects of a certificate.

The charges made by the Expert Committee have been reviewed and as from 1 May 1998 are as follows:

– for an opinion certifying an item as genuine the fee will be 2 per cent of current catalogue value with a minimum charge of R35,00

– for any other opinion the minimum charge will be R35,00

– for an unquoted item, cover or postal stationery item, the charge will be solely at the discretion of the committee, with the minimum charge being R45,00

– A handling fee of R10 per item also applies. Members of philatelic societies and bodies affiliated to the Federation may claim a discount of 25 percent on the above charges.

– VAT at current rate is applicable and will be charged to all RSA residents.

The address of the Expert Committee has changed with immediate effect. All future correspondence must be directed to: The Secretary, PFSA Expert Com-

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mittee, PO Box 304, Montagu, Cape 6720, South Africa.

FIP reports concerning SA

CONGRATULATIONS are due to Cedric Roché RDPSA, who heard recently that he had been appointed to the international jury for the Melbourne World Stamp Expo Australia 99, to be held from 19 to 24 March 1999. He will obviously be judging in the class for which he qualified, namely Revenues.

Australia 99 is a limited international with the following classes: Traditional, Postal Stationary and Revenues, with an experimental Social Philately class, and Youth Philately.

While the Federation has been unable to commit its support to this exhibition, Cedric would be happy to discuss South African participation with any interested local exhibitors.

An exhibition which is being supported with a South African commissioner is IBRA 99, being held from 27 April to 4 May 1999 in Nuremberg, Germany. The commissioner is Michael Wigmore, ☎ (0234) 4-1424 (w) and 4-1831 (h).

Bulletin 2 is imminent, says Michael, and he invites prospective exhibitors to get in touch promptly, as the closing date is at the end of June 1988. He is expecting that at least six exhibitors will be given a chance, excluding two – Danie Conradie and Lizette Scheepers – who have already been selected for youth participation.

The CHINA 1999 World Philatelic Exhibition will be held in Beijing from 21 to 30 August 1999, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China. The 22nd Universal Postal Union Congress will also be held in Beijing at that time.

This exhibition has been granted FIP Patronage and FIAP Auspices, and is being supported by the Federation, which is sending Peter W van der Molen as commissioner.

All FIP exhibition classes are available on a competitive basis, he says, and a special class 12 is entitled "Experimental – An exhibit not covered by any of the (usual) classes and including materials issued within the past 15 years from 1 January 1984 to 31 December 1998". A total of 3 500 frames is planned, each for a 4 x 4 page format, with display area measuring 100 cm wide by 120 cm high.

All the usual FIP regulations apply; frame fees are US$ 30 per frame, but Youth and Experimental Class entries are free. Provisional entries are required by the end of June 1998, and notifications of acceptance are planned to be issued during December 1998.

Bulletin 1 and Entry Forms are available from Peter, to whom any queries can be addressed, on ☎ (011) 899-6951 (w), 849-4822 (h) and fax 899-6752 (w) or on e-mail at the address molens@pixie.co.za. Peter says he looks forward to what promises to be a first class event, and plenty of qualifying competitive exhibits from South Africa.

Federation manual available

A ringbinder containing pertinent information about the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is being distributed to all secretaries of societies, but the material is available to all interested individuals affiliated to the Federation.

The binder contains, inter alia, the Federation's constitution and bye-laws, and is available at R30,00 from the Administrative Secretary.

A pertinent plea

IN its newsletter of March 1998, reporting on that month's meeting, the Mashonaland Philatelic Society published a plea from its secretary, Sandy Weaver. It is so much to the point for us all that it is being repeated here. Sandy said:

"Before I start talking about my display for this evening, and seeing that I have your attention and you are listening to me (I think) let me say a few words. I am personally terrified of putting up an exhibit in front of all you folk out there. You have been collecting stamps for more years than I have, and you all seem to know so much more about philately than I do.

"This evening's exhibit has taken me quite a few hours of research, and planning, juggling my children, husband, job and the rest of my family in between reading about mushrooms, but I think I have been able to put together a few pages of information and relevant stamps for you to look at, criticise and possibly enjoy.

"As an inexperienced collector I would (and I hesitate to say this, as I know I will be stepping on your toes) benefit from seeing your displays and exhibits. It is a way of learning from what other people have learnt. I know you are all so busy, we all are, and all our circumstances are different. I believe that for the benefit of the Society, if not just me, your collections need to be seen, shown, displayed or exhibited, in whatever form you feel is appropriate.

"I remember going to the MPS meetings at the Jameson Hotel with my dad. I was originally signed in as a visitor, and this was as an outing with my dad. This was an important time of my growing years. Mrs Coventry was Secretary at the time of activity, not only socially, but philatelically. It was at one of these occasions that I applied for membership.

"It was a matter of a few years, when I sort of volunteered to become the Librarian, and after the untimely death of Mrs Coventry I took over as Secretary. I was probably in my first years of the working world, and here I am still Secretary as a working wife, mother and daughter.

"At present your longtime standing Committee has been trying to draw enthusiasm from all its members to revitalise the monthly meetings. There is little or sometimes no participation from the floor, and we have to beg for members to be forthcoming with displays for the meetings.

"Last year at the AGM our Chairman, Mr Sinclair, mentioned that most of the trophy winners, and competitors for the trophies, were members of the Committee. There are only 8 Committee members, 12 months in the year, and so many more of you. We need your exhibits.

"This last year there are three trophies which have not been competed for, due to lack of exhibits from you our valued members.

"This is a very sad state of affairs, considering the memories we all must have of the hustle and bustle of the meetings many years ago. Ladies and gentlemen, I know you all have stamps out there, otherwise you wouldn't be here this evening.

"Please try and share your experiences with all of us, by putting up an exhibit, and allowing us all to indulge in your philatelic joys."

Society news

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

February: The president dealt with correspondence received, and then the meeting discussed the "Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme" launched by NamPost's Philatelic Services. It was felt the programme was detrimental to our hobby, and would perhaps benefit only the dealers who would be allowed to design, print and market the stamps.

B Simpkins then showed the first two frames of his Cape Stamp Show 97 exhibit: "Walvisbay Postal History 1889-1994". This section covered the early period up to the end of World War I, and contained all the early cancellers, including the manuscript cancellation when the Walvisbay post office burnt down in June 1909.

A lot was learned from this exhibit, about mounting, and about the determi-

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nation and patience of the collector who assembled this material over the years with a sharp eye for elusiveness and quality.
HU Bantz

EDENVALE PS

February: Our 20th Annual General Meeting was attended by 25 members and 2 visitors. Eddie Newman welcomed in particular our guest for the evening, Dave Deighton, a past president of our society.

Reports were heard from office bearers and members were encouraged to hear the society was in good shape, both financially and by the fact that another 11 members had joined in the past year.

Trophies were then presented to the following award winners by our guest Dave Deighton:

William Scott – Senior Award (Belgium); Yvonne Prinsloo – Thematic Award (Endangered Species); Robert Wenger and Eric Perrett – 2-5 page exhibit – Letter 'P'.

Office bearers were elected for 1998/99.

It was then the turn of our guest, Dave Deighton, to enthral us with twenty pages from his exhibit on British County Postal History which won a gold award at last year's Cape Stamp Show.
Eric J Perrett

EAST RAND PS

February: A disastrous start to the AGM as Gerald H forgot to get the library keys and we were left in the cold. Members attending eventually squeezed into Peter van der Molen's family room and proceedings began.

Minutes of the last AGM were accepted. The treasurer reported the society to be financially stable despite unforeseen expenses. Packet circuits were fine except for one or two members who take two to three months to pass them on! No names, but we all know who they are.

The Juniors are also picking up slightly, but can always do with a little help.

The president summarised the year's activities, which although satisfactory, suggested a degree of complacency, whereas some more vigorous activity and input were required. The committee for 1998 showed little change.
Alan Rose

MARITZBURG PS

February: The main event for the evening was the AGM. Francis Eustace was proposed by Mike Dyer as President for 1998. The following were elected to the committee – Ann Southwood, Secretary; John Phelps, Sales Packets; Peter Southwood, Treasurer; Robin Castle, Susan Bowes-Taylor, Edwin John.

Items of interest: Anne Southwood showed the five new Lady Di stamps on first day Cover, released in the UK on 3 February, all the 26p value.

As a result of Francis Eustace's Paul Kruger post card shown last month, Robin Castle produced a large First day Cover of the Paul Kruger stamp cancelled at Boshoff Post Office and at Paul Kruger's farm outside Pretoria, Boekenhoutfontein on Kruger Day 10/10/77. He also showed 20 pages of Boeings – stamps, postmarks and First Flights.

Francis Eustace showed a highly commended publicity association borchure on Natal's battlefields, and warned us of the expected influx of tourists when the Boer War commemorations take place in two years' time.

Exhibit of the evening was the long awaited "farewell" 14-page exhibit on Tristan da Cunha by Kees de Jong. An excellent display. Susan Bowes-Taylor showed an excellent 20 pages on "Butterflies".

March: Treasurer Peter Southwood reported Tickets No. 81 & 32 received for the Ilsapex draw on 2 May in Johannesburg – if any ticket got lucky we would draw at May Meeting. Francis reported the interesting item this month was the arrival of the new "Big 5" booklet. Jan Korrûbel commented that one of the later Rhino had the end bit cut off. Francis replied that the dispensers would not take that size, so they had been cut to fit.

Items of interest: Robin Castle showed Post Office advertising featuring a postcard from Bloemfontein – in the Transvaal! Peter showed the booklets used on the newsletter envelopes and some coil stamps and a FRAMA label on piece – stamp shopping in the street!

Francis showed an apartheid cancellation that was given to him at the Kloof Fair, also an Edwardian postcard from a firm asking what size helmet was required, and two flight covers of the 1936 Hindenburg.

Peter put up 20 pages of cricket, and spoke about them, whilst Robin put up 16 pages of Cinderellas, first page entitled "A Treasury of Fairy Tales", for the letter "C" competition.

Main displays: Francis said what we need to do is gain knowledge. Francis showed a BONC on a stamp (short for barred oval numeral cenceller).

Mike Dyer spoke about types of paper starting with papyrus, but he said it was not the first stamp paper. The first stamp paper was made of rags and by mistake a bit of glue dropped in and formed paper. He went on to describe the circular embossed, also 7 stamps were released that were like gramophone records, other oddments were rice paper, blue bank note paper and wood pulp.

Mike spoke about how Post Offices tried to guard against re-use of stamps, they are aware that by washing they can be used twice, so often a heavy cancellation in used to prevent this.

Paper varieties: Rhodesia for example with Mardon & Harrison issues. UK with the variety of phosphor bands, pristine printing, on perhaps, USA.

Care of stamps: Anne then gave a few hints about caring for stamps: Not to lay albums or stock books on top of each other, but stand side by side, open occasionally to allow air to circulate, cover with newspaper that will absorb damp. Use brown window envelopes to store used stamps, don't mix mint and used, especially any hinged, the hinges stick, and don't use photo albums for FDCs.

Francis said: "Be honest about your own stamps." What are we trying to get out of collecting? We entertain ourselves. This attitude is important, not worrying about value. When we say "What is the value of collecting?", never fool your family or friends. You cannot take, for example, a thousand 50c stamps and say the value is R500.
Peter Southwood

MASHONALAND PS

February: 34 members and one guest were present, and saw something rather unusual: a display of Zimbabwean Frama Labels, being an entry by Cecil Russell for the Goldblatt Trophy.

Framas were first used in this country in 1985, but the dispensing machines failed to survive for long, so since mid-1993 Framas have not been available to the public. Cecil pointed out the interesting fact that the Frama labels have never been demonetised, so can still be used to this day: he showed one item where Framas hd been used and cancelled as late as 1997.

Even during their heyday, however, they confused postal staff, especially those in rural or suburban areas where the dispensing machines were unknown. Framas used on items posted in such areas were liable to be left uncancelled by the suspicious postal staff – or even treated as invalid for postage, and Postage Due charged.

Cecil showed a number of items signed by the artist of the Framas: Chas Maviyane-Davies. The original (1985) ones were printed on plain paper, but in 1991 some where printed on new paper which had a background design featuring rhinos. Apparently this paper was never officially issued, and before long there were no machines surviving to dispense it anyway. The Rhino Framas are therefore particularly rare.

I imagine that many of those present had never seen (or even heard of) Frama Labels before, so it was a remarkable display and talk. I for one found the information and the exhibited material to be truly fascinating.

It included First Day Covers and varieties such as shades (identifiable with different post offices), test labels reading "00.00" instead of a denomination, flaws

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and other features which enable one to identify which post office or town a particular label came from, fluorescent and non-fluorescent papers, examples printed on the gummed side, and end-stripes. I got the inpression, though, that *commercially-used* Framas are incredibly rare.

The One-Page Competition, letter "M", was won by Sandy Weaver with "Mushrooms."

Ian Johnstone

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

February: This was our AGM, and Maurice Daniels was elected chairman (also newsletter editor), while David Stern RDPSA fills the post of both Hon Treasurer and Secretary.

Lester Frankel was given the Max Wulfsohn Award, David Stern the Sam Kelly Trophy, Frank Friedman got the Lou Abrahams Cup and Moira Bleazard the Maurice Daniels Award.

As customary our outgoing chairman Joel Latinsky showed, this time the Flying Scrolls in mint singles, blocks, tabs and combinations, as well as errors. The later items of postal stationery were seen at the society for the first time.

March: This was our competitive Israel evening, and our member from Israel, Dr Len Stein attended. There were three exhibitors.

Moira Bleazard, always original, showed the Hebrew language on Israeli stamps. John Bleazard had "Premature Postmarks", showing that even the Israeli postal authorities make mistakes in postmarking the wrong dates on first day issues. It also shows how sharp collectors are in spotting these errors.

Willie Mann showed mint stamps in singles and blocks, with cylinder numbers and tabs of stamps from 1957 to 1960.

April: The meeting featured the Sam Kelly Award, in memory of a member who passed away 15 years ago. Sam was a regular attendee and frequent exhibitor and had a vast knowledge of all stamps, especially those of the old Russian Empire. When he spoke, even the legendary Robson Lowe listened.

There were three exhibitors. Moira Bleazard showed "My Tour of Israel on Stamps", very original and interesting, and Lester Frankel, a late developer in exhibiting, displayed "In the Beginning" – a pleasure to see, immaculate and beautifully displayed.

Selwyn Uria showed his many Doar Ivri varieties, all in perfect condition and beautifully written up.

Willie Mann

Ruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Chile: Victor Alejandro Garcia, of Bacedano # 567, San Bernardo, writes in Spanish, indicating that he *muchisimo* wishes to obtain South African stamps by exchange.

Philippines: Gregorio F Paredes, of Domaoal Street, Sinapangan, Bangued, 2800 Abra, would like to exchange stamps and post cards relating to Christmas and Easter; religious art and churches; music, costumes and dances; flags and maps, and quite a few more subjects.In return he offers material from his own country.

Poland: Henry Sokolowski, of PO Box 139, 00-961 Warsaw 42, has been collecting used South African stamps and mint MS for the past 20 years and is looking for new exchange contacts for material from 1995 onwards. Apart from stamps of his own country, he also has some other Eastern European countries' stamps to exchange.

Russia: Andrey Aphonin, of PO Box 522, 183034 Murmansk-34 has stamps and FDCs of Russia and other countries on a variety of topics, as well as material relating to the vessels of the Murmansk Shipping Company, among them atomic icebreakers, and is looking for mint sets on the topics fauna, paintings, ships, airplanes, and stamps of, among others, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia.

■ **GEORGE VAN DEN HURK RDPSA** *Afrikaanse Filateliste Vereniging*

'n Brief van die eerste ere-konsul van Nederland aan die Kaap

DIE vormbrief wat tot hierdie artikel aanleiding gee, is afkomstig van die Kaapstadse firma van Oloff Johannes Truter (1797-1867), wat die tweede seun was van Sir Johannes Andreas Truter, Hoofregter van die Kaapkolonie, en sy vrou, Sophia Alida de Wet.

Na bykans elf jaar staatsdiens het hy in 1823 om persoonlike redes uit sy pos bedank en hom as prokureur bekwaam; in 1828 is hy in die hoedanigheid tot die Hooggeregshof in Kaapstad toegelaat, en was sedertdien in eie diens.

Truter was 'n vooraanstaande Vrymesselaar, en jare lank gedeputeerde Grootmeester van die Engelse Orde. In 1829 is hy tot provinsiale Grootmeester van al die losies in Suid-Afrika bevorder.

Hy was ook jare lank die gevolmagtigde verteenwoordiger van die Nederlandse Handelsmaatschappy asook 'n agent vir die Vereniging van Versekeringsmaatskappye in Amsterdam.

AFGESIEN van sy belangstelling in moderne versamelgebiede soos metermerke (sien *The SA Philatelist*, Februarie 1998 p5) en sy omvangryke boekstawing van Suid-Afrikaanse grenspos in drie volumes, is George van den Hurk ook bekend vir sy bydraes oor die ZAR en vroeë Transvaal.

In 1992 het daar van hom die monografie "The Netherlands South African Railway Company and the Postal Service of the South African Republic 1884-1902" verskyn as bylae tot *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 68, No 5.

George van den Hurk, wat in 1991 genooi is om die Rol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suider-Afrika te onderteken, en voorheen reeds die Manfred Weinstein medalje ontvang het, is ook tans die administratiewe sekretaris van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika.

Op 19 April 1857 is hy aangestel as die eerste Erekonsul van Nederland aan die Kaap. Die onbesoldigde pos is op 18 Oktober 1859 verhef tot dié van Erekonsul-Generaal vir alle Britse besittings in Suid-Afrika.

In hierdie hoedanigheid het hy hom ook beywer vir die immigrasie van vakmanne uit Nederland omdat daar 'n groot tekort aan opgeleide werkslui aan die Kaap bestaan het. As waardering vir sy dienste aan Nederland is hy in 1859 met die ridderskap in die Orde van de Nederlandse Leeu vereer.

Uit sy huwelik met Catharine Claris van Amsterdam is agt kinders gebore. Sy oudste seun, Johannes Andreas, het sy vader in 1867 as Nederlandse Erekonsul opgevolg.

Filateliese betekenis en vrae

In die afgebeelde sirkulêre (of vormbrief), wat gedateer is 1 April 1859, stel Truter sy seun, Johannes Andreas, as

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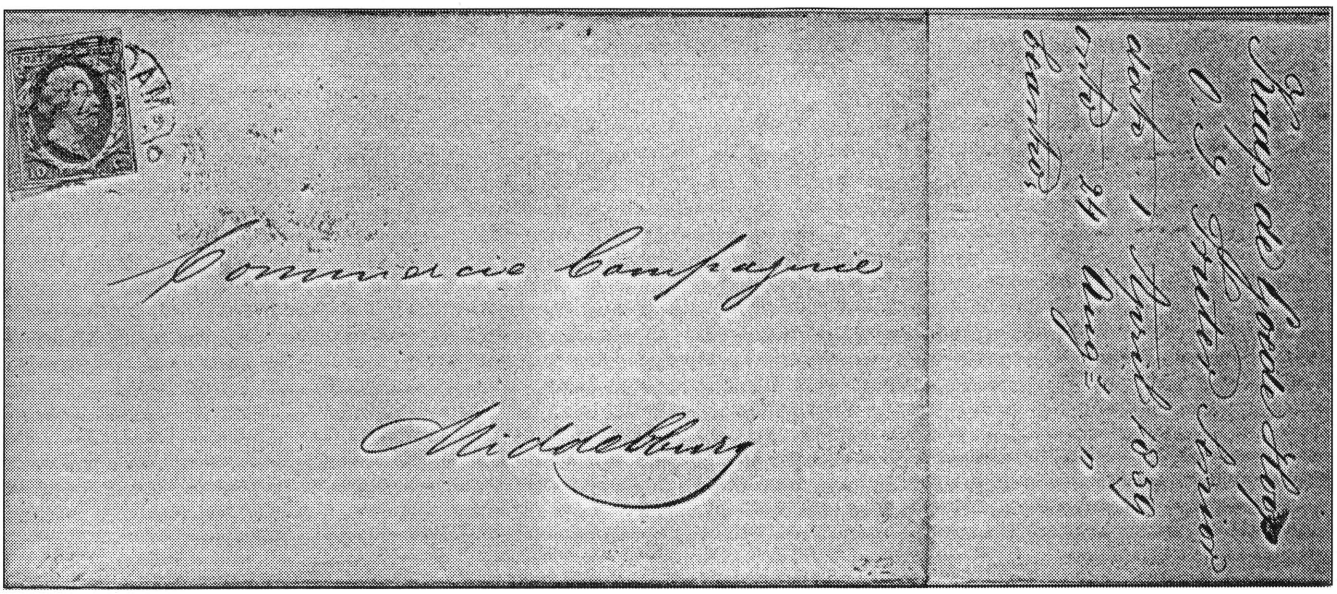


Omslag: aantekening van ontvangs en antwoord regs op flap.

deelgenoot in die firma voor. Links onder word sy handtekening voorsien, klaarblyklik sodat dit in die vervolg herkenbaar sal wees.

Vanuit 'n filateliese gesigspunt is die brief, gerig aan die Commercie Compagnie te Middelburg, maar karig bedeel. Die sirkulêre is in Nederland ontvang op 24 Augustus 1859 en gefrankeer met 'n 10 cent Nederlandse seël vir die binnelandse postarief, afgestempel te Rotterdam op 27 Augustus, en ontvang te Middelburg op 28 Augustus 1859.

Die sirkulêre het nie deur die Kaapse posdepartement gegaan nie, en is waarskynlik met 'n Hollandse skeepsgeleentheid direk na Nederland vervoer.

Goldblatt, in *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope* (1984), beskryf die gang van sake soos volg:

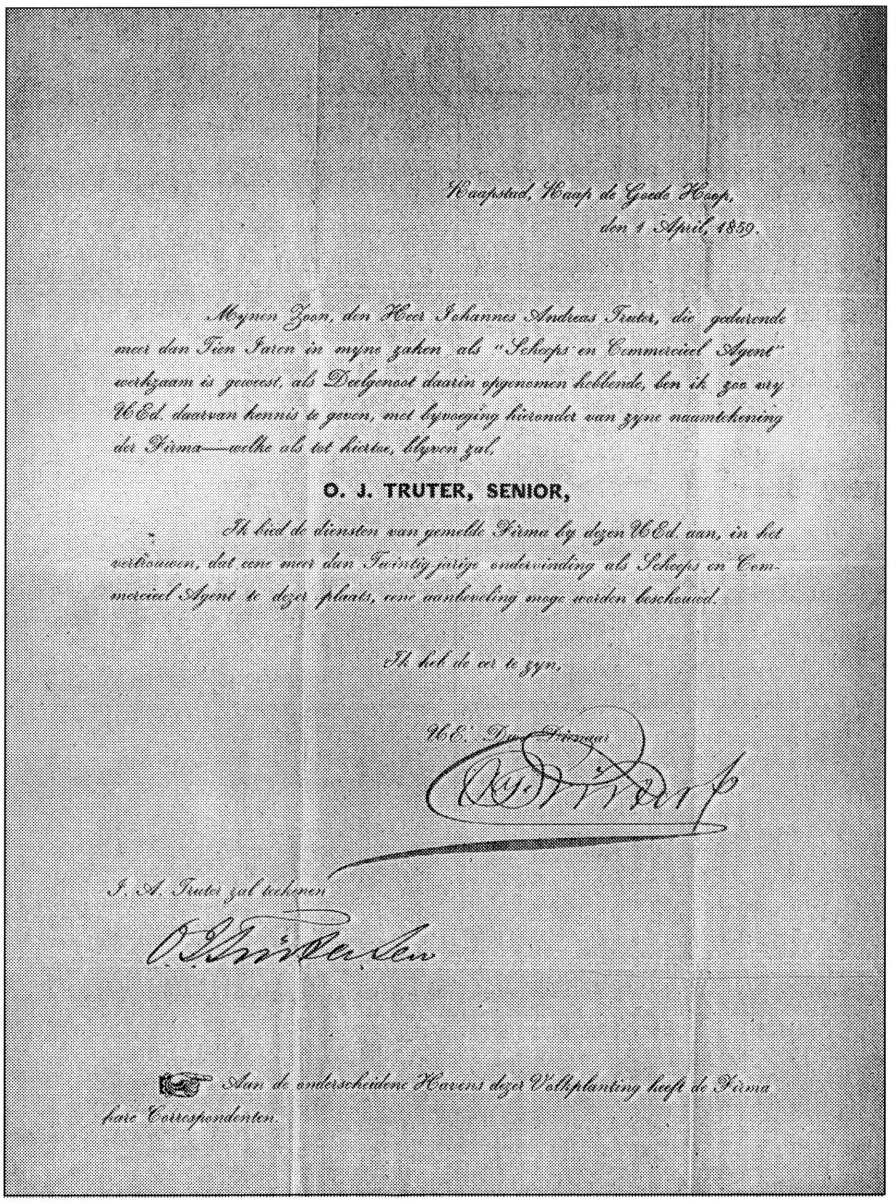
"It would appear that in most instances the agents transmitted letters without making use of postal facilities and were thus guilty of an offence, for as early as 1806 the dispatch of mail was the prerogative of the postal department. Although it has been suggested that the forwarding agents acted clandestinely, it must be remembered that they were leading members of the commercial community and would not have attempted to flout the law for purposes of gain – they rendered, rather a service, and the postal authorities appear to have turned a blind eye to their activities."

Daar is nog verskillende vrae waarvoor ek die antwoorde soek, onder meer is daar geen bewys te vinde dat die firma Truter as "forwarding agents" opgetree het nie.

Dan: met welke skeepsgeleentheid is die sirkulêre verstuur, en wie was Truter se agent in Nederland wat die aantekening gemaak het: "Kaap de Goede Hoop/O.J. Truter Senior/dato 1 April 1859/ontv. 24 Augs/beantw:"? ■

Bron:

De Kock, Beyers (reds.): *Dictionary of South African Biography*, Vol I, p805; Vol IV, p662.



Kaapstad, Kaap de Goede Hoop,
den 1 April, 1859.

Mynen Zoon, den Heer Johannes Andreas Truter, die gedurende meer dan Tien Jaren in myne zaken als "Scheeps en Commercieel Agent" werkzaam is geweest, als Deelgenoot daarin opgenomen hebbende, ben ik zoo vry UEd. daarvan kennis te geven, met byvoeging hieronder van zyne naamtekening der Firma—welke als tot hiertoe, blyven zal,

O. J. TRUTER, SENIOR,

Ik bied de diensten van gemelde Firma by dezen UEd. aan, in het vertrouwen, dat eene meer dan Twintig-jarige ondervinding als Scheeps en Commercieel Agent te dezer plaats, eene aanbeveling moge worden beschouwd.

Ik heb de eer te zyn,

UE. Dw. Dienaar

J. A. Truter zal teekenen

Aan de onderscheidene Havens dezer Volkplanting heeft de Firma hare Correspondenten.

Die vormbrief van die ere-konsul O J Truter.

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Going to press, a media release was received featuring a sheetlet of 10 stamps, issued on 8 June 1998 in celebration of South Africa's participation in the World Soccer Cup.



Stop press: Israel 98

GOLD was awarded to Horst Kollrepp at Israel 98, and Selwyn Uria, Mervyn Rosenberg, Harry Birkhead, Howard Green and Achi Frank each received Large Vermeil. There were Large Silvers awarded to Joel Latinsky and Peter van der Molen. Maurice Daniels received Silver, as did Lizette Scheepers and Willie Conradie in the Youth Class, where Dori Kowalsky received Bronze.

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ALLAN RAW PHILATELICS: New address: We have moved to 27 Sanctuary Place, Moseley (close to Pinetown). Postal address PO Box 194, Sarnia 3615. Phone and fax (031) 78-4523. Large stock of Africa, SWA, Rhodesia. Apply for free catalogue available every three months.

STAMP SHOP NOW OPEN! Please come visit our spacious shop and have a cup of coffee while you browse through our wide range of material. Stamps from 10c to R1 000. Covers from R1,00 upwards. 11am-6pm. Closed Saturdays. Tel (011) 826-6558. Jacques Kuun Stamps, 2 Sandham St, Witfield X9, Boksburg.

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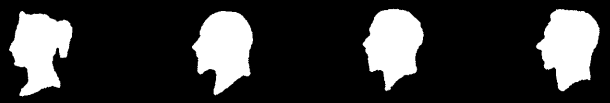

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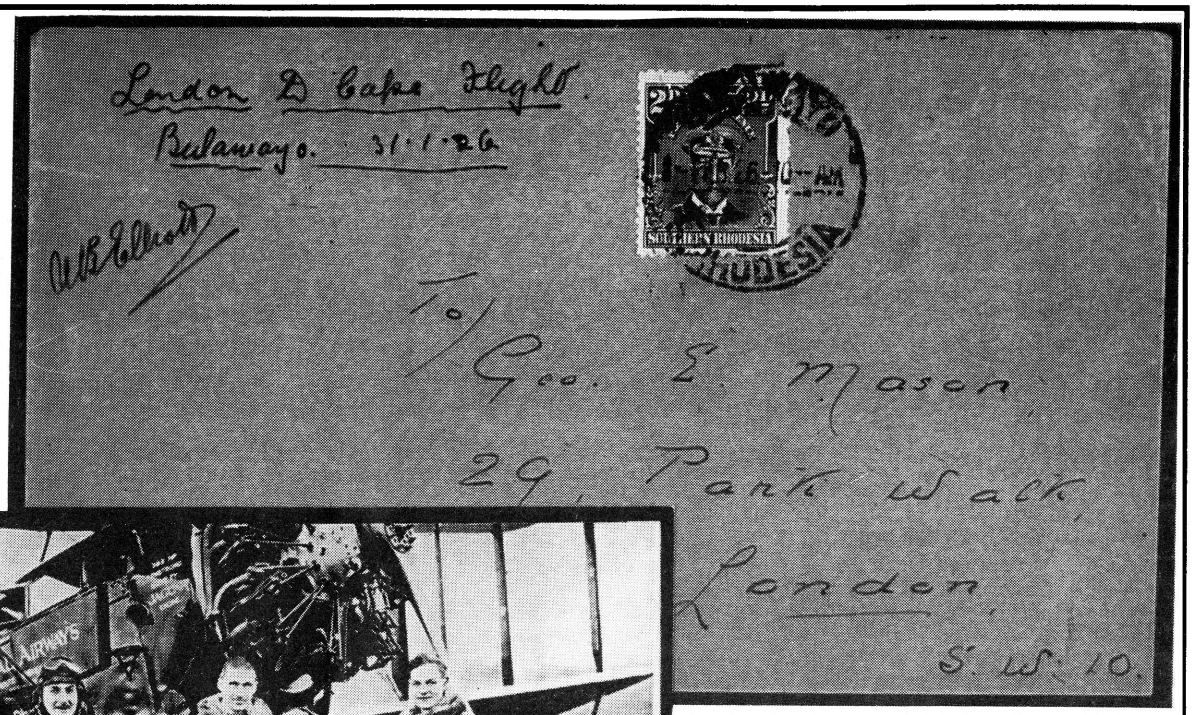



1926 Cobham Flight

Earliest S. Rhodesian airmail covers carried on the inbound & return flights

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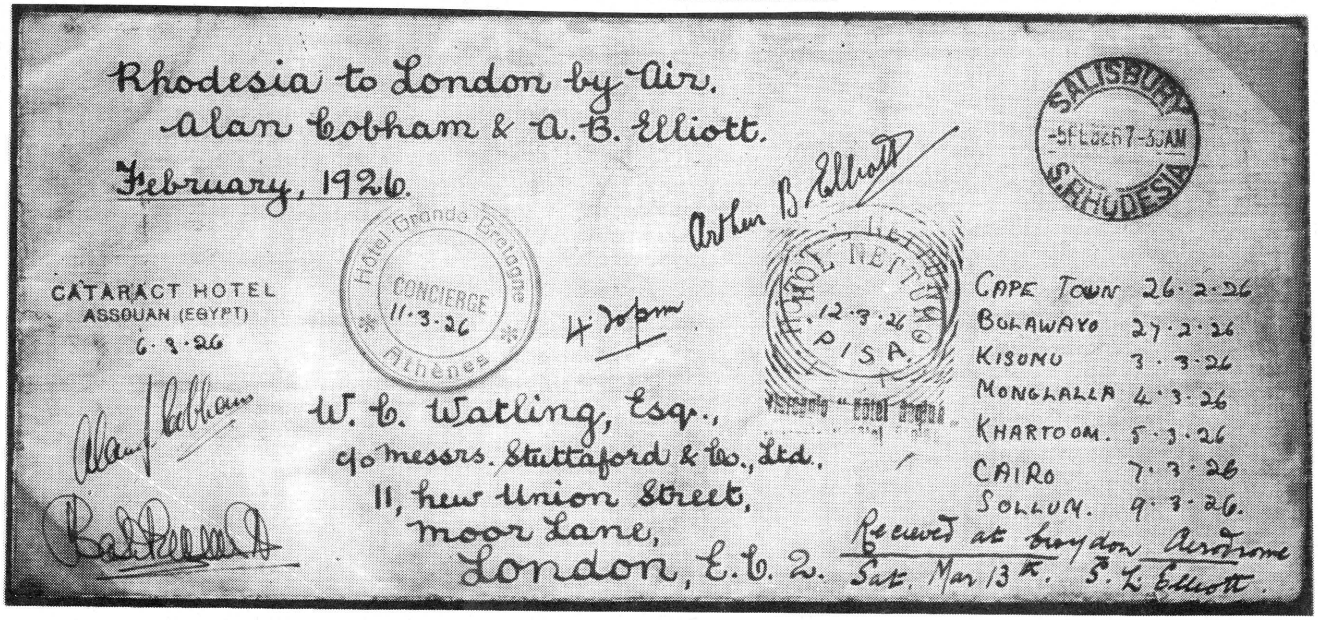

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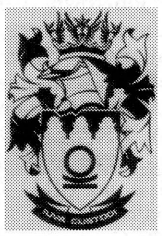

Honorary secretaries are earnestly requested to check the information about their societies and members, and to notify the Administrative Secretary of the Federation of any changes or additions.
Ere-sekretarisse word dringend versoek om die inligting oor hul verenigings en lede na te gaan, en om die Administratiewe Sekretaris van die Federasie te verwittig van enige veranderings of byvoegings.

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
PO Box 412505, Craighall 2024

Honorary Life President
Jonas Michelson RDPSA

Honorary Life Vice-Presidents
Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPSL
Joh Groenewald RDPSA

President 1997/1998
Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, 0001 Pretoria; ☎ h (012) 802-0679; w (012) 329-6024; fax (012) 329-6437

Deputy President
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AREAS OUTSIDE RSA:

General Societies
Dr HU Bantz, PO Box 6913, 1724 Westgate; ☎ h (011) 766-1495; w (011) 376-2524; fax (011) 376-2053
Specialist Societies
John Cheminais, PO Box 2546, 7740 Clareinch; ☎ h (021) 61-9887

Management Committee
Chairman: Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, 0001 Pretoria; ☎ h (012) 802-0679; w (012) 329-6024; fax (012) 329-6437

This is the executive of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, which meets at regular intervals to consider and decide upon the activities of its various standing and sub-committees. Most of these, and what they offer societies and members of societies affiliated to the Federation are described below.

It attends to input and enquiries from members of the Federation, and maintains contact with them via the regional vice-presidents. The Management Committee also maintains close links with the postal authorities, advising them on the interests of organised philately.

The Management Committee is ultimately responsible for various publications, such as *The SA Philatelist*, and for maintaining a speaker's panel and an archive and library.

Its chairman is also convener of the New Issues Liaison sub-committee, which channels stamp suggestions to the SA Post Office, and of the Federation's Awards sub-committee, which receives award suggestions, deliberates upon them and handles the resulting citations.

Secretariat and Archive
George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPSL, PO Box 4095, 1610 Edenvale; Fax/Secretariat (011) 452-8329; ☎ (011) 452-3263; fax h (011) 609-8217

Treasurer
Howard Green RDPSA, PO Box 299, 1716 Florida Hills; ☎ h (011) 442-7190; w (011) 474-1915; fax (011) 473-1874

Finance Committee
Chairman: Danny Swart RDPSA, PO Box 52431, 2132 Saxonwold; ☎ h (011) 465-3246; w (011) 880-3125; fax (011) 880-2656

Honorary Awards Custodian
Gawie van der Walt, PO Box 20022, 2522 Noordbrug; ☎ w (018) 294-4201; fax w (018) 294-4202; ☎/fax h (018) 294-8027

The South African Philatelist
Editor: Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, PO Box 2789, Cape Town 8000.
Note that enquiries about subscriptions and address changes, and advertising on the other hand, should be directed to the Honorary Circulation Manager and Advertising Manager respectively.
Hon Circulation Manager: Should you wish to subscribe, or have queries, please write to Danny Swart RDPSA, PO Box 412505, Craighall 2024; ☎ h (011) 465-3246; w (011) 880-3125; fax (011) 880-2656. If you are changing your address, please enclose the wrapper of your last copy.
Subscription: ***The SA Philatelist*** costs R10,00 per copy, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R50,00. In the rest of the world – territories in Africa included – the subscription is R80, 00 per year, post paid. For overseas subscribers who wish to have their copies by air mail, the subscription is R150,00.
Advertising: Details are available from the Advertising Manager, J Michelson RDPSA, PO Box 9314, Johannesburg 2000, ☎ w (011) 493-6260, h (011) 646-3654, fax (011) 493-0602, cell-☎ 083 266 4359. All advertising bookings from full page to smalls announcements, and all advertising copy, must reach this address by the 5th of the month preceding publication, i.e. on 5 January for the February issue, on 5 March for the April issue on 5 May for the June issue, on 5 July for the August issue, on 5 September for the October issue and 5 November for the December issue.

Youth Committee
Chairman: Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463, ☎ (011) 896-2845.
This committee is responsible for encouraging junior philately. The Youth Committee has adopted the user-friendly name "Stamp Mates" to provide assistance in setting up and running junior stamp clubs. It advises and trains youth leaders, provides guidelines and will arrange workshops and seminars for them.

It runs a stamp packet service, Mr Yaccy Postal Club (the contact is Ursula White ☎ (011) 896-1308) and publishes *Stamping Around/Seëls Rondomtalie*, a youth magazine. It also has extensive philatelic quiz sheets and games available to enliven junior meetings.

The committee also assists with JUNASS, the Junior National Stamp Show.

Audio Visual Committee
Chairman: Emil Minnaar. PO Box 1180 Kempton Park 1620; ☎ w (011) 974-2830 h (011) 849-1817.

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Affiliated societies and individual members of societies can obtain VHS and slide shows on a large variety of philatelic subjects from this committee, which has a current list available on request. It already provides about 200 shows annually, and the cost is only the current postal rate both ways.

The committee continually produces new shows, and a guideline for preparing a script is available. Owners of material on which scripts produced by the committee are based, receive a free copy of the slide show.

Exhibitions Committee
Chairman: Harry Birkhead RDPSA FRPSL, PO Box 723, Bedfordview 2008; ☎h (011) 455-1138
This committee is primarily responsible for providing advice and guidelines for exhibitions, as well as the frames required, which are held by the Federation.

Judging Committee:
Chairman: Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPSL, PO Box 22592, 7974 Fish Hoek; ☎h (021) 782-2223; w (021) 461-8080; fax (021) 782-6560
The committee constantly reviews exhibition bye-laws and tackles practical problems to provide a consistent framework for fair judging. It also maintains, in consultation with jury chairmen and senior philatelists, a national list of eligible judges, and on request provides judging seminars.

FIP Committee
Chairman: Peter van der Molen, PO Box 12508, 1504 Benoryn; ☎ w (011) 899-6951; h (011) 849-4822; fax (011) 899-6752
THIS committee is charged with keeping the Federation and its members abreast of FIP developments and administering Federation support of FIP events.

Expert Committee
Chairman: David Crocker RDPSA, PO Box 294, Montagu 6720; ☎ (0234) 4-1424; fax (0234) 4-2521.
Expert opinion on the genuineness or otherwise of stamps and other philatelic material is available from the Expert Committee, which consists of several locally and internationally recognised collectors, drawn from the ranks of both amateur and professional philatelists, who serve in an honorary capacity. The committee has reciprocal arrangements with similar bodies in Europe, England and North America.

Fees for the expertising of stamps, covers, postal stationery and the like by the PFSA's Expert Committee represent real value for money as with current exchange rates, they are approximately half the amount of the cheapest overseas equivalent. The local certificate is, in any case, internationally recognised. Current fees are as follows:

(i) For a certified opinion of an item, 2 percent of current catalogue value with a minimum charge of R35. For any other opinion the minimum charge amounts to R35.

(ii) For an unquoted item, cover or postal stationery and the like the charge will be solely at the discretion of the Committee with a minimum charge of R45.

(iii) A handling fee of R10 per item applies over and above the charges set out above. Members of philatelic societies and bodies affiliated to the Federation may claim a discount of 25 percent on the above charges.

(iv) VAT at current rate is applicable and will be charged to all RSA residents.

Owners are urged to send items for certification by insured post and with an official submission form (one per item sent), obtainable from the Secretary of the Committee at PO Box 304, Montagu 6720. The submission forms also detail the full conditions of acceptance by the Expert Committee. Items sent for expertising will be returned by the Committee to their owners by insured post.

The Expert Committee works on an honorary basis, and moneys accrued by their service are paid over to Federation for the promotion of philately.

New Issues Liaison Committee
This committee receives proposals and suggestions for new stamps issues (from philatelic societies and readers of *The SA Philatelist*) and submits motivations and recommendations for future stamp issues to the Post Office on behalf of the Philatelic Federation. Closing dates for suggestions, two years ahead of proposed issue, are announced periodically. Convenor: Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001.

Publications Committee
This provides a facility for the publication of philatelic reference works and literature. Enquiries may be directed to the convenor, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001.

Distribution of books published by the Philatelic Federation is handled by the Federation's Administrative Secretary, George van den Hurk RDPSA. Sales are handled by the Deputy President, Danie Scheepers.

The Philatelic Foundation
President: Danny Swart RDPSA
THE foundation funds the promotion of philately, and is managed by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

PHILATELIC CALENDAR
10 to 12 July 1998: JUNASS, Highway Youth Club, Pinetown, Chairman: Dr AL Pringle. Umdoni Centre, Pinetown.
20 to 25 October 1998: International Exhibition, Ilsapex 98, Johannesburg, Gallagher Estate, Midrand Chairman: David Stern RDPSA, FRPSL. PO Box 1915, Houghton 2041; ☎h (011) 444-4243, w (011) 784-8312, fax (011) 784-8315; e-mail dstern@iafrica.com
October 1999: Centenary of the Beginning of the Anglo-Boer War, 11 October 1999, Bloemfontein. Exhibition by invitation. Chairman: Jan van Beukering, PO Box 29005, Danhof 9310; ☎/fax (051) 430-6550
27 April to 4 May 1999: IBRA 99, World Philatelic Exhibition, Nuremberg, Germany. Commissioner Michael Wigmore.
16 to 19 June 1999: Junass 99, City Hall Centurion, PO Box 52011, Wierda Park 0149. ☎/fax (012) 653-2279
21 to 30 August 1999: China World Philatelic Exhibition, Beijing, China. Commissioner Peter van der Molen.
22 to 28 May 2000: The Stamp Show 2000, London World Philatelic Exhibition: Organising Secretary, PO Box 372, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH17 7FL, ☎ (01825) 79-1295; fax 79-1296
October 2000: National, Paarl Philatelic Society, PO Box 60, Paarl 7620

Stamp Collections in Museums
Bloemfontein: War Museum of the Boer Republics, The Director, PO Box 704, Bloemfontein 9300; ☎ (051) 447-3447/0079; fax (051) 447-1322; e-mail johan@internext.co.za
Cape Town: Cultural History Museum, The Curator, PO Box 645, Cape Town 8000; ☎ (021) 461-8280
Durban: Killie Campbell Museum, Tourism Durban, PO Box 1044, Durban 4000; ☎ (031) 304-4934
Johannesburg: Museum Africa, The Curator, Museum Africa, PO Box 517, Newtown 2113; ☎ (011) 833-5624
Johannesburg: Transnet Museum, PO Box 3753, Johannesburg 2000; ☎ (011) 773-9118
Pretoria: Post Office Museum, Post Office, Church Square, Pretoria 0001
Pretoria: National Cultural History Museum, Pretoria 0001

SA Philatelic Dealers Association
Chairman: George Cafetzoglou
Besides being affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, SAPDA is also affiliated to the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association (IFSDA) which is headquartered in England.

SAPDA members have been involved in all aspects of organised philately and has among its members past presidents of Federation, members serving on the Management Committee, Expert Commit-

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tee and national Jury, to name a few.

SAPDA members organise regular trade fairs and besides the well known Rosebank Hotel Show, various two-day fairs are held at the Philatelic centre in Parkhurst. Many members have stands at the annual national exhibition.

SAPDA members: Southern Africa

AVZ Stamps – A Van Zyl, PO Box 1334, Pietermartitzburg 3200; ☎ (o) (0331) 42-5821

Africard Phonecard Dealers – E Adams, PO Box 146211 Bracken Gardens 1452; ☎ (o) (011) 867-4400; cell ☎ 082 575 4077 and 083 449 0030

Alan MacGregor Philatelist – PO Box 3130, Cape Town 8000; ☎ (o) (021) 696-4643; fax (021) 696-4797; e-mail amg@new.co.za

Allan Raw Philatelics – PO Box 194, Sarnia 3615; ☎ (o) (031) 78-4523; Fax (031) 78-4523

Andy Kriegler Stamps – PO Box 6446, Weltevreden Park 1715; ☎ (o) (011) 672-8830

Angus Philatelics – A Springthorpe, PO Box 84550, Greenside, Johannesburg 2034; ☎ (o) (011) 646-4280

Anne Southwood Postnet – 268 Greyling Street, Pietermaritzburg 3201; ☎ (o) (0331) 45-2885

Arcade Stamp Shop – C Slagt RDPSA, Shop 4 "De Molen" 47 Van Riebeeck Ave, Edenvale, PO Box 75894, Lynwood Ridge 0040; ☎ (o) (011) 454-2026; fax (011) 454-2120

Atlasville Stamps – J Kuun, 22 Marbore Street, Impala Park 1459; ☎ (o) (011) 714-4873; cell ☎ 083 375 8787

Aurex Stamp & Coin Centre – PO Box 2616, Pietermaritzburg 3200; ☎ (o) (0331) 42-3265

Betty Sandilands – PO Box 17212, Groenkloof, Pretoria 0027; ☎ (o) (012) 46-3114

Bluff Stamp Fair CC – PO Box 21769, Bluff 4036; ☎ (031) 466-3772; fax (031) 466-3772; cell ☎ 082 923 7103

Cape Stamp Auctions – P Hale, PO Box 991, Bellville, Cape Town 7530; ☎ (o) (021) 418-2624

Claude Malan – Private Bag X351, Pretoria 0001; ☎ (o) (012) 323-4056

Colonial Antiques – GJ Swiegers, PO Box 432, Murraysburg 6995; ☎ (o) (049222) ask for 75

David Crocker Professional Philatelists – DG Crocker RDPSA, PO Box 294, Montagu 6720; ☎ (o&h) (0234) 4-1424; fax (0234) 4-2521

Doreen Royan & Associates Pty Ltd – PO Box 310, Sunninghill, Johannesburg 2157; ☎ (o) (011) 803-3237; fax (011) 803-4899; e-mail royan@Icon.co.za

East Rand Stamps – M Bleazard, PO Box 12191, Benoryn 1504; ☎ (o) (011) 422-2940; Fax (011) 422-2949

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International Philatelic Service – L Heffermann, Northcliff Office Park, 203 DF Malan Drive, Johannesburg, PO Box 567, Johannesburg 2000; ☎ (o) (011) 888-3217; fax (011) 888-3217

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Mike Nethersole – M Nethersole RDPSA, PO Box 103 Wits, Johannesburg 2050; ☎ /fax (o) (011) 474-5904 (h) (011) 726-2032

Namibia Post Philatelic Bureau – PO Box 287, Windhoek, Namibia; ☎ (o) (09264) 61 201-3097; fax (09264) 61 25-9467

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Philatelic Holdings – D Morrison, PO Box 930, Parklands, Johannesburg 2121; ☎ (o) (011) 880-39059

Philatelic Services & Intersapa – Dr F Frescura, Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001; ☎ (o) (012) 342-3422; fax (012) 342-0264

Rand Stamp Auctions – P van Zeyl, PO Box 29012, Sunnyside, Pretoria 0132; ☎ (o) (012) 329-3157; fax (012) 329-3157; cell ☎ 082 447 0641

Randburg Coin & Stamps – C van Rensburg, PO Box 2434, Randburg 2125; ☎ (o) (011) 789-2233; fax (011) 792-4680; cell ☎ 082 447 0641

Republic Stamp & Coin – Laurence Saitowitz, 54a Silwood Road, Bramley 2090; ☎ (o) (011) 887-1903 fax (011) 887-1936; cell ☎ 082 777 7770; e-mail numisphil@icon.co.za

Robertson Stamp Co – M Silberman, PO Box 3527, Durban 4000; ☎ (o) (031) 25-4762; fax (031) 25-8906

Sandton Stamps & Coin – R Trevis, PO Box 78130, Sandton City, Johannesburg2146; ☎ (o) (011) 783-8309

Southern Cape Philatelic Auctions – RT Upson, PO Box 4254, George East 6539; ☎ (o) (0441) 71-2286; fax (0441) 71-2630

Stamps & Art – P Glazer, 6 Brentwood Court, Main Road, Kenilworth 7700; ☎ (o) (021) 761-9516

Stamps Unlimited – G Cafetzoglou, PO Box 84636, Greenside 2034; ☎ (o) (011) 646-2629; fax (011) 646-2629

Stephan Welz & Co. (Pty) Limited – H de Lange, 13 Biermann Ave, Rosebank, Johannesburg, PO Box 52431, Saxonwold, Johannesburg 2132; ☎ (o) (011) 880-3125; fax (011) 880-2656

The Philatelic Traders – Hans Maier, PO Box 1254, Northcliff, Johannesburg 2115; ☎ (o) (011) 678-4892; fax (011) 478-0114

The Stamp Shop – RE Weare, PO Box 122 Port Elizabeth 6000; ☎ (o) (041) 35-2548

Tony Ferreira – PO Box 1228, Randpark Ridge 2156; ☎ (o) (011) 795-1569; fax (011) 795-2179

Trovillo Philatelics – RH Davies, PO Box 84183, Greenside, Johannesburg 2034

Two Penny Blue – E Minnaar, PO Box 1180, Kempton Park 1620; ☎ (011) 970-1155

JP Wharton-Hood – PO Box 815, Fourways, Johannesburg 2055; ☎ (o) (011) 706-1366; fax (011) 706-1366

J Wedderburn-Maxwell – PO Box 554, Anerley 4230; ☎ (o) (039) 681-3366; fax (039) 681-3517

Wembley Philatelics – N Mildenhall, PO Box 23336, Claremont, Cape Town 7735; ☎ (o) (021) 64-1540

World Stamps – G Carpendale, 146 Charles Str/Cnr Duncan St, Brooklyn, Pretoria, PO Box 13091, Hatfield, Pretoria 0028; ☎ (o) (012) 46-0760; fax (012) 46-3733

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Advertising & Subscription

The SA Philatelist is published six times a year by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. It is the mouthpiece of organised philately in the region, and has been in existence since 1923. It is widely read and respected both locally and overseas.

A single copy costs R10,00, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R50,00. In the rest of the world, Africa elsewhere included, the subscription rate is R80,00, post paid. Overseas readers who wish to receive their copies by air mail pay a subscription rate of R150,00.

Subscription orders and enquiries should be directed at the Hon Circulation Manager, ✉412505, Craighall 2024, RSA.

Dimensions

1/1 = 26 x 17,5 cm
2/3 landscape = 17 x 17,5 cm
2/3 upright = 26 x 11,5 cm
1/2 landscape = 12,75 x 17,5 cm
1/2 upright = 19,5 x 11,5 cm
1/3 landscape = 8,5 x 17,5 cm
1/3 upright = 26 x 5,5 cm
1/4 upright= 12,75 x 8,5 cm
1/4 landscape = 6 x 17,5 cm
1/8 = 6 x 8,5 cm
Bantam = 3 x 5,5 cm (maximum 35 words*)

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*Bantam advertisements are type-set free of charge by *The SA Philatelist*

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Full page (1/1) = **R430,00**.....**R60,20**
Two-third page (2/3) = **R320,00**..**R44,80**
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Camera-ready copy or film negatives-/positives must be in the hands of the Hon Advertising Manager on the fifth day of the month preceding publication. This means:

5 January for February
5 March for April
5 May for June
5 July for August
5 September for October
5 November for December

All orders and further technical enquiries regarding advertising in *The SA Philatelist* should be directed to the Hon Adertising Manager, J. Michelson RDPSA, ✉9314, Johannesburg 2000, RSA, at ☎+27 (011) 493-6260, or fax (011) 493-0602, or cell ☎ 083 266 4359.

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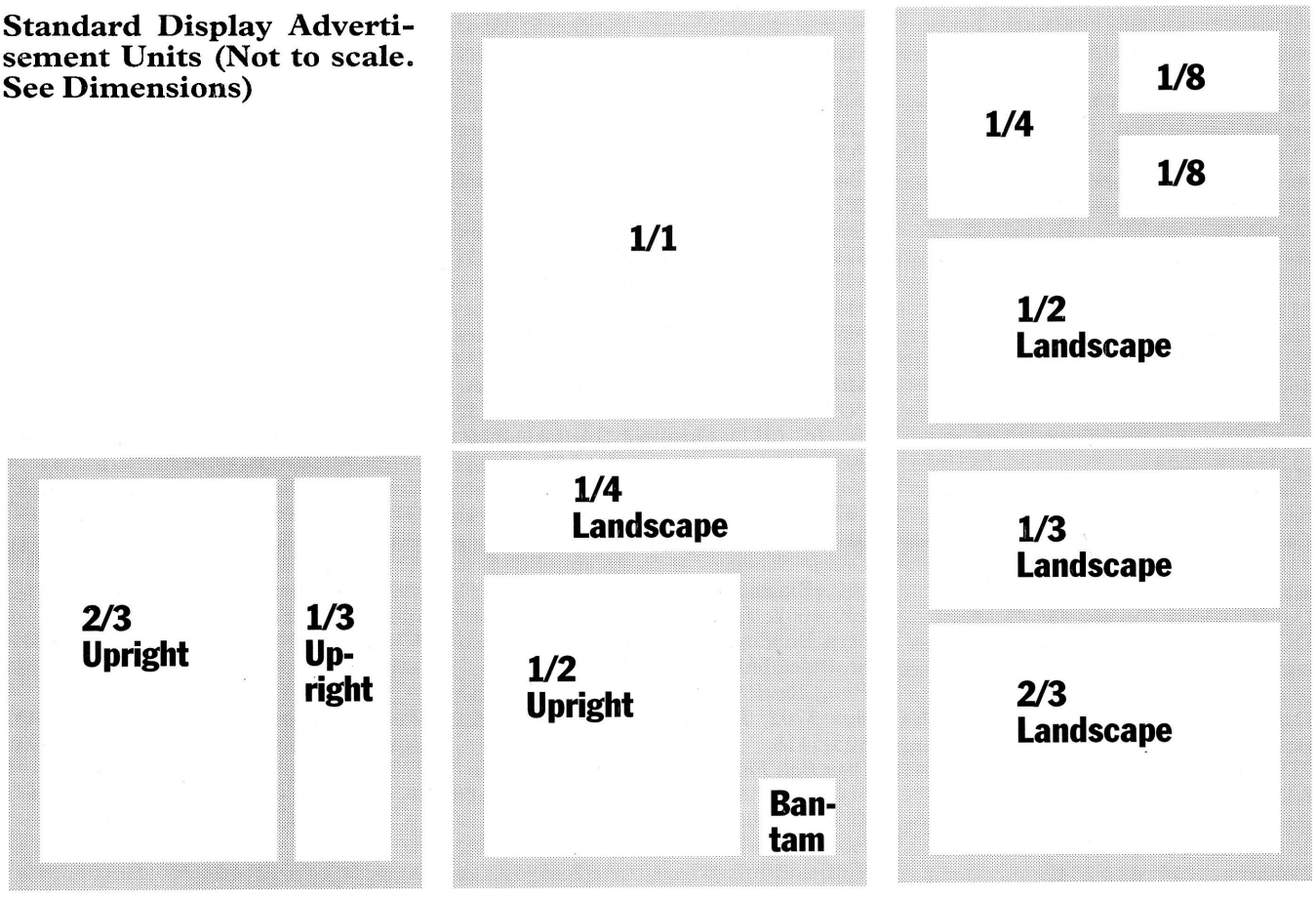

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Rendezvous: 1998

SAPDA members: Overseas

Argyll Etkin Limited – 48 Conduit Street, New Bond Street, London WIR 9FB; ☎ (071) 437-7800; fax (071) 434-1060
AL Garfield – 39 Malford Grove, South Woodford, London E18 2DY, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 181 989-6417; fax (0944) 181 504-9137
Christies Robson Lowe – C Fraser, 502 Park Avenue, New York NY 10022, United States of America; ☎ (o) (091) 212 546-1087; fax (091) 212 750-5874
Clive Peltz Philatelist – 13/11 Yair Stern, Naveh Amirin, Herzlia 46412, Israel; ☎ (o) (09972) 9 55-5092
Colin Whitehead & Associates – 4 Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 4LA, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 181 660-9063; fax (0994) 181 660-9063
D Pollard – P.O. Box 357, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5SG, United Kingdom
David Brandon – Wellington House, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1DE, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1483 50-3335; fax (0944) 1483 56-0812
David Feldman S A – PO Box 81, CH-1213 Onex, Switzerland; ☎ (o) (0941) 22 757-3901; fax (0941) 22 757-4957
David J Goulty & Associates – 12 Coltsfoot Close, Ixworth, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 2NJ, UK; ☎/fax (0994) 1359 232603; e-mail djgoulty@aol.com
H & B Philatelists – WB Barrell, PO Box 73, Spalding., Lincolnshire PE11 4LU, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1775 84-0849; fax (0944) 1775 84-0216
Harmers of London – G Childs, 91 New Bond Street London WIA 4EH United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 171 629-0218; fax (0944) 171 495-0260
Interstamps – R Morgenegg, Postfach 957, Schaffhausen CH-8201, Switzerland; ☎ (o) (0941) 52 643-5335
Jessie Vlavianos – PO Box 155, Kilkenny, South Australia, 5009, Australia
John Deering – "The Machins", PO Box 2, South Moulton EX36 4YZ, Devon EX36 4YZ, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1398 34-1564; fax (0944) 1398 34-1564
Kutz Experte für Philatelie – Postfach 520447, D-2000 Hamburg 52, West Germany
Mike Holt – PO Box 177, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 3DE, United Kingdom; ☎ (0944) 1384 44-3317; fax (0944) 1384 44-0877
Murray Payne Limited – SM Babbington, P.O. Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2EW, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1934 73-2511; fax (0944) 1934 73-3498
Muscott's – D Muscott, Meadrow, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3HL, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1483 41-7884; fax (0944) 1483 86-0572
Ormskirk Stamps – O Peetoom, Rectory Road, Roos NR Hull, E Yorks HU12 0LD, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1964 67-0239; fax (0944) 1964 67-1204
Philaclassica A G – M Eichele, PO Box 563, Basel 4001, Switzerland; ☎ (o) (0941) 61 261-7328; fax (0941) 61 261-7377
Ritchie Bodily – G Bodily, 72 Fitzjohns Avenue, London NW3, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 171 435-8425; fax (0944) 171 794-8682
Ruby Birkan Philatelist – PO Box 39794, 61397 Tel Aviv, Israel; ☎ (o) (09972) 99 57-1594; fax (09972) 99 56-2202
Spink Stamps – 5 King Street, London SW1Y 6QS, United Kingdom; ☎ 0171 747-6932; fax 0171 747-6940
Stanley Gibbons Limited – 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 171 836-8444; fax (0944) 171 836-7342
The Cecil Court Stamp Shop – Simon Andrews, 6 Cecil Court, Near Leicester Square, London WC2 4HE, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 171 240-1051; fax (0944) 171 379-1477
The Philatelic Exporter – GR Phillips, PO Box 137, Hatfield, Hert AL10 9DB, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1707 266331; fax (0944) 1707 274782
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WE Lea (Philatelists) – Kestrel Grange, The Mount Esher, Surrey R4 2AL, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1372 46-8263; fax (0944) 1372 46-8259
W Ramsay Strachan – Central House, 19 Old Steine, Brighton BN1 1GD, United Kingdom; ☎ (o) (0944) 1273 57-0687; fax (0944) 1273 69-6900

Society meetings 1998

WHERE only one telephone number appears, it is that of the home, unless "w" for work is also indicated.

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
Vergader vierde Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 vir 19h30 Teekamer, Patologiegebou, h/v Dr Savage en Beatrixstraat, Pretoria. Eresekretaris ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 706, Pretoria 0001; ☎ (012) 653-2279.

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Johannesburg
Vergader tweede Saterdag van die maand. 14h00 "Harmoniehof" Saratogalaan 9. Doornfontein. Eresekretaris A de Jong, Posbus 91287, Auckland Park 2006; ☎ (011) 888-3174.

Alberton Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Activities Room, Alberton Library. Hon Secretary Piet Steyn, PO Box 2458, Alberton 1450; ☎(011) 867-1525.

Bellville Philatelic Society
Meets first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Bellville Biblioteek se Ouditorium. Hon Secretary R Janse van Vuuren. PO Box 641, Bellville 7535; ☎ (021) 946-3665.

Boksburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Round Table Hall, Waterson Street, Parkdene, Boksburg. Hon Secretary Jimmy Mitchell, PO Box 9202 Cinda Park 1463; ☎w (011) 824-3430

Botswana Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Gaborone Sun Hotel, Gaborone. Hon Secretary Lene Bay. PO Box 1240, Gaborone, Botswana

Centurion Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Auditorium Main Library cnr Cantonments Rd and Unie Ave, Centurion. Hon Secretary Val Brown, PO Box 22055, Lyttleton 0104; ☎ (012) 664-3347.

Cusaf Stamp Club
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 13h00 26 Loveday Street, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary M Wiggill, PO Box 8615, Johannesburg 2000; ☎h (011) 486-1999; w 491-1427.

East London Philatelic Society
Meets fourth Thursday of the month. 19h30 Langenhoven Hall, Central Library, Gladstone Street, East London. Hon Secretary Joan Muller, PO Box 925, East London 5200; ☎ (0431) 24740

East Rand Philatelic Society
Meets second Monday of the month, 19h30 for 20h00, Benoni Library Theatre, Rothsay Street. Hon Secretary Dr Alan Rose, PO Box 13664, Northmead 1511; ☎ (011) 816-1928.

Edenvale Philatelic Society
Meets first Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Edenvale Community Centre, entrance 2nd Street off van Riebeeck Ave. Hon Secretary Yvonne Tonini, PO Box 1040, Bedfordview 2008; ☎ (011) 455-5584.

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Minor Hall, Civic Centre, Central Circle, Fish Hoek. Hon Secretary Margaret Reynolds, PO Box 22388, Fish Hoek 7975; ☎ (021) 782-2653.

Germiston Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Tuesday of the month (except December). 20h00 Library Conference Theatre, New Civic Centre, Ger-

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miston. Hon Secretary Mike Jackson, PO Box 30, Germiston 1400; ☎h (011) 826-2005; w 820-5157.

Goudveld Filatelievereniging
Vergader laaste Donderdag van die maand. 19h00 Kerksaal NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus, Sekretaresse G Conradie, Posbus 209, Odendaalsrus 9480; ☎ (057) 42864.

Hoëveldrif Seëlklub
Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Biblioteekouditorium, Secunda, Posbus 2574, Secunda 2302. Ere-Sekretaris Colin Thomas ☎ (017) 634-1762; w (017) 639-1380.

Kimberley Philatelic Society
Meets second Monday of the month. 19h00 Venues to be advised in monthly newsletter. Hon Secretary John Horner, 11 Diomedes Street, Herlear, Kimberley 8301; ☎h (0531) 822712; w 34251.

Klerksdorp Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Thursday of each month. 18h30 at Lecture Hall, Klerksdorp Library. Hon Secreatry W Ward, PO Box 712, Klerksdorp 2570; ☎ (018) 462-2671.

Maritzburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Monday of the month with the exception of March and April. 19h30 St Matthews Parish Hall, cnr Olsen Road and Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Hon Secretary Anne Southwood, PO Box 256, Pietermaritzburg 3200; ☎ (0331) 43-4803.

Mashonaland Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 for 20h00 Riembarta Building, Samora Machel Ave East, Harare, Zimbabwe. Hon Secretary SA Weaver, PO Box 2735, Harare, Zimbabwe; ☎ (4) 33-1347.

Nigel Stamp Club
Meets on the last Monday of the month. 18h30 for 19h00 Methodist Church Hall, Nigel. Hon Secretary Lesley Leesman, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; ☎ (011) 814-3377.

Northern Natal Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Thursday of each month 19h00, 30 Oak Ave Arbor Park, Newcastle. Hon. Secretary Frans van Es, PO Box 8224, Newcastle 2940; ☎ (03431) 24626.

Orange Free State Philatelic Society
Meets on the fourth Friday of the month (except December). 19h00 Oorlogs Museum, Bloemfontein. Ere-sekretaris Dr Henning van Tonder, Posbus 702, Bloemfontein 9300; ☎ (051) 22-0719.

Paarlse Filateliste
Vergader op die derde Donderdag van die maand. 20h00 Dagsentrum, Huis Vergenoegd, Hoofstraat, Paarl. Ere-sekretaris JPH Naudé, Posbus 60, Paarl, 7622; ☎ (021) 872-5285

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
Meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 19h30 Moth Hall cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Dr Ian Matheson, PO Box 84550, Greenside 2034; ☎ 802-8076; w (011) 951-2814; fax (011) 762-7327.

Philatelic Society of Natal
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 19h30 for 20h00 Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand and Ferguson Road, Glenwood. Hon Secretary Ann White, PO Box 588, Durban 4000; ☎ (031) 83-4124; w (031) 305-1930.

Pietersburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 19h30 Pietersburg Bowls Club, Voortrekker St. Pietersburg. Hon Secretary Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; ☎h (015) 297-2723; w (015) 297-2942; fax (015) 297-2122.

Pinelands Stamp Circle
Meets on the last Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Activities Room, Public Library, Howard Place, Pinelands. Hon Secretary John Stinson, PO Box 520, Howard Place 7450;☎(021) 531-1591.

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Bible Society, 31 Cotswold Road, Cotswold. Hon Secretary Graham Butcher, PO Box 3, Port Elizabeth 6000; ☎ (041) 71-1933; w (041) 31-1138.

Pretoria Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Monday of the month. 19h30 St Alban's College, Clearwater Road, Lynnwood Glen. Hon Secretary Liz Harris, PO Box 36473, Menlo Park, Pretoria 0102; ☎ (012) 667-2572.

Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
Meets on the second and fourth Monday of the month. 20h00, Athenaeum, 2 Athenaeum Road (off Newlands Station carpark). Hon Secretary Mary Rogers, PO Box 1973, Cape Town 8000; ☎ w (021) 762-4077.

Royal Philatelic Society Zimbabwe
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Senior Citizens' Club Bulawayo, 11a Clark Road, Suburbs. Hon Secretary Gordon Murray, PO Box 803, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; ☎Blwyo 97-1627.

Sandton Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Monday of the month. 19h30 Moth Hall, Philatelic Centre, cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary S Heyl, PO Box 226, Pinegowrie 2123; ☎ (011) 787-5573.

Sanlam Filatelievereniging
Posbus 1 Sanlamhof 7532. Sekretaris AC Vermeulen; ☎ (021) 947-3118.

Sasolburg Filatelievereniging ("Oilfilat")
Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Sasolburgse Munisipale Biblioteek.

Die jeugafdeling vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 16h00 Corystraat 3. Ere-sekretaris GJ Scheepers, Posbus 806, Sasolburg 9570; ☎ (016) 976-9925.

Society of Israel Philately
Meets on the first Monday of the month, Committee Room of the Waverley Synagogue, 5 Kenneth Road Waverley, Johannesburg at 20h00. Hon Secretary David Stern RDPSA FRPSL, PO Box 1915, Houghton 2041; ☎h (011) 444-4243; w (011) 784-8312; fax (011) 784-8315; e-mail: dstern@iafrica.com

Springs Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Monday of the month. 19h30 Springs Community Centre, cnr Fifth St and Sixth Ave. Hon Secretary A Jakoveljevic, PO Box 487, Springs, 1560; ☎ (011) 818-4320.

Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging
Vergader op die derde Dinsdag van die maand. 19h30 (behalwe in Desember en Januarie) Lesingsaal, Openbare Biblioteek, Pleinstraat, Stellenbosch. Ere-sekretaris C. de Wet Posbus 2163, Dennesig 7601; ☎ (021) 887-2448.

Vereeniging Stamp Club
Meets on the third Friday of the month. 19h00 Small Activities Room, Public Library (Leslie Street entrance). Contact MS Weitzmann, PO Box 222, Vereeniging 1930; ☎w (016) 422-1177.

West Rand Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Wednesday of the month (including juniors), 17h45 at Fosset's Building, Florida Lake. Hon Secretary Mary Bromfield, PO Box 1118, Florida 1710; ☎ (011) 763-3098.

Windhoek Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Sunday morning (excluding December) at 10h00 at the home of member Gerd Keding, Avis Road 10, Windhoek. Ere-sekretaris Jochen Bracht, Posbus 2285, Windhoek, Namibia; ☎ (061) 23-1681.

Witbank Philatelic Society
Meets every second month at a member's home. Hon Secretary John Bird, 8 Karel Street, Del Judor, Witbank 1035; ☎ (0135) 92-8872.

Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 20h00 at Johannesburg Country Club. Secretary Mervyn Baily, PO Box 61166, Marshalltown 2107; ☎ h (011) 886-4852 w 762-3023.

Worcester Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Monday of every second month. 20h00 at a member's home. President Dr MD de Klerk, 10 Koort St, Panorama, Worcester 6850; ☎ (0231) 28044.

Specialist Societies

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa
Transvaal section meets on the third Saturday of odd months at 14h00 at home of the Hon Secretary Jana Uys, 3 Violet St, Kempton Park ext 4 1619; ☎ (011) 975-7491.

Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society
Meetings as advised in the *Anglo-Boer War Philatelist* and usually in South Africa during the philatelic congress week. Hon Secretary PM

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Prime, 56 Mount Way, Waverton, Chester, Cheshire, CH3 7QF, England. The society concerns itself with the four provinces during the 1899-1902 war, including prisoner-of-war camps abroad and associated mail. A quarterly journal is published.

Cape Society for Palestine-Israel Philately
Meets on the third Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Highlands House, Upper Buitenkant, Vredehoek. Hon Secretary Dr Leon Stein, PO Box 6160, Roggebaai 8012; ☎ (021) 52-4124.

Filatelisten Vereeniging Zuidelijk Afrika
Eresekretaris J Stolk, Wilgensingel 166, 3053 CZ Rotterdam, Nederland. Verteenwoordiger in Suid-Afrika, GD Bresser, Hoggestraat 13, Sasolburg 9570.

Great Britain Philatelic Society of SA
Meets on the first Saturday of the month in February, June, August, October and December. 14h30 at a member's home in Johannesburg or Pretoria. Hon Secretary Marge Viljoen, PO Box 835, Groenkloof 0027; ☎ (012) 46-7339.

Orange Free State Study Circle
Meets in London or other convenient centres as advised in the *OFS Bulletin*. Hon Secretary Richard Stroud, 28 Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, TA8 1LQ England. Specialist society promoting research and study of all aspects of OFS and ORC stamps and postal services through to 1910. Quarterly bulletin is published.

Philatelic Society for Greater SA
Hon Secretary B Hisey, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL33872 USA. Representative in South Africa Dr HU Bantz, PO Box 6913, Westgate 1724; ☎ (011) 376-2524.

Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa
Meets on the third Saturday of the month in which there are five Saturdays. 14h00 Philatelic Centre, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary Marge Viljoen, P.O. Box 835, Groenkloof 0027; ☎ (012) 46-7339.

Rhodesian Study Circle
Meets quarterly. Hon Secretary KD Hanman, 71 Keswick Drive, Lightwater, Surrey, GU18 5XE, England

South African Stamp Study Circle
Meets on the second Saturday of the month. 13h45 Philatelic Centre, cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Robin Messenger, PO Box 84550, Greenside 2034; ☎ (011) 787-5536.

South African Collectors' Society
Hon Secretary RW Ross, 28 Duddon Drive, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 3TW, UK; ☎ (01229) 47-4077

South West Africa Stamp Study Group
Meets on the last Wednesday of the month, 19h30 (except December) at a member's home alternately in Johannesburg and Pretoria. Hon Secretary Marge Viljoen, PO Box 835, Groenkloof 0027;☎(012) 46-7339.

Southern Africa Post Card Research Group
Proceedings are by correspondence only as membership is too scattered for meetings. There are newsletters and postal auctions. Chairman: Archie Atkinson, 8 Scarlett Rd, Castletown, Isle of man, 1M9 1MT British Isles, Secretary (South Africa) Dr Ryno Greenwall. Treasurer (South Africa) DA Wengrowe, PO Box 76, Rondebosch 7701; ☎/fax (021) 685-1892.

Thematic Stamp Club of Southern Africa
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Hall of Church of Christ the King, Milner Rd, Claremont. Hon Secretary David Dowie-Dunn, PO Box 146, Cape Town 8000; ☎ (h) (021) 797-0573.

Transvaal Study Circle
AGM held in London, meetings are also held in South Africa. Hon Secretary Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale Street, Chatham ME4 6QH. A specialist journal *The Transvaal Philatelist* is published quarterly. Representative in South Africa Gawie van der Walt, PO Box 20022, Noordbrug 2522; ☎ w (018) 294-4201; fax (018) 294-4202, h ☎/fax (018) 294-8027

Specialist Societies, Trade

South African Philatelic Dealers' Association
PO Box 47285, Parklands 2121. Hon Secretary George Cafetzoglou; ☎ (011) 646-2629

Philatelic Traders of Southern Africa
PO Box 167127, Brackendowns 1454. Secretary X. Laubscher; ☎ (011) 867-2811

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For more information contact:
The Secretary, Mrs A White
P.O. Box 588
Durban 4000
☎ (031) 305-1930 (W)

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Rendezvous: 1998

Junior Rendezvous – 1998

Youth Activities Committee Chairman/Secretary
Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ (011) 896-2845

Newsletter editor
David Wigston, PO Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ h (011) 896-2975 w (012) 429-6423/6791 fax (012) 429-3346; e-mail: wigstdj@alpha.unisa.ac.za

Mr Yaccy Postal Club (Stamp Packet Service)
For details contact Ursula White, PO Box 1834, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ (011) 896-1308. Mr Yaccy is a country-wide stamp club operating by post to all its members.

Treasurer
Rowland Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ (011) 896-2845

OFS Representative
Jan van Beukering, PO Box 29005, Danhof, Bloemfontein 9310; ☎ (051) 430-6550

Western Cape Representative
Dennis Horn, PO Box 471, Kuilsrivier 7580; ☎ (021) 903-3363

Club Liaison
Allan White, PO Box 1834, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ (011) 896-1308

Current junior societies affiliated to the Federation are listed below. The information is given in the following sequence: name of club, frequency of meeting and time; venue; youth leader and address and ☎ number.

Alberton Junior Stamp Club
Second Wednesday 19:30
Alberton Library
Peter Steyn, PO Box 2458, Alberton 1450; ☎ (011) 867-1525

Benoni Junior Stamp Club
Third Saturday of the month 09:30
Rynfield Primary School, Malherbe St, Rynfield, Benoni
Dave Hunt, PO Box 11388, Rynfield 1514; ☎ (011) 849-4578

Centurion Seëlmaats
Eerste Saterdag van die maand 14:00
Eldoraigne Biblioteek, Centurion
Ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 52011, Wierdapark 0149; ☎ (012) 653-2279

De Kuilen Jeugklub
Eerste Maandag van die maand 17:15
Manatokalaan 23, Kuilsrivier
Dennis Horn, Posbus 471, Kuilsrivier 7579; ☎ (021) 903-3363

Edenvale Youth Philatelic Society
First Wednesday of the month 18:30 – 19:30
Edenvale Community Centre, cnr. Van Riebeeck Avenue & 2nd Street, Edenvale
Steve J Bailie; ☎ h (011) 609-2709; w (011) 834-4230

Flamingo Junior Stamp Club
Thursday twice a month 15:00 – 14:30
Rosettenville Library
Marietjie Thornton, PO Box 1369, Southdale 2135; ☎ (011) 435-4119

Freeway Park Primary School Junior Stamp Club
Check with Youth Leader
Freeway Park Primary School, Room 67
Rojane Chivers, PO Box 9151, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ h (011) 896-1675; w (011) 893-2027

Goldfields Junior Stamp Club
Last Thursday of the month 19:00
Church Hall, NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus
Gerrie Conradie, PO Box 209, Odendaalsrus 9480; ☎ h (057) 4-2864

Highveld Ridge Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of the month 10:00
Secunda Library Auditorium
Colin W Thomas, PO Box 304, Secunda 2302; ☎ h (017) 634-1762; w (017) 639-1380 x 2124

Highway Youth Stamp Club
First Friday each month
Umdoni Centre
Dr AL Pringle, and Howard Lenton, PO Box 134, Bothas Hill 3660; ☎ (031) 764-1922

Hout Bay Junior Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 15:30
Hout Bay Library
Kenny Joseph, PO Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872; ☎ h (021) 790-4287; w (021) 790-5943/4

Lepono Land Philately
Tuesday & Thursday 13:15
Lepono Primary School
Solomon Bonoko, Lepono Primary School, PO Swartbooistad 0148

Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club
Last Saturday of the month
Hilton Library
Anne Southwood, 15 Sundale Drive, Hilton 3245; ☎ (0331) 43-4803

Nigel Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of each month 09:00
Nigel Tennis Club
Lesley Leesmann and Charles Rodgers, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; ☎ (011) 814-3377

Olienpark Jeugvereniging
Kontak Susan Habig vir besonderhede
Susan Habig, Posbus 889, Brits 0250; ☎ (01211) 2-0231

OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging
Vierde Vrydag van die maand 18:00 – 19:15
Nasionale Museum, Henry Straat, Bloemfontein
Strooi Sorour, Gelderlandstraat 10, Bayswater 9301; ☎ (051) 33-2038

Penny Black Stamp Club
Every Thursday, 16:00
406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point
Lee Donlin, 406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point, Cape Town 8001; ☎ (021) 439-9293

Philatelic Society of Natal Juniors
First Wednesday 19:30
George Cato Room, City Hall, West St, Durban
Ann White, PO Box 588, Durban 4000; ☎ h (031) 84-6151; w (031) 305-1930

Pietersburg Philatelic Society (Junior Section)
Last Tuesday of the month 19:30
Pietersburg Bowls Club, Voortrekker St, Pietersburg
Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; ☎ h (0152) 297-2723; w (0152) 297-2942

Port Elizabeth Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday every month 14:30
Contact Youth Leader for venue
Clinton Jones, PO Box 12292, Centrahill 6006; ☎ h (041) 53-2067; w (041) 53-2067

Postmark and Postal History Society
Third Saturday of the month with 5 Saturdays
Moth Shellhole, Parkhurst
Paul van Zeyl, PO Box 29012, Sunnyside, Pretoria 0132; ☎ (012) 329-2464

Pretoria Central Moot Junior Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 15:30
Central Moot Library
Bill Meintjies, 478 24th Avenue, Villieria, Pretoria 0186; ☎ (012) 331-3138

St Mary's Seëlklub
Eerste Saterdag van die maand 10:30
Check with Youth Leader for venue
Elizabeth Fernold, Posbus 215, George 6530; ☎ (044) 75-8229

Two Four Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of the month 14:00 – 16:00
Check with Youth Leader for venue
Dave McWilliams, PO Box 925, East London 5200; ☎ h (0431) 47-1378; w (0431) 47-2588

West Rand Philatelic Society (Junior Section)
Third Wednesday of the month 19:45
Old Vos's Hotel, Florida Lake
Lionel Bruyns, PO Box 1118, Florida 1710; ☎ (011) 760-2590

Associated Affiliates
The Committee develops and maintains contacts with philatelic youth organisations world-wide and has associated affiliates in the United Kingdom, United States of America, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Poland, Finland and Sweden. For further information contact Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; ☎ (011) 896 – 2845.
● e-mail: wigstdj@alpha.unisa.ac.za

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

AUGUSTUS 1998

R10,00 BTW inkl.

ISSN 0038-2566

Vol 74:4 829

- Ilsapex 98, and forerunners since 1913
- Dönges: seëls wat nooit verskyn het
- Unravelling the RSA revenues puzzle
- Kimberley postcard book in review
- Highway JUNASS the full results
- In memoriam David Stern

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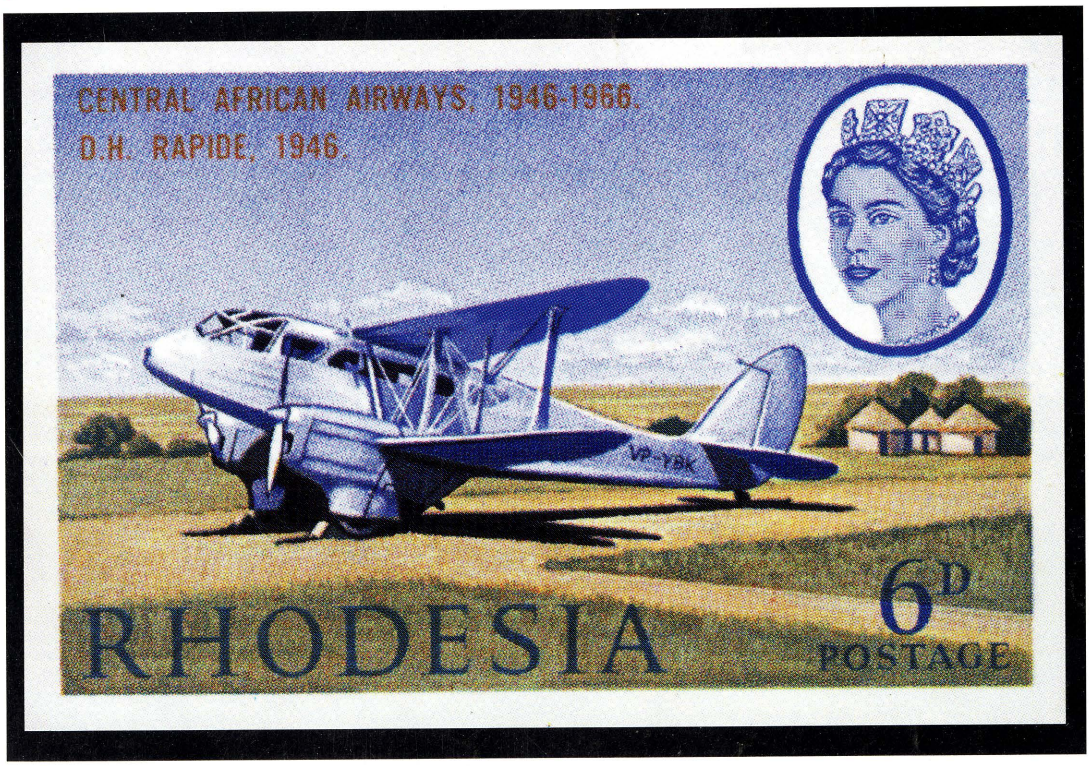
1966 CAA Enlarged progressive essay (1 of 5)
ex R. C. Smith Collection



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THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELIST

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Inhoud/Contents

The first five: International philatelic exhibitions in South Africa from 1913 to 1960 100
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA and Jonas Michelson RDPSA

Now for number nine: ILSAPEX 98 112

Dönges: die verhaal van die seëls wat nooit uitgegee is nie 114
Joh Groenewald RDPSA

The revenue stamps of the RSA: 1978 to 1996 128
Giovanni Palazzo

In memoriam: David Stern RDPSA, FRPSL 130

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag 98

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back 113
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues 119
Howard Godwin

Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag 125
Neville Gomm

News and notes/Aktualiteit 127
Op die velrand/In the margin 131
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse 133
Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf 134
Onderonsies/Society News 134
Philatelic Finders/Snuffelgids 136

Soos ek dit sien/In my view

Die Redakteur/The Editor

DIT was 'n besondere plesier om in samewerking met ons Ere-Lewenspresident Jonas Michelson RDPSA 'n oorsig te probeer bied van wat Suid-Afrikaanse filatelie reeds op plaaslike bodem met internasionale tentoonstellings bereik het. Name van mense wat jy nooit geken het nie, het skielik lewendige persoonlikhede geword in die loop van die navorsing.

Ook was daar die ontdekking dat nie alleen hy nie, maar nog drie ander vooraanstaande filateliste wat in lewende lywe in 1936 by JIPEX in Johannesburg was, nog in ons midde is – oënskynlik met onblusbare en geesdriftige herinnering aan die geleentheid.

Die resultaat is die eerste artikel in hierdie uitgawe van die tydskrif, wat 'n mens ook dadelik dwing om vorentoe te dink, naamlik aan die nou reeds derde internasionale tentoonstelling waarvoor Johannesburg die gasheer is.

Dit moet – en sal sekerlik, die ontydige en tragiese vroeë dood van sy uitvoerende voorsitter ten spyt – 'n sukses wees. Meegevoel word elders uitgespreek. Hier is dit egter aan die orde om Ilsapex 98 alle sukses toe te wens, en dit self te verseker nie net met fisiese bystand nie, maar deur bywoning.

Soos by een van daardie vroeë internasionale tentoonstellings opgemerk is: hierdie geleenthede is die kolleges en universiteite van ons stokperdjie. Ons gaan nie gou weer die geleentheid kry om so omvangryk skool te gaan nie.

THE Federation has acted with commendable swiftness to counteract the problems facing local exhibitors in the next few years – pointed out here in the previous issue. A forceful task group has already identified a suitable venue and time, as well as organisers, for holding a national exhibition in Johannesburg in 1999 (see p134). It is a welcome initiative, which deserves full support.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Bypassing the system

C P W (Pat) Carter of St Ives, NSW, Australia writes: I enclose some interesting "meter marks" (I am not sure if that is the correct term) which are on envelopes posted to me from South Africa from various financial institutions. It would seem that they have bypassed the South African postal system by sending unfranked mail to various countries who in turn have posted them on to me in Australia.

They include: Royal Mail Great Britain; Amsterdam; Royal Viking Post; Mailfast NSW Australia; Mailfast Auckland NZ

Once again perhaps one of your readers can shed some light on the subject.



One of the re-mailing postmarks sent by Mr Pat Carter.

George van den Hurk RDPSA kindly provided the following: The idea of re-mailing is simple. Suppose that, because of cost or quality of service, it is better to post a letter to Germany from Holland than from Britain. Re-mailers ship mail out of Britain in bulk and post it to Germany from Holland instead.

However, it means that the Royal Mail is not paid for some British post to Germany, although it must continue to distribute incoming foreign post. So-called terminal dues are used to settle imbalances in postal flows between countries. If one country delivers more post for another country than vice versa, it is entitled to charge dues to cover its costs.

France and Germany maintain that re-mailing must be eliminated before it undermines their ability to provide a "universal service" which is based on the principle that every address within a country should be within reach, usually at a single price.

They argue that the system of terminal dues undercharges for international mail,

If one country delivers more post for another country yhan vice versa, it is entitled to charge dues to cover its costs.

and so fails to meet the cost of "universal service". As it is based on the weight of incoming mail, the system also fails to take account of the greater cost of delivering many light items rather than one heavy one.

Germany is reported to have lost no less than DM 500 million in 1994 on incoming mail. On the other hand Holland, which has a highly automated low-cost postal distribution system, carved out a strong niche for itself as a "re-mailer" of foreign mail for magazine publishers and other international business customers and argues that price rises would reward inefficiency.

According to a news clipping from the *Financial Times* of 18 January 1995, no agreement was reached on a new pricing structure by the International Post Corporation, comprising of 20 national post offices from Europe and North America.

I have covers mailed from Great Britain, Holland and the USA posted in South Africa for delivery in South Africa by TNT Mailfast and Omega Express.

A cover addressed to South Africa from Brisbane, Australia, where our reader hails from, was posted in the Philippines.

Mail from the USA reaches us often via Denmark and Belgium. When I was living in Switzerland remailed mail from South Africa often came via Holland, Denmark (Royal Viking Post, as illustrated with Mr Carter's letter) and Belgium.

Franking of "re-mail" is mostly by meter franks, inkjet impressions and adhesive labels of which I have examples from Denmark, Belgium and Great Britain.

Sometimes one comes across privately arranged re-mailing, as in the case of a cover from Peter Vogenbeck (a dealer resident in Germany), mailed from St Vith, Belgium, to South Africa. As franking is by means of postage stamps it is difficult to distinguish it as re-mailed.

Re-mailing through another country may also

When I was living in Switzerland remailed mail from South Africa often came via Holland.

depend on other considerations than merely a reduction of postage costs. I have a cover from Holland, franked and posted in Belgium, "Kapellen 15.11.83", addressed to South Africa. The letter was posted in Belgium to circumvent a postal strike in Holland at the time.

More about mail theft

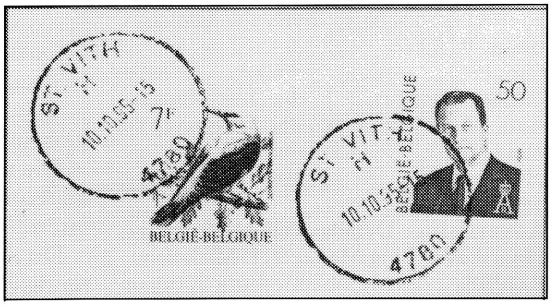
The Senior Manager, Sales and Customer Services, Capemail, writes: With reference to a letter from Mr H C Berneaud, 38 Esme Road, Newlands, regarding your article "Postal Services are of concern to German collector" (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1998, p30).

Attached please find a news release regarding our Crime Buster Campaign which started in April 1997. I also would like to inform you to date 369 employers have been dismissed.

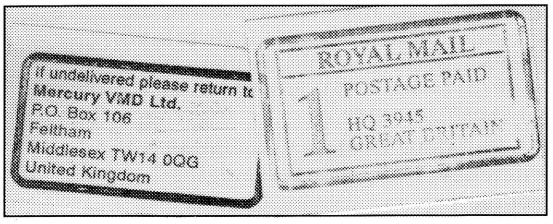
I would like to assure you that the South African Post Office strives to render an efficient and reliable service, and that



From Australia, but mailed in the Philippines to South Africa



Re-mailing labels



Stamps franking a re-mailed postal item

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every endeavour is made to ensure the safe and timeous delivery of mail.

The release, for publication on 2 February 1998, reads:

Post Office to implement comprehensive security strategy – To ensure the safe passage of customers' mail, the Post Office is implementing a comprehensive national security strategy.

Post Office Managing Director, Frank Touwen, says the company is applying zero tolerance regarding postal theft and fraud. Since April last year 276 employees have been dismissed for criminal activities while 22 members of the public have been arrested in connection with postal crime. Only last week nine employees in Durban were dismissed for fraudulent overtime claims.

All security policies and procedures are being reviewed.

Officially opening the first course for further training of security staff in Pretoria today (Monday 2 February 1998) Mr Touwen said the comprehensive security strategy, endorsed by all the company's trade unions, entails the use of all legitimate methods – overt and covert – to root out crime. All security policies and procedures are being reviewed and an ethical code is being refined which will be signed by all employees. Security personnel will operate according to a code of conduct and crime prevention forums will be set up countrywide. Personnel will be further trained to ensure the successful implementation of the strategy.

The first training course which started today, entails two-week training in investigation methods, crime scene management, Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure and liaison with other bodies such as the Justice Department and South African Police Services. The course is co-ordinated by Technikon Pretoria and UNISA and eventually 250 Post Office security employees will undergo this and other security courses.

Mr Touwen urged the public to assist the Post Office in its commitment to stamp out postal crime by reporting any unlawful practice regarding mail violations, to the crime buster tollfree hotline on the number – 0800 033554. Since the number was publicised last year, the call rate has increased by 350 per cent. Presently (sic!) 140 cases are being investigated following information on the crime buster line. Callers may remain anonymous and in cases where information leads to arrests and convictions, rewards are payable.

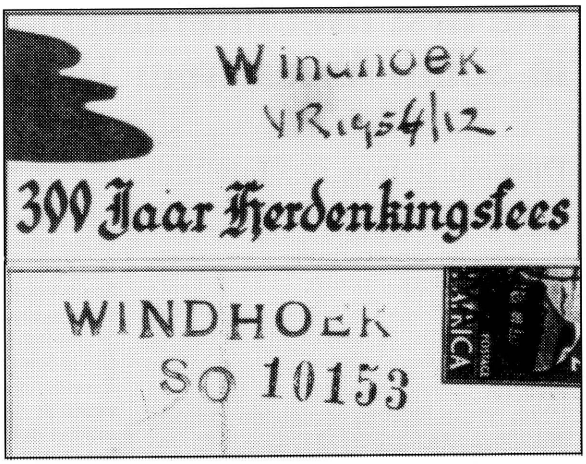
SWA letters by registrasie

Leo Crandel van Heemskerk, Nederland skryf: Ek sou raai dat die RV of Rv by die briewe wat Chris Cordes wys (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1998, p31) 'n kode is wat staan vir "Royal Visit".

Ek het byvoorbeeld 'n Van Riebeeck Gedenkkoevert met die Windhoek reguitlyn stempel, en die handgeskrewe aantekening "VR1954/12", waar die VR tog seker "Van Riebeeck" moet wees, en een met die seëls toe Wêreldoorlog II beëindig is, waar die nommeringstempel voorafgegaan word deur "SO" – bes moontlik staan die "O" vir "Oorlog", of die "SO" is die eerste twee letters van "South".

'n Soortgelyke EDK met die reeks van die Wêreldposunie van 1949 daarop het 'n handgeskrewe "SS97/IO" daarop, maar die laaste twee letters kan ook miskien die syfers "10" wees. As dit 'n kode is, kan ek dit nie raai nie.

En dan, ten laaste, 'n EDK uit Windhoek wat uitgereik is by die kroning van Koningin Eliabeth II. Onder die stempel staan, handgeskrewe, "C3470/1", waar die "C" tog seker staan vir "Coronation".



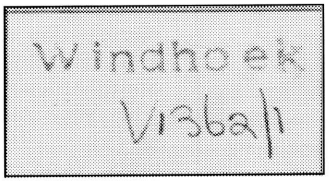
Twee SWA gekodeerde registrasienommers

Die koninklike toer van 1947

Dr David de Klerk van Worcester skryf: Wat die Koninklike Toer van 1947 betref, waaroor Chris Cordes skryf in *The SA Philatelist* van April 1998, p31, graag die volgende:

Die Windhoek RV of Rv stempel het te doen met die registrasie van die posstukke – twee van sy afdrukke is dié van geregistreerde stukke. Ek het ook twee geregistreerde EDKs (een handels-/een privaat) wat die Rv daarop het.

Die Windhoek sonder Rv verskyn ook op UPU en Voortrekkermonument geregistreerde EDKs in 1949.



Deel van die Voortrekker Monument EDK

Afleiding: 'n "John Bull" tipe stempel (?) of beskadig en later verander.

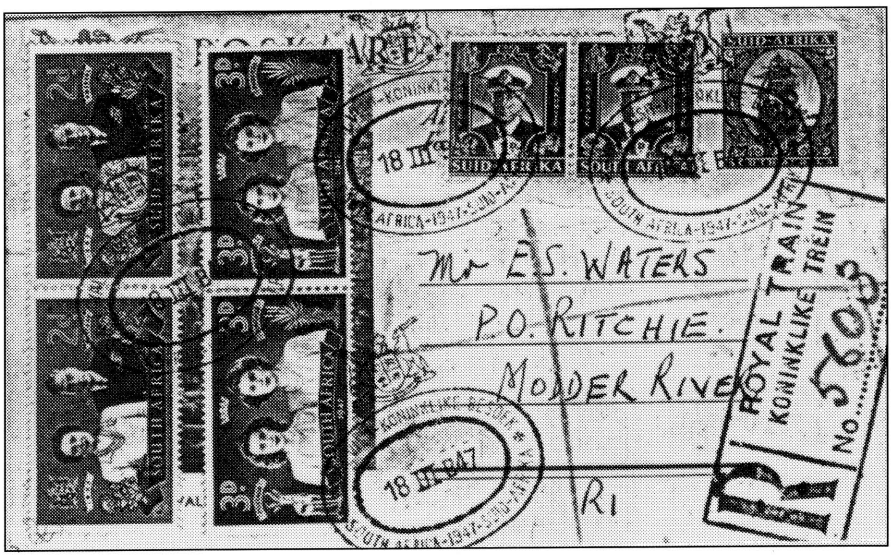
Ek sluit ook 'n fotostaat in van 'n poskaart van die koninklike trein, geskryf deur 'n personeellid op die voorloper (pilot train) wat voor die regte koninklike trein geloop het, en daarop gepos is – 'n bevestiger van die Maltese kruise aan die kante van die stempel. (Verwys hieroor na die *Post Office Stone*, Vol 29 no 2/1997, Desember 1997).

Terloops, vanaf 1938 tot 1965 verskyn 'n verskeidenheid van rubber registrasiestempels op EDKs van Suidwes-Afrika. Net in 1948 (Silwer Bruilof) is daar 'n Registrasieplakker – Windhoek 2 – op.

It was missed in the Handbook

Hugh Amoore of Cape Town writes: Arie Bakker's overprints (see *The SA Philatelist* June 1998, p62) are from Set 6. Hagger does list these (p208, column 1): ". . . spacings varied indiscriminately from 9 tot 12 mm".

I have strips, blocks and a part sheet showing this.



Poskaart van die Koninklike Trein

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The first five: International philatelic exhibitions in South Africa from 1913 to 1960

THIS issue of *The SA Philatelist* appears on the eve of the international exhibition Ilsapex 98, to be held from 20 to 25 October this year – the first in South Africa with the support of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie. *Jonas Michelson* RDP-SA, the Hon Life President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, and the *Editor* agreed that it was an opportune moment to record as much as might be found from first-hand and published sources concerning previous international exhibitions held in South Africa – hence this joint article.

Durban: 30 June to 5 July 1913

IN his compact history (see ref. 1) of exhibitions held in South Africa since the early beginnings up to the national exhibition Pietermaritzburg 150 (22 to 27 November 1988), Pauw Steyl records five predecessors to the event in Durban in 1913. These were exhibitions held by the Pretoria Philatelic Society in 1903 and 1904, one in Durban and one in Pretoria in 1906, and a further exhibition in Pretoria in 1911.

It is a moot point why the 1913 exhibition in Durban, organised by the Philatelic Society of Natal, should by now have come to be accepted as South Africa's first international event of the kind, as it did not designate itself as such. A contemporaneous poster (Fig. 1) and the catalogue call it simply the "South African Philatelic Exhibition".


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STAMPS

Fig. 1 Display poster, reproduced in *The SA Philatelist*, October 1970 p236.

A case can certainly be made out that it was international, by virtue of participation alone, and that it thus was South Africa's first. The *Natal Mercury* of 1 July 1913 reports: "The exhibition includes collections not only from South Africa, but from England and America, and had circumstances permitted there would have been exhibits from Australia."

Exhibiting publishers from abroad aside, such as Whitfield, King & Co, Bright & Son and Paul Kohl, the only international philatelic exhibitor's name which is still in current memory is that of Leon de Raay. His "Transvaal Forgeries" was awarded a Gold Medal in Class 10, and the *Natal Mercury* (see above) reported "it has been suggested that the collection be acquired by the Government, as, regarded as a work of reference, it is almost priceless". In Class 7 (Literature) De Raay's *Les Falsifications du Transvaal* was awarded a Bronze.

It was without a shadow of a doubt the most important exhibition yet held in South Africa, regarded highly enough by George V to accept the organising committee's invitation to become the Patron-in-Chief. The acceptance, in a letter written on his behalf by the Keeper of his Majesty's Privy Purse, is dated 5 March 1913 (2).

Moreover, the patrons were the administrators of Natal (C J Smythe), Transvaal (Johann Rissik) and the Cape Colony (!) (Sir Frederic de Waal) as well as the Governor-General, Lord Gladstone, who opened the exhibition. True to official form, he made a weak joke for which he was duly applauded, recognised "the acquisition of useful knowledge" which the hobby entailed, and got the job done.

Sylvester L Crozet notes (2) that there were eleven competitive classes which drew 115 entries (according to the *Natal Mercury*), another source (3) gives over 200), of which only 49 received awards.

The adjudicators were not pleased with the arrangement of her collection.

The *Natal Mercury* in its report quotes the jury's disapprobations quite openly: "Mr C Jewitt's Ceylon, though fine in rare old issues, were rather poor in regard to condition and arrangement, and completeness of later issues, otherwise he would have been higher up the prize list." And: "Mrs Polkinghorne. . . has not been well placed throughout, as the adjudicators were not pleased with the arrangement of her collection".

Crozet writes: "In a directive to the judges, published in the rules, it is intriguing to note that these people were requested to take the following factors into consideration when making their awards: Completeness, Philatelic Knowledge and Research, Condition, and Arrangement and Neatness. These requirements. . . it will be noted, do not appear to have altered in any great measure during the last half-century." (The Rules and Entry Forms were distributed as early as October 1912.)

What has decidedly altered though, is that judges may no longer exhibit compe-

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titively. The judges were Geo Blockey, W P Cohen, A Leslie Farrow, M L Levitt, E D Lieberman and Emile Tamsen. Cohen, Farrow and Levitt participated and gained awards, Cohen garnering two Golds.

Only ten gold medals altogether were awarded, one of them to G J Allis for his Cape Triangulars, one of the first ten signatories to the Federation's Roll of Honour in 1932, and the authour of a classic work on Cape philately. Another RDPSA of the same vintage, Charles Hands, was also an exhibitor.

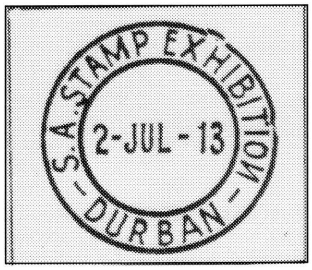

Fig. 2 The special 1913 exhibition postmark.

"In connection with the postmark" (Fig. 2) the *Natal Mercury* notes, "it has been noticed that the 'N' of 'exhibition' has been reversed, and some visitors suggest that this has been pre-arranged, but this is not so. The order for the die was handed to the postal authorities, and the work executed by them."

The president of the exhibition was the mayor of Durban, F C Hollander, and there were nine vice-presidents, headed by the city's postmaster, W Coleman, and including S A Klagsbrun and Emil Tamsen – both co-signatories of the Roll with Allis and Hands in 1932.

The organising committee had J Chamberlain FRPSL (RDPSA, 1955) as chairman, W J Austin vice-chairman, A Law, E D Lieberman, J Posner, C J Richardson and R Webb as members, and the secretary and treasurer was J Norman Welsford (RDPSA, October 1948).

Chamberlain in 1937 recalled the beginnings of the exhibition (3). "Very shortly after we had started on our venture" (founding the Philatelic Society of Natal on 28 September 1911) "our energetic Honorary Secretary Mr Welsford startled the members with his proposal for a philatelic exhibition to be held during the Durban gala season; although some dismay was evident, the members, who could see how determined the secretary was to overcome what appeared to be insuperable obstacles, unanimously agreed to show the world how an exhibition should be run!".

The modest eight-page catalogue carried no advertising. On the final page it listed seven philatelic societies then "known to be active in South Africa". These were Cape Town (later Royal), East London, Johannesburg United, Rhodesia, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria and Natal societies.

Durban: 2 to 12 July 1928

THE Fédération Internationale de Philatélie had been founded in 1926, but one doubts that it had already begun extending its patronage or support to international exhibitions. It was still be a long time before this would have been a consideration in South Africa in any event, as the Federation only affiliated to FIP as late as at its 61st Congress, held in Granada, on 5 May 1992.

Moreover, there was no Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa which could have involved FIP at the time when the Durban exhibition of 1928 was organised. The Philatelic Congress, as it was then known, was only established in the course of the exhibition at an inaugural meeting held on 4 July.

There is no doubt, however, that this was a fully international exhibition in the modern sense. The catalogue is so titled, and it was held under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Natal, in co-operation with the seven societies listed in the catalogue of 1913, with the addition of the Johannesburg Stamp Club.

Proper overseas representatives (nowadays termed commissioners) had been appointed. These were Robson Lowe for Great Britain, J C Godinho for India, Leon de Raay for Holland, M Galvez for Spain and Messrs E Luder-Edelman for Switzerland. The Patron-in-Chief was once again George V, followed by no less than 29 patrons. This list was headed by the Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of the Union, and included the prime minister, General J B M Hertzog, all four administrators of the provinces, what seems like half the consular corps, and the presidents of all the co-operating societies.

Bishop wrote the foreword to the catalogue.

The exhibition committee was chaired by W Percy Williams, and notably included among its 16 members Percy C Bishop RDP, who had arrived in Durban in 1921 to take up his appointment as editor of the *Natal Advertiser*. Bishop wrote the foreword to the catalogue. The secretary was once again Norman Welsford, with P E Morin becoming the treasurer.

There were 25 jury members, each participating society nominating one or two and the Natal society seven. Emil Tamsen served, of course, and from England there was Fred J Mellville, the renowned author of a series of philatelic guides and founder of the Junior Philatelic Society.

The substantial 60-page catalogue carried advertisements from all over. One for *The SA Philatelist*, of course, which was then in its sixth year; from A Lichtenstein of Rouxville who was still dealing into fairly recent times; firms still dealing today like Harmers and Stanley Gibbons; and famous names from yester-year like F Hugh Vallancey, Chas. Nissen & Co and Sefi, Pemberton & Co.

And naturally, Robson Lowe, at Stall 13. Throughout the catalogue, as a running page headline wherever space had still been available, there was the reminder: "The Rarest Stamp in the Exhibition is at Stall 13". This presumably referred to the 7/6 St Helena stamp he had acquired on the island on the outward voyage, and was selling at the exhibition for £1.

No less than 22 classes were provided by the exhibition organisers, most with multiple subsections, and one Gold, one Silver and one Oxydised-Silver Plaque (Fig. 3) were awarded in each class, beside several Championship Silver Cups and donated medals. The frames (then called cases) were surprisingly similar to those in current use, and were designed by G W Hockey (later to contribute volu-



Fig. 3 The 1928 exhibition plaque.

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minously to *The SA Philatelist* on meter marks).

The venue was the first floor of Shaw Brothers' Wool Mart, and *The SA Philatelist* in its issue for June 1928 carried a full page announcement, with map, on its masthead page (Fig. 4). In July readers were reminded of the inaugural Congress meeting, and the report came in the August issue (4).

Upwards of 7 000 people visited the exhibition, according to *The SA Philatelist* (4), which was opened by W B Madeley, the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

"The collection of Cape Triangulars sent by Mr A F Lichtenstein of New York naturally carried away the Gold plaque in its class, for it contains a great number of extremely rare items, including a block of four 'Woodblocks' containing the 4d red error. . .

"No one could possibly doubt that Mr E J Lee's specialised 50-volume collection of Uruguay was the finest collection on the exhibition and fully deserved the Exhibition Championship Cup. . .

"While no one who attended the exhibition can deny that the majority of the important collections came, not unnaturally, from overseas, there were many South African-owned collections of exceptional merit."

The following were singled out: L Simenhoff (Union, SA airmails stamps and covers, both Gold), H Mallet-Veale (South West Africa, Gold), and H H Hurst (Natal, Gold). Other Golds were H R Harmer (Cape forgeries), H B Hargreaves (Rhodesia), F H Vallancey (Great Britain) and E A Smythies (India ½ anna of 1854-55.

It was noted that "Messrs Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co Ltd were responsible for an excellent exhibit of specimens of their work. Imperforate copies of the Union Pictorials were included, and they were in most unusual colours."

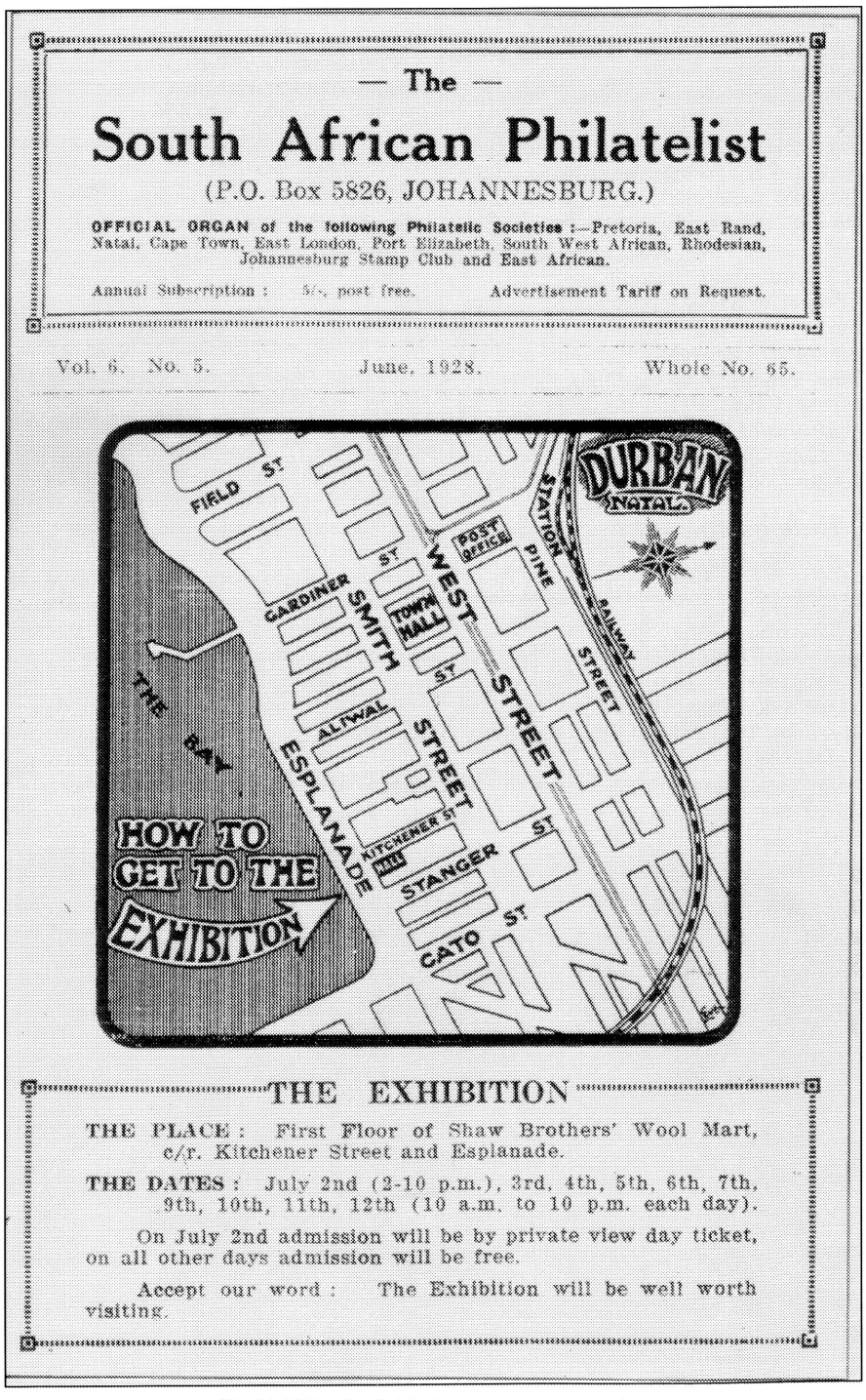

Fig. 4 Masthead page of *The SA Philatelist*, Vol 6 No 5.

Today, of course, such a procedure is expressly forbidden.

The catalogue lists 149 numbered exhibits, (extended by seven further "a" numbers, as well as a "b" and a "c"). Excluding literature, accessories and non-competitive and government exhibits, there were 102 competitive entries, for which 24 Golds were awarded, 26 Silvers (among them E C Wright of Natal and G J Houbert of Johannesburg), and 22 Oxydised Silvers.

Exhibits were mounted on sheets, in frames; with the balance of the collection allowed in volumes.

Rule 11 was a noteworthy provision: "Exhibitors, who are desirous of selling their collections, may have the same entered upon the Sale Register kept by the Hon. Secretary; such exhibits will be marked in the exhibition with a red seal; no price or other notification of sale may be affixed to any exhibit. In the event of sale the price will be payable to the Executive Committee, who will account to the owner for the purchase money after deducting 5 per cent to be applied toward the general expenses of the exhibition."

Today, of course, such a procedure is expressly forbidden. The confidentiality of sales at the time (if any) has evidently been preserved.

As *The SA Philatelist* put it: "The Exhibition has come and gone. The efforts of the Philatelic Society of Natal to organise the greatest exhibition yet held in the Southern Hemisphere succeeded in the fullest measure."

Johannesburg: 2 to 14 November 1936

WHEN the possibility of holding an international philatelic exhibition in the course of the Empire Exhibition of 1936 in Johannesburg was first mentioned in *The*

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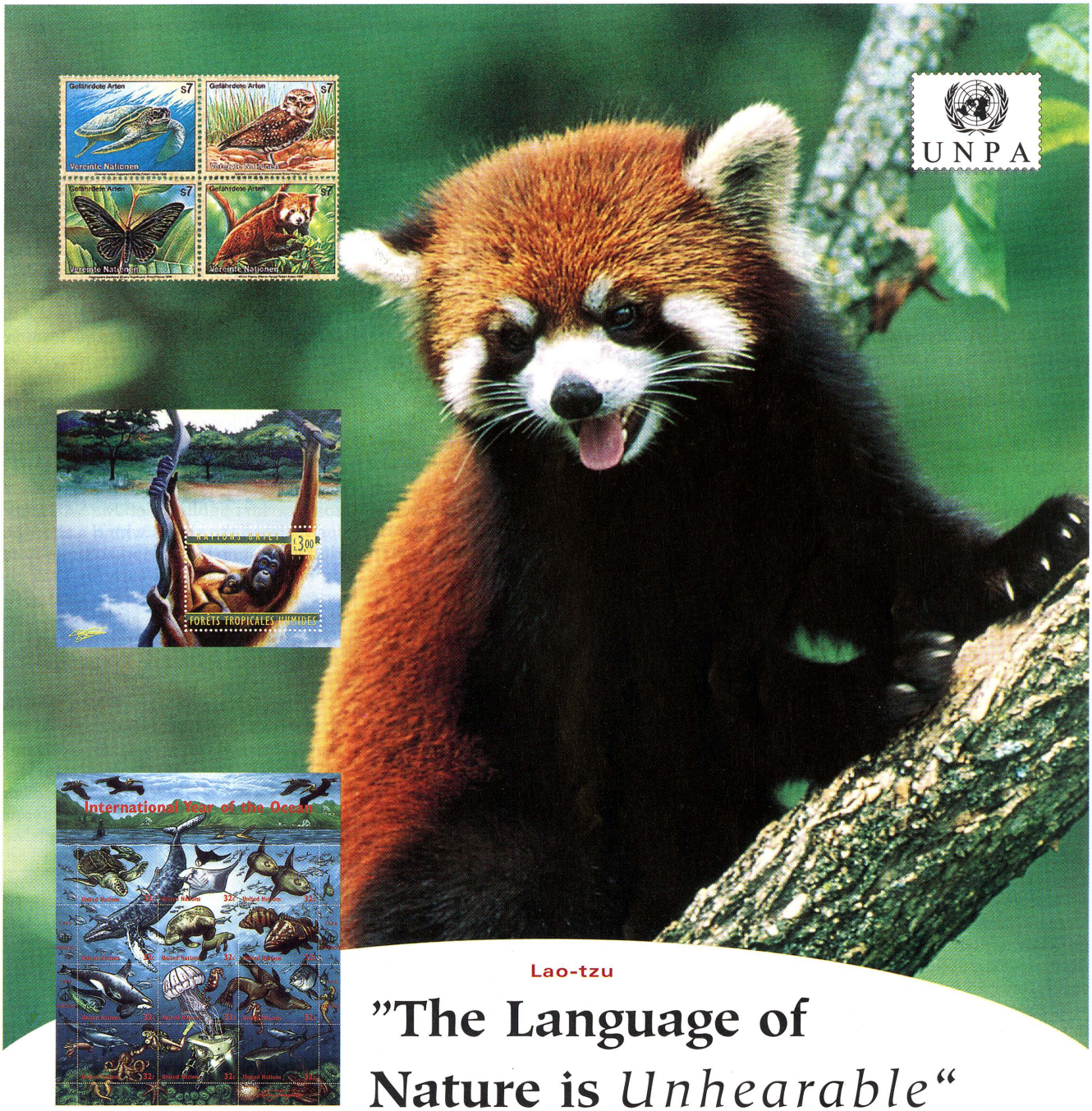

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SA Philatelist (July 1935, p97) it had no official name yet. But it had already been thought of.

"More than a year ago, when the exhibition was first mooted," it was later reported (June 1936, p83) "the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg discussed the question of a 'portmanteau' name for the exhibition and JIPEX was the favourite amongst the various suggestions made." As Tom Berry pointed out much later (October 1970, p237), it was an abbreviation which virtually permanently introduced the suffix -PEX to South African exhibitions.

JIPEX it was, and afterwards Emil Tamsen said, "Jipex came, Jipex lived and Jipex will never die in the memory of all those philatelists who visited the exhibition." (1). Only too true.

Jonas Michelson RDPSA, Honorary Life President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa writes: "We have three eyewitness impressions of the 1936 JIPEX International Exhibition, members of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg who were actively associated with it.

"As part of the 50th anniversary of the founding of Johannesburg as well as the centenary of the beginning of the Great Trek, which was the actual settlement of the Transvaal, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg staged an international exhibition at the Milner Park Showgrounds as part of the Empire Exhibition.

"On that occasion the Post Office prepared two miniature sheets, namely of the ½d Springbok and 1d Ship stamps (Fig. 5) and overprinted them JIPEX. They were only available at the exhibition Post Office, and their sale was limited. Due no doubt to the publicity generated by these sheets, over 25 000 visitors were reported at the show, and the queues at the Post Office counter were unending as people lined up for their sets on more than one occasion.

Over 25 000 visitors were reported at the show.

"Due to financial considerations it was not possible to hold a world international exhibition, and it was competitively confined to 'Southern Africa, South of the Equator', with a 'By Invitation' general section with considerable overseas participation. Oddly enough, there were no dealers' stands at the exhibition."

The eyewitness impressions follow:

'Bob' Oppenheim: Do I remember the month of November in 1936? The youngest one of four survivors of JIPEX, Jonas Michelson, asked me to dot down a few words. I am close to 90 now, and let met tell readers that they were wonderful times in every respect. Just for the record: you could then purchase an unmounted mint control block of the KG V SA £1 for less than £15 (if you had the money. . .)

Before me is the original exhibition brochure, in two parts: by invitation and competitive. The introduction comprising patrons, various committees, the jury, exhibitors etc. is a glittering parade of many simply marvellous personages of that era. I was privileged to know them all. Sadly not a single one of them is with us any more. Equally sadly space is too confined to give you even an excerpt of the amazing history of the leading collectors, dealers and sundry stamp celebrities.

The show was housed across the central pond, in a large hall, a smaller hall attached for meetings and the like, facing the Bien Donné Restaurant, a highclass rendezvous for "who was who" in Johannesburg, listening to Jack Payne and his famous British Musicmakers. At the side of the hall a well organised Post Office was installed. There were numerous features, the most interesting being an issue of two booklet sheets, six stamps each, both overprinted JIPEX 1936 – cost per pair 9d, that is, face value.

Queues were constant, and it was decided to restrict purchasers to six pairs of these sheets at a time. There was at the same time a boom in Europe in such souvenir sheets and it soon became obvious that many sales served speculative purposes. Thus on 7 November the sheets were sold out! This despite the manning of the sales queues by members of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

The leading local dealer, John Robertson (the first publisher of *The SA Philatelist*), offered the sheets within a short period in his shop in the Market Street Arcade at 2/6d a pair and early in 1937 the price had risen to 17/6! When visiting the Paris World Exhibition at the time, I hoped to recoup some of my expenses by selling the sheets in London at 10/-! The retail price there was 25/-!

Yet there were no buyers. So I took the sheets back to Johannesburg only to find that Robertson was now again asking only 2/6!

(*Editor's note*: The *Rand Daily Mail* reported on 3 February 1937 – when yours truly was exactly a year old – that sets we-



Fig. 5 The 1d booklet sheet overprinted JIPEX, with the special canceller.



Fig. 6 JIPEX Grand Prix Championship Cup, presented by the City Council of Johannesburg, awarded to J Herbert Curle for "Transvaal". Curle promptly presented it to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

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re fetching $6,00 in America.)

Let us hope that ILSAPEX '98 will be as successful as JIPEX, and that there will be a few people in 50 years' time from now to write about it.

Bertie Simpkins: Quite by chance, Bob Oppenheim, Jonas Michelson, Fritz ("Happy") Froehlich and myself met at the annual Stamp Fair at the Rosebank Hotel on 1 May 1998 and we immediately began talking about JIPEX. We may be the only four philatelist still around who were at that wonderful event – 62 years ago!

I can still see the hive of activity on the opening day, with queues of people lining up to buy the overprinted JIPEX sheets, the first ever overprinted stamps of South Africa. Each person was allowed only a limited number of sheets (according to Bob six sets but according to this narrator only one.) If more were required they had to rejoin the queue.

> *We may be the only four philatelist still around who were at that wonderful event - 62 years ago.*

(*Editor's note:* According to *The SA Philatelist* "it was two at first, later only one." (5). Even the Postmaster-General who had opened the concurrent congress of the Federation, H J Lenton, and who had been responsible for the decision to supply the sheetlets, was unceremoniously sent to wait his turn at the end of the queue.)

I was one of the voluntary helpers and, therefore, allowed to purchase 20 sets, most of which, believe it or not, I still have in the original piece of brown paper that I wrapped them in.

There were wonderful stamps on exhibit, including the world-famous Transvaal collection of Mr J H Curle, which, sadly, lies almost forgotten, in the vaults of the Johannesburg Public Library. He was present at the exhibition. (See Fig. 6)

Guards were needed around the clock to look after the valuable exhibits and I volunteered to stand guard all night on one occasion, going back to work the following morning. Mr Curle, a very generous man, took the exhibition committee and volunteer workers, like myself, to a dinner at the Carlton Hotel in Eloff Street and that, indeed, was something special for me.

Few people will remember that he was also a renowned writer, and had written two books on his world travels, which had been extensive. I managed to obtain one of his books in Johannesburg, which had already reached its nineteenth edition in 1932. He inscribed it for me at the dinner *With best wishes of J Herbert Curle.* It is still a treasured posession of mine.

Such an exhibition would hardly go down today, as JIPEX was just stamps – That is what people collected. Exhibits of postal history were practically unknown.

I also remember other famous collectors who were there, such as Dr J H Harvey Pirie, who collected Antarctica (having been down there as Medical Officer on one of the expeditions), William Redford, Ernest Hunt, R H Morley and others, whose names elude me after so many years. . .

If there was anybody else, apart from the four of us, who was at that exhibition and should happen to read this, then please let the Editor know and we can add to the list of the "survivors".

Jonas Michelson: I joined the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in early 1936 as a junior member and was determined to participate in JIPEX. It was a limited scope exhibition, and my collection being a schoolboy accumulation worldwide, with a strong section of Eastern Europe, was not eligible.

With my limited amount of pocket money I nevertheless managed to assemble "A General collection of Africa South of the Equator", which I entered, and received a Certificate of Participation – one of my treasured possessions to this day. The only other junior entry, "The British Empire in Southern Africa" was from the late J E "Jack" Creewel (awarded Silver), later to become President of the Federation when resident in Rhodesia.

Being a junior I was not involved in the many tasks which senior members were asked to perform, but nevertheless I spent every afternoon at the exhibition, running errands and admiring the collections. There I also met many distinguished philatelists, who were signatories of the Roll of Honour, never aspiring to that honour myself. They were all very helpful and encouraging to us juniors.

As member of the PS of J I was entitled to buy 20 sets of the JIPEX sheets, but to my regret could not afford it – so when I assembled my Union Collection in very much later years, as well as my collection dealing with philatelic exhibitions in Southern Africa, I had to pay much more for these missing sheetlets.

I remember Bob (Oppenheim) well from then, not so much as a stamp collector, but as an ice hockey player with the Mohawks which played in the league at the ice rink which was also part of the Empire Exhibition. Bertie I did not remember from JIPEX, but met up with him during World War II, where I served in the same regiment as he did.

It is a small world!

The list of organisers as well as of the jury read like a Who's Who of Philately, Michelson also points out, with the doyen of South African philatelists Dr J H Harvey Pirie (the longest serving editor of *The SA Philatelist*) in the chair of the organising committee. The secretary was J H Jenkins, and the treasurer G J Houbert RDPSA.

The Patron-in-Chief this time was the Governor-General, the Earl of Clarendon, with the Prime Minister, General J B M Hertzog heading the list of patrons.

The jury consisted of ten "deliberative" and three "consultative" members, among the former being once again Emil Tamsen, and A E Basden, G J Houbert and H H Hurst. One of the consultative members was Frank Godden, a dealer and the commissioner for Great Britain. The other commissioners were Eugene Klein (USA), S Orlo-Smith (Australia) and R H Tucker (India).

The first suggestion that the exhibition would warrant some kind of special issue came from a reader of *The SA Philatelist.* G R Kent (October 1935, p149) wrote that this would "no doubt raise a storm of protests from philatelists all over on these unnecessary issues", but none the less suggested three values and subjects, a special exhibition canceller and special "Exhibition Jubilee Airmail Labels". Similar sentiments were supported in the same issue (p150) by the members' meeting of the East London Philatelic Society on 5 September 1935.

A Hylton Sydow (RDPSA 1948) went even further in the issue of April 1936 (p49) and "would suggest, in lieu of commemorative stamps, that measures be taken for the preparation of an entirely new set of definitive stamps for the Union to be ready for issue by the time of the opening. . ." – ten values, from ½d to 5/-. In the event, the matter was settled with the overprinted sheetlets, announced in July 1936 (p98) and confirmed in September 1936 (p129).

In fact, the new 1½d definitive, paying the inland airmail letter rate, was issued on 12 November, two days before the exhibition closed. With its design of mining headgear against the Johannesburg skyline, it would admirably have served as a special issue for JIPEX, thenceforth to be taken into general use. The organising committee had asked for a miniature sheet of this stamp, but "was turned down for several reasons".

Also announced in the latter issue of *The SA Philatelist* (p141) were official JIPEX envelopes at 3d each. These special exhibition covers sold so well that on the last two days a makeshift type-written cover was made available. (1).

The exhibition was opened at 11 am by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Senator C F Clarkson (one of the patrons) who presented two sets of the JIPEX sheets which he had signed on the reverse (5). The admission charge was 1/-, and 6d for children under 16. Attendance was estimated at about 30 000 visitors, 3 700 catalogues were sold, and 44 000 commemorative covers.

Exhibitors by invitation were acknow-

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ledged with a paperweight made of banket (gold-bearing rock). Only some of these are mentioned here to boggle the imagination.

Louise Boyd Lichtenstein (USA) showed the Gambia, with early proofs, and Alfred F Lichtenstein (USA) showed rarities of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Dr A Kaplan (Germiston, a jury member and RDPSA, 1949) showed a highly specialised collection of the errors and varieties of Palestine. The Union Department of Posts and Telegraphs put on a display of a large number of the over 800 pages in its care, made by the Post Office of the Transvaal Republic.

R B Yardley of London (he of *Africa*. . . Parts1, 2 and 3 fame) had two exhibits: Kashmir and Jammu, and Embossed Stamps of Portugal 1853-70. His catalogue descriptions are virtually miniature handbooks on their subjects.

Competitors winning major awards were rewarded with a plaque (rather reminiscent somehow of the 1½d stamp) designed and struck by the Royal Mint in Pretoria (Fig 7).

R A F Riesco gained an award of honour as well as a Gold for his Cape of Good Hope (6). Other Gold awards for philatelic exhibits were: Joseph Wright (Belgian Congo), A B Vialou (Zanzibar), H H Hurst (Natal), W J Harrington (Rhodesia), L A Wyndham (Airmails of Africa) and J W K Schofield (a jury member, Exhibit of Rarities).

There were further 22 Silver and 16 Bronze awards made among the altogether 91 philatelic exhibits. Surprisingly, Alfred F Lichtenstein's "Mauritius" in Section 8 (Mauritius and/or Seychelles) failed to gain an award.

Notably, Sections 24 and 29 provided for research collections and research papers respectively to compete.

Harrington gained a Silver in the former section for his Rhodesia, as did A E Basden for his Transvaal Postmarks and Cancellations.

Leon de Raay was given a special Gold award by the Philatelic Congress for his unpublished *The History of the Postage Stamps of OFS and ORC* Part II and *The History of Stellaland* in Section 29. Sadly, the same issue of *The SA Philatelist* which listed the awards recorded his recent death in Amsterdam.

Perhaps it is finally worth noting that Rule 11 of the Durban international exhibition – concerning the sale of exhibits – was repeated verbatim in the JIPEX catalogue as Rule 22.

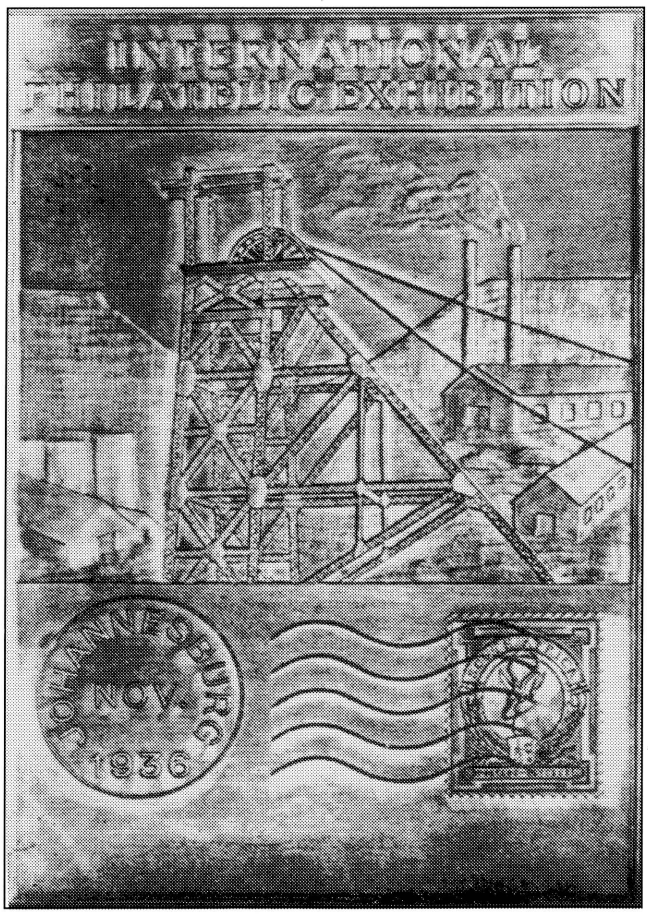

Fig. 7 The JIPEX plaque, mounted on stinkwood. It was to be engraved with the name of the recipient and his exhibit in the space below the design of the franking and cancellation, simulating an addressed letter.

Cape Town: 26 March to 5 April 1952

SOUTH AFRICA'S first three international exhibitions had followed each other at reasonably swift intervals. There was a gap of 16 years before the South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition was staged in Cape Town. The exhibition took place in the larger framework of the tercentenary celebrations marking the landing of Jan van Riebeeck at the Cape on 6 April 1652.

The exhibition name was eventually shortened to the less unwieldy SATISE which, in Afrikaans, became SADIPU: Suid-Afrikaanse Driehonderdjarige Internasionale Posseëluitstalling.

This was the first South African exhibition to be preceded by two information bulletins. (A third, for December 1951, was mooted in the second issue, but none was published.) The organiser of the exhibition and editor of the bulletins and the catalogue (which he also referred to as a bulletin) was W G Combrink (who posthumously became an RDPSA shortly after his death on 8 August 1968). In the catalogue he wrote:

"This is the last of the series of Bulletin-Magazines begun last year with 'Philately in South Africa' issued to make SATISE known to the philatelic world. The fact that every frame in the spacious exhibition hall (the Old Drill Hall in Darling Street) has been filled and that late entries have had to be refused indicates the effectiveness of this form of publicity, the suggestion of Mr Douglas B Armstrong, who, whilst on a visit to South Africa launched our publicity campaign."

Philatelic sevicing of covers with these stamps and various date-stamps was complicated.

So effective, indeed, that *The SA Philatelist* was merely perfunctorily recording a month or two later what it thought important from the bulletins. It paid much more attention to the concomitant issue of the five commemorative stamps for the tercentenary as a whole (for example in its issue of December 1951). Philatelic servicing of covers with these stamps and various date-stamps was complicated, and the organisers had managed to have themselves awarded the sole – and probably lucrative – right to issue two official commemorative covers.

The first bulletin of March 1951 (Fig. 8) contained a separate provisional entry form and the prospectus. The scope of the exhibition was defined as having the emphasis on Southern Africa (south of the line) and the parent nations: Holland, France, Britain and Germany. None the less the scope, with four classes in each of 11 groups, with numerous additional subgroupings, was world-wide.

By classes was meant four different collecting approaches: Class A was "specialised and research collections of a specified country", B was general country collections, C a "specialised and or/research collection. . . e.g. Airmails, U.P.U. issues" and D "any special treatment or study of a stamp or single issue of a specified country".

Rule 6, interestingly enough, stated that ". . .exhibits by members of the jury will be entered 'Not for Competition' ", an obviously sane measure which has developed into the current Court of Honour at national and international shows. The rule which allowed exhibits to be put up

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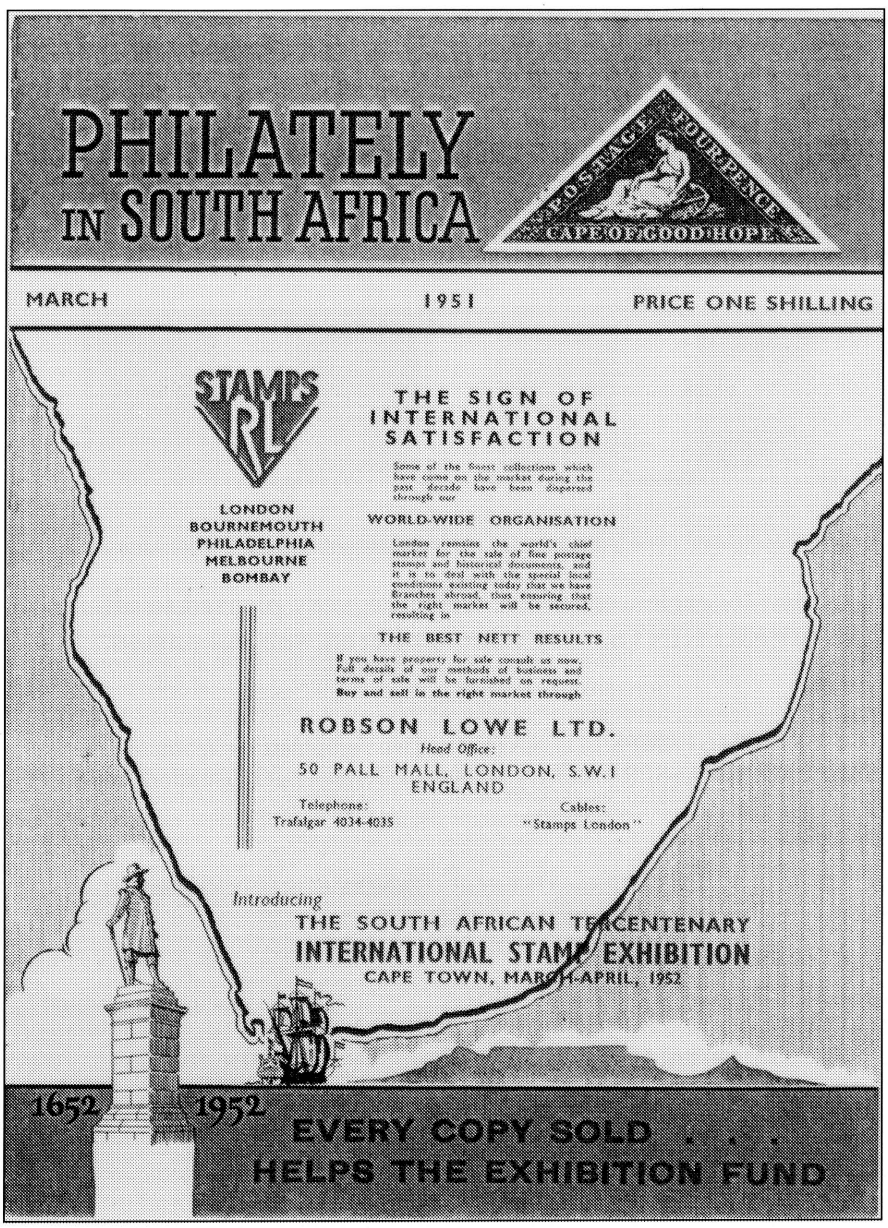

Fig. 8 The cover of the first bulletin giving details of SATISE.

for sale had disappeared entirely. The practice had evidently come to be regarded as being beyond the pale.

There were to be "Awards of Honour", and possibly a Grand Trophy. This subsequently took the form of a painting by Gabriel de Jongh, donated by Getrude Hunt of Johannesburg. This Grand Prix was awarded to Capt C Emerson Huston for his exhibit of the Triangular Issues of the Cape of Good Hope 1853-63. Amazingly enough, this was the first time the collection had ever been exhibited. There was also a Union Championship, won by Sam Legator, who had been invited to sign the Roll of Honour the previous year.

The championship entries were displayed, by the way, in huge frames of 28 pages (7 x 4).

Notable in the Court of Honour were the Harmers Forgeries exhibit of Capes produced by the Spiro brothers – no doubt considerably developed since it was first seen in Durban in 1928 – and the Union Die Proofs of Prof T B Davie (RDPSA, posthumous 1956) president of the exhibition and Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town. The whole of the entrance hall was devoted to an exhibit of the postal history of the Cape, curated and based on the collection of A A Jurgens (RPSA, January 1948).

Pride of place naturally went to what the catalogue described as the Royal Exhibit. It consisted overwhelmingly of Cape Triangulars displayed on a special dais. However Natal, the Union and KG VI colonial proofs were also well represented. It was initially described as "a portion of the Royal Philatelic Collection", as the second bulletin announced, but then the sudden death of King George VI on 6 February 1952 threw matters into slight disarray. *The SA Philatelist* (March 1952, p39) reported that the exhibit would still be made available. At the request of Queen Elizabeth II it was to have been described as "part of Her Majesty's Collection".

The Patron-in-Chief was the Governor-General, E G Jansen, who opened the exhibition, and the executive committee was chaired by Arthur V Jacob. Among its members were the dealers Eliezer Blum and G Petroulis, and the organiser, Combrink, was joined towards the end of 1951 by Norman Welsford, who had borne the brunt of South Africa's first two international exhibitions, as assistant organiser and treasurer.

In its second bulletin (September/October 1951), the organisers requested that no special prizes be donated, but rather amounts of money to strike medals. A Gold would cost £15, Silver-Gilt £6.10, Silver £5, and a Bronze £3.10. These did not eventuate, as *The SA Philatelist* reported (February 1952, p17):

". . . the Exhibition Committee have been influenced by a desire to break away from the traditional plaque or medal. The 'gold' award will however consist of a set of Jan van Riebeeck Tercentenary Medal Sets in a specially inscribed leatherette case. The lesser awards will consist of stinkwood articles of suitable design and appropriately inscribed silver plates."

The second bulletin also announced that the following commissioners had been appointed: Frank Godden (Great Britain), André de Cock (Belgium), J L van Dieten (Netherlands), Edgar Mohrmann (Western Germany), J Yard (Australia) and Dr Guilio Bolaffi (Italy).

It was Godden who brought the Royal Exhibit so South Africa, in lieu of the Keeper of the Royal Collection, Sir John Wilson, who was also to have been the chairman of the jury. Illness prevented him from making the journey, and the task of jury chairman fell to Wm Irving of London. Local collectors serving on the jury of 11 were J H H Chamberlain, Geo K Forbes, L B Goldschmidt, W J H Gregory and A A Jurgens.

> *Stamp exhibitions are the colleges and universities of the philatelic world.*

There were 129 competitive exhibits spread over 302 frames. Gold awards of Honour were made to 11 exhibits, among them Arthur V Jacob for his Rhodesia, and 10 Golds were awarded. Wilfrid Nodder, founder of the Rhodesian Study Circle, was among the 18 Silver Gilt Awards (Postal History of the BCA) and among the 25 Silvers was J Michelson's Latvia. There were also 25 Bronze awards, which then could still carry the fe-

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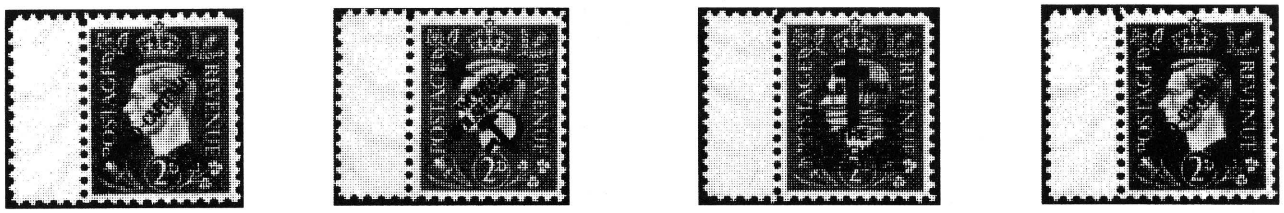

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licitations of the jury (7).

Quite an event at the exhibition was the launch of the first, the Van Riebeeck edition of the *Union Handbook*, edited by Dr Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator and William N Sheffield for the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, at a price of 22/6. Its "Definitive" edition, with S J Hagger (RDPSA, 1957) as the sole editor was launched at the Johannesburg 100 international exhibition in 1986, and the handbook is still in print today.

Commenting on " 'SATISE' in Retrospect" *The SA Philatelist* (July 1952, p122) made this observation: "National and international stamp exhibitions are the colleges and universities of the philatelic world and it is the feeling of disappointment or the sense of gain with which the visiting collectors depart that really determines the failure or success of an exhibition." Cape Town could be proud of what it had been able to offer, was the conclusion.

There is no estimate of the number of visitors in any of the references.

Johannesburg: 30 May to 4 June 1960

THE exhibition which in 1960 was to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Union of South Africa, which came into being on 31 May 1910, was first mooted in *The SA Philatelist* three years in advance, in May 1957, p65. It should be noted that this exhibition, like the preceding SATISE, were organised within a larger framework of official celebrations.

It was known as UNIPEX from the outset, the Postmaster-General had already announced that there would be an issue of commemorative stamps, and Dr J H Harvey-Pirie, (then designated Chairman of the editorial board of *The SA Philatelist*) was chairman of the publicity subcommittee. The organisers were the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging.

By February 1958 (p24) planning was well advanced. The jury chairman was to be H R Holmes (RDSPA, 1988), Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, and 16 commissioners had already been appointed, ranging from J Gartner of Australia to J Minkus of the USA, and including G Bolaffi of Italy, who was also to serve on the jury. By the time the catalogue appeared, the list of commissioners had grown to 24.

There was a "Stop Press" item in January 1959 (p6): "Word has just been received that Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to exhibit part of the Royal collection at UNIPEX."

In four frames, according to the catalogue, she showed a selection of GB surface-printed issues of the 19 th century, proofs and colour trials of the Union George V issues, and Transvaal and OFS issues. "Incidentally, there will be no Natal stamps in the Queen's selection, because these mint stamps would curl too much in Johannesburg's June weather!" *The SA Philatelist* had noted (August 1959, p148).

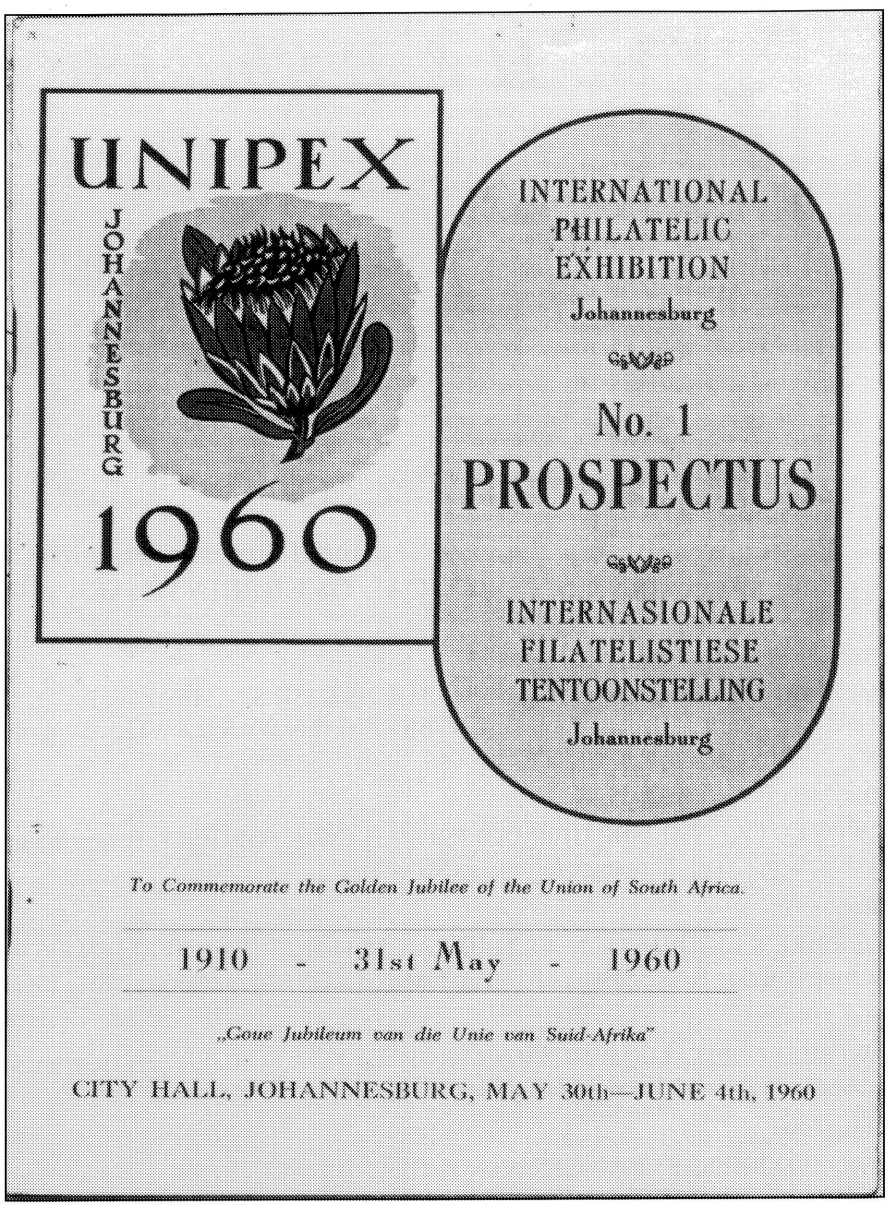

Fig. 9 The cover of the first UNIPEX bulletin

Provisional entries closed on 30 June 1959, and final entries were to close on 31 December that year. The catalogue, superbly cross-referenced, lists 294 competitive entries displayed in 404 frames of 21 sheets each, and 27 literature entries. The exhibits were spread across the City Hall and the Selborne Hall.

This uncommonly high ratio of entries to frames immediately shows that the vast majority of exhibits were confined to a single frame, and no exhibit exceeded two frames. The explanation lies in the unusual Rule 12 of *No 1 Prospectus* (the first bulletin, Fig. 9) which reads: "The maximum number of sheets that may be sent in for examination by the Jury is 120, this number to be inclusive of those which the exhibitor specially indicates as those to be shown in the frame or frames allotted to him." It is doubtful whether such an arrangement lent itself to a fully satisfying philatelic viewing experience.

The *No 2 Prospectus* appeared about October 1959, and in its issue of November 1959 (p197) *The SA Philatelist* reported that the Golden Jubilee edition of the *Union Handbook* would be launched at the exhibition. This proved optimistic.

The editors wanted to include the Jubilee commemoratives to be issued (June 1960, p77) and estimated that the delay would be three months. In the final event the handbook, edited this time by W N Sheffield, S J Hagger, Dr T B Berry and Sam Legator, appeared in January 1961 at 35/-.

An "approved design" for the official first day covers (Fig. 10) was featured in *The SA Philatelist* (January 1960, opposite p9, on the last unnumbered page of the annual index), but March 1960 (p41) shows a different design (Fig. 11). In his

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history of exhibitions (1) Pauw Steyl features a registered cover bearing the former design, and the following stamps: 4d (Union Flag), 6d (the Union Coat of Arms), 1/6 (Jubilee emblem) and 1/- (Railway Centenary). The catalogue, however, details four different covers on offer, utilising both designs (p15).

Reports about the stamps and their arrangement on the covers to be issued conflicted (see *The SA Philatelist*, February 1960, p20, April 1960, p52). In addition, a "mystery stamp" made its appearance on 31 May (8).



Fig. 10 Official design for the UNIPEX cover



Fig. 11 Second "official" design for the cover

This was a 3d value featuring the heads of the six prime ministers of the Union to date. On the day of issue alone £1 250 worth of these stamps was sold – that adds up to 900 000 copies, a remarkable display of either patriotism or opportunism. There was a "seething mob", *The SA Philatelist* reported, and "four postal clerks collapsed from sheer overwork".

The exhibition patron was the Governor-General, C R Swart, and it was opened on 30 May 1960 by J M Botes, the Postmaster-General. A key figure in the whole enterprise could attend only this event, and that in great pain. This was Ernest Hunt RDPSA, the chairman of the executive committee, who had injured his back in an accident a few days before the opening, and found it too painful to pay any further visits (8).

Hunt had been supported by an executive committee of nine, each with a specific portfolio, such as Dr Harvey-Pirie held for publicity. The secretary was K S W (Ken) Lydall, and among the other members were D Lamont Smith (Finance, who used to compile the "Looking Back" feature for this journal), Sam Legator (Advertising – the bulletins and catalogue were packed with it), and S J (Fanie) Vermaak (FDCs).

UNIPEX drew an estimated 8 000 visitors, and almost 90 000 exhibition covers were sold over the six days.

The jury of 19, with Boris Glassman as secretary, had among it H C Harmer (London) and Dr I Vajda (Stockholm) from overseas. The local luminaries included Milton F Stern, Cyril Enoch, Gustav Bülbring, Fanie Vermaak and Max Peisach, as well as two dealers, Eliezer Blum and Douglas Roth.

Initially 22 jury members were envisaged, but G Bolaffi (Turin), M Diena (Rome), and H L Lindquist (New York) were unable to come.

The Grand Prix, according to *The SA Philatelist*, February 1960, p20, was "a beautiful globe of the world on a base carrying the UNIPEX emblem, donated by Mr L Abrams". Once again it went to a collection of Cape Triangulars, the exhibit of R S Wilkins of England.

Sam Legator showed what were judged the best collections of both the Union of South Africa and of Israel.

Altogether 25 Golds were awarded, 33 Silver-Gilt, 52 Silver and 74 Bronze (Fig.



Fig. 12 The UNIPEX medal, obverse and reverse

12). Only a few of these can be singled out, for example among the Golds: Dr T B Berry (Union), L Abrams (South West Africa), R A G Lee (Great Britain), and SJ Harris (Newfoundland), J E Frankland (King Edward VII Portraits).

Lee also won a Silver-Gilt for his Gambia, others in this category were Dr F Drusinsky (Anglo-Boer War) and C R Reynolds (Cape of Good Hope).

A Silver was awarded to M J Rall (RDPSA, 1987) for his Union Booklet Stamps, L Simenhoff (Union of South Africa used in SWA), L J Picton (Great Britain 1d Line Engraved 1840-1879) and L Hellman (USA).

J Michelson received a Bronze with felicitations for his Latvia, and for example J Wannerton (Canada and Canada – OHMS) and N C Combrink (Anglo-Boer War) also received Bronzes.

The jury report raised a matter which was increasingly to become a bone of contention: "One of the more regrettable features of modern international exhibitions is the repeated entry in the competitive classes of certain collections which have already received numerous gold medals. The Jury wishes to record its opinion that it would be more in the interests of philately if these collections were in future exhibited *hors concours.*" (8).

SUBSEQUENT international exhibitions to date have been RSA 10, held in Cape Town from 22 to 31 May 1972, and Cape Town was again the host for DISA, from 30 March to 7 April 1979.

With ILSAPEX, Johannesburg will now, like Cape Town, be hosting its second international exhibition in a row, as Johannesburg 100 took place there from 6 to11 October 1986.

All three of these exhibitions are well within living memory, and *The SA Philatelist* invites readers to contribute reminiscences about any or all three of them with a view to recording experiences before they are irretrievably lost. ■

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2. Crozet, Sylvester L. "First South African philatelic exhibition held fifty years ago", *The SA Philatelist*, August 1963, p145.
3. Chamberlain, J H H. "The Philatelic Society of Natal", *The SA Philatelist*, January 1937, p2.
4. "The Exhibition" and "International Philatelic Exhibition. Durban, July, 1928. List of Awards", *The SA Philatelist*, August 1928, pp107 – 111.
5. "Jipex Jottings", *The SA Philatelist*, December 1936, pp190 – 192.
6. "Jipex – List of Awards", *The SA Philatelist*, November 1936, p163.
7. "Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition", *The SA Philatelist*, May 1952, pp77 to 80.
8. "UNIPEX Notes", *The SA Philatelist*, July 1960, p 101, and "UNIPEX" (Awards) p107.

Catalogues and Bulletins

South African Philatelic Exhibition, June 30 to July 5, 1913. (The photocopy kindly supplied to the Editor by the Philatelic Society of Natal originally consisted of eight pages, covers included. The front cover is signed by N Welsford, the Hon Secretary and Treasurer of the exhibition, and one must assume that it was he who had copiously interleaved the copy, chiefly to create space for autographs, but also including a reprint of the report in the *Natal Mercury* referred to in the article above.)
International Philatelic Exhibition, July 2nd to 12th, 1928. (A copy was kindly loaned by the Philatelic Society of Natal.)
Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition "*JIPEX*", held in the grounds of the Empire Exhibition, South Africa 1936
Philately in South Africa, March 1951 (SATISE Bulletin no 1)
The SATISE Magazine incorporating "Philately in South Africa", September – October 1951 (SATISE Bulletin no 2)
South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition, Cape Town, 26th March to 5th April 1952, The Exhibition Catalogue (including four-page leaflet "Die Uitstallingsgids – The Exhibition Guide")
International Philatelic Exhibition Johannesburg No. 1 Prospectus
International Philatelic Exhibition Johannesburg No. 2 Prospectus
Catalogue International Philatelic Exhibition Johannesburg

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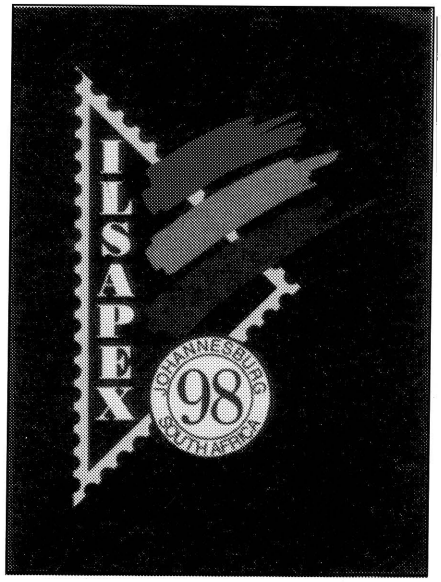
Now for number nine: ILSAPEX 98



ORGANISATION for Ilsapex 98, at the Gallagher Estate Exhibition Centre from 20 to 25 October this year, has proceeded apace. As soon as it became clear that the chairman of the executive committee, David Stern RDPSA, FRPSL could be incapacitated for some time, ongoing matters continued under the vice-chairman, Henk de Lange.

De Lange can be contacted at ☎ (011) 880-3125 and by fax on ☎ (011) 880-2656. The postal address remains PO Box 1916, Houghton 2041.

Ilsapex 98 is jointly sponsored by The Society of Israel Philately, Johannesburg (SIP) and the South African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA). The physical address of the Gallagher Estate Exhibition Centre is Richards Drive, Midrand, Johannesburg, and it is situated about 15km north of the city, easily accessible from all directions and airports. (A map accompanies this article).

The centre will provide 5 000 square meters of artificially lit space. All philatelic exhibits, post office facilities and trade stands will be located in one hall, and on one level.

Some of the highlights to which visitors can look forward in the Court of Honour are a portion of the collection of HM Queen Elizabeth II, an exhibit from the PTT Museum of the Netherlands, and excerpts from the Israel postal archives – the first time either of the latter two authorities will have shown the material which will be on display anywhere in the world.

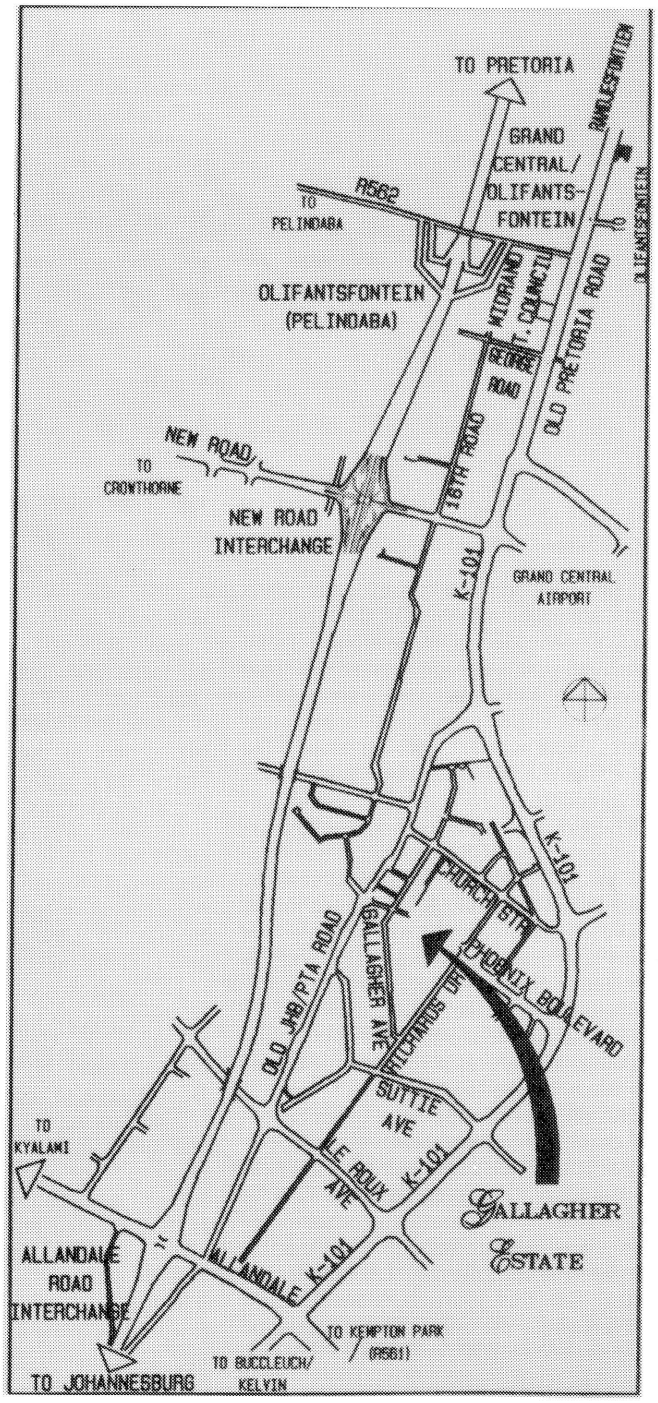
Further exhibits which have been promised are a Natal collection from the Royal Philatelic Society, London; selected material from the South African archives; the Baden collection of Rolf Goldschagg (defending champion from Johannesburg 100 in 1986) and a four frame exhibit from the Anglo Boer War Society.

The exhibition will consist of 1 960 competitive frames, and the frame arrangement is in the traditional South African format of five horizontal by three vertical pages, but developing across as opposed to down, as has been the case at national exhibitions for some time.

Ilsapex 98 was over-subscribed, but every endeavour was made to accommodate all eligible South African exhibits. (To be eligible, exhibits needed to have achieved at least a Vermeil at National level.) Final frame allocations show 418 entries from 40 countries.

These include 16 exhibits from Australia, Germany being represented by 28, Japan (10), Netherlands (16), England (26), USA (29), Gauteng (33), Costa Rica (5), and 53 Youth Exhibits.

To gain access to the exhibition centre,



Chairman's death

BITTER news was received as this issue of *The SA Philatelist* was going to press. "It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death of David Stern RDPSA, FRPSL", Henk de Lange, the vice-chairman of Ilsapex 98 said.

"David died in the early hours of 18 July 1998 in Johannesburg. He fell seriously ill with complications after contracting flu on his return from Israel 98, where he represented South African philately as Commissioner in May this year.

"David Stern was the chairman of the Ilsapex 98 executive committee, and he was totally committed to the cause and the success of the exhibition. He left a deep void which will be difficult to fill."

● (See "In memoriam" on p130)

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participants will be required to collect their registration badges at the entrance to Exhibition Hall 2. Registration will take place daily from 18 to 25 October 1998.

The jury chairman is David Crocker RDPSA and the Vice Chairmen are Patrick Pearson RDP, FRPSL (UK) and Yacov Tsachor (Israel). (The full jury was listed in *The SA Philatelist*, August 1987, p132). Judging of exhibits starts on 17 October and will be completed on 21 October, while the exhibition opens to the public on 20 October. Literature entries are already being judged.

Some highlights in the extensive philatelic programme are:

- There will be a hands-on seminar for youth exhibitors, given by Michael Madesker RDPSC, FRPSL lasting about three hours, on a date yet to be finalised.
- The world renowned expert on Thematic exhibiting and judging, Bernard Jimènez, has agreed to conduct a Thematic workshop at Ilsapex, and it is hoped that the full panel of Thematic judges at Ilsapex will be involved in the workshop. It will be open to exhibitors, delegates and the general public. As Thematic collecting is the fastest growing field of philately, this workshop is one not to be missed.
- The 60th (Diamond Jubilee) Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is on 22 October.
- Stephan Welz & Co have an auction scheduled for 24 October.

According to the organisers, who still await final details, some wonderful souvenirs and issues are planned by Philatelic Services, but it has been decided that there will not be a Philatelic Passport.

There are a number of SAAND coin dealers who will be participating, and it is anticipated that the inclusion of coin dealers at Ilsapex '98 will create more interest and draw larger crowds.

So far more than sixty philatelic dealers will be at the show.

Banking services at the exhibition centre will consist of cashing of travellers cheques, auto-tellers, cashing of foreign bank notes in US Dollars, Sterling, Deutschmark, Swiss and French Francs and Dutch Guilder. Banking times will be from 09h00 to 18h30.

Secure car parking facilities will be available at the exhibition centre. A designated area will be provided for rental cars of delegates.

The following programme has been organised for spouses and partners, but costs are still to be advised:

21 October: Exploration into South African cuisine and shopping
22 October: Visit to a selection of art galleries and museums
23 October: Soweto and its people
24 October: De Wildt Cheetah Farm and Lesedi Cultural Village

Augmenting its funds, Ilsapex 98 also had a prize draw evening at the Rosebank Hotel on 30 May 1998. The results were:

Two Business class airtickets to any destination of SAA: Richard Johnson
Two Economy class airtickets to any destination of SAA: Jonas Michelson
Two nights at Sabi Sabi and transfers by SA Express: Lyndsey Green
A week's international timeshare from RCI: W Vuurman
An 18ct gold necklace from F Friedman Jewellers: Yvonne Stern
Appliances to the value of R3 000: M Mobsby
A TV set: Richard Johnson
A certified diamond: Craig Rosen

Ilsapex 98 has a website which can be reached at http://www.sastamps.com

(See also *The SA Philatelist* August 1997, p132; February 1998, p24; and April 1998, p56.) ■

■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
August 1938
Tristan da Cunha

A mail reached Cape Town from Tristan da Cunha on 24th June. It came by the SS *Innesmoor* which called en route from Chili.

Replies were received to correspondence sent there at the end of March on HMS *Milford*, but no alteration has yet been made in the method of franking letters from the island and, in particular, St Helena stamps have not come into use although the island is now a dependency of that colony.

Most of the mail that we have heard of had no stamps and ordinary letters directed to South Africa were taxed 1d. on delivery.

News report

30 jaar gelede
Augustus 1968
Wêreldsokkerkampioenskapwedstryde

Gedurende Mei 1904 het verteenwoordigers van België, Denemarke, Frankryk, Holland, Spanje en Switserland in Parys byeengekom en die Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) gestig. Die vernaamste aanvoerders was twee Franse, Henri Delaunay en Jules Rimet. Laasgenoemde het van 1920 tot 1954 as president van FIFA gedien. Hy was verantwoordelik vir die beskikbaarstelling van die Wêreldbeker, wat in 1950 herdoop is tot die "Jules Rimet Trofee".

Gedurende 1920 het FIFA in beginsel op die gedagte van 'n wêreldbekerkompetisie besluit, waarom elke vier jaar en om die beurt met die Olimpiese Spele, maar buite die bestek van laasgenoemde, meegeding sou word. Niks verder is gedoen nie totdat daar in 1928 besluit is om beslis 'n Wêreldbekerkompetisie te organiseer.

Uruguay, wat groot welslae in die Olimpiese Spele behaal het, het onderneem om die eerste kompetisie in 1930 te reël. Slegs vier Europese lande het aan hierdie eerste kampioenskappe deelgeneem, nl. Frankryk, België, Joegoslawië en Roemenië.

(***Oorgeneem uit die Afrikaanse Philatelistiese Vereniging van Pretoria se nuusbrief van Mei 1968***)

60 years ago
September 1938
C F Skinner

Mr Skinner's many friends will regret to hear of his sudden death on 4th August.

His interest in stamps was aroused when he played with them to pass the time when in hospital after the War; from that he passed on to dealing in them. He was never just merely a dealer, however, but was always really interested in philately, especially perhaps in the social side of the hobby. . .

His name is perpetuated in the Skinner Cup, which he presented to the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa at its third meeting in 1932.

Obituary

30 years ago
September1968
H.R. Harmer's Sales

Over three thousand five hundred London Sales have been held at Harmers in the last fifty years and once again many new record prices were achieved with Bond Street's highest ever total in a memorable season, £856 269 as compared with £759 217.

New York also substantially exceeded last season's total ($2 112 802) with a new record of $2 602 970 (£1 056 617 at the appropriate rates of exchange). Sydney added $86 900, the eqivalent of £40 607 to give the organisation a record total of £1 953 493.

News item ■

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■ **JOH GROENEWALD RDPSA** *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging*

Dönges: die verhaal van die seëls wat nooit uitgegee is nie

HIERDIE seëls word in geen seëlkatalogus gelys nie, maar hulle bestaan – die RSA se Dönges seëls van 1967. Heel velle van die 2½c seël en die 12½c seël is in die Posmuseum op Kerkplein in Pretoria (Fig 1).

Dönges is die man wat as Staatspresident verkies is maar dit nooit geword het nie. Die gedenkseëls vir sy inhuldiging is gedruk maar nooit uitgereik nie. Trouens, die seëls is alles vernietig, behalwe die velle wat vir die Posmuseum uitgehou is. 'n Amptelike kleurproef van die twee seëls bestaan wel (Fig. 2) en is in die besit van Marnus Steyn van Roodepoort, voormalige voorsitter van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging (Johannesburg).

Hier is die verhaal rondom die seëls, die kleurproef en die "vermiste gedenkkoevert".

Suid-Afrika het op 31 Mei 1961 'n republiek geword. Die eerste Staatspresident, C R Swart, het later aangedui dat hy nie die volle sewejaartermyn wil uitdien nie en verkies om vroeër uit te tree. So het dit gekom dat dr Theophilus Ebenaeser Dönges op 28 Februarie 1967 tot Staatspresident verkies is. Dr Dönges (gebore op 8 Maart 1898) was Kaaplandse leier van die Nasionale Party en Minister van Finansies.

Sy inhuldiging sou op Republiekdag, 31 Mei 1967, in die Groote Kerk in Kaapstad plaasvind, en voorbereidsels het tydig begin. Deel van die voorbereiding was die ontwerp en daarna die druk van twee gedenkseëls.

Dit was gebruiklik dat besluite oor die uitgee van seëls deur die Kabinet geneem word. Die Kabinetsmemorandum oor die saak is gehanteer deur die Poskantoor se beampte Gawie van Eeden, wat dit nog goed onthou. Die besluit was taamlik dringend, want tussen dr Dönges se verkiesing en die inhuldiging was daar kwalik drie maande.

Ná die Kabinetsgoedkeuring moes die destydse Publisiteitsafdeling van die Poskantoor voortgaan met die maak van die seëls. Die beoogde seëls was vir 2½c, die binnelandse brieftarief, en 12½c, die lugpostarief na die Verenigde Koninkryk. Die ontwerpe is gebaseer op twee foto's, een 'n portretfoto (vir die 12½c) en een 'n effens skuinskykende profielfoto (vir die 2½c).

Van die foto's af is kunswerk vir die seëls in potlood geteken (Fig. 3) deur Irmin Henkel van Pretoria, 'n begaafde kunstenaar, skilder en fluitspeler (en ortopediese sjirurg). Henkel was bekend as portretskilder van politieke leiers en kanseliers en rektore van universiteite. Die reuse-skildery van die eerste republikeinse kabinet (1961) wat meer as 25 jaar in die portaalingang van die Parlement gehang het, was sy werk.

Intussen is die kunstenaar Albert Werth ook gevra om met die portretkunswerk 'n toepassing vir 'n seël te ontwerp. Hy het 'n ontwerp gedoen vir 'n horisontale 12½c seël, met regs die portret en links die Republiekwapen, teen 'n blou agtergrond (Fig. 4). Dr Werth onthou nie sy ontwerp nie, maar hy onthou dat dit baie haastig was. Hy sê hy moes 'n hele nag deurwerk aan die ontwerp (wat ook in die Posmuseum is).

Sy ontwerp is nie gebruik nie, bloot die Henkel sketse op lig gekleurde agtergronde. Die twee sketse in die Posmuseum is amper lewensgroot: met die verkleining na seëlformaat het lyne ineengevloei en ongelukkig visueel 'n soort swart smeereffek afgegee.

Kleurproewe moes aan die posminister voorgelê word voordat die Staatsdrukker met die drukwerk kon begin. (Van 23 Oktober 1958 tot 7 Februarie 1968 was dr Albert Hertzog Minister van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese. Sy voorganger was Tom Naudé en sy opvolger was Basie van Rensburg.)

Dr Hertzog het die gewoonte gehad om by goedkeuring van kleurproewe telkens een vir homself te neem. Hy het dan in handskrif in die legger genoteer "Het een vir my onttrek", en daarby geteken. Met die Dönges seëls was dit ook so.

Hierdie items kan ten beste as essays beskryf word. Dit is monsters (masjienproewe) van die ontwerp in seëlformaat en in kleur, geplak op onbedrukte getande seëlpapier om soos seëls te lyk (Fig. 2).

Intussen het die Poskantoor voortgegaan met reëlings vir die uitgee van die

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Fig. 1: So lyk die gedrukte seëls wat in vol velle vertoon word in die Posmuseum, Kerkplein, Pretoria.



Fig. 2: Die kleurproewe wat dr Hertzog as posminister vir homself gehou het, is in "ware grootte" en is geplak op onbedrukte, getande seëlpapier om soos seëls te lyk. Die drukwerk van die afbeelding is in swart, op 'n ligroos agtergrond vir die 2½c en op 'n ligblou agtergrond vir die 12½c. Die dun lynraampie om die seëlbeeld is op die foto aangebring deur Marnus Steyn om die drukwerkgedeelte van die proef aan te dui. Foto: Marnus Steyn



Fig. 3: Die twee groot ontwerpe van Irmin Henkel in die Posmuseum, Pretoria. Op die seëls self is die "RSA" en waarde aan die onderkant, en die datum bo-aan in kursiewe letterbeeld.

seëls. Die Publisiteitstak het in Filateliebulletin nommer 64 van Mei 1967 die seëls aangekondig, en 'n publisiteitsfoto is voorberei (Fig. 5). Gedienste amptelike gedenkkoeverte kon vooraf teen 30c per koevert bestel word.

Omdat 31 Mei as Republiekdag 'n vakansiedag was, is spesiaal gereël dat alle hoof- en takposkantore (behalwe stedelike takkantore) die oggend vir een uur oop sou wees, van 08:30 tot 09:30. Die seëls sou oral te kry wees, en ongedienste koeverte (teen 10c stuk) by agt groot stedelike hoofposkantore en by die Filatelieburo in Pretoria.

Die reëling was dat mense die oggend hul eie koeverte, of die amptelike koevert, by enige kantoor kon aanbied vir afstempeling. Die spesiale datumstempel sou slegs by die hoofposkantoor in Kaapstad gebruik word.

Die amptelike gedenkkoevert – nommer 5 (Fig. 6) – sou links voor die Republiek se heraldiese wapen afbeeld, met die letters "S P" groot daarbo, en onder die datum as "31.5.67".



Fig. 5: Die Poskantoor se publisiteitsfoto van die 2½c seël, in swart/wit, het nie 'n raampie om nie. Die foto is nie aan die media beskikbaar gestel nie, en daar is nie 'n publisiteitsfoto (bromiede) van die 12½c gemaak nie. Foto: Gawie van Eeden.

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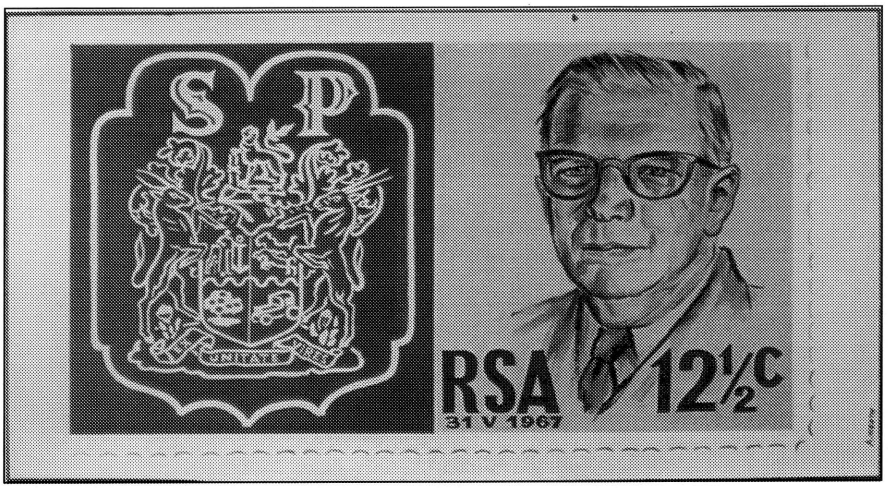

Fig. 4: Die horisontale ontwerp van Albert Werth vir die 12½c, met die ampswapen links in wit letters op 'n blou paneel.

Die datumstempel (Fig. 7) sou 'n dubbelkring wees, met bo "R S A" en onder links binne die dubbelkring in klein skrif, die twee woorde bo mekaar "Inhuldiging/ Staatspresident", middel onder die syfer "2" wat op die tweede Staatspresident dui, en regs ook klein "Inauguration/ State President". In die middel van die stempel sou staan "Kaapstad/31-5-67/Cape Town" (alle teks in hoofletters).

Onder aan die bulletin staan in hoofletters: *Omstandighede buite ons beheer het die uitgee van hierdie bulletin op kort kennisgewing genoodsaak. Plaas asseblief u bestelling onmiddellik.*

Toe, slegs weke voor die groot geleentheid, kry dr Dönges bloeding op die brein (beroerte). Alle reëlings is opgeskort, en die inhuldiging is gekanselleer. Die mediese prognose was nie goed nie. Dr Dönges was erg siek, sonder veel vooruitsig op goeie herstel. Drukwerk van die seëls en die gedenkkoevert is ook gestaak. Die stand van werk binne die Staatsdrukkery was:

2½c: Drukwerk het reeds begin. Die seëls is gedruk in 'n grootvel met twee veldele van 100 elk, met silindernommers 215 vir die donker kleur en 214 vir die ligte kleur. Veldeel A was onder en veldeel B bo.

Die Posmuseum het vyf groot vol velle met die twee 100 seëlvelle in proefkleure, naamlik swart op 'n bleek rooibruin agtergrond (drie vol velle), en diep sjokoladebruin op 'n ligte bruin kleur (twee vol velle).

12½c: Hiervan het die Posmuseum drie velle van 100, wat die drukformaat sou wees, met silindernommers 217 vir swart en 216 vir die ligte tint. Die eerste, gemerk "A", is in swartblou met 'n ligblou agtergrond. "B" is in swartblou met die agtergrond bleekgroen, en "C" is in persagtige swart met die agtergrond in dofpers. Dit lyk of die swart drukwerk eers gedoen is, en daarna is die ligte kleurtint daarop neergelê.

Aan die materiaal wil dit lyk of die proses gestaak is voordat die werklike druk van die seëls begin het.

Gedenkkoevert: Opeenvolgende kleurproewe, wat al effens begin verbleik, is in die Posmuseum. Dit suggereer dat die druk van die koevert nog nie begin het

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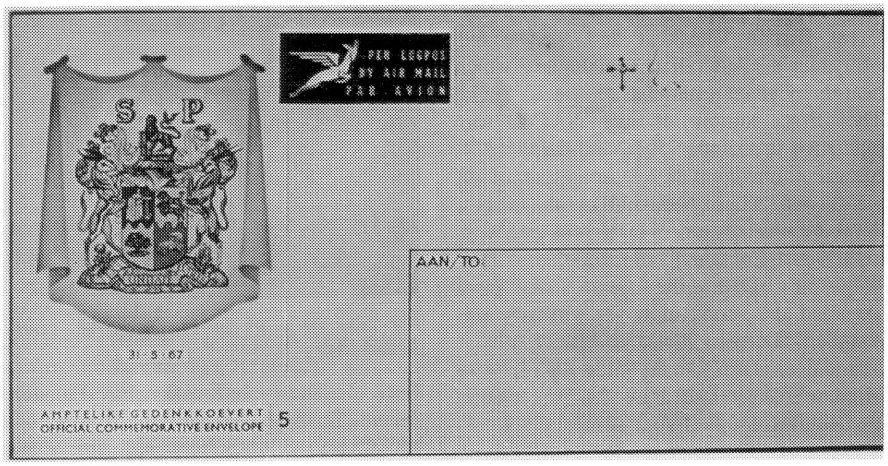

Fig. 6 : Die kunswerk vir die gedenkkoevert nommer 5, die "vermiste nommer".

nie.

Die Publisiteitstak van die Poskantoor het later aan versamelaars geskryf:

Weens die ongelukkige ernstige ongesteldheid van dr T E Dönges en die uitstelling van sy inhuldiging as Staatspresident, is die gedenkseëls en amptelike eerstedagkoeverte soos geadverteer in Filateliebulletin No 64 nie op 31 Mei 1967 uitgegee nie.

Aangesien dit dus nie moontlik is om u bestelling vir enige van bogenoemde items uit te voer nie, word u geldsending van R. . . by wyse van tjek no. . . hiermee teruggestuur.

Verdere bulletins sal versprei word in verband met enige gedenkposseëls wat in die toekoms uitgegee mag word.

Die uwe, Hoofpublisiteitsbeampte.

Dr Dönges is op 10 Januarie 1968 oorlede en op 15 Januarie begrawe. Op 1 Februarie 1968 is 'n nuwe Staatspresident gekies, adv Jim J Fouché, Vrystaatse leier van die Nasionale Party. Toe Staatspresident Fouché op 10 April 1968 in Bloemfontein ingehuldig is, het twee gedenkseëls van 2½c en 12½c vir hom verskyn. Onder aan die spesiale datumstempel was die syfer "2".

Die nommer 5 vir die gedenkkoevert is nie weer gebruik nie. Nommer 4 was vir die herdenking van dr Hendrik F Verwoerd, die eerste minister wat in die Parlement vermoor is, en gedenkkoevert nommer 6 was vir die 450ste herdenking van die Kerkhervorming (Reformasie).

Die *South African Stamp Colour Catalogue* (1997) sê bloot: "Let asb op: Amptelike EDK No 5 is nie uitgegee nie". Die *Atlas Catalogue of RSA* (1983) verskaf die inligting, naamlik dat die koevert en seëls vir dr Dönges vanweë sy oorlye nie uitgegee is nie.

Ná dr Hertzog se dood op 82-jarige leeftyd in 1983 het sy weduwee Martie geleidelik besittings in die herehuis in Waterkloof, Pretoria, begin verminder. So het dit gekom dat die Dönges proewe en ander filateliese materiaal (seëls, proewe en koeverte) tot die beskikking van die Pretoriase seëlhandelaar Paul van Zeyl gekom het.

Eintlik het dr Hertzog hierdie materiaal geskenk aan 'n studerende kleindogter (van Martie, sy tweede eggenote; hy het nie self kinders gehad nie). Die seëls is verhandel om vir finale studies te help betaal.

Paul van Zeyl het geweet van die belangstelling van Marnus Steyn in buitengewone items van die RSA (sedert republiekwording in 1961, met ander woorde 'moderne' materiaal).

Marnus het by die nasionale seëluitstalling in 1980, Gebeks, die eerste keer " 'n Drukker se Storie" uitgestal. Die RSA drukkersfoute en drukafwykings was tematies, met 'n ligte en vrolike aanslag om 'drogseëls' se afwesige kleure, koddige tandings of ander vreemde verskynsels te verduidelik.



Fig. 7: Kunswerk vir die datumstempel vir die inhuldiging van dr Dönges as Staatspresident is ook in die Posmuseum. Alle reëlings vir die seremonie is twee weke voor die tyd gekanselleer.

In 1983 is die versameling by die nasionale uitstalling in Durban, Dursa 83, met 'n vergulde silwer bekroon. Marnus sê die versameling was toe op sy beste. As 'n filateliese inskrywing getitel "RSA" is die versameling in 1990 by Seëls/Stamps 150 bekroon met 'n goue toekenning, asook die SA Stamp Study Circle Award.

Paul van Zeyl het geredeneer: sekerlik sou Marnus belang stel in die proewe van hierdie onuitgereikte Dönges seëls? Marnus was op 'n Saterdagoggend haastig op pad uit na 'n naweek-afspraak toe hy besluit om eers gou die brief van Paul te lees.

"In die brief het hy gevra ek moet hom juis teen die Saterdag laat weet of ek belang stel – wel, ek het letterlik op die telefoon gespring", vertel Marnus. Hy was 18 jaar bestuurslid van die AFV en ook 'n ruk voorsitter van die Wes-Randse Filatelievereniging. Marnus het sedertdien afstand gedoen van die meeste van sy RSA drukfoute en drukafwykings, maar die Dönges kleurproewe behou hul ereplek as 'n kosbare kleinood. ■

Bronverwysings

Mev Martie Hertzog, mev Hannatjie (Mickie) Dönges, Gawie van Eeden, Marnus Steyn, Paul van Zeyl, Instituut vir Eietydse Geskiedenisnavorsing (INEG) aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat, Pieter Hambridge (Posmuseum, Pretoria), Albert Werth.

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international philatelic service

the south african stamp colour catalogue

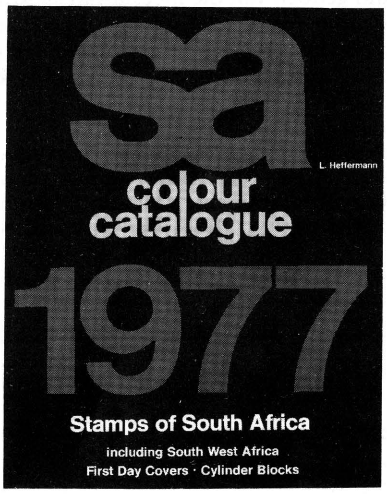
the first 25 years



.....: it has been on the hit list for quite some time now.....

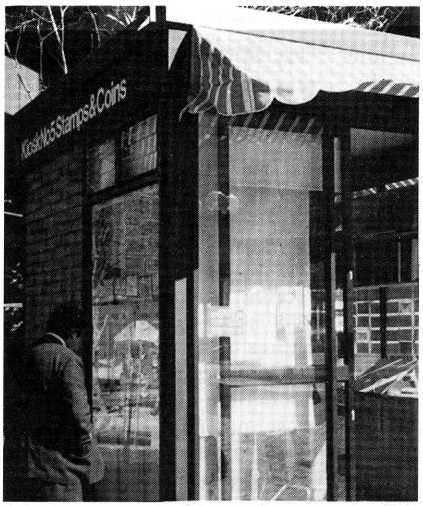
Francoise Friend, owner of Soft Chem and Water Ops, himself a keen philatelist, has conducted this interview with Lutz Heffermann, owner of International Philatelic Service/ Auctions and the publisher of the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue.

Francoise: A quarter of a Century in philately - what started you off?
Lutz: I was born in Austria where I qualified as a camera operator in the printing trade. After immigrating to South Africa in the early 60ies I started my own reproduction company and being a stamp collector from childhood days I realised the need for a stamp catalogue in colour at that time.



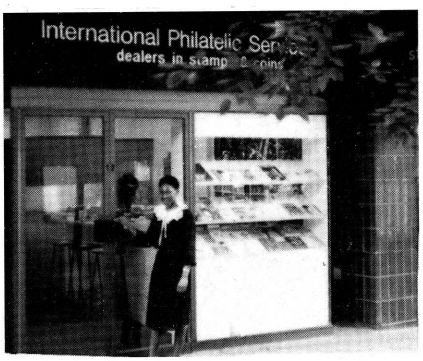
.....I realised the need for a stamp catalogue in colour.....

Francoise: Were there no catalogues available in South Africa at that time?
Lutz: Yes, there were at least three catalogues on the market but when we finally prepared the 1st edition of the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue in 1976 in full colour, collectors were immediately taken by the exquisite presentation and quality of this new product. It should be mentioned here that South Africa was the third country to issue such a product. The first one was Stanley Gibbons with the Great Britain Checklist and the second Mortimer's Australian catalogue which beat us by about 4 months.
The first edition of the SACC was published in October 1976 and dated 1977 for the following year. It consisted of 48 pages and when compared with today's 22nd edition of more than 300 pages it looked just fractionally thicker than Times Magazine. Over the years we have extended the scope to cover virtually the complete Southern Africa.
Francoise: Has the little Corporate Miniature sheet issued by the Post Office created awareness of your company?



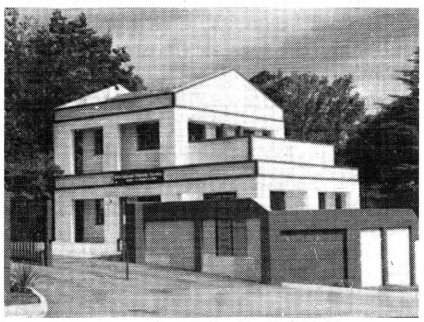
Humble beginnings in Kiosk No.5 near the Carlton Centre

Lutz: Not only has this Miniature Sheet focussed on our activities it has also been on the hit list now for quite some time and the demand is still growing. This was a first again (for the first time a stamp was issued in South Africa to commemorate a stamp business) and with only 40.000 sheets issued, the market was undersupplied by at least half the quantity in demand. We have bought 28.000 sheets and without realising the actual demand have used about 25.000 on our mail promoting our company, this making the mint figures far too small for today's demand. 2.500 were kept back for the "ILSAPEX 1998" overprint in silver onto this sheet (as shown on the front cover of the 22nd edition of the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue) to promote this important international event together with ours. With the identical mail runner portrayed on the ILSAPEX Miniature Sheet from 1995 and the lowest possible issuing figure of 2.500 for our sheet we expect extensive demand for this issue - early booking should be considered!
Francoise: So how much do you expect this Miniature Sheet to cost since the unoverprinted, normal sheet costs already R12,00?



For over 10 years in Fraser Street, central Johannesburg

Lutz: The International Philatelic Service/ILSAPEX sheet will be issued at R25,00 but will definitely go for more after the show.
Francoise: What brought you into the auction market?
Lutz: Our first auction was held in 1981 at the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg - so we are not exactly newcomers to this genere. However with the purchase of our own building on D.F.Malan Drive we decided to start auctions again and on the 15th August we shall be conducting the 23rd auction, with a schedule of not more than 3 auctions per annum.
Francoise: Why only 3 auctions per annum?
Lutz: This is more than enough for our relatively small outfit and since this does not represent our only activity we are busy right through the year. We are extremely careful with material consigned to us by vendors therefore we need sufficient time to research and market their stamps to the best of our abilities.



....with the purchase of our own building on D.F.Malan Drive we decided.....

Francoise: Finally: what makes Mr. Heffermann tick?
Lutz: I am a born collector and have quite a few collections going. Besides my own stamp collections I collect African art, old maps mainly from Africa. I am interested in art and I grow Bonsais; I read a lot - mostly auction catalogues.
Francoise: Thank you for this talk. I wish you all the best - let's say for the next 25 years in business.
Lutz: Ha, ha, am I not supposed to retire at 60?

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■ **HOWARD GODWIN** *East Rand Philatelic Society*

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

AS promised the new CD-ROM *New Zealand Stamps – A Virtual Album*, available from the New Zealand Post Ltd., has been played, and here follow some impressions.

Stated to be the "most advanced interactive product currently available in the philatelic world", collectors are given, amongst other things, large scale illustrations of every New Zealand stamp from 1855 to 1997, including the Ross Dependency. Stamps can be quickly found by year, theme, designer or printer, with full technical information plus general information about each stamp.

It is possible to keep a visual and written record of one's own collection, with the ability to access any stamp or set directly. There are a number of further enhancements, including a special section of stamp orientated games designed to interest young collectors.

However, a computer with Windows 95 and 16MB Ram is a basic requirement, and not every collector has such equipment. At this stage it would be advisable for a society to invest in this very useful addition to its library. Every society must surely have at least one member who is also "into computers", and who would be happy to run the programme for fellow members.

The complimentary copy of the program which I viewed has been given to the Audio-Visual Committee for inclusion in its library. Please contact the committee about availabilty.

Diana by omnibus

It would seem that collectors are to be continuously bombarded by omnibus issues! The latest are those of Diana, Princess of Wales, and the 80th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force.

Originally an omnibus issue meant that a common design was used by participating countries – only colours and values would differ. Taking a detailed look at the Diana issues, we find a complex situation to bedevil collectors.

Altogether 25 countries have taken part, and 24 have each issued a souvenir sheet comprising four different photographs with the heading *DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES* and the dates 1 July 1961 – 31 August 1997. The only country to have issued a single stamp was Norfolk Island.

Of the 24 sheetlet issuing countries, 21 have a charity surcharge shown in the right hand margin. The St Kitts item, illustrated here, reads $6.40 (the total face value of the stamps in the sheetlet) with an addition of 90c. St Kitts has, on the left of the bottom border of the sheetlet, the statement that "In respect of international sales, 90c from total selling price shown on the souvenir sheet will be donated to The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund".

In the centre bottom is a facsimile of the Princess' signature, and on the right hand side the wording reads "In respect of national sales, 90c from the total selling price will be donated to a designated local charity".

The sheetlets of the 21 countries with a charity surcharge are similar, the differences being the face values. Of these, 13 countries issued only sheetlets. They are

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Ascension Island, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Niue, Papua New Guinea, St Helena, Seychelles, Tristan da Cunha and Tuvalu.

A further seven of these countries have also issued one of the sheetlet stamps as a single. An example is St Kitts, where the sheetlet is accompanied by a single stamp of the design of the left hand stamp of the sheetlet, but with a different value: 30c. An eighth authority, Cayman Islands, has issued two stamps with the designs of the souvenir sheet!

Face values of stamps issued by eight countries over and above their sheetlets are: Cayman Islands (10c and 20c), Fiji (81c), Kiribati (25c), St Kitts (30c), Western Samoa (50c), Solomon Islands ($2), Tokelau ($1), and Vanuatu (95v).

The sheetlets of the remaining three issuing countries, Bahamas, Belize and Namibia, do not show any surcharge, nor is there any statement regarding donations to charity.

The Namibia issue is inscribed "Namibia Stamp Awareness Programme". Its release was accompanied by a statement that Namibia Post Philatelic Services would donate N$1,00 per sheet to local charities from its own sales in Namibian post offices (*The SA Philatelist*, June 1998, p88).

In total, 97 different photographs of the Princess were used.

The 80th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force was commemorated by nine countries: Ascension Island, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cayman Islands, Fiji, Gibraltar, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. Each issued eight different stamps, four single values and a souvenir sheet of four.

While there is some duplication of aircraft already illustrated in the previous 75th Anniversary series, a number of little known World War I machines have been included in this series. Aircraft such as the Blackburn Kangaroo, the Short 184 seaplane and the Airco DH9 keep company with better known planes like the Sopwith Camel, the Nieuport 27 Scout and the 'Sopwith Pup.

Of interest to South African pilots are the De Haviland Tiger Moth, the North American Harvard, the Airspeed Oxford and the Curtiss Kittihawk, all of which saw service with the SAAF. The souvenir sheet of the Bahamas is typical.

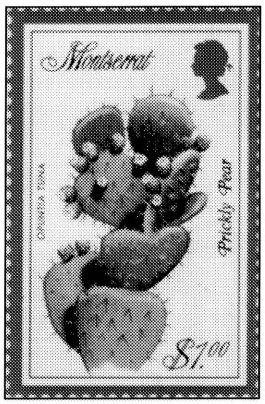
For those who would like to add a variety of American aircraft to their collection, the US Postal Service has issued a sheet of 20 Classic American Aircraft. Both civil and military machines are included, for example the Piper J-3 Cub rubs shoulders with the Flying Fortress.

The sheet is too large to illustrate here, but many of the aircraft would be of value to a collection of aviation history.

Taking your medecine

Plants, and particularly medicinal plants, have long been a highly popular thematic subject. Montserrat has issued a colourful and attractive set of four stamps.

The $1,00 features the Prickly Pear (*Opuntia rubescens*), a plant well known in this country. It is said to be "used as a shampoo known to beautify and grow the hair".







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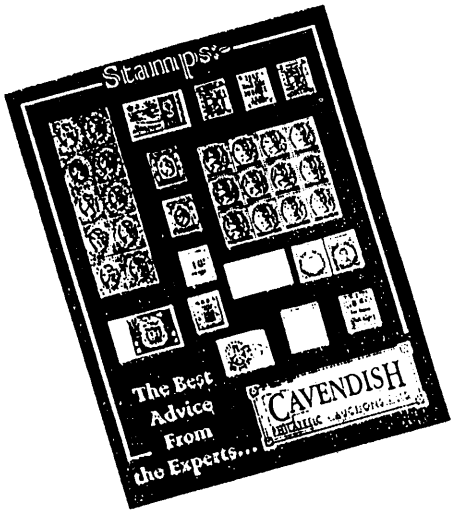

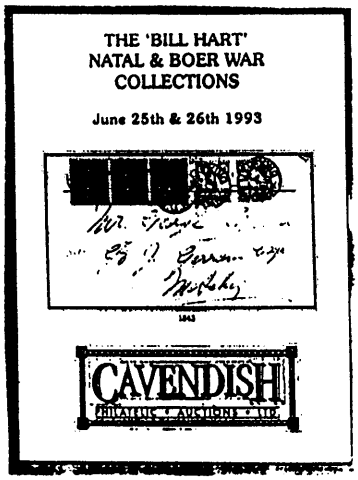

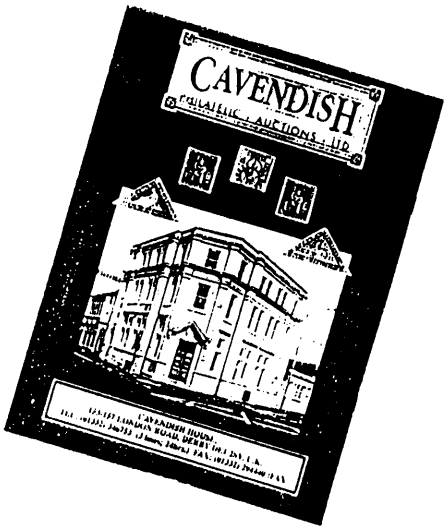

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The Pung Coolie (*Mormordica charantia*) shown on the $1,15 is a vine commonly called Maiden Apple or Cintibibi. The information supplied states that it is used as a purgative, a painkiller or as "a cure for sugar diabetes".

Batroot, as it is known locally, appears on the $1,50 value. It is an Aloe (*Petiveris alliacea*) which is also called Garlic weed on account of a strong odour noticed in the milk of cows which have grazed on the plant.

The $3,45 stamp depicts the Bird Pepper (*Capsicum fruitescens*). The data supplied states that its is "Good for kidneys, spleen and pancreas, also for lockjaw and ulcerated stomach – very effective remedy in yellow fever as well as other fevers"!

Staying with nature, this year's two Swedish summer stamps at the domestic letter rate ("Brev") offer an unusually vivid display of colour in the form of wetland flowers. About one fifth of the area of Sweden comprises marshes, mosses and bogs, which check the flow of water in its cycle.



Featured are the Marsh Violet (*Viola palustris*) and the Great Willow Herb or apple-pie plant (*Epilobium hirsutum*). The former is violet in colour with the latter having rosy-red flowers.



This year's Europa theme is National Holidays, and Sweden has chosen its midsummer celebrations. In June there is the dancing round a midsummer pole adorned with leafy branches, one of the motifs chosen. The other stamp has a dish loaded to the gunwales with crayfish, accompanied by the traditional paper moon, typical for the crayfish party in August. Both stamps are 7Kr values.

Stamp centenaries

The Canada Post Corporation issued a 45c stamp to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the introduction of Canada's Imperial Penny Postage. The 2c of





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1898 is the central motif of the stamp with a period photograph of Sir William Mulock, who was Postmaster-General from 1896 to 1905.

It was mainly his lobbying that obtained the 2c rate (one British penny) for mail to and from all points in the British Empire. That stamp, claimed by Canada to be the first ever Christmas stamp, was also Canada's first commemorative stamp.

Twenty million of the stamps were officially issued on 7 December 1898, in anticipation of the new rate coming into effect on Christmas Day.

Another country to honour the centenary of its stamp issue is New Zealand. The 1898 issue, New Zealand's first pictorials, was unique in two senses – these were the first stamps to have omitted the Queen's head in their design, and they represented the first tourism promotion stamp issue.

The entire issue, including the two Lake Wakitipu stamps, has been carefully reproduced and will make an unusual and interesting addition to a collection.

New Zealand has also made a joint statues issue with Turkey. The 40c value depicts a wounded ANZAC soldier being carried to a First Aid post by a Turkish



soldier in 1915. The statue was designed by Prof Tankut Oktem and stands in the Canakkale graveyard on the Gallipoli peninsula.

Mother with Children ($1,80) which depicts "the mother holding the family together in the absence of her partner on active service" was created by Lyndon Smith in 1964. It is the focal point of the Hall of Memories at the National War Museum in Wellington.

More art is the subject of a four value set, the second in the New Zealand Art series. The painter Peter McIntyre (1910-1995) is the artist.

Featured are "Wounded at Cassino" (40c), "The Cliffs of Rangitikei ca 1958" ($1) and "Maori Children, King Country 1963" ($1,50). "The Anglican Church, Kakahi 1972" on the $1,80 completes the set.

McIntyre studied in London and, at the beginning of World War II joined the New Zealand division in Cairo. He was appointed Official War Artist by General Freyberg. ■



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■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

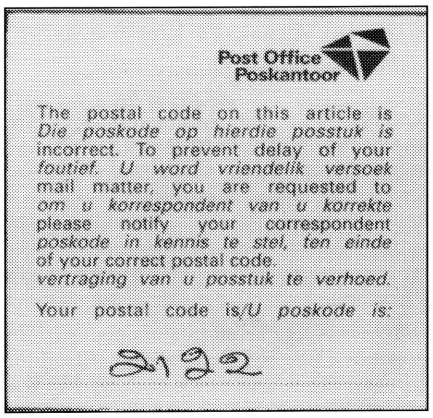
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag

R label notes

In the October 1997 issue of the feature (p154) there was shown a Jan Smuts Airport label with a spelling error in the Afrikaans version of the name. A similar label with spelling error is illustrated, but the letters and figures of the registration number are of a different typeface.

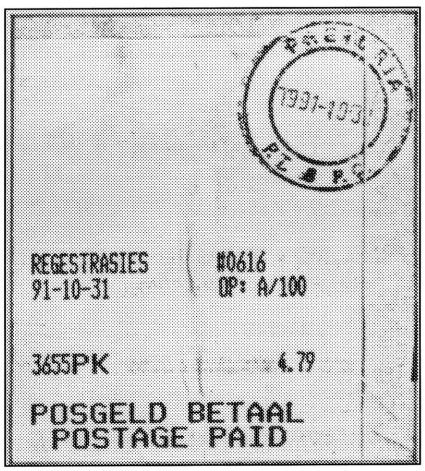


It would appear that, unless some of the labels with the spelling error were withdrawn, a thousand of each type went into circulation. (**Deo Hugo**)



Pospapier

In die Oktober 1997 uitgawe van die rubriek (p156) het 'n etiket verskyn waarin die geadresseerde van 'n brief gevra is om 'n sender van 'n korrekte poskode in kennis te stel. 'n Verskillende etiket met 'n soortgelyke boodskap word geïllustreer. Die afmetings is 58 by 58 mm, met die logo in die Poskantoor se kleure van rooi en blou op wit papier met swart drukwerk. (**A de Klerk**)



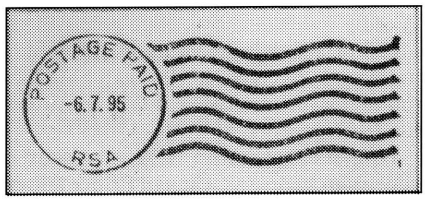
Counter register receipts

The illustration shows a receipt from an Anker Data electronic register. The Anker Data type was introduced at post offices in 1990. The illustration is of a receipt from register #0616, which was at the Pretoria priority mail counter on 31 October 1991.

The receipt itself has no indication of the post office of origin. A steel datestamp impression was applied to indicate the office. The word REGESTRASIES is incorrectly spelled; the second E should be an I. Pretoria registration counter receipts with spelling errors were shown in previous features. They were from register #0621 PTA REGIESTRASI and from register #0046 PTA REGIESTRASIE. The correct spelling, for the record, is REGISTRASIE. (**David Allison**)

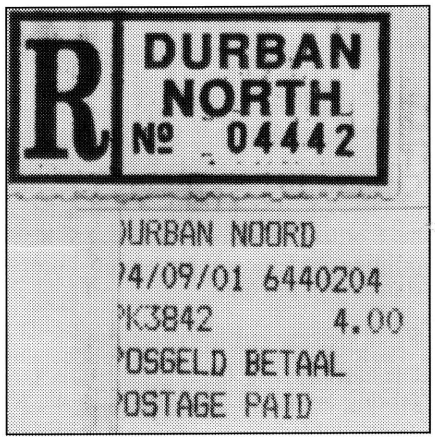
Masjienrojerings

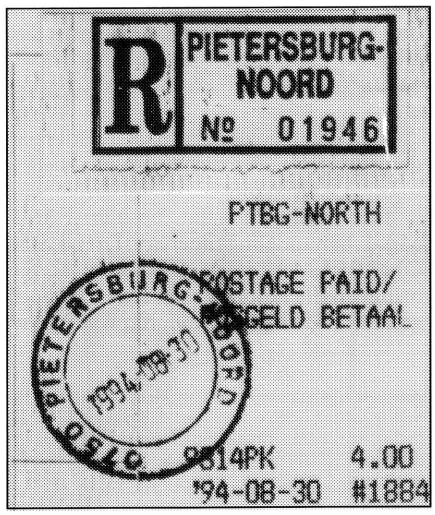
'n Posmerk wat die eerste keer in 1995 opgemerk is, word geïllustreer. Eers het ek



gedink dit was afkomstig van 'n nuwe soort masjien wat deur die Poskantoor in gebruik geneem is. Navraag by die privaatmaatskappy wat die masjien gebruik, het aan die lig gebring dat die rojering in rooi ink deur 'n Pitney Bowes Model No. 6100 masjien gedoen is.

Die hoofdoel van die masjien is om 'n datum op massapos posstukke aan te bring om aan te dui wanneer dit gepos is.





Verkeerde tweetaligheid

Die illustrasies wys 'n toonbank registerkwitansie en 'n registrasie-etiket. Laasgenoemde het die korrekte amptelike Engelse naam, Durban North, terwyl die kwitansie die nie-amptelike Afrikaanse naam het.

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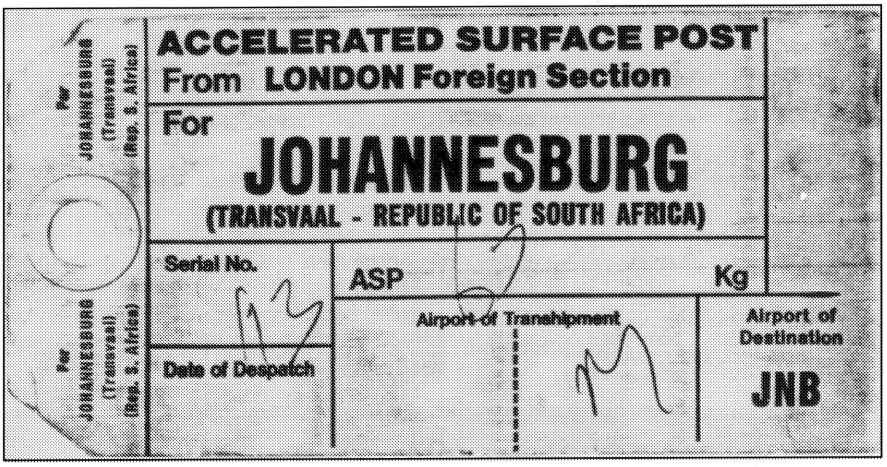
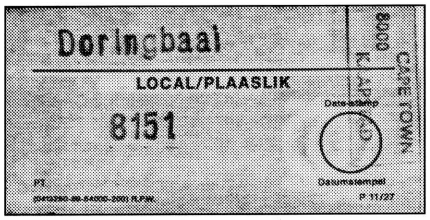
'n Soortgelyke voorbeeld is van Pietersburg-Noord waar die registrasie-etiket en die staal datumstempel die korrekte taal het.

Possak etikette

Hierdie items is al by vorige geleenthede ingesluit. Die item van London na Johannesburg wat gewys word, is van blou karton met swart drukwerk. Dit is in Augustus 1997 gebruik.

Nog 'n etiket wat in 1997 gebruik is, is geheg aan 'n possak wat van Prince Albert af na Klaarstroom versend is. Klaarstroom is 'n kleinhandel posagentskap wat aan Prince Albert ondergeskik is.







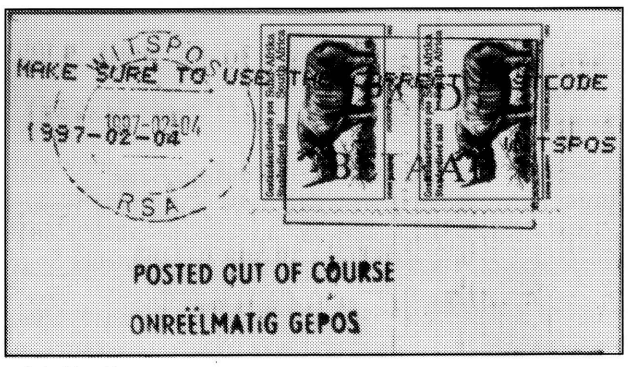
Bundle labels

An kind of item that has not yet been illustrated accompanied mail sent from Cape Town to the West Coast post office of Doringbaai, which has Vredendal as head office. The label is white with black printing and the rubber stamp impressions are in red ink.

Poskantoor rubberstempels

Die afdruk wat geïllustreer word, is aangebring op 'n brief wat iewers in die Johannesburg omgewing gepos is vir aflewering in dieselfde omgewing. Daar is twee masjienstempels op die brief waarop daar ook 'n FASTMAIL etiket geplak was. Die afleiding is dat die brief met sy FASTMAIL etiket in 'n gewone posbus gepos is.

By die Witspos sentrum is die brief eers deur 'n inkstraal masjien om die seëls te rojeer. Daarna, met die eerste sorteerslag, is daar agtergekom dat die item FASTMAIL behandeling moet kry. Die stempel ONREELMATIG GEPOS is aangebring, en die item kry toe verder die nodige FASTMAIL behandeling, waartydens die tweede masjienrojering aangebring is.



This feature aims to record as much as possible of the developments concerning South African mail and the handling thereof. It is a recording of developments for future philatelists. By its very nature, mistakes made by the Post Office and its staff appear quite often. The intention is not to belittle either of them, but to keep a record to enable future philatelists to be able confirm the authenticity of things they may come across.

POST OFFICE NEWS

The numbering system is intended for easy reference back and forth. The first digits are a straightforward sequential numbering of all reports. The second digits give the month in which the report appeared in *The SA Philatelist*, and the third digits represent the last two digits of the year.

6/8/98 – Faunapark retail money order post office was opened in the Northern Province Region with Pietersburg as head office and office code 17878 with effect from 16 February 1998.

7/8/98 – Kromhoek postal agency in the Eastern Cape Region with Umzimkhulu as head office was closed with effect from 2 January 1998.

8/8/98 – The Mamre conventional type money order post office in the Western Cape Region, with Dassenberg as head office and office code 73877 was converted to a retail postal agency with effect from 2 March 1998 and given the new office code 75804.

9/8/98 – Ncera retail postal agency in the Eastern Cape Region, with East London as head office and office code 76495 was closed with effect from 2 January 1998.

10/8/98 – Norvalspont retail postal agency in the Northern Cape Region and with Colesberg as head office and office code 55776 was closed with effect from 2 January 1998.

11/8/98 – Prince Albert Road retail postal agency in the Western Cape Region (head office Beaufort West) and office code 79753 was closed with effect from 12 January 1998.

12/8/98 – The Post Office said in *Xpress* in March 1998 that there are different standards for ordinary mail and for Fastmail. The standard for ordinary standardised and nonstandardised mail in municipal areas is three days. For standard and nonstandard Fastmail in municipal areas the delivery standard is two days.

For ordinary mail in one province, it is four days for standardised and five days for non-standardised mail respectively. For Fastmail, nonstandard and standard mail, it is three days in one province. Be-

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tween provinces, it is five days for ordinary standard mail and six days for nonstandard mail. For Fastmail, it is four days between provinces.

For recorded mail it is three days in municipal areas for standardised mail and four days for nonstandard mail. In one province, it is five days and six days respectively, and between provinces, it is six and seven days.

13/8/98 – The April 1998 issue of the Post Office staff newspaper *Xpress* says rates increased by 10 per cent on 14 April 1998. The Post Office said it was honouring its commitment to increase rates at approximately the last year's inflation rate. In past years, folders were available to the public to indicate the new rates and to give related information. This was not the case this year at all post offices.

14/8/98 – The Post Office said in *Setempe* in March 1998 that its corporate products were to be limited; there had been a revision of policy for their issue. In future, they would be subject to the same procedures as any other Post Office issue. This includes a definite date of issue and due notice to collectors.

15/8/98 – Changes to the plate numbering policy of the Post Office have been announced. The Post Office says changes were long overdue. The only reason it was never revised is probably because of the long-standing relationship between the Post Office and the Government Printer. The Government Printer was the first to request the change. The new guidelines should be seen to fall in line with the need of the Post Office for more efficient control of its printing programme as well as the necessity to implement more stringent security.

Indien daar enige lesers is wat graag bydraes tot die rubriek wil maak, my adres is Posbus 179, Strubenvallei, 1735. En kritiek is ook welkom!

News and Notes/Aktualiteit

The end of a myth

THERE is a highly important article in Otto Peetoom's *The Rhodesian Philatelist* of April 1998, No 16, which upsets several applecarts of theory developed over 40 years, and would finally seem to set the record straight about the prior use and subsequent excision of "Bechuanaland" from the earliest five Rhodesia and Bechunaland datestamps.

It is a myth which seems to have originated in Dann's 1940 classic about the region, although he carefully and clearly labelled it an "unauthenticated tale".

Peetoom has found two strips of stamps – one of five, the other of four – and an irregular marginal block of five stamps, all bearing the complete strikes, one next to the other, of the five agencies along the new mail runner route of the time, namely Gubuluwayo, Tati, Shoshong, Molepolole and Kanye. All are dated 21 August 1888. This was always supposedly the single day on which the handstamps had been used with "Bechuanaland" intact.

Colin Fraser has already pointed out in an article in *Stamp World* in June 1987 that the impressions he had seen were far too clearly and centrally struck to convince as commercial mail.

The material originates from the Hunt collection, and Peetoom's closely argued conclusion around all the theories and evidence is that "it is unlikely that any of the (complete) datestamps saw correct postal usage on 21 August 1888." The cancellations were "undertaken to create cancelled to order souvenirs".

It is an exciting read, and the address of *The Rhodesian Philatelist* is Rectory Road, Roos, Near Hull, East Yorkshire, HU12 0LD, UK.

A note for Boer War buffs

David Collyer, Australia

THERE is a distinct general upsurge of interest in the Boer War, and the following may be useful to collectors in South Africa. I have noted the following in *Reveille* (May/June 1998, p6) under the headline "Home after 96 years – Boer War records returned." The report reads:

The records of 500 Australian soldiers who died during the Boer War (1899 –1902) are to be returned to this country.

The Minister for Veterans Affairs. . . announced that the records which show the burial or memorial locations for Australian casualties are currently held by the National Monuments Council, as agency of the Government of the Republic of South Africa.

The Office of Australian War Graves within the Department of Veterans Affairs is facilitating the transfer, and will be custodian of the records on their return.

"The acquisition of the Boer War records will be a valuable asset for the veteran community, researchers and the general public," said the Minister. . .

Over 16 000 Australian soldiers participated in the Boer War. Of these, 251 died in action or from wounds, 267 died from disease, 43 were posted as missing and 5 were awarded the Victoria Cross.

Anyone seeking information about Australian casualties of the Boer War or any other information contained in the records can contact the Office of Australian War Graves in Canberra.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

To be published at Ilsapex 98, marking the 60th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of SA

The Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa

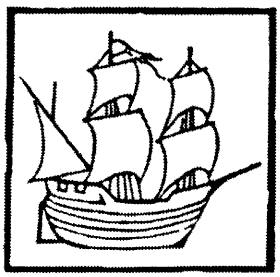
by Neville Gomm

This highly authoritative and diligently researched work has long been missing from the recorded history of philatelic life in Southern Africa. It chronicles not only the many achievements of its subjects in nearly 90 biographies, but presents a vivid picture of eminent achievements over the years. The characters and connoiseurs who have enriched Southern Africa philately almost since the beginning of the century are, with few exceptions, also portrayed with illustrations.

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa inherently also reflects the signal contributions of many societies, and should find a welcome place on their shelves.

Orders are being taken in advance at R85,00 per copy (approximately 120 pages, perfect bound, A4 size) to rationalise a limited print run. **Deadline for receipt of orders is 5 October 1998, for delivery at Ilsapex 98 or by mail (add R5,00 for packing and postage).**

Filatelic Phriends *of Hout Bay have kindly agreed to clear credit card orders if this should be more convenient. Please ensure that orders – addressed to Reijger Publishers – are accompanied by the name of the card service, the correct card number and expiry date, and initials and name as they appear on the card. The magnetic strip on the reverse of the card ends in a 3-digit number. Please be kind enough to supply this as well.*



Reijger Publishers
PO Box 2789
Cape Town

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■ **GIOVANNI PALAZZO** *Philatelic Society of Natal*

The revenue stamps of the RSA: 1978 to 1996

THIS issue of revenue stamps, the third of the Republic of South Africa, was printed up to 1991 partially on the gummed side of transparent paper to prevent reuse. In the earlier issues the wavy lines forming the background were printed more thickly, while the lines are much thinner in later issues (from 1992 onwards).

The set is printed on unwatermarked paper and has a perforation of 12½, with the value printed in black (Fig 1).

Like the first issue of the Republic of South Africa (1961), this one also shows the date of issue incorporated into the design which is found to the right of the bottom corner. Therefore the same value could be found over a long period of time, always with a different year. The decoded year of issue thus would be: 93, 94, 95, etc.

IN August 1997, on p112 of *The SA Philatelist*, Giovanni Palazzo wrote about "An aspect of apartheid – the Native Registration Fee". The article gained him a Congress Award. This article was submitted to his society for the Pilkington Rose Bowl Competition.

At Mevifil 97 in Argentina, the first international exhibition devoted to videos, slide and computer programmes (see *The SA Philatelist* April 1998, p56) Giovanni was awarded a Silver for his audio-visual "Union of South Africa Revenue Stamps".

In this set it is possible to find some values which were printed with the date positioned (wrongly) to the left lower corner, as a result of a reversed plate in the printing process. Those thus far recorded are the following: R100 (1978), R1 (1981) and 50c (1990).

Another interesting find is the 1984 issue which is easy to detect because of a broken line in the left bottom corner, just before the ornament (Fig 2).

From 1992 all the values were printed on one side only, the ungummed one, and on thick chalky paper (Fig 3). The values R1 (1981), R1 (1987) and the R2 (1990), overprinted in black "PENALTY/BOETE" are also recorded with shifted black printing (the value only).

Revenue stamps overprinted in black "PENALTY/BOETE" are used only when legal documents are presented too late for registration to the Inland Revenue

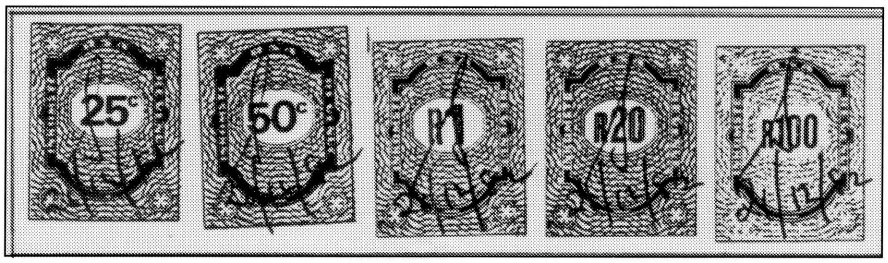

Fig. 1

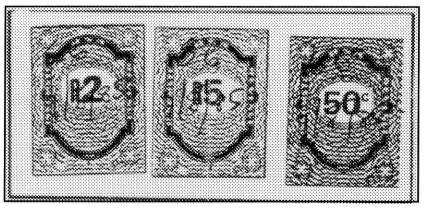

Fig. 3

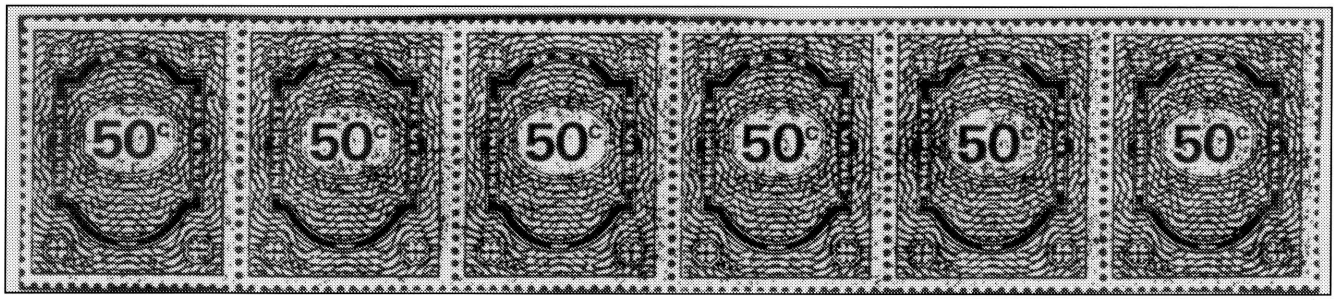

Fig. 2

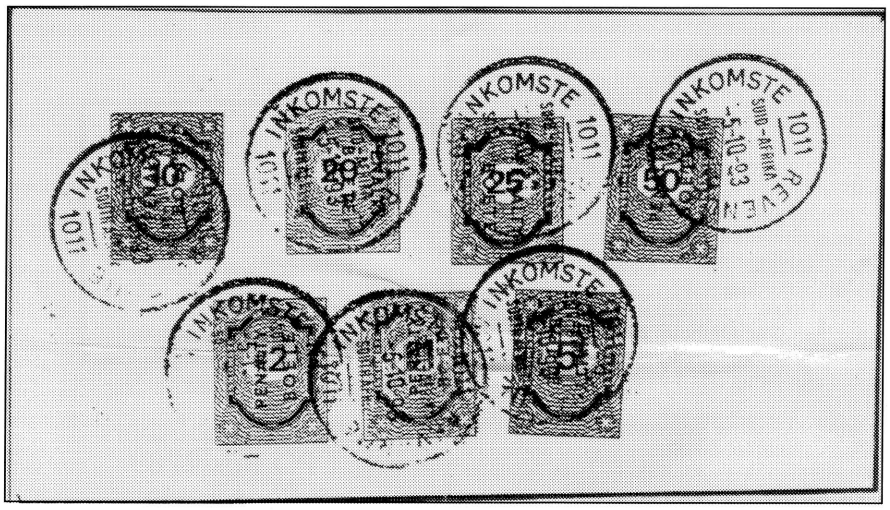

Fig. 4

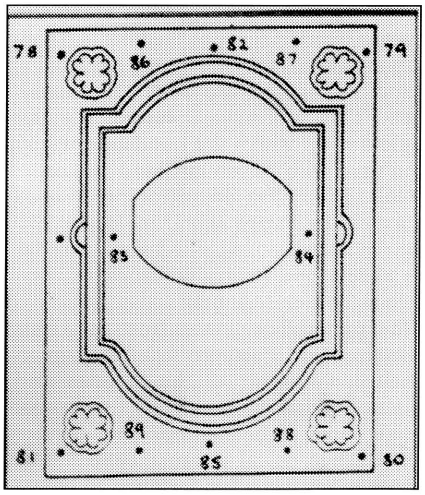

Fig. 5

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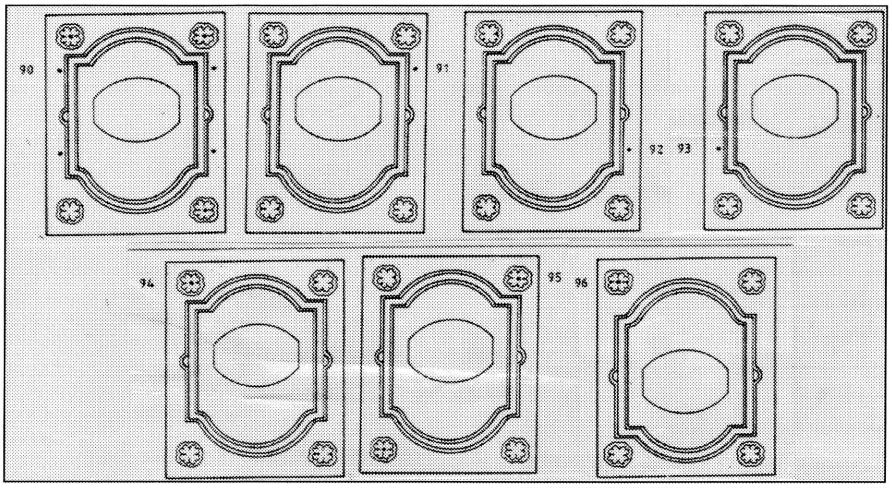
Office and they may be found reading up (U) or down (D) (Fig 4).

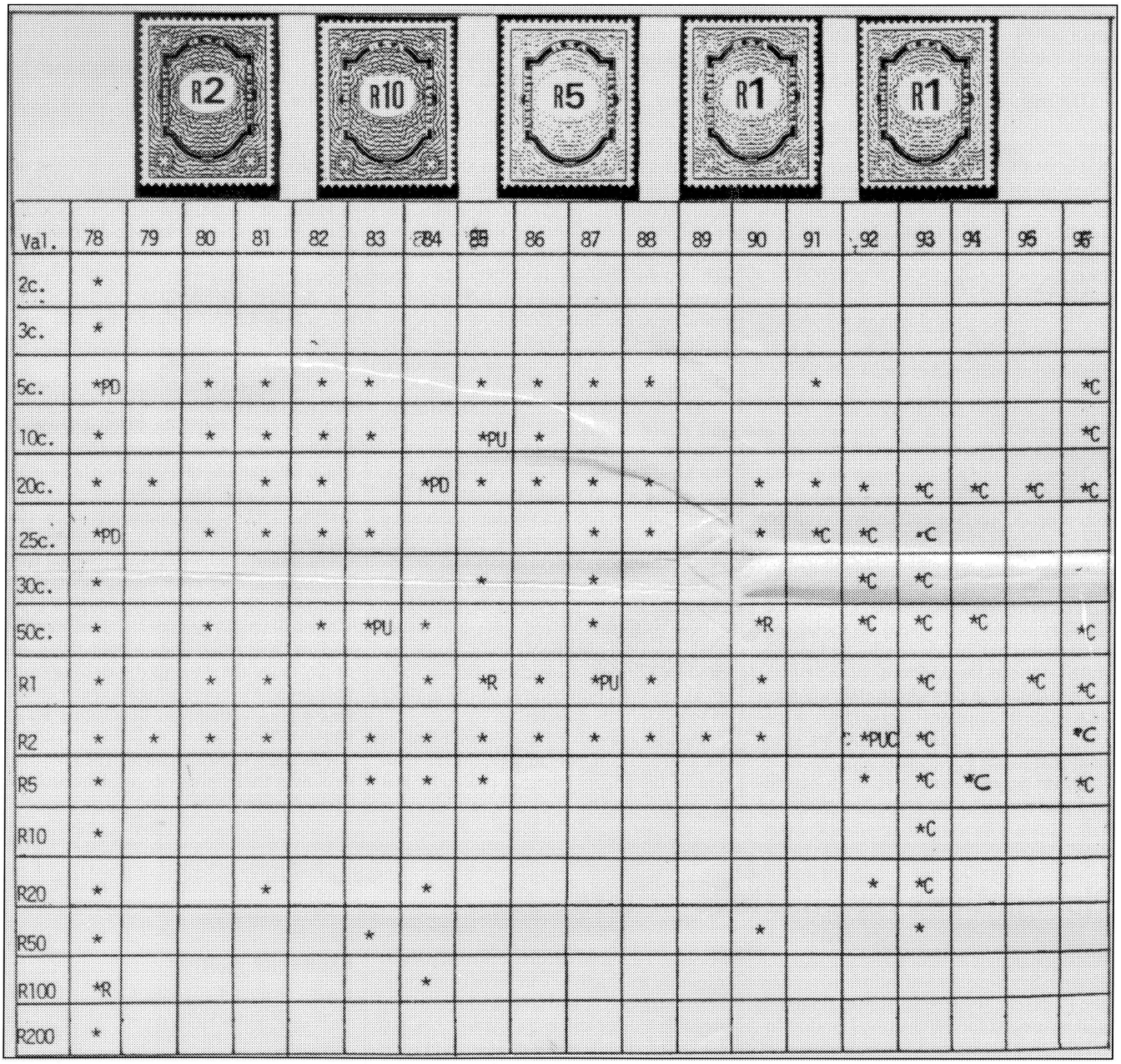
Due to the limited quantity, because of their only very occasional use by the Revenue Offices, the "Penalty/Boete" stamps are scarce.

The "PENALTY/BOETE" overprint has been recorded in the following values: 5c (1978D), 25c (1978D), 50c (1983U), 20c (1984D), 10c (1985U), R1 (R1987U) and R2 (1992U).

Beside the unusal year-coding which is normally to the right lower corner, from 1978 to date, the year was also indicated by the position in the frame of a small coloured dot. This system was also in use from 1951 to 1968, and it was re-introduced by the printers – possibly as a security



1990 to 1996: Schematic representation of dot coding.



Val.	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
2c.	*																		
3c.	*																		
5c.	*PO		*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*			*					*C
10c.	*		*	*	*	*		*PU	*										*C
20c.	*	*		*	*		*PO	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*C	*C	*C	*C
25c.	*PO		*	*	*	*				*	*		*	*C	*C	*C			
30c.	*							*		*					*C	*C			
50c.	*		*		*	*PU	*			*			*R		*C	*C	*C		*C
R1	*		*	*			*	*R	*	*PU	*		*			*C		*C	*C
R2	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*PUC	*C			*C
R5	*					*	*	*							*	*C	*C		*C
R10	*															*C			
R20	*			*			*								*	*C			
R50	*					*							*			*			
R100	*R						*												
R200	*																		

Year Codings: This table represents recorded dates of issue. A star indicates recorded, and a blank unrecorded years. From 1992 some values were printed on chalky paper.
PO = PENALTY reading down. PU = PENALTY reading up. R = Reversed printed plate. C = Chalky paper.

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measure. Philatelically it is here recorded for the first time.

These "secret dots" are positioned clockwise (except for the coded years 1982, '83, '84, '85, which are positioned anti-clockwise) and they were changed each year.

Fig 5 shows how to detect the dots, and the years to which they can be assigned. Needless to say there are some years and specific values which are indeed rare, leading to a fascinating hunt for the "missing" years.

It should be noted that the 1990 issue is the only one which has five coloured dots instead of only one, as for all the other issues. All the 50c values issued in 1990 have the plate printed in reverse and therefore one of the secret dots is now positioned as in the 1991 issue.

More information regarding this issue is welcome, and the year codings will be accepted only if a clear photocopy or the actual stamp is presented. ■

In memoriam

David Stern RDPSA, FRPSL

18 October 1943 – 18 July 1998

A little more than three months before the opening of its ninth international stamp exhibition, South African philately had to mourn the loss of the indefatigable man who had been leading it to its fruition: David Stern, chairman of the organising committee of Ilsapex 98.

His role in organised philately was manifold and versatile. His home society, one of the sponsors of Ilsapex 98, was the Society of Israel Philately, where he won every major club award and was often its chairman. In 1994, the society recognised his work and achievements with a singular honour, presenting him with an illuminated scroll.

Yet David, a senior philatelist and researcher of international stature, was equally at home chatting to ten-year-old aspiring stamp collectors at many a staging of JUNASS. He was an enthusiastic supporter of youth philately, and many youngsters benefited by the advice of "Uncle David".

He was a staunch supporter of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, where he often made his fine collections available for viewing at club level.

He served on the organising committee of Johannesburg 100 in 1986, where he was chairman of fundraising, and the credit for the marketing and financial success of this exhibition can be laid largely at the door of David Stern.

In 1990, he accepted the chairmanship of Ilsapex 98, and once again, he was leading the efforts of the fund raising committee.

David Stern's participation in organised philately was far from being limited just to organising. He was a senior accredited judge of the Federation, a member of national exhibition and JUNASS juries, serving at times as chairman and vice-chairman. He was also a member of the Philatelic Federation's Judging Committee since its establishment, and was its secretary.

His major collections were of the first issue of the State of Israel, the Doar Ivri issue of 1948, and errors on the Queen Elizabeth II stamps of the United Kingdom. At national level the collections were awarded gold medals at the Wanderers 101 exhibition in 1988, and again at eThekwini in Durban in 1993. Here the Doar Ivri gained the overall national grand prix, the State President's Trophy, while the Queen Elizabeth Errors also received the Potch 78 award for modern philately.

He was proud of being South African, and never entered an international exhibition unless he could so as a member of a local society, although he was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Thus one of his fondest memories was that, in the course of the London 1990 exhibition, David Stern was an invited guest to exhibit to the Great Britain Philatelic Errors and Varieties Society.

Few collectors would have had either the knowledge, or the material, to be invited to London on such an occasion to speak on the complexities of the subject or to exhibit his material.

David was awarded the Skinner Cup at the Durban congress in 1993 in recognition of his efforts towards philately. His achievements and inputs to South African philately eminently qualified him as a signatory to the Roll of Honour, to which he was invited by the 58th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, held at Bloemfontein on 11 October 1993.

David Stern's most recent official mission for the Federation was to represent South African philately as Commissioner at the Israel 98 World Stamp Exhibition, held from 13 to 21 May 1998 in Tel Aviv, where twelve South Africans exhibited.

Henk de Lange, David Stern's successor to lead Ilsapex 98 into and around the final lap, on behalf of the exhibition's executive committee, said, "We extend our deepest sympathy to his father, Joe Stern, his wife Yvonne, his two sons Dany and Ami, and his daughter-in-law Tracey."

"May David Stern's memory inspire us", said Joh Groenewald RDPSA, President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. "There is an immense sense of loss when an energetic man in the prime of his life is taken from us.

"The loss is compounded when this happens only three months before the event towards which he had worked tirelessly for almost nine years, the Ilsapex exhibition.

"We share the grief of the Stern family, and we will remember David Stern for much more than being the driving force of Ilsapex. May his enthusiasm and enduring vigour remain an inspiration to us all."

The SA Philatelist and its readers wish to convey their sincere condolences to the Stern family.

Nominations for philatelic writers

THE Nugent Clougher Award and the Ronnie Spafford Award, administered by the Philatelic Writers Society in England, will be judged for 1998 at the London International Stamp and Cover Show on 31 October 1998. The former is for research work published for the benefit of postal history, and the latter is for philatelic works of a general nature. Entries, predominantly in English, can have been published anywhere, within the immediately preceding three calendar years.

Further details and entry forms may be obtained from P D Lindley, Paddock House, High Street, Yardley Hastings, Northants NN7 1ER, UK.

Exchange wanted

Chile: Angel Custodio Castro, Correo Central Rengo, Clasificador #1, writes in Spanish that he wishes to exchange stamps on the topics of Fauna, Cosmonautica and Airmail material, for stamps of his own country.

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Op die velrand/In the margin

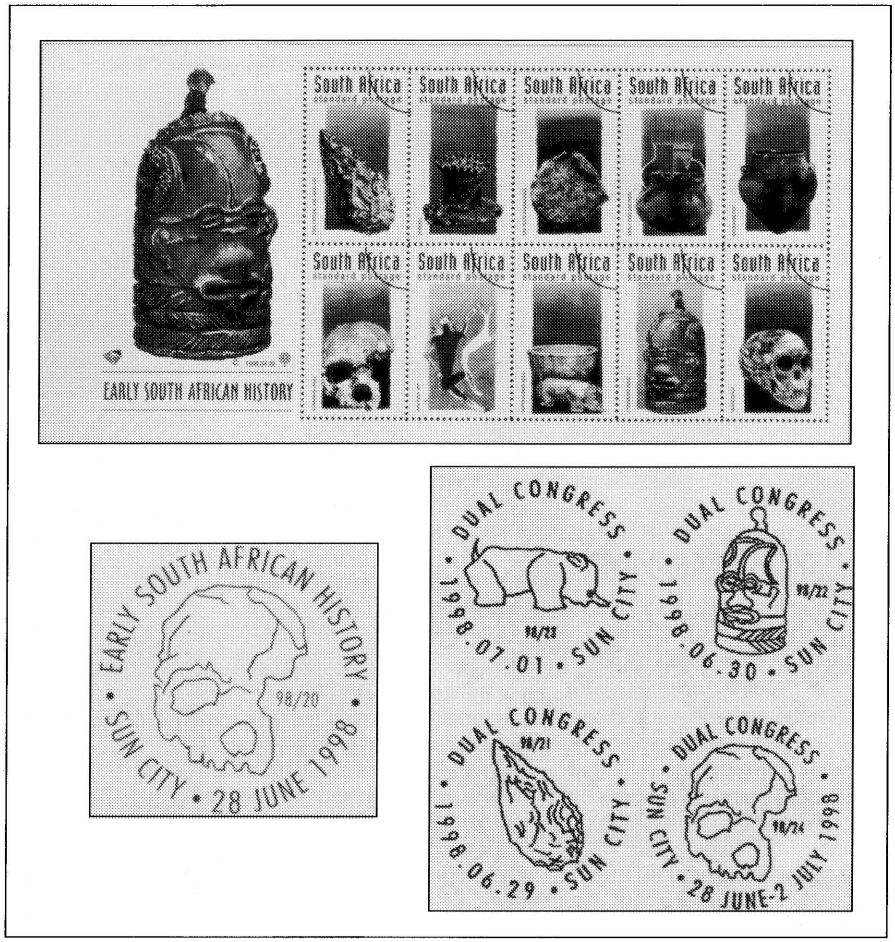
Vroeë SA geskiedenis se seëls en boekievel

AAN die einde van Junie 1998 is 'n kongres van die Internasionale Vereniging vir die Studie van Menslike Paleontologie en die Internasionale Vereniging van Menslike Bioloë in Johannesburg en Pretoria gehou. Om daarmee saam te val, het tien seëls met gepaste illustrasies deur Sue Dickenson (standaard briefpostarief) en 'n soewenierboekie op 28 Junie 1998 verskyn.

Die seëlontwerp is deur Shalette Kesting, en die boekie is die derde in die reeks wat begin het met die "Jaar van Kulturele Ervarings" en die "Watervoëls van Suid-Afrika" (sien *The SA Philatelist*, Februarie 1998, p22). Twee posgeldbetaalde poskaarte is ook uitgereik, en vier verskillende datumstempels is in die loop van die kongres gebruik, benewens die eerstedagstempel.

Die tien artefakte en oer-oorblyfsels wat die seëlonderwerpe uitbeeld, en wat volledig in die boekie beskryf word, sluit kosbaarhede soos die Mapungubwe goud in, die unieke Florsibad skedel, vroeë pottebakkerswerk en 'n handbyl uit die steentydperk, sowel as 'n aanvallige rotstekening. Dit is alles byeengebring uit van die belangrikste Suid-Afrikaanse museums.

Geïllustreerde nuusvrystellings



Additional stamps in the 6th Definitive Series

DENIS MURPHY is the designer of all the additonal stamps to the 6th Definitive series, which began with five South African antelope on 18 May 1998. These stamps are all good for the standard inland letter rate, and have replaced the redoubtable rhino.

The antelopes are the blue wildebeest (*Connochaetes taurinus*), eland (*Taurotragus oryx*), kudu (*Tragelafus strepsiceros*), Impala (*Aepyceros melampus*) and waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*).

Two additional values were issued on 24 June 1998. These are the 30c depicting a spotted hyena (*Crocuta crocuta*) and a R3,00 value with a giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*). These are the only two definitives in the redrawn series featuring new original artwork.

Illustrated news release

Stamps kicked off at Marseilles, Free State

THE commemorative datestamp of South Africa's World Cup Soccer Stamps (see *The SA Philatelist*, June 1998, p96) was on 8 June 1998 at the Free State post office Marseilles. (It can be found on an accurate map near the N8 travelling from Taba Nchu east towards Ladybrand.) Marseilles in France is where Bafana Bafana played their first match, against France on 12 June.

The stamp, issued in a sheetlet of ten, at the standard internal letter rate, was designed by Marc de Jong.

News release





News from Namibia

Issuing programme

PREVIOUS details of the issues Namibia intends have been given in *The SA Philatelist* February 1998, p23 and June 1998, p87. The Christmas 1998 issue mentioned in the latter report has now been cancelled.

Four stamps showing Namibian landscapes were issued for World Environment Day on 5 June 1998; on the same day "Racing for Survival", a minisheet with a N$5,00 value appeared, featuring Frank Frederick and a Cheetah.

The Soccer World Cup was celebrated with a minisheet and N$5,00 value on 15 June 1998.

Five "Animals with their Young", all at the value of N$1,50, appeared in a sheetlet on 18 June 1998.

Two minisheets will be issued for the Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme in March and April 1999. One will depict ships (for IBRA 1999) and the other youth cartoon characters from Germany

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and Namibia, intended specially for our youth collectors. (See *The SA Philatelist*, June 1998, at foot of p88).

"The Namibian Stamp Awareness Programme is to run till the year 2000" Philatelic Services of Namibia Post says, "and we will be making complete sets available at that time for sale to collectors who have not been able to acquire the first issues.

"Possible issues for 1999 will be 'Turn of the millennium', 'Ships for IBRA 1999' and 'Youth minisheet' (as mentioned above), 'Namibian Mushrooms' for Philexfrance 1999 and a Namibian Rabbit minisheet for China 1999."

News releases

Diana minsheet clarified

ON 25 May 1998, the Editor wrote to the Manager, NamPost Philatelic Services, about the Namibian Princess Diana issue. The query was this:

"I would be grateful if you could clear up some concern which has arisen regarding charity donations resulting from your Princess Diana issue. Your press release to *The SA Philatelist* says that surcharged amounts on international sales made through the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau will be donated to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. Namibia Post Philatelic Services will donate N$1,00 per sheet to local charities from its own sale in Namibian post offices.

"This, together with an illustration of your Diana sheetlet which you provided, are featured on pp 87-88 of *The SA Philatelist*, June 1998.

"Enclosed are three photocopied pages from *The Philatelic Exporter*, April 1998. The report on p2 states that Namibia is one of three countries which does not carry surcharges. The comment by the Australasian correspondent of the journal on p50 on the same question takes the matter further, and points out that as a result the Diana signature, the official logo of the fund and the official monogram were not permitted as features of Namibia's issue.

"This is confirmed by the illustration of your issue in *The SA Philatelist*, and in the full page advertisement of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau on p17, (*The Philatelic Exporter*, April 1998). There is no surcharge indication, as on the accompanying illustrations of the issues of Gibraltar and Niue in the advertisement.

"I look forward to receiving your comments as soon as possible."

The following reply was received on 21 July 1998 from Ruth Hamilton, Manager Philately:

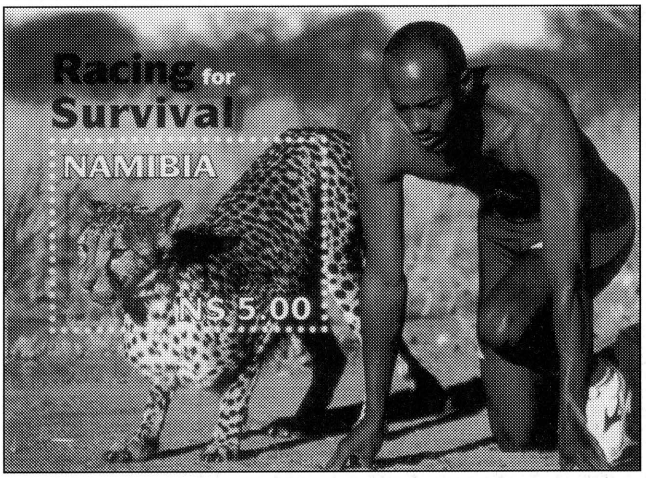
"I am sorry for the late reply, but I was out of office for a month and after that it took quite a time to get up to date again.

"Regarding the surcharge indication on the Diana sheets I would just like to inform you that we decided not to print the official logo of the fund and the official monogram on the sheets, because the donation would have been divided between sales in Namibia and sales abroad. Should we have printed on the sheets we should have been forced to donate the total amount to the Memorial Fund. As a Namibian company we felt that we could donate N$1,00 for sales on the sheet to various Namibian charities such as Namibian Red Cross etc.

"I hope this will provide you with the necessary answer on the Australasian correspondent's remark."

(Editor's note: See also the "New Issues" column on p119.)









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Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Report: Highway Junass 98 10 to 12 July 1998

Jill Redmond

THE venue was the Umdoni Centre, with frames set up in the middle of the shopping area so that passers-by could not help but see all the colourful exhibits. This set the tone for a friendly and sparkling exhibition.

The Cotswold Coffee Bar provided the cosiest jury room one could wish for, with unlimited refreshments. Judging was completed on 8 July by Coen Slagt and his team, followed that evening by a grand get-together of the jury and organising committee. Jury paperwork was completed the following day. The official opening was held on the evening of 9 July, the Master of Ceremonies being Dr Angus Pringle who had some very pertinent points to make on the hobby. (Angus visited Gauteng on various occasions to resolve Junass 98 matters, and a member of his organising committee, Rogier Courau, is actually a junior collector who was in regular attendance at the show.)

Dr Franco Frescura, Manager Philatelic Services, then announced the launch of *Junior Setempe*, which he envisaged would be issued twice a year to about 20 000 children. Copies were available that evening for everyone. In addition, Dr Frescura launched the first set of Stamp Collectors' Sheets, picturing recent issues (with details on the reverse) with illustrations on the front to which children could attach the actual stamps.

Many people attended the opening, held at the Cotswold Coffee Bar, including members of the Natal, Pietermaritzburg and Highway Philatelic Societies, dealers and representatives from Philatelic Services, Pretoria. Junass 98 was open from 10 July to 12 July, and there were 4 Gauteng dealers, 1 local dealer, a representative of Nampost and Durban Philatelic Services in attendance.

A special datestamp was available for visitors to make their own interesting covers. Visitors were plentiful, providing much activity around the exhibits and the dealers' stands. Suffice it to say that the youngsters displayed some delightful exhibits which were much appreciated by visitors. The youngest exhibitor, 6 years old, mounted a page for the Flamingo Club exhibit which came first in the Club competition – well done, Marietjie Thornton.

Solomon Bonoko, the Lepono Youth Leader, went by train to Natal, taking 10 of his junior members whose exhibits were judged by Henry Storm, Highway. Ann Southwood, Youth Leader of the Maritzburg Junior Club which recently rejoined StampMates, was in attendance, and it was good to see Lilian Wade, Federation's Vice President for the region.

Many people were so interested in the exhibits that they were keen to know more about exhibiting and why certain awards were made. A senior thematic collection was available to explain to interested persons how thematics were put together.

Exhibitions always involve volunteers in much effort and members of the Highway Society were no exception. They worked hard and with great good will.

All the awards

Special trophies & awards

Fanie Vermaak Award: Silver (Best exhibit 13-15 years): Melita Weideman (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Musiek op Seëls

Fanie Vermaak Toekenning: Brons (Beste uitstalling 10-12): Hein Theart (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Filatelie, 'n Verskeidenheid

Wigmore Trophy (Best exhibit under 10): Pieter Fonternel (OVS) Rugby

East London Philatelic Society Award (Best South African Exhibit): Dori Kowalski (Penny Black Stamp Club) RSA 4th Defintives 1982-1987

Ratcliffe Trophy (Discretion of the Jury for Outstanding Merit): Hanli Bothma (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Ons Nasionale Lied

Aerophilatelic Society Award (Best aerophilatelic exhibit): Reinhardt Botha (Centurion) Wings

Alberton Philatelic Society Award (Youth Leader of the Year): Dennis Horn, De Kuilen Jeugklub

David Stern Award (Best Club Exhibit): First place, Flamingo Stamp Club; Second place, Benoni Junior Stamp Club; Third place, Natal Philatelic Society, Junior Section

Vermeil/Vergulde Silwer

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 13-15

Melita Weideman (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Musiek op Seëls

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 10-12

Dori Kowalski (Penny Black Stamp Club) RSA 4th Definitives 1982-1987

Silwer/Silver

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 16-18

Rogier Courau (Highway Youth Stamp Club) A Look at South Africa

Michael Mechant (Penny Black Stamp Club) Machin Definitives 1967-1998

Bradley Joe Thornton (Flamingo Stamp Club) Boy Scouts

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 13-15

Hanli Bothma (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Ons Nasionale Lied

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 10-12

Hein Theart (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Filatelie – 'n Verskeidenheid

Emil Bothma (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Bekende Persone op SA Seëls

Age group/Ouderdomsgroep Under/Onder 9

Pieter Fonternel (OVS) Rugby

Silver Bronze/Silwer Brons

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 16-18

David Rae (Highway Youth Stamp Club) Prehistoric Animals

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 13-15

Reinhardt Botha (Centurion Seëlmaats) Wings

Jade Rabie (Penny Black Stamp Club) Some Machins of Great Britain

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 10-12

Michael Fennemore (Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club) The Trail to Zimbabwe

Gustav Grunewald (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Sport en Filatelie

Stephan Lubbe (De Kuilen Jeugklub) Namibië – 'n Besondere Land

Rodney McKelvey (Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club) The Afrikaner Experience

Lauren Uppink (Highway Youth Stamp Club) Dogs over the Years

Brons/Bronze

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 13-15

Emil Blattner (Highway Youth Stamp Club) The Story of Space

Josey Dawson (Highway Youth Stamp Club) It's a Cat's Life

Vicki Heger (Highway Youth Stamp Club) Butterflies

Carmen Merritt (Highway Youth Stamp Club) Dogs of the World

Age group/Onderdomsgroep 10-12

Jacobus Fonternel (OVS) Ons klein Ambassadeurs: RSA Gedenkseëls 1977-1987

Sirion Haylett (Penny Black Stamp Club) Around the World in 80 Stamps

Harry Inglis (Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club) Music through the Eyes

Jason Lotriet (Penny Black Stamp Club) Some Miniature Sheets of South Africa

Neil Mattheson (Penny Black Stamp Club) Miniature Sheets from Different Countries

Jared Peacock (Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club) Airborne!

SA specialist societies meeting at Swinpex 98, UK

Jeff Woolgar

DESPITE heavy rain and World Cup football events, Swindon Philatelic Society's annual Stamp, Postcard and Postal History Fair, held at Swindon on 13 June 1998, was well attended. Around 35 dealers were present, and nine specialist society provided displays.

During the afternoon the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, Natal and Zululand Study Circle, Orange Free State Study Circle, South African Collectors' Society and the Transvaal Study Circle held a joint meeting chaired by Tony Chilton. Seven members gave talks and displays on various subjects, covering a wide range of philately and postal history and giving all present an insight into other aspects of the philately of South Africa. These were:

- Brian Cartwright – Zululand stamps and postal stationery
- Richard Stroud – Anglo-Boer War; early censoring by the Republics and the impact on Kroonstad
- David Painter – the large and small "war effort" stamps of South Africa
- Jeff Woolgar – a miscellany of Transvaal stamps, proofs and essays
- Michael Smith – Orange Free State postal stationery
- Tony Chilton – RSA Building definitives; KG V postal stationery proofs, including ½d and 1d values
- Chris Board – Interprovincial Period

The success of the event led members to suggest that further joint meetings be

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arranged. In summing up the chairman thanked all those who had contributed to and participated in a most enjoyable meeting.

Goeie nuus vir '99

BY sy vergadering op 12 Junie 1998 het die Bestuurskomitee van die Federasie die probleem bespreek wat ontstaan het weens die gebrek aan nasionale tentoonstellings in die nabye toekoms (sien *The SA Philatelist*, Junie 1998, p61).

Die goeie nuus is dat die taakgroep wat toe onder voorsitterskap van George Cafetzoglou aangewys is om 'n oplossing te vind, reeds ver gevorder het.

Daar vind nou wel 'n nasionale seëluitstalling in 1999 plaas. Dit sal vroeg in September by die Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit (RAU) gehou word. Die reëlings word reeds getref deur die komitee wat in Junie aangewys is, en twee plaaslike verenigings, die Philatelic Society of Johannesburg en die Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, gaan as gashere optree. Voorlopig is 300 tot 400 rame in vooruitsig gestel.

- By dieselfde vergadering is Cafetzoglou ook aangewys as voorsitter van die skakel- en promosiekomitee van die Federasie, wat 'n wyle herderloos was.
- Daar is besluit dat vise-presidente van die Federasie as adviseurs kan optree as daar navrae kom oor die hantering van filateliese boedels. Vise-presidente is welkom om raad te vra hieroor by Harry Birkhead RDPSA (☎011 455-1138).

- **A loose-leaf insertion in this issue of *The SA Philatelist* details the schedule of events at Ilsapex 98, 20 to 25 October 1998.**

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

Kimberley in postcards

Images of Kimberley – A Postcard Collection; Richard Oliver, with text by Maureen Rall.
142 pp, ill., publication no. 2 in the Kimberley Africana Library series, in an edition of 500 numbered copies; order from The Friends of the Library, P O Box 627, Kimberley, 8300; R160,00 (standard edition) plus R20, 00 for p&p in South Africa.

IN his erudite foreword the editor of this journal points out the importance of pictorial postcards as social history documents and otherwise, and relates how they have come to be accepted in South Africa for competitive exhibition at national level under the philatelic umbrella (a development in which he has played no small part).

The work is based on Oliver's collection of pictorial postcards of Kimberley and its surrounds (a selection of which won him a Vermeil and the felicitations of the jury, plus the Archie Atkinson Trophy, at Bloemfontein 150 in October, 1996).

It is copiously illustrated, using 217 of his cards and 30 from the collection of the Kimberley Africana Library (inexplicably, the latter items are not identified). Of these, 40 cards are adequately reproduced in full colour. The reproduction of the others suffers by being in grey and white rather than in black and white, and the original colour of these is not stated (certainly some are in multicolour).

In addition, all but one of the 247 cards have been reduced to 86 per cent of their original size – a great pity. Here comparison with the book's effective forerunner, the late Oscar Norwich's *A Johannesburg Album* may be made. In the latter work postcards were superbly reproduced in their full size and original colour; but that was 12 years ago, and now financial stringency has unfortunately probably prevailed.

The illustrations are accompanied by Oliver's well-researched comments on the views displayed. A neat touch is the method used to point out details of particular buildings; also useful is the idea of reproducing appropriate details from the Kimberley Street Directory of 1902 in the text.

In his acknowledgements, the compiler mentions how his collecting also required a study of "the various printers and printing methods" of the cards. Regrettably, none of this research is reflected in the book – all details given of the cards illustrated have simply been taken from what is obvious on them, and even then some details have been omitted.

The date of despatch of every postally used card is given. Now, by 1905 the vast majority of South African cards bore divided backs (enabling the message to be written there as well as on the front) but on p4, for instance, an undivided back card (issued circa 1903) is shown with usage in 1909. What, I hear you cry, is the point of quoting the postmark date here? It would have been far more useful had the (approximate) year of production of cards been given.

In so far as can be judged the original cards used for illustration are in excellent overall condition overall, and many are very scarce. The selection process appears to have been generally competent, although the single illustration on p120 hardly warrants inclusion – what a terribly dull view, and besides the page looks unbalanced!

A highly attractive and interesting card of Dutoitspan Road entirely fills the dustwrapper (it features, inter alia, the premises of H A Oliver & Co., general drapers – the proprietor came to be known as the "Siege Mayor" of Kimberley and earned the CMG for his efforts).

The complementary text by Maureen Rall displays in comprehensive manner a thorough grasp of the many facets of the history of the city, and it is lucid and at times entertaining.

On occasion errors have crept in, however they tend to be minor (thus Union-Castle is in fact hyphenated; Hely Hutchinson and Scott Turner are not, and the lastnamed was not a colonel but a major in the army at his death).

There is – an invaluable tool for the researcher – an excellent index (although Dr J W Matthews has been blessed with no less than three separate entries).

Images of Kimberley (nice title!) is a book which should grace the shelves of all lovers not only of the history of that city, but also of the history of South Africa. It contains a feast for Kimberley postcard collectors, and should stimulate similar publications for cities like Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

Malcolm Murphy

Onderonsies/Society news

MARITZBURG PS

April: Items of interest: Robin Castle showed some fine, quite out of the ordinary, Natal items plus Tonga cards, Sierra Leone shapes, Malta Angles, and the Bahamas banana shapes, even the tiny Bantam of SA compared with the Fujeira space stamp which measures about 150 x 75 mm!

Ron Buchel showed a postcard ex Messina Italy, 1927 with Vatican stamps which had not been cancelled, but the two Italian stamps that had been added were cancelled. Roger commented that the Vatican stamps were invalid for use in Italy and were ignored.

Anne circulated copies of the circular relating to the Namibian "Chinese" Issue referred to in the previous Newsletter. John Ellis showed "D" for postage dues.

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Roger Porter then put up his pages of POW covers showing the Diyatalawa cancellation variety of Censor Postmarks. He spoke about Dundee and the "bad boys" one of whom was Currin, who probably stepped out of line and was sent to Ceylon where some POWs were put into jail. Robin said he had read about POWs going to South America, and never coming back. Roger said there had never been an official POW camp in South America, but there had been in India, Bermuda and Portugal.

After the audio-visual Roger said philatelists liked to see items like those shown – premier items, and showing the social history regarding Howick Censor marks and the Hospital.

Much research is required in this area, even less known is Ladysmith. General Louis Botha tried to "release" them, so Mounted Rifles were on duty to defend these places. Pietermaritzburg had a camp near Oribi Village. Censored mail from 'Maritzburg POW Camp, Merebank, Wentworth, Umbilo and Eshowe are all scarce postmarks.

May: President Francis Eustace was asked about the 6th Definitive. He said he would not comment on this until after actual release. Francis showed the new SACC. He commented on the fact that the recent commercial miniature sheets are all listed.

Robin Castle showed four covers of Midmar. Francis showed the media release of the Bafana-Bafana stamps – of interest is that it has no gum. The design is the work of Marc de Jong.

Peter Southwood showed labels given him by Joyce Hulse. In fact the ATM labels need not be plain, and he pointed out the attractive Klussendorf labels from Israel and Spain, and the Crouzet labels from France.

Francis showed a chess stamp released to commemorate a chess game, but he had tried to work out how the tiny lines to and fro related to any known chess move!

Anne Southwood showed England on cover, part of her GB collection. John Ellis showed two reprint Mulready covers of the 1840s, a Temperance Society postcard of the 1850s, a funeral envelope, and an Elias Burrett cover advocating the Universal overseas 1d post. Burrett died in 1870 prior to the actual introduction in 1898.

Robin Castle showed countries beginning with "E" – East Africa, Eritrea, Egypt and town cancellations. Peter showed Elvis!

Peter Southwood

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

March 1998: The Easter holidays and several members being overseas resulted in a low turn-out. Despite this the evening was enjoyed by those present. Discussions centred around rainfall reports from Seeis and Outjo, filed in 1917 and 1919 respectively, and around the early occupational cancellers from Outjo.

Mr Simpkins presented as the topic of the evening the post World War I section of his Cape Town 97 exhibit: "The Postal History of Walvisbay covering the Period 1889 – 1994".

April 1998: Our 23rd AGM was attended by eight members. The current committee was re-elected for another year. The President reported on the 11 monthly meetings and on the special meeting held at Cape Town 97. The financial affairs of the group are in sound order, thanks to our treasurer, Mr K Kornacker and the support of our members.

After the AGM normal business resumed with the discussion of different printings and the various places of usage of the "104" censor label. These discussions were based on copies sent by Dr A J Howgrave-Graham (UK). Mr C Hardijzer showed a redirected cover mailed from South West Africa to Germany and onward to Italy, where it was taxed "postage due" and a fieldpost card from Gibeon to Germany returned to Gibeon.

Mr J Deen (Netherlands) had sent two picture postcards with the same view, one described as "Feste Windhoek" the other as "Kaserne Omaruru". The latter description is obviously wrong. He also supplied a registered cover from Nauchas franked with German South West Africa and German New Guinea stamps, presumably an oversight by the postal official caused by the identical "Yacht" design.

May 1998: One of our better turn-outs – the President welcomed 11 members. Peter Vogenbeck had sent a copy of a Cape postal stationery card posted from Walvisbay on 11 July 1899, arriving at Otjimbingwe on 16 July 1899. A remarkable achievement, taking into account that this card had to go either by runner or steamer to Swakopmund first and from there to Otjimbingwe by cart post.

Dr I Yudaken showed items from the occupational period 1915 to 1923. We were treated to a display of exceptional and rare cancellations of the period on cover and on piece. Date stamps seen were from Outjo, Brackwasser, Damara, Chamis, Erundu. All items were neatly mounted and annotated.

H U Bantz

MASHONALAND PS

March: "Mushrooms" was the evening's main course, served up by Sandy Weaver to 21 members and two guests. This was an entry for the Goldblatt Trophy. It was very well-researched, full of fascinating detailed information – I was amazed to learn, for instance, that mushrooms are not in fact part of the Plant Kingdom. They "are regarded as distinct from plants and animals and are placed in a separate kingdom, the Fungi."

Some looked attractive enough and had attractive names like "Blusher", "Little Fox" and "Parasol", but the appearance of others ranged from the loathsome to the outrageous; and it seemed misleading that some of the nice-looking ones were poisonous, and that some of the repulsive-looking ones were nutritious.

The chairman read a rather interesting article on newspaper, journal and railway stamps: categories of stamps that seem to have fallen out of popularity these days, though I suppose most of us have a few examples of them in our collections.

The One-Page Competition, letter "L", was won by "The Lion", exhibited by Mrs Morrison.

Some good news was noted in the MPS Newsletter in that there are now *two* stamps shops/postal auction companies in Harare: Harare Stamp Company in the city centre, and Zimbabwe Stamp Company at Newlands Shopping Centre.

April: This was the AGM, with a very good attendance of 55 members and six guests. It was good to see such a crowd of philatelists – and especially good to see Dave Collis among them, visiting from Australia. The chairman, Harry Sinclair, shared the sad news that he will be emigrating later this year and would therefore not be standing. Derrick Byrom was elected as the incoming Chairman, and the rest of the 1997/98 committee was re-elected *en bloc*. The prizegiving saw the following awards:

Ken Stevenson Shield: L Goldie
Peter Beck Cup: D A Byrom
Peinke Cup: E Wells
OOTO Trophy: D A Byrom

The guest speaker, Adrian de Bourbon, gave a light-hearted and well-received speech; and Geoff Brakspear provided the interesting news that the first-ever Freepost licence in Zimbabwe has been awarded: to Childline Zimbabwe, with effect from 1 April. He has a supply of first-day covers, being sold in aid of Childline.

In the MPS Newsletter the new chairman, Derrick Byrom, noted that "Our annual dinners and annual general meetings are well-attended, and the exchange circuit grows from strength to strength, but our monthly meetings are in decline and need a boost" – he called for suggestions, and noted that the auction at monthly meetings was to be resuscitated, also Ladies' Night. Further, there is a plan to bring in guest speakers.

The wide-ranging events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Rhodesian Study Circle went off very well. Many of the greatest names in Rhodesian philately came from far and near and thus the calibre of exhibitors and their displays was, I think it safe to say, beyond anything ever seen in this country.

The high point was the dinner, at which Colin Hoffman signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of SA at the invitation of Joh Groenewald, Chairman of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Three new Fellows of the RSC were announced: Derrick Byrom, Henk de Lange and Don Mitchell; and three Life Vice-Presidents: Gervas Clay, David Forgan and Richard Knight.

May: Our first wintry meeting of 1998 was also the first presided over by our new chairman Derrick Byrom, who quashed speculation by appearing in his usual format. "Germany under Allied Occupation, May 1945 – November 1989" was the evening's main display, put up by Mrs Antony.

Her talk was full of interesting information, including the story behind the bell

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depicted in the famous "Freedom Bell" series.

As a collector of Germany myself it was good to see, for the first time, so many rare and notable items which are missing from my own collection.

The New Issues display included Princess Diana stamps from all round the world; and the One-Page Display, letter "K", was won by Dr Mavros with rare old 19th-century items posted from Kirk-Killisse, a town of Turkey-in-Europe which was occupied by Greece at one stage.

The evening was further enhanced by an audio-visual on the theme of "Children's Fairytales" and by the resuscitated auction, which went off very well.

Ian Johnstone

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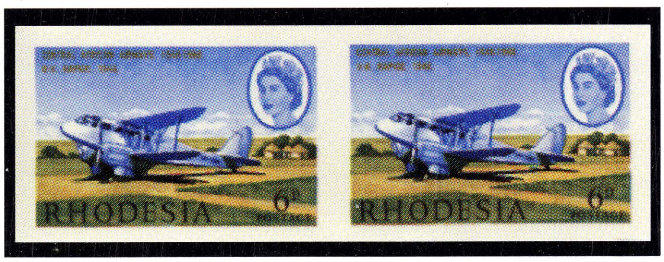





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International Philatelic Exhibition
Johannesburg, South Africa, 20 - 25 October 1998

Under the Support of Federation Internationale De Philatelie - FIP

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AT ILSAPEX '98

20 - 25 OCTOBER 1998

Opening Times: Tuesday to Friday - 10h00 to 18h00
Opening Times: Saturday and Sunday - 10h00 to 16h00

Tuesday, 20 October 1998

10h00	Official Opening Exhibition Hall 2 Gallagher Estate Exhibition Complex, Midrand

Wednesday, 21 October 1998

14h00 - 15h00	Meeting of Natal and Zululand Study Circle
16h30 to 17h30	Meeting of SWA Stamp Study Group
19h30	Jury and Commissioners' Dinner

Thursday, 22 October 1998

09h00 to 16h30	Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa at Gallagher Grill, Gallagher Estate Exhibition Complex (Registration from 08h30)
09h00 to 17h00	A day trip to Sun City and the Pilansberg Game Reserve. This will be free for Judges, Commissioners and Dignitaries and their spouses but others can join, subject to payment and space permitting.
19h30	SAPDA Dinner (by invitation only)

Jointly Organised by the Society of Israel Philately and the South African Philatelic Dealers Association.

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Friday, 23 October 1998

10h00 to 12h00	A.G.M. of Aerophilatelic Society and talk by Alex Newall, FRPSL
12h00 to 13h00	Talk by Patrick Pearson, RDP FRPSL on International Exhibiting and the role of the FIP
13h30 to 15h30	Meeting of Transvaal Study Circle and Third Major Ian Matthews Memorial Lecture by Joh Groenewald, RDPSA
14h00 to 15h00	Talk by Bernard Jiminez on Thematics, "The Night"
15h30 to 17h00	Meeting of Fellows and Members of the Royal Philatelic Society of London Chaired by Jane Moubray RDP FRPSL, Immediate Past President

Saturday, 24 October 1998

10h00 to 12h30	Auction by Stephan Welz & Co.
10h00 to 11h00	Meeting of Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa
11h00 to 12h00	Talk by F Burton Sellers, RDP FRPSL 1) Judging at FIP Exhibitions 2) The FIP and its Operations
11h00 to 12h00	Meeting of the Postmark and Postal History Society
12h00 to 14h00	Meeting of the Great Britain Philatelic Society of Southern Africa including exhibits and finger lunch (by invitation only)
14h00 to 15h00	Meeting of Rhodesian Study Circle
19h00 for 19h30	Palmares banquet at Sandton Sun Hotel
09h00 to 12h30	A morning tour of Soweto

Sunday, 25 October 1998

09h00 to 10h00	Talk by Seo Chuan Koh, RDP, FRPSL, on The FIAP and its Contribution to World Philately
10h00 to 13h00	Michael Madesker, FRPSL, FRPSC, to conduct hands-on study group for leaders and organisers of Youth Philately
14h00 to 15h30	Special Meeting of Society of Israel Philately: Honorary Guest Mr Yinon Beilin, Head of Israel Philatelic Services

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

OCTOBER 1998

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- 'n Vinjet uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog
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- Whales will surface at Ilsapex 98
- The latest postal slogan developments
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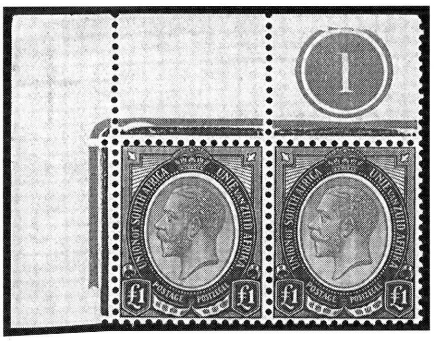

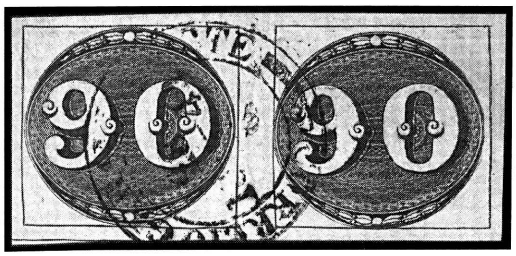



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Inhoud/Contents

Die Freislichs van Seymour: 'n Vinjet uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog.....140
C A Hollenbach
South Africa: The introduction and demise of the Honour System for deficient postage collection.....144
Bernard J Doherty
An up-date of postal slogan developments.....148
A century of electrically-driven machine postmarking.....173
Neville Gomm
A new era dawns for franking meters.....150
Andries van der Walt
Soaking Australian produced "Peel and Stick" stamps.....160
David Collyer M,APO
In memoriam: Howard L Godwin..... 154, Gerrit Jonkers RDPSA, FRPSL.....162

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag.....138
ThemAfrica.....152
Ds Cassie Carstens
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag.....156
Neville Gomm
The SA Philatelist: Looking Back.....160
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA
News and notes/Aktualiteit.....163
Op die velrand/In the margin.....167
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse.....170
Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf.....171
Onderonsies/Society News.....175
Philatelic Finders/Snuffelgids.....176

In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

SOMETHING that has struck me fairly forcibly in my wanderings through other parts of the world, through the literature sections of some auction catalogues, and the pages of the journals of some overseas specialist society newsletters, is that evidently some philatelists read far more eclectically than we do.

Local philatelic research tends to stick to the essential basics: previous articles, handbooks and the like are meticulously consulted, and their evidence tested. Resources which detail postal matters, such as PMGs reports and Government Gazettes, are consulted.

Evidence elsewhere, however, points to a far wider reading habit. A recent German auction catalogue listed well over fifty items in its literature section, all concerned with German colonies, and not one of them what would be termed philatelic reading. Reminiscences of former civil service offers, early histories, personal memoirs of former colonists fromed the main part of what was on offer.

The results are to be gleaned from exhibition pages and specialist articles. A single aside in these non-philatelic sources can frequently be the clue to solving the puzzle of a postal history item, to the uncovering of a chain of circumstances in which there had always been a missing link.

Closer reading of our social history is probably just what is needed to take our hobby that much further "beyond the catalogue".

DIT is twaalf jaar sedert ons vorige internasionale tentoonstelling, en ons staan op die drumpel van Ilsapex 98, die eerste een wat in medewerking met die FIP plaasvind. Dit is 'n nuwe tydvak, en 'n mens wil graag hoop dat plaaslike filateliste dit hard en geesdriftig sal inlui met hul bywoning.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

More light on a myth

OJ Peetoom of Roos, UK, writes: I appreciate the "plug" for my magazine *The Rhodesian Philatelist* (*The SA Philatelist*, August 1998, p 127 "The end of a myth") which essentially provides some welcome publicity for my publication. I do not know who wrote this review, but it includes two incorrect statements that promise to create future confusion.

The third paragraph states that I found two strips of five and four stamps plus an irregular block of five, all bearing complete strikes of all five agencies along the Bechuanaland runner route. Only the strip of five included all five agencies. The strip of four only has Gubulawayo, Tati twice and Shoshong. The irregular block of five has five strikes of Shoshong only.

Also there is nothing in my article that suggests I found these items. It simply stated that they are ex the Hunt Collection and that they changed hands in South Africa during late 1997. The vendor wishes to remain anonymous, the other party was Alan MacGregor, a Cape Town dealer.

The items were sold to a private individual during May 1998. It is the new owner's prerogative as to whether or not he wishes to reveal his identity.

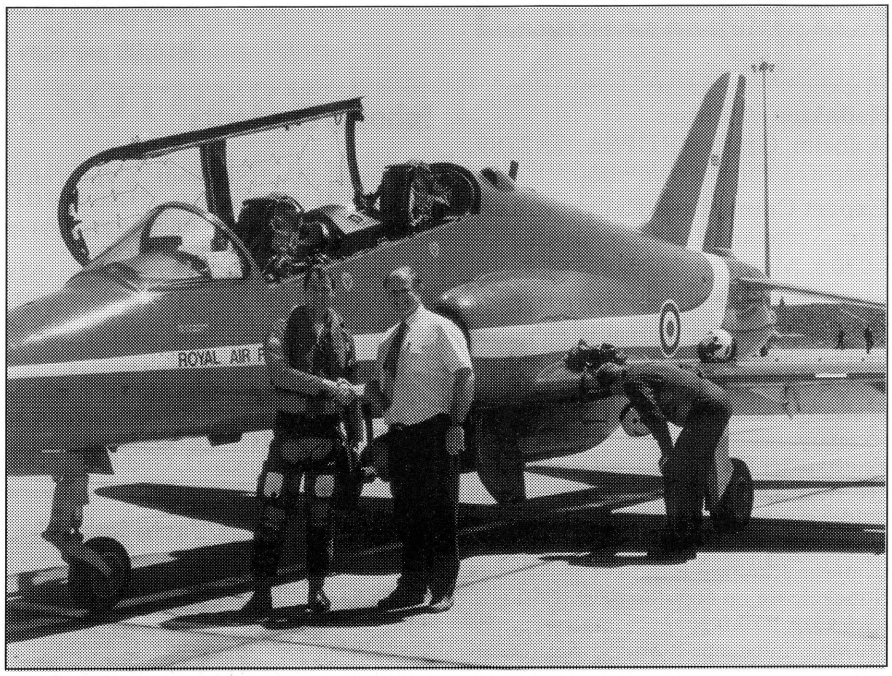
Britse lugmag se manne op Bloemspruit

Japie de Vos van Bloemfontein skryf: Die artikel van Howard Godwin oor nuwe uitgawes (*The SA Philatelist*, Augustus 1998, p119) het betrekking. Die bekendmaking van die aantal lande wat die 80 jarige bestaan van die *Royal Air Force* herdenk het met seëls, het my aandag getrek, asook die stel seëls oor die Amerikaanse Lugmag wat deur die VSA se posdiens uitgereik is. Dit laat 'n mens se mond behoorlik water!

So van die 80-jarige herdenking van die Britse Lugmag gepraat: Met die besoek van die Britse Lugmag se kunsvliegspan, die Red Arrows aan Suid-Afrika in 1995, het hulle by geleentheid in Bloemfontein geland om brandstof in te neem. Dit was natuurlik 'n gulde geleentheid om die vliegtuie en die vlieëniers van naderby te beskou en kennis te maak.

Gewapen met 'n uitgebreide reeks Britse Lugmag gedenkkoeverte wat ek versamel het, is ons na die Lugmagbasis Bloemspruit. Daar gekom kon ons ons verlustig in die pragtige bloedrooi Hawk vliegtuie. Die vlieëniers was almal in 'n ontspanne bui en ons kon heerlik met hulle gesels.

Maar wat die meeste aandag getrek het was die Britse Lugmag gedenkkoeverte wat ek saamgeneem het. Die vlieëniers het almal vroeër in verskillende eskaders gedien, en die opgewondenheid was groot as hulle die eskaders herken waar hulle eens diens gedoen het. Dit spreek vanself dat ek aangedring het daarop dat elke vlieënier moes teken op die koevert wat sy eskader verteenwoordig. Dit het my versameling 'n heel persoonlike kleur gegee.



Ingeslote 'n foto wat by hierdie geleentheid geneem is. Ek verskyn saam met Richie Matthews, nr 2 vlieënier van die Red Arrows langs sy Hawk. Dit was 'n heel aangename ervaring. Maar meer nog: my Britse Lugmagversameling het vir 'n genotvolle agtermiddag gesorg. Dit wys net wat 'n seëlversameling kan doen!

Yes, there was a No 3

The Editor writes: In the article "The first five: International philatelic exhibitions in South Africa from 1913 tot 1960" I wrote on p106 of *The SA Philatelist* August 1998, that a third bulletin for SATISE was mooted, "but none was published".

This is not correct, as I found to my chagrin when I subsequently had the opportunity to consult the libabry of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, which was in effect the organiser of SATISE. (It was then known as the Cape Town Philatelic Society.)

"SATISE" Magazine No. 3 appeared, dated February 1952, "embodying Philately in South Africa". It consisted of 16 pages, plus four cover pages, and contained an In Memoriam devoted to the recent death of King George VI.

Fortunately the content of the issue does not require any material addition or correction to what was written about SATISE in the article which appeared in August.

Postal history of Kerguelen Islands is sought

André Guyader of Douarnenez, France writes: I live in Douarnenez, a harbour on the West Coast of France. I am 40 years old, and now a computer scientist, but I previously served as an officer in the French merchant navy for 10 years. My great passion is Kerguelen Islands postal history (since 15 years ago) where data on ships is of course very important.

(Allow me to inform you that we – myself for Kerguelen Islands and Lieutenant-Colonel Pierre Couesnon for St Paul & Amsterdam Islands and for Adélie Land – are writing a book regarding the history of the French Polar Post.)

To summarise what we know about Kerguelen:

At first from 1908 to 1913, Storm, Bull & Co and Aktieselskabet Kerguelen from Kristiania exploited the concession of Kerguelen Islands with the ships *Jeanne d'Arc*, *Eclair*, *Etoile*, *Espoir* and *Regent*. For whaling in West Africa (Walfish Bay), Aktieselskabet Kerguelen had other ships like *Krill*, *Blink* and *Splint*.

From 1920 to 1929, the concession was sold to Irvin & Johnson (Cape Town) and Kerguelen Sealing & Whaling Co Ltd of Cape Town with ships like *Sound of Jura*, *Erivan*, *Barrowby*, *Hamlet*, *Plough*, *Galaxy*, *Ben Edra*, *Oural* and *Radioleine*.

In a letter of 4 February 1997 Mr. C.A. Atkins (Director Seafoods/Irvin & Johnson Limted) gave me information about vessels used by Irvin & Johnson (I&J) off Kerguelen Islands (*Kilfenora*, *Kildalkey*, *Barrowby*, *Hamlet*, *Erivan*, *Radioleine*, *Sound of Jura*, *Ben Edra*, *Etoile* and *Eclair*).

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I appeal for more information concerning the following:

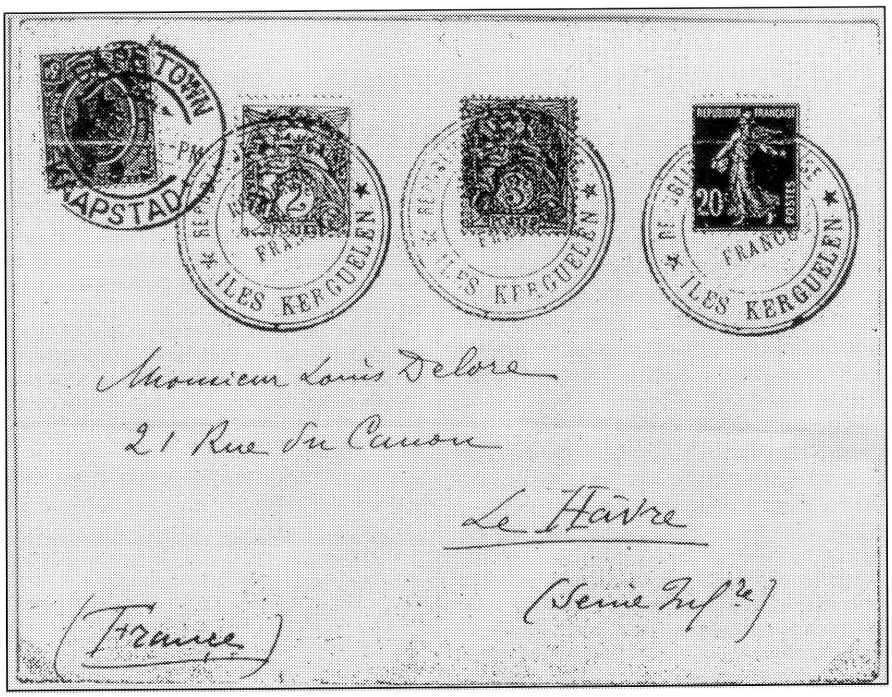
First of all, we have difficulties to explain the additional franking with South African stamps on some covers from Kerguelen during years 1922 to 1924. Could you help me to make clear this event of Kerguelen postal history?

Do you know the position of the South African Postal Administration at this time concerning the cancellation with the French Residency mark? Is there information about who had placed the additional South African stamp? The sender or the South African Post Office, and why?

What was at this time (especially from 1908 to 1925) the position of the South African Postal Administration regarding ship mail from Kerguelen Islands and regarding the rules of the Universal Postal Union?

I should be very very happy to hear of postal or administrative archives from the South African postal administration at this time regarding these events (the rules in effect at this time regarding mail from Kerguelen Islands) and regarding possible conflicts at this time between the postal administration and the French Kerguelen Resident, M. René Bossière.

At this time, from 1893 to 1924, there was a French official resident in Kerguelen Islands with a French official administrative mark (not a postal mark), but there was no post office in Kerguelen during all this time.



A Kerguelen cover of 25 October 1922 franked with a South African stamp cancelled in Cape Town. The other stamps are cancelled by the French Residency mark.

Could you give me the address of a philatelist or postal historian in Durban who could help me to find postal covers or postal documents regarding Kerguelen Islands postal history?

(Note: *The Editor would welcome publication of any information in these columns, and will also pass it on to the correspondent.*)

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■ **CA HOLLENBACH** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging*

Die Freislichs van Seymour: 'n Vinjet uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog

DIE dokumente wat hieronder beskryf word, is aan my toevertrou deur Nanette, die weduwee van Robert (Bob) Hall Freislich, my vriend en kollega, wat gedurende 1993 oorlede is. Hulle vertel die verhaal van twee broers, Bob se ooms, wat albei vroeg in die Anglo-Boereoorlog gesneuwel het.

Die verhaal van die twee broers begin met 'n beriggie in 'n Oos-Kaapse koerant. Dit het waarskynlik gedurende die tweede helfte van 1900 verskyn.

We regret to hear of the death of Mr JG Freislich, formerly CC (Civil Commissioner) and RM (Resident Magistrate) for the Stockenstroom district. After a lingering illness borne with fortitude and patience, he passed away peacefully on the morning of the 2nd instant at Menzies. He was a stout old loyalist and two of his sons fell in the present war bravely fighting on the British side. The deceased's career in the Civil Service was an honourable one and he gained respect of all with whom he came in contact. A couple of years ago he retired and settled down with his wife and the younger members of his family at Menzies. (A hamlet near Seymour).

Die feit dat twee broers in dieselfde oorlog gesneuwel het, was belangrik genoeg vir 'n nuusberig met foto's van albei broers in *The Illustrated London News* van 26 Mei 1900. (Sien Figuur 1). Hier volg die berig.

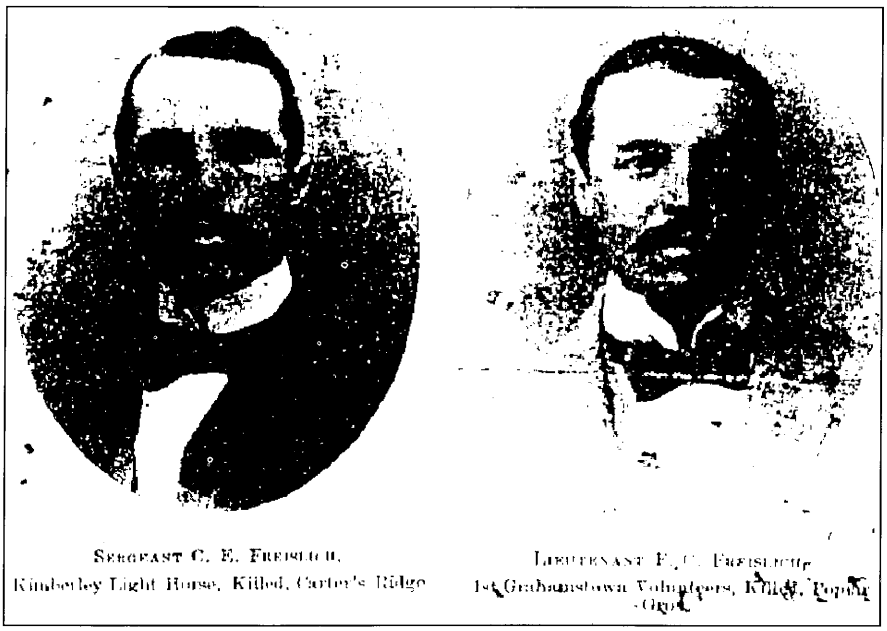
During the present war there have been not a few cases where several sons of one family have fallen. Beside the example of Admiral Pechell's gallant sons must now be set that of the second and the third sons of Mr JG Freislich, who retired from the post of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of George, South Africa, on June 1 last. His second son, Frederick Charles, who was a Lieutenant in the 1st City of Grahamstown Volunteers, was killed in the action at Poplar Grove, in the Orange Free State, on March 7 last. He was twenty five year of age. In the affair of Poplar Grove, it will be remembered, General French threw his horse artillery and his cavalry entirely around the southern projection of the Boer position. The day was said to have been "as bloodless as it was brilliant", yet it did not pass without its tribute of gallant lives.

Mr Freislich's third son, Charles Edmonds, who was a sergeant in the Kimberley Light Horse, was killed in action at Carter's Ridge, Kimberley, on November 25 last. He was twenty-two years of age. Mr Freislich's eldest son John George, holds the position of Assistant Resident Magistrate at Barkley East. On November 23 last, when the township was taken by the Boers, to Mr JG Freislich fell the unpleasant task of handing over the keys to the enemy. He received a pass with instructions to clear out of Barkley East within twelve hours. Mr Freislich's fourth son, Herbert William, served through the siege of Kimberley as a member of the Town Guard.

DIE skrywer is 'n afgetrede siviele ingenieur, en sy belangstelling lê veral by Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis, met spesiale klem op die Anglo-Boereoorlog.

Hy is ook lid van die Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, en verder het Hollenbach 'n belangstelling vir wat hy noem "familie-filatelie". Sy uitstalling "Die Familie Hollenbach in Suid-Afrika: Die eerste Eeu – 1889 tot 1989" is al op nasionale vlak vertoon.

Hierdie artikel is deel van 'n manuskrip, "Briewe uit die Boere-oorlog".



SERGEANT C. E. FREISLICH,
Kimberley Light Horse, Killed, Carter's Ridge

LIEUTENANT F. G. FREISLICH,
1st Grahamstown Volunteers, Killed, Poplar Grove

Fig. 1

Sersant Charles Freislich het op 25 November gesneuwel. Die volgende skriftelike verklaring deur die manskap Leo Farr was tussen die Freislich dokumente.

I, Leo Farr, private in the Kimberley Light Horse was in the engagement at Carter's Ridge on Saturday 25 November 1899 and was wounded in the leg during the fight and disabled. I heard someone shout "Sergeant Freislich there's a man wounded" and Sergeant Charles Freislich – who was lying down firing, immediately rose and came across to assist me; he said "come along with me old fellow" and after raising me put his arm over my shoulder and I put mine round his waist and we moved slowly for about 10 yards when the bullet struck him. He said "O Lord" and dropped, his spur catching and tearing a small slit in my trouser leg. He did not speak again and died very quickly.
Leo George Farr, Mounted Camp
Kimberley, 5 December 1899

> *Dit was kort voor sy bevordering tot luitenant in die City of Grahamstown Volunteers.*

'n Bietjie meer as twee weke na Charles Edmonds Freislich se dood skryf sy broer Frederick Charles aan hulle moeder in George. Dit was kort voor sy bevordering tot luitenant in die City of Grahamstown Volunteers.

Cradock, 12 December 1899
Dearest Mother

I got the pater's note yesterday and to my surprise and grief I saw that poor old Charlie was shot. How did you get the news for I thought that all communication between Kimberley and the Cape generally was cut off.

People who have looked through the papers assure me that they have not come across the name of Freislich among the killed and wounded. I only hope that the news is not true for if it is God help the Boer that I get at my mercy – If he has fallen we must only congratulate ourselves that he fell like a soldier and a man for "how can man die better than facing fearful odds". No matter, a day of reckoning will come for the Boers. Well, Mater, you are not the only mother who has lost a son, in fact I know of a case where a mother has lost two sons and one wounded. I wish you would let me know for certain whether your news about Charlie is authentic and reliable. My legs are quite well again thanks to the kind attention of the Hills and especially Ivy – she used to rub in ambrocation several times a day. The accident was nothing much and I am again at camp drilling my men. I am pretty sure of a commission in a few days – tomorrow I think. I don't know that we will ever get into action, much to the disgust of everyone in camp. I have been to see the Miss Phillips; they were very nice and did not forget to remind me of the fact that the pater was sweet there. The Ziervogels are living out at the hot baths – I have not seen any of them yet. Mr Armstrong wishes to be remembered to the

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pater. He is very nice and we play cribbage pretty often.

He tells me all kinds of tales of your younger days. You must excuse me not writing a decent letter but your wire has upset me and I shall not rest till I know for certain that he is either safe and well or dead.

Cheer up Mater, and hope for the best.
Your loving son
Fred.

Die volgende telegram is deur luitenant Frederick Charles Freislich gestuur aan sy ouers in Seymour. Ons moet hier in gedagte hou dat sy vader einde Desember 1899 afgetree het en dat die familie vanaf George verhuis het Seymour toe. Die telegram is ingehandig te Modderfontein op 2 Maart 1900.

From: Freislich
To: Freislich, Seymour
Been in Paardeberg fight all right

Agter op die telegram is 'n paar eenvoudige maar aangrypende woorde geskryf: "Last words of our best beloved son".

> *Twee dae later, op 9 Maart 1900, verwittig die mediese kaptein Greenlees sy ouers amptelik van die dood per brief.*

Vier dae later, op 7 Maart 1900, het luitenant Freislich gesneuwel. Twee dae later, op 9 Maart 1900, verwittig die mediese kaptein Greenlees sy ouers amptelik van die dood per brief. Hierdie brief is natuurlik George toe gepos, die adres voor die Freislichs se verhuising na Seymour, en het hulle eers 'n paar weke later in Seymour bereik. Die brief lui soos volg:

Grahamstown Asylum, 9 March 1900
JG Freislich Esq, George
Dear Sir

Please accept my sincere sympathy for you and yours in the death – killed while fighting for his Queen and Country – of your son – the news of which has just reached me.

I feel it very keenly here, for for three months before he departed with the 1st City Colunteers, he acted as my clerk, and I saw much of him, and learned to like the gay, jolly fellow who took everything with so light and happy a heart.

I am sure I am but speaking the wishes of all of my staff, who were brought in contact with him, when I say how much we liked him and how deeply I condole with his family in this loss – the second – caused by accursed war.

Your boy left several things here, intending to return for them, I presume, before he returned to his duty at Robben Island. These things are chiefly clothing. Kindly instruct me what you wish done with them.

Believe me, dear Sir, Yours very faithfully
T Duncan Greenlees

Soos reeds vermeld het hierdie brief eers weke later sy bestemming bereik, ná heradressering van George na Seymour. Die eerste keer wat die Freislichs amptelik van die dood van hulle seun verneem het, was toe hulle 'n telegram namens die Goewerneur van die Kolonie ontvang het, op die middag van 10 Maart 1900. Luitenant Freislich se vader was 'n senior staatsamptenaar en seer sekerlik bekend aan die Goewerneur, wat ook moes geweet het van die verhuising na Seymour. Die telegram is ingehandig op die oggend van 10 Maart in Kaapstad.

From: Military Secretary Government House
To: Freislich c/o RM and CC Seymour

March 10th His Excellency heard that you have lost two sons fighting for the Queen and desires me to express to you his deep and sincere sympathy and hopes that the feeling of pride at the end which you have given to the forces of the empire may help to soften in some degree the grief you must be undergoing at the loss of your gallant sons.

'n Kort rukkie later het die militêre owerhede die misverstand insake die adres van luitenant Freislich se naasbestaandes uitgevind en toe is daar aksie geneem.

Op 16 Maart 1900 was daar 'n telegram van lord Roberts self, ingehandig te Bloemfontein.

From: Roberts
To: Freislich c/o Res. Mag. Seymour

Much grieved to hear of your double loss.

'n Telegram van majoor Marshall, luitenant Freislich se bevelvoerder, aan kaptein Greenless is op 17 Maart 1900 ingehandig in Bloemfontein.

From: Major Marshall
OC First City Mounted
To: Surgeon Capt. Greenless, Asylum, Grahamstown

Please convey to the parents of Lt. F C Freislich the sad news of the death of their son who was mortally wounded by bullet through the head in action at Poplar Grove Modder on the morning of the 7th instant. Lt Freislich was removed by the ambulance to Osfontein about seven miles back where he died about 8.30 the same evening never having regained consciousness. He was buried near Osfontein on the 8th, his grave being marked by a cross. This is the first opportunity I have had to communicate with you. Please convey the deep sympathy of all my officers to the parents of our departed comrade. I will write as soon as you send me address of Mr Freislich. We will remain here about two weeks.

'n Telegram van kaptein Greenlees aan die Freislichs in Seymour is op 26 Maart 1990 ingehandig in Grahamstown.

From: Surgeon Capt. Greenlees
To: J G Freislich, Seymour

Have been requested by Major Marshall to communicate to you death of your son at Osfontein and to convey his and his corps sympathy to you in your loss. Have written you already but addressed letter to George.

Majoor Greenlees skryf 'n dag nadat hy die telegram gestuur het, naamlik op 21 Maart 1900, die volgende brief aan die Freislichs en hy sluit 'n afskrif van die oorspronklike brief wat hy op 9 Maart 1900 George toe gepos het in, sowel as die oorspronklike telegram van 17 Maart van majoor Marshall. (Dit verklaar waarom twee identiese briewe – die oorspronklike en 'n kooldeurslag – en 'n oorspronklike telegram van majoor Marshall aan kaptein Greenlees tussen die Freislich dokumente beland het, wat my aanvanklik heeltemal deurmekaar gehad het.)

Grahamstown Asylum, 27th March 1900
J G Freislich Esq, Seymour
Dear Sir

I wrote you the enclosed letter on 9th instant regarding the sad death of your son, and yesterday I sent you a wire in compliance with the request of Major Marshall and I now beg to enclose his wire to me detailing the circumstances under which your son met with his death.

As my letter was addressed to George I fear you may not have received it and I have just ascertained you are residing in Seymour. Please let me know

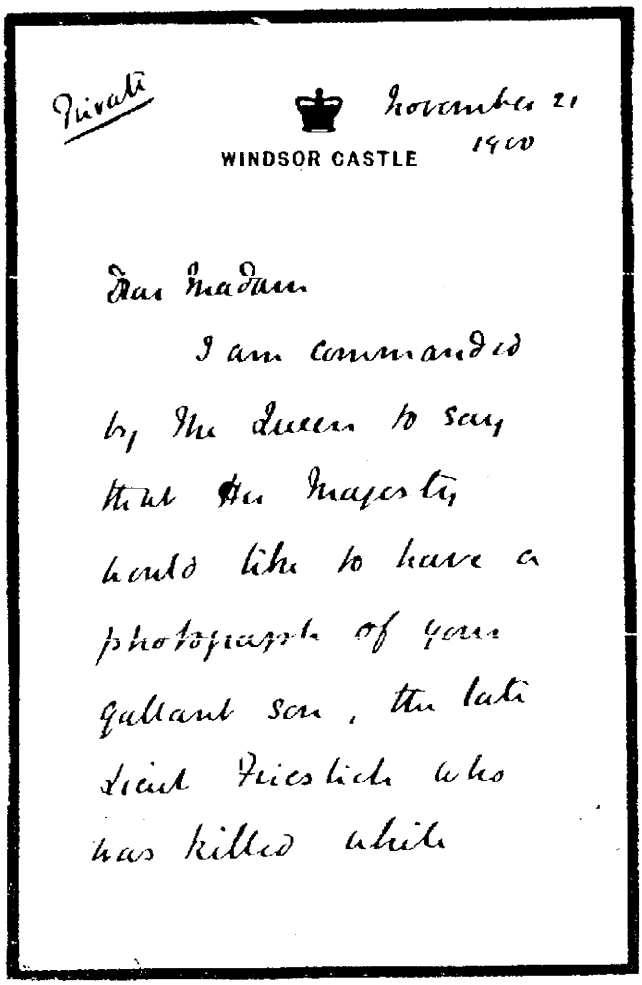
Private
November 21
1900
WINDSOR CASTLE
Dear Madam
I am commanded
by The Queen to say
that Her Majesty
would like to have a
photograph of your
gallant son, the late
Lieut Freislich who
was killed while

Fig. 2

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what you wish done with the clothing he left behind him here and whatever articles they may send down from the front and which are likely to be addressed to me.

Again please accept the sincere sympathy of us all at the Asylum in the loss of one who was much liked by us all.

I am, yours very sincerely
T Duncan Greenlees.

Mev Freislich het twee briewe, geskryf in opdrag van Koningin Victoria, ontvang. Albei is geskryf op paleisbriefhoofde en gemerk PRIVATE. Albei briewe is onderteken deur die Koningin se privaat-sekretaris. Die eerste brief: (Sien figuur 2) lees:

Windsor Castle, 21st November 1990
Dear Madam

I am commanded by the Queen to say that Her Majesty would like to have a photograph of your gallant son, the late Lieut. Freislich who was killed fighting so bravely with the Grahamstown Volunteers in South Africa.

May I ask you therefore to be so good as to forward one through me for Her Majesty's acceptance.

The Queen deplores the death of so brave an officer and desires me to convey to you the expression of Her deep sympathy with you in the sad loss you have suffered by his death.
Believe me, Madam, Yours very truly
FM Ponsonby

Die tweede brief kom van Osborne af (Sien figuur 3) en is gedateer 16 Januarie 1901. (Die stempel is van Londen, op 16 Januarie 1901.) Mev Freislich word bedank vir die foto van haar seun luitenant Frederick Charles Freislich. Verder:

The Queen was grieved to hear that you had lost another son in the Kimberley Light Horse and Her Majesty read with much interest about the services of your other sons.

Dit is die dae van passe en permitte. Op 16 Junie 1901 word 'n militêre pas (Sien figuur 4) geldig vir 10 dae, aan mev. Freislich en kind uitgereik wat toestemming verleen om van Seymour af na Kimberley te reis per kar-en-perde en spoor, en om by aankoms aan die kommandant te Kimberley te rapporteer. Die pas is onderteken deur Distrikskommandant, distrik Stockenstroom. Op dieselfde dag ontvang sy 'n dokument onderteken deur dieselfde Distrikskommandant, wat sertifiseer dat mev. Freislich en kind bevoegde persone is vir die ontvangs van treinkaartjies vanaf Cookhouse na Kimberley.

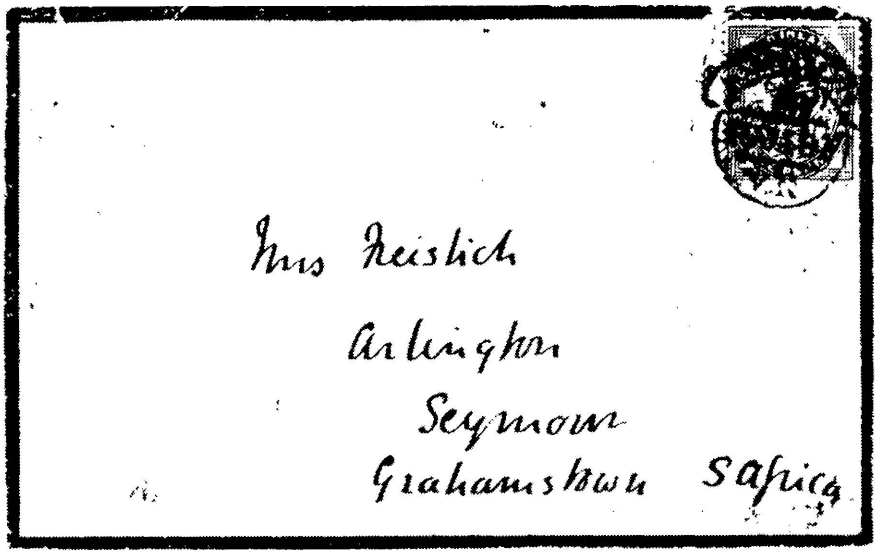

Fig. 3

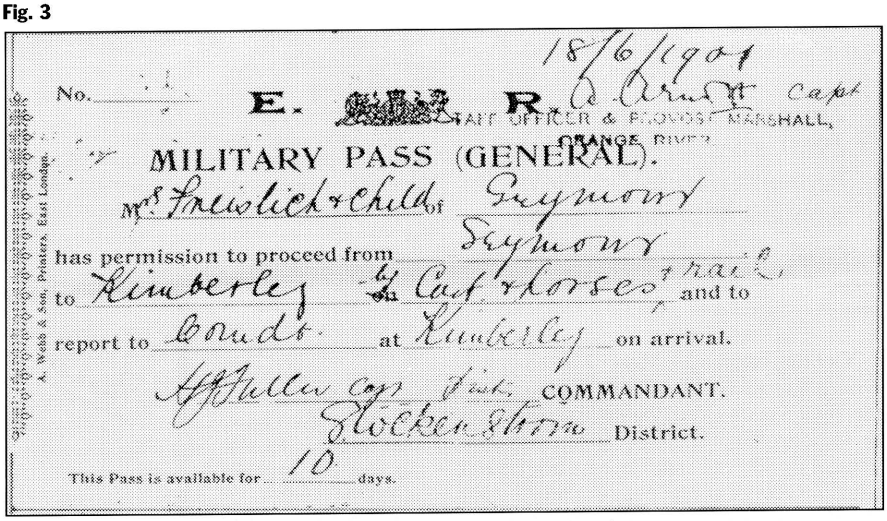

Fig. 4

'n Mens kan slegs gis dat daar blomme op 'n graf in Kimberley geplaas moes gewees het, want sersant Charles Edmonds Freislich lê begrawe in Kimberley en sy naam verskyn op die Eregedenkteken vir die Gesneuweldes. ■

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ALAN MACGREGOR

ILSAPEX STAND 9

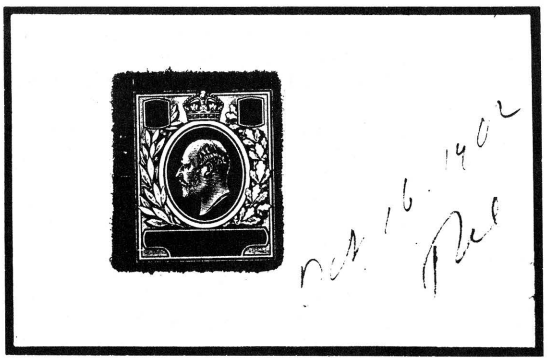
BRITISH AFRICA - SELECTION FROM STOCK





















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■ BERNARD J DOHERTY

South Africa: The introduction and demise of the Honour System for deficient postage collection.

BERNARD J DOHERTY is an Australian collector with a deep interest in the byways of South African postal matters. He is consulting editor of the Australian *Stamp News* and editor of *APF News*, and last year (*The SA Philatelist*, August 1997, p 128) made available a comprehensive list of postal rates from the inception of the Union of South Africa to the current day.

AS collectors should we take information printed in philatelic literature as infallible?

That we should question and seek verification was recently bought home most forcefully to me in relation to South Africa postage due stamps, which I have collected for several years now and, during that period, have accumulated as many articles as I could relating to the subject.

The subject was raised when a fellow collector, with similar interests, sent me a photocopy of a 1980 South Africa surcharged cover with a 1972 South Africa postage due affixed, seeking an opinion on its veracity. My response was that it was a fake, basing the comment on the fact that a prominent catalogue stated that the printing of South Africa postage due labels had been discontinued in 1975. (See Fig. 1)

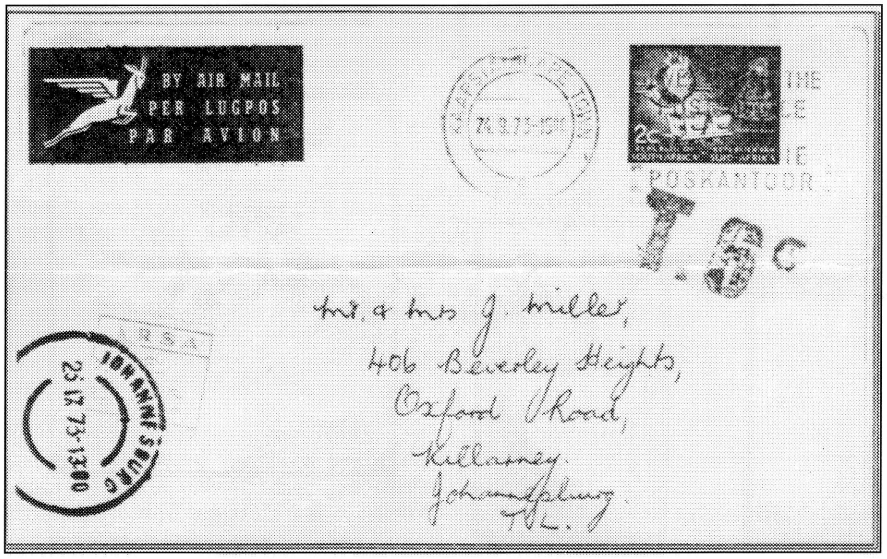

Fig. 1: 1972 Postage Due stamp used in 1973. Genuine later usage on cover is scarce.

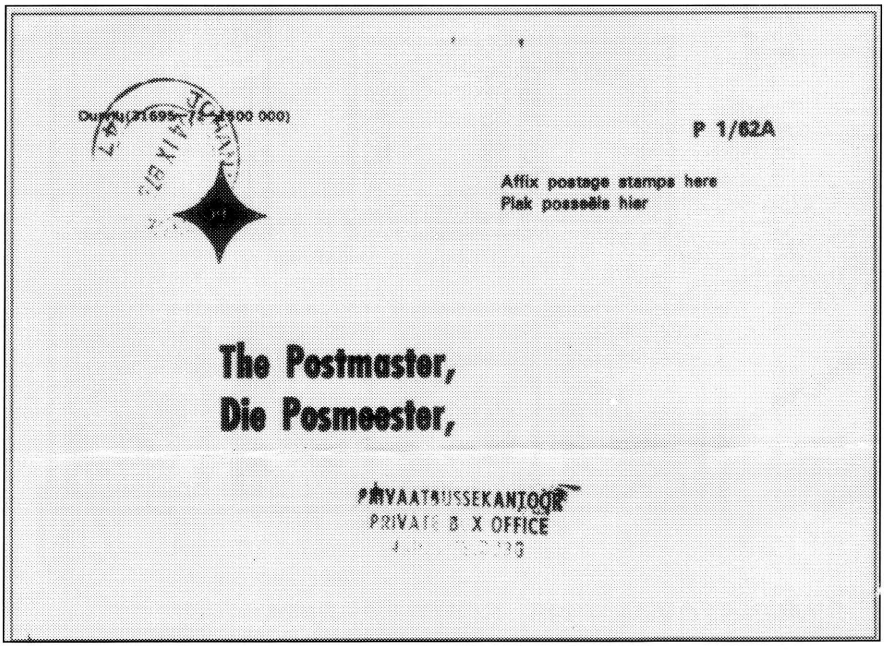

Fig. 2: The P 1/62A notification, here dated 24 IX 73.

Further correspondence and a check through the postal history section of Putzel's *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* revealed that South African Post Office Circulars in the 1980s indicated that the method of payment of surcharges for deficient postage return to the status quo (eg pre-1972). Whilst the SA Post regulation numbers pertaining to these changes were mentioned, the content of the circulars to verify the statements were not available.

Other collectors were canvassed to no avail, however, an appeal to South Africa Post eventually resulted in copies of the relevant regulations being obtained for perusal. These provided some surprises.

The new postage due collecting system, which we felt had been applied unilaterally in South Africa, applied only to those residing in white areas, as can be seen below in the circular's opening statement.

Post Office Circular 564, March 20, 1972
5. Surcharged Postal items.
A. Introduction of a new system for the collection of surcharges.
An amended system for the collection of surcharges on postal items comes into operation on April 1, 1972, and will be applicable to all surcharged items intended for delivery in White areas, irrespective of the race of the addressee.
For the time being, the present system entailing the use of P 1/63 notices and postage-due labels remains unchanged for addressees in all other areas.
Under the new system a notice (P 1/62A card, see Fig. 2) is affixed to the surcharged item requesting the addressee to affix the amount of the surcharge in postage stamps to the card and to post it. Such surcharged items will therefore no longer be specially delivered by postmen or over counters. If the public do not return the cards, no further action should be taken to collect the surcharges.

In Post Office Circular 563 of March 13, 1972, postmasters were requested to order a supply of the P 1/62A card.

The main object of the new system is to save departmental labour and to curtail expenditure. To achieve this, a centralized surcharge section must be established at each office and postmen's depot. The staff required for such a section could be determined after the system had been in operation for a few days. A substantial saving in staff is expected at the large offices.
B. Procedure for the new system.
(a) Incoming mail for local delivery. – All surcharged items for private boxes, private bags,

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street delivery and the poste restante should be collected for processing in the centralized surcharge section.
Here a P 1/62A card for each item, excluding those intended for deposit account holders is prepared and pinned or stapled to the back of each item. The preparation of the card merely entails the insertion of the amount of the surcharge and the name of the office to which the card must be returned. The surcharged items are then distributed to the various points for delivery.
For the time being, the procedure for surcharged items for deposit account holders remains unchanged.
(b) Outgoing inland surface mail and air-mail items, i.e. items for delivery at other offices in the Republic and South-West Africa. – The amounts of the surcharges must be indicated on outgoing inland surface-mail and air-mail items in the usual manner as at present.
(c) Surface-mail items for destinations abroad. – Insufficiently prepaid surface-mail items for foreign countries are not affected by the new system and must still be dealt with in terms of paragraph 605 (b) (i) of the Post Office Manual.
(d) Air-mail items for foreign countries. – The instructions in paragraph 605 (b) (ii) of the Post Office Manual remain unchanged. However, the special arrangements in force at Bloemfontein, Durban, Germiston, Johannesburg, Cape Town, Kimberley, East London, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria and Windhoek for the processing of insufficiently prepaid air-mail items bearing the names and addresses of the senders are replaced by the following new procedure on April 1, 1972:
(i) Erase the T indication on items received from other offices.
(ii) Prepare a P 1/191 form (one copy) and a P 1/191A card and post both in an envelope to the sender.
(iii) Stamp the items in the usual manner with a postage-paid stamp and release them for dispatch.
N.B.-The use of the P 1/192 reminder and the P 1/193 list lapses as from April 1, 1972, and no further accounting will be necessary from that date. No distinction is made between items posted in White and Non-White areas.
C. Disposal of P 1/62A and P 1/191A cards that are received back.
The cards must be filed and periodically disposed of in the same manner as telegrams.
D. Record to be kept.
To be able to determine whether the revised system is a success, postmasters should maintain a daily record during the months of April to September 1972 of:
(a)(i) the number of P 1/62A cards sent out;
(ii) the total amount of surcharges involved;
(iii) the number of P 1/62A cards received back; and
(iv) the total amount of postage stamps affixed to returned cards.
*(b)(i) the number of P 1/191 notices sent out;
(ii) the total amount of the deficiency in postage;
(iii) the number of P 1/191A cards received back; and
(iv) the total amount of postage stamps affixed to returned cards.
*Applicable only to the 11 large offices mentioned in paragraph B (d) above, which should furnish this additional information separately from that under subparagraph (a).
(c) On the last day of the month all postmasters must submit a summary of the information under subparagraph (a) and (b), where applicable to the Regional Director.
(d) Regional Directors must forward a monthly summary of this information to the Director, Posts, Pretoria. Only collective figures for the whole region are required.
E. P 1/62 notices.
Stocks of unused P 1/62 notices should be retained until further notice.
(2D7A/1602/72)

The following evidently publicised the results of the survey, promulgated under Item D.

Post Office Circular No 613-73, February 26, 1973
Posts
3. Surcharged postal items. – As a result of the favourable public reaction to the new system introduced experimentally on April 1, 1972, for the collection of surcharges on postal items intended for delivery in White areas, approval has now been obtained for the introduction of the system on a permanent basis.
The procedure in paragraph 5 of Post Office Circular 564 of March 20, 1972, remains unchanged.
(2D7A/1602/72)

Post Office Circular 907-78, October 16, 1978
2.0 Posts
2.1 Postage-due labels: Withdrawal of
2.1.1 Because of the introduction of the honour system for the collection of fines on underpaid postal articles the use of postage-due labels decreased to such an extent that it has been decided to discontinue their printing. However, the Stamps Section will still issue postage-due labels until present supplies are exhausted. Postmasters must then use postage stamps to account for fines on postal articles.

From the above it can be seen that the decision to discontinue printing South Africa postage due labels was not made until 1978, three years later than stated in the catalogue mentioned. It also indicates that postage due labels were still being issued in 1978, thus it was possible that stocks still existed in September 1980.

Michael Furfie, UK, Postage Due Study Group, noted the following reference to South Africa postage due, 1978 usage in the *Post Office Stone*, a journal on South African postal history.

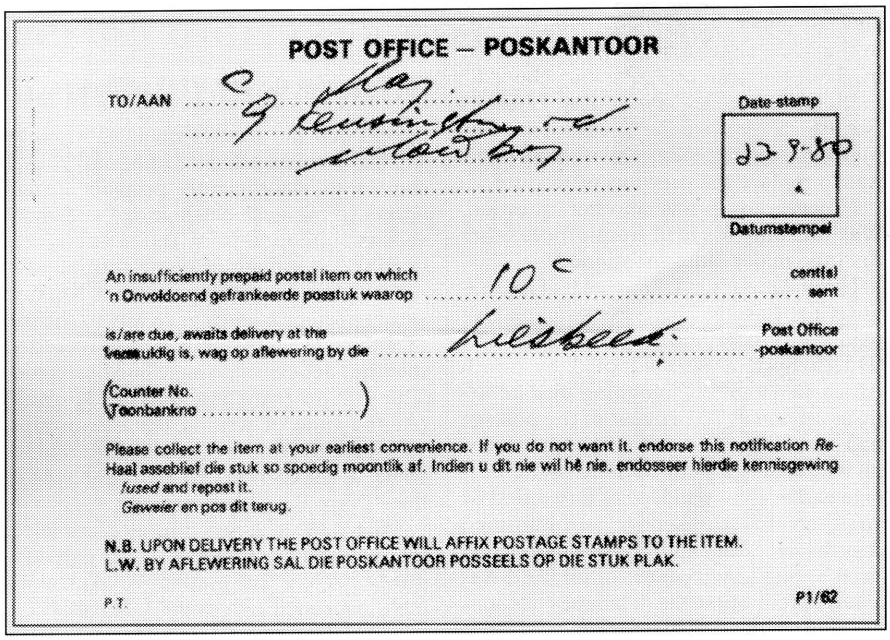
"A 1981 issue (vol 12/6, p 101) showed an illustrated cover, posted out of course, taxed 15c, with one each of 8c, 4c 2c and 1c denomination, 1972, South Africa postage due labels affixed, and cancelled October 31, 1978, Grahamstown. The text stated, 'Postage due labels have not been used in Grahamstown for many years. In 1978, a small stock was found and used up as the illustrated cover shows.' "

Perhaps this usage may have been a result of the October 16, 1978, Post Office Circular.

Also, in relation to usage in Black areas, Michael stated that he had recently received photocopies of several other possibly contrived 1972 taxed covers, in which one appeared genuine. It was a letter from Ficksburg, prepaid with a Lesotho 4c stamp, which was not accepted as prepayment, addressed to Kwa-Xuma, a Johannesburg (Black suburb?), dated March 1978.

Could this be an example of the Honour System being applied, with taxed mail to black areas still subject to the collection of the deficient amount prior to delivery?

Post Office Circular 998/80, July 14, 1980
2.0 Posts
2.1 Collection of surcharges on underfranked postal articles.
2.1.1 As a result of the disappointing public reaction to requests for payment of surcharges on underfranked postal articles the so-called Honour System that is presently in operation


POST OFFICE – POSKANTOOR

TO/AAN .....

Date stamp
23-9-80
Datumstempel

An insufficiently prepaid postal item on which 10c cent(s) 'n Onvoldoend gefrankeerde poststuk waarop ..... sent

is/are due, awaits delivery at the Post Office Is/are uldig is, wag op aflewering by die ..... -poskantoor

Counter No. Toonbankno .....

Please collect the item at your earliest convenience. If you do not want it, endorse this notification *Re-fused* and repost it. Haal asseblief die stuk so spoedig moontlik af. Indien u dit nie wil hê nie, endosseer hierdie kennisgewing *Geweier* en pos dit terug.

N.B. UPON DELIVERY THE POST OFFICE WILL AFFIX POSTAGE STAMPS TO THE ITEM.
L.W. BY AFLEWERING SAL DIE POSKANTOOR POSSEELS OP DIE STUK PLAK.

P.T. P1/62

Fig. 3: The P 1/62 notification in use after September 1980.

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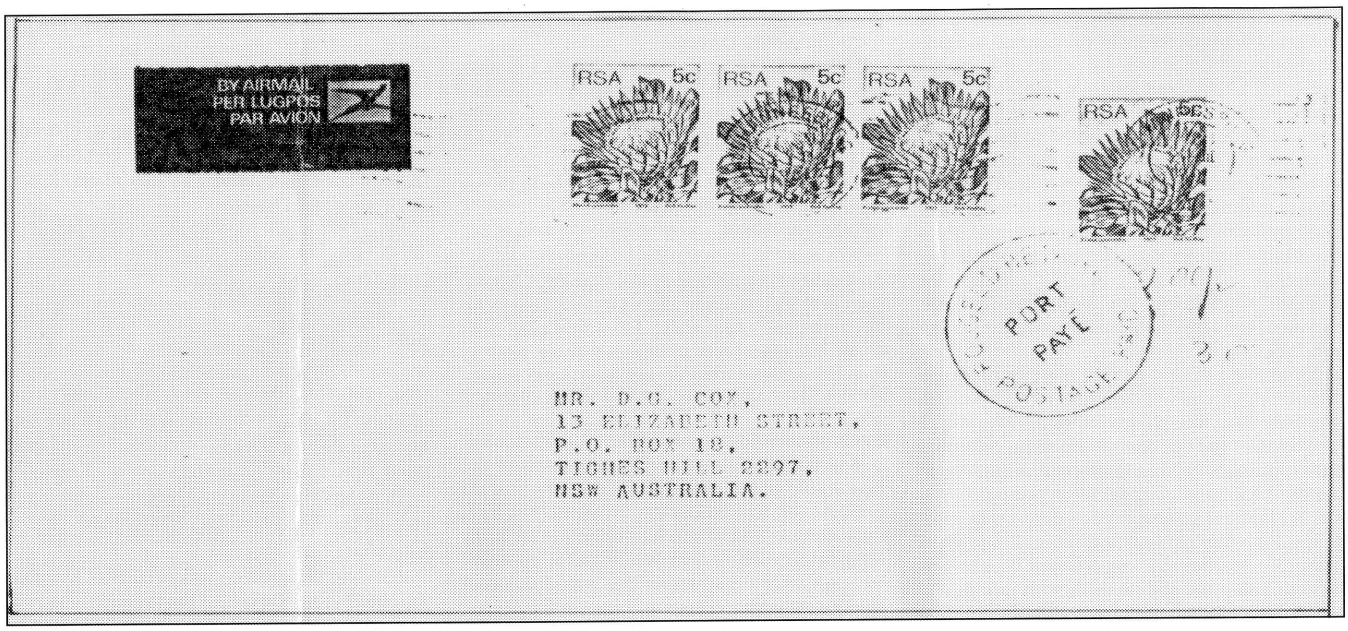

Fig. 4: The Port Paye handstamp (enhanced by the author).

will be withdrawn with effect from September 1, 1980. The instructions in paragraph 5 of Post Office Circular 564-72 and paragraph 3 of Post Office Circular 613-73 are therefore, also being withdrawn with effect from that date.

2.1.2 As from September 1, 1980 postal articles should again be surcharged and dealt with in terms of Chapter 3 (Paragraphs 605-621) of the Post Office Manual. Attention is specially invited to the amendment of the relative chapter that appears in the accompanying amendment slip.

2.1.3 Postmasters should timeously arrange for their stocks of P 1/62 notices (see Fig. 3) to be replenished. Attention is also drawn to the amendment of paragraph 602, which now stipulates that only one notice should be sent to the addressee of a surcharged article and that unclaimed articles should be returned after fourteen days.

As far as handling underpaid outgoing air mail items is concerned, paragraph (d) in the 1972 circular suggests that the named offices should strike out the "T" marking, with the "Porte Paye" cancel (see Fig. 4) and use P/191 cards (see Fig. 5) to collect the deficient airmail. This was to replace the previous procedure.

However, it poses another question. Was this only for mail from offices other than the major cities mentioned?

Hugh Amoore in Chapter 10 of his manuscript "Postage Due – Penalties on Unpaid and Underpaid Mail" states: "The 'Dutch System' was adopted by South Africa in 1955. All outgoing airmail articles on which 70 per cent of the postage had been prepaid, and all aerogrammes on which 50 per cent or more of the postage had been prepaid, were forwarded by air; thereafter the sender was informed that the necessary additional franking had been applied by the post office, and was asked to reimburse the deficiency. (Note – not double the deficiency).

"In 1956 the Postmaster General reported that the arrangement. . . 'whereby the Department affixes additional postage stamps to insufficiently prepaid airmail letters to overseas destinations and recovers the amount from the senders, has been successful and is being continued'.

"At some stage the practice of affixing actual postage stamps gave way to the use of a special handstamp which recorded that the (deficient) postage had been paid. The date of this change is not known." (At the time of writing the manuscript, 1988, Hugh Amoore reported March 30, 1971, as the earliest record of one type of this "Porte Paye" handstamp).

Michael Furfie noted in a recent letter that he has a "Porte Paye" cover dated January 1970, it was prepaid 7c. At that time the air mail rate to the UK was 12c.

My earliest example is a March 5, 1981 airmail cover Johannesburg to Australia, prepaid 20c, with a 30c manuscript notation, plus the usual "Porte Paye" circular handstamp. Has any collector examples of earlier "Porte Paye" covers, and/or examples of postage due stamp usage on taxed covers delivered in "Black" areas between 1972 and 1980?

In regard to another query (raised by Andrew Wilke) about the predominance of Johannesburg cancels on 1980s taxed mail covers: were the Head Post Offices (as listed in the 1972 PO Circular) made responsible for the handling of all taxed articles?

More covers emanating from this period need to be examined to be able to come to definite conclusions. But for those interested in the fascination of postal history, the assessment of the rates and regulations associated with taxed mail is an exciting pursuit. ■

Mass of item _____ g
Massa van item _____ g

Postage rate _____ c per 10 g
Postarief _____ c per 10 g

Postage paid _____ c
Posgeld betaal _____ c

NOTICE OF POSTAGE DUE

The postage on your airmail item, addressed to

_____

_____

_____

was insufficient. I have made up the deficiency and forwarded the item by air without delay. Please affix postage stamps to the value of _____ in the space provided on the reverse side hereof and repost the card.

Thank you.

Your Postmaster.

KENNISGEWING VAN POSGELD VERSKULDIG

Die posgeld op u lugposstuk geadresseer aan

_____

_____

_____

was onvoldoende. Ek het die tekort aangesuiwer en die stuk sonder vertraging per lugpos aangestuur. Plak asseblief posseëls ter waarde van _____ in die betrokke ruimte op die keersy hiervan en pos die kaart terug.

Dankie.

U Posmeester.

Fig. 5: Message side of P 1/191 notification.

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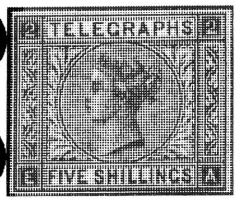

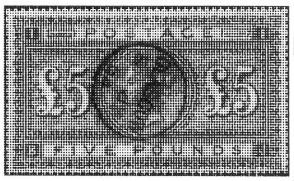

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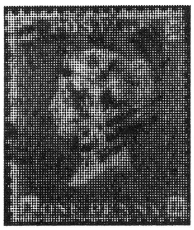

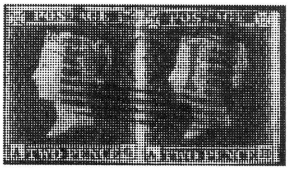

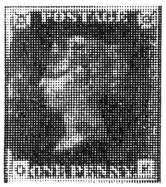

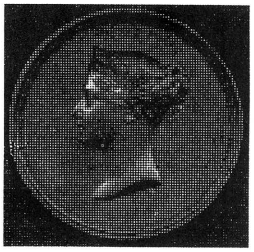

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■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

An up-date of postal slogan developments

THE situation regarding postal slogans in South Africa has undergone some important changes since the introduction of ink jet postmarking machines on 24 January 1995.

The first of the ink jet machines had a test run in the middle of 1994.

It may be worth while to provide some bibliographic details of the articles on the ink jet slogans that have appeared in *The SA Philatelist* in recent years containing slogan information.

A revised list of slogans from their inception appeared in April 1993 (p45). This was followed by an article in April 1997 (p55).

In August 1997 (p111), an article appeared that should have preceded the one published in April. December 1997 (p197) saw a follow-up on the ink jet slogans. The most recent article was published in the June 1998 (p82) issue. This series of articles lists all the slogans that have been used by the Post Office since their introduction as early as 1899.

The preceding articles took the list of South African slogans published in this journal up to the end of 1998. However, there have in the meantime been some developments that need to be amplified.

The article published in December 1997 ended with details of the slogan in use from 17 to 24 December 1997: "The South African Post Office wishes you a merry and prosperous festive season". The article in June 1998 began with the slogan reading "Postage-paid envelopes are for sale at all post offices", which was used from 16 to 22 February 1998. These details had been provided by the South African Post Office, but there was a gap from December to February.

These details had been provided by the South African Post Office, but there was a gap from December to February.

An enquiry has shown that the following ink jet slogans were used in the gap from 25 December 1997 to 15 February 1998, which is filled by the following:

- The South African Post Office wishes you a merry and prosperous festive season – Die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor wens u 'n geseënde en voorspoedige feesgety toe (*25 December 1997 to 4 January 1998*).
- Moving? Change of address? Have you notified your Post Office? – Verhuis u? Verander u adres? Het u u Poskantoor in kennis gestel (*5 to 11 January 1998*).
- Insufficient postage will delay the delivery of mail. – Onvoldoende posgeld sal die posaflewering vertraag (*12 to 18 January 1998*).
- Post mail early in the day. – Pos posstukke vroeg in die dag. (*19 to 25 January 1998*).
- Speed Services Couriers: Courier today, guaranteed same-day delivery. – Speed Services Couriers: Koerier vandag, gewaarborgde diens dieselfde dag. (*26 January to 1 February 1998*).

The birthday slogan seems to have replaced the Speed Sevices Couriers Slogan that was to have been run in the same period.

- Let someone feel special - send a Valentine's card. – Laat iemand spesiaal voel - stuur 'n Valentynskaartjie. (*2 to 8 February 1998; 14 February: Valentine's Day*).
- The South African Post Office - We're working for you. – Die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor - Ons werk vir jou. (*9 to 15 February 1998*).

These appear to have been the last bilingual ink jet slogans. The Post Office staff newspaper, *Xpress*, reported in its June 1998 issue that the "Management Board recently adopted English as the business language of the Post Office".

An additional slogan to the list published in June 1998, was run for the 80th birthday of President Nelson Mandela. The slogan "Happy birthday Madiba" was used from 13 to 19 July 1998 to commemorate the president's birthday on 18 July. The birthday slogan seems to have replaced the Speed Services Couriers slogan that was to have been run in the same period.

Before the ink jet machines were introduced, the mail handling system of the Post Office was of such a nature that ten main mail handling offices used postmarking machines with slogans regularly. These were Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, East London, Germiston, Johannesburg, Kimberley, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria. This situation has now changed.

The Bloemfontein and Kimberley offices are still using slogans of the old type. The Post Office has been asked to provide details of the slogans used at these offices since 1996.

Durban, East London, Germiston, Pietermaritzburg and Port Elizabeth stopped implementing a slogan programme in 1996. These developments are apparently related to the introduction of new postmarking machines.

The Cape Town and Johannesburg offices no longer use slogans.

The mail previously handled at these two offices now goes to the Capemail and Witspos centres where ink jet machines are in use.

The old type postmarking machines in Pretoria have also been replaced with an ink jet machine.

In past years, the Klerksdorp, Kroonstad, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Springs, Vereeniging, and Welkom offices used a "Post Christmas mail early" slogan in November and December. Of these offices, Welkom, Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp no longer use slogans because their Pitney Bowes machines were replaced with Klussendorf machines in 1996.

Information from these three offices is that the Klussendorf machines "do not have space for slogans".

Information from these three offices is that the Klussendorf machines "do not have space for slogans".

Eight offices still use publicity slogans as below:

- *Graaff-Reinet*: Juweel van die Karoo - Gem of the Karoo.
- *Cradock*: Water en sport is lewe - Water and sport is life.
- *Howick*: Howick - Hartland van die waterval - Howick - Heart of waterfall country.
- *Ficksburg*: Ficksburg - Dorp met 'n hart - Ficksburg - Town with a heart.
- *Port Alfred*: Port Alfred - Hart van die sonskyn kus - Port Alfred - Heart of the sunshine coast.
- *Robertson*: Robertson - Vallei van wyn en rose - Robertson - Valley of wine and roses.
- *Tzaneen*: Tzaneen - Tropiese paradys - Tzaneen - Tropical paradise.
- *Hermanus*: Hermanus South Africa Heart of the whale coast.

It is hoped that this summary of the situation stimulates interest in what – errors and varieties aside – should be a prolific and rewarding collecting field. ■

NEVILLE GOMM is a regular contributor to *The SA Philatelist*. Earlier this year he completed a monograph about the history of and signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa. Its publication coincides with the Federation's 60th Congress in October 1998.

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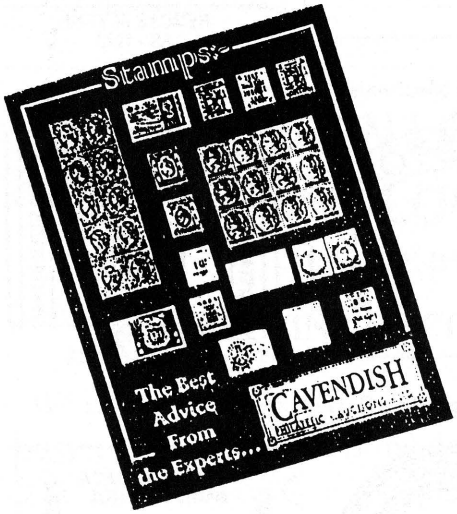

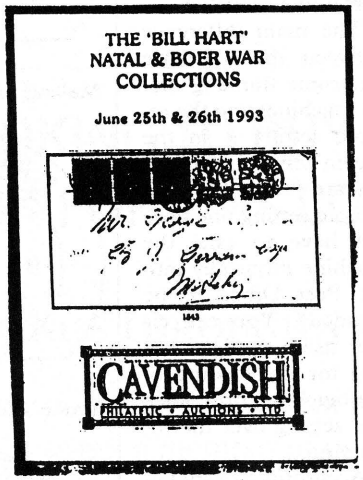

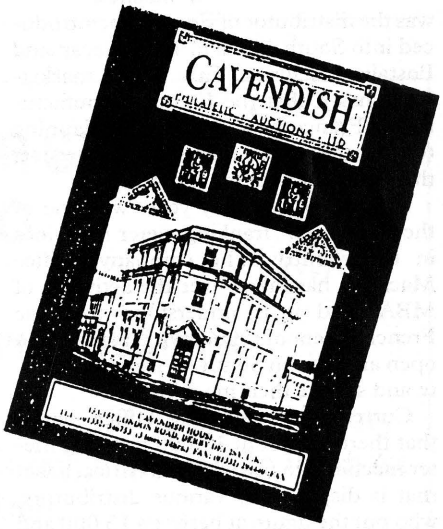

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■ **ANDRIES VAN DER WALT** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

A new era dawns for franking meters

SOME 72 years after the first ever franking meter machine was introduced in South Africa, the franking meter market is on the brink of undergoing radical changes. These changes will also herald a new collecting interest for those interested in the collection and study of franking meter marks.

As from 1 April 1998, all new franking meter machines sold in South Africa had to be of the remote setting system types. Already a number of distributors have started marketing these machines.

By the year 2000 all franking meter machines used in the country will have to be of this type. The decision of the SA Post Office to phase out the old electronic type of meters used over the past seventy or so years, is also as a result of the Post Office's plans to overcome the problems created by the so-called "Year 2000 rollover".

The franking meter market was rocked recently when MBA, one of the oldest and largest distributors of franking meter machines, went out of business. MBA was the distributor of Francotyp, introduced into South Africa in 1927, Secap and Postalia machines. Talk in the marketplace has it that the French manufacturers of Francotyp and Secap are planning to enter the market themselves and restart the distribution of these machines.

Francotyp for many years was one of the "Big three" franking meter machines in the country. The company, Office Machine, has taken over the activities of MBA, and it is understood that the French parent of Francotyp is planning to open an office in South Africa to distribute and service their machines.

Currently the SA Post Office claims that there are about 17 000 franking meter machines in use in South Africa, a fact that is disputed by various distributors, who put the figure at between 13 000 and 14 000. In addition they also expect the market to shrink by some 33 percent as a result of the introduction of remote setting machines.

The Post Office has also set specific criteria for the design of the town dies as well as the "frank" or stamp in the franking meter marks. Stocks Mailing Systems, the distributors of Pitney Bowes, has designed a new town die which they call the "tombstone" and which differs radically from the datestamps that we have become used to, i.e. the double or single circle cancellations.

In fact, the move is away from the traditional way of applying the datestamp. In addition, the emblem of the SA Post Office has to form an integral part of the design of the "frank" with the key letters and licence number at the bottom outside the frame of the frank, but incorporating the words "remote setting". In the case of Pitney Bowes, the key letters and licence number form part of the canceller.

The main difference between the old style electronic franking meter machines and the remote setting is in the way in which the machines are "loaded". With remote setting one does not have to take the machine physically into the Post Office to be "loaded". You can either use a modem setting for the loading of the machine, or a voice free setting over the telephone.

According to a spokesman for Stocks Mailing Systems, using the voice method a franking meter machine can be "reloaded" with the required amount in as little as 90 seconds.

The changeover to remote settings may not in all cases result in the owners of electronic machines having to invest in new remote setting machines. John Green of Frama, who is also the chairman of the South African Franking Meter Distributors Association, states that certain machines can be upgraded to remote setting.

The advent of remote setting franking meter machines opens up a new and exciting new collecting area for collectors. An era ended on 1 April 1998, and it is also the start of a new one – one which can easily be called the "Pre-year 2000 franking meter era". What is interesting however, is that the year slug still only uses the last two digits of the year, while one would have thought that, given the Year 2000 Compliance problem, the full year would have been used.

The different marks that one would be able to collect may be fewer, with perhaps even fewer varieties and errors, if that were possible. On the other hand it may be

THE author has been an avid student of franking meter marks for a considerable time, but has also written a monograph on the postal history of Mafeking.

Andries van der Walt – as the first chairman of the Federation's Promotions and Publicity Committee – played a leading role in bringing wider recognition for stamp collecting, and for ten years conducted a popular weekly stamp column in the daily Afrikaans newspaper *Beeld*. He is also a former editor of his society's joiurnal, *The Post Office Stone*.

Andries was awarded the Federation's Skinner Cup at the Paarl Congress in 1987.

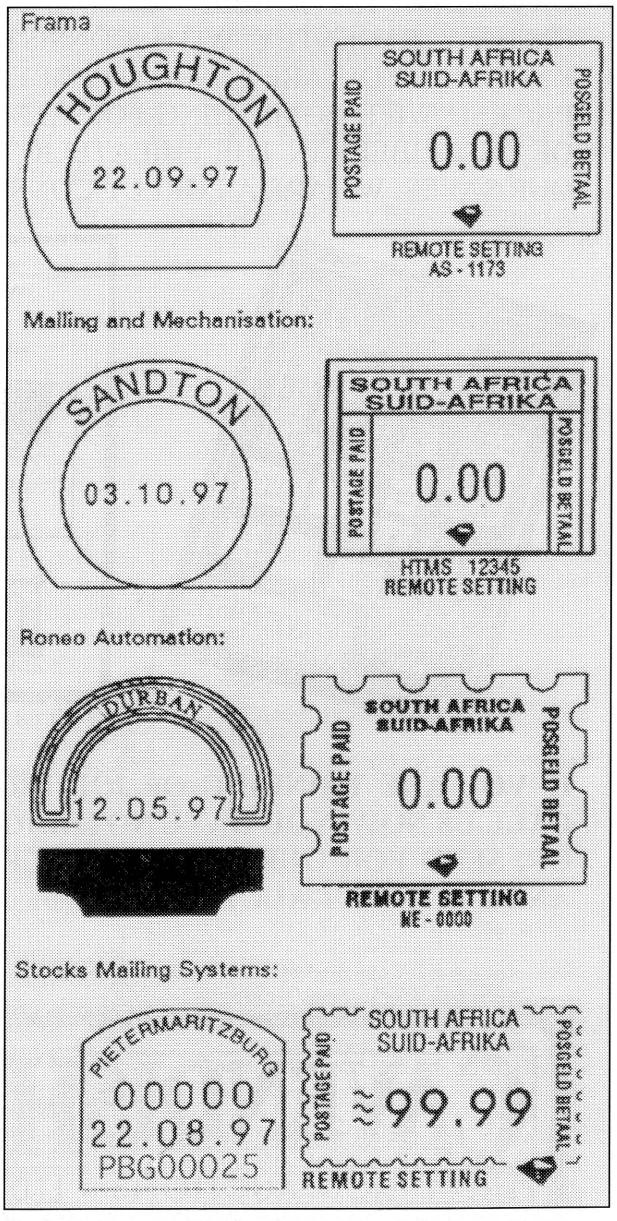

Fig. 1

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just as exciting as looking for all those older marks.

By courtesy of the SA Post Office I illustrate here the town dies that have been approved by the Post Office for the various distributors as well as some of the remote setting marks already in commercial use (see Fig. 1). So far only four, Frama, Hasler, Roneo Neopost and Pitney Bowes have been approved.

Frama machines will use the key letters AS, Pitney Bowes the letters PBG, PBA, PBF and PBE. Hasler will use the letters HTMS and Roneo Automation the letters NE. The frank includes the emblem of the Post Office and the words "remote setting" to distinguish these machines from the older electronic types in use.

I also illustrate a machine mark that has actually been seen to have been used (see Fig 2). What is interesting is that a start with the use of remote setting meter machines, was made before 1 April.

The illustration of this use of the Hasler HTMS machine by the Carel du Toit Centre is interesting, in that the date in the datestamp is 4-03-1997. However, the cover shows a Capemail cancellation showing the date of 6-03-1998. The Carel du Toit Centre must have forgotten to change the year slug in the meter date-

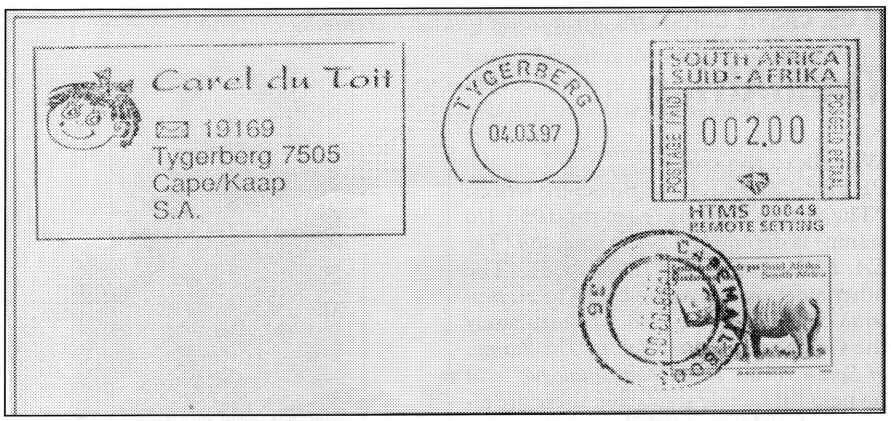

Fig. 2

stamp, but one is only able to determine that because Capemail applied a hand-struck cancellation with the correct year on the item.

In a Post Office circular issued by Dirk Erasmus, general manager: Letters Section, it is stated that in terms of the new remote setting system, the Post Office will no longer be responsible for the licensing, setting and handling of remote setting machines. The client will now contact the supplier who in turn will contact the Letters Section direct regarding licence applications.

All settings are done by the supplier by means of a telephone or modem. The supplier transfers payments direct to the Post Office and the postage income will be allocated to the Post Office where the licence is registered.

From 1 April 1998 no more licences were issued for mechanical franking machines.

By 31 December 1999 all mechanical franking meter machines will have to be withdrawn from the markets, and all franking machines in operation must be on remote setting. ■

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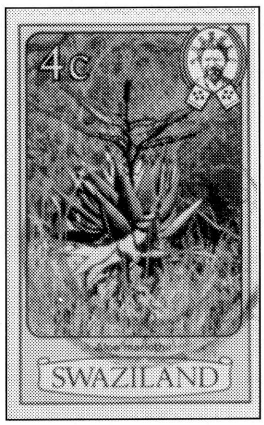
■ **DS. CASSIE CARSTENS** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

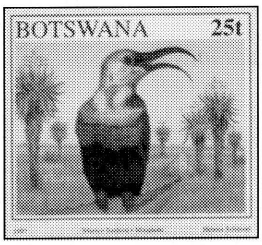
ThemAfrica

We talk to the trees

PETER COOKE from Boksburg writes: "The aloe in the centre (of the 1953 1/6 stamp) is definitely an *Aloe marlothii* (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1998, p38). The other aloes on the stamp could be *A. peglerae* or even *A. aculeata*. Unfortunately the Golden Jubilee edition of *The Stamps of South Africa Handbook/Catalogue* is of no help – it merely states that these are aloes on the 1/6 stamp."



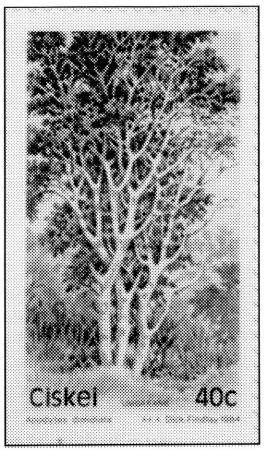
(Thank you, Peter! This clears up a mistake in the ATA Handbook No 94 and also give substance to my own tree collection – Cassie).



● The *Aloe marlothii* is listed on the following stamps:

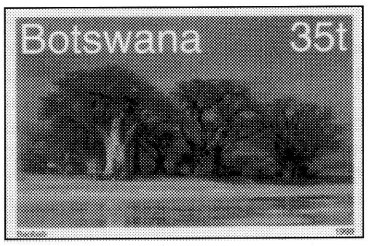
1953	South Africa	1/6 Definitive
1962	Swaziland	R1 Definitive
1975	Botswana	3c Christmas
1980	Swaziland	4c Definitive (Flowers)
1997	Botswana	25t Definitive (Birds)

● The South African Tree of the Year is *Apodytes dimidiata* subsp. *dimidiata* (SA 422: White Pear/Witpeer). Frequently a small bushy tree 4 to 5m tall, but reaching heights of 20m when growing in forest; occurring in coastal evergreen bush, at the margins of medium altitude evergreen forest, in open woodland and on grassy mountain slopes, often among rocks. You will find them in the Northern Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern and Southern Cape and scattered in the Western Cape and the Cape Peninsula.



The light pink wood is very hard, and is suitable for agricultural implements and furniture. The Zulus prepare an infusion from the root bark as an enema for intestinal parasites, and the leaf is used in the treatment of ear inflammation. The fruit is not edible and is seldom taken, even by birds. Seedlings are easily raised, though germination is slow, taking from four months to a year. The White Pear is depicted on a stamp from Ciskei (SACC 55, 40c, 1984, Indigenous Trees).

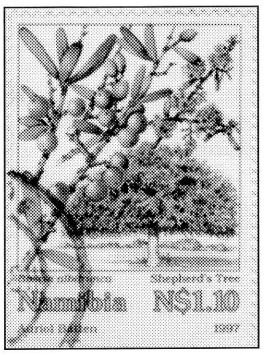
● The famous baobabs (*Adansonia digitata*: SA 467) at Kudiakam Pan, painted by the artist-explorer Thomas Baines in 1862, are depicted on the new Tourism 1998 set of Botswana.



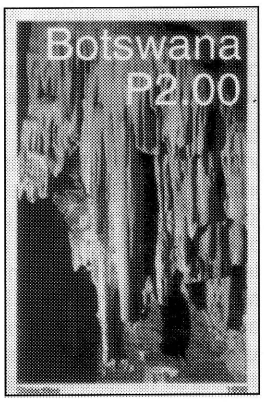
Baines' painting was also depicted on the Botswana stamp commemorating the opening of the National Museum and Art Gallery in 1968. This stamp adds to the phenomenal list of baobab stamps, a theme worth collecting. Want to join the Baobab Fan Club?!

● Hats off (agai'n!) to Namibia with their beautiful set of trees, skilfully painted by Ariol Batten. The *Guibourtia coleosperma* (SA 199: Copalwood/Bastermopanie) has not previously been depicted on a stamp, and also not the *Faidherbia albida* (SA 159: Ana Tree/Anaboom) – previously known as the *Acacia albida*.

On the other hand the *Boscia albitrunca* (SA 122: Shepherd's Tree/Witgat) complements the Bophuthatswana stamp of



1985 (SACC 145: Conserve Our Trees) and the *Pterocarpus angolensis* (SA 236: Wild Teak/Kiaat) adds to a long list of stamps depicting this wellknown tree. Another tree theme worth collecting!



Grotte en engtevrees

Jy sal my in der ewigheid nie in 'n grot kry nie. Ek was eenmaal in my lewe in die voorportaal van die Sudwala Grotte en het so byna die hele berg met my kaal hande uitmekaar gedruk. . . Maar daar is mense wat graag in grotte rondkruip en wat seker ook grotseëls versamel – die nuutste Botswana uitgif sal hulle harte sekerlik bly maak. Dis 'n eerste vir Suider-Afrika, né?

Correcting the birds

Thank you for your letters, John Carter (Somerset West) and Graham Burrows (Westville), stating that some birds were already previously depicted on stamps, for example the Yellowbilled-Woodpecker (SA 771: *Buphagus africanus*) on Central African Republic (1983: 180f) and Uganda (1987: 25s), the Spotted Crake (SA 214: *Porzana porzana*) on Kuwait (1973) and the Redbilled Buffalo Weaver (SA 798: *Bubalornis niger*) on Mali (1978: 80f). I appreciate your reaction – this is what I have in view for this column: stamp collectors sharing their knowledge!

Something to read?

Try the following articles in *Topical Time*, the journal of the American Topical Association (March-April 1998, # 288): "Let's get Knotted" (knots from Cradle to Grave) and "Bowling in Philately" (A

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Sport of Variations). We have two South African stamps on this topic: SACC 398 (World Bowls Championships in SA) and SACC 400 (SA Winners).

Also: "The Princess of Wales" (Lady Diana Frances Spencer 1961-1997), "What happened to the Aircraft?" (a strange case of vanishing planes), "Pirates and Buccaneers" (legends of Sea Raiders), "Moses and his Friends" (an interesting thematic study) and "Diphtheria on Stamps" (eradicating a childhood disease).

In the latter article two South African stamps feature: Bophuthatswana 135 (Save the Children) and Transkei 277 (Heroes of Medicine, 6th series: Emil A von Behring and S Kitasato who led the way to diphteria immunization).

And then there is "Sherlockian Postmarks" (keeping Sherlock Holmes alive and well).



En so van Prinses Di gepraat. . .

Dis op ons: die stelle en stelle en stelle van daai Di seëls. Lesotho het reeds 'n duur kransie gelê (6 seëls en 'n miniatuurvel wat jou M27 kos) terwyl Namibië kort op hulle hakke 'n goedkoper ruikertjie (N$4) op die graf plaas.

Mens hou asem op vir al die ander Statebondslande in die omgewing se duistere planne. Daar is darem 'n voëltjie wat fluit dat die RSA nie vir 'n kersie op die Ingelse koek gaan sorg nie!

Die Hollanders kyk suid

Kry onlangs in *THEMA* (April 1998), die nuusblad van die Nederlandse Tematiese Vereniging, 'n mees interessante en uitgebreide artikel(reeks) oor "Rivier de Zambezi" (J Toussiant) – 'n tematiese treffer! Dis lekker om te sien hoe 'n Europeër floreer op Suider-Afrikaanse seëls, posstukke en filateliese items. Dit bewys net dat ons dieselfde kan doen – mens moet net die stang vasbyt en iewers begin.

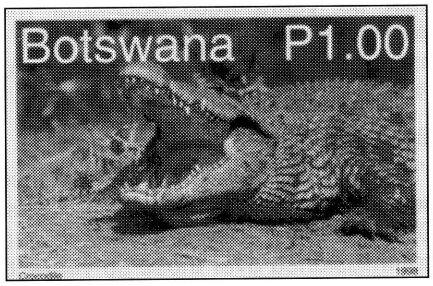
Merino Sheep

The Aussies down south like to stress the fact that they are actually the world's biggest sheep farmers. That is why they brag with the merino on their newest commemorative issue: *Farming Australia*. I want to state emphatically that the wool industry in South Africa is not one step behind



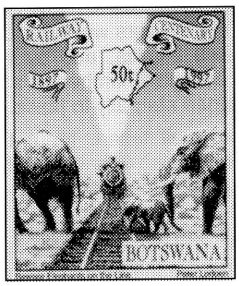


the Aussies – I would actually say we are one step ahead! Vrystaat!!



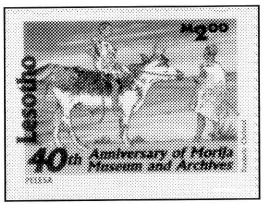
Diere en hulle gewoontes

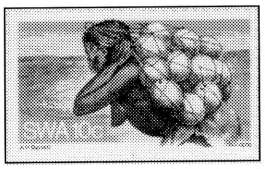
● Botswana se nuutste krokodil (*Crocodylus niloticus*) is 'n treffer met daai oop bek – mens kan amper eergister se brêkfis sien!



● Olifante staan bekend vir hulle uitstekende ouersorg – daarom is Botswana se Spoorweg Eeufees plein foutief en boonop onverantwoordelik om uit te beeld hoe die Pa-olifant en die Ma-olifant oor die treinspoor loop met die kleintjie op die spoor terwyl die trein in volle vaart aankom! Geen ouerpaar sou dit mos toelaat nie, of hoe?

● Wie van die lesers ry gereeld op 'n koei? (Lesotho: Morija Museum en Argiewe) Gaan probeer dit net eenmaal – you will never be the same again!





Egg-fruit?

Stanley Gibbons (the Commonwealth catalogue) captions the South West African stamp 316 (The Bushmen) as "Woman carrying fruit". Are ostrich eggs. . . fruit?! Good heavens, what a brinjal! ■

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In memoriam

Howard L Godwin

10 November 1923 – 26 July 1998

THE loss of the always cheerful, helpful and punctual Howard Godwin was a sad day in our philately. "Punctual", in particular, as his "New Issues" column for *The SA Philatelist* always arrived at the agreed time, a writing task he cheerfully fulfilled from the issue of September/October 1991 right up to the previous issue of the magazine in August 1998.

Howard became serious about stamps some time in the 1960s, when he joined the East Rand Philatelic Society.

Not only did he develop into a pillar of his society's activities, but gradually took on more and more tasks in the Federation, which he eminently served as secretary. When he retired from that position, he took on the task of Awards Custodian, for which he wrote a sorely needed trophy manual.

With Jonas Michelson RDPSA, Howard up-dated the history of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for publication at the 50th Congress held in Pietermaritzburg in 1988. In 1989 at Wanderers 101, Howard was presented with the Skinner Cup for his wide-ranging services to philately, which had included membership of the Audio-Visual Committee and frequent service as jury secretary or on organising committees at national exhibitions.

At Otjimbingue 100 in Windhoek in 1988, for example, Howard ran South Africa's first experimental computerised points system for the jury.

For some years, Howard also served as secretary of the Federation's Expert Committee. Its chairman, David Crocker RDPSA, paid him the following tribute:

"July saw the passing of one of South Africa's philatelic stalwarts, Howard Godwin.

"Howard lived on the East Rand for many years, serving in many capacities on local philatelic societies' committees and I am sure that no-one will argue that their strength today relies to a great extent to Howard's endeavours.

"Nationally, he will be remembered for his service to the PFSA – as its Secretary, as secretary to the Expert Committee and as a long-time member of the Audio-Visual Committee, the last being a task from which he derived particular enjoyment and satisfaction. This committment was acknowledged by the frequent presentation of awards at Congress.

"At the annual national exhibition, if not recalling Howard at the top table at Congress, then remember him as, on many occasions, the secretary to the jury – introducing quite a few years ago the new-fangled computer programme of which we were all so suspicious, but which made result collation so much quicker and more efficient!

"His major collections were that of Bermuda and the War Tax issues of the First World War.

His depth of study of the latter was typified by the publication, by the American based British Carribean Study Circle, of his research article on the Red Cross labels.

"Always smiling, always interested – a gentleman of philately."

Joh Groenewald RDPSA, President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, said, "Howard Godwin is remembered for his enthusiasm and energy. He was a wonderful colleague in service to organised philately – attentive, ever ready to assist and delightful to work with.

"He assumed the task of secretary of the Philatelic Federation early in 1983. For the rest of the decade Howard handled the job with dedication and also innovation – he revamped the administration of the Federation onto an early computer, assisted with the revising of the constitution into a much shortened form, and marshalled the bylaws into their present format.

"His endeavours were recognised with the award of the Skinner Cup by the philatelic congress upon his 'retirement' to the Boland.

"He was 'Howard Brighteyes', the man with the ready smile – Merle and family, thanks for sharing him with us."

We express our sincere condolences to his wife Merle and their children Lynn, Leslie, Robert, Wendy and Kim, and his seven grandchildren.

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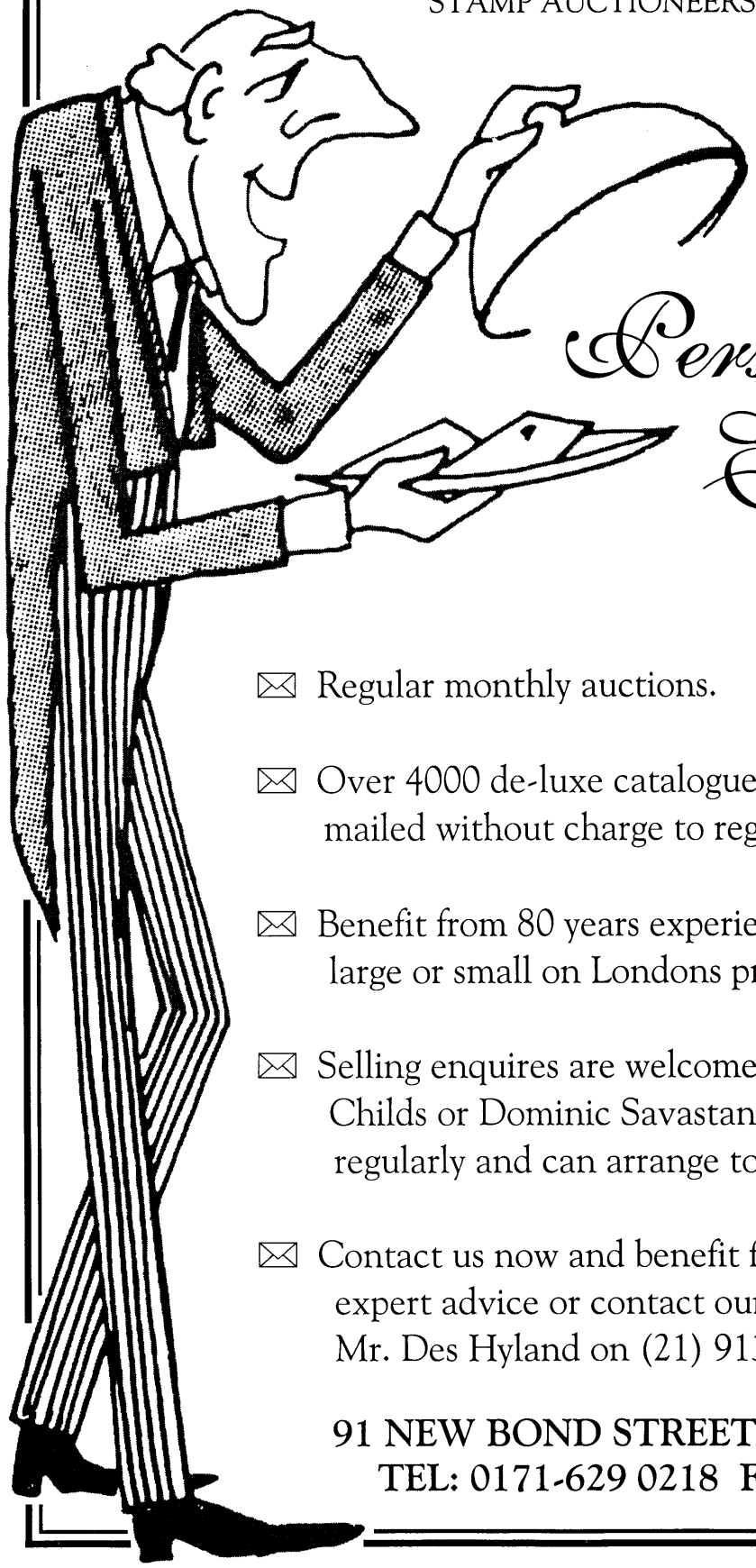

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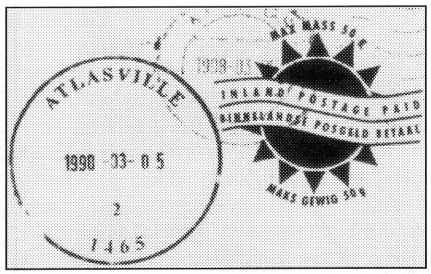
■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

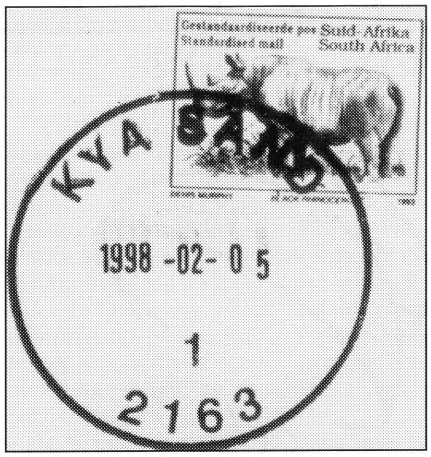
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag

Datumstempels se masjientjies

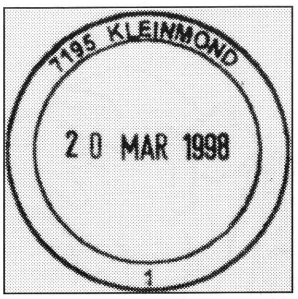
Die datumstempel masjientjies wat deesdae in poskantore gebruik word, lewer 'n mooi verskeidenheid. Die voorbeelde van Atlasville en Kya Sand getuig daarvan. (**Luke van Riet**)



Nog 'n voorbeeld is van Kleinmond in die Wes-Kaap. Die illustrasie wys 'n stempel afdruk met die syfer 1. Kleinmond het nog so 'n stempel met die syfer 2 tussen die sirkels. **Henriëtte Botha** het navraag gedoen, en blykbaar het baie poskantore in die Wes-Kaap area van die nuwe toonbank stempels gekry. Hulle lyk nie almal eenders nie.



Die stempelmasjientjies word in Switserland gemaak. Die rubber gedeelte waarop die poskantoor se naam gegraveer word, word plaaslik gemaak. Een so 'n maatskappy op Somerset-Wes doen graverings. Die Kleinmond masjientjie is 'n COLOP R30-DATER. Die masjientjie moet deur die pospersoneel van ink voorsien word. Kleinmond se staal datum-



stempels word intussen gebêre – die nuwe masjientjies breek glo maklik.

Die rede vir die instelling van die nuwe masjientjies is dat hulle glo meer kliëntevriendelik is. Die gestamp met die staal datumstempels was 'n groot lawaai en het probleme veroorsaak. Kleinmond se twee nuwe stempels is op of kort na 14 Augustus 1997 in gebruik geneem.

No duty liable

An item received at work in December 1997, had two labels attached to the reverse as illustrated. The interesting one is a white label with black printing measu-

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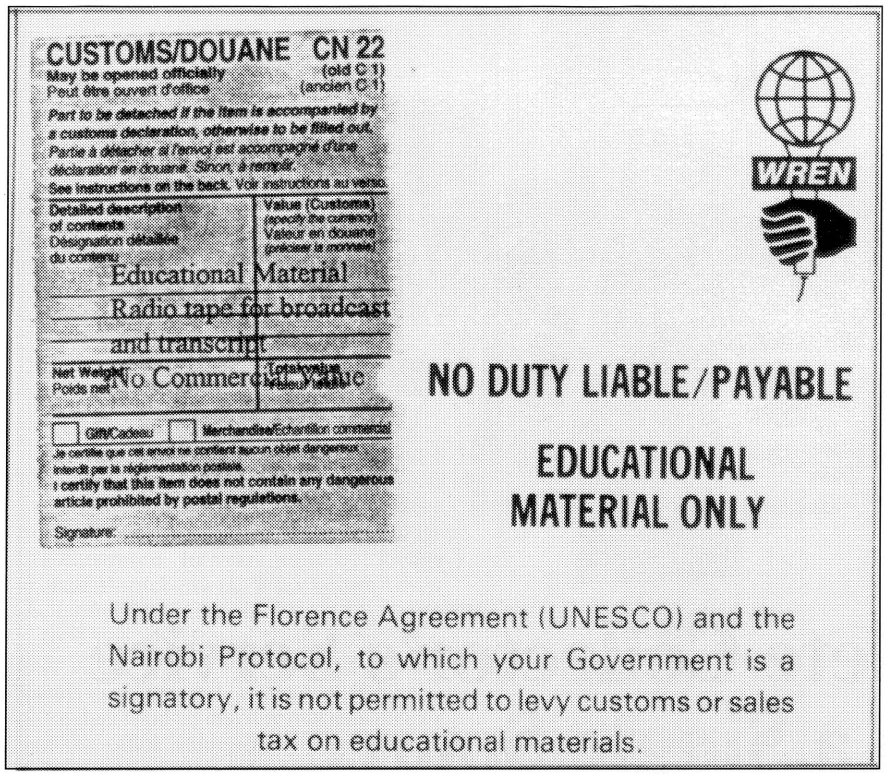


ring 120 millimetres square. Pasted over the label was a green customs label. The logo, WREN, is that of World Radio for the Environment, which is in the United Kingdom. The logo is part of the printing on the label.

Seëls sonder Afrikaans

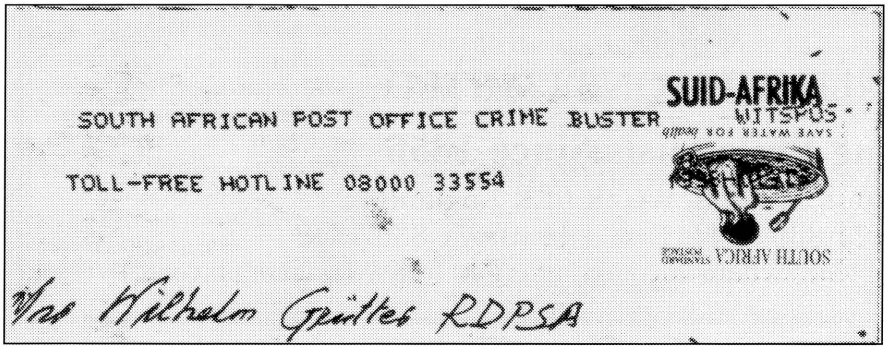
Die feit dat Suid-Afrikaanse seëls deesdae net met Engelse bewoording verskyn, het groot ongelukkigheid meegebring. Ons ere-redakteur het voorgestel dat daar nie net gekla word nie, maar dat iets gedoen moet word.

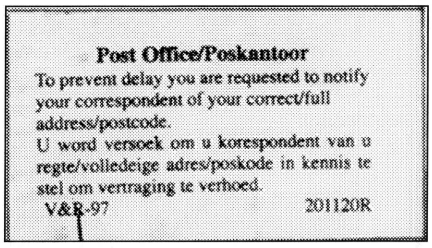
Die volgende het hy egter nie verwag nie. Die illustrasie wys wat een filatelis doen om sy misnoë uit te druk: die groot SUID-AFRIKA is 'n rubberstempel afdruk in swart ink, en die seël is afkeurend onderstebo geplak. Robert Goldblatt RDPSA het jare gelede so 'n afkeurende gebruik met 'n Transvaalse Koningin Victoria seël in die loop van die Eerste Vryheidsoorlog aangeteken. **(Wilhelm Grütter)**



Yslike T stempel

Die stempelafdruk wat geXllustreer word, is die grootste van hierdie soort wat hy nog gesien het, sê **Frank van Rensburg** van Nylstroom. Dit wil voorkom of dit op Sasolburg gebruik is, hoewel Pretoria, waarheen die posstuk gestuur is, ook moontlik is.





Pospapier plakker

Die illustrasie wys die etiket V & R-97 201120R op 'n koevert wat van Nederland aan **Jan Corstanje** gestuur is. Die etiket meet 55 x 30 mm, en dit is geel met swart drukwerk. (Daar is twee spelfoute in die Afrikaans daarop.)

Jan sê hy het eindelose probleme met sy pos omdat sy Swartkops in Lyttelton in Centurion by Pretoria met Swartkops by Port Elizabeth verwar word. Mens wonder net hoe die probleme ontstaan, want die poskodes, wat tog die belangrikste deel van die adres is, verskil hemelsbreed.

Post Office rubber stamps

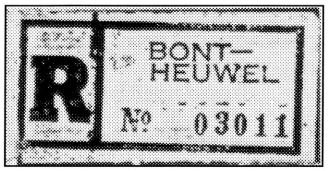
In the October 1997 issue of this feature (p154) there was illustrated a rubber stamp impression consisting of the letters CMA in a box. An explanation for this has been published in *Setempe*, the journal published by Philatelic Services.

It says the letters are an abbreviation of the words Cape-Mail (sic). The rubber stamp is used when mail that has been missorted eventually finds its way to the Cape-Mail sorters. For example, when mail is sent from Pretoria to Bloemfontein, but reaches CapeMail instead, it is stamped with this rubber stamp and redirected to the correct destination.

The CMA rubber stamp is sometimes accompanied by a number that indicates the number of the staff member who sorted the misdirected mail.

R label developments

In the December 1995 issue of the feature (p170) there was illustrated a label from Bontheuwel post office. I mentioned that the post office name was incorrectly spelled and that it should be Bonteheuwel, in



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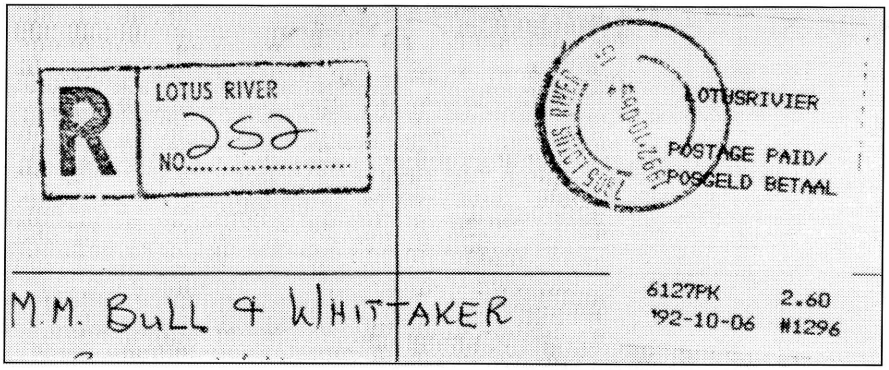


other words, with an "e" between the "t" and the "h".

The illustration shows a different type of R label from Bont(e)heuwel, also without the "e" in question. Latest Post Office publications give the spelling as on the label illustrated. In years gone by, it was spelled Bonteheuwel. Who knows when the name was changed?

In 1992, the Lotus River post office near Cape Town was using a rubber stamp as illustrated, instead of R labels. Note that counter register number #1296 had the office name in Afrikaans as one word.

Slagspreuke vir publisiteit

Verskeie dorpe het deur die jare hul eie slagspreuke beding. Die eerste hiervan was Germiston, wat gevolg is deur Graaff-Reinet, Cradock, Howick, Ficksburg, Port Alfred, Robertson, Tzaneen en Hermanus. Die slagspreuke van hierdie plekke word deurlopend gebruik, deesdae net vir plaaslike pos.

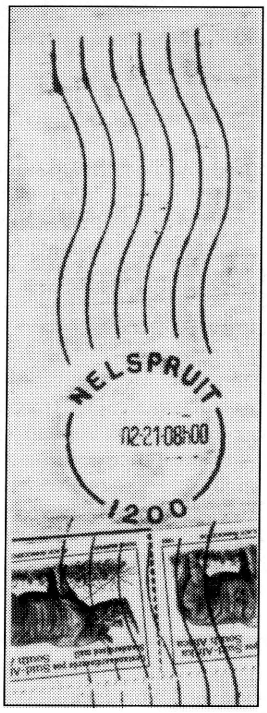
'n Goeie afdruk van Hermanus se slagspreuk wat vroeg in 1996 in gebruik geneem is, word geïllustreer. Tot dusver is nog net 'n Engelse weergawe hiervan gesien.



Die handroller rojeerders

Dit wil voorkom of niemand in Suid-Afrika hierdie soort posmerke as 'n losstaande versameling byeenbring nie. Besonderhede en illlustrasies het al by verskeie geleenthede in hierdie rubriek verskyn met die versoek dat iemand wat 'n versameling het, vir ons moet laat weet, maar nog geen reaksie is ontvang nie.

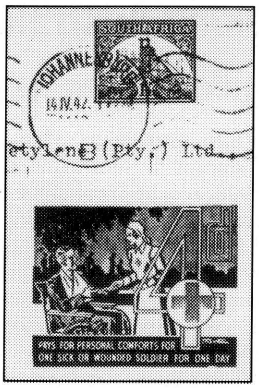
In die voorbeeld van Nelspruit wat geïllustreer word, is die jaartal nie verstel nie, maar dit is in 1997 gebruik.



Die Aspoestertjies

Hulle het nog nie dikwels in dié rubriek verskyn nie. Die een wat geïllustreer word, is op 'n brief wat op 14 April 1942 tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog in Johannesburg gepos is. Hierdie Aspoestertjie het blykbaar deel van 'n vel soortgelyke items gevorm, want dit is aan drie kante geperforeer.

Die plakkertjie het 'n skenking van 4d verteenwoordig. Vier pennies kon in daardie dae klaarblyklik ver strek. Ek wonder wat dit vandag sou kos om "personal comforts" aan een siek of gewonde soldaat vir een dag te gee?



POST OFFICE NEWS

The numbering system is intended for easy reference. The first digits are a straightforward sequential numbering of all reports since inception. The second digits give the month in which the reports appeared in *The SA Philatelist* and the third digits are the last two digits of the year.

16/10/98 – The *Post Office Bulletin* of April 1998 says that nearly 200 additional postal outlets will be opened in the 1998/99 financial year. The majority of these new outlets will be in the form of retail postal agencies and Postpoints.

17/10/98 – The Prince Alfred Hamlet conventional type post office in the Western Cape Region with Ceres as head office and post office code number 79817 was converted to a retail postal agency with effect from 2 February 1998 and the office code changed to 78270.

18/10/98 – Voortrekkerhoogte conventional type post office in the Gauteng Region with Pretoria as head office and office code number 3852 was converted to a retail money order post office with effect from 16 February 1998.

19/10/98 – Wamakersvallei retail postal agency in the Western Cape Region with Wellington as head office and office code number 88929 was opened with effect from 2 February 1998.

20/10/98 – The Post Office staff newspaper *Xpress* said in April 1998 that it was time for the national implementation of the Excellpos computerised counter system. Post offices that were to be converted in April 1998 were: Mamelodi (4th), Excom (4th), Point (4th), Fichardt Park (6th), Kasselsvlei (18th) and Linton Grange (18th). This brought to 16 the number of post offices at which Excellpos had been implemented. The aim was to have all post office counter points on the system by the year 2000. Excellpos is replacing the Olipos system.

21/10/98 – Faunapark retail money order post office was opened in the Northern Province Region with Pietersburg as head office and office code 17878 with effect from 16 February 1998.

22/10/98 – Kromhoek postal agency in the Eastern Cape Region with Umzimkhulu as head office was closed with effect from 2 January 1998. ■

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Soaking Australian produced "Peel and Stick" stamps

David Collyer M,APO

WITH the introduction of "Peel and Stick" stamps to South Africa on 18 August 1998, it is appropriate to communicate the Australian experience, as this series of five standard rate duties was printed by Sprintpak/Pemara in Australia. The same technology developed and applied in Australia was used for the South African stamps.

"Peel and Stick", or "Self-adhesive" as the stamps are officially designated in South Africa, meant that collectors had to develop new strategies for soaking these stamps off paper. With close to seven years experience it is still not a matter of routine.

These stamps are more hygienic than the traditional lick-and-stick variety, but they require additional waste paper in the form of backing sheets prior to use.

Australia Post trialed "Peel & Stick" in 1991 as a means of producing a box of 100 stamps in a roll which could be used by small business instead of franking machines or postage paid imprints. From 1992 onwards the use of "Peel & Stick" stamps has grown, and they now take up over 80 per cent of stamp sales. For small business the product is boxed rolls of 100 or 200, for the individual it is a booklet of 10 or 12 stamps or a sheetlet of 5. (See also below for further comparative technical details).

The basic "Peel and Stick" stamp is made up of sandwich which is comprised of:

– An upper glossy paper carrier onto which the stamp image is printed

– A layer of PVA gum, which when dissolved allows the stamp paper to part from the adhesive

– A layer of adhesive, the aim of which is to affix the stamp to an envelope by pressure

– A lower layer of paper which acts as a backing sheet, to be removed immediately before the stamp is affixed to the envelope by pressure.

As the layer of paper onto which the stamp is to be printed is relatively glossy the inks used are fast drying, and form a water impervious layer. Both photo-lithography and typography have been used to print Australian self adhesive issues. Australia Post research found that customers felt that stamps had to have perforations, hence the introduction of die-cut serrations to look like perforations.

The papers used to print the Australian stamps do not contain luminescent elements. Luminescence to trigger postal cancelling machines is applied as a clear varnish. Current practice in Australia has been to incorporate the varnish as an element of the design, rather than as a band.

The first step in the soaking process is to cut the stamp off the envelope, for they can be soaked off the paper. However, it requires hotter water and a longer period of time than with normally produced perforated and gummed stamps. Hot tap water is sufficient, but the individual stamps need to be separated.

The aim of the hot water is to dissolve the PVA gum so that the stamp layer can be separated from the self-adhesive material which is retained on the clipped piece. As this goo and the printed stamp layer are relatively impervious, the water can only seep in through the side – this takes some time, and hence the need for separation.

To remove the stamp from the piece of the envelope one would suggest at least 45 minutes in hot water. At this point you should be able to lift one corner and remove the stamp, leaving the self adhesive as a layer on the cut-out. You need to check that no self adhesive remains on the stamp – else, when dry, it will retain its adhesive capability. Dry the stamp on a drying tray. ■

Technical Details of the SA issue:

- Design of the current five antelope stamps by Denis Murphy.
- Die-cut serrations
- Dispenser rolls of 100 were printed on a rotary lithographic 4-colour machine
- Booklets of 10 were printed on a sheet-fed lithographic machine
- Reverse of the backing paper employs promotional messages.

■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
October 1938

Jinja Bridge redrawn

Talking of the redrawn sheet (the nautical one, not the printer's one) on the "Dhow on Lake Victoria" reminds us that the Jinja Bridge has been redrawn on the KG VI issue. In the 1935 issue there was no mode of getting on to the lower level bridge from the left, there being a gap between the bank and the pier on which the lower deck of the bridge ended.

In the new issue the river bank comes out to the concrete pier on the left and there is also some redrawing of the road leading to the right-hand end of the bridge. This is seen on the 30c, and presumably also on the 5s value, although we have not yet seen this stamp in the new issue.

Kenya Notes

30 years ago
October 1968

SA Stamp Study Circle

July: Through the efforts of our secretary we are hoping to have a visit from, and an exhibit by the Publicity Department of the Post Office. This should be extremely interesting. He is also trying to arrange a visit to a paper factory.

Mr S. Naylor read a paper on the two types of forgeries of the 1925 Airmail Stamps. This was illustrated by diagrams showing the differences between the two forgeries and the genuine stamps. Actual examples were also on display.

Society news

60 years ago
November 1938

Congress Papers

Only one competitive paper was entered, "The Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope, dealing chiefly with the letter stamps in use from 1792 to 1853, with a brief summary of the postmarks of the adhesive stamp period 1853-1910" by A A Jurgens. The reading of this paper was illustrated by a large number of lantern slides. Mr Jurgens was awarded a Congress Plaque by acclamation, for "the most interesting and valuable paper ever given before this Congress".

A paper entered hors concours was not read, through lack of time.

Seventh Congress report

30 jaar gelede
November 1968

"Iets vir Almal"

Vir my as nie-Afrikaner is dit onbegryplik dat 'n vaste medewerker nie onder die versamelaars gekry kan word wat bereid is om (hier)die rubriek te behartig nie. Tot op datum het verskillende skrywers hulle medewerking verleen, soos blyk uit die verskille in styl wat eie is aan elkeen van hulle. Ondergetekende is van mening dat die geleentheid om Afrikaans in die seëlwêreld te propageer deur die groep wat daar belang by het, met beide hande aangegryp moet word, ook al is skynbaar almal oortuig daarvan dat Afrikaans alreeds sy plek volstaan.

In die seëlwêreld is dit beslis nie die geval nie en dit is 'n treurige verskynsel dat 'n buitestaander op hierdie toedrag van sake moet wys.

J Busser

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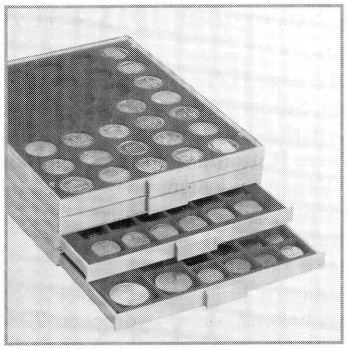

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The SA Philatelist, June 1998.

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In memoriam

Gerrit Hendrik Jonkers RDPSA

4 November 1915 – 31 Augustus 1998

DIE oogarts Gerrit Jonkers, wat in 1993 genooi is om die Ererol van Suider-Afrikaanse filateliste te onderteken, is te Tiel in Nederland gebore en op Schiedam oorlede. Hy het te Gorinchem, Rotterdam en oplaas in Schiedam gepraktiseer.

Die afskeidsdiens en begrafnis het op 7 September 1998 plaasgevind, waar ook namens die Suider-Afrikaanse Federasie 'n huldeblyk deur die president, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, voorgelees is. Dit het gelui:

"Gerrit Jonkers was 'n jarelange bekende in Suid-Afrika. Hy was bekend om sy bydraes in *The SA Philatelist* en sy ander geskrifte; hy was bekend om sy deelname aan die Suid-Afrikaanse nasionale filateliese uitstallings; en hy was persoonlik bekend deur die enkele besoeke, waartydens hy ruimskoots met plaaslike versamelaars en filateliese ampsbeklеders kontak gemaak het.

"Sy navorsing en kennis van filateliese velde soos die Nuwe Republiek en Stellaland was ongeëwenaard. Tegelyk het hy 'n ruim kennis van ander terreine soos Griekwaland-Wes, Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, Anglo-Boereoorlog en poswaardestukke met versamelaars gedeel. Hy was 'n filateliese student in die hoogste orde.

"Enkele jare gelede is hy deur ons jaarkongres verkies tot die hoogste eerbewys, die ondertekening van die Ererol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suider-Afrika. Ons het hom beskou as 'n vader van filatelie in suidelike Afrika.

"Die verlies van sy vrou Willy en gesin, u verlies, en Nederland se verlies, is ook ons verlies. Vir my self was dit 'n voorreg om Gerrit Jonkers deur byna dertig jaar van kontak as persoonlike vriend te ken. Ons eer sy gedagtenis."

Enkele grepe uit die biografie van Gerrit Jonkers in 'n monografie oor die Ererol wat in Oktober verskyn, vertel meer van hierdie geëerde filatelis.

Gerrit Jonkers se belangstelling in seëls het meer as sestig jaar tevore begin, toe hy as skoolseun in 1925 'n wêreldversameling aangepak het. Tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog is die gesin deur die besettingsmagte uit hul huis geëvakueer, en by sy terugkeer was die versameling gesteel.

Hy het weer begin. Nadat hy al die seëls van Nederland volledig gehad het, het hy 'n nuwe uitdaging gesoek. Dit het in die vroeë 1960s gekom, toe hy 'n klein voorraad van 15 of 20 seëls van die Nuwe Republiek gekry het. In 1968 het hy aangesluit as een van die eerste lede van die Transvaal Study Circle. By die uitstalling ZAR 100 by die Suid-Afrikaanse Ambassade in Londen in 1969 is sy versameling uitgestal.

In 1984, met die eeufees van Vryheid, die hoofstad van die Nuwe Republiek, is 'n belangwekkende artikel van Jonkers in *The SA Philatelist* gepubliseer. By die Oos-Londense Kongres (8-9 Augustus 1985) het hy die AFV Eretoekenning verwerf.

Sy studies het hy saamgevat in die standaardwerk, die boek *Die Nieuwe Republiek 1884-1888*, wat by die filateliekongres van 1990 bekroon is met die J.H. Harvey Pirie Gedenktoekenning vir literatuur. Sy jongste, meer uitgebreide werk oor dieselfde onderwerp het 'n vermeil gekry by die Kaapse Seëlskou 97.

Intussen het hy 'n pragversameling van Griekwaland-Wes opgebou, wat telkens in Brittanje en in Nederland bekroon is. Hy het ook versamelings van kwitansieseëls van Natal en die Oranje-Vrystaat byeengebring en uitgestal, asook versamelings van die Kaap die Goeie Hoop en President Paul Kruger in Nederland by uitstallings ingeskryf.

'n Lys van die tentoonstellings waaraan Jonkers deelgeneem het toon dat sy Suid-Afrikaanse versamelings tussen 1968 en 1997 by 36 geleenthede te sien was. Hiervan was vyf in Suid-Afrika: in Kaapstad (1971), Pretoria (1974), Johannesburg (1978), Johannesburg (1986), waar hy verras het toe hy die spesiale prys vir Transvaal, die Philatelic Society of Johannesburg Award, gewen het by Johannesburg 100 met 'n versameling van die Nuwe Republiek wat 'n skat van nuwe navorsing blootgelê het. En laastens in Kaapstad (1997), is sy navorsingsversameling van die Nuwe Republiek met 'n spesiale toekenning van 'n ere-goud bekroon, die eerste keer dat so 'n toekenning gemaak is.

Gerrit Jonkers se nagedagtenis staan groot geskryf in ons filatelie, en ons innige meegevoel gaan uit na sy vrou en verdere familie.

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Doyen of SA dealers dies

BENJE JOSEPH of Robemark closed his albums on 31 July 1998 after a long and very painful illness, borne with great courage. He was a vey special person, who happily reported that he made more friends out of customers than he made customers out of frtiends.

A visit to Benje's shop was always a tonic, an uplifting experience, for no matter how serious – a country in crisis, an urgent call or a needed stamp – Benje always ended telling his latest joke or humorous tale.

Just on 40 years ago when I first walked into his cubbyhole of a shop in Joubert Street he greeted me with "Welcome to the only coffee shop that sells stamps". We became instant friends. I never heard him swear, and we never exchanged a cross word.

We will miss him. Gently sleep Benje.

Contributed by Andy Andersson

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News and Notes/Aktualiteit

Norwegian philatelist receives high civil honour

ON 13 March 1998, Paul H Jensen RDP, past President of the FIP Commission for Postal History, was awarded one of Norway's major civil orders, the Royal Order of Merit in Gold.

The award was given, on behalf of King Harald V, by Kaare Willoch, Regional Commissioner of Oslo and former Prime Minister of Norway. Willoch emphasised that the order was primarily awarded for Paul Jensen's efforts on behalf of Norwegian and international philately. He enumerated the various offices Jensen had ably filled, and concluded that this was an official appreciation of philately as a major contribution to the country's cultural heritage and for placing Norway firmly on the map of world philately through his involvement in international philately, ending with a successful Norwex 97.

For both Paul and philately in Norway, this was an important day, as this was the first time that the Order of Merit had been awarded for contributions to philately.

***FIP Flash* July 1998**

News from IFSDA

THE International Federation of Stamp Dealers' Associations (IFSDA) recently elected Sam Malamud its fourth vice-president. It also unveiled 294 pages of its website at www.stampdealers.com, outlining IFSDA's primary aims, listing all its member national associations and their individual members, with search engines to locate dealers by company name, place of business and, currently to a limited degree, by type of business.

IFSDA also released its 1998/99 Membership Handbook, in paperback or on disk, completely updated, and available from the IFSDA Secretariat at SFr25, plus postage EU SFr8, Zone 1 SFr18, rest of world (Zone 2) SFr21.

There was furthermore a reportback on the second seminar on the Euro and stamps. Various issues were:

1. What will happen to stamps issued in national currencies hitherto?

What will be the date limit after 1 January 2002 to possibly exchange the stamps issued in national currencies for new Euro stamps?

3. Will the exchange be exclusively in new stamps in Euro values, or will an exchange for Euro money be considered?

4. What will the Post Offices do with their stocks of postage stamps in national currencies?

5. What will be the date limit date of validity of postage stamps in both national and Euro currencies?

6. There should be a major marketing campaign to attract new collectors to the new era of dual currency and its usage in the interim period, 1999 to 2002.

Hopefully parallel acceptable solutions would be found in the 11 countries initially entering the Euro currency area.

Since the meeting in Monte Carlo most postal administrations have made certain decisions. Almost all the countries of the initial entry group into the Euro will have an intermediate period of about six months (stamps and currency), valid for postal purposes.

There will be many collectors who will be delighted to collect the stamps in the different forms on covers.

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traded above face value. However, there are a large number of stamps that can be obtained at discounts under face value. There is serious concern that the issues after demonetisation should not diminish further in value.

One of the participants said: "Philately is a three-legged stool, one leg being the postal administrations, one the collectors and one the dealers. If you take away one of these legs, that is no good for anyone."

The salient points concluded at the meeting were:

(a) That the majority of countries will be introducing dual currency stamps on 1.1.99;

(b) That the validity of old currency stamps will be maintained until 2002;

(c) That a variety of policies for exchanging old currency stamps will exist in the different member states of the EU until 2002 and, in some cases, even later, following which only Euro stamps would be accepted;

(d) That IFSDA will present working proposals to all EU postal administrations to safeguard the collectors' and dealers' long-term interests.

News release

British library welcomes visitors and researchers

ONE of the finest permanent exhibitions of classic stamps and philatelic material in the world is now on public display at the British Library. Over 80 000 items – arranged in 1 000 display frames – are on show, including material never previously displayed in public and many of the major rarities in the library's philatelic collections.

These encompass for example:

- One of the world's most rare and valuable stamps – the Mauritius 1847 1d and 2d Post Office issue.
- The Spain 2 reals of the 1851 issue printed erroneously in blue rather than red – one of only three known copies.
- The Hawaiian 1851-52 2 cents to 13 cents "Missionary" issue, used by American missionaries to send letters home to the US. On display are about 10 per cent of the world's known copies.

The collections were established in 1891 with the bequest of the Tapling Collection and include postage and revenue stamps, postal stationery, artwork, essays, proofs, covers and entires, Cinderella material, specimen issues, airmails, some postal history materials, official and private posts, and other materials, from almost all countries and periods.

The collections are available to researchers by appointment. They should contact the curatorial staff in advance to discuss their work, so that the full range of material can be made available. The collections are available from 10:00 to 16:00 Monday to Friday (except public holidays). All researchers must hold a current British Library Reader's Pass.

General enquiries about researcher services: ☎(0944) 171 412-763/6, Fax: 412-7780, e-mail: philatelic@bl.uk. Further information about the Philatelic Collections is available on the library's website at: http://www.bl.uk.

News release

Another 'Rarities' exhibition is in the pipeline

THE Museum of Stamps and Coins in Monaco will be hosting an "Exhibition of the greatest Philatelic Rarities in the World" from 12 to 14 February 1999. This takes place in conjunction with the festivities marking the 50th year of the reign of Prince Rainier III of Monaco.

Exhibitors will be chosen from the recently formed Club de Monte-Carlo de l'Elite de la Philatelie, consisting of an initial one hundred eminent international collectors who allowed their names to go forward. Each exhibitor will be asked to present a single letter or document of great philatelic rarity.

A number of further events is planned in conjunction with the exhibition.

At the same time David Feldman SA has announced that it is changing its usual November auction date to 15 to 19 February 1999, immediately following the Monte Carlo exhibition.

The auction house expressed concern that too many auctions were taking place towards the end of this year, estimating that material totalling some SwFr 70 million will be on offer. "We wonder if the stamp market is strong and liquid enough to support such sales in a healthy fashion".

News releases

Famous Cape collection sold

PROBABLY South Africa's leading collector of the Cape of Good Hope for many years, Robert Goldblatt RDPSA, disposed of 112 lots in the Stephan Welz auction held on 29 July 1998.

The Van Riebeeck wrapper (Lot 165) featured on the catalogue cover was estimated at R20 000 to R25 000 and, including buyer's premium, realised R39 600.

Altogether 23 lots of so-called Governors' wrappers were on offer. Lot 184, featuring a group of eight, fetched R10 450 (R3 000 to R3 500). Lot 180, a wrapper addressed to the first British Governor at the Cape, Sir James Henry Craig, was modestly estimated at R800 tot R1 000, but was hammered down at a surprising R6 160.

Among other lots of pre-stamp mail, the Crown-in-Circle stamped wrappers remain popular. Lot 195, 20 of them including Beaufort and Kowie, realised close to the upper estimate of R8 000 with R7 150. This was outdone, however, by 25 Dated Town Ovals (Lot 208) which at R4 400 far outstripped the estimate of R1 500.

The prize item, a world classic, was Lot 253, the mysterious Cape Four Pence Black, fine used, ex Burrus and Danson collections, and the tenth recorded copy of the 13 known to exist. Realising R93 500, it came close to the upper estimate of R100 000.

What was described as "a very presentable copy" of the 4d vermilion error of colour Woodblock (Lot 261) fetched R24 200 against the upper estimate of R14 000.

Catalogue and realisations

Death of popular columnist

EARLIER this year, the Cape Town stamp community mourned the loss of its popular columnist, Xavier Piat-ka. **Owen Coetzer**, Senior Writer of the *Cape Argus* in which the column appeared, wrote about him at length, and in this extract his appreciation of Xavier's philatelic contribution is plain. (He died of a heart attack in Boston in America, on a visit to his daughters Naa'va and Zola.)

"Xavier Piat, small of stature, but a giant of a man, is no more. Survivor of the Nazi Holocaust; of the Lager Kunda, the KZ Stutthoff, and the Lager Burggraben, in Danzig, is dead. The son of Zacharyash ben Reuben Jutan and Basya; the scholarly boy whose eyes had witnessed the dehumanisation, the degradation and starvation and the terror of occupied Poland, has finally gone to his rest.

"But to the readers of this newspaper it is not as a Holocaust survivor he is mostly known – but as a philatelist. The 'stamp man'. His erudite column on stamps – on which he was an expert – has been used in *Weekend Argus* for years. He was an internationally known and widely respected philatelist, and his knowledge was phenomenal. . .

"While in hospital in Cape Town, with his right arm useless, and unable to walk unassisted, I visited him." (He was hospitalised to remove a brtain tumour.) "His concern was to find out what was happening to his stamp column, and he was adamant that it should continue despite his illness. He was determined not only to walk again, but that his paralysed writing hand should be once again in full use.

"He achieved the first, and was well on the way to achieving the second. He would not give up. Nor in.

"Years ago, when I was handling his copy for the *Weekend Magazine*, we became firm friends.

"His was a cheerful figure. Often at my desk shortly after 6.30 in the morning, when we would joke in Hebrew and comment on Middle-Eastern affairs, in which we share a common interest.

"He was a professional. In his diplomatic way, he would sort things out if they went wrong. He was fun, Xavier. Some in the office even called him the 'Teddybear'. They said they would like to ruffle the

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crown of his head and hug him. He would have nothing of that."

Xavier Piat was also responsible for the publication of the harrowing testimony of each and every known concentration camp survivor in the Cape, who was willing to speak out. *In Sacred Memory, Recollections of the Holocaust* was edited by Gwynne Schrire.

"His biography is brief: He studied languages at the University of Vilna and Paris. In 1939, military duties found him in the Polish army in Vilna when the historic town was occupied first by the Soviets, then the Lithuanians and finally the Germans.

"It was after his liberation from the camp that he met and married another Holocaust survivor, Chayela Rosenthal, actress and singer, who became the darling of the Cape Town Yiddish theatre. She died in 1979 after a long illness."

Dealer Derrick Pollard dies

A brief note was received with the sad news that Derrick Pollard (Rhodesia Stamp Co and Stamp Catalogue) died on 24 June 1998 after a lengthy illness.

His widow Joyce can be contacted at ☎ (0944) 1181 878-6807, or fax 878-6376.

Nostalgia for Robson Lowe

ON 23 September 1998 Spink had a sale in London devoted to "The Robson Lowe Collections". The catalogue gave an uncommonly interesting view of the personal collecting tastes of Robson Lowe RDPSA, who died last year. (See *The SA Philatelist*, October 1997, p157).

What would "Robbie" Lowe have retained for himself – temporarily at least – through whose hands a lifetime of philatelic treasure passed? Among the historical and autograph letters one of the oldest was a page signed by Henrietta Maria, Queen to Charles I in 1627, to her brother, King Louis XIII of France.

Military and naval letters abounded, among them one from Nelson to Lady Hamilton, and one from Napoleon to his stepson, Eugène de Beauharnais. Under "Arts" there was a letter (1902) from the poet Rudyard Kipling from "The Woolsack" in Rosebank, where he stayed on his visits to South Africa, and in a collection of several hundred items (estimated at £500 – £600) were two letters from General JC Smuts.

The Corsini correspondence featured prominently, and there was further postal history from all over the world, with Great Britain and Military Mail generally in the ascendancy.

There were two lots of Transvaal among the stamps, one of the New Republic, one of the Pietersburgs and one of British Occupation issues during the Anglo-Boer War.

One section was devoted exclusively to the seductive Chalon Heads, including some proofs and non-philatelic use. The largest section was Revenue Stamps of the World, generously sprinkled with essays and proofs, running from Lots 276 to 436.

What else did Robbie collect? Valentine cards and GB illustrated envelopes, material emanating from printers, and memorabilia concerning famous philatelists.

The last of the six lots described as Robson Lowe Memorabilia was also the last lot (502) of the sale: "R.L.'s hat and cane, one of his favourite black felt wide-brimmed hats by G.A. Dunn, together with a silver-topped walking cane depicting an Oriental fishing scene". Estimate? £30 – £40.

Catalogue

Some auction highlights

IN a truly impressive array of BSA Company Double heads, ranging from Lots 1502 to 1569 in the 10 March 1998 sale of Harmers of London, Lot 1527 caught the eye. This 2/6 in a pink shade realised £1 118 as against an estimate of £360.

Lot 1706 was a block of four of the 1926-27 of the ½d Springbok, perf. 13½ x 14, containing two tête-bêche pairs of the Pretoria printing for booklets. Estimated at £500, the hammer fell at £671.

The Harmers auction of 16 June 1998 (re-scheduled because of a tube strike, it actually took place on 18 June) realised over £500 000. A highlight was Lot 1066, a small format Baden-Powell 3d in deep blue on blue, tied on a cover to BSA. It outstripped its estimate (£3 000) to reach £R3 250.

A pair of GB 2d blue on cover (Lot 804) tripled its estimate and realised £900.

In Spinks "Important Stamps and Covers of the World" of 6 May 1998 the star attraction, featured on the cover, was Lot 523, which failed to sell. It was the ex Dale Lichtenstein block of four Four Pence vermilion containing the 4d error of colour, on a Cradock to Grahamstown cover. The lower estimate had been £650 000.

The very next lot, a pretty local 1d post from Kalk Bay to Eerste River, franked with a 1d deep carmine-red triangular, sold at its lower estimate of £1 600.

A little something for the Ships on Stamps collector caught the eye in the Spinks sale of 16 July 1998. Lot 892 was the Trinidad "Lady McLeod" 5d blue on cover from Port of Spain to San Fernando. It went just above the upper estimate to reach £7 475. A fine pair of Cape of Good Hope plate proofs of the 1/- triangular in black (Lot 131, estimated £300 to £400) realised £368.

Spinks is having four further auctions in 1998: on 10, 11 and 22 November, and on 16 December.

Catalogues and realisations

Ruil gevra/Exchange wanted

United States of America: George Saqqal, of PO Box 150793, Brooklyn NY 11215-0793, would like to exchange postally used South African stamps for the US equivalent.

Two new topical checklists from the ATA

Computers on Stamps and Stationery is one of two checklists published by the American Topical Association (ATA), in which Larry Dodson discusses computer technology as depicted worldwide on stamps and postal stationery. The other is *Abraham Lincoln on Worldwide Stamps*.

The computer handbook is the most comprehensive source now available. From abacus to vacuum tube, Dodson treats subjects ranging from the history of the computer's development to today's computer-generated products, all in 160 pages with over 140 illustrations. Over 2 500 stamps and stationery items are grouped by subject and arranged by country, issue date and catalogue number.

Dodson has also given a dozen appendices covering details like computer-related items, such as Japanese Echo postal cards, Mexico's Exporta issues, Russian envelopes, and errors from the United States. There are a comprehensive cross-reference, glossary, and bibliography.

Abraham Lincoln on Worldwide Stamps was co-authored by Melvin Morris, Angus Lincoln, Dale E Kinley, David Kent, Clifford H Emerick, Gene Bricker, and Eric S Borsting; edited by Melvin Morris.

The 68-page book covers stamps of the world depicting the life and times of Abraham Lincoln. It includes lists of revenues, proofs, essays, Cinderellas, locals, free franks, postmarks, cachets, railroad post office cancels, pre-cancels, and meter stamps, with numerous illustrations.

The listings, arranged by country, catalogue number, and date of issue, are cross-referenced by subjects such as the Lincoln Memorial and Lincoln's signature depicted on stamps.

Both books can be ordered from the ATA, PO Box 50820, Albuquerque, NM 87181-0820, USA.

News releases

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Op die velrand/In the margin

Random philatelic notes from a breakfast interview

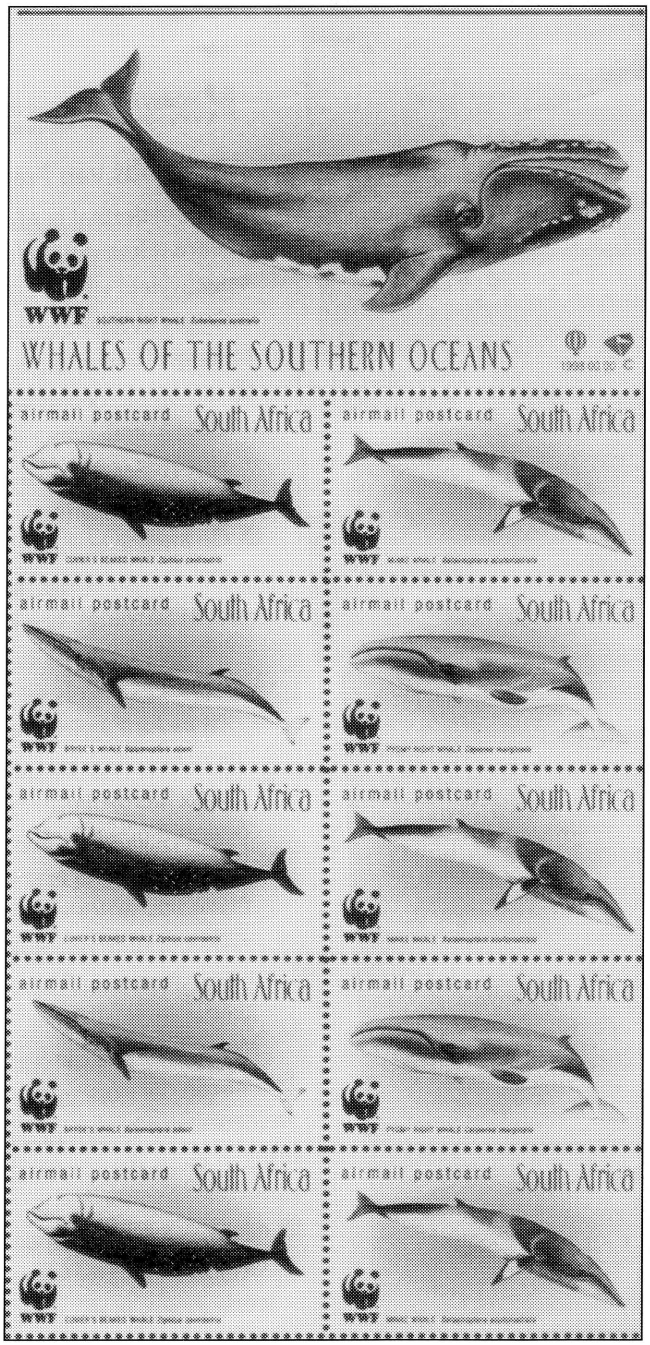
THE Senior Manager Philatelic Services, Dr Franco Frescura, and the Editor had a recent breakfast session in which Dr Frescura outlined current thinking.

His department, he said, was integrating into the Post Office as fast and as fully as possible. In effect, it was a "quick response" unit for Post Office design, costing and production skills, while pursuing research and development into postage stamp products.

A major idea was that postage stamps at the standard rate would be extended into commemorative values, as statistics showed that a commemorative programme with fixed face values was too expensive. Henceforth, commemoratives would represent a "topping up" of stocks.

The aim was generally towards greater rates equalisation, necessitating fewer values, to stick with current designs, and to issue more postal sationery, for example postage paid envelopes.

The recently introduced "peel and stick" stamps, Frescura said, would represent a saving of between R60 to R80 million by phasing out meters and abuses in the "postage paid" system.



Philatelic Services had now financially broken even for two years running, and was currently 10 per cent ahead of budget. Philatelic income as such was about R3 million per year, of which a large proportion was received from overseas agents. The local market was slowly declining.

Prestige booklets, Frescura said, were proving very popular, and represented a profit of R3,5 to R4 million per issue. A major outlet for these had proved to be the CNA.

Finally, he said, the aim would be to have eight or nine new stamp issues per year, with perhaps three or four kept in reserve for contingencies, and to endeavour to issue no more than a face value of R130 per year.

Whales to surface at Gallagher Estate

FOUR of the nine great whale species of the Southern hemisphere – found in South Africa's coastal zones – are depicted on a set of air-mail postcard rate stamps to be issued as part of the WWF's (Worldwide Fund for Nature) Conservation Stamp Collection on 23 October 1998 in the course of Ilsapex 98 at Gallagher Estate.

Each stamp bears the panda emblem of the WWF in the bottom left-hand corner and the emblem is also displayed as part of the stamp sheet design.

The whales featured include Cuvier's beaked whale, the minke whale, Bryde's whale and the pygmy right whale. The southern right whale, whose annual migration brings it closest to the shoreline of South Africa, forms part of the stamp sheet design and is also depicted on the commemorative cover.

More than 200 countries have participated in the WWF Conservation Stamp Collection to date and 50 countries have already issued a second collection.

***Xpress*, September 1998**

Roofvoëls sak op ons toe

'n STEL van 10 posseëls wat roofvoëls uitbeeld is op 16 Augustus 1998 uitgereik. Hierdie standaardposgeldseëls is beskikbaar in velle van 10 en 'n boekie met 20 seëls – die vierde in die Soewenier Seëlboekiereeks.

Die uitreiking het saamgeval met die 5de Wêreldkonferensie oor Roofvoëls en Uile wat van 4 tot 11 Augustus 1998 te Midrand gehou is, en die 22ste Internasionale Ornitologiese Kongres, wat van 16 tot 22 Augustus 1998 in Durban plaasgevind het.

Chris van Rooyen, 'n nuweling filatelieontwerper, is vir die stel verantwoordelik, asook vir die illustrasies in die seëlboekie en op die twee gedenkkoeverte. Twee poskaarte met voorafgedrukte standaardposgeldseëls vorm deel van die boekie. Die teks met besonderhede oor elke voël is deur dr. Alan Kemp, voëldeskundige by die Transvaal Museum.

Die voëls op die seëls is: 'n bleeksingvalk (*Melierax canorus*), rooiborsjakkalsvoël; (*Buteo rufofuscus*), edelvalk (*Falco biarmicus*), baardaasvoël, ook bekend as lammergeier (*Gypaetus barbatus*), witkruispaddavreter, ook bekend as swartvleivalk (*Circus maurus*), kransaasvoël (*Gyps coprotheres*), berghaan, ook bekend as stompstertarend (*Terathopius ecaudatus*), gevlekte ooruil (*Bubu africanus*), witkop-aasvoël (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*) en 'n visarend (*Haliaeetus vocifer*).



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Ander roofvoëls wat in die seëlboekie uitgebeeld word is 'n witkruisarend (*Aquila verreauxii*), 'n rooinekvalk (*Falco chicquera*), 'n gebande sperwer (*Accipiter badius*) en 'n breëkoparend (*Polemaetus bellicosus*).

Die seëlboekie en seëls is deur The House of Questa in Londen gedruk.

Nuusvrystelling

Raptor celebrates World Post Day

TO celebrate World Post Day on 9 October 1998, the Post Office is to issue a special miniature sheet and cancellation on that date. The miniature sheet has a face value of R5 and features a South African raptor, the gymnogene (*Polyboroides typus*) in flight.

The illustration by Chris van Rooyan was drawn from the South African raptor stamp booklet (see above) which was issued in August. The miniature sheet will only be available at post offices with philatelic counters, and will also be on sale at Ilsapex 98, the international philatelic exhibition to be held at Gallagher Estate in Midrand from 20 to 25 October 1998.

***Express*, September 1998**





Trees of (and for) Africa

IN celebration of National Arbor Week at the beginning of September each year – to focus attention on the importance of trees in our daily lives, to promote a better knowledge of trees and to raise awareness of the need to plant and protect trees – a set of four standard rate postage stamps depicting indigenous South African trees was issued on 4 September 1998.

The designs, in sheetlets of ten, and by Joan van Gogh, feature some of South Africa's best known trees. These are:

Shepherd's tree (*Boscia albitrunca*): This smallish, evergreen tree is one of the most widespread and drought-resistant trees in Southern Africa. It bears small sweet-scented tufts of yellow flowers and small fruits and is of prime importance for shade, shelter and browsing, especially in dry regions.

Karee (*Rhus lancea*): A medium-sized, wide-spread evergreen which provides shade and shelter and is often cultivated as a street tree in South Africa's drier regions. Its wood is tough and is widely used in rural areas, especially as firewood.

Baobab (*Adansonia digitata*): The majestic baobab is one of Africa's best-known and most unusual trees. The baobab has been described by many early travellers, including David Livingstone. Recent radiocarbon dating has indicated that some of the large specimens may be as much as 3 000 years old.



Umbrella thorn (*Acacia tortilis*): An extremely drought-resistant and frost-hardy tree which bears distinctive thorns, carried in pairs, some small and hooked, others straight, long and white. The distinctive pods are small and flat and twisted into a variety of spiral shapes.

News release

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West Cape tourism is set to get a boost

THE Western Cape, one of South Africa's most popular tourism regions, is the first focus in a series of stamp booklets dedicated to regional tourism. A date of issue has not yet been finalised.

The booklet, designed by Alan Ainslie, contains two rows of five air-mail postcard rate stamps featuring popular tourist attractions of the Western Cape. These are Cape Point (the southern-most tip of Africa)*, Robben Island, ostrich farming, Cape Town's Victoria and Alfred Waterfront and a Cape Dutch homestead on the wine route.

The Kloof Corner section of Table Mountain is depicted on the front cover of the booklet, while the Heads at Knysna and a Knysna loerie form part of the stamp sheet design.

***Express*, September 1998**

**Editor's note: This erroneous description appears both in the source above and in* Setempe, *July/August 1998. The southern-most tip of Africa is Cape Agulhas.*

New approach to the theme of Christmas

THIS year a different approach was taken in acquiring the artwork for South Africa's 1998 Christmas stamp issue. Instead of commissioning established artists, it was decided to explore the talent of art students. Thus a project was launched involving the Visual Arts Department of the University of Pretoria.

A group of fourth-year information design (formerly known as graphic design) students participated.

They were briefed by Philatelic Services to submit a set of five designs that not only conveyed the spirit of Christmas, but also reflected a truly South African flavour.

Their innovative approach resulted in a variety of fresh and cheerful designs.

Annamart Dednam was chosen as the winner. Dednam thought it was a wonderful idea to give students an opportunity to be involved in the exciting world of philatelic design. Her designs were inspired by the ethnic patterns found in African art as well as the brilliant African sun, the vibrant colours and rich diversity of cultures.

Her design groundwork was done on paper, and the artwork was finalised on computer.

(There is as yet no date of issue for the Christmas stamps – beyond that given as planned in *The SA Philatelist*, December 1997, p195, – namely 9 October 1998. At that stage, one stamp was envisaged.)

***Express*, September 1998**

New booklet for Blue Train

THE Blue Train issue of 1997 (See *The SA Philatelist*, August 1997, p113) which was printed by the Government Printer has now been reprinted by The House of Questa in a sheetlet of 10 utilising the original five designs.

It also has a cover.

The spelling error "Huchison" (stamp 3) has been corrected to "Hutchinson" and the original "Northern Transvaal" (stamp 5) has been replaced by "Northern Province".

The value remains that of the current airmail postcard rate.

The date of issue is not yet known, but the sheetlet is dated "1988.06.01". The booklets are to be sold on the Blue Train and at the usual philatelic outlets.

***Setempe* July/August 1998**

Michel recognises Namibia's 'Shanghai' issues

A brief note in the newsletter of the Windhoek Philatelic Society (July/August, No 4/98) records that the Lindner Album newsletter said that the twelve blocks Namibia issued for sale at the Shanghai exhibition (see *The SA Philatelist*, April 1998, p53 and June 1998, p89) would be allocated full numbers by Michel.

Lindner intended making appropriate album pages available.





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Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Report on a thematic visit to the USA and UK

Ds Cassie Carstens

IT was my priviliege to attend the annual National Topical Stamp Show of the American Topical Association in Falls Church, Virginia (17 to 19 July 1998) and have talks with the executive of the British Thematical Association (20 July 1998) in London. I share a few thoughts with you.

The philatelic brotherhood (or better: family) is a wonderful reality – whether in the USA or in the UK. The people were friendly and co-operative and willing to share. They took me under their wing, gave me food and drink, they overwhelmed me with their hospitality; they were interested in South Africa, they had time and made time to talk about stamps; in short: they went out of their way to make me feel at home!

The exhibits at the NTSS were very interesting. The following caught my eye: the use of *all* philatelic material, especially covers; pictorial postmarks – lots of them – a catching first page; a logical and detailed index (on page 2); coloured Hawid strips (green and blue and yellow).

I was a little bit disappointed with the one-frame exhibits – only two – I had hoped for more. I foresee that this could become a big attraction to exhibitors in South Africa.

(When are we going to present a one-frame Thematica? And what about a South African Thematic Association? Yes, yes, yes! But then as a full committee under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation, and with open membership – that is: anyone can become member of the SATA without being member of a club affiliated to the PFSA. If we cannot cross this bridge, an independent SATA will be unavoidable within the next two years.)

Youth philately? They can teach us nothing! Our Youth Activities Committee, with chairperson Jill Redmond holding the reins, is in my opinion in the forefront world-wide. They should come and learn from us, here downtown-South!

There were 42 dealers at the exhibition – and never a dull moment at any of them. My biggest problem was the lack of time: I spent my hours only at one dealer, and still could not page through all the stuff! I also found some stamps that I have never seen at any dealer in South Africa, especially from African countries. I suppose in future this need will be met by our dealers.

I also like the Open Class (in the USA they call it Display). You can use everything and anything, and there are no rules! At times it becomes quite hilarious, but I think is does open the way for some collectors to start exhibiting at national level. With such a non-prescriptive collection, put together the way you like and want it, the ice is broken for further participation.



Cassie Carstens with the Yankees: Dorothy Smith (ATA President), Mary Ann Owens (international judge and renowned for her collection of Elephants on Stamps) and Paul Tyler (new managing director of the ATA).

A National Philatelic Library is an absolute necessity. I was dumbfounded by the trouble the Americans take to establish several philatelic libraries: in this regard we still have a long way to go.

Thoughts I would like to pursue for the future are: We need more thematic articles in the *SA Philatelist.* At this stage it is not necessary to compete with the ATA's *Topical Time* or the BTA's *Themescene,* but I would suggest a 4-page pull-out in the centre.

A last word: we must start interest units in our country: birds, railway, trees, bats, Africana, ships, stamps on stamps, butterflies, elephants, pigs, flowers, fish – you name it.

We need someone enthusiastic to take the lead, start a newsletter, all on a voluntary basis. . . who wants to get involved?

Belangegroep vir Boereoorlog nou in Pretoria gestig

TWEE lede van die Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria, Petra Heath en Hein Friebus, het begin met 'n belangegroep van mense wat op allerlei vlakke in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog (Anglo-Boereoorlog) belangstel.

Hulle kom van tyd tot tyd op informele grondslag bymekaar om oor 'n verskeidenheid verwante onderwerp te gesels, en ook om filateliese kennis en materiaal uit te ruil.

Ander belangstellendes, en inligting oor geleenthede soos geskiedkundige byeenkomste, uitstallings en lesings oor die oorlog is welkom. Die stigters kan bereik word by ☎ (012) 660-0241 (Petra) en ☎ (012) 664-1799 (Hein).

Die Posduif, Junie 1998



Miniature sheet to be issued at Ilsapex 98

TO celebrate Ilsapex 98, South Africa's ninth major international philatelic exhibition (Gallagher Estate, 20 to 25 October 1998), a special miniature sheet will be launched on the first day of the exhibition, according to a report in *Express*, (the Post Office employees'

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magazine) of September 1998.

The miniature sheet, aimed mainly at the philatelic market, has a face value of R10. This is the highest value miniature sheet issued by the South African Philatelic Services to date. The design, which is of a historical nature, is derived from designs submitted to the Post Office for the 1927 definitive set. It will be printed using a technique that will resemble the line-engraved printing process employed at that time.

● The latest available list shows that 31 South African dealers will be in attendance at Ilsapex 98, there will be 17 from overseas, and 12 post offices or post office agencies will be represented.

Ilsapex 98: Specialist society meetings

FROM various sources the following meetings of specialist societies at Ilsapex 98 have been noted:

● Natal & Zululand Study Circle, Gallagher A/B Conference Room, 21 October 14:00. Martin Eichele is to introduce the Royal Philatelic Society's Court of Honour exhibit of Natal. John Dickson will speak on postal history research in South Africa.

● Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa, 24 October 10:00

● South West Africa Stamp Study Group, 21 October 16:30. This meeting replaces the group's usual monthly get-to-gether.

The work of the Federation's Expert Committee

Michael Wigmore

AMONG the fundamental tasks of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa are the promotion, development and encouragement in all its facets, of the hobby of philately. The work of their Expert Committee is a tangible demonstration of this function.

For those who have not encountered an Expert Committee before, its purpose is basically to provide a "safety net" (both to the novice or less knowledgeable collector and the more experienced philatelist alike) by offering to examine stamps, covers, proofs and the like and to give an opinion as to the correct identification and condition of an item. This opinion is supported by an illustrated certificate.

Items received are accompanied by typical questions like:

"Is the stamp genuine?"

"Is the postmark on this stamp correct?"

"Has this Cape triangular been damaged and then repaired?"

"Is this Nyasaland King George VI 5 shilling stamp from the first printing or the rarer second?"

"Is this Great Britain 10d stamp used on cover the rare shade listed as an 'a' number in the catalogue?"

"Does this stamp have the scarcer watermark?"

"I can't find this stamp in my catalogue. Is it genuine?"

"The overprint on this stamp is in blue, but the catalogue only lists it in black. What is it?"

The Expert Committee members are drawn, by invitation, from the ranks of South Africa's top professional and amateur philatelists, the intention being that they consitute a nucleus of philatelic knowledge and experience which can be applied to the technical side of the hobby.

When an item is submitted to the committee's secretary, an illustration of it is immediately included in the committee's files for record and security purposes. The item is then circulated amongst the committee members for an objective assessment, and when all are satisfied that this has been correctly completed, an illustrated certificate is issued.

The charges for this service are, by international standards, not excessive. In bolstering knowledge and offering a form of protection for collectors and their pockets (reputable dealers will always agree to a sale "subject to certitificate") the charges represent good value for money.

Philatelists on the Expert Committee serve in an honorary basis – while use of their expertise is charged for, their time is given for free. Of the fees received, after deduction of basic administrative costs, much needed funds are returned to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Further details of the service are available from the Expert Committee Secretary, PO Box 304, Montagu, 6720.

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

Forgery reference made easy

World Forgery Catalogue – a reference list of stamp forgery descriptions by G. Kock.
89pp, published May, 1998 by Porssitieto Ky, Vanhavayla 20B, 00830 Helsinki, Finland. US$15. ISBN 951 97415 3 4.

THIS book, small in size but not in content, comprises a condensed world-wide A to Z listing of 7 500 references to 3 000 different forged postage stamps or sets, taken from approximately 70 standard reference works. Text is in English.

The above statistics alone should be impressive enough to suggest to the philatelic bibliophile that it is worth adding this title to their bookshelf. If less specialised interest in forgeries is more your mark, then what a pleasure to have someone do the basic spade work for you?

The "back-of-the-book" items referenced are postage stamp reprints and forgeries, postal forgeries and forged local stamps. (Forged postmarks are only referenced when helping with the identification of the forged stamp bearing the same).

The author has identified existing important works on or containing references to forgeries and it is upon these that he has based his listing. Periodicals or low-circulation specialist study group papers, journals etc have been largely omitted on the basis that they are not readily available.

Postal stationery, individual forged postmarks, bogus and propaganda stamps are also intentionally omitted. For those who regret these limitations, it does keep size and complexity under control, and the author states that this publication is aimed at the "average" collector.

To assist further, a concise notation system has been adopted which is easy to follow and a great plus is the matching of each listing entry to Michel and Scott catalogue numbers. (It is mentioned in the introduction that "permission to use Stanley Gibbons numbers was asked for but not granted. Catalogue numbers may change").

Certainly an invaluable starting point for research, the importance of this listing lies also in bringing the attention of the less specialised collector to the existence of forgeries in his chosen area of collecting and, not the least, to encouraging the philatelist into the library.

Any publication that thus promotes study and the furtherance of the hobby has to be lauded.

Michael Wigmore

New publication on SA Booklets

A reference work on South Africa's stamp booklets since 1988, the "new era" in booklets, has been published by the RSA Stamp Study Group. The publication, *Stamp Booklets 1988 – 1996*, was researched and written by Frank van Rensburg and is copiously illustrated, also showing sheets of stamps and indicating from which positions booklet panes were taken. The 96 pages are photocpied and spiral bound.

The publication is available at R50 (packaging and postage included) from

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the RSA Stamp Study Group, PO Box 72222, Lynnwood Ridge 0040.

Rhodesian Study Circle publishes special journal

Colin Hoffman

MARKING the 50th Anniversary meeting of the RSC in Zimbabwe in April 1998, a special issue of the Journal (48 pages) has been produced for July 1998 (in addition to the usual four quarterly issues annually).

The issue contains a full report of the meeting in Zimbabwe with details of all papers delivered. A feature is a note from the designers of the Zimbabwe April 1998 Bee Keeping issue, who spoke about the work involved in producing this issue, and explained how they had built up the designs of the stamps.

The RSC is also marking its 50th Anniversary by updating its list of literature for its handbook and issuing a new cumulative index of its Journal for the 50 years 1948-1997. A history of the RSC is planned for release later this year.

For details of membership and what is available on free issue to new members please write to Heather Rudge, 190 Greenfield Crescent, Horndean, Hampshire, PO8 9ER.

Recent publications announced

A new work by Derek Lang has been launched by James Bendon. It is *British India Postal Stationery*, sub-titled "An Illustrated History and Listing of Postal Stationery Issued in India up to Independence in 1947". The author's four-volume *A Guide to the Postal Stationery of India* was published more than twenty years ago.

This new edition covers all classes of stationery in depth, and incorporates the many new discoveries made. Higgins & Gage and Jain reference numbers are given throughout. (240pp, card cover, £25,00 + £1,00 postage.

The six titles listed below are high quality facsimile reprints published by Stanley Gibbons in August 1998:

Portuguese India (with Notes and Publishers' Prices) by Gilbert Harrison and F H Napier. The first volume in the "Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks" series, originally published in 1893. (96pp, hardbound, £35,00.)

Shanghai (with Notes and Publishers' Prices) by W B Thornhill. The third volume in the SG series, 1895. (88pp, hardbound, £35,00.)

Saint Vincent (with Notes and Publishers' Prices) by Francis H Napier and E D Bacon. The fourth volume in the SG series, 1895. (108pp, hardbound, £25, 00.)

Stamps and Posts of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan by Harold G D Gisburn and G Seymour Thompson. First published by Stanley Gibbons in 1947. (120pp, hardbound, £25,00.)

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of the Bahamas by Harold G D Gisburn. First published by Stanley Gibbons in 1950. (144pp, hardbound, £25,00.)

The Postage Stamps of the Falkland Islands and dependencies by B S H Grant. First published by Stanley Gibbons in 1952. (144pp, hardbound, £25,00).

All these titles are available from James Bendon Ltd, PO Box 6484, 3307, Limassol, Cyprus. e-mail jbendon@ibm. net. The postage per title is £1.00.

News releases

US literature dealer has new stock

SOME new or replenished titles have been taken into stock by Leonard H Hartmann in America. *The Revenue Stamps of Iraq*, by Joe Ross and John Powell covers – from 1915 – the 1890 Turkey stamp with overprints, to the 1997 Medical Prescription surcharge (100 pp, plastic binding, over 200 colour illustrations, $40,00).

There is also *The Revenue Stamps of El Salvador* by Joe Ross, an illustrated catalogue from 1883, with an index (53 pp, plastic binding, numbered edition of 250, 23,50.)

The Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes. Forgeries and Bogus Posts of U.S. by Larry Lyons has excellent illustrations of the original he says, fake and bogus stamps with detailed descriptions of each characteristic. However, the characteristically forthright Hartmann says, there is virtually no background information on the posts or the cancellations, "we suggest Donald Patton's work along with other classics for the story that make these stamps come alive."

There are three volumes (the last to be published late in 1998) at $88,50, with packing and postage at $12,00 each.

Hartmann regards the *Private Local Posts of the U.S., Vol. 1, New York State* by Donald Patton as the best work on US locals, however, he says "unfortunately the series never went beyond Vol 1" (350pp, $45,00.)

He also says he had to move some boxes of books in anticipation of the arrival of a new washing machine, and was delighted to find a carton containing 12 copies of the following:

Philippine Postage Stamp Handbook 1854-1982 by Peter W A Harradine – out of print for nearly ten years and sold out for over five. Hartmann describes it as "a serious philatelic book from a non-philatelic publisher.

"The format is a bit different, but the informal style and the tremendous amount of information makes it quite useful and enjoyable." Published in 1987, it runs to 402 pages, plus 72 pages of plates, cloth, $42,50.

Hartmann's address is PO Box 36006, Louisville, Ky 40233, and he maintains a website at http://pbbooks.com).

News release

French firm publishes first soccer stamp guide

PERHAPS not unexpectedly, with France having won the World Cup, Yvert & Tellier has announced the publication of what it describes as "the first world guide to football stamps".

As it is not a catalogue in the accepted sense, it does not quote values, but shows colour reproductions of all stamps issued throughout the world on the subject of football and its players, with descriptions. Countries are presented in alphabetical order, and the listed stamps are in chronological sequence. Non-UPU issues are not listed.

Intriguingly, the compilation by Jean-Louis Ville-Sèche includes countless incidents and anecdotes surrounding the stamps. Some examples are given in the form of a quiz.

Which country showed General de Gaulle as a footballer? (There is a Yemen stamp depicting De Gaulle in football shorts when he was a student at Lille.)

Which country issued the world's first football stamp? (Hungary, in 1925.)

Which stamp was issued for a World Cup that never took place? (In 1982 Colombia issued a stamp announcing its organisation of the World Cup in 1986 when, in fact, it took place in Mexico.)

Timbres de Football is in French, listing 6 700 stamps from 254 countries, and there are 3 000 reproductions in the 228 pages. The price is 250 francs (approximately RR275).

News release

FIP commission to publish journal on forgeries

FOLLOWING an announcement in *FIP Flash*, Paolo Vollmeier, president of the FIP Commission for the Fight against Forgeries, gave *The SA Philatelist* details of the first issue of *FFE Journal* (short for "Fakes, Forgeries, Experts"), due for publication in October 1998.

In well over 100 pages, some 20 articles by internationally well known philatelists cover a wide field. "Mutton dressed as lamb" is the intriguing title of an article by Alan Huggins, and Paul H. Jensen contributes "The only forgery I detected myself".

Vollmeier explains the structure and workings of the FIP Commission.

Other articles include "Postal fraud in tsarist Russia" by Zbigniew S. Mikulski and "We need postal history expertizers" by Ernest M. Cohn.

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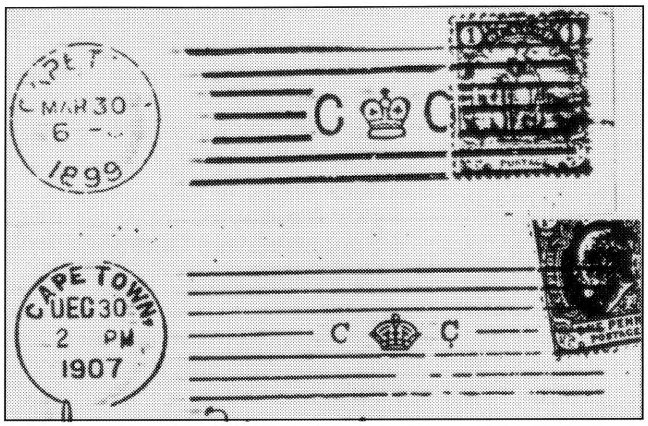
■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

A century of electrically-driven machine postmarking

THE author has written about the C-crown-C postmark emanating from Cape Town for several years, starting from 1899, in *The SA Philatelist* on four occasions. The first was in April 1989 (p 96), followed by January/February 1990 (p 21), April 1994 (p 39) and June 1996 (p 82).

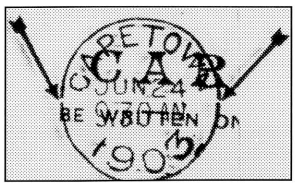
The so called flag of the C-crown-C postmark is of two types. The earliest type has the two letters "C" and the horizontal lines of a bold type. Subsequent types had smaller letters and thinner lines as illustrated. The flag with the smaller letters emanated from the Columbia machine that was introduced in 1904.

It has already been established that the



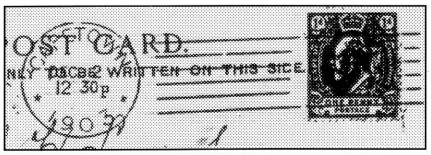
bold type of the flag was applied by a Bickerdike machine that was sent to Cape Town from London. This machine arrived in the first quarter of 1899. It has so far not been possible to establish the exact date that the machine went into use officially. Details I have recorded, show an earliest date of usage of 28 March 1899. No reference has been seen yet as to precisely when the Bickerdike was decommissioned. I have recorded a latest date of usage of 24 June 1903.

I would like to hear from any reader who can provide an earlier or later date of usage of the Bickerdike machine. It could be mentioned here that the datestamp of the Bickerdike machine had small gaps in the circle at the nine o'clock and three o'clock positions. The Bickerdike had seven horizontal lines in the flag. The lines were of different length to follow the curve of the circle of the datestamp.



In previous articles, I was under the impression that there was only a Bickerdike machine in use in Cape Town from 1899 until 1904, when a Columbia machine was commissioned. However, information provided by Paul Reynolds of Sketty in Swansea, and sent to me by David Allison of Cape Town, indicates differently. Paul has added another part to the puzzle of early machine postmarks in South Africa, and I think it is worth quoting from his letter.

Paul wrote: "I am also rather proud to be able to report another machine (Boston) from Cape Town, which so far seems to have eluded everyone. It is from Capetown (one word) and date 2 December 1903. The time appears as "12 30p" and this makes me think it was supplied by the American Postal Machines Company. The use of "p" instead of "pm" was one of their characteristics at about that time. The general layout is right as well. In the illustration there is a gap in the inside four cancelling bars just about where the king's head (of the postage stamp) is positioned. In the United States there was often a number in this space, but I suppose this was not thought necessary if there was only one machine in South Africa". Since the Boston did not have anything but lines engraved in the flag, it is not considered to be a slogan flag.



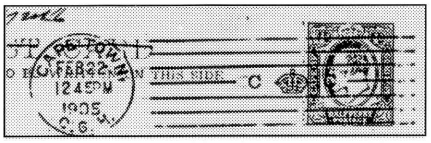
The situation for Cape Town thus now seems to be as follows, working from earliest and latest dates seen:

Bickerdike: 28 March 1899 - 24 June 1903

Boston: 2 December 1903 - ?

Columbia: 1904 - ?

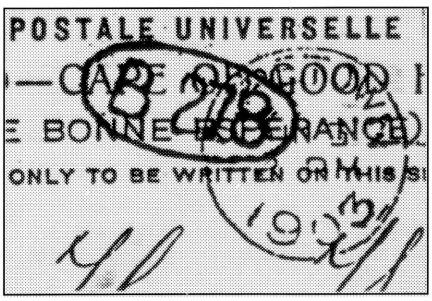
The commissioning of the Columbia machine was mentioned in the Cape Colony Postmaster-General's report for 1904. The exact commissioning date was



not given. The earliest date of this C-crown-C type that I have recorded is 2? January 1905. We are therefore still in need of exact dates. The dates in the preceding paragraph follow each other, but this does not necessarily mean that the machines replaced each other. It is possible that they may have been used for overlapping periods.

As is the habit with philately, the only way to establish a more accurate picture is to record earliest and latest dates. I would therefore be very pleased if readers could try to help me with dates that are earlier or later than those given above. Should you be able to let me have a photocopy of new information, it would be of great help. I keep a record of all photocopies received as I find this of assistance historically. Please write to me at P.O. Box 179, Struben Valley, 1735, South Africa.

South Africa has now also reached an important milestone – a hundred years of using electrically-driven machines for the postmarking of mail. As we reach this milestone, it is such a great pity that the full story cannot be told because of a lack of information. At the risk of being boring, I would again like to appeal to readers to write down and pass on new information. Written information shared with others is what philately throughout the world is badly in need of.



An illustration of an item received from T. Deen of Bovenkarspel in the Netherlands showed a sideline item that could perhaps be dealt with here. The postmark appears on a post card mailed in Cape Town in June 1903 to an address in Amsterdam in the Netherlands. The postmark consists of the number B 278 in an oval. The question is, was this mark applied in Cape Town or Amsterdam? What is the purpose of this mark? The mark is not illustrated in Goldblatt's book on the Cape Colony postmarks. Does any reader have information for us? ■

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Advertising & Subscription

The SA Philatelist is published six times a year by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. It is the mouthpiece of organised philately in the region, and has been in existence since 1923. It is widely read and respected both locally and overseas.

A single copy costs R10,00, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R50,00. In the rest of the world, Africa elsewhere included, the subscription rate is R80,00, post paid. Overseas readers who wish to receive their copies by air mail pay a subscription rate of R150,00.

Subscription orders and enquiries should be directed at the Hon Circulation Manager, ✉412505, Craighall 2024, RSA.

Dimensions

1/1 = 26 x 17,5 cm
2/3 landscape = 17 x 17,5 cm
2/3 upright = 26 x 11,5 cm
1/2 landscape = 12,75 x 17,5 cm
1/2 upright = 19,5 x 11,5 cm
1/3 landscape = 8,5 x 17,5 cm
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5 January for February
5 March for April
5 May for June
5 July for August
5 September for October
5 November for December

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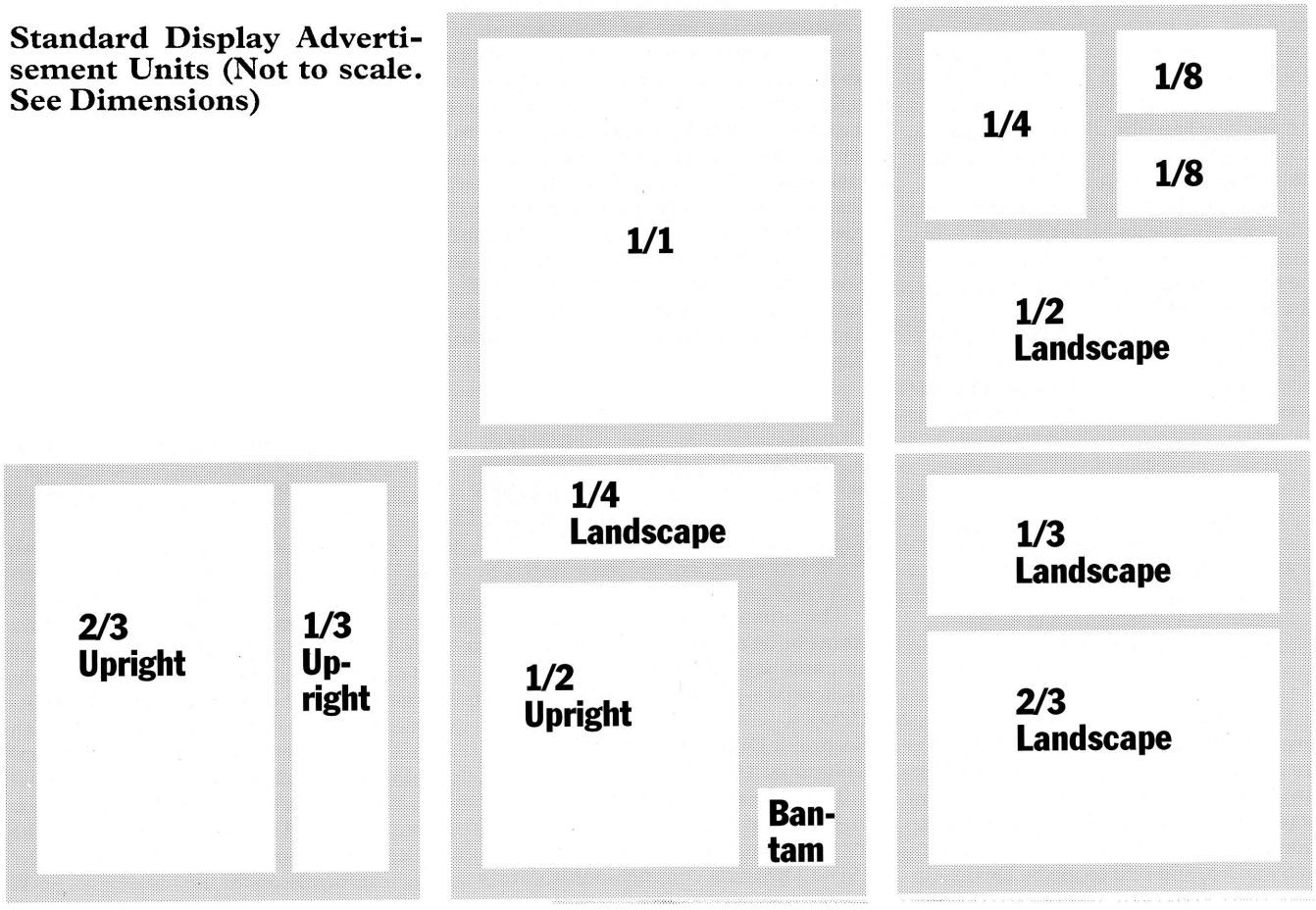

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Onderonsies/Society news

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

June 1988: Six members enjoyed studying the following: a cover mailed from Windhoek on 22 August 1939, intercepted by the censor and notifying the sender that the inclusion of stamps in a letter is undesirable for the duration of the censorship (Kornacker); a page with rare railway cancellations being prepared for Ilsapex 98; artwork for Namibia's Jackass Penguin issue by the designer, David Thorpe (the latter two shown by H G Thompson); a manuscript and typewritten diary by two soldiers in the World War I campaign in South West Africa (Simpkins); and colour copies made from items in Dr I Retief's collection.

He has become reluctant to carry original material, a) for security reasons, b) to prevent his material from suffering while shown and handled at meetings, and c) for convenience, as copies are less bulky than mounted pages.

July 1998: Six members followed Dr Bantz's presentation entitled "A systematic approach to markings and labels associated with procedures for the transmission of mail."

He used examples from South West Africa to illustrate the concept proposed by H S Hagen and M J Nethersole which is very useful for organising a postal history collection and for describing a postal item.

The sender takes the first steps in creating postal history by deciding what he wants to use: envelope, postal stationary, picture postcard, a newspaper wrapper. Does it go by by air, sea or land mail? Postage can be paid by the addressee (business reply) or by the sender (metermarks, stamps) or is free (official, on active or on public service) – ordinary mail, registered, insured or printed matter. . .

Now comes the posting interface: the post office service, an agent or courier. Cancellations are applied: hand stamps, machine canceller with or without slogan, "postage paid", bulk mail, First Day or commemorative cancellers, and labels indicating special handling (registered, insured, express etc.) are affixed.

Tax marks for underpaid mail will be applied or invalid stamps will be defaced. Items might be returned to the sender for various reasons. While in transit the item might receive further marks and on arrival an arrival stamp, or special cachets like "found open" or "crash mail".

Postage due levied will now be indicated by affixing stamps or applying a mark. A special field of study is undelivered, returned or redirected mail with associated markings. Marks not applied by the post office are censor marks, custom labels etc.

August 1998: Mr Kornacker showed a cover mailed from Luderitz to Czechoslovakia on 28 October 1918, exactly two months after the proclamation of the Czechoslovakian Republic. He had further brought several covers from German South West Africa to modern times with labels and cachets giving reasons why an item could not be delivered to the addressee.

Bertie Simpkins showed an article on the Duwisib castle, a letter written in 1919 by the Officer Commanding of the Rand Light Infantry on the use of graphite to lubricate rifle bolts "of vital importance to men oprating in the Sand belt of GSWA" and airmail sheets he sent to his family from East and North Africa during World War II. The troops "up North" did not enjoy "free mail" privileges and had to buy their own stamps.

H G Thompson's exhibit concentrated on the various methods used to mark the registration of letters during the 1915/1922 transition period from the German to the South African postal administration in South West Africa. We saw really fancy hand-drawn "R"s, manuscript endorsements and altered German registration labels.

Dr Bantz showed a Cape postal stationary card written by Postal Secretary Alfred Sachs on 14 October 1895 from Keetmanshoop. The card was posted at Steinkopf on 4 November 1895. Mr Sachs opened the Keetmanshoop post office on 15 Oct. 1895, one day after he had written the card shown.

H U Bantz

MARITZBURG PS

June 1998: Eighteen members and visitors included Ricky West, special exhibitor for the evening Richard Holmes and his wife Elaine, and the Joh'burg stamp dealer, Ian Gourlay.

New Issues: Francis showed a full sheet (100), booklet, and the FDC relating to the five new "young bucks". Francis said new issues were coming through at random.

Items of interest: Robin Castle showed postage dues, and two cards in German. Jan Korrûbel surprised all by pointing out that his jacket was indeed a mailbag fashioned into an anorak, and then proceeded to show his T-Shirt on which was printed a Mauritian stamp!

Letter "F": Anne showed Faces, John Phelps showed Flags and Fouché. Susan Bowes-Taylor showed two pages of Fungi, Robin showed Flaws.

Exhibit: Francis introduced Richard Holmes whom he had first met at a National Stamp Day whilst trying to drum up enthusiasm for stamp collecting. Postage Dues had ultimately become his passion. Richard then pointed out the examples of Postage Dues and the interest factor behind them as he went through his 6-frame exhibit. He explained that postage dues had been decided upon in 1874, then in 1911 a double deficiency principle was adopted. He spoke about rubber stamps and their usage.

The very wide variety of postage due cancellations was evident, the rules were loosely applied, and sometimes the outstanding amount was not even collected. He showed a 1937 item with the T as an international mark. He went on to add that if there had been no Tamsen, a lot of postal history would have been lost.

Francis asked "Traditionally, how do countries work when dues are paid?" Richard said there was no system really on record, it was not worth the effort. Francis drew special attention to an item ex Kei Road adding that the unusual always attracts attention.

Anne took over, dividing the room into two teams for the annual quiz. After the usual unruly behaviour the Dyer Team eventually came out winners of the Kit-Kats, with the Eustace Team being awarded the lollipops!

July 1998: President's "Open House": There was a warm welcome to members and many guests, especially the family of Junass exhibitors Jared Peacock and Rodney McKelvey.

Items of interest: Robin Castle put up a card addressed to all Postmasters and three Royal Mail items. Asked where he found all these interesting items, Robin said various sources, among them waste paper bags! Alex Duigan was first given a stamp in 1933. He said this had been lost in his "system" for years. Jan Korrûbel showed a variety of circulation PMP and Marula. Francis said Krugersdorp was the last known post office that bothered to collect postage dues. Susan Bowes-Taylor showed items from Poland from someone who wants a SA penpal.

Letter "G": Peter Southwood showed 5 pages of Games, and Susan showed 4 pages of Gold Coast. Robin showed 11 pages of Germany, mainly actual letters.

Exhibit: President Francis Eustace said he collects two stamps only – the SA Springbok and the ships. He has about a million and a half! Sheets were 240 1d stamps, as there were 240 pennies in the £. This was the case right up to 1953. Of the ½d there are 24 different issues, the 1d about 29 issues, so theoretically about 4 800 stamps, and it is possible to identify every single one! He then showed two complete reconstructed sheets, and a selection and the card identifying each stamp. He explained how the pressure roller pressed onto the stamp cyclinder, pushing down onto the ink cylinder to make the impression on the paper. He explained how bits would fall, travel up onto the cylinder forming gouges, which forms white patches on the stamps. Bill Humphries asked how can you know which of them are on the 240. Francis said he kept all on his record. When a new cylinder was needed they take the impression and roll it on the cylinder.

Francis also spoke about "Apartheid" counters at the Post Office – his new passion – and showed a N-E "Non-European" postmark. He said most people think of it as North-East.

Lastly an Irish item for Bill Humphries! The Irish did not like the English so got the typewriters out, and the last item shown was a DOUANE, the other part of his Springbok and Ship passion.

Peter Southwood

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

May 1998: Our May meeting was one of the highlights of the year. We had a visit from our member Michael Wigmore who came all the way from Montagu, and his display of Boer War history and his vast knowledge of the subject was outstanding and defies description. It was a subject very clear to his heart and was one of the best exhibits in many a year.

Also present at this meeting in honour of Michael Wigmore were Jonas Michelson RDPSA, our Hon. Life Member, and Danie Scheepers who is Vice President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

June 1998: Our June meeting was poorly attended as at least five of our regular stalwarts were away in Israel for the Tel Aviv exhibition.

Moira Bleazard, our very energetic lady, had arranged an exhibit of the 1997 stamps issued by Israel and a quiz, so we decided very reluctantly to postpone it for next month.

July 1998: Moira Bleazard gave her annual display of the stamps of Israel issued during 1997 and as usual it was a very impressive display in specially designed pages.

In addition Moira had prepared the usual interesting quiz with all the answers coming from the stamps on display. Most of us found it not so easy and the winner was Julian Gecelter, the well known stamp dealer and a senior member of our committee.

Well done Julian, who also received the prize donated by Moira.

Willie Mann

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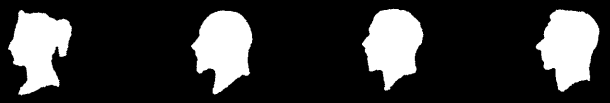

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

DESEMBER
1998

R10,00 BTW inkl.

ISSN 0038-2566

Vol 74:6 831

- Militêre posmerke as 'n studieveld
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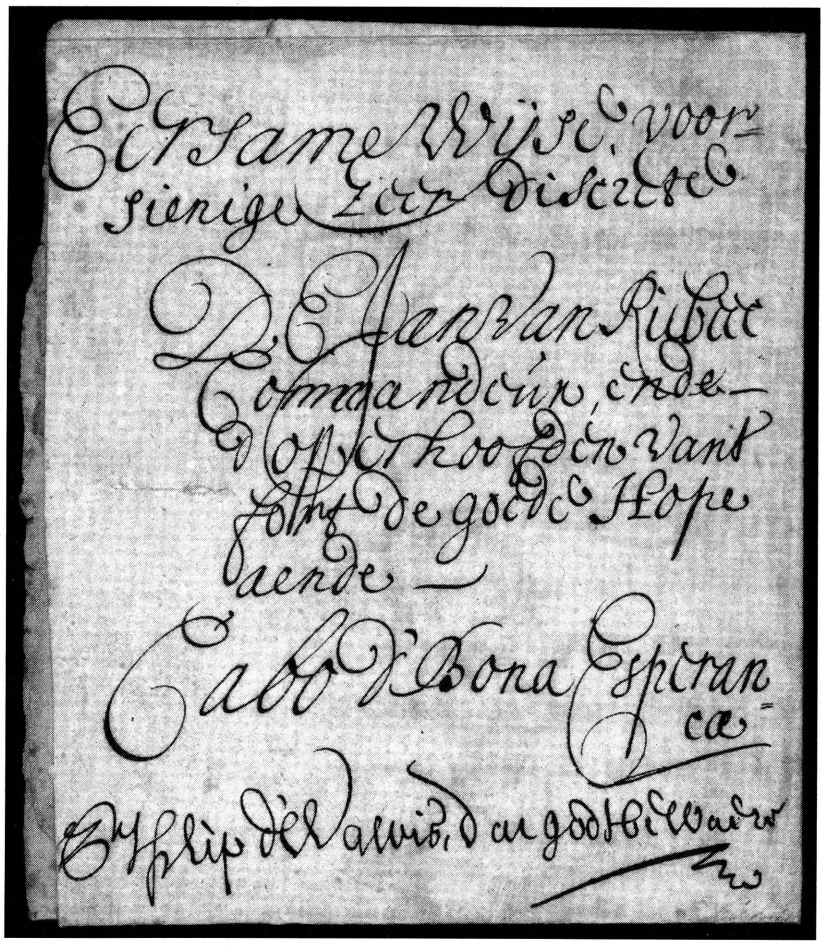

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN
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Inhoud/Contents

Verskeie interessante militêre posmerke 183
Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA
Herbertsdale – a postal historical review 184
Pauw Steyl
The Antelope issues of South Africa 186
D J Sinclair
More light on diplomatic mail 190
George van den Hurk RDPSA
Meter marks: those columns of digits 193
David Allison
Die RDPSAs van 1998 216

● **Ilsapex 98: News, views and all the results 200**

Regular Features/Vaste Rubrieke

Uit die possak/From the mailbag 178

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back 188
Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA

ThemAfrica 194
Ds Cassie Carstens

Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag 197
Neville Gomm

Op die velrand/In the margin 209
Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse 214
Onderonsies/Society News 218
Philatelic Finders/Snuffelgids 220

Soos ek dit sien/In my view

Die Redakteur/The Editor

DANKSY 'n vrugbare kongres, 'n besonder verrykende internasionale tentoonstelling, 'n ongekende toename in korrespondensie, en toenemende belangstelling in advertensieruimte het ons nie alleen 'n heelwat dikker uitgawe as gewoonlik nie – daar moes selfs verskeie belangrike sake oorstaan.

Een daarvan was die gebruiklike volledige verslag van die 60 ste Kongres se verrigtinge, maar sommige sake kon nie agterweë bly nie. Een daarvan was om dadelik die nuwe Federasie-bestuur se name en kontakpunte deur te gee, en die berigte oor die vordering wat met drie belangrike tentoonstellings volgende jaar gemaak word: ABOphil, JoPex, en Junass 99 Centurion.

Die belangrikste nou is egter die ywer waarmee die werkgroep wat die Kongres belas het met 'n ondersoek na plaaslike bevordering van tematiese tentoonstelling aan die werk gespring het (verwys na bladsy 215).

Die groep vra dringend insette en idees van alle belangstellende versamelaars, en hy verdien om in sy strewe deeglik ondersteun te word. Laat daar tog nie wéér op die end gesê moet word dat belanghebbendes opsy gestaan het met hul monde styf toegeknoop – net om te wag op die geleentheid om later te kritiseer wanneer die finale aanbevelings voor die volgende Kongres dien.

THE philatelic feast that was Ilsapex 98 exceeded many expectations, had its healthy share of trouble and strife – show me two philatelists and I'll show you an argument in embrio – and it had, above all, the salutary effect of putting local philately thoroughly in touch with the hobby internationally.

Not only the organisers and their willing volunteer helpers deserve our thanks. So do our overseas visitors, coming as judges, exhibitors and dealers. We thank them for the enjoyment of their presence and support.

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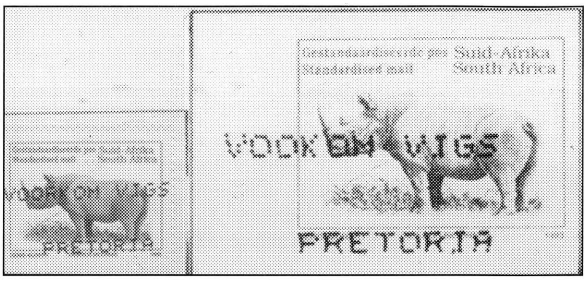
Uit die possak/From the mailbag



Foute straal steeds voort

Joh Groenewald van Pretoria skryf: Frank van Rensburg het geskryf dat "Stempelspreuke straal van foute" *(The SA Philatelist,* Februarie 1998, p10.)

Inderdaad, die inkstraal-rojeerders straal van tik-, spel- en grammatikale foute.

Hier is een wat in Pretoria voorgekom het en toe reggestel is. Dit het eers gelees *Vookom Vigs.* (Minstens is die eerste V reg gespel).

Soms, as 'n mens na die skreiende stempelfoute kyk, en dink aan die mense wat sulke stommiteite in die openbaar begaan, dan voel 'n mens dalk ja, vookom ook.

Genadiglik was die regstelling toe reg, *Voorkom Vigs.*

So I thought I knew it all

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes: A short while ago Ian Shapiro of Argyll Etkin sent me two photocopies of the 1905 1d Pictorial Postal Cards of B.S.A.C. Rhodesia. As these cards had previously been extensively researched by Ron Benton, Eddie Howie and Cliff Wheatley (whose combined work I included in my essay on the 1905 Victoria Falls issue) I put the missive on one side.

You will appreciate my knee-jerk reaction when I realised Ian had spotted what many illustrious philatelists had missed over the last 93 years – popular belief ascribed the card headed: "Victoria Falls, Rhodesia, Eastern End" solely to C B Fox, yet here was an example giving F W Sykes as the photographer!

This raised some questions directly arising from this point, and of course triggers some more.

1. Does the altered inscription imply a reprint? These cards bear an imprinted 1d. Small Arms stamps, which was a reprint of the original 1899 issue.

2. Why make a change for such a modest print-run, and whose name came first?

3. Popular theory had it that the cards (issued in packs of 12, although no wrappers have yet been reported) were issued as part of the Victoria Falls Bridge opening celebrations yet:

a) – The cards were initially issued and used in the northern part of Rhodesia, and only issued (in limited quantities) to southern Rhodesian post offices on 21 August 1908.

b) – None have yet been reported with the special 1905 British Association postmark used at the time of the opening of the bridge.

The point of the above is that philatelic research is rarely complete, and there are always new facts waiting to be unearthed!

Possibly South Africa's rarest postmark

Ralph Putzel of Tokai writes: I wonder whether those who have not studied the third volume of my *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* are aware of the fact that one of the rarest postmarks of South Africa originates right from here in Cape Town?

The Table Mountain Date stamp of June 2 1893 (p351) emanates from a Cape Post Office probably opened in 1853 as a Sub Office (S O). The Savings Bank was opened on 1 June 1895, the office was upgraded to a full PO on 1 May 1896 and the whole office was closed on 1 April 1897 – all this as per Gazette.

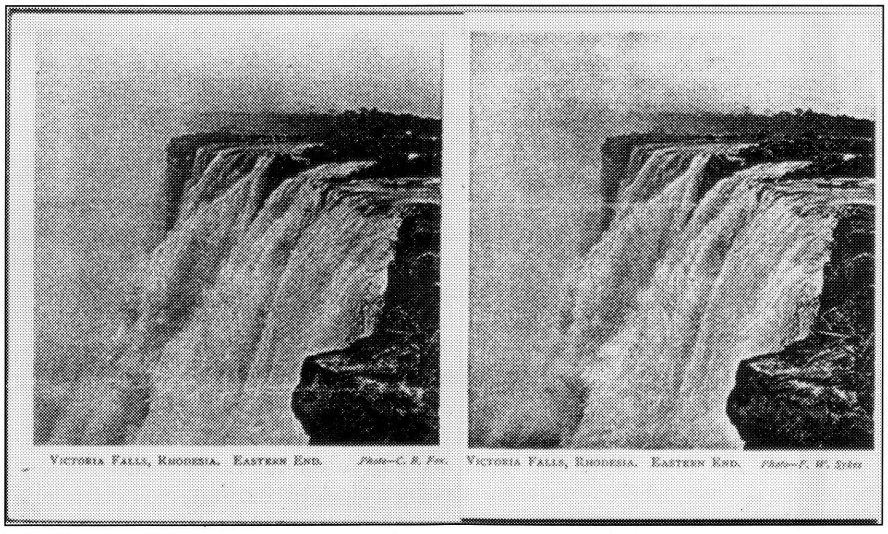
The opening day of the office is uncertain, as no trace of this was found before 1893, when it was listed as a S O. All subsequent entries are as mentioned above.

José Burman, a well-known author of Cape Peninsula memorabilia (which is all I found in the Cape Parliamentary Library), writes that the Woodhead Rerservoir was commenced in 1890, but all supplies and materials were carried by porters up Kasteel's Poort.

As this was deemed to be too slow, it was decided to erect a primitive "Aerial Cableway" also called an "Aerial Tram" in 1893 up Kasteel's Poort, that is 36 years before the well known cableway – as built on the front of the mountain. Burman writes that the "car" was an open skip and that the journey must have been hairraising, for in 14 spans it climbed a vertical height of 2 180 feet in length (and the last span was 1 480 feet). Signalmen with flags were stationed on each span.

From the top station a railway track was built to carry all supplies and materials by means of a small rail-engine which had previously been carried piecemeal up the mountain by the porters, to the location of the two dams that were built, plus a whole village and post office for the workers. Only one building (for the Mountain Club) was preserved after the two reservoirs were completed in 1897 (Woodhead & Hely-Hutchinson). The little engine was also left on the mountain. Of the rest of the village only the foundations remain.

The probable reason why this PO datestamp has not been found on mail is that the Post Office was not for tourists, but to pay wages to the labourers who built the reservoirs. In fact in 35 years of collecting postmarks I have only found the one datestamp on piece in an overseas postmark lot of an auction house, completely unrecognised. I have never see a cover or card. Therefore here is something postmark collectors can search for when going through accumulations.



Clues to postcard production

Gawie van Eeden of Lynnwood Ridge writes: I refer to the article "Union Postal Stationery Essays" by Tony Chilton on

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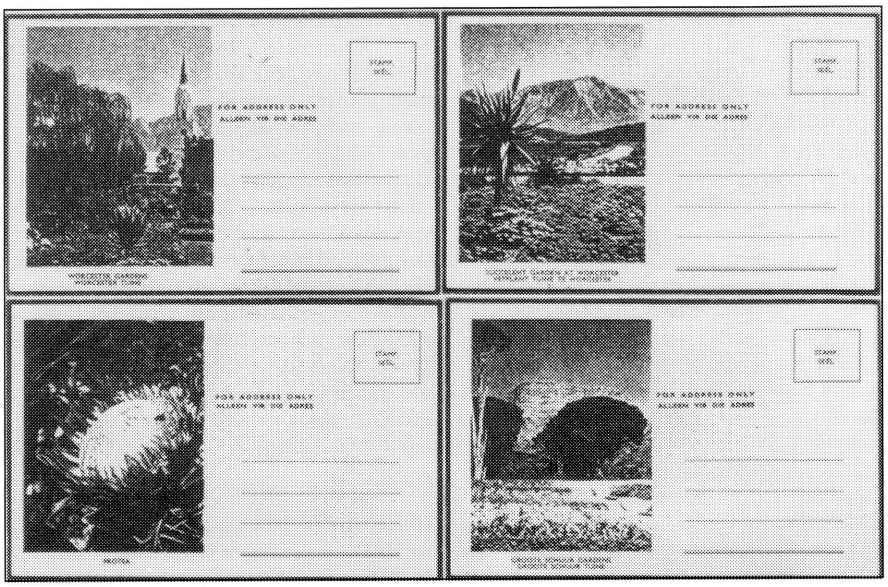


pp.71/72 of *The SA Philatelist* of June 1993.

The opinion expressed by the writer, namely that the two cards are not essays but post production (perhaps better called pre-production?) items is fully supported.

At the time of the preparation of the full colour series pictorial postcards during the sixties, the Government Printer made available four similar pre-production cards. These cards are also without the stamp imprint.

In this instance the STAMP/SËEL box at the upper right hand corner is without the value indication.

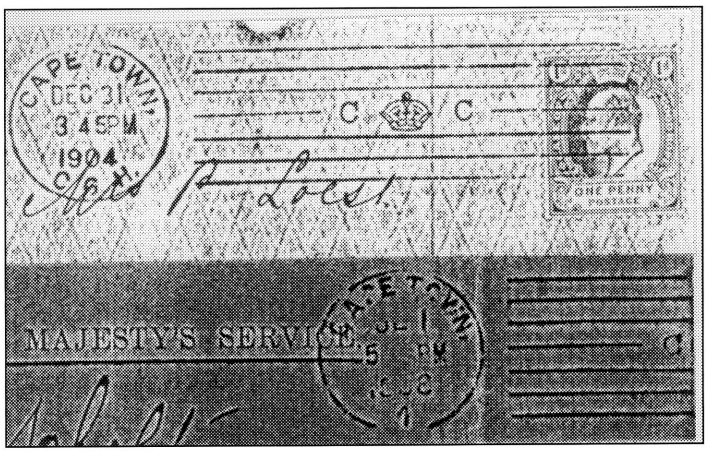
The pictures are in full colour and the wording, including the address lines, in black. Note the incorrect spelling of "succulent" on one of the cards.

Several postmarks revisited

D G Mordant of Helderkruin writes: In his *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* Vol. 1, Ralph Putzel describes the Egoso Postal Agency as opening in 1878 and closing on 1 October 1886, and only being re-opened in 1940. It's Head Office is Engcobo, which is on the main road between Queenstown and Umtata, 85 km west of Umtata.

In his *Postmarks of South Africa* Vol. 3, Ralph Putzel mentions that the postmark of the first office has yet to be described.

Here is an illustration of this postmark on the reverse of a cover from Egoso to Plymouth in England. The Egoso postmark is a single circle, 24 mm in diameter, with the town name spread from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock and the rest of the postmark with no further marking except the date of 24 JY 80. Thereafter this cover is postmarked Umtata (date indecipherable), St. John's River (27 JY 80), King William's Town (31 JY 80), Cape Town (5 AU 80) and Plymouth (1 SP 80).



Interestingly it was apparantly sent from the Office of the British Resident, East Pondoland, on an O.H.M.S. envelope, yet stamped 6d with two "Three Pence" overprinted on 4d Blue CGH stamps first issued 1 NO 79. The stamps are cancelled with the small barred triangular cancel.

One of the overprints shows the minor variation "raised first E in PENCE." No BONC has been ascribed to Egoso.

The cover is addressed to Mrs Bland (senior), 28 Headlands Park, Plymouth, Engeland, and also carries a mark: P.O.O. Does anybody know what that stands for?

(Editor's note: P.O.O.C. stands for "Posted out of course". A missing "C." perhaps?)

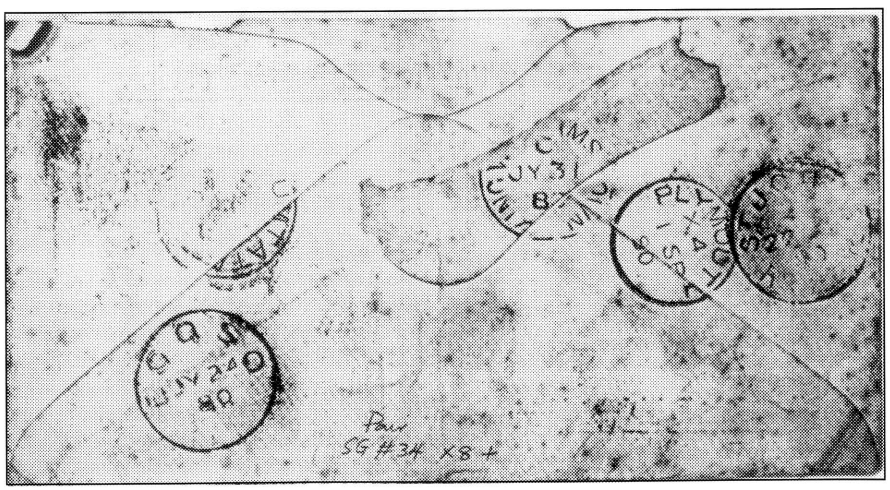
Then: regarding the Cape of Good Hope "C Crown C" postmark (Neville Gomm's article in *The SA Philatelist,* October 1998, p 173 refers.)

A specimen of the Columbia machine dated DEC 31 1904 is illustrated. This seems to be the earliest proven date.

A variation of the Columbia machine is illustrated, dated JL 1 1908, with Cape Town as two words, the single circle datestamp broken at six o'clock and the previously described C.G.H. replaced by the numeral "1". Or is this yet another make of machine?

Finally, in his book *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope,* Robert Goldblatt on page 158 illustrates two specimens of the REPOSTED mark, one with the box having pointed corners and one with the box with rounded corners.

Illustrated here is a specimen ostensibly from Stal Street Cape Town dated 3 June 1903 and reposted to Durban. The right hand corners seem to be pointed and the left hand corners rounded.



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The bug has been squashed

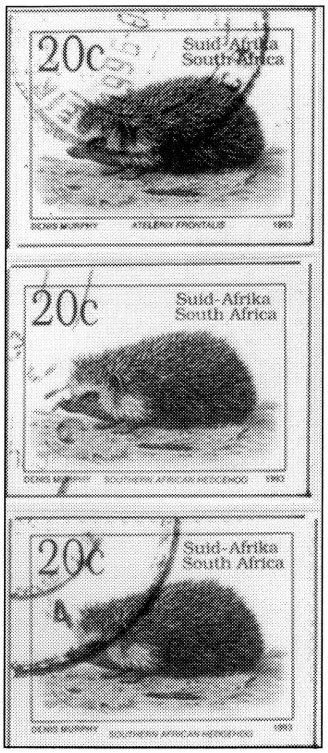
U Grossman of Northmead writes: The so-called millennium bug has everybody up in arms. According to recent reports in various magazines and daily newspapers, many private companies and goverment departments are having a tough time in solving this problem.

By looking at the following copy of a postmark, it is evident that Witsmail has already overcome this problem. In fact, it looks like they have progressed too far in their attempt.

Of postage dues and dropped hedgehogs

David Allison of Tokai writes: I enjoyed reading Mr Doherty's article on "The honour system for the collection on postage due" in *The SA Philatelist,* 1998, p144. It is good to see this information on record. In this connection, I have the front of an envelope which seems to be a part of this story.

A letter, intended to go by air to Zambia, had 7c worth of stamps on it and the stamps were cancelled at Florida, 8.00 5-VI 1974. There is a manuscript endorsement "T 4c"and a Florida Paid handstamp dated -5 VI 74. This is the kind of datestamp associated with bulk postings of circulars and such like, and is not the trilingual mark illustrated in the article.

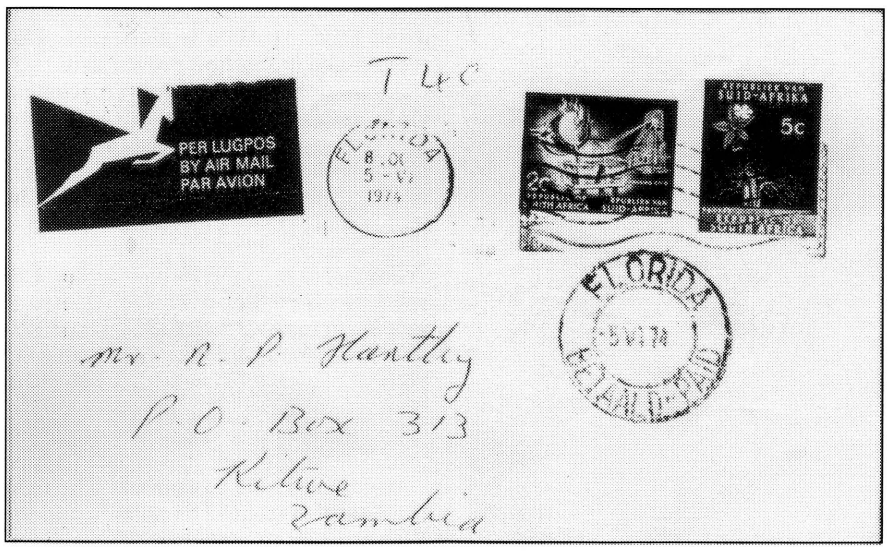


(The May/June 1972 Newsletter of the SA Postmark Society shows a similar trilingual mark, with the positions of the English and the Afrikaans inscriptions interchanged.)

I would hazard a guess that this Paid datestamp was used to indicate that the deficient 4c postage was being recovered from the sender of the letter, but at the same time I confess to a doubt. Florida is not one of the major offices listed in the article, and one would not have guessed that overseas mails were made up there. Perhaps it made up mails for a few of our neighbouring countries? But this is just guesswork, and I don't know.

Then there is an item I tabled at a recent meeting of the Cape Town members of the Postmark and Postal History Society. The interesting item is the bottom stamp in the column. It has SOUTHERN AFRICAN HEDGEHOG much lower, compared with the artist's name and the date, than the name appears on the middle stamp in the column. Both name inscriptions are in English – when the stamp was initially issued (top stamp) the name was in Latin.

I noticed this feature a few months ago (I can't remember just when); and it seems to me that stamps with this low inscription are much scarcer than the others. Nobody at the meeting had heard of this variety before.



Giving thematics an aeronautic lift

B M Lewis of Hermanus writes: I simply have to take up the challenge posed by Cassie Carstens in his "ThemAfrica" column and the report on his tour, (*The SA Philatelist,* October 1998, p152 and p170) of the USA and Great Britain.

I must try to put aircraft back into our pages. A few years ago, after collecting all and any aircraft, I found it neccessary to specialise in commercial aircraft from 1920-1950, which includes postmarks, postcards, covers, crash covers and stamps. A further extension is collecting period airline posters and aviation meets, although it is non-philatleic. It serves a purpose in my opinion.

My collection of four frames entitled "The history of Aviation" won me a bronze in Benoni a few years ago, and it is now being used as a basis for my "Commercial aviation – The Golden Years 1920-1950."

I have listed possible headings could be used as a basis for a collection.

The Early Machines: There are hundreds of stamps depicting machines from Clement Ader (1897) to the Wright brothers, Santos, Dumont, Faber, Bleriot, Curtiss and Farman to name but a few. Bleriot's crossing of the English Channel, together with T.O.M. Sopwith's early aircraft, are all on stamps and souvenir sheets.

Aircraft of WWI: This section can embrace triplanes, biplanes and monoplanes from the opposing sides. Sub-sections can show spotter or reconnaissance aircraft as well as the first fighters of that period. Light bombers on the Allied side included De Havilland's DH9, with the heavy bombers from Handley Page appearing soon after armistice.

Famous flights and personalities: There are literally hundreds of stamps covering this aspect of flying. Names such as Alcock & Brown, Read, Van Ryneveld & Brand, Lindbergh, Balbo, Cobham and many, many more. Women heroes of the day include Amelia Earhart, Amy Johnson and Jacqueline Cochran – also the

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Duchess of Bedford who blessed our skies 60 or so years agao.

Commercial aviation between the wars: Mail and passenger aircraft of the golden years of flying fall in this category. In the USA it was the Curtiss Jennies, Douglas and Boeing mailplanes that dominated. Commercial aircraft in the US were names such as Curtiss Condors, Lockheeds and Boeings. The immortal DC-3 was born in this period.

Across the Atlantic, Deutsche Luft Hansa was the dominant carrier and a pioneer in routes from Europe to South America, using a wide variety of mail and passenger aircraft such as the Dornier Komet, Junkers F-13, Junkers JU52/3m plus many more.

In Britain, Imperial Airways flew the flag to her vast empire with the HP42 (Flying Banana), De Havilland DH66, Argosies, Short Calcuttas, Kents and S23 Empire Flying Boats which added more luxury and romance to air travel in those days. One can easily complete a frame with this topic alone.

Many more themes come to mind, and just to mention a few more: World War II – not only plane types, but different theatres of the war – The Berlin Airlift, The first Jets, Post War Aviation. . .

The Bermuda Triangle has claimed many aircraft that just "went missing", or did they? Maldive Islands produced a minature sheet depicting the five USAF aircraft all lost together in the triangle. Even a search plane looking for the downed USAF planes disappeared. An Avno Tudor passenger aircraft also went down without a trace.

One should also mention Experimental Aircraft in the form of the Bristol Brabazon (Lundy), Saunders-Roe Princess (Chad) and the infamous Hughes "Spruce Goose", not forgetting the Douglas X-3.

I've also come across about 30 stamps with the incorrect aircraft names, and incorrect colour schemes, which makes an interesting study. These are also a number of forgeries with aircraft on stamps, for example issues of Russia, Mozambique and South Africa.

There exsists enough material for a collection of: Bush Aircraft, Ambulance Services, Fire Fighting, Police and what the heads of state fly, plus many more or make up your own.

Enough to start on? I think so.

(Editors's note: Letter shortened)

Widening philatelic research

Andries van der Walt of Johannesburg writes: Having just read your editorial in the October issue of *The SA Philatelist*, p137, I cannot but agree with you more about the fact that South African philatelists are probably among the worst researchers around.

I have always maintained that in doing research on any philatelic subject, one should not only consult existing philatelic literature, but also go to other source documents. By doing this one can either reinforce previous findings and knowledge, or unearth something new which will cast new light on what is accepted as being the current situation or fact.

In the research I did for the monograph which I wrote in 1987 on the Postal History of Mafeking, I did just that. I not only read the existing philatelic information on Mafeking, but went to other sources such as historical, social and economic works unrelated to philately. The fact is that postal developments or systems were the result of historical, social and economic demands and not the cause.

In fact, based on what I found during my research, I endeavoured to debunk the notion that Dr Taylor took the photographs of Baden-Powell. I think I made a strong case, but to date I have not seen any reaction to what I wrote.

Recently some Newspaper Tax Stamps came into my possession including two examples of tax stamps used on the Grahamstown Journal, which led to the publication of the 1936 article in *The SA Philatelist* under the heading "The World's first postage stamp", (August 1936, p118).

To understand what the real reason was for the use of Newspaper Tax Stamps, I had to search beyond what had been written in philatelic publications and in fact found the facts in a book by Francis Williams on the history of the British press titled *Dangerous Estate*.

In fact, I have similar Newspaper Tax Stamps from the UK in my possession, pre-dating those used in South Africa during 1832.

Any potential collector who would like to embark on in-depth research, would do him or herself a favour by reading Barzun and Graff's work *The Modern Researcher*.

Who knows exactly when did the standard rate change?

D J Sinclair of Green Point writes: I am attempting to establish the first day of the change of the standardized letter rate from R1,00 to R1,10.

The Post Office pamphlet announcing the new rates is dated 14 April 1998, and on the morning of Tuesday 14 April the SABC also announced the rate increase.

Accordingly, I went down to the Waterfront Post Office in Cape Town with letters duly franked with R1,00 worth of stamps, only to be firmly told I had got it wrong and the rate was to increase on the next day, that is 15 April. A visit to Green Point Post Office elicited the same response.

However the postmaster at Rhine Road explained the situation in this way:

Friday 10 April was a public holiday, as was Monday 13 April. No time had been allowed for the reprogramming of the computers and the union (Postal Workers?) had complained, where upon each Post Office received a fax putting the rate change a day later, i.e. Wednesday 15 April. I was unable to get a copy of this fax.

Can anyone verify this as a nationwide arrangement?

Mail theft: a further perspective

Rolf Zinke of Windhoek who is German speaking has requested that The Editor extract the gist of his remarks from his notes and correspondence about the disappearance of mail:

Regarding the letter from the Senior Manager, Sales and Customer Services, Capemail (*The SA Philatelist*, August 1998, p98): My experience is that despite the crime-busting campaign of the Post Office, more registered mail than ever before is being stolen in South Africa.

Most of the mail from Germany is delivered to us via Johannesburg, and I reckon that every second registered article is stolen. I have lost three such items from Germany since the beginning of the year, and a philatelic friend in Windhoek has lost five since late 1997. (*Mr Zinke enclosed correspondence proving loss of two items forwarded by a renowned German auction house.*)

Up to DM 5 000 was involved in one case.

I cannot escape from the deduction that the thieves, who probably recognise when philatelic material is involved, must have a willing local buyer or other local means of disposal.

In addition, enquiries by Deutsche Post from the point of origin to the SA Post Office are dealt with very tardily indeed.

Some light on Kergeulen, St Paul and Amsterdam Islands

George van den Hurk of Edenvale writes: The letter from André Guyader (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1998, p138) brought to mind two covers which I received in 1981 from Kergeulen (17.9.1981) and Amsterdam Island (26.9.1981) and a dramatic incident involving two South Africans.

The covers, franked with respectively RF 1,80 Leopard de Mer, date-stamped MARTIN-DE-VIVIES-ST. PAUL-AMS.-T.A.A.F/26-9/1981 and RF 3,50 Saint Marcouf, datestamped PORT AU FRANCAIS-KERGEULEN T.A.A.F./ 17-9/ 1981 are addressed to my friend and colleague J Jimmy) A Hes.

His son Lex, and James Gleeson, were

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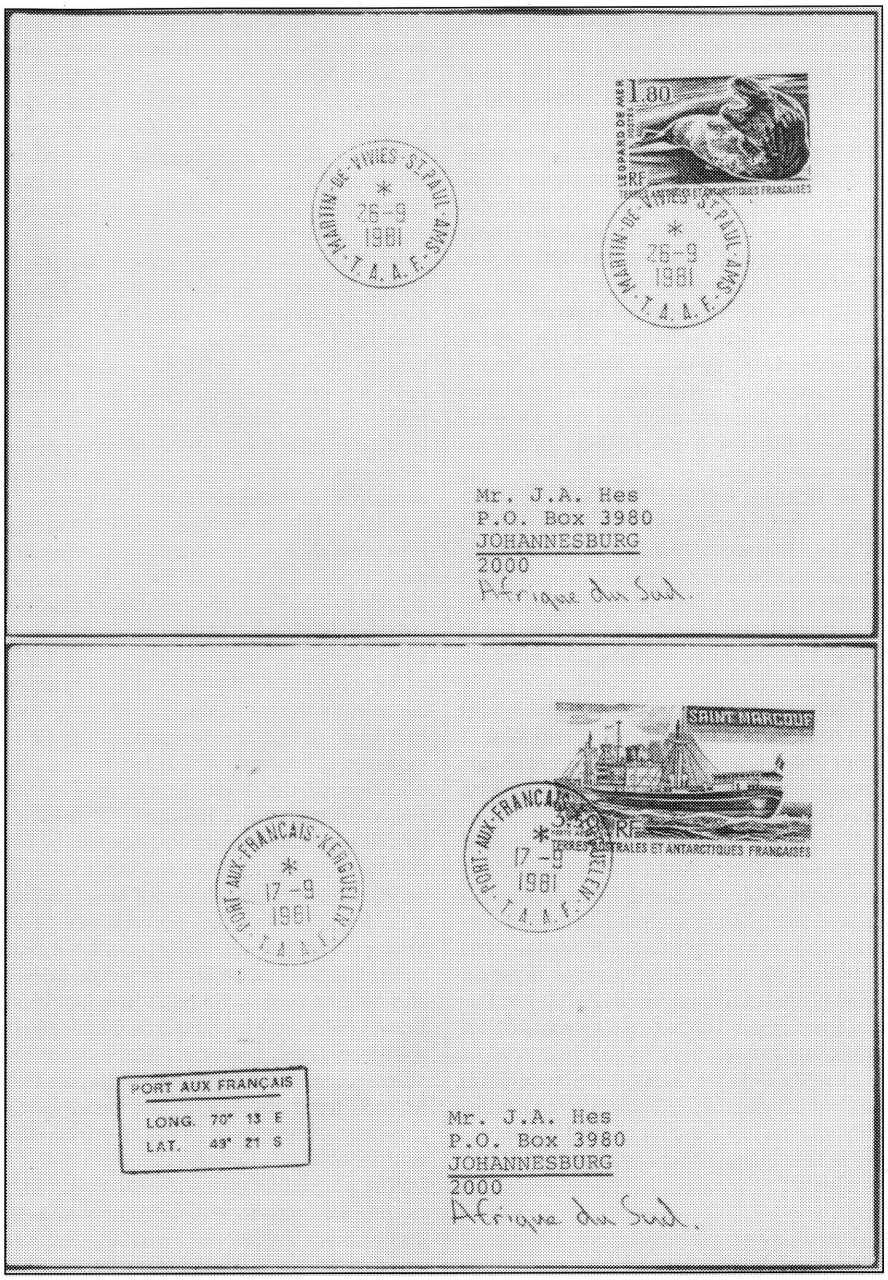
at the time sent by the University of Pretoria's Mammal Research Institute to observe seals of the southern oceans on Amsterdam Island, midway between South Africa and Australia.

When Lex Hes and James Gleeson were on their way to a beach on the island, James slipped and plunged 40m down a cliff. Lex ran about 4km back to base camp for help and the seriously injured James Gleeson was taken back there, but died early the next day. The South African ship *Agulhas* which was at Marion Island fetched and brought James Gleeson's body back to South Africa.

Lex Hes now pursues a career as a specialist natural history guide and wildlife photographer, and has written and photographed two books, *The Leopards of Londolozi* and *Bush School*, both published by Struik ten years after the related incident in 1991.



Exchange wanted
Ruil gevra

Austria: Herbert Krenn, of Swobodag. 5, A-1130, Vienna, offers stamps of his home country and Western Europe in exchange for South African stamps. He will attend to want lists for mint and used stamps, and prefers the Michel catalogue as base.

Germany: Peter Esche, of Limbacher Strasse 62, 09243 Niederfrohna, collects only used stamps, and would like to exchange his Germany for South Africa.

United States of America: Joe Maliga, of 544 27th Street 7, San Francisco, California 94131, wants to exchange post cards of his city with those of correspondents' cities. He also wants to exchange stamps and post cards that have to do with soccer.

Welz 'Ilsapex 98' auction realises R2,3 m

ONE of the highlights among the activities around Ilsapex 98, confirming once again the strength of the local philatelic market, was the auction held by Stephan Welz and Co at the Gallagher Estae on 24 October 1998.

The catalogue contained fine sections of Brazilian Bull's Eyes and Cape of Good Hope. All in all, it presented 646 lots, of which few remained unsold. The total realisation of R2 364 586 can only be regarded as highly satisfactory.

The star item in the sale came up to expectations. This was Lot 252, estimated at between R130 000 and R150 000: the only control block (nine stamps) of the 1963 Northern Rhodesia Arms issue with the 5/- value omitted. It was sold for R132 000.

The current resurgence of interest in revenue stamps was evidenced by Lot 583, a marginal block of 8 of the 1936 KG V issue – 5/- small format – with a spectacular interrupted printing of the frameplate on the left-hand four stamps. The upper estimate of R4 000 was easily exceeded by the realisation of R5 280.

The Rhodesia Double Heads, from Lot 291 to 419 "just went through the roof" Danny Swart, the auctioneer, said after the sale. The single most expensive lot was 302, a mint positional block of 4 of the 2/6 black and lake Hook III printing. The upper estimate was R25 000, with spirited bidding rising to R46 200 before the hammer fell.

It was proved once again that quality Cape Triangulars will always hold their own. A fine used pair of the 1d brick-red on creamed toned paper (SG 5), estimated at R8 000, went for R9 350.

The highlight of the South African material was Lot 554, top left and top right corner control pairs of the Union £1 pale olive-green and red stamp (SG 157a). The upper estimate was R15 000, and these lovely matching peices were knocked down at R16 500.

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■ **GERHARD KAMFFER RDPSA** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging*

Verskeie interessante militêre posmerke

NA twintig jaar se versamel aan posmerke van die Transvaal en die Unie van Suid-Afrika is daar veral vier posmerke wat ek bekom het wat my aandag getrek het. In gevalle waar die posmerke wel aangemeld is, beskryf Putzel hulle as "extremely rare".

Hierdie vier kan as tydelike militêre posmerke beskryf word, wat almal in gebruik was in die periode na die Anglo-Boereoorlog (1899-1902) tot en met die Eerste Wêreldoorlog. Een van die doelwitte van hierdie artikel is om versamelaars van posgeskiedenis bewus te maak van die skaarsheid van hierdie posmerke en om lesers aan te moedig om ander soortgelyke posmerke aan te meld.

DIE welverdiende eer het Gerhard Kamffer vanjaar te beurt geval om by die Federasie se 60ste Kongres genooi te word om die Ererol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suider-Afrika te onderteken. Die sitaat, verder aan in hierdie uitgawe, verskaf uitgebreide besonderhede oor sy navorsingsgebiede en artikels.

Gerhard se vorige artikel vir *The SA Philatelist* was "Die rol van die veldkornet in die poswese van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek tot 1870", wat in April 1997, p37, verskyn het.

Die vier merke onder bespreking is:

■ Enkelring: BISLEY, 18 Maart 1905 gebruik in die Transvaal.

■ Dubbelring: FIELD POST OFFICE No. 1, 16 April 1906 gebruik in die Transvaal.

■ Enkelring: CADET CAMP NATAL, 1 Julie 1912.

■ Enkelring: BOOYSENS CAMP, 15 Mei 1915.

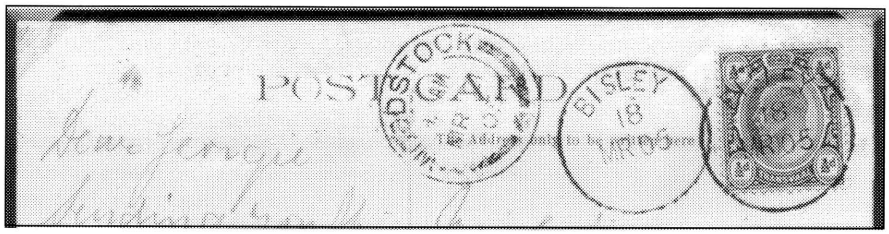

Fig. 1

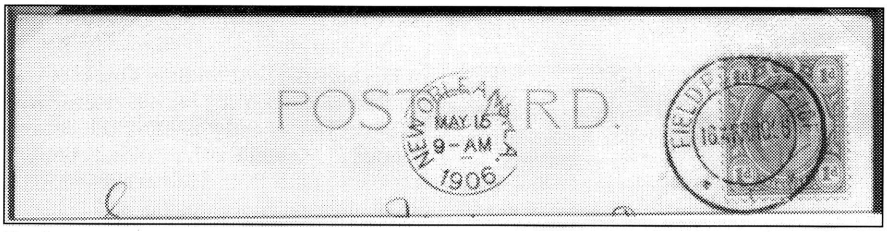

Fig. 2

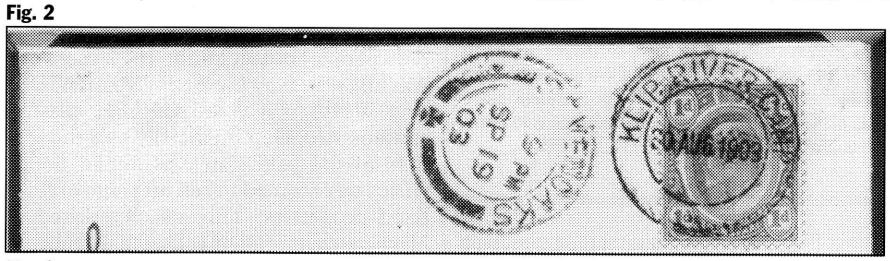

Fig. 3



Fig. 4

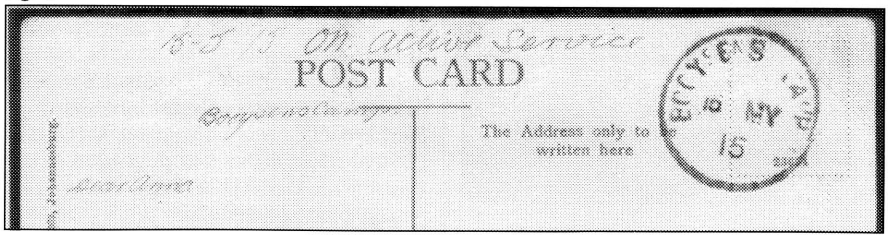

Fig. 5

Bisley (Fig. 1)

Putzel beskryf hierdie unieke posmerk as volg: "Special Post Office was established on 17.3.1905 at the Johannesburg Bisley (Shooting Competition). This is probably the first postmark found of 18.3.1905. . ."

Verskeie Bisleys is in die periode 1903 tot 1912 gehou, en hierdie is tot dusver die eerste BISLEY posmerk wat aan die lig gekom het.

Reisener beskryf die gebeure as volg: "The shooting competitions known as 'Bisleys' were staged annually and held at the Volunteer Rifle Shooting Ranges situated in the Booysens Reserve a few miles south of Johannesburg. . . The Transvaal Bisley meetings usually were held in March or April and lasted for about a week or ten days. . . The Post Office Administration provided extensive postal services at these camps. A temporary postal agency was opened in a tent and later in a building. . . the postal agencies were manned by volunteers who also were postal officials."

Field Post Office (Fig. 2)

Volgens Reisener het die poskantoor omsendskrywe aangedui dat 'n "Volunteer Camp" by Klipriviersberg gehou is gedurende April 1906. Volgens die poskantoor omsendskrywe was hierdie tydelike poskantoor vanaf 12 tot 21 April oop. Hierdie kamp was geleë suid van Johannesburg.

Ten tyde van die Anglo-Boereoorlog en daarna het die Britte 'n kamp daar gehad met 'n poskantoor met die naam "Klipriver Camp". (Sien Fig. 3, dubbelring, gedateer 30 Augustus 1903).

Dieselfde posmerk FIELD POST OFFICE NO. 1 is later vanaf 3 tot 13 September 1906 volgens Reisener by Bronkhorstspruit gebruik.

Dit is moontlik dat hierdie Field Post Office stempel wat gedurende April 1906 gebruik is, in verband gestaan het met die Zoeloe-opstand in 1906 in Natal. In die Transvaal is besef dat indien die Zoeloe-opstand nie in die kiem gesmoor word nie, dit tot algemene opstand onder die

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swart volke kon lei.

Reeds op 20 April 1906 het die kommandant van die Transvaal Volunteers 'n order uitgevaardig waarvolgens lyste van vrywilligers wat bereid was om in Natal te gaan veg opgestel is. Op 23 April 1906 het die Transvaalse regering hulp goedgekeur en is die Natalse Goewerneur in kennis gestel dat:

"Please inform your ministers that with the High Commissioner's warmest approval, Transvaal Government offers to send assistence. . . 500 Transvaal Volunteers fully armed and equipped, and offers to maintain them while in the field."

Op 25 April 1906 het die Transvaalse regering besluit om 'n berede regiment, genaamd die First Transvaal Mounted Rifles, met getalsterkte van 500 man op te rig. Op 27 April 1906 het die eerste kontingent van 250 man na Natal vertrek.

Cadet Camp Natal (Fig. 4)

Geen melding word in die poskantoorverslae gemaak van hierdie tydelike poskantoor wat gedurende 1912 in gebruik was nie. Roger Porter (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1980) skryf as volg oor hierdie posmerk: "Having studied many thousands of stamps used mostly in Natal before 1914, I have found only two examples of a Cadet Camp Pietermaritzburg postmark".

Die voorbeeld wat hier afgebeeld word was van 26 Junie tot 2 Julie 1912 in gebruik. Volgens die *Natal Witness* was daar 'n totaal van 741 kadette teenwoordig op die kamp, wat by Mountain Rise buite Pietermaritzburg gehou is.

Booysens Camp (Fig. 5)

Hierdie poskantoor was in gebruik vanaf 1 Januarie 1915 tot 1 Augustus 1915. Die poskantoor was dus slegs sewe maande oop. Hierdie poskantoor het waarskynlik sy bestaan te danke aan die mobilisasie vir die Eerste Wêreldoorlog.

Reeds op 21 Augustus 1914 het die Rand Light Infantry vir drie weke opleiding in die "Booysens Camp" inbeweeg. Hierna sou die "Booysens Camp" as 'n deurgangskamp vir verskeie eenhede gebruik word en vandaar die behoefte aan 'n poskantoor. ■

BRONNELYS

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■ **PAUW STEYL** *OFS Philatelic Society*

Herbertsdale – a postal historical review

Pauw Steyl leaves very few stones unturned in his postal history research covering the South Western Cape Districts. His most recent article for *The SA Philatelist* was "The challenge of postal history" (December 1997, p182), for which he was given a Congress Award.

Also at the congress of the Federation held on 22 October 1998 in the course of Ilsapex 98, Pauw Steyl was awarded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion, becoming the 11th recipient since this distinction for philatelic excellence was introduced in 1981.

THE village Herbertsdale is situated in the picturesque valley of the Langtou River approximately 53 km north-west of Mossel Bay in the Southern Cape. It was established on part of the farm Hemelrood granted to Gert Uwes on 20 June 1816. In 1860 James Beeton Herbert owned one-eighth, approximately 295 hectares, of the farm on which surveyor Lewis Vincent laid out the village of Herbertsdale in November 1863. It was named after owner of the farm.

The first plots were transferred on 14 July 1865 and this is accepted as the date of Herbertsdale's founding. One plot was transferred to the Dutch Reformed Church, but as early as 1862 the church council of Mossel Bay had already bought a piece of land from Herbert on which a small church/school was built.

In 1863 the Rev J Kretzen of George began mission work amongst the Coloureds people, but in about 1872 the work was taken over by the Berlin Mission. During World War I the German mission stations struggled financially and the leaders of the Lutheran Mission in South Africa were forced to sell off some of their fixed properties. This also happened at Herbertsdale, and the Dutch Reformed Church was established there in 1913.

The original road between Outeniqua Drift, where the historic main wagon road crossed the Gouritz River, and Herbertsdale crossed the Langtou River some 12 times in a matter of 8 km. Herbertsdale is situated 6 km south of the mountains and is linked with Van Wyksdorp, approximately 60 km to the north-west, by the Cloete's Pass. (Fig. 1).

It appears that the Cloete's Pass, originally known as Cloeteskraal Pass, was constructed in about 1850 to link Mossel Bay with the Little Karoo directly north of Herbertsdale.

It came therefore as no surprise to read that a petition, signed by 21 inhabitants of Herbertsdale, was written on 4 January 1864 at Mossel Bay and presented to the Postmaster-General in Cape Town. The petition stated inter alia:

"In view of the fact that the village of Herbertsdale was founded recently the

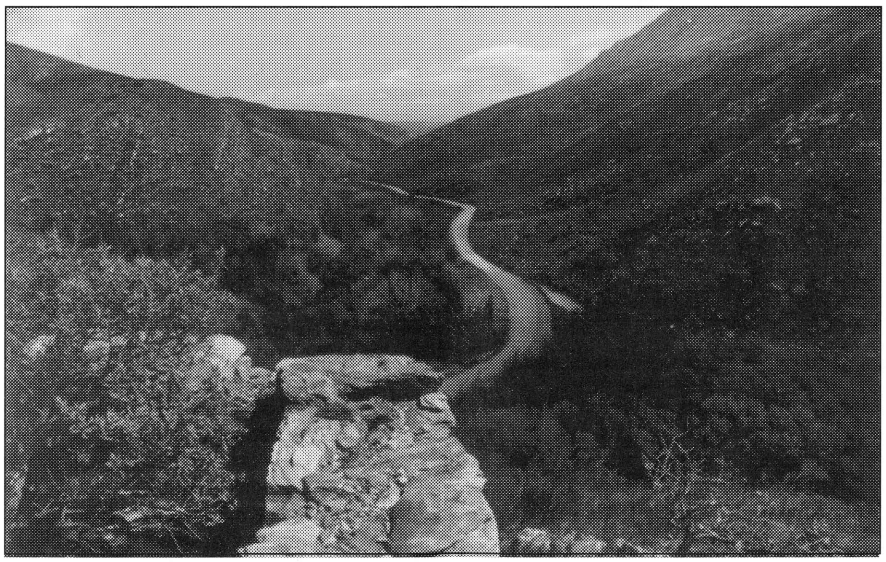

Fig. 1: The gravel road of the Cloetes Pass winds through the mountains from Herbertsdale in the direction of Van Wyksdorp. (Courtesy Bartolomeu Dias Museum, Mossel Bay).

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Postmaster-General was asked to take urgent steps to introduce a weekly post between Mossel Bay and Herbertsdale."

James Beeton Herbert, after whom the village was named, was married to Johanna Wilhelmina Bland, daughter of a well-known resident of Mossel Bay Josua Benjamin Adam Bland and his wife Cecilia Friederika du Plessis. Before living in Mossel Bay, Bland resided at Bland's Drift on the Gouritz River where he was for years a gratuitous postal agent who was responsible for the conveyance of the mails from Bland's Drift to Geelbek's Valley near Little Brak River.

Herbertsdale, at the time the petition was made, fell within the Division of Mossel Bay. According to the petitioners Herbertsdale was situated approximately 6 hours from the sea-post. They suggested that the current branch post to field-cornet J du Preez of Upper Gouritz River be extended by a further 2½ hours to Herbertsdale.

The Postmaster-General turned a deaf ear. It took almost another 15 years before the first post office agency opened its doors at Herbertsdale.

During the latter part of June 1877 H Eedes sent another letter and memorandum, signed by inhabitants and farmers of Herbertsdale, to the Postmaster-General. They again asked for the urgent introduction of a postal service to Herbertsdale. Eedes volunteered to do the work of postmaster gratis.

According to the *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers* (Blue Book) of 1879 Eedes was the post office agent of Herbertsdale and was granted a salary of £6 per annum from 1 November 1879. At that stage, that is the end of December 1879, he had been the agent for the previous 14 months. So one can conclude that his appointment date was 1 November 1878.

Postmasters at Herbertsdale

Other postmasters that performed duty during the early years of Herbertsdale's post office and their annual salaries were:

S A Deacon 1901–1902, £72
Miss J M Kannemeyer 1903–1904, £120
Miss J L de Bruyn 1905–1907, £72; 1908–1909 £89.

Datestamps and obliterators used at the Herbertsdale post office

As far as I could determine in my research the post office at Herbertsdale only used one type of date stamp during the first approximately 30 years of its existence. It was a single circle date stamp with the following particulars: (Fig. 2)

"22mm single circle. Time code letter. Month before day in the date." Putzel reports a similar single circle date stamp with the day before the month.

Recently I managed to add a very interesting cover front to my collection. (Fig. 3). I bought it as BONC (Barred Oval

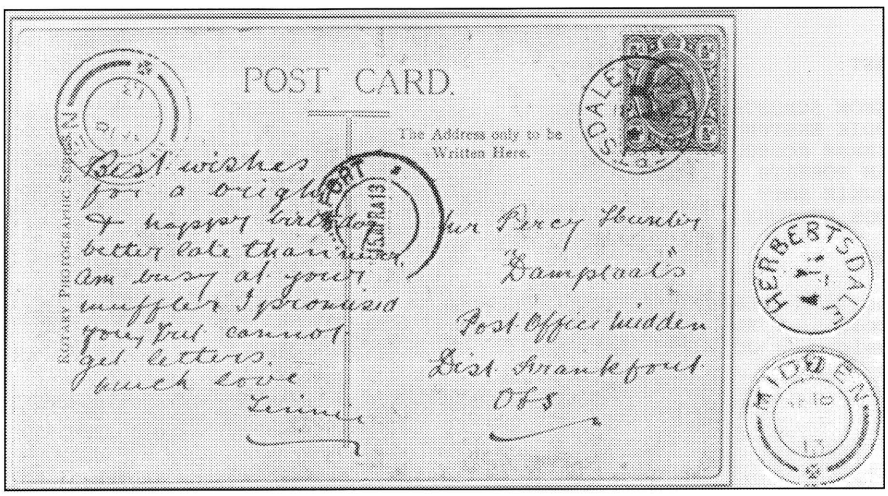

Fig. 2: Postcard sent from Herbertsdale to Midden in the district of Frankfort OFS. Interprovincial period, ½d King Edward VII Transvaal used in the Cape. Date stamps: Herbertsdale CDS (11.04.1913); Frankfort DCDS (15.04.1913) and Midden DCDS (18.04.1913). Putzel rates Midden "extremely rare". According to him this post office had a life of 13 months, (1 June 1911 to 1 July 1912). This is evidently incorrect as this card shows the Midden post office still in business in April 1913.

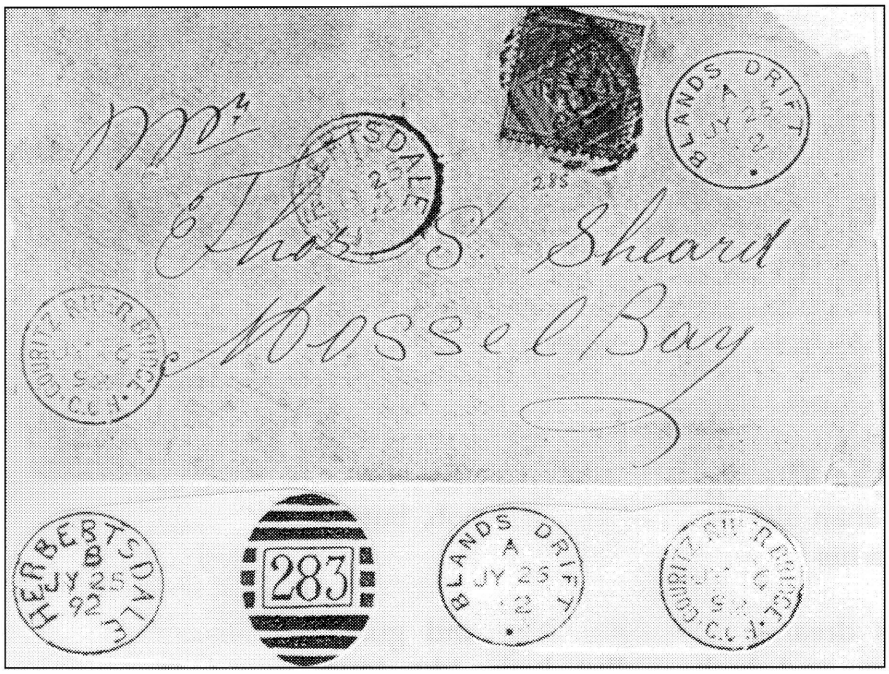

Fig. 3: Cover front into Mossel Bay with the following postmarks: BONC 283, Bland's Drift CDS, Herbertsdale CDS and Gouritz River Bridge CGH CDS.

Numeral Canceller) 285, originating from Bland's Drift. When I got home I did the usual research, and I am convinced that we can now be certain of the exact origin of this BONC.

The cover front is addressed to Thomas S Heard of Mossel Bay, franked with a 1d Hope seated – the current postage rate within the Cape Colony in 1892. My research revealed, however, that the front bears BONC 283 and not BONC 285.

To the right of the stamp appears a single circle date stamp of Bland's Drift, dated 25 July 1892, and in the centre is the Herbertsdale single circle date stamp, dated 25 July 1892.

In the bottom left hand corner appears a single circle date stamp of Gouritz River Bridge, dated 26 July 1892. (The Gouritz River Bridge was opened on 30 March 1892. Putzel lists this post office as early as 1891. I am sure that the establishment of the Gouritz River Bridge post office coincided with the building of the new bridge over the Gouritz River.)

Putzel lists BONC 203 with Herbertsdale. On the other hand Goldblatt lists BONC 803 with Herbertsdale and BONC 203 as Cape. Personally I have not seen BONCs 203 and 803 used on a proving piece from Herbertsdale. That now brings BONC 283 into the picture. Goldblatt lists BONC 283 with Elands Drift and Nethersole/Frescura with Her-

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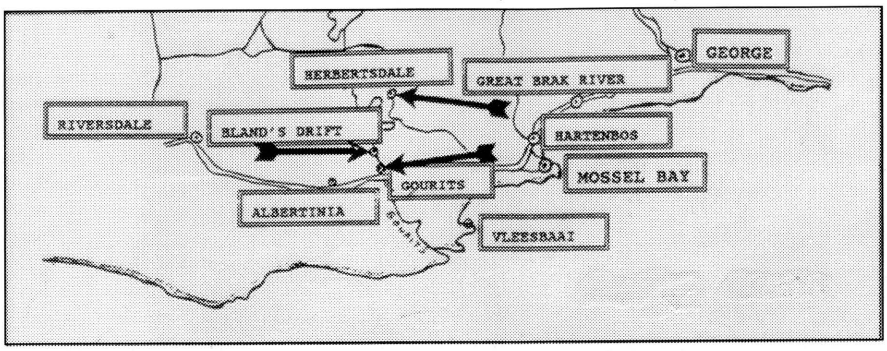

Fig. 4: Illustration to show the location of the post offices at Herbertsdale, Bland's Drift and Gouritz River Bridge in the Southern Cape.

bertsdale.

What then was the origin of BONC 283? It could not have been used from Bland's Drift as the previous owner of the cover front suggested. I base my opinion on the following:

1. The date stamps of Bland's Drift and Herbertsdale bear the same date: 25 July 1892. If one takes into consideration the geographical location of the three post offices (Fig. 4) one thing becomes clear. This letter could not have been posted at Bland's Drift on 25 July 1892 to Mossel Bay, received Herbertsdale's date stamp on the same day and returned all the way to receive the Gouritz River Bridge transit postmark on 26 July 1892.

No, this letter was posted at Herbertsdale on 25 July 1892 and received the Bland's Drift and Gouritz River Bridge transit postmarks on 25 July 1892 and 26 July 1892 respectively.

From Gouritz River Bridge the letter was forwarded to its destination at Mossel Bay.

2. If one carefully scrutinises and compares the inks of the impressions of BONC 283, Herbertsdale and Bland's Drift postmarks one finds that the ink of the first two is similar, but that used in the Bland's Drift postmark is paler.

I can arrive at no other conclusion than that this letter indeed originates from Herbertsdale and not from Bland's Drift, so BONC 283 was used in the post office at Herbertsdale.

By the way: is there perhaps anyone who can provide evidence that BONCS 203 and 803 were used at Herbertsdale? Please let me know! ■

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■ **D J SINCLAIR** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The antelope issues of South Africa

FOUR distinct types of the Antelope issues have already been produced to date (1 November 1998). Although the designs have been well described in the philatelic press, philatelists may not be aware of the way to identify variations. This summation presents a brief guide to the types:

The five basic se-tenant designs are: Blue Wildebeest, Eland, Kudu, Impala and Waterbuck (Fig. 1, illustrated in the peel-and-stick roll format).

Type 1: Sheet issue

This has the Post Office emblem and GPW in the top margin, with "SIXTH DEFINITIVE SERIES: SOUTH AFRICAN WILDLIFE". The date "03.04.1998" appears below this title.

The perforation 14 is normal, that is without the oval security perforations.

The arrangement throughout the sheet is interesting, as each design is continued diagonally. It is best to obtain at least a quarter sheet of 25 stamps to observe the pattern. Various se-tenant arrangements vertically and horizontally are thus available.

THE author is an enthusiastic student of current South African issues. His article "The Rhino standardised mail stamp 1993-1997 – a brief survey" appeared in *The SA Philatelist* in April 1998, p33, and was recognised with a Congress Award at the 60th Congress of the Federation in October 1998.

Type 2: Booklet issue

THIS, illustrated at Fig. 2 by the Kruger National Park Centenary booklet cover, has the same five se-tenant Antelope designs, printed in two strips as is common with booklets.

Paper and perforation appear to be the same as Type 1 except in this case security (or oval) perforations have been used. Since the booklet panes have been guillotined, this type only exists with one or two sides straight cut. The arrangement of the five antelopes is in the same order as the top row of the sheet, thus: Blue Wildebeest, Eland, Kudu, Impala and Waterbuck.

Therefore the same horizontal format can be obtained as in sheet form, but the vertical format of two Antelopes of the same design occurs only in the booklet.

The following are the perforation arrangements, in order, along the booklet pane.

Blue Wildebeest: Top or bottom imperforate. Left selvedge shows GPW on the top row and the Post Office emblem and date 25.3.1998 on the second row.

Eland: Top or bottom imperforate.

Kudu: Top or bottom imperforate.

Impala: Top or bottom imperforate.

Waterbuck: Top or bottom and right side imperforate.

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Fig. 1 Fig. 4

Type 2a: Uncut Booklet pane
As Type 2, except that the uncut panes give rise to vertical pairs of the same design "imperf between".

Type 3: Peel and Stick booklets
The same five designs were used in a new format consisting of horizontal pairs of the *same* design, separated by some 3 mm of selvedge (the cover of the booklet is illustrated at Fig. 3). From the top pair to the bottom pair the designs are arranged in the following order:

Eland; Kudu; Impala; Wildebeest and Waterbuck.

Between the top pair and the second pair is a space where the booklet fold and punched hole(s) are found, and on the left hand side of this space is printed the Post Office emblem and wording and underneath SPRINTPAK; SNP CAMBEC and the date: 1998-04-16.

The perforation is 13 x 12,7. A phosphor frame extends around the stamp, sometimes overlapping the perforations, together with a phosphor coating which follows the contour of the animal and also covers the left hand side and lower part of the stamp. This is normal practice in Australia, which is where Sprintpak produced this version for South Africa.

The colours of the stamps I have examined differ from their South African counterparts, being not only brighter, with sharper, more contrasty looking designs, but also having distinct shades.

Type 4: Peel and Stick rolls of 100
The same five designs have been used. The reverse of the roll is illustrated at Fig. 4, with the texts juxtaposed next to the buck on which they appear.

The examples I have seen are much nearer to the South African sheet and booklet printings in terms of colour and clarity.

A phosphor frame extends around each stamp, and the perforation is 13 x 12,7 as for the booklet (Type 3) issue.

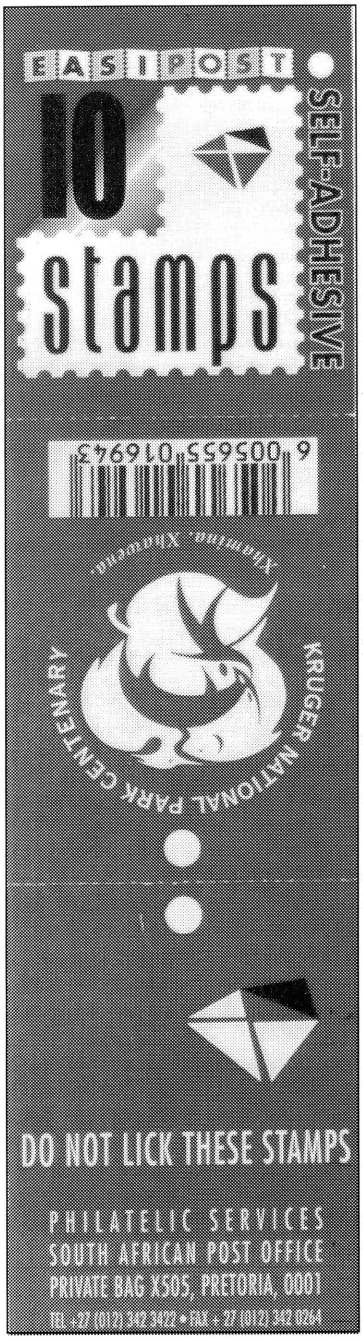

Fig. 3

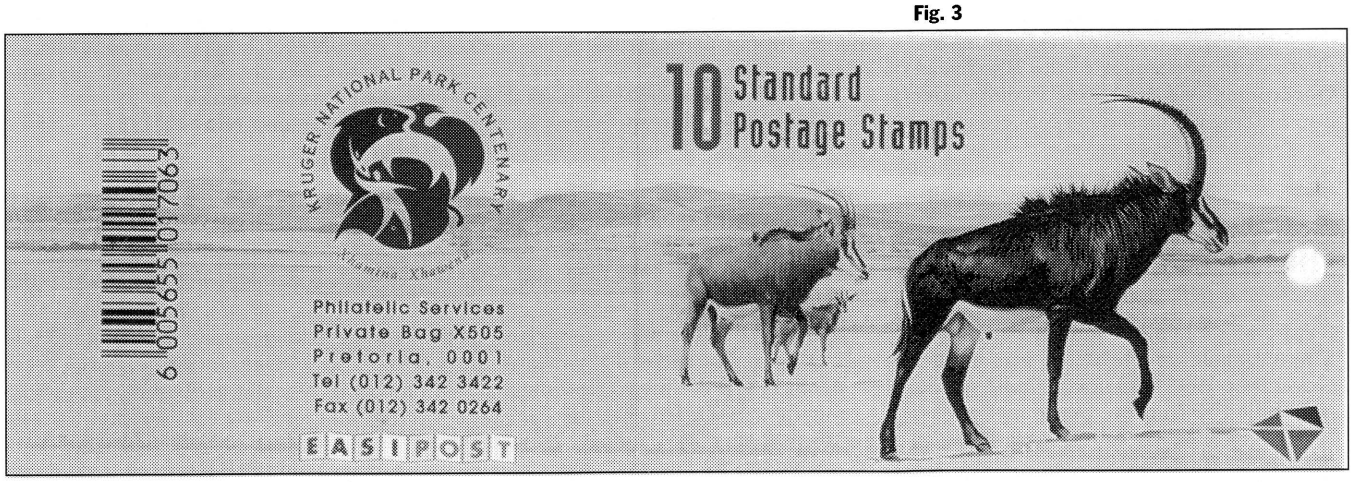

Fig. 2

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Ilsapex releases:

So-called paper trials were put on sale by Philatelic Services at Ilsapex 98, and stocks, according to *Setempe* (November-/December 1998), are said to be sufficient for the needs of philatelists. (The envelope also contained a block of 25 so-called paper test labels, which are of no concern here.)

The strips of five Antelope stamps that I have examined, by courtesy of David Watts, came from the left hand half of the bottom row of the trial sheets and the design configuration conformed to the normal sheet arrangement. The perforations were a standard 14, without security ovals.

The paper of each strip was noticeably different, particularly when viewed from the back, and each stamp had a number (1 to 5) printed in the base selvedge. Two of the papers had phosphor applied and these two trials also had printed in the selvedge a date and initials:

a) Phosphor applied as a thin band on the right hand side: 1998-07-27 – TPP.

b) Phosphor applied as a 5mm wide band on the right hand side: 1998-07-27 – TPD.

Conclusion

These designs will undoubtedly produce many more types as time goes by, and interested collectors should make sure of their supplies; particularly if collections are to be made of these stamps correctly used on cover.

Already the above mentioned general methods of phosphor tagging have been reported as "experimental".

As a summation to help distinguish single stamps, I offer the following:

Perforation 14 and normal perfs: Type 1 Sheets

Perforation 14 and oval perfs, straight edges: Type 2 Antelope booklet

Perforation 13 x 12,7, phosphor follows contour of Antelope: Type 3 Peel-and-stick booklets

Perforation 13 x 12,7, phosphor frame: Type 4 Peel and stick rolls. ■

■ **WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
December 1938

An interesting Coronation item

Whilst at Congress we were presented by Mr L Simehoff with a cover franked by Union Coronation stamps posted at Madeira on 12th May 1937.

The mail boat *Edinburgh Castle*, leaving Cape Town on 30th April 1937 for England, was given a supply of Union Coronation stamps on the understanding that they were not to be issued before 12th May.

There are said to have been only 12 covers posted at Madeira on that date with Union Coronation stamps. This particular one has a pair of the 1d. denomination. It returned to South Africa by the *Balmoral Castle*, and has the Cape Town paquebot cancellation of 31st May.

News item

30 years ago
December 1968

Rhodesia – the Independence overprint 'errors' – the facts

To sum up: practically al the "errors" are now in the possession of the Rhodesian Government, as a result of a court order impounding all the stamps concerned, including all those taken from the hapless dealers. Possibly a few, a very few of the "errors" are still in private hands.

To set the minds of collectors at rest we have to state that only errors in the overprint are involved; there was no point in forging normal overprints as that would profit the perpetrator nothing – he would have to pay face value for the normal stamps, and could get face value for normally overprinted stamps. In the 5/- Churchill only errors were created – no normal overprints.

John Robertson

60 years ago
January 1939

The Philatelic Chronicle

We have received the January number of this new paper, launched by Allan Publications, PO Box 8594, Johannesburg, under the editorship of Mr G B Allan.

Mr Allan considers that Africa is not sufficiently catered for with philatelic literature, hence this venture. He is certainly hitching his wagon to a star in endeavouring to supply a magazine "that is excellent in every sphere".

The Philatelic Chronicle promises to have articles by leading specialists in their own field; articles dealing not only with stamps, but with the why's and wherefore of their production and printing; articles on postal history and articles on current events... we cordially wish Mr Allan every success in his stimulating interest in philately here.

News item

30 years ago
January 1969

The role of ½c and 1c stamps as revenues

Since the 1st of October 1968 there has been no revenue duty requiring the use of stamps for less than 2c and the lowest denomination of revenue stamps is 2c. For years the ½c and 1c postage stamps have been used for revenue purposes. Their use has been widespread and the custom has grown to use more than one of a value at a time as required. For instance, where 2c is required, two 1c or four ½c were used.

Somewhat to our surprise we learned that, strictly speaking, it was illegal to do so. To our relief, however, we also learned that action has not been taken in any case.

Dr H J Raubenheimer,
"South African Notes"

Die internasionale federasie het 'n nuwe president

BY die 65 ste kongres van die Fédération Internationale de Philatélie, wat middel November 1998 in Milaan, Italië gehou is, het die FIP 'n nuwe president verkies. Hy is Knud Mohr van Denemarke, tot dusver 'n vise-president, wat ná agt jaar die uittredende president, Deoki Nandan Jatia vervang.

Jatia is tot FIP-erepresident verkies, en Karl Bürgin, wat reeds 41 jaar lank die president is van die Switserse Filatelistevereniging van Zürich, het die FIP Eremedalje ontvang.

Daar is nou 82 nasionale federasies by FIP geaffilieer. Die nuwelinge is Wit Rusland en Pakistan (waarvan die lidmaatskap nog bekragtig moet word). Van hulle was 71 in Milaan verteenwoordig, waar onder meer verslag gedoen is oor al 13 internasionale FIP tentoonstellings wat van 1999 tot die jaar 2002 beplan word.

Die volgende FIP Kongres word op 14 en 15 Oktober 2000 gehou, by die internasionale España 2000 in Madrid.

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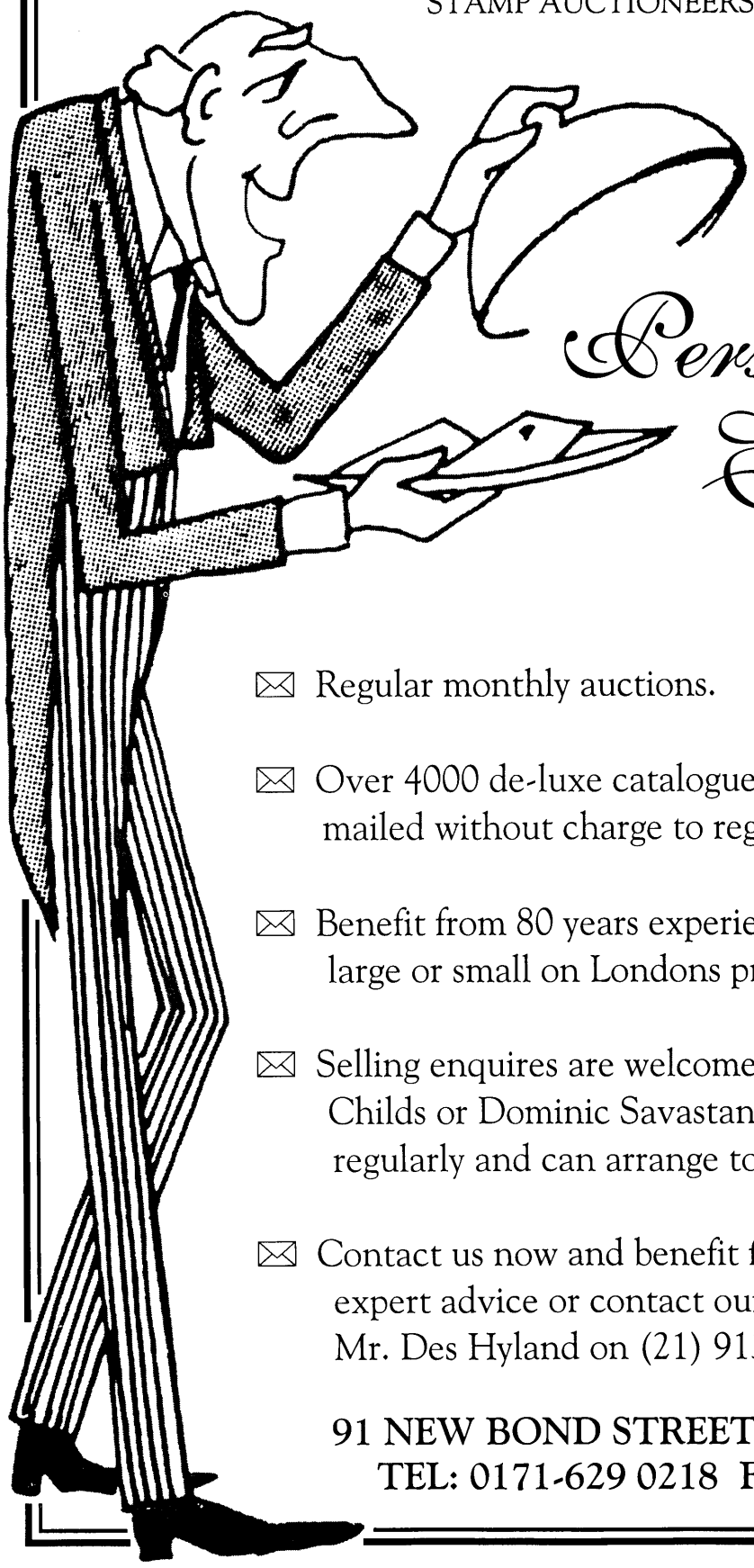

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■ **GEORGE VAN DEN HURK** *RDPSA, FRPSL, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging*

More light on diplomatic mail

THE author, who is also the Administrative Secretary of the Federation, contributed on this subject in the June 1998 issue of *The SA Philatelist* (p94) with " 'n Brief van die eerste ere-konsul van Nederland aan die Kaap". (It has also been dealt with previously in *The SA Philatelist* by two other authors – see bibliography)

This study takes the subject back to much earlier dates.

In February 1998, p5, George van den Hurk also contributed from his vast store of interests "Metermerke van lugdienste in Suid-Afrika".

KANDAOUROFF [1]) defines diplomatic mail as "communication between governments and their agents overseas effected by means of special couriers whose task it is to carry the diplomatic bags".

Diplomatic bags are transported with absolute freedom through the customs and are immune to postal inspection. Naturally they contain reports, letters and printed matter, but quite bulky items are often included as well. The use of diplomatic bags is suspended only in war time.

Mail sent by this means is often posted on arrival and bears the stamps or franking of the country of destination. Such diplomatic covers, often bearing the cachet of embassies and consulates in distant countries, usually bear the endorsement "By Bag".

Although Kandaouroff states that the use of diplomatic bags is suspended in times of war there are exceptions, as demonstrated by Ernst M Cohn in *Ordinary Mail by Diplomatic Means during the Siege of Paris 1870-1871* [2]).

Prussia requested the United States at the start of the Franco-German conflict to take care of its interests in France to which the United States agreed. Subsequently Bismarck refused a request by the Parisian diplomatic corps for the passage of a neutral diplomatic courier to maintain communications between Paris and their governments. However, an exception was made for the Americans in view of the special relationship with Prussia. The United States embassy in Paris was allowed to make weekly dispatches to the embassy of the United States in London.

Cohn illustrates a letter despatched in the US pouch from Paris to London which was sold by Harmers of London in February 1995 for £13 200. In this particular case it was not the markings on the Ballon Monté entire, but the contents which confirmed special diplomatic mail status.

Mail from and to embassies within the country of establishment or sent all the way through the normal postal channels to other countries is not normally considered diplomatic mail. One could also question whether an accumulation of covers addressed from and to embassies and consulates constitutes good postal history in accordance with national and international criteria for exhibiting.

The Manual of Philatelic Judging [3]) makes the point that collections of covers do not in themselves constitute postal history or postmark collections. As examples are quoted: hotel covers, patriotics, general advertising, World's Fair covers. . . undoubtedly one could add diplomatic mail covers as well.

Cohn, in *A Book of Postal History* [4]) comments: "Most of us have arrived at postal history collecting by way of cover collecting and some still possess cover collections that do not rate as postal histo-

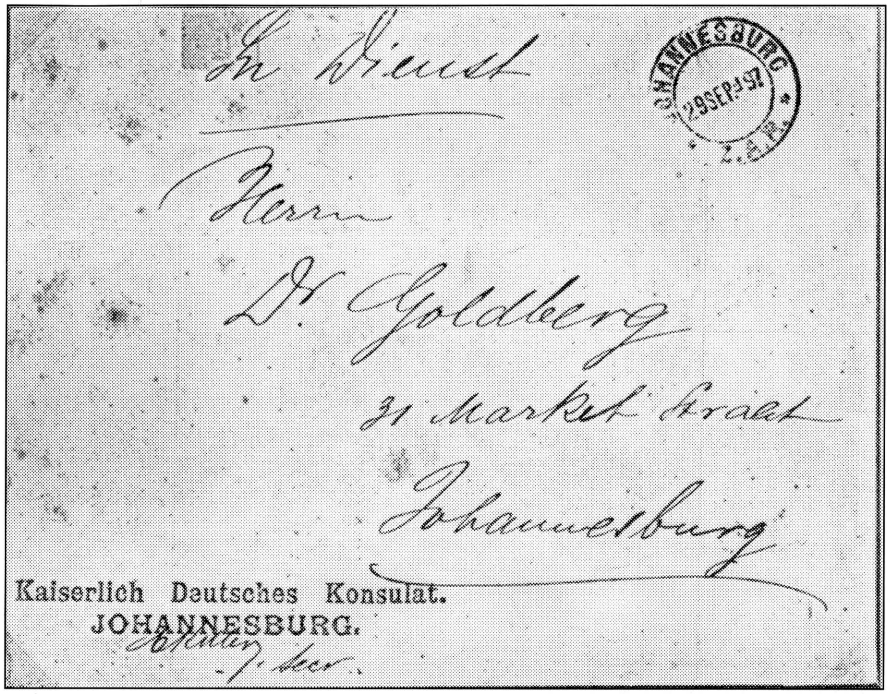

Fig 1



Fig 2

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ry considering the format and annotations made for each cover. Can such a collection be converted to a postal history collection? The answer is almost invariably, yes.

"The first thing to do is to become familiar with the postage rates, the routes and the post office rules for handling mail in that period, and when and how each of these changed. Also, the various postmarks ought to be considered for possible restructuring of the collection."

An intriguing question with regard to diplomatic mail in the South African context is the franking privilege.



Fig 5



Fig 3

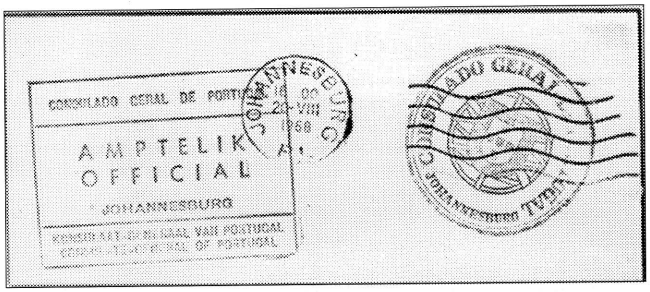

Fig 4

WHEN LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL LOOK FOR THIS LOGO

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From cover evidence there is little doubt that since pre-Union times embassies and consulates were entitled to frank letters within the ZAR for transmission by post, free of charge. It is assumed that this was also the case in Transvaal Colony and the states comprising the South African Postal Union. Although Postal Acts of the ZAR and Transvaal of 1886, 1898 and the General Postal Regulations of 1902, extended, with provisos, the franking privilege to officials of the state, I have not found specific reference to the diplomatic corps and cannot as yet relate cover evidence to postal regulatioons.

However, in chronological order the evidence of the covers I have is as follows:

29.09.1897, Johannesburg, Kaiserlich Deutsches Konsulat (Fig. 1)
06.05.1900, Pretoria, Consulaat Generaal der Nederlanden (Fig. 2)
3 29.01.1957, Johannesburg, Consulat de Belgique (Fig. 3)
20.08.1959, Johannesburg, Consulat General de France
20.08.1968, Johannesburg, Consulado Geral de Portugal (Fig. 4)
15.12.1978, Springs, Lesotho Consular Agent/Lesotho Labour Agency (Fig. 5)
28.11.1985, Johannesburg, Consulate General of the Netherlands

Notwithstanding, there is also evidence of *franked* consular mail, with examples shown in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1996 [5]), to which I can add a cover from the Consulate General of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia addressed from Cape Town to Johannesburg datestamped 24.1.1951, franked at the normal letter rate of 2d, (Fig 6).

There is no special philatelic interest in South African covers addressed to embassies or consulates within South Africa, as such letters are processed according to normal postal regulations as for example Fig. 7: 30.1.1910, Johannesburg, BOOK-POST ½d, Netherlands Consul, Cape Town

Examples where consulates in South Africa used the normal postal channels for overseas mail instead of the diplomatic bag are shown by an item (not illustrated) dated 18 June 1914, from the American Consular Service, Johannesburg, addressed to USA, franked 2½d (Letter rate 2½d per ½oz)

Fig 8 similarly shows: 7.2.1922, Consul de Suisse, Johannesburg, addressed to Switzerland, franked 3d (letter rate 3d per first 1 oz).

Mail sent by diplomatic bag to foreign countries, posted on arrival and bearing the stamps of the country of destination is, to my way of thinking, more interesting than mail sent through the normal post channels. *The SA Philatelist* of February 1998 [6]) illustrated interesting examples of diplomatic mail addressed from South Africa to Mbabane, Swaziland.

However, the covers were addressed to the diplomatic mission in Mbabane so that they were not franked in Swaziland for remailing. ■

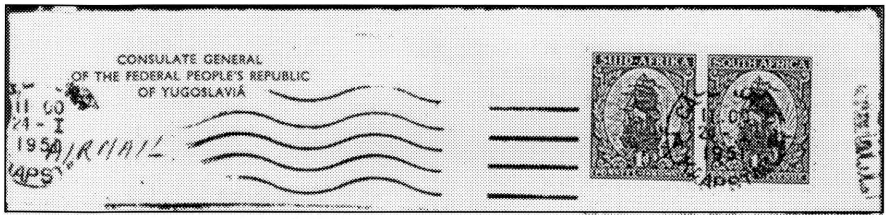

Fig 6

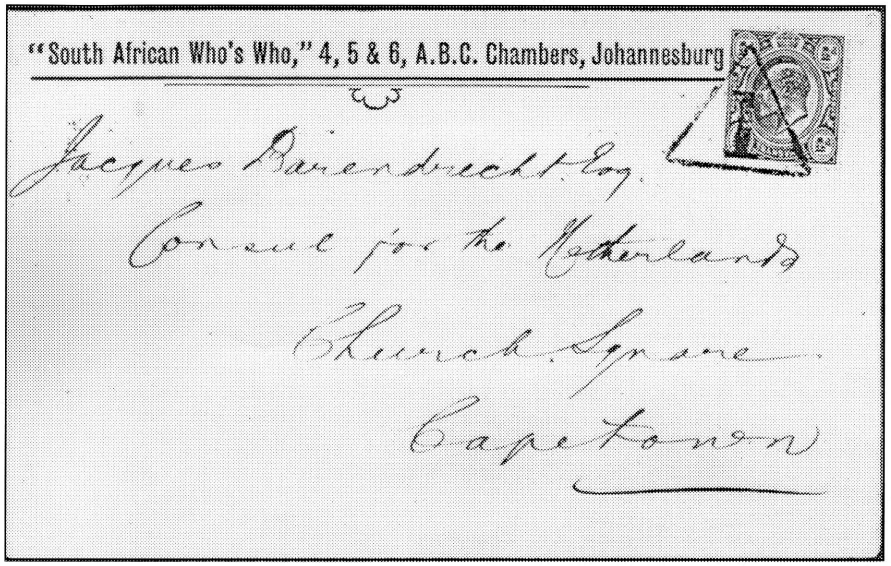

Fig 7

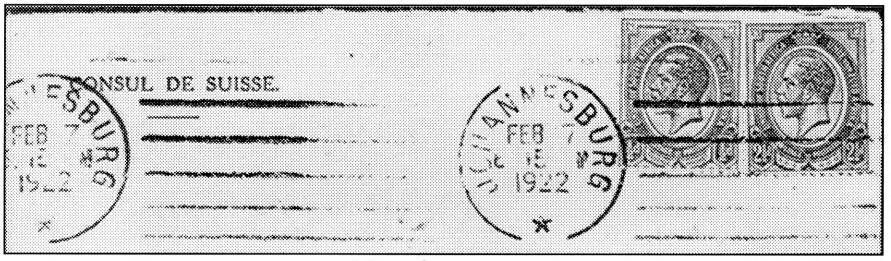

Fig 8

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2. Cohn, Ernst M., 1995, *Ordinary Mail by Diplomatic Means during the Siege of Paris 1870-1871*, James Bendon Ltd., Limassol, Cyprus.
3. APS Judges Accreditation Committee, 1990, *Manual of Philatelic Judging*, APS, State College, USA.
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6. Heath, Petra, 1998, Diplomatieke Pos en die Pos van Ambassades", *The SA Philatelist*, v. 74:1 (826), pp 4,5.

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■ **DAVID ALLISON** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

Meter marks: those columns of digits

MOST readers will by now be familiar with the "Remote Setting" meter marks which have recently appeared in increasing numbers. A rather interesting and puzzling development is the presence of two columns of digits to the left of the datestamp on impressions from a small proportion of these machines.

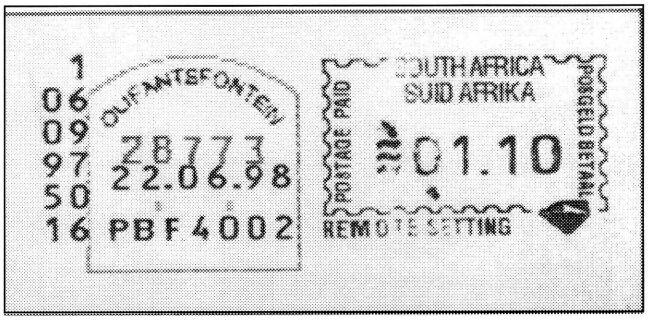
So far I have noticed this from four machines. These are PBG00008 (illustrated), PBG00014, used by Deloitte & Touche at Greenacres; PBF4002 (illustrated) and PBF4009, used by Computer Associates at Sunninghill. The two PBF's have the same design as each other, and so do the two PBG's. I do not know who uses PBF4002.

My earliest impression showing these columns of digits is from machine PBG00008, and it is dated 24.03.98. The datestamps on all four of these machines include the accounting number of the post office shown in the datestamp. These accounting numbers are shown in the official list of post offices and have no connection with postcodes.

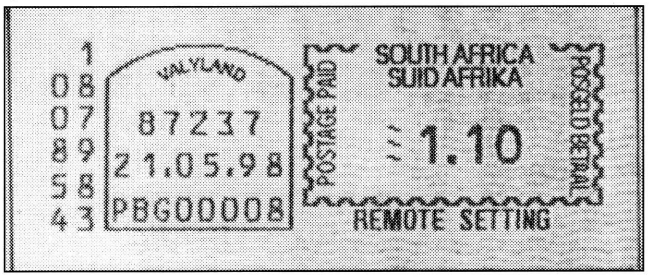
The problem of course is to find out what the eleven digits mean. We have assistance on page 41/45 of the January 1998 *Quarterly Bulletin* of the British Postmark Society, where similar columns of five and six figures on some British meters are discussed. The numbers can be read by the Integrated Mail Processors at some British sorting offices.

DAVID ALLISON has for many years been the staunch Cape convenor of members of his society for regular informal meeting, and was previously a prolific contributor to *The SA Philatelist*, particular on postmark matters. In this respect, he still supports Neville Gomm's regular column "Contemporary philately".

This article is a welcome addition to Andries van der Walt's "A new era dawns for franking meters" (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1998, p150).



PBF4002



PBG00008

I imagine that franking machines of the same types are being sold here, even though our sorting equipment, being different from the British, will probably have no use for these digits.

The column of five digits is simply an impression number. Thus the illustrated impression of PBF4002 is the 951st impression made by that machine. The first column of digits on the next envelope to pass through the machine would be 00952.

The second column is harder to understand. It is known that it reflects the user, the date, and the postage paid. How three of the digits are arrived at remains a mystery, but the first, fourth, and fifth can be explained.

The first is simple; it denotes the make of the machine. Pitney-Bowes machines have a 1 as this digit. From the prefixes to the four numbers I have quoted above, the four machines are no doubt made by that firm, and as all the impressions I have seen have a 1 in the first place it looks as if the British rule is followed here too.

The fourth digit is calculated thus:

Regard the machine number as having six digits; if necessary, put one or more zeros in front to achieve this. (Thus the Olifantsfontein specimen is deemed to have the machine number 004002.) Call these six digits, in order, A, B, C, D, E and F. Work out:

A + B + C + D + E + F + 1

and divide this by 11. If the remainder is 10, put a zero in the fourth place. Otherwise the remainder will be one of the digits from 0 to 9, and this digit is put in the fourth place.

All four of the machines I have seen follow this same rule. For instance, in the Olifantsfontein case we have C = 4, F = 2, and the other four digits are zero. The sum we have to work out it 7, which leaves a remainder of 7 when it is divided by 11. So the fourth digit is 7.

Now hold on tight and we'll calculate the fifth digit in the right-hand column. We give the letters from A to F the same meanings as before, and we find the remainder when:

4A + 5B + 6C + 7D + 8E + 9F + 2

is divided by 11. If this remainder is 10, we put a 0 in the fifth space; otherwise the remainder is one of the numbers 0 to 9, and we put this number in the fifth place.

Again, all the four machines I have seen follow this British rule. Take the Olifantsfontein impression as an example again: C = 4, F = 2, and the other four digits are zero; so the expression we have to work out comes to 24 + 18 + 2, which is 44, and this leaves a remainder of 0 when we divide it by 11. So the fifth digit in the second column is 0.

If the machine number were for some reason fed into the mail processing machinery these two digits would provide a good (though not infallible) check against wrong entry. But I confess I don't know why this information would be wanted in the sorting process. And I'd also like to know how the other three digits are calculated. ■

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■ **DS J CASSIE CARSTENS,** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

ThemAfrica

Nog meer bome

VIER pragtige boomseëls het Nasionale Boomweek vroeg in September versier – net jammer daar was nie genoeg oorspronklikheid by die keuses nie. Die Kremetart/Baobab (SA 467: *Adansonia digitata*) bly 'n groot gunsteling, maar was nóg ene nou regtig nodig?

Die Witgat/ Shepherd's Tree (SA 122: *Boscia albitrunca*) is 'n eerste vir Suid-Afrika, maar het pas by Namibië verskyn (1997) en was ook al deel van Bophuthatswana (1985). Ook die Haak-en-Steek/ Umbrella Thorn (SA 188: *Acacia tortilis*) is 'n eerste vir ons, maar verskeie ander lande, onder andere Bophuthatswana (1992) en Somalië (1975), het reeds hul kant in hierdie verband gebring.

Die enigste rêrige boomseël-nuweling





is die Gewone Karee (SA 386: *Rhus lancea*), deel van die groot mango-familie (*Anacardiaceae*). Die ontwerpe is doelmatig en die seëls is 'n lus vir die oog!

Maar 'n Kremetart in Kirstenbosch? Wat djy waa' kry?!?

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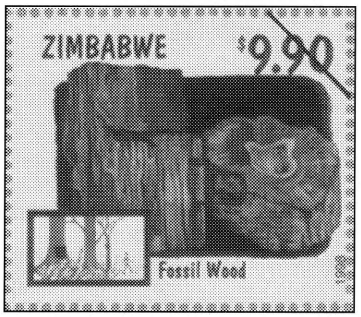

Fossil Wood is very common in Zimbabwe where there are areas of petrified forests. Petrification occurs in two ways: holes formed in the bone or stem of the decayed organism are filled in by an organic compound, or the original mineral substance of the organism is replaced, molecule for molecule, by a different mineral substance carried in water solutions.

The most common petrifying minerals are calcite, silica and iron compounds. Due to the process of petrification, most of the minute structure of the organism may be preserved as in the case of petrified wood.

Birds can really speak both English and Afrikaans

Yes, that is a fact! Several sea birds and waders from Jersey either fly regularly to South Africa for their summer holidays or at least have close relatives here down

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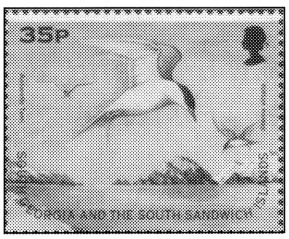
south. Just take a look at these globe-trotters in the Jersey issue of 11 August 1998:
22p *Charadrius hiaticula* (SA 245: Ringed Plover/Ringnekstrandkiewiet)
26p *Pluvialis squatarola* (SA 254: Grey Plover/Grysstrand-kiewiet)
32p *Tringa nebularia* (SA 270: Greenshank/Groenpootruiter)
35p *Numenius arquata* (SA 289: Curlew/Grootwulp) – and 44p *Larus argentatus* (SA 314: Herring Gull/Haringmeeu) – quite a bunch of friendly birds!

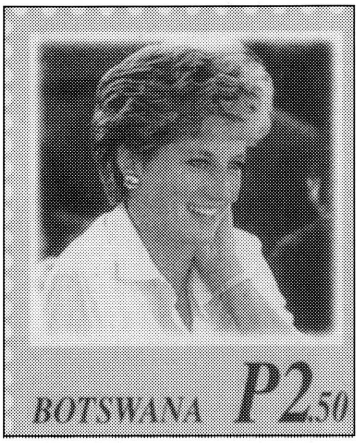
And the following sea birds on a souvenir sheet from South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands also cross our paths: 35p *Aptenodytes patagonicus* (SA 2: Koningspikkewyn/King Penguin), 35p *Sterna vittata* (SA 329: Grysborssterretjie/Antarctic Tern) and 35p *Diomedea chrysostoma* (SA 13: Gryskopmalmok-/Greyheaded Albatross).







In Namibia the official language is English, but most of the people speak Afrikaans. Therefore, I suppose, the owls (and rat) are also bilingual: N$1,80 *Otus leucotis* (SA 397: Whitefaced Owl/ Witwanguil), NS$1 *Tyto alba* (SA 392: Barn Owl/Nonnetjie-uil), N$1,10 *Bubo africanus* (SA 401: Spotted Eagle Owl/ Gevlekte Ooruil), N$1,50 *Glaucidium capensis* (SA 399: Barred Owl/Gebande Uil).



Diana, Princess of Southern Africa
Yes, for sure! The late princess is still the "queen of hearts" to many of us. The Diana issues of Lesotho, Namibia and Botswana were soon bought up by us all, and you won't believe it: the favourite stamp is Botswana's *Diana at Tongogara Refugee Camp during the Zimbabwe Tour 13 July 1993* – our own princess in Southern Africa!

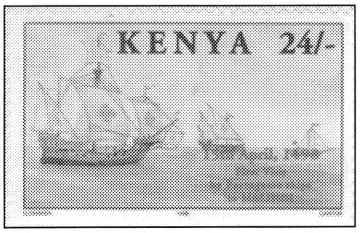


Vasco da Gama: 500 jaar
Die Portugese seevaarders se betrokkenheid by ons Afrika vasteland is onberekenbaar groot; telkens verskyn daar iets in hierdie verband, en dikwels vanuit uiteenlopende oorde.

Macau se *Seeroetes van Vasco da Gama* (20 Mei 1998) is 'n welkome toevoeging, met Da Gama self 'n treffer – onmisbaar vir 'n geskiedenisversameling (ten spyte van die liederlike datumfout op die brosjure: hulle maak dit 1598 in plaas van 1498. . .)

Voeg daarby Kenia se *15 April 1948: First Visit by Portuguese Ships to MALINDA* en mens maak al weer 'n volgende bladsy vir daardie beplande geskiedenisuitstalling.

St Helena het op 2 Julie 1998 die 500ste herdenking van sy ontdekking ge-

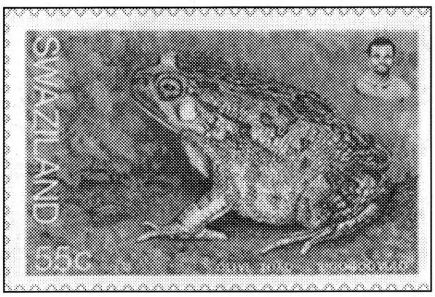


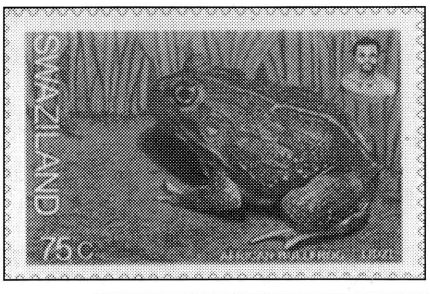


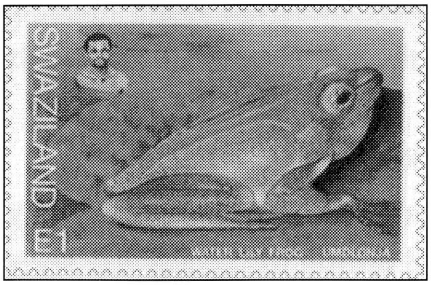
vier, en op die 25p seël *1672: Dutch Invasion* gooi die Ingelse die arme Hollanders met klippe! Mens sou sweer dis moderne Suider-Afrika. . . Waarom maak die wit-Hollanders só iets in ander mense wakker?!? Ek vra maar net. . .

Van Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis gepraat: stel jy dalk belang om in te skakel by 'n sodanige werkgroep? Skakel vir Petra Heath by ☎ (012) 660-0241.

Frogs!
Really not my favourite fauna, but quite fascinating on stamps from Swaziland. Can someone please help with the specific scientific names? I have them as 55c *Bufo regularis* (?) (Olive Toad/Gewone Skur-







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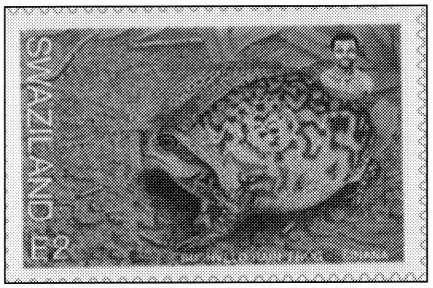


wepadda), 75c *Pyxicephalus adspersus* (?) (African Bullfrog/Brulpadda), E1 *Hyperolius pusillus* (Water Lily Frog/Waterleliepaddatjie) and E2 *Breviceps mossambicus adspersus* (?) (Bushveld Rain Frog/Reënpadda).

She sell seashells on the seashore

Quite a tongue-twister, but not so the beautiful *Shells of Namibia* (14 May 1998) : Standard Postage *Patella granatina* (SA 20), N$1 *Cymatium cutaceum africanum* (perhaps SA 195: C. *doliarum*?), N$1,50 *Conus mozambicus* (SA 408) and N$6 *Venus verrucosa* (SA 505). Can someone help with the vernacular names?

And thank you, Zimbabwe. . .

for the Fossils issue: $1,20 Fish, $5,60 *Allosaurus* footprints, $7,40 *Massospondylus*



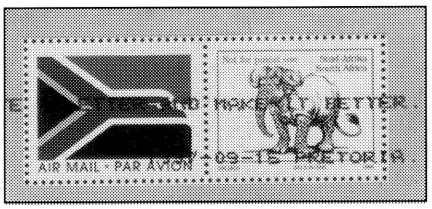
and $9,90 Wood. Some credit for collectors of Ichthyology, Dinosaurs, Botany and History, I would say.

Looking for other themes?

Read the following articles in *Themescene* (British Thematic Association, September 1998):
"Skiing around on stamps"
"Music, Feminism and Lunacy?"
. . . en ook in die Nederlanders se *THEMA* (September 1998):
"Een koningin inhuldigen die in feite al koningin was (Wilhelmina)"
"Het gebruik van filatelistische elementen in de tematische verzameling"
"Een wiskundig instrument met meerwaarde: de Passer als symbool"
"Elis Regina (Brasiliaanse sangeres)"

Serious question for thematic judges

May I use this postmarked stamp in my Big Five collection? ■



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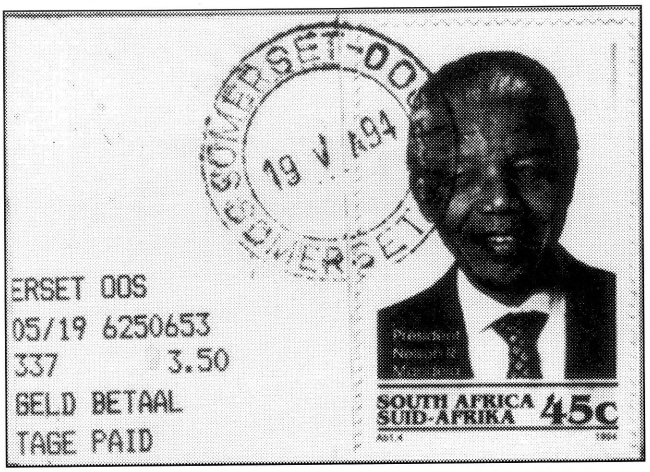
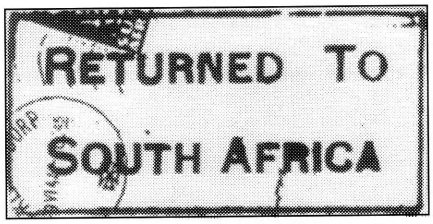
■ **NEVILLE GOMM** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

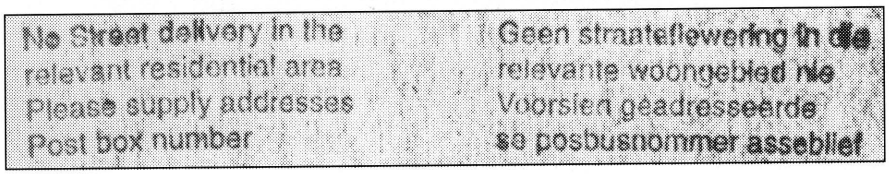
Contemporary philately/Filatelie vandag



Somerset-Oos in alle tale

In die Julie/Augustus 1992 uitgawe (p115) van hierdie rubriek het daar 'n verskeidenheid items verskyn oor die poskantoor op Somerset-Oos. Dit het hoofsaaklik gegaan oor die tweetalige gebruik van die poskantoor se naam in datumstempels, registrasie etikette en toonbank register kwitansies. Die kwitansie van register nommer 6250635 wat geïllustreer word, het die naam net in Afrikaans, en dit is op 19 Mei 1994 gedruk.





Rubberstempels in rooi

Die illustrasie wys afdrukke wat in rooi ink aangebring is op 'n brief wat in Roodepoort aan die Wes-Rand gepos is na 'n bestemming in Brakpan aan die Oos-Rand. Ná rojering en sortering by die Witspos possentrum het die brief vermoedelik by die Brakpan depot beland.

Ten tye van die sortering is daar vasgestel dat die bestemming van die brief in 'n gebied is waar pos nie afgelewer word nie. Die item is toe aan die sender teruggestuur nadat die rede met die stempel aangedui is. Die Engelse weergawe van die woord "geadresseerde" is verkeerd gespel – dit behoort "addressee's" te wees.

Follow-up on a canceller

In the October 1989 issue of this feature (p258) there was included a World War II item with a rubber stamp impression reading RETURNED TO SOUTH AFRICA as illustrated. The owner of the item, Jan van Beukering, wanted to know more about the ship and the person to whom the letter had been addressed.

His Majesty's South African Ship (HMSAS) *Seksern* was a minesweeper. *Seksern* was the original Norwegian name of the whaler that was converted for minesweeping. She left Durban on 1 July 1941, and sailed to the Mediterranean Sea. The vessel was stationed there for the duration of the war and arrived back in Durban on 17 September 1945.

In the address of the item concerned, it appeared that *Seksern* was part of 166 M/S Group. Information from the military archives in Pretoria has shown that *Seksern* was in fact part of 100 (not 166) Minesweeping Group at one stage during the operations in the Mediterranean.

No. 71491 J. Tennant Esq. to whom the letter was addressed, was Joseph Tennant who was from Pinelands, Cape Town. Tennant volunteered for service in 1941, and was posted as an able seaman in the Seaward Defence Force as the South African Navy was then known. He served as a telegraphist.

From 11 May 1942 until 16 March 1944, Tennant served for varying periods on six different South African minesweepers operating in the Mediterranean, among them *Seksern*. He must have returned to South Africa at some point after 16 March 1944.

The tax marks record

The rubber stamp impression illustrated was applied to a standard size letter with a



postmark of 1 October 1990. The item was postmarked in Cape Town and addressed to Kimberley. It is not known why the item was taxed because it had the correct value postage stamp for the size of the letter.

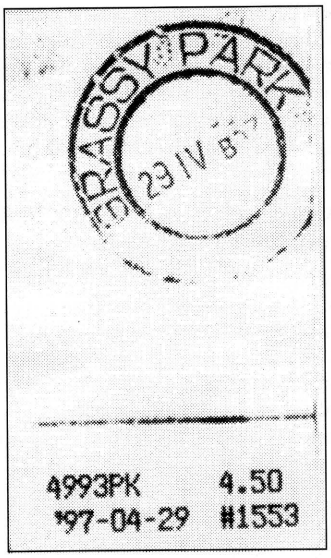
It is not clear whether Cape Town or Kimberley used the rubber stamp, although Cape Town seems to be the more likely.



Philatelic club memorabilia

In the December 1996 issue of this feature (p185), I illustrated an item related to the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society.

The illustration herewith is an item addressed to the Robertson Stamp Company in Johannesburg on 9 December 1962. Is there any reader who has details of the Helpmekaar Stamp Circuit?



'n Grassy Park brokkie

Op 29 April 1997 het Olivetti toonbank register nommer #1553 nie die poskantoor se naam op die kwitansie gedruk soos wat register nommer #1287 dit gedoen het nie. Die teller moes toe 'n handstempel afdruk aanbring om die kantoor van herkoms aan te dui.

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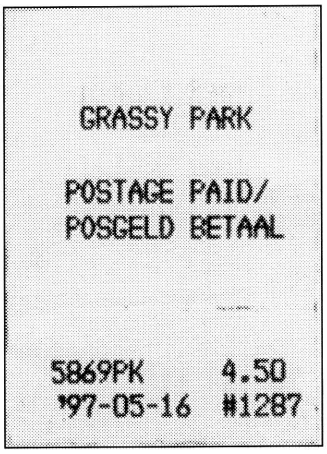


Suid-Afrikaanse lughawens

Hierdie illustrasie het betrekking op die lughawe buite Kaapstad. Dit is oorspronklik die D F Malan lughawe genoem, soos al die hoof-lughawens in Suid-Afrika na persoonlikhede vernoem is.

Bondeletikette is al by vorige geleenthede in die rubriek ingesluit. Vir die eerste keer word 'n etiket vir DEURGAANDE pos ingesluit. Dit is op geel papier met swart drukwerk en die rubberstempel afdrukke is in rooi ink. Die etiket het 'n bondel pos vanaf Kaapstad na Brandkop vergesel.

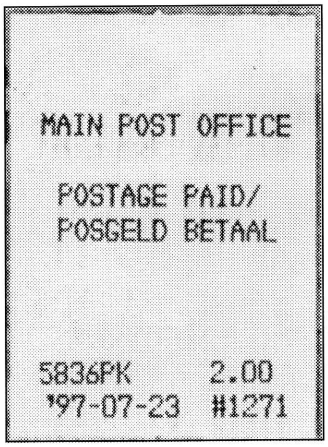
Volgens Ralph Putzel se *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* is Brandkop in 1909 as 'n posagentskap oopgemaak met Calvinia as hoofkantoor. Dit is in 1912 gesluit. Die agentskap is weer in 1923 oopgemaak met Nieuwoudtville as hoofkantoor. Dit is in 1985 gesluit. Met die instelling van poskodes is die kode 8181 aan Brandkop toegeken.

Bulk mail postmarks

Something that has not yet been dealt with in this feature, is the "Postage paid" marks applied to mail posted in bulk mainly by business undertakings.

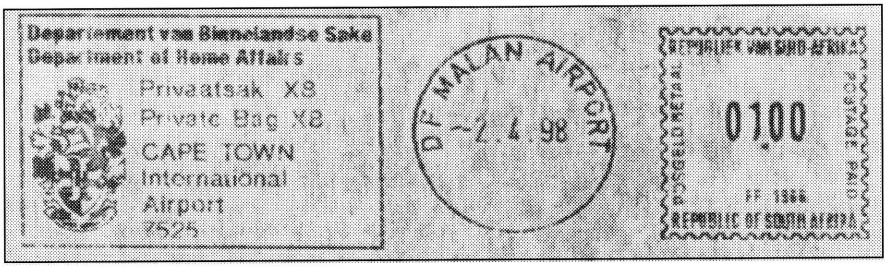
The Post Office regulations of 1987 in respect of bulk mail stipulated that ". . .articles must bear the words 'Postage paid' and the name of the post office of posting. . ." This requirement left some latitude as to what form the wording should take, and this has led to great variety. In most instances, firms have had the required words printed onto the envelopes in the envelope manufacturing process.

In some instances though, the words were applied with a rubber stamp. The illustrations show three different designs printed onto registered envelopes used by Philatelic Services in the 1980s.



"Main post office" waar?

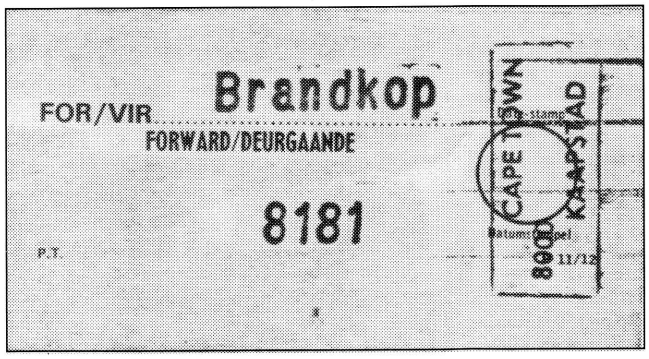
Die Olivetti toonbank register kwitansie wat geïllustreer word, het geen poskantoornaam daarop nie. Dit is op 'n koevert geplak met die naam van die munisipaliteit van Port Elizabeth daarop gedruk. Dit sou interessant wees om te weet hoe lank die register, wat waarskynlik in die Port Elizabeth poskantoor is of was, so verstel gebly het voordat die naam aangebring is. (**David Allison**)



Met die koms van die nuwe Suid-Afrika is die lughawens na die plekke vernoem waar hulle geleë is. Ons prentjie van 'n frankeermasjien afdruk wys die ou naam in die datumstempel en die nuwe naam, Cape Town International Airport, in die blokkie daarnaas.

Bondeletikette: dis 'n voorbeeld van poskantoorpapier:

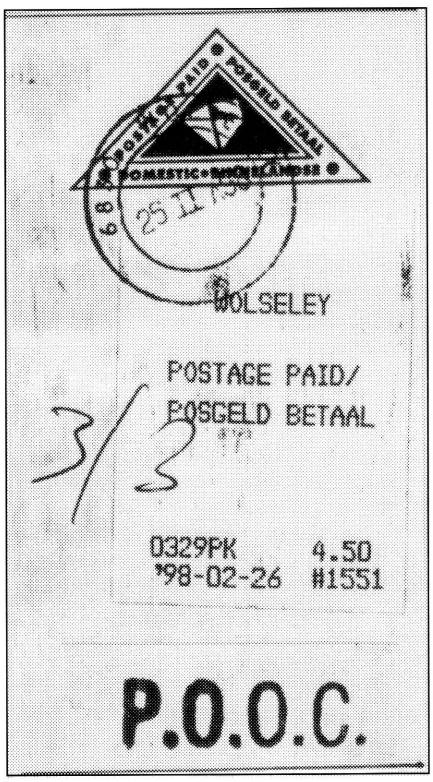
Die benaming "poskantoorpapier", dit wil sê enige gedrukte materiaal wat die poskantoor vir interne kommunikasie gebruik, is nuttig om dit te onderskei van pospapier (Engels: "postal stationery") wat altyd 'n ingedrukte waarde van die poskantoor op het vir poskommunikasie.











Posted out of course - The rubber stamp impression P.O.O.C. (posted out of course) appears to have been in use at Wolseley in the Western Cape on 26 February 1998.

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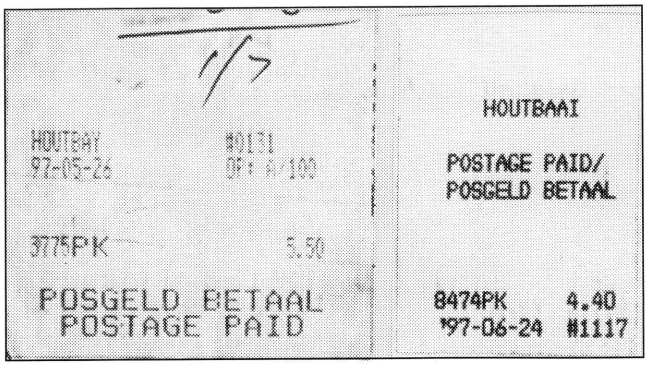
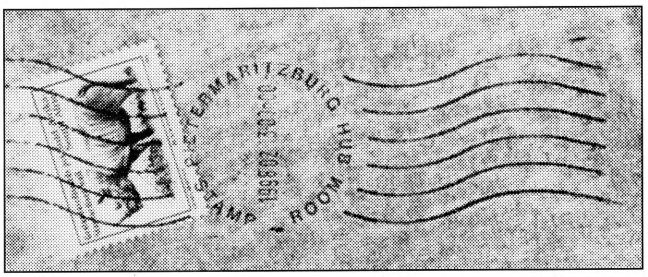


Houtbaai se tweetaligheid

Die Poskantoor se amptelike lys van poskantore gee die naam van die poskantoor as Houtbaai, soos dit deur die Nederlandse setlaars baie jare gelede genoem is. Maar in die amptelike poskodelys van 1996 word die Afrikaanse naam sowel as die Engelse weergawe, Hout Bay (twee woorde), verskaf.

Die toonbank register kwitansies wys die twee spellings, hoewel die Engelse weergawe twee woorde behoort te wees. Die kwitansie met die Afrikaanse naam kom uit 'n Olivetti masjien en die een met die Engelse naam uit 'n Anker Data masjien. (**John Hodgson**)



Hand roller at 'Maritzburg

The Pietermaritzburg hub uses a hand roller postmark with the wording STAMP ROOM. Can any reader give us an explanation of what a STAMP ROOM is?

This is the only datestamp I have seen with this wording. The date in the roller is 13 February 1998.

POST OFFICE NEWS

In the reference numbers, the first digits are a sequential number for each report, the second digits are the month in which the report appeared in *The SA Philatelist*, and the last digits are the year.

23/12/98 – The Post Office Bulletin of April 1998 has given a definition for a conventional type post office (CTPO). This type of facility is provided in Post Office owned or leased accommodation on a stand-alone basis. It is operated on either a full-time or part-time basis by Post Office staff providing the full spectrum of Post Office products and services to customers during standard business hours. These are from Mondays to Fridays from 08h30 to 16h30 and Saturdays from 08h00 to 12h00.

24/12/98 – The Danhof contentional type post office in the Free State Region with Bloemfontein as head office and with office code 51628 was converted to a retail post office with effect from 18 March 1998.

25/12/98 – Isibani retail postal agency in the Kwa Zulu-Natal Region with Mobeni as head office and with office code 59554 was opened with effect from 31 March 1998.

26/12/98 – Wilropark conventional type post office in the Gauteng Region with Roodepoort as head office and with office code 39468 was converted to a retail post office with effect from 29 April 1998.

27/12/98 – *Setempe* has reminded Philatelic Services clients that from 1998 onwards, all commemorative stamp issues are only available for one calendar year from their date of issue. Thereafter, they will only be available in year-packs.

28/12/98 – Following the removal of plate numbers from philatelic products, *Setempe* says it has been decided to use the term "imprint block" to define the positional blocks that carry printing information. *Setempe* says it is believed that this term is both accurate and descriptive.

29/12/98 – On 4 May 1998, eleven post offices and seventeen retail postal agencies in the Western Cape Post Office Region were placed under the Central Provinces Post Office Region. These offices are situated in the geographical areas that have through the years generally been known as Namaqualand and Bushmanland.

Five of the post offices were in the process of being downgraded to retail postal agency status.

30/12/98 – Lubanzi postal agency in the Eastern Cape Region with Libode as head office and office code 72789 was upgraded to a retail postal agency with effect from 2 March 1998.

(*Do you have any contributions?*) ■

STOCKS ARE LIMITED

Published at Ilsapex 98, and marking the 60th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of SA

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by Neville Gomm

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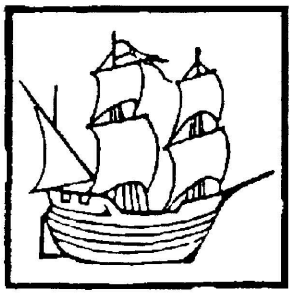

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Ilsapex 98: News, views and all the results

Ilsapex 98: the experience

FROM 20 to 25 October 1998 philatelists at the Gallagher Estate could feast on as close as dammit to 400 exhibits (literature, but not the Court of Honour included) from 42 countries, making well over 2 000 pages.

The SA Post Office dominated one end with an imaginative stand, dealers provided spice in the middle, and at the other end were a vigilant bin room and a meetings alcove. Downstairs refreshments – solid and liquid – were provided in a spacious restaurant which always seemed crowded with those resting their feet, and yet never seemed full.

To a disinterested observer like your Editor, who can only spell "Cape of Good Hope", there was at least a recognisable focus of never-to-be-seen-again-under-one-roof, and never to be forgotten exhibits – ten of them!

In awards this Cape ranged from Large Gold to Vermeil, but in fact awards at these levels are irrelevant. The sheer opportunity to view so much material of inter-related importance and of such excellence was overwhelming.

And oh yes, Her Majesty also had some fine Cape in the Court of Honour. One wag on the jury suggested that this be marked, once the other ten had been through the mangle. But as Charles Goodwyn, Keeper of the Royal Collection, was also serving on the jury, it was happily agreed not to take the joke any further.

The Cape Triangulars shown by Boonkrong Ad Indhusophon (who had a second exhibit of Cape Revenues) was awarded the National Grand Prix. What can you do but gasp at an exhibit that devotes two whole frames to the Woodblocks and errors of colour alone, including a page that showed both of them together, mint, for the first time?

The other exhibits ranged through the rectangulars, postal history (pre- and post-adhesive, and some more triangulars and revenues. Even my grandson would have described it as awesome.

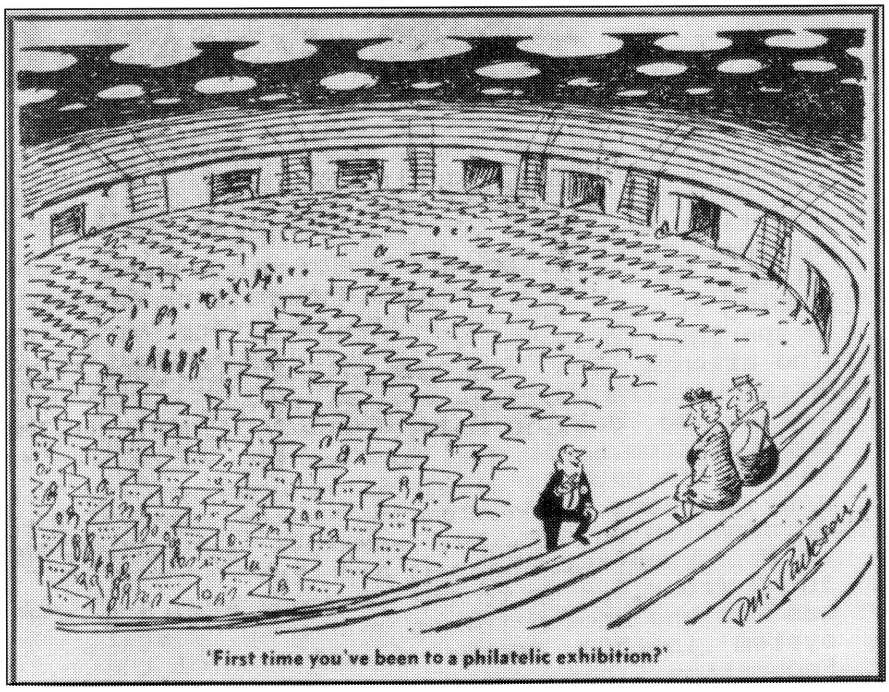
Israel, I was assured by judges who should know, exceeded the level of excellence achieved at Israel 98 earlier this year, from which exhibitors had had the opportunity of refining and up-grading their exhibits and material. In addition, some superb Russia was noted, also never seen before in South Africa.

At random, there was an impressive collection of Basutoland postal stationery, from a collector in Australia, nogal. There was, most enjoyably, "International Philatelic Exhibitions in South Africa" by Jonas Michelson RDPSA in the Court of Honour. And a superb display of Transvaal Enschdè material from the Netherlands Postal History and Philatelic





Two items from overseas featured the Ilsapex logo. The Uruguay stamp issued for World Post Day has it – tiny but recognisable – in the bottom right corner. A Roumanian flight cover on a mini-sheet (140 de Ani "Cap de Bour") had it in the cancellation: Zürich to Johannesburg, 14.10.98 at Bucharest.



This cartoon by the beloved "Jackson" appeared in *The Cape Argus* when Disa 79 was held at the then brand new Good Hope Centre in Cape Town. Déjà vue again, it was just about like that!

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Museum.

For stamp purists, an exhibit of the Lilac and Green issue of Great Britain could not be beaten, except perhaps by the Union First Definitives, if you have to be nationalistic.

Did you really want to see Uganda Missionaries just once in your life-time? They were there. One of the finest thematic exhibits seen world-wide ("May I introduce myself? My name is Automobile") was there too.

And there were other heart-warming impressions. Visits by bus-loads of school-children, shepherded around by several eminent philatelists, including the then current President of the Federation. A woman from a tiny mission settlement in the Western Cape, who had saved for two years to make the trip, and promptly brought a friend along.

Enough memories to last a lifetime. Patrick Pearson RDP, FRPSL, co-vice-chairman of the jury and official FIP observer summed it up at the Palmares banquet as "a great success... one of the most friendly exhibitions ever, with the quality of exhibits quite outstanding." And: "Alles van die beste van FIP!"

Ilsapex 98: The one confusion

THERE was one point which irked some exhibitors more than anything else, and there should be no beating about the bush. This concerned the "international" status of the exhibition, as it related to exhibitors' awards and their resultant future standing under FIP regulations. The noise of toys being tossed out of cots was widely reported, but has since seemingly abated.

Two facts need to be borne in mind. South Africa has previously had (see *The SA Philatelist*, August 1998, p100) eight international exhibitions, if one accepts that international participation and an at least partially internationally constituted jury are criteria. (Of the 39 Ilsapex jurors, 15 were FIP accredited.)

None of these exhibitions have ever been questioned as to "status".

Second: the decision to hold Ilsapex 98 as an international was taken before The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa had become a member of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP). It is therefore, if you like, a supra-national, but not a FIP International.

As Patrick Pearson RDP, FRPSL, the official FIP observer, explained to the Editor, there are three forms of FIP Internationals. Ilsapex had FIP recognition (which was formerly called "Support") which is not the full status implied by "Patronage" (the intermediate stage being "Auspices").

Patronage" brings with it that the full jury has to be FIP accredited, which was not the case here. Only then is it possible for five-frame exhibits which have received a Vermeil or larger to apply for eight

Ilsapex 98: The detailed results

LARGE GOLD

Bertolaja, Antonio	Italy	Cape of Good Hope 1864-1910
Delaey Yannick	Belgium	The Railways – We Need You
*Best Thematic/Topical Exhibit		
Drysdall, Alan	United Kingdom	Transvaal 1869-1885
*Best Transvaal Exhibit		
Franco, Davit	Turkey	French Post Offices in Ottoman Empire 1840-1870
*Best European Exhibit		
Goeggel, Hugo	Colombia	Classic Colombia. The First Four Issues
*Best "Americas" Exhibit		
Heijtz, Stefan	Sweden	Falkland Islands & Dependencies Postal History 1836-1937
*International Grand Prix and Best Postal History Exhibit		
Imperato, Severio	Italy	Sicily 1859-1862
Indhusophon, Boonkrong Ad	Thailand	Cape of Good Hope Classic Triangulars 1853-1864
*National Grand Prix and Best Cape of Good Hope		
Kestenbaum, Louis	USA West	History of Doar Ivri
*Best Holy Land and Best "Post Independence of Israel" Exhibit		
Kollrepp Horst	South Africa	Pre Stamp Mail & P. Markings of the C. of G.H.
Nathaniel, Ygal	Israel	Japan – Etched Stamps 1871-875
Polakow Neville	South Africa	South African Airmails
*Best Aerophilatelic Exhibit		
Shabtai, Yaakov	Israel	Israel 1948. The Doar Ivri Issue
Springbett, David	United Kingdom	Nyasaland-the High Value Key Plate
*Best Philatelic Research Exhibit		
Wallberg, Borje	Sweden	Cambodia-Laos during the French Colonial Period
*Best Asian Exhibit		

GOLD

Allison, Robert	United Kingdom	OFS – The Republican Overprints
Bartoc, Alexandru	Romania	Aerophilatelic Obliterations by Mai Romania
Basterfield Peter	United Kingdom	W Australia Official Mail 1831-1910
Bertolaja, Antonio	Italy	Cape of Good Hope 1654-1863
Beston, Bernie	Australia	Postal History of Queensland 1841-1891
Bialikamien, Enrique	Costa Rica	Costa Rica – The Overprints of Guanacaste
Bowman, Gene (dec'd) & Maryann	USA West	C. of G.H. 1853-1910
Brendl, Lumir	Czech Republic	Troubled Times in Bohemia & Czechoslovakia
Brown, Gary	Australia	Aden Postal History
Castro-Harrigan, Alvaro	Costa Rica	Costa Rica: The 1901-03 Issue
Chirakiti, Prakob	Thailand	Siam: The Early Years
Chusyd, Marcos	Brazil	Brazil – Don Pedro 2nd
Dillaway, Guy	USA East	Cape of Good Hope Postal History 1853-1866
Druce, Edric	Australia	Postal Statiunery of NSW
*Best Postal Stationery Exhibit		
Drysdall, Alan	United Kingdom	Transvaal Handbook Series Vol 1-3
Erixon, Per-Anders	Sweden	Russian Zemstvo 1865-1915
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Ffooks, Oliver	United Kingdom	Lilac & Green Issue of GB
*Best Great Britain Exhibit		
Fikry, Amin Samir	Egypt	The Royal Collection
Fine, Jeff M.	South Africa	Union First Definitives as issued in Sheet and Coil Format
*Best Union of South Africa Exhibit		
Galinos & Nikolas, Alexandros & Allain	Greece	Foreign PO's & their Cancels in the Helladic Terrs.
Groesswang, Friedrich	Austria	Austria Ausgabe 1867 Frankaturen
Hagen H. & Naylor S.	South Africa	Railway Postal History of South Africa
Herzberg, Alfred	Namibia	KGV Issues of SWA
*Best South West Africa/Namibia Exhibit		
Hopson, Susan	United Kingdom	Communications with Seychelles
Huggins, Alan K	United Kingdom	GB-Prestamped Foreign Rate Postcards
Imperato Rossi, Luisa	Italy	Naples – Varieties
Imperato, Saverio	Italy	Postal Relations Tuscany – Papal States
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Indhusophon, Boonkrong	Thailand	19th Century Cape of Good Hope Revenues
*Best Revenue Exhibit		
Kamffer, Gerhard	South Africa	The Postal History & Postmarks of the ZAR/Tvl
Kewriga, Matthew	USA East	US Departmental Officials
*Junior Grand Prix and Best Junior Exhibit 20 – 21 years		
Kimmel, Kurt E	Switzerland	Venezuela. The Classic Issues 1859-1879
Legay, André	France	The Folly of Nations 1914-1918
Maisel, Richard	USA East	The Postage-Postage Issues of King Edward VII
Mandrovskiy, Nicolay	Russia	The Airmail of the USSR
Martin, Edmond	Switerland	Swiss Aerial Post 1910-1948
Matheson, Ian	South Africa	British Honduras (1767-1936)
McIntosh, Philippa	South Africa	Royal Mail: The Prestamp Period
Mira, Juan C	Uruguay	Airmails of Uruguay
Mohr, Knud	Denmark	Copenhagen
O Mahony, Finbar	Ireland	The Franking Privilege 1652-1840
Orestis Vlastos Ltd	Greece	The Comparisons of Hellenic Stamps 1861-1923
*Best Philatelic Literature Exhibit		
Peinado, Augusto	Colombia	Colombia State of Bolivar
Pildes, Robert	USA East	Israel – Doar Ivri Issue
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Pittie, Damayanti	India	Pre Stamp Postal History of British India
Polakow, Neville	South Africa	Northern Rhodesia 1924-1964
Porter, Roger	South Africa	Postal History of Natal
*Best Natal Exhibit		
Roussel, Jean Claude	France	The Tree
Samra, Sherif	Egypt	Classical Stamp Collection Egypt
Samuel, R D	New Zealand	The Embossed PS. of NZ 1900-1952
Schaefer, Richard	Switzerland	Pen Cancels in Switzerland 1843-1862
Scott, Gene	USA East	Uganda – The "Missionary" Issues
*Best "Africa" Exhibit outside Southern African Federation		
Shtern, Shlomo	Israel	RSFSR Postal Stamps 1917-1923

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frames at a future FIP International.

But that you need eight frames to gain a higher medal level at a full FIP international is a misconception, Pearson said.

FIP regulations make it perfectly clear that if the subject matter does not allow for more than five frames – which is the mandatory minimum – five, or only one or two more can also be applied for, and they will not be denied a Large Gold if judged worthy. (In fact, the Editor saw a five-frame exhibit at Norwex 97 achieve just this.)

It seems that exhibitors were not sufficiently informed on this point.

But that is now crying over spilt milk, and denying the palpable achievement of quality which Ilsapex 98 represented both in terms of exhibits and in the substantial exposure to international judging expertise.

Ilsapex 98: The dealers

WE asked all standholders at Ilsapex their impressions of the venue, their trading and their overall impressions, Julian Gecelter, vice-chairman of Ilsapex 98 reported.

We received 24 responses, and the reply from most respondents was that the venue was found to be good to excellent – one respondent finding it poor.

The overall impression was that the exhibition was good to excellent, although some traders replied that it was average, and one respondent finding the exhibition poor.

The trading results were mixed. Postal authorities and coin dealers generally found trading poor. Overseas stamp dealers found trading poor to excellent, with some dealers having sales well into six figures.

Local dealers generally found trading good to excellent with only one of the respondents finding trading poor.

The Editor, having pawned his cheque book, found trading excellent, picking up the odd item here and there at what he thought was a bargain. As always, it paid to have an informed and systematic search around.

His impression was that the SA Post Office was doing an excellent trade, also in some esoteric items like a clay model of a Lydenburg Head (Early South African History, see *The SA Philatelist*, August 1998, p131).

A special feature was the Ilsapex 98 whale booklet, numbered from 1 to 10 000, sold only at the exhibition, with all remaining stocks now destroyed. It gave rise to the following exchange:

Sour philatelist: "What would you want to do with it?"

Happy collector: "Take it home, and play with it in the bath."

Ilsapex 98: Chairman concludes

HENK DE LANGE, who took over as

ILSAPEX 98 Results

*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Sussex, John D C	United Kingdom	Postal History of Portuguese E Africa
Tan, Ngiap Chuan	Singapore	The Marvellous Waterfalls
Uria, Alan	South Africa	1910-1913 Rhodesian Double Heads
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Uria, Selwyn	South Africa	Israel 1948 Doar Ivri
Uribe, Rodrigo	Colombia	Colombia-State of Antioquia
Van den Bold, Willem E J	Netherlands	May I Introduce Myself – My Name is Automobile
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Van Heerden, Wikus	South Africa	The OFS/ORC Revenues 1848-1937
*Best Orange Free State Exhibit		
Van Puyenbroek, John	United Kingdom	Revenue Stamps of the C of GH
Von Kutzleben, Bodo A	Germany	Thurn and Taxis
Wannerton, John	South Africa	Canadian Contingents SA War 1899-1902
*Best Anglo-Boer War Exhibit		
Weiss, Jeffrey	USA East	Seychelles Postal Affairs to 1902
Wofchuck, Joseph	USA East	Mail from the Holy Land WW I
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Woo, Arthur K M	United Kingdom	Nicaragua – The Classic Period

LARGE VERMEIL

Alexandre, Bruce	New Zealand	NZ & Dep QV Postal Fiscals
Amandus, Loidl	Austria	Finland 1809-1917
Attia, Samir	Egypt	The Postal Markings of Egyptian Railway Stations
Bailey, William	Canada	Canadian Military Postal Markings 1881-1995 (2 vols)
Bartshe, Tim	USA West	OFS Early Settings of VRI Overprints
Bayes, Robert	Canada	The Special Delivery Stamps of Canada
Benes & Tosnerová, Fr & Pat	Czech Republic	Mail Service in the Ghetto Terezin
Bezuidenhout, André	South Africa	OFS – 100 Years of Postal History
Bezuidenhout, André	South Africa	The Freestaters and the Anglo Boer War
Bobrikov, Vitaliy	Russia	RSFSR, Postal History 1917-1923
Castro-Harrigan, Alvaro	Costa Rica	Panaman: First Issues & Forerunners
Cheminais, John	South Africa	Postal History & Markings: OFS & ORC
Conradie, Willie	South Africa	Bophuthatswana
*Best Junior Exhibit 16 – 17 years and Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Cordes, Christopher	South Africa	Victoria Falls
Duggan, John	United Kingdom	Deutsche Lufthansa-S. America Service
Fawn, Fred	Canada	Canada Imperial Penny Postage 1898
Fristad, Jan	Sweden	Argentina, Postal Stationery 1876-1935
Galinos, Alexandros	Greece	Histoire Postale Du Pont 1842-1923
Geydet, Gerard	France	Le Type Sage. Groupe Allégorique
Gjelsvik, Tore	Norway	Norway No 1 – The New Handbook
Groten, Arthur H	USA East	Mail Routes From, To & Through Mandate Palestine 1918-1948
Haff, Jesper	Denmark	Denmark 1851-1871 The "Skilling" Period
Hyland, Des	South Africa	The King's Head Stamps of the Union of SA
Ilie, Andrada Liliana	Romania	Romania 1872-1879
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Jayakar, Rajan	India	Fiscals of British India 1800-1900
Jessen, Hans Ehlern	Denmark	The Bicoloured Danish Stamps
Jones, Washington	Uruguay	The Birds
*Best Junior Exhibit 18 – 19 years		
Kohl, Alfred	Austria	Die KuK Kriegsmarine bis 1914
Kramer, George	USA East	The Telegraph in America 1846-1866
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Lee, Linda	Australia	Women in Society
Leibowitz, Eli	South Africa	Gambia
Lüddicke, Horst	Germany	Use of Inflation Postal Stamps as Single Payment of Charges
Malecek, Jaroslav	Czech Republic	Czechoslovakia – Hradcany Issue
Mira, Juan C	Uruguay	Nineteenth Century Uruguay
Mitakis, Andreas	Greece	The Revenue Stamps in Crete 1875-1913
Mohana, S	Malaysia	Postal History of Straits Settlements 1900-1942
*Best Junior Exhibit up to 15 years		
Nielsen, Lasse	Denmark	Danske Frimarker
Nielsen, Lasse	Denmark	4 Skilling 1864
Ogier, Bryan	New Zealand	GB – The Birth of the First Adhesive Stamps & Mulreadies
Ohara, Toshima	Japan	Manchukuo
Osada, Ikuo	Japan	Japan Koban Stamps 1876-1892
Oslo Filatelistklubb	Norway	Norgeskatalogen 1998
Pickering, Trevor	United Kingdom	The Maltese Cross
Podger, Christopher	United Kingdom	Cyprus Revenue Stamps 1872-1997
Raehs, Cari	Namibia	SWA – Postal History Date Stamps 1915-1950
Ramkissoon, Reuben A	USA East	Tobago 1772-1913
Rattakul, Chavayos	Thailand	Revenue Stamps of Jamaica
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Retief, D J	South Africa	German SWA – Postal History
Rosen, Morris	USA East	Ghetto Post in German Occupied Europe
Ross, W G M	South Africa	British Central Africa-A Postal History
Sandilands, John	South Africa	The 2nd Anglo-Boer War in Natal & Related P. History 1899-1902
Sandner, Herbert	Germany	See und Bahnpost German SWA
Schwartz, Paul	Israel	Grand Duchy of Luxembourg 1852-1918
Sefi, Michael	United Kingdom	The Downey Head
Selig, Heinz	Germany	Obernkirchen Postgeschichtliche Heimatsammlung
Shabtai, Shay	Israel	P. Communications of the Jewish Yishuv
Shaida, David	New Zealand	The Lions of Persia
Shtern, Shlomo	Israel	SSSR Postal Stamps 1923-1938
Sitarenios, Konstantinos	Greece	Vlastos 1998 Catalogue
Smith, Michael	United Kingdom	OFS Postal Stationery Local Printings
Smith, Peter	USA East	Egypt Used Abroad: The Consular & Territorial POs of Egypt
Snyman, Frank	Namibia	German SWA – P History inc. Walvis Bay & Sandwich Harbour
*Best German South West Africa Exhibit		
Spafford, Ronald	United Kingdom	Falkland Islands
Speksnyder, Dirk	Netherlands	Columbus: Discoverer of a New World
Strehmel, Gunnar	France	George V-Head Dies & Essays with Die Proofs
Suess, Peter	Germany	Kashmir
Tonking, Mike	South Africa	The "De La Rue" Georgians of SWA
*Best South West Africa Research Exhibit		
Toutounji, Lucien S	Egypt	Egypt Early Airmail 1870-1938

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chairman of the organising committee at short notice following the sad and untimely death of David Stern RDPSA, thought Ilsapex 98 was very successful.

"Whilst we did not have the large volume of visitors which overseas exhibitions enjoy we did, at any given time, have more people looking at the actual exhibits than I have seen either in Singapore, Toronto or San Francisco.

"And as the prime objective was to promote philately, I am confident we achieved that goal.

"I would like to thank all the visitors and volunteer helpers, from whatever part of South Africa or the world, for their help and support in making this the success that Ilsapex was."

Ilsapex 98: The programme

APART from all the official functions, there was an extensive programme of specialised society meetings, lectures and talks buzzing around every day – not forgetting the 60th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and a Stephan Welz Auction.

There were no less than nine specialised society meetings, two of which were notable for the thoughts expressed there by the key-note speakers.

Natal and Zululand Study Circle

The meeting was at 14h00 on 21 October 1998, introduced by the paper "Postal History Research in South Africa", read by John Dickson. The salient points are reproduced here.

As long ago as 1931 R F Hawksley submitted to the University of Natal an MA thesis with the title "The development of postal communications in Natal". This study was based on his reading of documents in the Natal Archives Depot and, as regards newspapers, of the old copies available in the Natal Society Library. He made use of very few secondary sources.

In the opening paragraph he says: "In the opinion of the present writer, there is a real need for a work on the development of postal communication in Natal since, apart from its intrinsic interest, the subject throws considerable light on the development of the colony, on its early struggles for freedom from control from a distance, and on the difficulties which such government involved, both to the colony, and to the governing bodies at the Cape and in London, to which it was subordinate."

Hawksley's work was completed before I was born. Today we have Webb's Guide to the Official Records of the Colony of Natal, now in its second edition, and we have detailed printed inventories of substantial classes of the records of the Natal Archives Depot.

In Hawksley's day no such aids to research were available. As a matter of fact, as part of the modernisation and organisation of the archives, all the records in the

ILSAPEX 98 Results

Transferred to 3360	Germany	Das Getreidekorn (See final entry form)
tSas Rolfes, Rita	South Africa	Bechuanaland
Van Beukering, Ingrid	South Africa	The Post Office Presents
*Special Prize at the discretion of the jury		
Vermeer, Martinus	Netherlands	France. The Ceres Issue (1871-1875)
Visnyovszki, Gabor	Hungary	History of Hungarian Stamps 1867-1914
Vogt, Wolfgang	Germany	Kingdom of Portugal
Wiseman, Tony	United Kingdom	GB-Government Parcels 1827-1907

VERMEIL

Agaogullari, M. Edip	Turkey	The Summer Olympic Games
Barbero, Henri-Andre	France	Fiscal Stamps of the 2nd Empire
Beck, Friedhelm	Namibia	Stamps of the German Empire 1872-1918
Ben Zvi, Moshe	Israel	Meteorology-History, Tecnics, Importance
Buranasombati & Nirandara, P&Y	Thailand	Judicial Stamps of GB
Burshtein, Moshe	Israel	Classic Belgium until 1899
Caruso, Gian Marco	Colombia	Colombia: Tolima State,1869-1903
Catterall, Jim	United Kingdom	Postal History of the Bechuanas
Chulaporn, Karnasuta	Thailand	Study of Siamese Surcharge Issues 1885-1899
Conradie, Dawie	South Africa	King George Vl issues of the Union of South Africa
Cox, Talbot	South Africa	Swaziland
Crandel, Leo M.A.	Netherlands	Postcards of the OFS
Darsh, René	France	Bovines
De Kock, Geo	South Africa	Sweat of the Sun – A Golden Story
De Villiers, David W.	South Africa	The London Pictorials (Bradbury Wilkinson & Co Issues)
Drossou, Sofia	Greece	Hellenic PO's Abroad & in Crete 1834-1881
Druce, Edric	Australia	Postal Stationery of Basutoland
Eiben, Gert	Germany	The Last of the Ruling reptiles
Eichele, Martin	Switzerland	Russian Foreign Destinations up until approx.1910
Gibson, John	Australia	Sudan, From Khedive to Condominium
Glassman, Leslie	South Africa	Mozambique & Mozambique Co
Hefferman, Lutz	South Africa	Cape of Good Hope Triangulars
Herzberg, Alfred	Namibia	SWA Postage Dues 1923-1929
Kilroe, John	South Africa	GB – The King George V Years
Kurchan, Mario	Argentina	River Plate Postal History. Republic of Uruguay
Latinsky, Joel	South Africa	Israel Flying Scrolls
Lawrence, Frederick	USA West	Scouting on Stamps "Classics"
Levandovskiy, Valentin	Russia	The Railway Post of Russia & the USSR
Lijtmaer, Daniel A	Argentina	Colonial Cuba – Postal History
Lingley, Roger	South Africa	BCA/Nyassaland – The First 30 Years PH
M Teton	USA East	Beguiling Orbs of Beauty
Mangin, Jean-Pierre	France	Postal History of the Scottish Islands
Marshall, B	New Zealand	"Caught Short" – NZ's Treatment of Underpaid Mail
Mavros, Plato	Zimbabwe	Greece – The 1901/02 "Flying Hermes" & 1902 "AM" Issues
Mazur, Igor	Armenia	Overprints of the First Stamps of Soviet Russia 1922-1938
Menelaou, Charalambos	Cyprus	Cyprus Postal Stationery
Mollah, Abdul Matin	India	Fiscal Stamps of the Punjab States
Nishio, Akira	Japan	Prussia 1850-1867
Ohba, Mitsuhiro	Japan	The Shanghai Local Post
Ortiz, Mario	Colombia	Classic Colombia
Peetoom, Otto	United Kingdom	The Rhodesian Philatelist
Peinado, Augusto	Colombia	Communications and Post in the History of Colombia
Pogue, Jeanne	USA East	Pakistan Provisional Overprints
Polish Philatelists Union	Poland	Encyclopaedia of Philately
Popescu, Vasile	Romania	Romania 1858-1872
Rigo, Franco	Italy	Venice Postal History C14th-C19th
Rosenberg, Mervyn	South Africa	The Cape Rectangular – Its Use & Development
Sasaki, Yoshiro	Japan	Foreign Mail of Japan
Schaffler, Herbie	South Africa	RSA – First Definitives Varieties & Errors
*Best Republic of South Africa Exhibit		
Schild, Georges	Switzerland	POW Mail from WWI except Europe
Schlichter, Andres J	Argentina	German Imperial Navy in the Boxer War
Senthinathan, V	Malaysia	Ships Through the Ages
Shaida, Hassan	United Kingdom	The First Portrait Issue of Persia
Shoukry, Ibrahim	Egypt	Pyramids & Sphinx (De La Rue) 1879-1914
Spathis, Georgios	Greece	Hermes 1998 Catalogue
Teyssier, Eveline	France	The Cat
Thompson, Harold	South Africa	SWA Postal History 1914-1923
Traub, Ghita	South Africa	SWA Overprints
Vomeia, Jindrich	Czech Republic	Montenegro 1874-1900
Watanabe, Yoshio	Japan	Japanese Telegrams 1873-1950
Watts, Derek	South Africa	Wreck & Crash Mail
Werner, Eric	Switzerland	Stamps of the Kingdom of Italy
Wessely, David	USA West	The Bechuanalands 1885-1912
Wollansky, Franz	Austria	The World of Railways
Wollbrandt, Christian	South Africa	German SWA The PH of the Wanderstempel
Zafirakopoulos, Neoklis	Greece	The Postal Stationery of Greece 1876-1920
Zakian, Chrystopher	Armenia	Overprints in Circulation in the Territory of RSFSR 1917-1923
Zinke, Rolf	Namibia	Cancellers ot the German Reichpost 1872-1900

LARGE SILVER

Agrawal, Pradeep Kumar	India	Barwani – An Indian Princely State
Agrawal, Pradeep Kumar	India	India After Independence
Albert, Dr Lothar	Germany	Traffic Education – Traffic Security, the Needs of Our Time
Antoniades, Andreas	Cyprus	Cyprus Postal Stamps 1880-1935
Baranek, Peter	Germany	Rebut-Retour Briefe/Karten 1918
Barry, Jon & Jennifer	Zimbabwe	The Postmarks of Rhodesia
Beyer, Wolfgang	Germany	Rollerbirds
Bialikamien, Enrique	Costa Rica	The Airmail Development of Costa Rica
Borodinsky, Isaac	Argentina	Postal History of Palestine 1836-1918
Bridges, Eddie	Germany	The Penny Ship Stamps of SA
Brimault, Jacques	France	Dog, My Friend
Brockenhuus-von Löwenhielm, H	Sweden	Jaipur Postal Stationery
Buza, George	Canada	"Money to Burn". Hungary's Hyperinflation of 1945-6
Campbell, John	New Zealand	The Place of Stones
Conradie, Gerrie	South Africa	Highlights on the History of Healing & Medicine
Cook, Howard	South Africa	The Bechuanalands 1884-1935

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Archives Depot have been re-classified since Hawksley wrote, and all his file references are now invalid.

The thesis was never published. It is still the best available work on the history of the Natal postal service, but in the sixty-odd years since Hawksley was engaged in this work two important changes have taken place which I intend to talk about.

The first development is the growth of interest in postal history during the last fifty years or so, and in doing so I want to contrast the general style of publications on the subject with that adopted by Hawksley.

There is nothing in Hawksley's purpose that is recognisably philately and very little that is postal history as that term is understood conventionally. Hawksley's study is barely influenced by the analysis of covers and postal markings which are basic to the art of postal history as practiced today. And the contrary is also true – that Hawksley's work has had little influence on the published postal history of Natal, and his approach has had little influence on the methodology of postal history studies in South Africa.

The method of postal history is largely, and in South Africa very largely, an analytical one. Analytical, and iconographic and taxonomic. Covers and postmarks are the heart of the subject. Periods of use are adduced by an analysis of dated covers. Postage rates are likewise attributed to periods by analysing dated covers. Hart, Kantey and Leon's work is the current handbook on Natal and its title *The Postal Markings of Natal* indicates the authors' intentions to focus on the iconography of postal history.

This approach is apparent also from the titles of the key works on Cape postal history. Jurgens has the title *The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope from 1792 to 1853 and the Postmarks from 1853 to 1910.* Goldblatt has the more direct *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope.* In this postal history shows its origins in conventional philately – it aims at creating a taxonomy, a catalogue, of the postal markings.

The Free State records and the early issues of *The Friend* were used by F W Gericke to prepare his MA thesis published in 1968 as *Die Ontwikkeling van Pos- en Telegraafwese in die Oranje-Vrystaat.* Then, as regards the ZAR, as long ago as 1941 P J H S Grobler wrote an MA thesis entitled *Poswese van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek tot 1877* and followed this up with a PhD in 1956 as *Die Geskiedenis van die Poswese van die Suid-Afrikaanse Republiek.* I suspect that these writers are relatively little known.

Like Hawksley, they are quite separate from the iconographic approach commonly followed in postal history.

There is almost no inter-relationship between these works based on the archives, and the postal history studies based

ILSAPEX 98 Results

Corres, Orlando Eloy	Argentina	The Magic of the Cinema
Daniels, Maurice	South Africa	Israel Used Definitives 1960-1980
De Villiers, David W	South Africa	The Pretoria Rotogravure Pictorials
Doherty, Bernard	Australia	South Africa Postage Due Stamps
Doherty, Bernard	Australia	SA Pictorial Postal Cards 1941-6
Editions Darnell, Inc	Canada	BNA Catalogue
Eisenberg, Marc	USA East	Short Paid, Unpaid & Redirected Mail of Canada
Fernandez, Hugo M	Argentina	Argentinian Research Articles
Gan, Victor	Singapore	Primates
Gass, Harald	Austria	KuK Präsenz in China
Gelber, Abraham	Costa Rica	Costa Rica: The Issue of 1923
Guile, Clifford	Canada	The Death of Money (Postal Rates in Germany 1922-1923)
Henrikson, Arne	Sweden	Metal Mining in History
Hock Khoon, Chua	Malaysia	Kelantan 1901-1957
Hooger-van Schellen, Diny	Netherlands	European Royal Houses
Hughes, Anthony	Ireland	Westmeath Postal History
Jacobs, Freddy	Netherlands	The Currency Reform in Germany
Jiraprasertkun, Phairot	Thailand	History of the Olympic Games
Kato, Hideo	Japan	Tazawa
Köhler, Alexandra	Germany	Elephants – Grey Giants
Köhler, David	Germany	Dinosaurs
König, Dewald	South Africa	Rocks and Minerals
Kordatos, Christos	Greece	The Gods of Olympos – Greek Mythology
Landau. Eliot	USA East	Abraham Lincoln's Life & Times in Contemporary PH
Lijtmaer, Daniel A	Argentina	Zemstvos
Magid, Paul	USA East	Imperial Airways Africa Service
Mavros, Plato	Zimbabwe	Thrace: The Country that Never Was
McEvoy, Kai	South Africa	Aspects of OFS & ORC Philately
McMahon, Ian	Australia	NZ Postcards & Lettercards
Mendoza, Andres	Colombia	Matasellos Al Vuelo en Colombia
Mermier, Alain	France	Sardinian & French Cancellations of Albertville 1776-1876
Migliavacca, Giorgio	USA East	The Stamps of Somalia and Their Story
Napier, Donald	Australia	"Rhodesia" – The BSA Co
Palmer, Tony	South Africa	The American Civil War 1861-1865
Pang, Siong Choon	Singapore	The Fascinating Owl
Patchett, Reginald	United Kingdom	Crash & Interrupted Mail of USA & Canada to 1945
Philipps, Ralph	South Africa	S Africa – 1926 4d Triangulars
Polski Zwiazek Filatelistow	Poland	Historical Research Philatelic Bulletin
Pretoria Philatelic Society	South Africa	PPS Centenary Catalogue
Reah Johnson & Temple	USA West	Frameplate Flaws
Redmond, Jill	South Africa	First British Definitives of QE II
Reisner, Wolfgang	Austria	Die österr/ungarische Kriegsmarine
Rimer, Moshe	Israel	The Use of Molluscs by Man
Robinson, William	Canada	Canadian Participation in the Boer War
Salahudeen, Muhamed H	India	Handstruck Stamps of GB
Samuel, R D	New Zealand	The 1932 Provisionals of NZ
Saraceno, Ana Maria	Argentina	Magic of the Opera
Shaida, Hassan	United Kingdom	GB SilverJubilee KGV
Shigeyama, Masaru	Japan	Dr Sun Yat-Sen Issue 1931-1945
Stolk, Jan	Netherlands	Postcards of SWA
Straifors, Marie	Sweden	The Use of Horses
Subramaniam, A P	Malaysia	Iron Track Transportation
Tan, Steven	Malaysia	Catalogue of Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei
TSchroots, Gregor J	Netherlands	Monkeys, from Man Ape to Acrobat
Tugcu, Erol	Turkey	The First Ten Olympic Games
Turner, Warren	South Africa	GB Machin Definitives
Van Bogaert, Luc	Belgium	Wreck Covers Damaged on Railway Transportation
Wiatr, Frank M	USA East	Cracow Postal History Before WWI
Wilson, J F	New Zealand	NZ Coin in the Slot Vending Machine Stamps
Yee, Kok Wei	Malaysia	Automobiles
Zronek, Jindrich	Czech Republic	Austria Empire Postal Stationery 1867-1918
zur Strassen, Helmut	Namibia	GSWA-SWA Postage Dues Within, Into & Out of the Country

SILVER

Bigoteau, Aline	France	Nautical Sports
Bolte, Dietrich	Germany	OFS – 1860-1910
Brosi, Reiner	Germany	German Space History
Burnett, John	USA East	Canada The Small Queens 1870-1897
Ceriani, Juan	Argentina	Argentine Railway Postmarks
Chua, Dennis	Singapore	Postal History of Singapore 1945-1965
Collyer, David	Australia	Imperial Connection
Colquhoun, Grace	South Africa	Postmarks of Port Elizabeth
Dathe, Detlef	Germany	Airmail with the German Airship "Graf Zeppelin" 1928-1929
De Boer, Yuri	Netherlands	Focus on Machin
Drube, Alejandro	Argentina	Argentine Travelling Railway Post Offices
Fargeat, Jean Yves	France	River and Water Birds
Fosalba, Rafael	Uruguay	Lettercards to and from POW's during WW I
Gabillard, Laetitia	France	Gymnastics
Gougoulas, Ioannis	Greece	Philoteliki Lesvos
Goyal, Sachin	India	The Story and Study of Flowers
Hepworth, Derek	United Kingdom	Orange Free State Postal History
Hühn, Walter Erich	Germany	Ein Hafen Schreibt Postgeschichte:Eckerö
International Soc of Phil Exhib	Australia	The Asia Pacific Exhibitor
Jabban, Eren	Turkey	Berlin 1948-1955
Jonkers, Dr G & Quik, W	Netherlands	The Postal Stationery of South Africa Pts I & II
Kappetijn, Hans	South Africa	SA Airmail Covers 1911-1940
Kiesel, Petr	Czech Republic	Moravia and Silesia
Kleingeld, Christiaan B	Netherlands	Hé Amsterdam
Kuyama, Jun	Japan	China – Dr Sun Yat-Sen
Magoulas, Petros	Greece	The Landscapes Issues of Greece 1927-1933
Majörg, Karl	Austria	The Allied Occupation of Austria
Malott, Richard	Canada	The Story of the Development of the Canadian Forces Air Letter
Martienss, Henning	Germany	Eine Rundtour. . .
Metzig, Bernd	Germany	Welver – the Historical & Post Development
Mobsby, Chris	South Africa	Issuing Authorities of the World
Mosley, Mamdouh	Egypt	The Delta Collection
Nuyken, Gunter	Germany	UNEF in the Middle East

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on covers and postmarks. Some of the latter include scattered references to historical data based on incomplete readings of the proclamations and Government Gazettes. These references are often so sketchy as to be misleading.

A small example may suffice to contrast the result of the archive-based approach with the iconographic approach:

A hand-stamp used in Natal in the early 1850s has the word "PREPAID" in italic capitals within a box. This is illustrated in Hart, Kantey and Leon and is there stated to be "used in Pietermaritzburg". I assume that this theory originated from the examination of a small number of covers. As a result, all covers which bear this mark have been assumed to have passed through Pietermaritzburg. If such covers clearly originated elsewhere reasons have to be sought as to why they passed through Pietermaritzburg or were stamped there. Covers with this mark originating in Durban and addressed overseas are supposed, therefore, to have gone by the overland route through Pietermaritzburg, Harrismith, Winburg, and Colesberg to Cape Town rather than by sea.

But it is clear from papers in the Natal Archives Depot that three hand-stamps of this style were obtained, and that one was delivered to each of the offices at Pietermaritzburg, Ladysmith, and Durban – together, incidentally, with an oval hand-stamp for each of these towns!

So, to sum up the first point. A great deal of postal history has been written in South Africa since Hawksley's day. Most of it has been written based on the analysis of covers and post-marks, and has a collector orientation and a catalogueing style which serves the purpose of the collector, but not that of the social historian. The in-depth use of archival material has been of little significance in these writings, but would add much to a proper understanding of the subject and the accurate writing-up of postal history.

The second change which has come about since Hawksley's day is the development of technology. (Dixon previously described the tedious assembly of hand-written notes and slips, with Hawksley perforce on the spot, finally to be assembled into a manuscript.)

Present technology has enormously increased the opportunity and facility for the writing of postal history, even if one is not in physical proximity of an archive, and more particularly for merging the archival approach with the iconographic approach to the subject.

If I describe my own way of working I may convince you of this.

For some years I have had the assistance of a researcher in Pietermaritzburg to read the manuscript papers of luminaries like the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Postmaster-General and the like, to photocopy all material relating to the postal service and mail these copies to me in England; the same for the so-called Printed Papers of the colony.

I keep in touch through e-mail. Normally papers are sent to me by post, but any papers needed urgently are scanned into the computer by the researcher and sent by e-mail. Any printed papers I receive are scanned into my own computer where they reside as editable text.

Manuscript papers which I receive I type – or type extracts or summaries of them – into my own computer. All data is held by date in my computer, all papers received are filed by date on my shelves. There are now about six metres of shelf of such papers.

I have microfilm copies of the major Natal papers which I obtained from the State Library in Pretoria. From these I can print out segments dealing with the postal service, and I scan these print-outs into my computer – unfortunately, owing to the deteriorated quality of the old newspapers used to make these films, a great deal of editing is needed to perfect these texts.

Most of Natal's overseas mails passed via Cape Town. To supplement this Natal archive data I have obtained Cape printed papers in photocopy from the SA Library in Cape Town, and these are scanned into my machine and filed likewi-

ILSAPEX 98 Results

O'Keeffe, Barra	Ireland	Postal Stationery of Ireland 1920-45
Petersen, J G E	Netherlands	Postal History of Hilversum
Post Stat Soc of Australia	Australia	Postal Stationery Collector
Powell, John	Canada	Postal Tax Stamps of Iraq and Their Use
Rigo, Franco	Italy	Venice – Les Routes – Postales
Schmidt, Tina	Germany	Circus
Shoji, Shin'ichiro	Japan	DPR of Korea 1948
Thenmayer, Martin	Austria	History of Burgen
Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club	Canada	The History of the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club 1892-1992
Tsironis, Michalis	Greece	Municipal & Postmarks Ancient Olympia Village & County
Union of Russian Philatelists	Russia	Annual "Collectioneer"

SILVER BRONZE

Campbell, John	New Zealand	The Mail Coach Vol 33,1996-1997
CEFAI Argentina	Israel	Association Magazine
Colson, Lynda	France	The Horse
Crandel, Leo M A	Netherlands	Development of Airmail between SA & Europe
Darge, Gordon	Australia	Zululand 1879-1915
Eichtersheimer, Rainer	Uruguay	Masonic Philately. Its Symbols, Its Men & Its Works
Er, Chiang Song	Singapore	Musical Instruments
Ernst, Stefan	Germany	Kangaroo, Koala & Co
Fosalba, Rafael	Uruguay	German Shepherd Dog: Guard and Utility
Friedman, Frank	South Africa	Diamonds on Stamps
Habrom, Michael	Germany	Die Deutsche Widervereinigung
Hellenic Philatelic Society	Greece	Philotelia
Howard, Michael	South Africa	The Russian Civil War
Machado, Martin	Uruguay	Birds of the American Continent
Mehta, Kusum	India	Morvi Indian Feudatory State
Mephius, Ronald	South Africa	Airmails of Sub-Saharan Africa
Olympios, Evangelos	Greece	The Theatre
Peebles, John	Canada	The Canadian Connection Vol 12
Pheh, Wal Hoong	Malaysia	Birds
Philatelic Society for Gtr Sthn Africa	USA West	Forerunners
Philipps, Ralph	South Africa	Robben Island
Pocock, Derek	Australia	The First 10 Years of Airmail in Nicaragua
Polski Zwiazek Filatelistow	Poland	Warsaw Philatelic Bulletin
Polski Zwiazek Filatelistow	Poland	The Philatelist
Radosta, Petr	Czech Republic	Great Britain 1773-1904
Rindfleisch, Sven	Germany	African and Asian Large Cats
Schelter, Martin	Germany	Die Entwicklung schienen-gebundener Traktionsarten
Senthinathan, Malini	Malaysia	Reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-1972
Shaida, Margaret	United Kingdom	Themescene
Smith, David I	Australia	Aerophilately of Jamaica
Stralfors, Annelie	Sweden	Dinosaurs
Warren, Brian	Ireland	The Architecture Definitives (of Ireland)
Whyte, Ian	Ireland	Recess Printed Stamps of Ireland
Wolmarans, Dennis	South Africa	K Edward & K George V ½d Postage Stamps & P Stationery

BRONZE

Agellis, Kostas	Greece	First Flights to and from Greece
Christofi, George	Cyprus	Cyprus my country through Maximum Cards
Christofi, Maria	Cyprus	Musicians and Musical Instruments
Eliades, Andreas	Cyprus	Winter and Summer Olympic Games
Eliadou, Klelia	Cyprus	Wild and Natural Life on Earth
Esche, Kati	Germany	From the World of Children
Hairapetian, Izabella	Armenia	Flowers of Armenia
Helm-Vitovcova, Irena	Czech Republic	Airmail of Soviet Zone & DDR
Lozano, Victor	Colombia	The Conquest of Space
Namakanish	Armenia	Republic of Armenia Stamp Catalogue 1992-1996
Novotná, Marcela	Czech Republic	The Most Beautiful Insect – Butterflies
Polski Zwiazek Filatelistow	Poland	Wielkopolska's Philatelic News
Russia	Russia	Catalogue 1990-1996
Smitham, David	New Zealand	Letter Coding
Solomou, Soteris	Cyprus	Flowers on the Stamps
Tieder, Klaus-Günter	Germany	Columbus
TSchroots & Groeneveld. H & J	Netherlands	Van Brievenbus tot Watermerk
Yakobs, Vadim	Russia	Bulletins "Herald of Philately"
Stavrinou, Anna	Cyprus	From Earth to the Moon
Thornton, Bradly Joe	South Africa	Boy Scouts

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se. The Cape records include the London side of all important correspondence. There are indexes available of most Cape archive material and I have used a researcher in Cape Town to seek specific Cape manuscripts using these lists; these she types and again I scan these into the computer. I have also obtained microfilm of the *Cape of Good Hope and Port Natal Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* from which tables of the movements of ships to and from South African ports can be derived.

The overland route through the Free State to Cape Town and to the Diamond Fields was also important to the postal service of Natal. My Pietermaritzburg researcher has read on my behalf the *Free State Friend* and translated material from that paper into English, typed and sent to me via e-mail as editable text. This falls short of my ideal of using archive records, but unfortunately I have not been able to develop a research contact in Bloemfontein.

Finally the decisions of government departments in London had a vital impact on the overseas postal service of the Cape and of Natal. A great many of these are evidenced from the archive material in Natal and the Cape, as those archives include copies of the correspondence between London departments. Other material such as UK printed parliamentary papers is (or was) available inexpensively from HMSO. Instructions issued by the British post office, Treasury Warrants etc., have been made available through Raguin and others or from the British Post Office Archives. *The Times* is available on microfilm in my local library and from it print-outs can also be made or shipping tables extracted.

These sources and facilities enable the postal history writer to generate archive-based text in the own home. As I work through my task list I extract from my database the texts of the documents which relate to the specific subject to be dealt with. These extracts I edit down to what is needed, and I insert the necessary story line to connect together the quotations from the selected sources.

Finally I need covers or good photocopies of covers, ideally in colour, illustrating the facts which the archival sources affirm. These I may find among my own hoard of photocopies. Or I may need to ask a friend for a photocopy, and e-mail or fax enables me to speed that request.

It will be noticed that the facility to examine covers as photocopies was entirely beyond the scope of Hawksley and others of his day. Today they are readily available to illustrate the words of the written record. This enables the postal historian to merge the results of archival research with the demonstration of the marks and rates on the surviving covers.

One thing I think is missing from effective technology as it stands. I could use some good automatic translation software to convert Dutch and Afrikaans into English. I am still looking for it!

I hope that I have shown evidence in support of my second point: how technology facilitates the writing of postal history compared with Hawksley's day and enables the work to be undertaken far from the original resource.

As a result, I am well along the way towards producing a detailed postal history of Natal. I have the material I need to write it, and I hope to have the time to write it. We have in our journal, the *Natal & Zululand Post* the vehicle to bring the results before the people most interested in the subject.

The task that has alighted on me is to document the story of the Natal postal service up to the outbreak of the Anglo-Zulu war, based on original sources of the period and using available covers to illustrate the story.

I have often been told that the Natal Post Office records were, long ago, lost in a fire at the GPO. It is true that they were,

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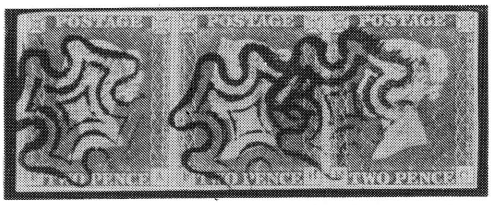










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but since in the early days anything of any importance was reviewed with the Colonial Secretary and the papers retained on his file, this does not prove to be a major hindrance. I have been told also that the Cape and the Free State Post Office records suffered the same fate, but I am unable to judge how serious a hindrance that may be.

I have often been told how fortunate I am to have the resources of the British Public Records Office. This is said with the implication that opportunities for archival research are lacking in South Africa. This I must categorically refute.

Ninety-five percent of the materials available to me originate in South Africa – from the Natal Archives Depot, from the SA Library in the form of photocopies and microfiches, and from the State Library in the form of microfilmed newspapers. I have received help from South African institutions at every turn, and I am deeply grateful to them for it. The opportunities for similar research seem to be very large.

I wish to encourage a wider belief in the opportunities for postal history research in the existing and available South African archival resources. For the most part the records are here in South Africa rather than in England. I suspect, for instance, that the postal history of Griqualand West or of British Kaffraria, so far but barely sketched out in published reports, can be found in these archive materials. The opportunities for postal history research on the larger subject of the Cape and particularly on the Free State and Transvaal archival resources seem to me to be substantial.

I believe that the recent developments in technology create a new opportunity to address such research. I expect, therefore, that the work of Allis, Gericke and Grobler can to be brought to a greater degree of completion and be put before a wider audience by the application of the new technology to the old records.

The Transvaal Study Circle

The meeting was held at 13h00 on 23 October 1998, and included the third Ian Mathews Memorial Lecture, given by Joh Groenewald RDPSA. The title was "Popular myths exploded by primary research – and more new discoveries await us", and it is given here in full.

South Africa has a fascinating wealth of philatelic and postal history, from postal stones to first stamps printed in a triangular shape, to postal conveyance in all manners from A for aerial cableway to Z for zebra-drawn coach, to combination use of different countries' stamps on one envelope, to postmarks for a location showing it to be in different countries at different times.

This wealth and diversity of subject material has given rise to a vast amount of philatelic information, reports, articles, monographs and books.

Unfortunately, this "body of knowledge" or "fabric of philately" is beset with numerous myths, legends, beliefs, assumptions and ideas that have become accepted as fact. We are today faced with scores of "philatelic facts" which will not stand the test of scientific scrutiny.

Take the popular term "woodblocks". We have for years known that those locally produced Cape of Good Hope triangulars were printed from metal printing blocks, not wooden blocks. The name remains, as a kind of descriptive designation to indicate a rough-shod image of the allegoric figure "Hope".

This is not the myth I am referring to. The term "woodblocks" enriches our philatelic vocabulary and I think you will all agree that it has become a proper name, often spelled with a capital W.

The myth and legend we should worry about, are the erroneous statements which clog articles, display presentations and album page writing-up to this day.

The perpetuation of myths and unsubstantiated assumptions is a reflection on our own serious-mindedness about our hobby. Because, in essence, philately is a search for truth.

We magnify stamps. We measure minute detail. We use techniques to ascertain the watermark in the paper. We compare perforations. We analyse inks. We search and study and re-check to determine the truth about, or the true status of, the material which is in front of us and which we collect.

We go to great lengths, and consult experts and even forensic laboratories.

A philatelic student in Harare is using advanced computer technology to measure the colours of the various printings of the BSAC Double Heads. This stamp issue has had a multiplicity of printings, all in varying colours, tints and shades, for instance for the Double Head ½d green stamp the Stanley Gibbons catalogue recognises eight shades of green, and specialist collectors say there are more.

The present study selects a solidly coloured point on the Double Head stamp, being the dark curl of hair on the King's forehead. This is vastly enlarged, to such an extent that the individual printing dots are discernible, and the colour is taken from one single printing dot, called a picton. The colour is electronically scanned and recorded.

Once the computer's colour index taken from properly identified stamps is complete, anyone can put his own stamp under the computer's micro-scanning eye to determine the matching colour of printing.

Now, if we go to such lengths to study the physical features of the material before us, should we not also make sure of relevant factual information in terms of circumstances and postal history?

But be warned: our search for truth should not be limited to checking previous philatelic articles or statements. Often this only leads to the perpetuation of fiction. Our search should take us to original sources, archive files, diaries, contemporary observations or newspaper reports, and first-hand accounts.

Unfortunately, much of what has been philatelically written about Transvaal and related spheres is in the category of myth. Tamsen had good information, but hardly access to official records. There is no evidence that Curle and Basden consulted archival sources. In writing about the Anglo-Boer War, Basden and Pirie only reflected the material they saw, never engaging in primary research.

The result is that we are still effectively in a somewhat goggle-eyed situation, like Mafeking collectors – all excited about the Siege stamps as such, but not quite seeing what's what.

Mafeking is perhaps an example of much fiction, some of which persists.

For instance, did Baden-Powell know in advance about his head on the stamp? Was Queen Victoria displeased about his head on the stamp?

After decades of speculation, and toying with the fiction of Baden-Powell's innocence, by various euphoric writers, Goldblatt in 1978 demonstrated that Baden-Powell knew full well what was going on. In his diary, published in 1980, the photographer Ross confirmed that Baden-Powell came and posed for his came-

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ra in two sittings, with a view to the stamp issue. Of course Baden-Powell was in the thick of the thing.

And the nice story about Victoria being displeased? None of the published stories which I have seen give any reference to a source. Of course this does not really matter, because the old Queen's sentiments are not relevant to the philatelic history of the stamp issue itself, but I mention this to illustrate the point of "hearsay or creative assumption becoming fact".

Speaking of sources, it is a pity that a recently published work, *The Place of Stones Mafeking/Mafekeng, The Siege stamps and banknotes,* is singularly amiss in quoting the references for statements presented or made.

And while we are on Baden-Powell and Siege stamps, we see that to this day the Stanley Gibbons catalogue refers to a "siege" in connection with the Rustenburg stamp issue during the Anglo-Boer War. Well, there was no siege of Rustenburg. In terms of fact: Baden-Powell wanted a siege, hinted at it, and prepared himself to sit comfortably at Rustenburg. Since there was not even the threat of a siege, the British High Command saw through Baden-Powell, and removed him from the front to serve behind the lines in the Constabulary, which was a kind of military policing outfit.

There has been a great deal of primary research on the wartime events at and around Rustenburg, and about Baden-Powell, but none of this has yet reached the romanticised annals of philately.

Let's look at another legend, the story of the "BB" removed from the Vryburg postmark. During the Transvaal occupation of Vryburg in the Anglo-Boer War, a circular datestamp was used with "Vryburg" at the top and a dot at the bottom.

In his book about the philately of the Anglo-Boer War, published in 1943, Rich graphically describes this multilated canceller from which the letters "BB" at the bottom were chipped out. Nobody seems to notice that, a few pages later, he illustrates the Vryburg canceller with the BB intact, as later used after the British re-occupation of the town!

Of course the canceller with "Vryburg and dot" did not have any "BB" removed. The "Vryburg and dot" datestamp was present in the post office for years, and was clearly used by the ZAR postmaster to avoid using a canceller with a country designation. The "Vryburg and dot" postmark was introduced in the 1890s, as was the "Vryburg and BB" – and both are illustrated in Holmes' Bechuanaland book.

How many times has the story of the "mutilated canceller" with the "BB chipped out by die Boers" been retold? I even found it solemnly stated in his album page write-up, and pointed it out to Ian Matthews. Ian, in whose honour this lecture is named, promptly made the correction.

Another bland statement was by Curle and Basden in their 1940 book, namely that the Wolmaransstad stamps were overprinted in pairs. They gave no source or reference for this. Rich simply followed their categoric statement in 1943, again without any source or reference.

Pirie checked this out, got a detailed eyewitness account of the actual overprinting of the stamps, which was by hand and one by one, and published this in *The SA Philatelist* in 1944.

What do find half a century later? We find the fiction of the "overprinting in pairs" in an authoritative fashion by an upmarket New York acution house (Ivy and Mather), to describe a pair of stamps as the "largest Wolmaransstand multiple that can possibly exist".

One wonders what this auction house would do if they see any multiple of the Wolmaransstad stamps larger than a pair. Will they deny its existence?

The auction house did not even consult the philatelic record, but simply followed the unsubstantiated fairy tale. (By the way, Pirie's account of the overstamping process is confirmed by an earlier description of which Pirie might not have known, published in London in 1906.)

Yes, it is easy to make bland statements, or simply follow what was postulated before.

One wonders what this auction house would do if they see any multiple of the Wolmaransstad stamps larger than a pair. Will they deny its existence?

What we need in our quest for knowledge, is more original research.

True, tremendous strides have been made in the last decade. Transvaal philately is fortunate in that we had a student like Jonkers, and today still Van den Hurk and Kamffer who dig at original sources and share their primary research with us. The same holds true for Anglo-Boer War philately, thanks to Raath and Sandilands.

Often those hours in the archives yield delightful results. Steyl was looking for something else, and in the Cape Archives stumbled upon the first official confirmation on the use of Cape of Good Hope stamps at Potchefstroom. Meanwhile Crandel has been finding highly relevant Transvaal information in the Rijksargief in The Hague.

We are on a path of discovery in unravelling the philatelic and postal history puzzles of the past, and putting myth and legend into perspective. Many more discoveries await us, and I hope more students will be participating in this exciting journey through the archives and records of yonderyear.

Original research and study lies at the core of our quest for truth.

Ilsapex 98: The Palmares

THE venue for the closing and celebratory dinner at the Sandton Sun at 19h00 on 24 October was about as swish and stylish as it comes in current terms. But that is not what philately is about.

Already, there was a nostalgic air about as old friends, and newly met and made ones, reviewed their happy meetings, cemented their relationships again, and fervently hoped it would not be for the last time.

It was an occasion which was already redolent with memories. Several deserved tributes were paid to David Stern RDP-SA, the initiator of Ilsapex 98, the most courageous being by his recently widowed wife, Yvonne. She gave, on behalf of the whole assembly, a courageous and moving salute.

The Patron-in-Chief of Ilsapex 98, Jay Naidoo, Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting (and who had opened the exhibition) was prevented from attending. However, his address was delivered on his behalf by Howard Gabriels, deputy director-general in his department. Some pertinent extracts follow.

"A stamp is one of the most powerful expressions of a country's culture, history and values. It records our celebration of life and preserves it for our future generations. There are (also) many times when it preserves human brutality as a reminder of the excesses we so often commit.

"Such is the history of our country. It is the exclusion of the majority, the history of colonialism, apartheid and dispossession. The abuse of the rights of the majority. Such a history is an integral part of our country. We must preserve it for our posterity lest we ourselves forget our shameful past.

"I remember as a child being fascinated by stamps. I collected whatever stamp I could, from friends and relatives. Maybe today I could be counted a part of the distinguished few. But there was no political incentive to cater for the needs of the majority. In fact even myself as the minister; Max Maisela, the current chairperson of the Post Office and Howard Gabriels the DDG responsible for postal policy would then have to go through a separate entrance for 'non-Europeans'.

"But times have changed. We have witnessed a political miracle under the leadership of President Nelson Mandela. We are building a non-racial, democratic, non-sexist society. We have many hurdles to overcome, many challenges to face, but this country now belongs to those who live in it – both black and white.

"Over the past year Philatelic Services has striven to make a concrete contribution to the challenge of nation building. I

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am proud as the minister and a citizen of our newborn democracy to see our philately celebrating the inauguration of the first democratic Government, or the life of Enoch Sontonga, a forgotten hero whose poetry is immortalized in the verses of our national anthem. . .

"This is what makes philately come alive in our country. We need to inspire our youth. They are the future nation-builders. Therefore it is gratifying that the SA Post Office has launched the Education Enrichment Programme for 25 project schools in Gauteng that has brought over a thousand children to see Ilsapex 98. I urge that you extend this to a national programme.

"Philately is integral to letter writing, a most powerful medium of communication. In our modern world so full of the turbulence of industrialization and globalization we need to talk to each other more.

"Nothing can replace the satisfaction of a mother receiving news of her child studying in a distant city, a card carrying news of a joyful birth or the condolences of friends that have lost loved ones.

"We need to promote letter writing. It is active. It is participatory. It is educative. It forces us to confront our emotions, our relationships with family, friends, colleagues or community.

"It unambiguously reminds us that we belong to one human fabric. That we are all rooted in ancient civilizations, cultures, religions and languages that have sought to preserve the timeless values of honesty, compassion, love and dignity. . .

"We need a philatelic initiative in touch with the needs and aspirations of our society, but sensitive to the strain of spiritual values that links our generations, and build a more caring world.

"You will have my wholehearted support. . . I look forward to a productive partnership with you in the future."

The highlight of the evening followed: the handing out of the major medals and prizes, and the announcement of the two top awards.

The National Grand Prix, a five-piece Montblanc writing desk set, was awarded to Boonkrong Ad Indhusophon of Thailand for her "Cape of Good Hope Classic Triangulars", which also received the hand-made glass bowl presented by Hassan Shaida for the best Cape of Good Hope exhibit.

(In addition, Boonkrong's 19th Century Cape of Good Hope Revenues had been adjudged the best revenue exhibit, and awarded a framed antique map of Africa and the Americas, presented by David Crocker RDPSA.)

The International Grand Prix, a Victorian silver sweetmeat dish presented by Harmers of London, went to Stefan Heijtz of Sweden for "Falkland Islands and Dependencies Postal History 1836 – 1937". It also gained the award for the best postal history exhibit, a hand-blown opalescent vase in cast-iron stand, presented in blessed memory of the late Robson Lowe RDPSA by Colin and Pamela Fraser.

As closely as the Editor was able to reconcile overall figures, 15 Large Gold medals were awarded, and 65 Golds. There were 74 Large Vermeils and 68 Vermeils, followed by 78 Large Silvers and 44 Silvers. In company such as this, 34 Silver-Bronzes and 19 Bronzes are no mean feats either.

Op die velrand/In the margin

KZN Tourism booklet issued

IN tandem with the Western Cape Tourism booklet (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1998, p169) KwaZulu-Natal had its booklet issued on 28 September 1998.

The booklet contains two rows of five airmail postcard rate stamps. Designed by Alan Ainslie, they depict some of the region's notable tourist attractions such as the majestic Drakensberg, Zulu women at work, wildlife, a rickshaw and a group of Indian dancers. A rickshaw driver displaying some of his colourful regalia is depicted on the cover, while a perspective of Pietermaritzburg's historical town hall forms part of the sheet design which is by Shalette Kesting.

The booklets are available at R13,00 each. The first day cancellation was at Durban.

Miniature sheet will celebrate the Year of the Rabbit

ACCORDING to the Chinese Lunar Calendar, the Year of the Rabbit starts on 16 February 1999 and ends on 4 February 2000. The SA Post Office will issue a special miniature sheet at R5,00 face value on 16 February 1999.

The design is by Dennis Murphy, and features Smith's rock rabbit (*Pronolagus rupestris*). A commemorative cover by Denis Murphy, will also be available.



Smith's rock rabbit is the smallest of three types of indigenous rock rabbits, weighing about 1,5 kg. It is also the most widespread. It has fine reddish brown fur, grizzled with grey. The rump and hindlegs are reddish and the tail is usually red-brown with a black tip.

As the common name implies rock rabbits are restricted to rocky habitats. They are nocturnal, although they emerge during heavily overcast days and will occasionally bask in the sun. They spend most days lying in deep rock crevices or under dense vegetation.

Redrawn Sixth Definitives available as a set

SOUTH AFRICA has achieved international recognition for its conservation efforts and can boast of many successful projects in this regard. This is reflected by some of the species depicted on South Africa's now completely redrawn 6th Definitive Series.

The set of five airmail postcard rate stamps features the Big Five mammals: the white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), lion (*Panthera leo*), African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) and buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*). (The black rhinoceros – *Diceros bicornis* – is depicted on one of the standard rate stamps.)

The five buck on a set of standard rate stamps are the blue wildebeest (*Connochaetes taurinus*), eland (*Taurotragus oryx*), kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*), impala (*Aepyceros melampus*) and a waterbuck

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(*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*).

The complete set was issued on 21 October 1998 in the form of either two commemorative cards or mounted.

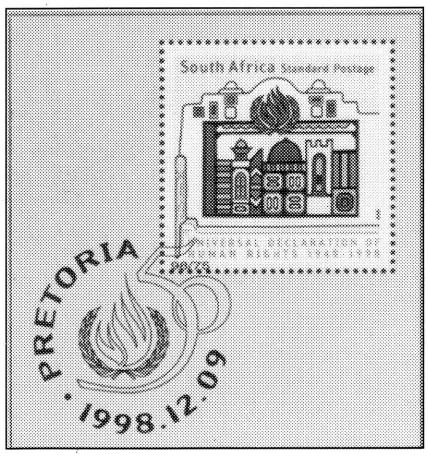
50th Anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights

THE Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations 50 years ago on 10 December 1948. The original draft was compiled by John Peters Humphreys, director of the human rights division in the UN secretariat from 1946 to 1966. It was revised and finalised by the UN Commission of Human Rights in June 1948 and adopted by the General Assembly at its Paris session of that year.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has 30 articles recognizing civil and political rights. Economic, social and cultural rights were also identified.

In commemoration the SA Post Office issued a standard rate postage stamp on 9 December 1998. It was designed by the art studio of Philatelic Services, featuring local ethnic motives and architecture.

The UN symbol for Human Rights, which consist of flames within a half circle formed by a wreath, is incorporated into the design. The usual commemorative date stamp and cover are also available.



Framas return as 'experiment'

THE SA Post Office introduced a special set of Frama preprinted labels on 20 October 1998, the nine designs of which were offered in a set of singles at Ilsapex 98 at the imprinted face value of R9,90 (R1, 10 standard rate each).

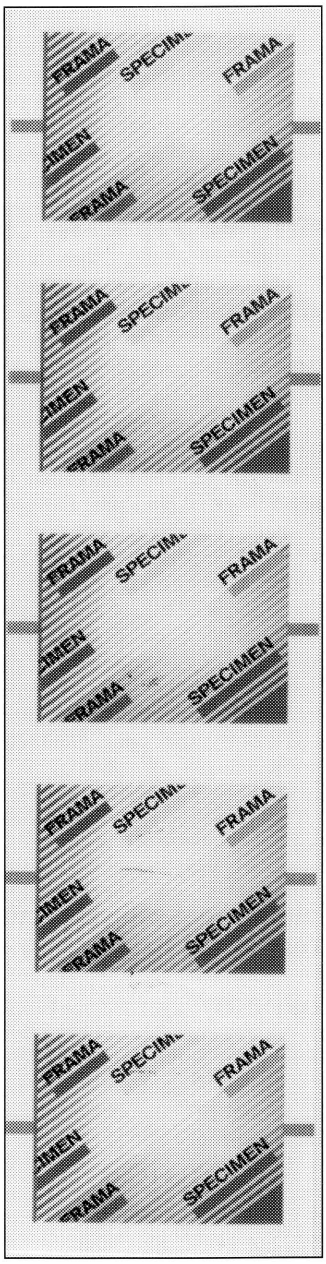
Shown here is an un-imprinted, unseparated strip, together with the standard Helio Courvousier specimen design. Note the positioning bars on either side of the labels, for orientation in the value imprinting machine.

The design of the local labels, representing South Africa's nine provinces, is by Cindy Webber, and they were printed by Helio Courvoisier in Switzerland. Printing of the blank labels is in continuous rolls of 1 500 to 1 600 images.

At the moment there is no machine available to the public to imprint face values. The designs are:

The North West Province, an agricultural territory, is represented by corn fields with silos in the background, and the Golden Gate Highlands National Park represents the Free State.

Gauteng is represented by a mining scene with a cityscape of Johannesburg in the background, and Mpumalanga by a



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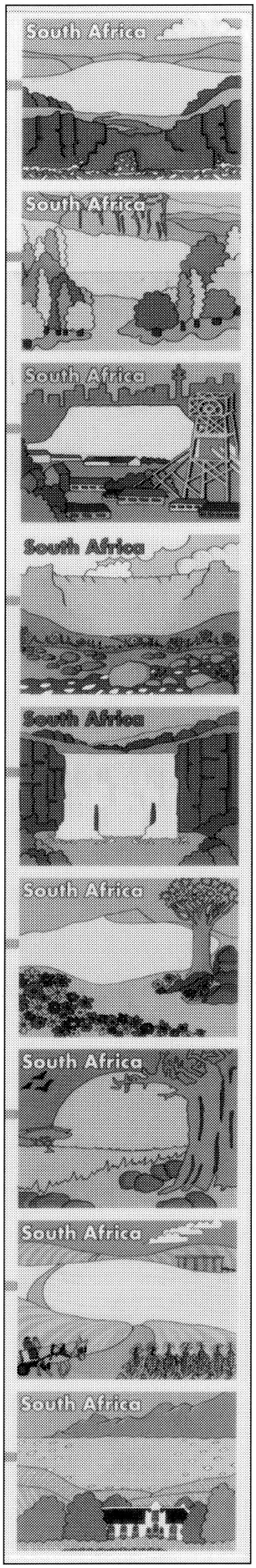


landscape featuring a waterfall.

The Western Cape has a Cape Dutch homestead on a wine estate, while the Eastern Cape is represented by an image of a well-known rock formation on the coast known as "the Hole in the Wall".

The Northern Cape, South Africa's driest province, is represented by a landscape containing some characteristic features of the province. These include a quiver tree and some flowering succulents set against the backdrop of a large sand dune.

A scene featuring the majestic Drakensberg represents the province of KwaZulu-Natal, and the Northern Province is represented by a baobab tree set against the backdrop of a setting sun.

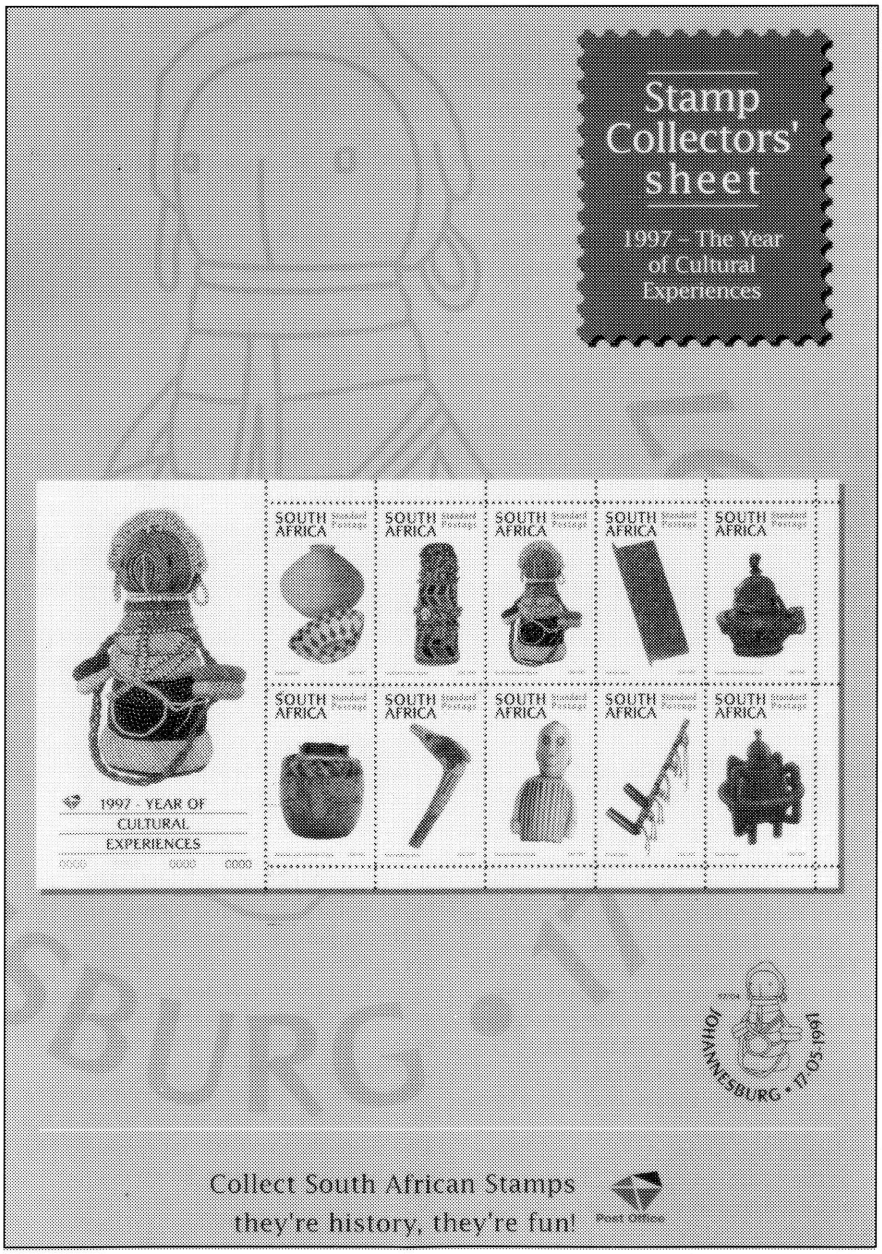
Collectors' cards on the market

IN addition to the commemorative envelopes produced with new stamp issues, Philatelic Services has introduced a collector's card on which to display issues. These measure 158 x 237 mm, are printed on good quality paper and inserted in a plastic sleeve. (That shown here features the Year of Cultural Experiences.)

Additional information on the stamp theme as well as philatelic specifications are printed on the reverse.

The need for a collector's card in this format was realised last year, says Philatelic Services, when it was discovered that the only way to mount the set of five Blue Train commemorative stamps was by placing them on five separate covers. This imposed undue expense upon collectors and made it very difficult to exhibit the set on anything fewer than three album pages – also a costly exercise!

Collector's cards will be regarded as a tourist product and will be reprinted for as long as demand warrants it. Cards with a specific theme such as "The Stamps of a



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new Democracy" or "The Birds of South Africa", may be issued from time to time. These cards will not be numbered, and the stamps they will carry will be guided by current stock, the availability of specific themes and the perceived market need for a product.

Chinese heritage is shown on Ilsapex postcard issue

COINCIDING with Ilsapex 98, a set of five postcards reproduced from the early years of this century featuring Chinese mineworkers in South Africa was issued on 20 October 1998.

The set – the second in the Heritage Series which was begun at the Cape Stamp Show 97 (*The SA Philatelist*, December 1997, p196) – was originally published around 1905 by Sallo Epstein & Co in Durban and printed by Braun & Lévy in Johannesburg. Each card has one of the Big Five air-mail duties imprinted on the reverse.

Chinese labourers were imported to South Africa after the end of the Anglo-Boer War in May 1902 when the mine owners were unable to lure local labour back to the gold mines of the Witwatersrand. In 1903, the politicians in the former Transvaal agreed to turn to the "teeming millions" of unemployed workers in China as the solution to the problem.

By the end of 1904, 23 000 Chinese labourers were at work in the gold mines and another 20 000 were already on board ships heading for Durban's harbour. They proved to be extremely hard-working and gold production soon soared. However, from a political perspective, they soon became an embarrassment for the Government of the Transvaal.

Perceptions of lawlessness and gambling began to take hold and once local labourers began to show a willingness to return to the mines, the repatriation of the Chinese labourers became inevitable. By 1909, almost all these labourers had been returned to China.

The cards are sold at R12,50 per set.

Namibia and Norfolk Island join in whales issue

TO focus attention on the whales of the southern oceans, South Africa was joined by Norfolk Island and Namibia in a joint issue of miniature sheets at Ilsapex 98 on 23 October 1998.

The sheetlets are identical in design for the three participating postal administrations, except that each country's name and its local equivalent of the R5,00 face value appears in the perforated area.

The miniature sheets bear the words "Joint International Issue Namibia, Norfolk Island and South Africa" and "Whales of the southern oceans". Each postal administration issued its own canceller and commemorative cover.



The design, by Mary Butterfield of Norfolk Island, shows the blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*) and the killer whale or orca (*Orcinus orca*).

All three miniature sheets were also available at the Italia 98 international exhibition in Milan in November.

Change in issue plans

THE four stamps planned at the beginning of the year to celebrate South African music, scheduled for 3 November 1998, will no longer be issued, Dr Franco Frescura, the Senior Manager of Philatelic Services told *The SA Philatelist*.

He also said that fewer, if any, more corporate products were to be issued, and that only one – for Clover Ice Cream – was still in the pipeline for 1998.

NAMIBIA ISSUES

Caprivi sheetlet a new type for Namibia

THE Namibian Stamp Centre of Namibia Post announced a new type of integrated minisheet. The first one depicts a river scene from the Caprivi strip in the north of Namibia.

It consists of ten stamps showing antelope, reptiles, birds and plants that occur in this region, and the animals and birds are shown in their natural habitat.

The sizes of the stamps differ, and the whole sheet forms one complete design of which each subject forms a design on its own as a single stamp.

The rate is 60c throughout, the new tariff for inland mail for letters in Namibia. The issue date was 26 September 1998, and the artist was Mary Jane Volkmann of Windhoek, Namibia. She was also responsible for the design of the Shells of Namibia 1998 stamp issue (See *The SA Philatelist*, June 1998, p88).

The design depicts the following:

From left to right back row: Carmine Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*), Sable antelope (*Hippotragus niger*), Lechwe (*Kobus leche*), Woodland waterberry (*Syzygium guieense subsp.*)

Middle row: Nile monitor (*Varanus niloticus*), African Jacana (*Actophilornis africanus*), African fish eagle (*Haliaeetus vocifer*), Woodland kingfisher (*Halcyon senegalenis*).

Front row: Nile crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*), Black mamba (*Dendroaspis polylepis*).

Miniature sheet for Ilsapex 98

NAMIBIA issued a Black Rhino miniature sheet at Ilsapex 98 on 20 October 1998, together with a commorative cover. A design feature here was that the sheet duplicates the overall cover design, and thus fits into it exactly.

Helge Denker was responsible for the designs, the same artist who designed the very successful Owls booklet (See *The SA Philatelist*, June 1998, p88).

Namibia is home to more than 95 percent of the world's rhinos belonging to the sub-species *Diceros bicornis bicornis*, the black or hook-lipped rhinoceros of Southern Africa. Namibia also has the second largest population of black rhinos of the four countries in Africa which still have significant populations.

Issue programme for 1999

Three issues aimed at youth

Special issues have been planned to promote stamps among the youth. The first is a set of two fun stamps and commemorative cover that depict the Damara Dik Dik and the Striped Tree Squirrel designed by Leigh Voigt.

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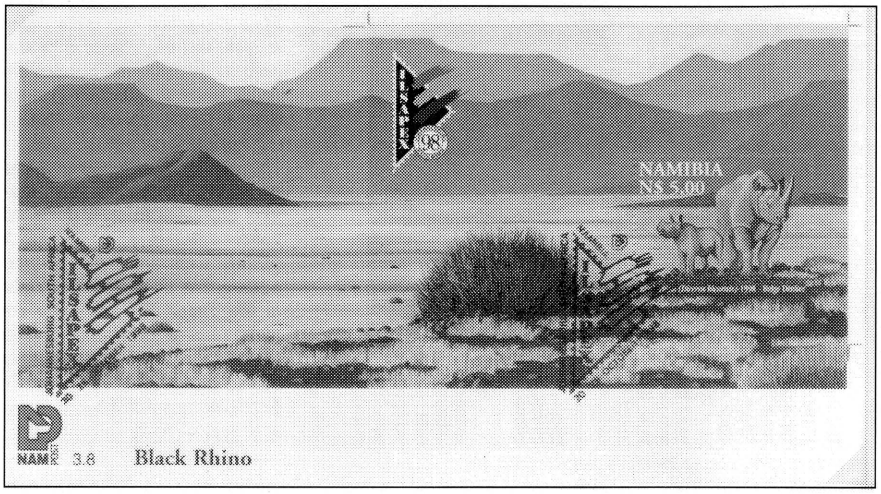

This issue is followed by the *Yoka stamp booklet depicting a Namibian fictional snake in comical situations. It will be used to promote the conservation of endangered snake species in Namibia. Koos van Ellinckhuizen was responsible for the designs.

Third is the Tigerente minisheet, a joint project with Philart of Germany. It will depict a favourite character with German juveniles, called the Tigerente, visiting Namibia and meeting the *Yoka in a typical Namibian landscape.

Minisheets for philatelic exhibitions

Four minisheets are being planned for international exhibitions. Namibia will be represented at the following exhibitions in 1999: Ibra, Philexfrance, Aussipex, and will be manning its booth at the China 99 exhibition in Beijing.

Themes include the Tigerente & *Yoka, mushrooms of Namibia, lizards and scarce Namibian orchids.

Environmental issues

A set of four falcons of Namibia was designed by Helge Denker. Chris van Rooyen, the designer responsible for the raptor series of South Africa contributes the wetlands stamp issue featuring endangered wetland areas in Namibia, with common birds found in those areas.

A single stamp depicting Mrs Gertse, the first woman teacher in Namibia, will follow the John Muafangejo and Gabriel Taapopi stamps of the past two years. (Each year a prominent Namibian is depicted on a single stamp to commemorate his or her contribution to the cultural heritage.)

A set of two stamps and a commemorative cover featuring the sport of gliding in Namibia will be issued. Namibia is one of three countries in the world which is most suitable for setting world records in gliding due to its unique environment. The FDC features the Bitterwasser farm where the conditions are the most favourable for record attempts.

The last issue called the "Turn of the Millenium" is planned to be a surprise issue. This theme will dominate most international issues of 1999 and 2000 and promises to be very interesting!

Moderne posgeskiedenis is verniet – en binne die bereik van elke versamelaar

Stamp issue programme for 1999:

Date	Name of issue	Place of issue	Cancel no	FDC no.	Product
18/1/99	Fun stamps for children	Tsumeb	52	3.9	2 stamps & FDC
1/2/99	*Yoka snake stamp booklet	Okahandja	–	–	10 stamp booklet
18/3/99	Windhuk ship	Swakopmund	53	–	Minisheet (one stamp)
13/4/99	Gliders at Bitterwasser	Karibib	54	3.10	2 stamps & FDC
27/4/99	Tigerente for IBRA 99	Nürnberg, Germany	55	–	Youth Minisheet (one stamp)
18/5/99	Falcons of Namibia	Otjiwarongo	56	3.11	4 stamps, FDC & 4 maxi cards
19/6/99	Mushrooms of Namibia for PHILEX-FRANCE '99	Paris, France	57	–	Minisheet (one stamp)
28/6/99	Wetlands of Namibia for SA Society of Aquantic Scientists conference	Swakopmund	58	3.12	4 stamps & FDC
21/8/99	Orchids of Namibia for CHINA '99	Beijing, China	59	3.13	4 stamps, m/sheet, FDC, & 1 maxi card
21/8/99	Namibian lizard/dragon minisheet for CHINA '99	Beijing, China	60	–	Minisheet (one stamp)
1/10/99	Mrs J Gertse (first Herero woman teacher)	Usakos	61	3.14	1 stamp & FDC
3/11/99	Turn of the millennium	Windhoek	62	3.15	One minisheet, 1 stamp & FDC

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Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Office-bearers elected at Federation's 60th Congress

DUE to constraints of time and space, a full report on the Federation's sesquicentenary congress, held at Midrand on 22 October 1998, will appear only in the following issue of *The SA Philatelist*. However, some urgent matters are reported now, and an up-dated list of office bearers since the 1998 congress, which readers should find convenient, follows.

Hon Life President: Jonas Michelson RDPSA
Hon Life Vice Presidents: Harry Birkhead, RDPSA, FRPSL; Joh Groenewald RDPSA
President: Danie Scheepers, PO Box 65258, 2010 Benmore, ☎W (011) 783-2438 & 783-2227, fax 784-0983; H 884-3775
Deputy President: Ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 52011, 0149 Wierdapark, ☎ (012) 653-2279
Immediate Past President: Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, 0001 Pretoria; ☎H (012) 802-0679, W 329-6024, fax 329-6437
Regional Vice Presidents:
Eastern Cape: Herwig Kussing, 32 King Edward Street, Newton Park, 6045 Port Elizabeth; ☎H (041) 35-4897, W 994-5241, fax 994-4626
Western Cape: Brian Franklin, 8 Titania Way, Meadowridge 7806; ☎ (021) 72-4174
Kwazulu Natal: Lillian Wade, PO Box 39464, 4070 Queensburgh, ☎ (031) 44-3886
FS & Northern Cape: Dr Meyer de Kock, Posbus 62, Odendaalsrus, 9480; ☎H (057) 354-1338, sel 082 459 6707, faks (057) 354-3026
Gauteng and North West: Herbie Schaffler, PO Box 528, Florida Hills; ☎& fax (011) 672-7747
Gauteng, Mpumalanga and N. Prov: Ronald Mephius, 17 Mercurius Road, Solheim, Germiston 1401; ☎ (011) 828-7016
Areas outside RSA – General Societies: Dr H.U. Bantz, PO Box 6913, 1734 Westgate; ☎ H (011) 766-1495, W 376-2524, fax 376-2053
Areas outside RSA – Specialist Societies: John Cheminais, PO Box 2546, 7740 Clareinch; ☎ (021) 61-9887
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Chairman, Joh Groenewald RDPSA
Secretariat, George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPSL, PO Box 4095, 1610 Edenvale; fax Secretariat (011) 452-8329, ☎ (011) 452-3263, fax 609-8217
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Treasurer: Howard Green RDPSA, PO Box 299, 1716 Florida Hills; ☎H (011) 442-7190, W 474-1915, fax 473-1874
Finance Committee: Chairman, Danny Swart RDPSA, PO Box 52431, 2132 Saxonwold; ☎ H (011) 465-3246, W 880-3125, fax 880-2656
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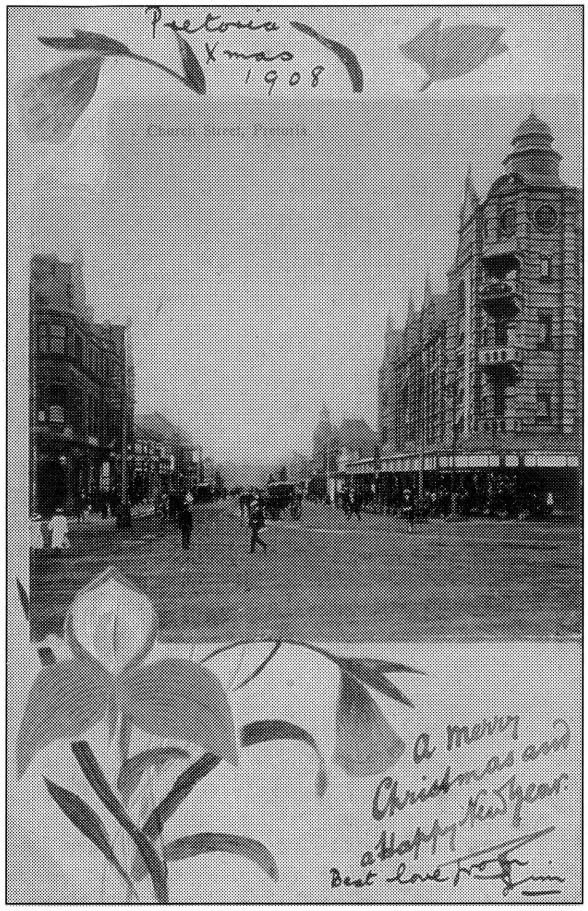
Management Committee Members: André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, PO Box 389, 9300 Bloemfontein; ☎ (051) 433-9016, fax 447-1322. Dr Cedric Roché RDPSA, 202 Marais Street, 0121 Brooklyn; ☎H (012) 841-2818, W 46-2004. Chris Mobsby, PO Box 85333, 2029 Emmarentia, ☎ (011) 486-1397, fax 486-1527
PR and Promotions Committee: H P Laubscher, PO Box 36870, 0102 Menlopark; ☎H (012) 362-6008, cell 083 771 6034
Youth Committee: Chairman, Jill Redmond RDPSA, PO Box 9248, 1463 Cinda Park; ☎ (011) 896-2845
Audio-Visual Committee: Chairman, Emil Minnaar, PO Box 1180, 1620 Kempton Park; ☎H (011) 849-1817, W 974-2830
Exhibitions Committee: Chairman, Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPSL, PO Box 723, 2008 Bedfordview; ☎ (011) 455-1138
Judging Committee: Chairman, Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPSL, PO Box 22592, 7974 Fish Hoek; ☎H (021) 782- 2223, W 461-8080, fax 782-6560
FIP Committee: Chairman, Peter van der Molen, PO Box 12508, Benoryn 1504; ☎W(011) 899-6951, H 849-4822, fax 899-6752
Expert Committee: Chairman, David Crocker RDPSA, PO Box 294, 6720 Montagu; ☎ (0234) 4-1424, fax 4-2521
Publications Committee: Convenor, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, and chairman of the *New Issues Liason* and the *Awards Committees*.
Archivist: George van den Hurk RDPSA
Collections Preservation: Danie Scheepers
Awards Custodian: Gawie van der Walt, PO Box 20022, 2522 Noordbrug; ☎W (018) 294-4201, H 294-8027, ☎ & fax 294-4202
Post Office – Philatelic Services: Dr Franco Frescura, PO Box 13007, 0028 Hatfield; ☎W (012) 342-3422, fax 342-0264
South African Philatelic Dealers Association, (SAPDA): George Cafetzoglou, PO Box 84636, 2034 Greenside; ☎H (011) 782-6985, W 447-9934



May a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year favour all readers of *The SA Philatelist*.

'n Geseënde Kersfees en 'n gelukkige en voorspoedige Nuwe Jaar word alle lesers van *The SA Philatelist* toegewens.

Hierdie poskaart, met gekleurde en gebosseleerde blomme, het 90 jaar gelede Kersgroete uit Pretoria oorgedra. Dit toon Kerk Straat, ooswaarts vanaf Kerk Plein. Die gebou regs is die Tudor Apteek, wat nog steeds as 'n sieraad daar staan. Die poskaartjie is kort voor sy dood aangestuur deur dr Gerrit Jonkers RDPSA.

This postcard, with coloured and embossed flowers, sent Christmas greetings from Pretoria 90 years ago. It shows Church Street, eastward from Church Square. The building on the right is the Tudor Pharmacy, an architectural embellishment even today. The card was sent in shortly before his death by Dr Gerrit Jonkers RDPSA.

Planne vir herdenking van die Anglo-Boereoorlog

'n GROOT filatelie-uitstalling van die seëls en posstukke van die Anglo-Boereoorlog van 1899-1902 word in 1999 vir die 100-jarige herdenking van die begin van die oorlog in Suid-Afrika gehou.

Die oorlog is gekenmerk deur 'n verskeidenheid seëls, militêre en tydelike posstempels, sensor van briewe, en spesiale merke wat gebruik is op briewe van krygsgevangenes en mense in kampe. Onder die seëls is dié wat gedurende die beroemde beleg in Mafeking gedruk is.

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Topversamelings van sulke items gaan uit verskillende dele van die wêreld op uitnodiging na Suid-Afrika gebring word. Meer as 2 000 albumbladsye met seëls, koeverte en posstukke gaan vertoon word.

Die uitstalling word van 11 tot 17 Oktober 1999 gehou in Bloemfontein, die indertydse hoofstad van die ou Oranje-Vrystaatse republiek.

Dit word gesamentlik gereël deur die OVS Filatelievereniging, wat in 1901 (tydens die oorlog) in Bloemfontein gestig is, die Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society (in 1958 gestig deur geesdriftige versamelaars in Brittanje) en die uitstalkomitee van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika.

'n Tweedaagse filateliese werksessie word tegelyk gehou. André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, die uitstalvoorsitter, sê 'n skat van nuwe inligting oor die posgeskiedenis van die oorlog gaan na vore kom, byvoorbeeld oor die sensor van briewe deur die geheime polisie van die Transvaalse republiek, en hoe die twee Boererepublieke die Portugese hawe Lourenço Marques gebruik het om pos na en van Europa te kry nadat die Britse magte die normale posroetes afgesny het.

Die uitstalling is deel van 'n omvattende program van herdenkingsgeleenthede, wat besoeke aan gevegsterreine en oorlogsbegraafplase, parades en ander programme insluit.

Besonderhede van die filateliese uitstalling ABOPhil (en ook die ander gebeure) is te kry van André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, Posbus 13313, Noordstad 9302, Suid-Afrika. (Faks +27 51 477-1322, e-pos johan@internext.co.za

Filateliese Federasie van SA

National exhibition in 1999 planned in Johannesburg

H U Bantz

WORK on next year's National Philatelic Exhibition, named JoPex 1999, is progressing well, says the first report from the Organising Committee, and the prospectus is to be a loose-leaf insert in this issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

JoPex 1999 is jointly organised by the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. The organising committee consists of: Herbie Schaffler (Chairman); Danie Scheepers (Vice-Chairman); Mary Bromfield (Secretary); George van den Hurk RDPSA (Treasurer and Congress); Harry Birkhead Birkhead RDPSA (Venue); George Cafetzoglou (Functions); Uli Bantz (Publicity); Pieter van der Molen (Exhibits); Chris Mobsby (Awards).

Apart from the traditional and postal history exhibits there will be, for the first time at a national exhibition, an Open Class (see Clause 9 of the prospectus) and – also a first – the opportunity to exhibit First Day Covers (see Class 09). This opens new possibilities and should attract some interesting displays.

Class 04: Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902 should be of special interest as 1999 marks the centenary of the beginning of this conflict.

The venue is an Examination Centre at the Rand Afrikaans University, and the dates are from 8 to 11 September 1999.

For general queries contact the secretary at PO Box 6913, Westgate 1734. Inquiries regarding the prospectus and exhibiton rules should be be directed to the Exhibits Organiser, PO Box 12508, Benoryn 1504 or to one of the other contact addresses listed at the bottom of the English version of the prospectus.

JoPex Committee

Junass 99 Centurion: die jongste nuus

JUNASS 99 CENTURION word van 16 (Nasionale Jeugdag) tot 19 Junie 1999 in die Centurion Stadsaal gehou. Die prospektus kom vroeg in Januarie 1999. Daar is reeds 'n logo ontwerp deur Nadia Peens, 'n leerling in Gr 10 by die Hoërskool Eldoraigne.

Die volgende twee kategorieë word beplan: tematies en lande, en wel in die ouderdomgroepe: 9 jaar en jonger, 10-12 jaar, 13-15 jaar, 16-18 jaar en 19-21 jaar. Hiervoor is 70 rame beskikbaar, en vir die Erehof (vorige wenners) 20 rame.

Elke klub kan natuurlik inskryf vir die klubuitstalling: 15 blaaie (1 raam) rondom die tema "Suid-Afrika 2000". Daar is 10 rame hiervoor beskikbaar.

Vir die Jeugleiers is daar 'n opleidingsessie op die Woensdagmiddag (16 Junie) en vir jeugdiges 'n spesiale toerustingsgeleentheid op die Vrydagmiddag (18 Junie) – hou solank die datums oop!

The organising committee consists of Robbie Harm (AFP, chairman), Cassie Carstens (Centurion Seëlmaats, secretary-treasurer), Lappe Laubscher (PPS, publicity), Petra Heath (AFP, refreshments) , Theo Brunzlaff (AFP, frames), Derek Brown (CPS, trophies) and Marge Viljoen (CPS, dealers).

David Wigston has been appointed chairman of the jury, and other jury members are still to be nominated.

Two new trophies have been donated: by the Wierdapark Rapportryers for the best exhibit in Afrikaans, and there will be the Centurion Shield for the best beginner.

Financial commitments are being well met. PPS bought 100 frames (50 units) which will be put to good use, and Philatelic Services donated 12 units (24 frames). The AFP and PPS each donated R1 000, and CPS chipped in with R500.

Centurion Stamp Mates will provide R2 000, and donations from Centurion Town Council and the Philatelic Foundation are awaited. (And it is not as if more would not be welcome!)

Reëlingskomitee

Thematic workgroup makes and asks for rapid progress

THE Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa decided at its 60th Congress to establish a Thematic Workgroup. Its aim is to study all aspects of thematic philately, and to make recommendations to congress on ways and means of promoting this class in the area under the control of Federation, enabling it to take its rightful place alongside the other and better established classes.

The members of the Workgroup are: Robbie Harm (convenor, Gauteng), Martin East (Kwazulu-Natal), Gerrie Conradie (Free State), David Dowie-Dunn (Western Cape) and Charles Rogers (Gauteng). The right to co-opt a maximum of two additional members was authorised.

The costs of the study will be borne by Federation, and the convenor will make the necessary arrangements with the Treasurer.

Congress already has referred the following discussion points to the Workgroup:

Membership of a Thematic Section of Federation, if this differs from the present arrangements.

The creation of a dedicated magazine, either as part of *The SA Philatelist* (inside pages or loose insert), or as a separate publication.

The affiliation/involvement of the Thematic Section of Federation with other international thematic organisation, including participation in the 50th National Topical Stamp Show (of the American Topical Association) in Milwaukee, Wisconson during July/August 1999.

It is a priority in the interest of Thematics that there is no procrastination with this study.

The provisional plan to finalise the study is: members of the Workgroup meet as soon as possible to plan how the study will proceed, consider discussion points, divide the work load, and determine finalisation.

This is followed by an Interim report to the Management Committee during February 1999, and forwarded to the General Committee during April 1999.

A further Interim report goes to the Management Committee during June 1999, and members of the Workgroup meet end July/beginning August 1999 to consolidate the study material, and compile a final report with recommendations to Congress.

The final report is submitted to Congress via the General Committee for consideration and decision on the recommendations.

The Workgroup urgently invites all interested persons to submit inputs/ideas/proposals and discussion points, to so as to ensure that the study can be finalised as comprehensively as possible.

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The submissions should be in writing, and can be faxed to Robbie Harm at ☎ (012) 328-4067. The postal address is PO Box 50984, Wierda Park 0149. For further information he can be contacted at (012) 324-3600 (business) or 654-6593 (after hours).

A cautionary correspondence

Nic Zerbst of George wrote to the Federation:

Re: Exhibiting in India in December 1997 under FIP patronage

Early last year I read about the exhibition taking place. I contacted FIP in Switzerland who gave me addresses and telephone numbers; these have apparently been changed. I tried to contact India and I was eventually informed that it was too late to enter for this world exhibition. I explained my circumstances and they eventually accepted my entry.

Photocopies of my collection were sent to both South African and Indian customs. The transfer of my collection was made through DHL without any incident. They delivered it to the postal authorities in India, who cleared it through customs themselves.

The exhibition was displayed in New Delhi as we expected, but when I attended the exhibition, four or five days after opening, the awards had unfortunately not been made.

Early in January 1998 I started enquiring about when I would receive my exhibit back, only to receive a few non-committal replies. Eventually I was told that the $100 entry fee that I should have paid in September had not been received. This had been forwarded as a bank draft from the Reserve Bank of South Africa. After enquiry, it was found that the bank draft had actually been presented in New Delhi, and the "used" cheque had been returned to South Africa. An enquiry on the entry, and at least 40 international telephone calls where made to clear the matter up, but never was. I eventually paid another $100 to get the matter resolved.

After this I was informed that there was a problem at customs and that my collection could not be cleared for return. This was never resolved. At a later stage I was even approached to disclose the value of the collection, so that I could pay the export tax out of India, as though I had bought it in India.

This whole experience caused me great agitation, because I feared that my lifetime collection had been lost; also great frustration, because of the unavailability of people we wanted to contact regarding my collection and the return thereof. It even got to the point that whenever I spoke to anyone, and tried to follow up a day or two later, I was told that my contact had been transferred elsewhere a fortnight ago. It was definitely a cover-up attempt by people who did not want to communicate anymore, for they had no answers to when and how the collection could be returned, because of their customs hash-up.

I then consulted the South African High Commission in New Delhi and faxed them a waiver letter that enabled them to take the collection from the postal authorities and clear it so that the collection could be returned to me. These authorities told me I was lucky that they had claimed the collection, because it was kept in a room where general access was available to people using copiers etc. and that they did not regard this as a secure set-up at all.

I eventually received the collection in a cardboard box, and not in the security aluminium trunk in which I had sent it. I am still corresponding about the return of the trunk in which it was sent.

I would like to enquire from you whether this is a normal course of events when you risk exhibiting under FIP in a foreign country. I do not wish to correspond with Indian authorities ever again. I would appreciate it if you could take this matter up with FIP for a formal explanation, not just some neat, weak little letter. I would like to understand what my risks would be in the future should I exhibit under FIP patronage again.

THE Federation wrote to FIP:

re: Disgraceful treatment under FIP patronage

We refer to *Indepex '97*, world philatelic exhibition, New Delhi 15 to 22 December 1997, organised by The Department of Posts, Government of India, in co-operation with The Philatelic Congress of India, and under the patronage of The Fédération Internationale de Philatélie.

Here is a letter from a South African collector, who made a sincere effort to support the exhibition.

It took more than half a year to get his collection back. This was eventually achieved only through intervention by the South African government, when diplomats went to seize the collection.

May we ask you to respond to the questions put in the last paragraph of the letter. Your response will be appreciated, for publication in *The SA Philatelist.*

(The Federation submitted Dr Zerbst's letter and question (last paragraph) to FIP for comment, and now comments further as follows.)

Mr D N Jatia, the then president of FIP, replied from Calcutta and provided comment by a person from the Indepex organisation. This comment twists one point made by Dr Zerbst, denies two and fails to refer to the rest.

In his note Mr Jatia said he would be interested to know the truth since Dr Zerbst "concocted" facts.

We provided Mr Jatia with further information, including copies of the two US $100 bank drafts as drawn by Indepex, as returned to South Africa.

Mr Jatia, who seems to be obfuscating the issue with roundabout statements and taking swipes at the exhibitor, replied that "Indepex cannot be blamed as they have taken all possible care".

Since he seemed to rely on rather deficient information, the statement is unconvincing and, indeed, somewhat surprising.

Regretfully, then, FIP has failed to respond to the question put by Dr Zerbst in the last paragraph of his letter.

The Indian Post Office indicated on 12 August 1998 that the aluminium trunk was being returned "now that Dr Zerbst desired us to send it back". (Dr Zerbst has since received the trunk.)

Die RDPSAs van 1998

Gerhard Kamffer

AS 'n mens op 'n plaas woon, is dit moeilik om mededingend te versamel of om in die filateliese lewe betrokke te raak of om oorspronklike bronnenavorsing te doen. Tog is dit wat Gerhard Kamffer nie alleen regkry nie – hy presteer hiermee.

As plaasboer het hy tot onlangs gelyktydig vier verskillende goue medalje-versamelings gehad. En hy publiseer deskundige navorsingsartikels oor wyd uiteenlopende filateliese onderwerpe.

Gerhard het in 1974 as eerstejaarstudent aangesluit by die filateliste-vereniging van die Potchefstroomse Universiteit, waar hy gou tot voorsitter gevorder het en gehelp het om mini-uitstallings te reël. Hy was nog 'n student toe hy saam met die Mooirivierse Posseëlklub en ander klubs gehelp het om die nasionale uitstalling Potch 1978 te organiseer.

Dit was toe, 20 jaar gelede, toe die jong Gerhard die eerste keer nasionaal uitgestal het. Sy "Silinderblokke van die RSA se gedenkuitgawes van die eerste 15 jaar, 1961 tot 1976", het toe 'n silwerbrons gekry. Sy eerste posgeskiedenis, "Die verhaal van Standerton", het in 1980 gevolg.

Sedertdien het hy fenomenaal gevorder. In die afgelope 10 jaar is ses verskillende versamelings van hom nasionaal be-

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kroon.

Die groot sukses was in Paarl 1987, toe 'n versameling van "aspoestertjies" die eerste keer die nasionale Grand Prix verower het. Die Staatspresidentstrofee is toegeken vir die skitterende versameling van "Inkomsteseëls van Suid-Afrika". Gerhard het die jongste ontvanger van die Suid-Afiikaanse grootprys geword – hy was toe 33 jaar oud.

Die "Posgeskiedenis en posmerke van Transvaal" is in 1988 met goud bekroon, "Die interprovinsiale tydperk" met goud in 1992 en groot goud in 1996, en "Die posgeskiedenis van Heidelberg en Standerton" met goud in 1993.

Intussen was daar twee silwer toekennings, vir "Oordrukke op die Unie van Suid-Afrika se ½d, 1d en 6d in 1992", met gelukwense van die jurie, en vir "Suid-Afrika se Customs Duty en Doeane-seëls" in 1994.

Gerhard se prestasie is nie alleen daarin dat hy hierdie uitstekende versamelings opgebou en by uitstallings met almal gedeel het nie. Hy doen navorsing, en hy skryf oor 'n wye verskeidenheid onderwerpe. Hy het vier keer die AFV toekenning ontvang vir die jaar se beste artikel in Afrikaans in *The SA Phllalelist,* en reeds in 1994 is hy deur die Federasie vereer met die Manfred Weinstein Gedenkpenning vir uitnemendheid in filatelie.

As 'n mens kyk na sy artikels sedert 1988 gesamentlik, is hier 'n wêreldklas diepte van navorsing en studie. Sulke artikels was oor Potchefstroom as beginpunt van Transvaal se posdiens, oordrukke op die 1d Skip, registrasiekoeverte van Namibië ná onafhanklikheid, die versamelaar en sy Heimat, die stempels op doeane-seëls, the "Native Refugee" kampe van die Anglo-Boereoorlog, en die rol van die veldkornet in die Transvaalse posdiens voor 1870.

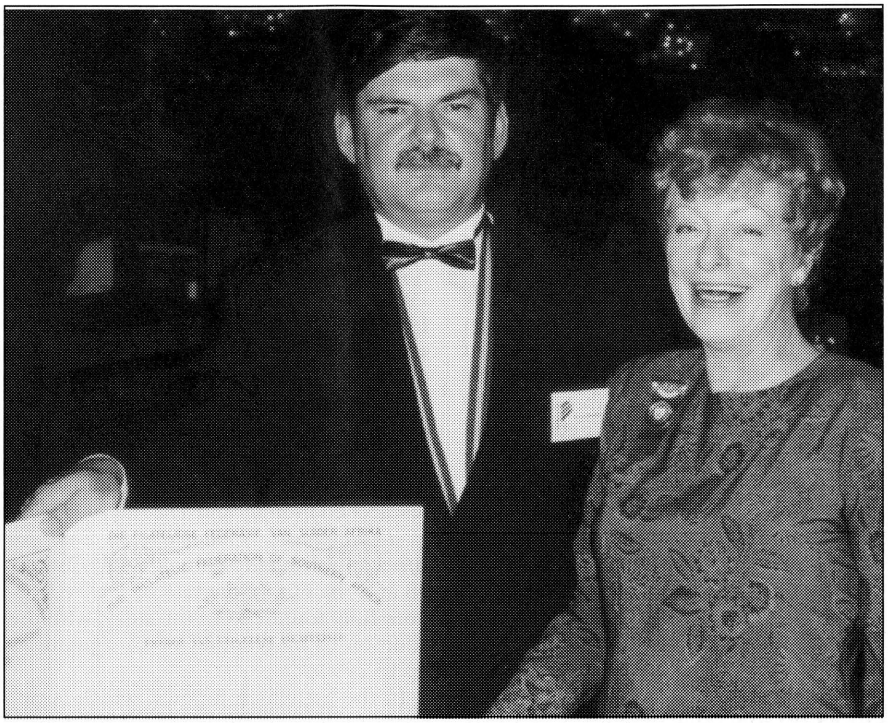
Die redakteur van *The Transvaal Philatelist* skryf dat hy verheug is oor die studies wat Gerhard in die Transvaalse Argief doen en die inligting wat nou vir die eerste keer aan die lig kom en deur die studiekring gepubliseer word.

Hoewel dit vir 'n plaasboer moeilik is om aktief betrokke te wees by 'n plaaslike seëlklub, is Gerhard 'n ywerige lid van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, die Postmark and Postal History Society of South Africa, die Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society en die Transvaal Study Circle. Wat die laasgenoemde betref, is die omgekeerde waar: die Transvaal Study Circle was al aktief op die plaas deurdat verskeie vergaderings in die afgelope jare by Gerhard gehou is.

Gerhard Kamffer het daadwerklik 'n nuwe dimensie aan oorspronklikheid en ernstige filatelie in Suid-Afrika gegee.

Jill Redmond

SHE is a dedicated philatelist who has been at the forefront of one of the Federation's most important activities for the past 16 years, namely the promotion of stamp collection amongst young people: Jill Redmond.



Gerhard Kamffer, Jill Redmond

The Federation's Youth Committee, an initiative of the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, was formed in 1982 with George van den Hurk as the chairman. Jill Redmond's name appeared in the very first junior rendezvous, published in July 1982, as a youth club leader. Shortly thereafter she became the stamp exchange organiser for the youth committee.

In 1984 Jill had a major hand in organising the very first junior national stamp show, held in Blairgowrie, Randburg. She has been actively involved in every single Junass since.

In 1986 she took over the chairmanship of the Youth Committee and initiated a drive for 1987 as "the year for youth philately".

This tireless volunteer's energies in promoting, contacting schools, encouraging teachers and senior collectors to become youth leaders, providing advice and support, speaking on radio and being a busybody activist, led to the number of youth clubs registered with the Federation reaching a one-time high of over 50 groups.

The first youth leader seminar, and the start of a postal club for junior collectors, followed in 1990. The recognition of the "youth leader of the year" was instituted in 1991, and the following year Jill Redmond headed a drive for international contact in the field of youth promotion.

The first participation of South African youngsters in a world youth exhibition of the FIP, in Bandung, Indonesia, in 1996, was organised by her.

Today South Africa has one of the finest support systems for the promotion of stamp collecting amongst youth in the world. The concept is called "Stampmates/ Seëlmaats" and comprises sets of guidelines for youth leaders, promotional ideas for youth meetings, suggested quizzes, provision of stamp packets, a youth newsletter, distribution of promotional kits, the annual Junass which is conducted in age group categories, Junass organising and judging systems, interactive contact with youth leaders and, above all, enthusiasm.

The promotion of stamp collecting has been a formal aim of the Federation, embodied in its constitution, ever since the first congress of 1928. Only half a century later was a concerted start made, under George van den Hurk, now Jill Redmond has made it happen and work.

Eight years ago, in 1990, her work up to that stage was recognised by the philatelic congress with the award of the Skinner Cup. She is also a recipient of the W E Lea Cup and the Federation Plaque.

There is another significant aspect of her input to organised philately. Early in 1983 she became minutes secretary of the Federation – for the congress, general committee and management committee meetings. She provided extensive and accurate minutes of these Federation proceedings for more than 10 years, until she became the President of the Federation in 1993.

Meanwhile she stepped in when preparations for the proposed Windhoek national exhibition in 1990 were suspended.

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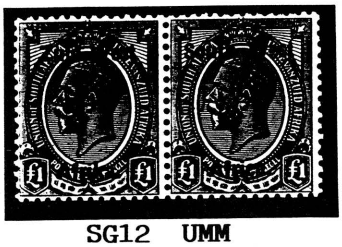
South West Africa



'Africa' 1st
SACC 2j UMM



SG11 UMM



SG12 UMM



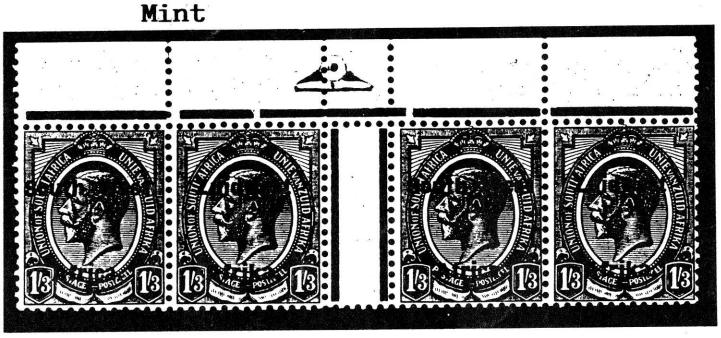
SG13a 'No Stop'
Mint



SG15 UMM



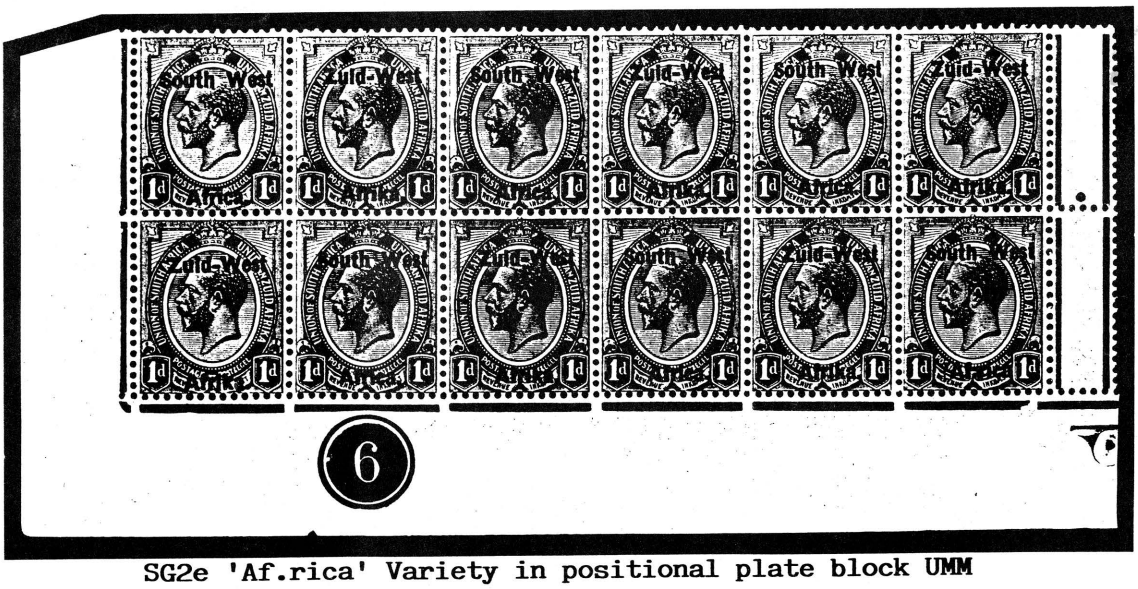
SG8a Ovpt Inv
UMM



SG36 Positional Gutter Pair UMM



SG64ba 'No Stop' Mint



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