THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

FEBRUARY 1996

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Vol 72:1 814

- 'n Ou posroete en afsaalplek se storie
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view

The Editor/Die Redakteur

ANOTHER national exhibition is well under way, and the prospectus is enclosed with this issue. It is now imperative that all exhibits open with an introductory page, and the attention of readers is drawn particularly to page 22, where the concept is thoroughly aired.

A further aspect of exhibiting is put under the magnifying glass with "How to tackle thematics" on page 10. It is no secret that national juries in the recent past have been disappointed by this usually thoroughly enjoyable class. But complaints alone are negative, while this is an endeavour at positive guidance.

It is food for thought, perhaps, that the only class among our nationals which has had a set of rules or guidelines or whatever one wants to call it, from the word go, is postcard exhibits. And again it is no secret that juries were pleasantly surprised at the quality which was immediately apparent once post cards became competitive at eThekwini in 1993.

Of course, nothing in philately should be overly prescriptive. In the end even competitive exhibiting is rather like playing golf, which means that your are essentially competing against yourself. But the game has its rules, and many golfers spend more on their swings than most of us on our stamps.

EERS toe Desember 1995 se *The SA Philatelist* kant en klaar gedruk was, het dit geblyk waar die elektroniese drukkersduiwel oral ingesluip het. Een bladsy se illustrasies was negatief, die mashoof op die redaksionele bladsy het makeer, en terwyl die bladsynommers korrek was, moes die res van die inligting deurgaans gelees het Vol. 71:6, en (813) vir die heel nommer.

Ons hoop hierdie probleme is nou volkome besweer.

Ons tydskrif se voorkoms, met die soepeler geriewe wat tot ons beskikking is, het 'n gedaanteverwisseling ondergaan waarvan lesers hopelik sal hou.

'n Groot verskil is dat ons lesers se menings nou reg voor verskyn want, soos die tipograaf gesê het wat *The SA Philatelist* met groot flair herontwerp het: dit was die enigste tydskrif wat hy ken waarin briewe agter eers verskyn!

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

The Westelik TPK mark

SP Naylor RDPSA of Northlands writes: In the October 1995 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, p133, I published some notes relating to the WESTE*LIK T*.P.K. mark. The period of usage of this "incorrect" instrument was stated to be "at least from March 1939 to January 1944, according to the dated copies seen".

At the Sapda Show in November 1995 Helmuth Hagen – my "partner in crime" in the TPO stories – acquired a series of letters from Chas Wm Ward dated 1925 and 1926, to a Mr Gillmor. Ward was the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Croydon Philatelic Society in the UK, and Gillmor was possibly with the postal services in South Africa.

Ward stated that he had a TPO marking showing WESTE*LIK* T.P.K. dated 20 JAN 26. The early usage of this instrument can therefore now be taken back quite a bit further.

Two top philatelists

George van den Hurk RDPSA of Edenvale writes: Unbelievable but true; I found this post card at a bourse in Sindelfingen while I was still in Europe. As we know, Tamsen – who was elected to the British RDP in 1921 – was also a judge at the 1936 Jipex exhibition, and a signatory of our RDPSA when it was inaugurated in 1936.

I like his terse remark on the 1½d airmail rate!

The post card would be a good addition to Robson Lowe's "Philatelic Personalities – A Glance at the philatelic past" (*The London Philatelist*, November 1993, p102).

Dr. Emilio Diena, to whom the card is addressed, was one of the most distinguished Italian philatelists ever. He was elected to the RDP in the same year as Tamsen, which may account for the fact that they corresponded.

Missent, and the Berbera post office

David Collyer of Gladesville, Australia writes: I was intrigued on p61 of your April 1995 issue with the "Missent to / Adelaide / South Australia". If you look closely above the bottom red and blue bars you will see a partial imprint of an Australian OCR sorting machine. Unfortunately it is not good enough to see what the encoding is.

Basically someone in England has misread "R of SA" (Republic of South Africa) as "SA" (South Australia). The Australian OCR machine – most probably Adelaide, as that is where the "missent" mark was applied – obviously would have had a heart attack with the postcode, as it is 7000. This is in the Tasmania group, but the island state is so small that it does not go above 7250, so 7975 would have been regarded as a reject.

In the June 1995 issue on p68 I can suggest a correction to the article by T M Mullins on the Berbera Post Office, 1941.

The naval vessel *Hobart* was the Australian cruiser HMAS *Hobart* (not HMSAS). I enclose pages from *Royal Australian Navy 1939-1942* by G. Herman Gill, which is the official Australian history on the subject. P201 shows that the "Red Sea Force" was formed in April 1940, p205 notes that the *Hobart* as, part of the British withdrawal, bombarded Government House, the police barracks and lines, storehouses and Government buildings, firing 66 rounds of 6 inch shells.

One suspects that the post office was one of the targets, and that the damage incurred was thus done by Australian naval gun fire, not the Italians.

Further to the material on the HMAS *Hobart,* J D (Bill) Wilson, husband of Nita Wilson, the president of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, served in the artillery in WW II. His view was that the *Hobart* would have used 6" HE (High Explosive) shells, which would have turned most of the buildings it struck into rubble.

This is consistent with the description of the post office and its strong room in the article.

He doubts very much that there would have been a need for AP (Armour Piercing) shells if the ship's guns were targeted on buildings.

Ons stokperdjie se toekoms

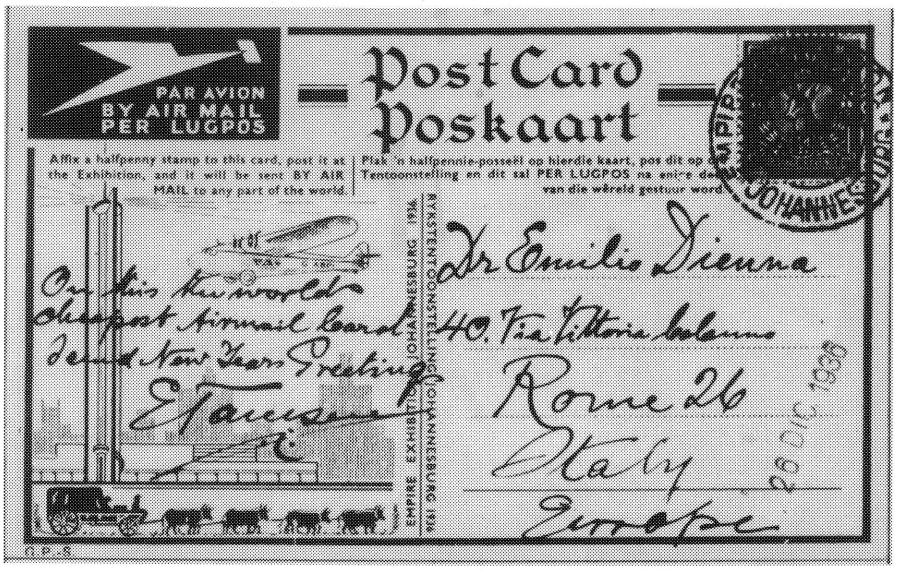
AR van den Berg van Wonderboom Suid skryf: As iemand wat reeds meer as 45 jaar posseëls versamel, is dit met weemoed dat ek huidige tendense in die filatelie waarneem.

In die filatelie-literatuur word gereeld geïmpliseer dat filatelie in 'n krisis verkeer. Min jongmense word skynbaar vir betekenisvolle tydperke en skaal vir die een of ander faset van filatelie gewen.

Enige stokperdjie word deur mense beoefen vir die uitsluitlike rede om sekere van hulle innerlike behoeftes te bevredig. Ek kan wel aan 'n aantal psigologiese behoeftes dink wat moontlik deur die beoefening van filatelie bevredig kan word. Hierdie behoeftes is: die behoefte om iets tasbaars uit die verlede te behou; estetiese behoeftes; die behoefte om op die een of ander manier onder ander mense belangrik te voel en/of moontlik uit te styg; 'n behoefte om dinge te orden; 'n behoefte om perfeksie en/of volledigheid in sekere dinge te bereik, 'n behoefte om 'n wins te maak deur iets te verkoop; 'n behoefte om meer van veraf plekke, vreemde mense, vreemde diere, vreemde gewoontes en vreemde dinge te wete te kom; en 'n behoefte om met ander mense oor gemeenskaplike belangstellings te kommunikeer.

Sulke behoeftes word nie deur elke persoon met dieselfde intensiteit ervaar nie, en verskillende mense het verskillende behoeftepatrone. Die behoeftepatroon van individue kan ook oor tyd verander. Sekere van die genoemde behoeftes kan ongelukkig by sommige persone selfs 'n obsessie word, met nadelige gevolge vir hierdie persone self en/of hul naasbestaandes.

Bied die verskillende fasette van filatelie steeds voldoende behoefte-bevrediging, d.w.s. genietinge, aan hui-



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dige deelnemers, en kan potensiële toetreders tot die stokperdjie nog gelok word? Dit wil voorkom of die beeld wat georganiseerde filatelie, die uitgewers van posmateriaal en die filateliehandel uitdra, veroorsaak dat daar 'n duisend en een ander ontspanningsaktiwiteite bestaan wat meeste van bogenoemde behoeftes net so goed of dalk beter as deelname aan filatelie kan bevredig. Die volgende probleme met die stokperdjie kan geïdentifiseer word:

Behoeftebevrediging geskied nie sonder opofferings nie. Die geldelike opofferings wat deelname aan filatelie vereis (soos blyk uit katalogusse en pryslyste), is dikwels oormatig en skrik toetreders tot die stokperdjie af. Deelnemers wat 'n rukkie aan die gang is, en wat in 'n rigting wil spesialiseer, word bang vir die finansiële konsekwensies.

Dit wil soms voorkom of uit georganiseerde filateliese kringe neergekyk word op diegene wat nie erg spesialiseer nie. Byvoorbeeld, 'n gewone "nie-volledige" en nie-gespesialiseerde landsversameling, wat vir versamelaars baie genot kan verskaf (omdat verskeie van hul psigologiese behoeftes daardeur bevredig kan word), word maklik as minderwaardig afgemaak. Aanhangers van die stokperdjie kan nie so gewen en behou word nie.

Die belangrikheid van drukkers- en ander vervaardigingsfoute op posseëls en ander posmateriaal, asook variasies van geen duidelike tegnologiese of historiese belang nie, word te dikwels oorbeklemtoon. Latere vasstellings van triviale variasies word dikwels as interessante "ontdekkings" aangebied.

Moderne posseëls het selde iets in hul ontwerp wat dit relatief uniek vir die bepaalde uitgewersland maak. Te dikwels is daar geen verband tussen die tema op posseëls en die betrokke uitgewersland nie.

Oormatige nuwe uitgifte en variëteite in bestaande posmateriaal word soms deur sommige posowerhede geskep met die uitsluitlike doel om versamelaars te melk.

Die versameling van tematiese posmateriaal word soms verkeerdelik (waarskynlik onbewustelik) voorgestel as 'n effektiewe manier om inligting oor 'n bepaalde onderwerp van relatief algemene belang te bekom en te versprei.

Versamelaarsitems wat min of niks met filatelie te doen het nie, word dikwels saam met filateliemateriaal bemark. Hierdie gebruik verwar potensiële toetreders tot die stokperdjie oor wat filatelie in werklikheid is.

Die gebruik van posseëls is besig om af te neem, en kan dalk selfs verdwyn – fakse, elektroniese pos, massapos sonder posseëls, posgeldstrokies en frankeermasjiene maak almal inbreuk op posseëlgebruik. Die versameling van produkte van die nuwere tegnologie het (vir my altans) nie dieselfde uniekheids- en estetiese waarde as dié van posseëls en posmateriaal met posseëls nie.

Nuwe rojeermetodes veroorsaak dat die versameling van moderne gebruikte posseëls minder aantreklik geword het as van ouer gebruikte posseëls wat gewoonlik met ronde datumstempels afgestempel is.

Dit wil voorkom of filatelie nie kan volhou om bekostigbare plesier aan nuwe deelnemers te bied nie. Moderne posmateriaal is te gevarieerd, te dikwels op uitbuiting gerig, en net eenvoudig te veel om gemeenskaplike belang vir 'n stokperdjie vir baie mense te bied.

Ouer posmateriaal is effektief vir relatief ryk mense gereserveer of diegene wat goeie versamelings kon erf. Te min mense kan skynbaar deur moderne posmateriaal vir die stokperdjie getrek *en behou* word.

Aanvullende Frama gegewens

Frank van Rensburg van Roodepoort skryf: Na aanleiding van die lys van Frama masjiene wat in *The SA Philatelist* van April 1995 verskyn het (p 47) die volgende:

Gedurende April 1994 het ek die posmeester op Stellenbosch genader vir eksemplare vanaf sy masjien (P.023) en op 3 Mei 1994 antwoord hy dat hy nie aan my versoek kan voldoen nie, aangesien die masjien verwyder is. Datum van onttrekking kan dus beskou word as April 1994.

Eastgate P.027 was gebruik tydens die Pretoria en Benoni '94 Nasionale Uitstallings, en in die afwesigheid van inligting tot die teendeel kan dit aanvaar word dat die datum van onttrekking moontlik September/Oktober 1992 kan wees, maar beslis Oktober 1994, aangesien die masjien nie ná gebruik by Benoni '94 teruggeplaas is nie.

Sover bekend was P.002 (Potchefstroom) asook P.034 (Kaapstad) masjiene geruime tyd voor onttrekking buite werking, en moontlik ook voor 1 Desember 1994 verwyder.

U mag dit gerade ag om 'n opsomming te publiseer van masjiene aangewend vir spesiale Frama posgeldstrokies en datumstempels gebruik by uitstallings.

UITSTALLING	TYDELIKE DATUMSTEMPEL	GEBRUIKSTEMPEL	MASJIEN GEBRUIK
Johannesburg 100 6-11 Oktober 1986	S 98	Johannesburg 100	Sunnyside P.001
Gebruikstempel "Johannesburg 100" was nie spesiaal ontwerp vir die uitstalling nie, maar is een wat geruime tyd by die Johannesburg poskantoor gebruik word, selfs op 18 VII 73 (13 jaar voor die uitstalling).			
Paarl 300 16-19 September 1987	S 105	–	DF Malanlughawe P.005
Pietermaritzburg 150 27 November 1988	S 123 en S 124	Pietermaritzburg Poste Restante maar Sondag 27 November is 'n Pietermaritzburg 92 gebruik	Pietermaritzburg P.008
Wanderers 101 6-9 September 1989	S 135	Johannesburg 32	Jan Smutslughawe P.028
Stamps 150 1-4 Augustus 1990	S 148	Kemptonpark 28	Jan Smutslughawe P.029
Kaapstad 91 9-12 Oktober 1991	S 155 P.22	Permanente Tafelberg sweefspoor en Kaapstad gebruikstempel sonder nommer	Groote Schuur P.013
Pretoria 92 8-10 Oktober 1992	S 160	Pretoria 106	Eastgate P.027
eThekwini 18-22 Augustus 1993	S 171	Durban 27	Durban P.027
Benoni '94 20-22 Oktober 1994	S 228	Benoni met Maltese kruis	Eastgate P.027

NS: Die Afrikaanse woord vir "cliché" is MATRYS. Jammer meneer!

Thematics to the rescue?

Clem Baker, secretary of the Thematic Stamp Club, writes: Your editorial in the October 1995 issue of *The SA Philatelist* p129 highlighted an important point about stamp collecting, namely that the progressive hierarchy from schoolboy to Junass, to club national and eventual international exhibition is not the right approach.

You are correct in saying that the interests of each group exist side by side, and that there should be niches for the many hobbyists who, as you imply, just collect for fun at that level and to meet one another.

Then, the letter from Martin Nicholson of England (p158) who ques-

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tions whether South African collectors are lazy. He pointed out that there was little input by South Africans into the various international groups involved in the study of philately of Southern Africa. Your added note that of the 16 specialist societies affiliated to the PFSA, only eight are based in South Africa, is a revealing statistic.

We of the Thematic Stamp Club, are also concerned by the lack of interest in South Africa, surprised by the number of enquiries we receive for membership from overseas, and envious of the growth of thematic societies in other countries.

Without blinkers, it would be clearly evident that the greatest number of existing members of societies in South Africa collect and exhibit thematically. Should they not then also belong to a specialist society that caters for their needs and interests? Their input to their home societies would also then benefit thematics.

The Thematic Stamp Club has been in existence for 45 years, and during that time has kept the thematic flag flying locally. It has now become time to spread our wings and, with already almost half our membership scattered throughout South Africa and Zimbabwe, we plan to extend our horizons to include overseas membership.

A change of name to "The Thematic Stamp Club of Southern Africa" has been suggested, ours being the only specialist society to cater for all thematics in Southern Africa.

Attendances at our meetings in Cape Town are meagre, belying our total membership. We still have to find the remedy. There must be many thematic collectors who are frightened off by the formality of traditional philatelists.

They will find a home by writing to the Secretary, PO Box 146, Cape Town 8000, or phone/fax (021) 96-2059.

That rugby issue: There are still more questions

IHJ Nel of Menlo Park writes: Although the Senior Manager of Philatelic Services, dr Franco Frescura explained quite a number of questionable issues relating to the five Rugby stamps of 1995 (*The SA Philatelist*, October 1995, p135) there are, however, quite a number of other issues unexplained.

As "the game of rugby still leaves me (F.F.) stone cold sober" all philatelists will have to believe that his "measure of professionalism he intends to bring into his position" as head of the Philatelic Services of the SA Post Office will leave these questions unanswered.

Why was no national emblem depicted on any Springbok rugby player's jersey? The government of the day wants to get rid of the Springbok as the apartheid regime's emblem, and therefore we better believe that all players in green jerseys play for Ireland.

Why does the winger carry the ball under the wrong arm, with the cross field defence coming from the direction in which the player is looking? Maybe noboby programmed the computer correctly?

Why do three different teams participate in the game on the R1,15 stamp?

If the designer (Franco Fescura) wants to indicate that it is the referee trying to tackle the player handling the ball in the R1,15 stamp, then he might as well indicate that it is the referee handling the ball!

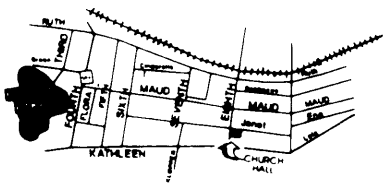
To me it is surely a totally black day to know that the designer "sat down and did what he knew best".

Please, oh please, save us another masterpiece, or two or three. ■

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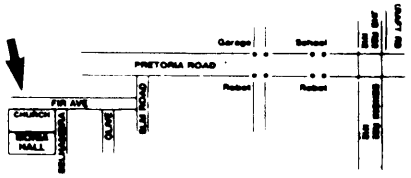
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■ **PAUW STEYL** *OVS Filatelievereniging*

Die ou posstal langs die N2

AS gereelde reisiger op die N2 tussen George en Swellendam het ek onlangs op nog 'n interessante stukkie posgeskiedenis op die roete tussen Heidelberg en Swellendam afgekom.

Dit was by 'n vorige geleentheid dat ek agter die storie van die rooi posbus by die hek van Emile van Papendorp se plaas Voorstekop gekom het. (Sien *The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1992/Januarie 1993 p179.)

So ses kilometer vanaf die rooi posbus, Swellendam se kant toe, lê daar so teen 'n knap hoogtetjie 'n plaas. Wat was dan so besonders aan dié plaas wat my as reisende filatelis se aandag elke keer opnuut getref het? Die naam – POSSTAL. Ek het net die aanvoeling gehad dat daar agter hierdie naam ook 'n storie moet skuil.

Die naambordjie, vandag ietwat weggesteek agter 'n opslaan akasiaboom, had een tekortkoming – die plaaseienaar se naam ontbreek. By die huis het ek Suid-Kaapland se telefoongids geneem en onder Heidelberg begin soek. 'n Mens moet mos nou onder A begin soek en die anonieme plaaseienaar se van kan heel moontlik eers onder Z sy verskyning maak. Heidelberg het egter nie 'n telefoonhuurder wat op POSSTAL woon nie.

Dus blaai ek toe maar na Swellendam en eindelik, daar staan dit: "SWART Dawie, Posstal . . . "

Die volgende gelukkie was dat die gevangenisse op Swellendam en Buffeljagsrivier tot my "gemeente" toegevoeg is. Die eerste keer toe ek op Swellendam gaan werk, draai ek toe by Posstal in om myself te gaan voorstel. Vriendelike mense, Dawie en Lorraine Swart, en rondom 'n lekker koppie plaaskoffie vertel hulle toe vir my waar die naam Posstal vandaan kom.

Die ou pospad, toe die poskarre nog tussen die Kaap en Grahamstad bedrywig was, het oor die plaas geloop. "Die ou posstal waar die poskar van vars perde voorsien is, bestaan vandag nog, hoewel dit deur die jare heelwat verander is," vertel Dawie. (Fig.1) "Vroeër was die plaas 'n uitspanning, en bekend as "Rietkuil-Outspan" maar my oupa het die plaas se naam later nie-amptelik na Posstal verander."

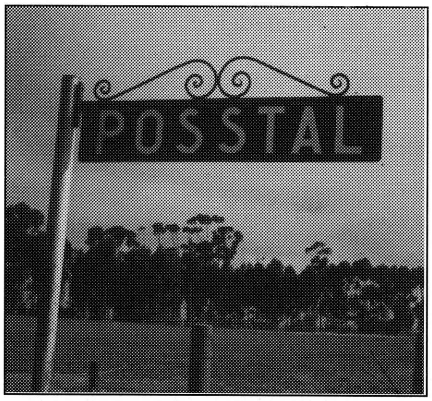
Posstal is die afgelope sowat 70 jaar familiebesit van die Swarts. Verdere inligting het aan die lig gebring dat daar ongeveer 1 kilometer vanaf die posstal, in Swellendam se rigting, ook 'n herberg was waar reisigers kon vertoef. Die posstal is gebou by 'n fontein waar daar altyd voldoende water vir die perde was.

IN 1994 het Pauw Steyl die posgeskiedenis van sy kontrei, George, vasgevat in twee gesaghebbende artikels wat in die uitgawes van Junie (p73) en Augustus (p98) van *The SA Philatelist* verskyn het. Op p74 van 1994 is hy kortliks aan lesers voorgestel, en hy is daardie jaar ook met 'n toekenning van die kongres vir sy artikels vereer.

Sy oplettende en deurtastende geaardheid bring hom telkens op nuwe spore van die posgeskiedenis, waarvan hierdie bydrae 'n verdere bewys is. Ds Pauw Steyl is 'n kapelaan by Korrektiewe Dienste.

Hendrik Swellengrebel besoek Rietkuil

Die ontdekkingsreisiger Hendrik (die Goewerneur se seun, gebore 1734, oorlede 1803) se reis het op 10 September 1776 op die plaas Nooitgedacht by Stellenbosch begin. Sy geselskap het onder andere ene Pieter Cloete, 'n dr. Ragh en die bekende kunstenaar Johannes Schumacher ingesluit. Swellengrebel het deur die binneland tot in die Oos-Kaap getrek.



Vanaf Algoabaai (Port Elizabeth) het die trek deur die Langkloof oor die Attaquaskloofpas, noord van Mosselbaai, tot in Outeniqualand gegaan. Op 7 Desember 1776 het Swellengrebel vanaf die plaas Rheeboksfontein van Pieter Terblans, halfpad tussen die Groot- en Kleinbrakriviere, oor die Hartenboschrivier en verby Mosselbaai na die plaas Brakkefontein van ene Botha getrek. Dis nou ongeveer waar Johnson's Post, nie ver van die Gouritsriviermond, vandag geleë is.

Die volgende dag het hulle hiervandaan al met die oosoewer van die Gouritsrivier opgetrek tot by die plaas van Piet Pienaar by Outeniquasdrift. Hier het die bestaande roete, "de oude wagenweg", die Gouritsrivier gekruis. Op 9 Desember het Swellengrebel se geselskap die Gouritsrivier by Outeniquasdrift en die Valsrivier by Van Rensburg se plaas, die huidige Weltevrede, oorgesteek. Dié aand het hulle op die plaas van Lombaard aan die Kaffirkuilsrivier geslaap, en op 10 Desember op die plaas van die weduwee Fourie aan die Duivenhoksrivier naby die teenswoordige Heidelberg.

Die oggend van 11 Desember 1776 het Swellengrebel "de oude wagenweg" verlaat en noordwes uitgewyk na die plaas van Jacobus Steyn wat vandag as Melkhoutboom bekendstaan. Op 12 Desember 1776 trek Swellengrebel weer suidwes tot by die plaas Rietkuil van Jacobus van Reenen. Hierdie plaas was vroeër deel van die oorspronklike plaas "Zwellengift aan de Rietkuil".

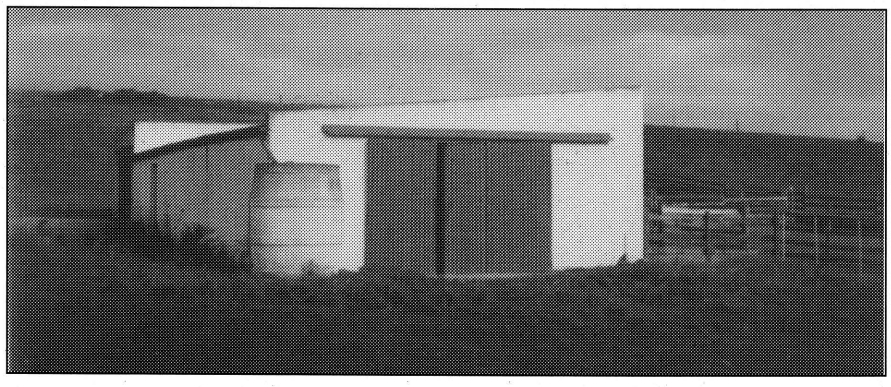


Fig. 1 Die ou posstal waar vars perde, op die posroete tussen Swellendam en Riversdal, vir die poskar ingespan is.

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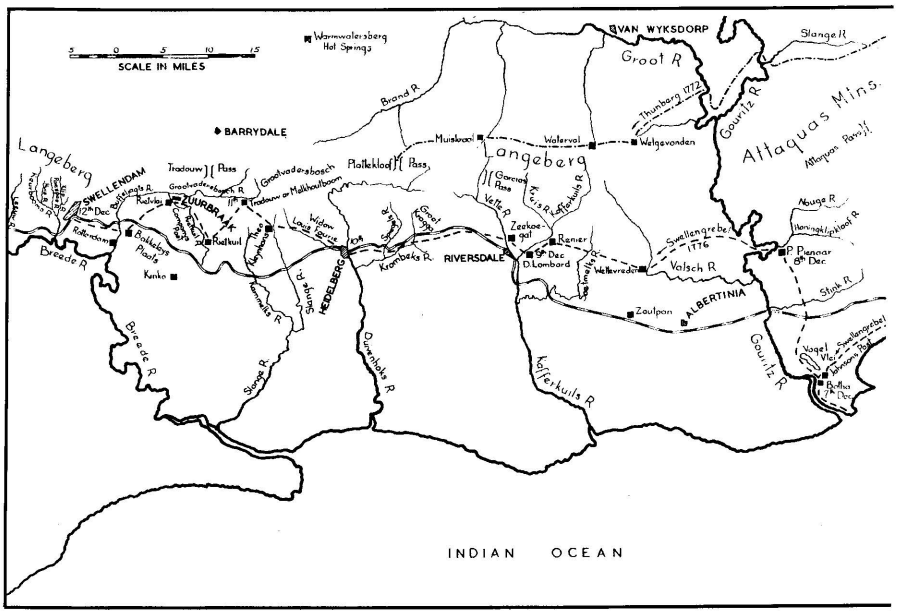


Fig. 2 Kaart van Swellengrebel se reis deur die Suid-Kaap in 1776. Die ligging van Rietkuil word met 'n pyl aangedui. (Met erkenning aan Vernon S Forbes : *Pioneer Travellers in South Africa)*

Dit was aanvanklik ook 'n leningsplaas, maar in 1748 het dit 'n eiendomsplaas geword. Teen 1772 het dit aan Pieter Botha behoort maar in 1776 is dit deur Jacobus van Reenen aangekoop. Swellengrebel se besoek aan die Suid-Kaap en dan in die besonder aan Rietkuil word op meegaande kaart uitgebeeld, (sien Fig.2).

'n Verdere kaart van die Swellendam-Heidelberg streek van ongeveer 1790 verskaf die name van destydse koloniste en hulle plase (Fig.3). Volgens dié kaart het Rietkuil teen 1790 aan ene Jan Dryer behoort.

Rietkuil as posstasie op die posroete na die Oosgrens

Rietkuil het oorspronklik nie op die posroete na die Oosgrens gelê nie. Die ou posroetes van 1803, 1810 en 1826 het hoofsaaklik die roete van "de oude wagenweg" gevolg. Hierdie roete het al met die voetheuwels van die Langeberge langs geloop om deurgange deur die groot riviere te vergemaklik. Dit was eers ná die stigting van Riversdal in 1839 dat die posroete vanaf Swellendam 'n meer direkte roete na Riversdal en verder gevolg het. Langs hierdie roete was Rietkuil 'n posstasie waar vars perde omgeruil is.

Die amptelike posroete soos geadverteer in *The Government Gazette* No 2216 van 18 Mei 1848 het onder andere die volgende skofbepalinge bevat:

11. Swellendam to Rietkuil – 2 hours
12. Rietkuil to Duivenhoks River – 1¾ hours
13. Duivenhoks River to Riversdale – 2½ hours

"Poswagte" is vanaf 21 Desember 1851 aangestel om posvervoer op die hoofposroete tussen Kaapstad en Grahamstad te beveilig. Hulle het diens gedoen op die verskillende skofte tussen Sir Lowryspas en Port Elizabeth, en het 'n salaris van £80 per jaar ontvang. Op die roete verby Rietkuil het die volgende poswagte diens gedoen:

vanaf Swellendam oor Rietkuil na Hooikraal (naby Heidelberg): Charles Cooke – 21 Desember 1851 - 1852

vanaf Stormvallei (vandag Stormsvlei) na Rietkuil: FW Rutledge – 1852 - 30 Junie 1853

vanaf Rietkuil na Riversdal: W Toole – 6 Januarie 1853 - 30 Junie 1853.

'n Paar interessante briewe rakende die poswagstelsel verby Rietkuil is opgespoor. Die eerste is op 31 Augustus 1852 deur die poswag Charles Cooke vanaf Swellendam aan die posmeester-generaal geskryf. Dit blyk dat die kantoor van die posmeester-generaal olie vir die poswagte se "lampe" voorsien het. Cooke sê dat met oordeelkundige gebruik 2 gelling (9 liter) olie per jaar genoeg behoort te wees vir sy gebruik. (Fig.4)

In 'n ander brief, gedateer 15 Januarie 1853, bring die posmeester H Jeppe van Swellendam dit onder die posmeester-generaal se aandag dat die nuwe poswag, W Toole, op Riversdal gaan woon het in plaas van op Rietkuil soos hy hom aanbeveel het. Gevolglik is daar nou vanaf Rietkuil geen begeleiding van die pos nie, aangesien mnr. Rutledge die pos net tot op Rietkuil begelei.

Jeppe meld verder dat hy altyd die amptelike veldkornetspos vir die wyke Slangrivier, Duivenhoksrivier en Krombeksrivier anderkant Rietkuil saam met die poskar gestuur het. Nou kan hy dit egter nie meer doen nie, aangesien die poskardrywer weier om daarvoor verantwoordelikheid te aanvaar.

Die pos vanaf die oosgrens kom nou ook onbewaak op Rietkuil aan,

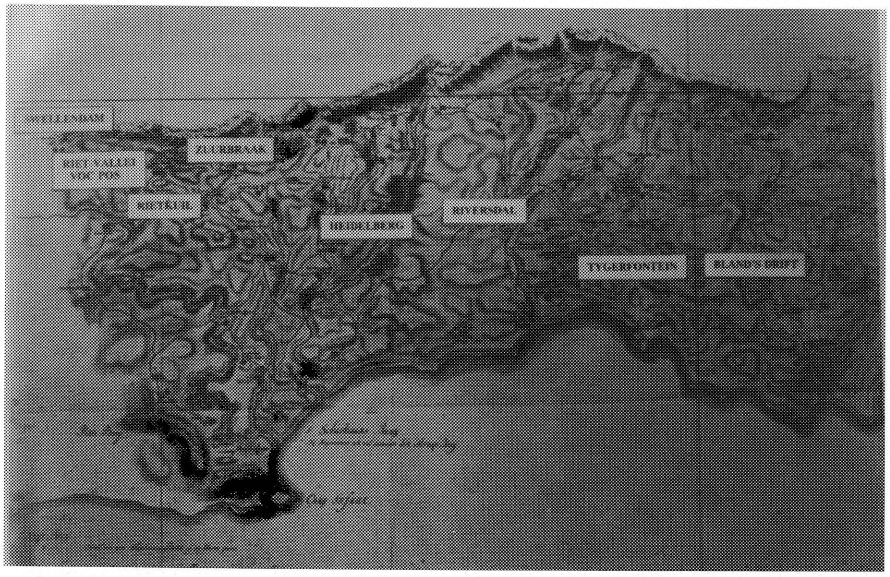
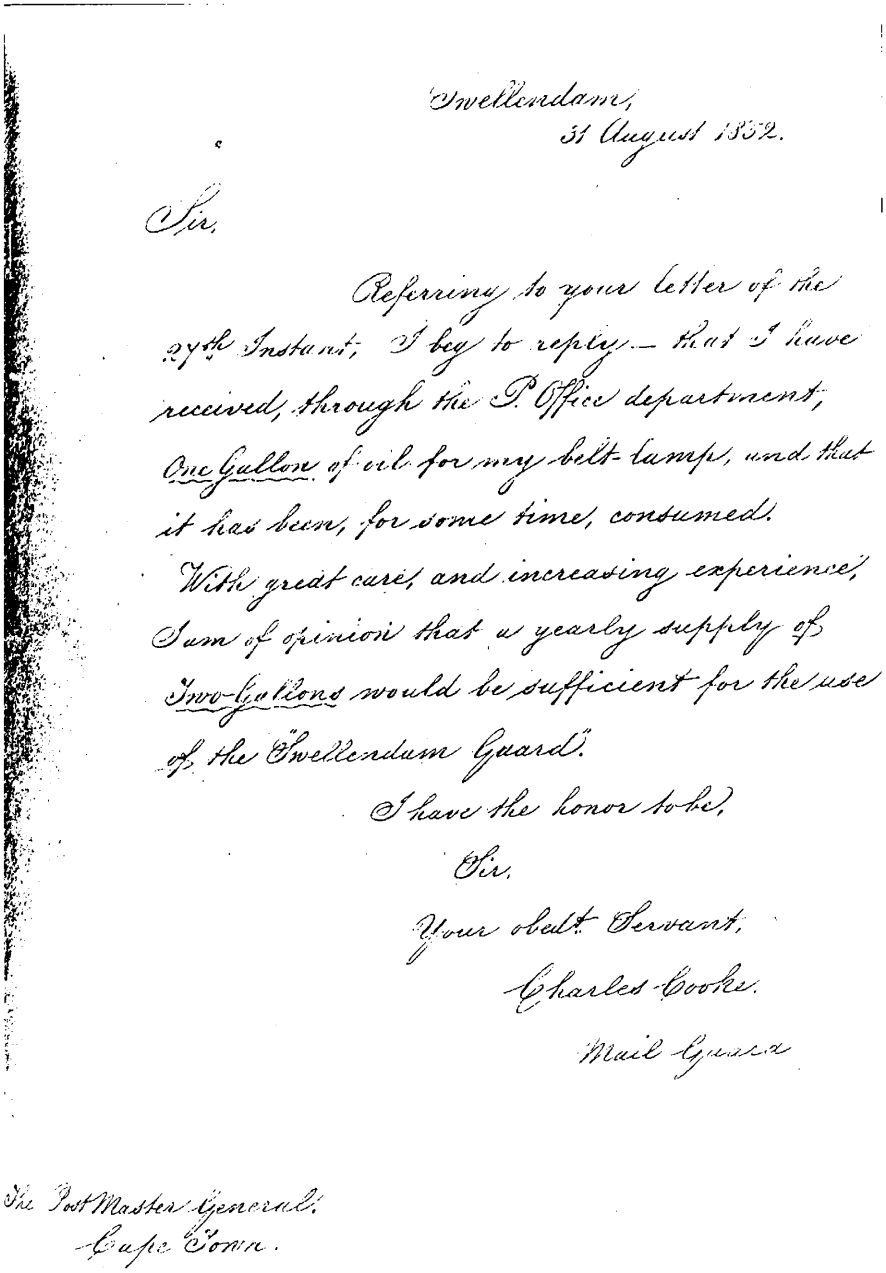


Fig. 3 Kaart van die Swellendam-Heidelberg streek teen ongeveer 1790. Die kaart verskyn in die Gordon Atlas deel 1 in die Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. (Met erkenning aan die Drostdy Museum, Swellendam). Skrywer het vir die doeleindes van publikasie 'n paar plekname duideliker geskryf asook 'n paar plekke op die posroete, soos dit vandag voorkom, aangetoon.

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Swellendam,
31 August 1852.

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 27th Instant; I beg to reply — that I have received, through the P. Office department, One Gallon of oil for my belt-lamps, and that it has been, for some time, consumed.

With great care, and increasing experience, I am of opinion that a yearly supply of Two Gallons would be sufficient for the use of the Swellendam Guard.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obdt. Servant,
Charles Cooke.
Mail Guard

The Post Master General.
Cape Town.

Fig 4 Brief van die poswag Charles Cooke aan die posmeester-generaal (Kaapse Argiefbewaarplek)

aangesien mnr. Toole die pos tussen Riversdal en Rietkuil begelei net tot waar hulle die Kaapse pos ontmoet. Dáár draai hy weer om na Riversdal. Wanneer bogemelde onreëlmatighede in ag geneem word, bly daar volgens Jeppe net één van twee moontlikhede oor.

Mnr. Rutledge moet die pos verby Rietkuil begelei tot waar hy die oosgrenspos ontmoet, of mnr. Toole moet op Rietkuil gestasioneer word. Vanaf Rietkuil kan hy dan die pos na Riversdal begelei totdat hy poswag Chilton op of naby Riversdal ontmoet. Aangesien Rutledge reeds vir 'n skof van 10 uur heen-en-weer verantwoordelik is, stel Jeppe voor dat Toole die pos vanaf Rietkuil moet begelei. In die winter gebeur dit dikwels dat die poste mekaar nie op die normale plek naby Riversdal ontmoet nie. In so 'n geval sal dit beteken dat Rutledge 'n skof van 20 uur heen-en-weer moet reis.

Die poswagstelsel het geweldig baie probleme langs die hele roete veroorsaak, en was volgens alle aanduidings 'n mislukking. Daarom is dit na sowat 18 maande vanaf 1 Julie 1853 afgeskaf.

Rietkuil se poskantoor

Rietkuil was egter nie net 'n posstasie waar verbygaande poskarre van vars perde voorsien is nie, maar het inderdaad vir 'n hele aantal jare oor 'n eie poskantoor/posagentskap beskik. B. Richter, plaaseienaar, is op 1 April 1846 as eerste onder-posmeester op Rietkuil aangestel, met 'n salaris van £5 per jaar.

Hoewel verdere gegewens oor die Rietkuil poskantoor maar karig is, is daar genoeg om darem te kan aantoon dat die geskiedenis rakende die possake baie interessant verloop het.

Ná 'n lang stilswye begin Rietkuil se posgeskiedenis weer leef toe JAW Munnik van die distrik Swellendam op 6 Junie 1854 onderstaande brief aan die posmeester-generaal skryf.

"Sir,
Alongside the main road from Swellendam to Riversdale and the interior, and distant 4 hours from the former, is a place called Reitkuil (Rietkuil) formerly belonging to Mr B. Richter and occupied by me, where I have a shop for the sale of merchandise.

Formerly when Mr Richter resided on that place there existed a branch Post office conducted by him and by which the postal communication with the inhabitants of Onder- and Boven Duivenhoks River and those residing on the braak were greatly accommodated, who are now much inconvenienced.

The place, the only for a branch post between Swellendam and Riversdale, has also in the estimate of last year been fixed upon for such branch post although not yet executed.

I beg therefore to request it's re-establishment offering myself as postmaster for the same."

Munnik se vertoë was suksesvol en hy is op 17 Junie 1854 as onder-posmeester op Rietkuil aangestel met 'n salaris van £5 per jaar.

Die poskontrakteur JF Hudson van Riversdal het deur middel van die posmeester aldaar kennis geneem dat 'n takposkantoor nou weer op Rietkuil geopen is. Op 24 Junie 1854 bring hy dit per brief onder die posmeester-generaal se aandag dat Munnik se huis 'n entjie van die hoofpad lê, en dat die pad na die opstal baie steil en sleg is. Om sy punt te maak, verskaf Hudson 'n rowwe skets om die ligging van die opstal en die pad daarheen aan te toon (Fig. 5 en 6.)

Hierdie aansprake van Hudson het Munnik in 'n brief van 29 Junie 1854 ontken. Hy sê dat sy woning slegs twee minute van die hoofpad geleë is, en dat die pad net so goed as die ander pad laer af is. Die sloot wat ná die onlangse swaar reëns oor die pad gespoel is, is reeds weer herstel.

Munnik se brief bevat 'n verdere interessante stukkie geskiedenis. Hy sê Rietkuil het altyd 'n poskantoor gehad behalwe die laaste ses jaar, omdat Richter die plek verkoop het en 'n nuwe posmeester nooit weer aangestel is nie. Hierteenoor lys die *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers (Blue Book)* vir Richter as onder-posmeester vanaf 1846-1853.

Volgens die inligting uit Munnik se brief het die poskantoor op Rietkuil

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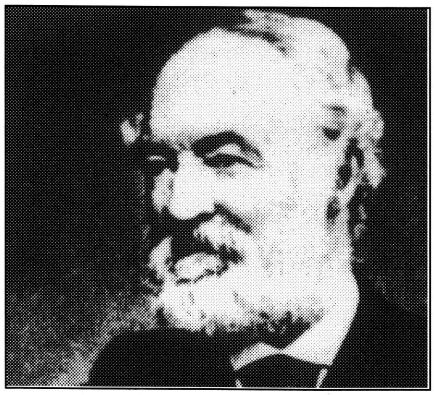


Fig 5 Die poskontrakteur en gemeenskapsleier van Riversdal. JF Hudson (Met erkenning aan: Frans van Wyk : Riversdal 1838-1988)

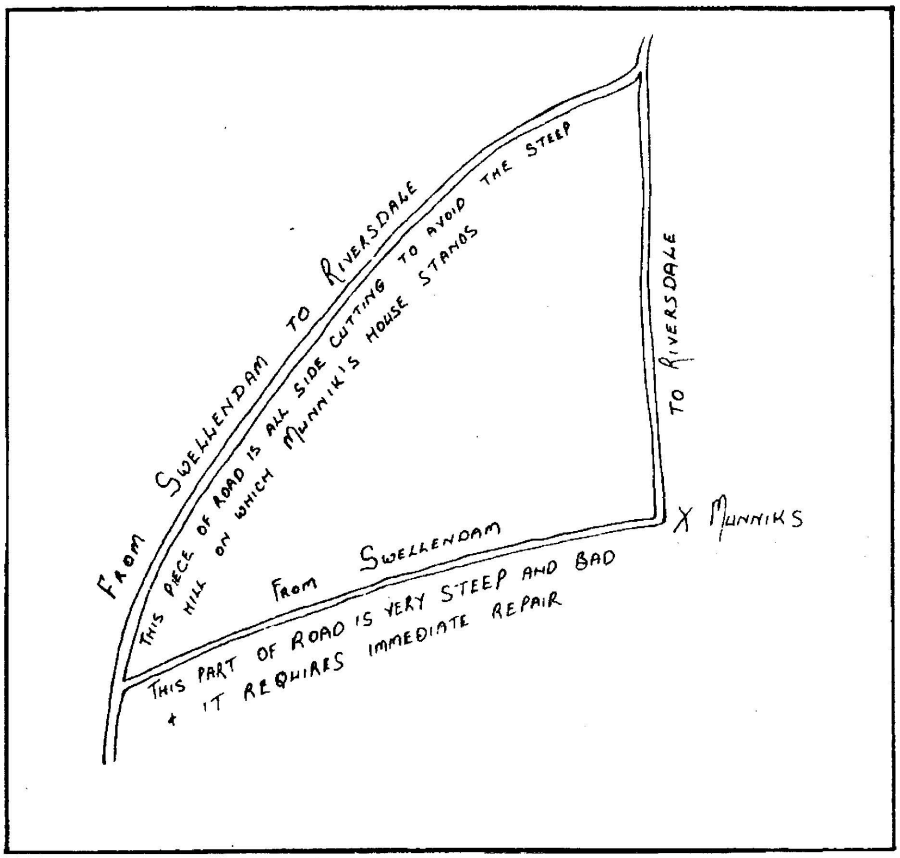


Fig 6 Rowwe skets van poskontrakteur Hudson om die opstal op Rietkuil asook die paaie na en van Munnik se huis aan te toon. Skrywer het die skets uit die oorspronklike brief van Hudson afgeteken. (Kaapse Argiefbewaarplek)

dus reeds in 1848, nadat die plaas verkoop is, opgehou bestaan. Daar bestaan geen rede hoekom Munnik se weergawe nie as korrek aanvaar kan word nie. Hy was immers van die distrik, en sou eerstehandse kennis besit het.

Ek glo dat Rietkuil ná 1848 as posstasie op die posroete bly voortbestaan het, al was daar nie meer 'n poskantoor nie. Die feit dat Rietkuil tydens die poswagstelsel vanaf einde 1851 tot einde Junie 1853, asook reeds in 1848, op die posroete as 'n skofpunt aangedui word, bevestig dat my aanname korrek is.

Hoekom Richter se naam gelys is terwyl hy nie meer posmeester was nie is moeilik om te antwoord. Die feit dat Munnik in 1854 teen dieselfde salaris van £5 per jaar aangestel is as wat Richter in 1846 mee aangestel is laat my wonder of die beraming van £5 vir die pos van onder-posmeester vir Rietkuil nie deur die jare op die staat se boeke bly voortbestaan het nie, selfs al was daar nie 'n posmeester nie!

Met die vertoë vir die opening van 'n poskantoor op Oudtshoorn was dit presies wat op Doornrivier gebeur het. Die Siviele Kommissaris Aspeling van George skryf in 1852 aan die posmeester-generaal dat hy merk dat hoewel Doornrivier nie meer oor 'n poskantoor beskik nie, die beraming van £5 per jaar nog steeds in die regering se boeke voorkom. Dit kan die verklaring wees dat Richter gelys is as posmeester hoewel hy nie meer een was nie.

Dis egter duidelik dat die posmeester-generaal, by gebrek aan 'n geskikte kandidaat, ná 1848 nie weer 'n aanstelling op Rietkuil gemaak het nie. Die lys van Richter as posmeester is dus foutief.

Munnik se brief van 29 Junie bevat ook 'n lys van 42 plaasbewoners se naamtekeninge wat graag in die toekoms hulle pos en koerante op Rietkuil afgelewer wil hê.

Die poskantoor op Rietkuil kon vanaf 7 Julie 1854 begin funksioneer as Munnik ontvangs van kantoortoerusting erken. Hy meld dat hy egter geen rojeerstempel ontvang het nie. Hy doen verder navraag oor 'n skaal en gewigte, en meld dat hy sommer 'n voorraad seëls op Swellendam gekoop het.

Munnik was nie lank posmeester op Rietkuil nie, want op 20 Junie 1855 gee hy aan die posmeester-generaal kennis dat hy nie langer as 1 Julie 1855 die poskantoor in stand kan hou nie, aangesien hy 'n ander plaas gekoop het. Sy plek is op 15 Oktober 1855 geneem deur APB Van Niekerk, wat 'n salaris van £6 per jaar ontvang het. Van Niekerk het ná drie maande, op 23 Januarie 1856, aan die posmeester-generaal kennis gegee dat hy na 'n ander deel van die distrik gaan verhuis en daarom slegs tot die einde van Januarie 1856 as posmeester sal kan diens doen.

Die *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers (Blue Book)* is elke jaar teen die einde van Desember gedruk. Nou gee die "Blue Book" van 1856 die volgende baie interessante brokkie inligting:

"The office of Deputy Postmaster at Riet Kuil has been abolished; Mr van Niekerk has since been appointed Post Office Agent at that place, without salary."

Verder word gemeld dat Van Niekerk op 28 Februarie 1856 as posagent aangestel is. Sy enigste vergoeding was 'n klein kommissie wat hy op posseëlverkope ontvang het. Die degradering van die Rietkuil poskantoor tot posagentskapstatus, en die posmeester tot posagent, was vreemd. Wat die werklike rede was sou ek nooit kon raai nie.

'n Brief van Southey, toe Siviele Kommissaris van Swellendam, het toe die baie interessante rede bevat. Hy skryf op 22 Februarie 1856 aan die posmeester-generaal dat die werklike rede hoekom Van Niekerk die onder-posmeesterskap van Rietkuil

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wil opsê, is omdat hy glad nie in Engels onderleg is nie. Die amptelike skrywes en kennisgewings wat by Rietkuil se poskantoor aangekom het kon hy dus nie verstaan nie. Van Niekerk het aangedui dat hy gewillig is om die poskantoor oop te hou maar dan op sekere voorwaardes:

hy wil geen vergoeding vir sy dienste ontvang nie; geen onbetaalde briewe moet by Rietkuil se poskantoor gepos word nie; en hy wil geen rekenskap van sy poskantoorbesigheid doen of enige verslag daaroor lewer nie.

Hoewel Rietkuil se posagentskap in 1857 weer tot poskantoor opgradeer is, het die onder-posmeester Van Niekerk nog steeds slegs kommissie op posseëlverkope ontvang. Dit kon beslis nie veel gewees het nie.

Posontwikkeling langs die Duivenhoksrivier

Intussen het ontwikkelinge langs die Duivenhoksrivier begin plaasvind. Dit sou op die ou einde ook die poskantoor op Rietkuil beïnvloed.

'n Kerkplaas, Doornboom, is in September 1855 aangekoop, en die gemeente Heidelberg is op 13 November 1855 van Swellendam afgestig. Die inwoners langs die Duivenhoksrivier, wat aanvanklik deur die poskantoor op Rietkuil bedien is, het spoedig die behoefte aan 'n eie poskantoor op hulle nuwe dorpie Heidelberg sterk aangevoel.

Hulle het by die posmeester van Swellendam, George Chamberlain, aansoek gedoen vir die stigting van 'n poskantoor op Heidelberg. Op 15 Februarie 1856 het Chamberlain die stigting van 'n poskantoor op Heidelberg by die posmeester-generaal aanbeveel. Volgens Chamberlain sou F Meeser, wat onlangs 'n winkel op Heidelberg geopen het, die mees geskikte persoon wees om as posmeester aangestel te word. Hy was gewillig om die werk van posmeester te doen teen dieselfde salaris as wat Van Niekerk van Rietkuil ontvang.

Dieselfde possak kan vir Rietkuil en Heidelberg gebruik word. Al wat dan vir 'n nuwe poskantoor op Heidelberg nodig sal wees, is 'n rojeerstempel, stempelkussing en ander toerusting. Meeser is op 15 Maart 1856 as eerste onder-posmeester van Heidelberg aangestel, teen 'n salaris van £6 per jaar, asook 'n kommissie op die verkoop van posseëls.

Posontwikkeling op Zuurbraak

So 'n paar myl noordwes van Rietkuil het die klein dorpie Zuurbraak aan die voetheuwels van die Langeberge ontwikkel. Oorblyfsels van die Attaqua Hottentotte het hulle hier gevestig. Op uitnodiging van hulle kaptein, Hans Moos, en met die goedkeuring van goewerneur Caledon het die Londonse Sendinggenootskap in 1811 daar begin sendingwerk doen.

Die kraal is aanvanklik Caledon Instituut genoem, maar gedurende die dienstyd van Eerw HC Helm (1827-1848) is die naam na Zuurbraak verander.

Verskillende sendelinge het deur die jare op Zuurbraak diens gedoen: J Seidenfaden (1812-1826); HC Helm (1827-1848); D Helm (1848-1873); C Helm (1873-1874); ene Karemaker (tydelik 1874-1877); JC Pauw (skrywer se oupagrootjie, 1877-1878).

Hulle het elkeen op sy eie manier bygedra tot die ontwikkeling van die dorp. Op 8 April 1875 het die inwoners besluit om op 'n paar na almal na die Ned. Geref. Kerk oor te gaan. Soos die dorpslewe op Zuurbraak meer vorm begin aanneem het, het die behoefte aan 'n eie poskantoor ook al hoe groter geword.

Vroeër het die inwoners van Zuurbraak van Rietkuil as naaste poskantoor gebruik gemaak. In sy brief van 6 Junie 1854 verwys JAW Munnik daarna dat die inwoners rondom die Duivenhoksrivier "and those residing on the braak" van die poskantoor op Rietkuil in Richter se tyd gebruik gemaak het.

In *Overberg Outspan* beskryf Edmund H Burrows die werksmense op die Reitz familieplaas, Rhenoster Fontein, as volg: "The plaas volk were of two kinds: those who came sporadically from Zuurbraak (called today as they were then Braak se volk) and those who lived on the farm." Dit laat my die afleiding maak dat Munnik na Zuurbraak se inwoners verwys het toe hy die heropening van Rietkuil se poskantoor bepleit het.

Zuurbraak het in 1881 sy eie posagentskap gekry. Dit was egter eers op 1 Augustus 1896 dat die agentskap poskantoorstatus gekry het. Dit lyk of die vroulike geslag die poskantoor leisels stewig vasgehou het want volgens die *Cape of Good Hope Civil Service List* het die volgende dames agtereenvolgens as posmeesteres gedien: Mej Pattison (1896-1903); Mej J de Bruyn (1903); Mej B Krynauw (1904); en Mej E Rogers (1905-?).

Rietkuil se poskantoor word in die *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers* in 1861 die laaste keer gelys, met Van Niekerk nog steeds die onder-posmeester. Putzel se navorsing toon egter dat daar in 1865 nog steeds 'n poskantoor bestaan het.

Dit het voor 1879 gesluit maar is in daardie jaar weer heropen. In 1881 word dit die laaste keer gelys.

Ek glo dat die stigting van 'n poskantoor op Heidelberg in 1856, maar veral die opening van 'n posagentskap op die nabygeleë Zuurbraak in 1881, die sluiting van die poskantoor op Rietkuil beïnvloed het.

Rietkuil se posstal of te wel POSSTAL se stal is vandag net maar 'n herinnering aan 'n era waarin die poskar 'n baie belangrike rol in posvervoer en kommunikasie gespeel het.

Dis is 'n pragtige geskiedenis van 150 jaar gelede wat verdien om bewaar te word. Daarom was oupa Loutjie Swart versiende toe hy sy deel van die groter Rietkuil, POSSTAL begin noem het. In dié naam is 'n ryke stukkie posgeskiedenis uit die distrik van Swellendam vasgevang.

Bronne

1. Literatuur:

Alheit, WA: *Een-en-Halwe Eeu van Genade 1798-1948* Gedenkboek van die Ned. Geref. Gemeente Swellendam, Ned. Geref. Kerk Pers, Woodstock 1948

Burrows, Edmund R: *Overberg Outspan*, Maskew Miller, Kaapstad 1952 (Herdruk deur Swellendam Trust 1988)

Forbes, Vernon S: *Pioneer Travellers in South Africa*, AA Balkema, Kaapstad 1965

Goldblatt Robert: *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*, Reijger Uitgewers, Kaapstad 1984

Putzel, Ralph F: *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, Vol.2-4, Hale & Putzel, Kaapstad 1987, 1989 en 1990

Van Wyk, Frans: *Riversdal 1838-1988*, Nasionale Boekdrukkery, Kaapstad 1988

Viviers, Johan H: *Jacobus Cornelis Pauw* 1837-1918

2. Argivale Bronne:

Kaapse Argiefbewaarplek: *Incoming letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster-general, GPO Volumes*: 1/5/(1826); 1/42(1852); 1/43(1853); 1/45(1854); 1/46(1854); 1/47(1855) en 1/49(1856)

Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek, Kaapstad: *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers (Blue Book)* (1846-1861) *Cape of Good Hope Civil Service List* (1897-1910)

Drostdy Museum, Swellendam: Kaart van Swellendam-Heidelberg streek

3. Persoonlike Mededelings:

Persoonlike mededelings van die volgende persone word met dank erken: JC Swart van Swellendam; Dawie en Lorraine Swart van Posstal, Swellendam.

4. Fotos:

Pauw Steyl ■

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■ **MARTIN EAST** *Philatelic Society of Natal*

How to tackle thematic exhibits

THE last decade has seen a major upsurge in the collecting of thematics, and at recent national exhibitions "Thematics" has usually been the category which has attracted the largest number of entries.

Conversely, a study of the awards gained by thematic exhibits, indicates that this category is far and away the weakest section at national level.

In this article I shall aim to encourage philatelists to collect thematically, but at the same time attempt to dispel some of the long held misconceptions about thematic collecting, whilst giving thoughts and ideas on how to improve thematic exhibits.

So often club members are encouraged to collect thematics "as this is fun, whilst at the same time this form of collection is cheap to accumulate." Herein lies the first myth. Thematics are fun, but for the serious collector, thematics are not cheap!

Fun is not a synonym for easy and yet in the minds of many philatelists, thematic collecting is perceived as an easy option, one that does not require much thought, knowledge nor research. On viewing many such thematic exhibits it would seem that the collector has purchased as many stamps as possible depicting his theme of interest and thereafter arranged those stamps to form an exhibit. Fortunately exhibits of this nature never achieve more than a Bronze medallion at national level.

The composition of a thematic exhibit

The word "theme" is well known and understood by children attending primary schools. These youngsters are frequently requested to produce a project or to adopt a thematic approach to sections of their curricular studies.

In essence, a thematic exhibit is a pictorial essay – the portrayal of the subject matter through postal elements. As such, a thematic exhibit should follow a logical plan of development. The exhibit requires a starting point and it must eventually reach a conclusion. Within these two bounds, the story or study needs to be developed, expanded upon and presented in such a way that the reader/viewer will be interested in the content.

THE author is one of South Africa's most senior national judges, who has concerned himself extensively with thematic stamp collecting. (His wife, Anne, who also runs his computer for him, went from a Silver-bronze in thematics in 1981 to a Gold and the Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup in 1993 at eThekweni for her "The Way of the Post").

Martin is also a popular auctioneer with Natal societies, and the current regional vice-president of the Federation for Natal. In real life, he is a headmaster.

He (and the Editor!) are grateful to John Stinson of the Pinelands Stamp Circle for providing pages from his extensive thematic collections to illustrate this article.

The thematic approach to education, transferred to philately, holds the same prerequisites true. Any essay or composition follows a normal pattern of introduction, body or exposition of the subject matter and finally a conclusion. Readers will remember this from their own school days.

A requirement in the composition of a thematic exhibit is that it should "flow" – each of the component sections depicted should inter-relate with those which it follows as well as with the ensuing section to give an overall, evenly balanced composite whole.

Deciding on the theme

What is often considered an easy decision when pursuing a thematic exhibit is what one actually intends to depict. This topic or subject is really the most difficult decision one makes before actually embarking on the gathering of material to form the exhibit.

In essence one needs to decide upon a subject which allows the exhibitor ample range and scope to develop an exhibit. Too often exhibitors choose a subject which is restrictive, and does not allow for a multi-faceted development.

One of the most popular topics for a thematic exhibit is always birds. However, to fully develop such a thematic demands a deep knowledge of ornithology, as well as a deep understanding of the essences of philately.

Page upon page of birds depicted on stamps placed into simple classifications such as sea and water birds, birds of prey, migratory birds, birds useful to man, etc., will never achieve much more than a Bronze award.

Top thematic exhibits seen at national level over the past ten years or so have all been historically based – "The Story of South Africa", "Children in Philately", "The History of the Olympic Games", "The Way of the Post", are such exhibits which readily come to mind.

These exhibits have allowed the exhibitor ample scope to develop their themes, and they have allowed the exhibitor access to a wide range of philatelic elements to depict their subject. Such material is essential for exhibitors wishing to enhance their exhibits.

The components of a thematic exhibit

Thematics is the portrayal of a theme through the pictorial design of the postage stamp, and through philatelic elements which have a postal origin and are intended for transmitting messages. As such I shall elaborate on philatelic items which should be used to make up a thematic exhibit.

1. Unused stamps should be preferred to cancelled ones. If an uncancelled stamp cannot be obtained, then the cancellation should be as light as possible, and should under no circumstances detract from the pictorial representation that the stamp displays. However, postmarks related to the theme can add strength to the exhibit and these, where possible, should be included.

2. Never use defective stamps, and endeavour to use the best stamps available to portray the idea to be developed. Older, high value stamps are always preferable to the cheaper, more modern issues.

3. There is no point in duplicating a number of stamps depicting identical representations. This practice usually overburdens the presentation. In any exhibit space is at a premium. Use the available space to the maximum. The term "power/space ratio" is the one to aim at.

4. Items of postal history form a necessary and integral part of the exhibit. As with country or specialised exhibits, older material is preferable to the more modern.

5. Proofs, specimens, varieties, artists working drawings, colour trials,

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booklet stamps, post marks etc. all give added power to the exhibit. As with the selection of any philatelic elements, however, ensure that such items enhance the exhibit. They should not be used simply to show that you have such items.

6. Post cards and maximum cards should be sparingly used. Commercially produced First Day Covers usually detract from the exhibit rather than enhance it. Rather use the postmarks from FDCs, or show the stamps on a genuinely used commercial cover.

7. The presentation of the stamps should be tasteful. Intersperse stamps with other philatelic elements – avoid a monotonous arrangement at all times.

8. The elements of a thematic exhibit must always remain the stamps and related philatelic material. Artistic embellishments, no matter how adept the artist is, should be avoided at all times.

9. The write-up should be neat, legible, coherent, accurate, concise and to the point.

Rules of the game

Whilst no one wishes to be overly prescriptive to exhibitors, there are certain rules which need to be adhered to. Obviously exhibitors need to know the rules of the game before they start putting their exhibit together.

In this regard I emphasise that your collection is NOT your exhibit. From your collection one needs to extract only the very best material to form your exhibit. In this regard remember the "power/space ratio".

A thematic exhibit should have an introduction, giving a synopsis of what the exhibit is about. This needs to be a detailed index, indicating to the viewer on what pages actual developments of the theme are to be seen.

Using "Birds" as the theme, an example of an introductory page could be as follows:

BIRDS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Origin of Birds 1
The transition from reptile to pterodactyl 2-3
Early South African ornithologists: François C. Vaillant, Hendrik Claudius Kalbe, Sparrman, Burchell, Ludwig Kreblis 4-8
Descriptive terms used in ornithology 9-12
Distribution regions of South Africa 13-19
The Kaokoveld, Namib Desert, Ovamboland 13
Damaraland, Ngamiland 14
Sandveld Kalahari, Thornveld Kalahari, Great Namaqualand and Bushmansland etc. 15
Adaptation to the environment 20-25
Classification and family groupings 26-34
Family Struthionidae: Ostrich 27
Family Spheniscidae: Penguins 28-29
Family Procellariidae: Sea Birds 30
Heraldic Birds 35-39
Birds useful to Man: Canaries in mines, Pigeon Posts, Farm birds – Ostriches, Ducks, Chickens, etc. 40-43
Man's endeavour to fly, Icarus, Leonardo da Vinci, First air planes 44-45

With this in mind the viewer/judge can readily determine the scope of the exhibit, and from the introductory page acquaint himself with the development of each component of the exhibit.

Such a page is imperative in any exhibit. One could further, for example, include three or four stamps on this page depicting, for example, a pterodactyl, one other bird, Icarus and an early aeroplane.

Components of such an exhibit

Bearing in mind the power/space ratio mentioned as a requirement for any better exhibit, elements which could be included in such an exhibit could be:

- A signature of one of the early ornithologists or even a letter or two written by one of them.

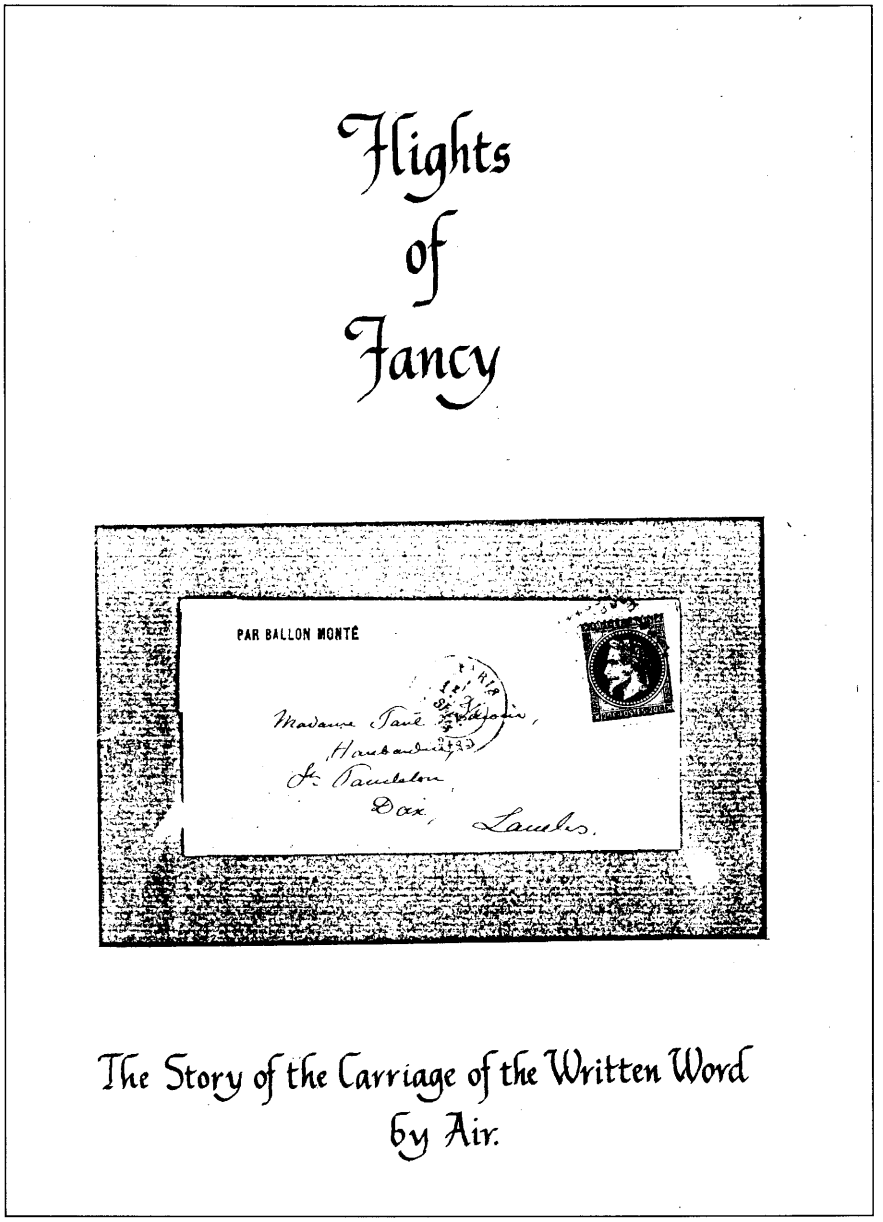


Fig. 1 The title page (not to be confused with the introduction) has not only wit, but a highly important aerophilatelic item.

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- Stamps showing the topography and vegetation of the distribution regions.
- Cancellations or meter marks showing the names of birds which are also depicted on stamps shown in the exhibit.
- Essays, proofs, specimens, colour trials, booklets, etc. of the stamps which make up the exhibit.
- Early pigeon grams and their usage.
- A stamp depicting Leonardo da Vinci or even a document signed by him!

Remember, I did warn you that a good thematic exhibit would not be cheap!

Country collections and thematic exhibits

In the elements of a thematic exhibit already mentioned one will find a very strong correlation with the elements used to form a good country collection.

Older, scarcer material, essays, varieties, postal history etc. are the requirements for a good country collection. The space/power ratio prevails. So too does the same type of material enhance a thematic exhibit.

To the thematic exhibitor, however, the choice of material is that much wider and varied. Whereas the country collector is limited in the material available to him, especially in that the prize items of any country are locked into the few top collections of that particular country, the thematic collector has a much vaster range of top quality material available with which to enhance his collection.

The final synopsis

Paramount for the thematic exhibitor is to collect a theme which lends itself to continued expansion. Endeavour to consider or conceptualise a topic which is new and exciting, and not one which has been done many times before.

Consider your exhibit as a pictorial essay in which you are going to use as many philatelic elements as possible for development. To summarise:

Commence with an introductory page wherein you explain the development, range and parameters of your exhibit.

Utilise space to maximum effect.

Each page needs to be powerful in its own right.

Do not show page upon page of similar stamps nor the whole set of stamps, if they all depict similar aspects of the theme.

Scarcer top values of the set are preferable to the common low values.

Mint stamps are preferable to used stamps, unless the cancellation is the important factor.

Knowledge, research and study are essential to the exhibitor.

Seek advice and comments from knowledgeable thematic exhibitors and judges.

Visit national exhibitions, and determine why certain exhibits achieved low awards whereas others enjoyed the fruits of the their labours.

Do not over-expose your exhibit on the route to improvement. Ensure that for each exhibition, major elements have been added to the collection.

Enjoy thematic collecting, but be realistic in your expectations. In your mind's eye compare your exhibit with those in other categories which achieved similar awards.

Finally: Thematic collecting is serious collecting, it is not a short cut to a good award. ■

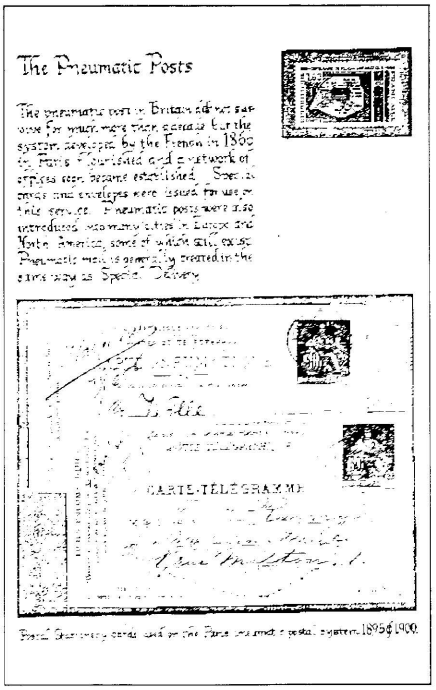


Fig. 2 The arrangement is chronological, which serves flow, and this page exploits imagination: pneumatic mail is carried by air.

In essence, a thematic exhibit is a pictorial essay - the portrayal of a subject through postal elements.

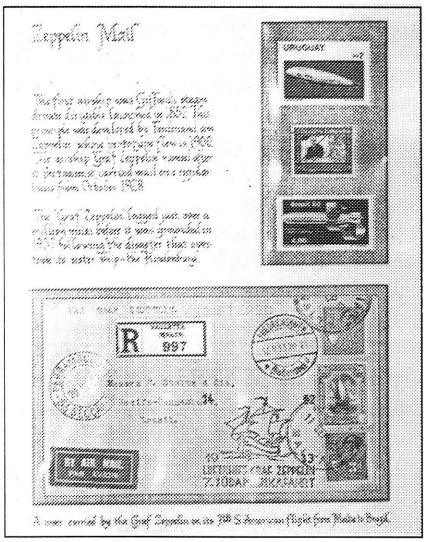


Fig. 3 Zeppelin mail is almost a drug on the market, but there is not much of it seen from Valletta (Malta) to Pernambuco (Brazil).

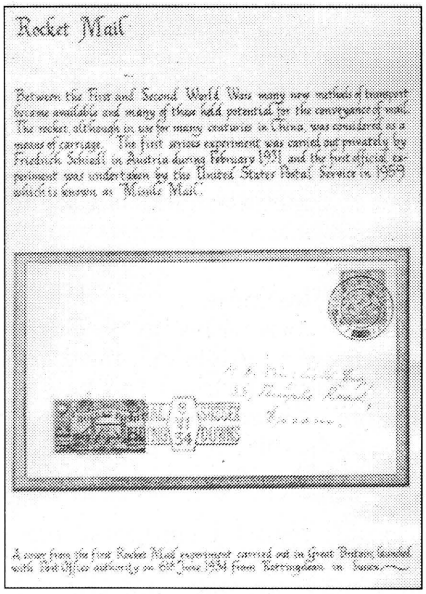


Fig. 4 Rocket mail was probably aimed primarily at collectors, but this cover is reinforced with an unusual Cinderella label.

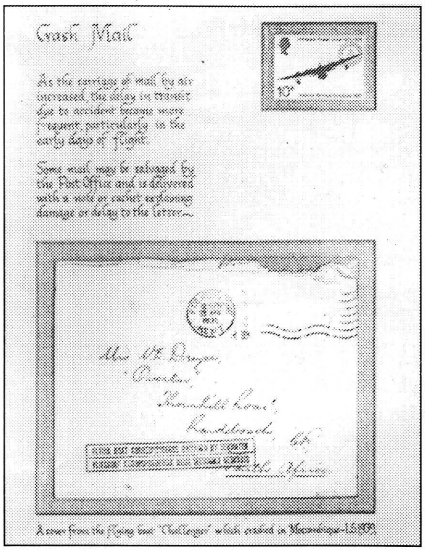


Fig. 5 Supported by a stamp commemorating the air service concerned, the cover shows yet another aspect of air transport.

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■ **CHRIS CORDES** *Philatelic Society of Johannesburg*

Further notes to the 1905 Victoria Falls set

I was intrigued to see Bernard Teicher's item on the 1905 Victoria Falls issue *(The SA Philatelist,* August 1995, p101). You will see that I have a slight variance with Bernard's findings, in particular in the five shilling value.

I did not bother to go finer than half perf, as the paper was of such poor quality and the perforating even worse, that to draw conclusions from fine perf gauging would be non-productive.

I have measured any values I come across of this issue for the last 12 years, and I have never come across anything with a gauge less than 13,8. The one 1d. value which perfed less than that is in the collection of a well known U.K. Vic Falls collector. It is the only copy he has come across, and that on a cover.

My experience is that the 5d. value is fairly evenly spread amongst the various perforations, although perf 14 is materially scarcer than the other perforations.

Perf 14 1d. is common, and other perforations are considerably less so.

The 2½d. value is the most common perf 14, but it does turn up fairly regularly in other perfs.

I have not kept a detailed analysis, but the above is the finding from a sample of at least two hundred of the lower two values, at least one hundred of the 5d., and about fifty of the three higher values.

Whilst on the subject of perforations, it is most interesting to note that the only value recorded so far to have imperforate varieties is the 1/- value.

Perforations

If one studies the perforations of this issue to any greater resolution than half perf steps, then an almost infinite number of perforation varieties can be found.

However, in general terms the lower values seem to have been perforated on entirely different machines to the higher values. This comment arises because of the widely differing perforations amongst the lower values, whilst the higher values, particularly the 1/- and the 2/6d. duties, in fact show remarkable consistency in their perforation gauges. Whilst most catalogues follow the example of Stanley Gibbons in listing perforations of anything between 13½ to perf 15 for all values, these have not yet all been recorded.

THE author is well known for his abiding interest in the Victoria Falls stamps of the Rhodesias. Here he offers additional information on the points raised by Bernard Teicher in *The SA Philatelist,* August 1995, p101.

Chris Cordes is also an accomplished thematic exhibitor, whose "Waterfalls around the World" (what else!) won him a Vermeil and the Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup at Pretoria 92.

The perforations recorded so far are as follows:

perf 13,6 x 14	1d.			
perf 14		all values		
perf 14½	1d.	2½d.	5d.	5/-
perf 15	1d.	2½d.	5d.	5/-
perf 14½ x 15	1d.	2½d.	5d.	
perf 15 x 14½	1d.	2½d.	5d.	5/-

The majority of values are perforated gauge 14, with the exception of

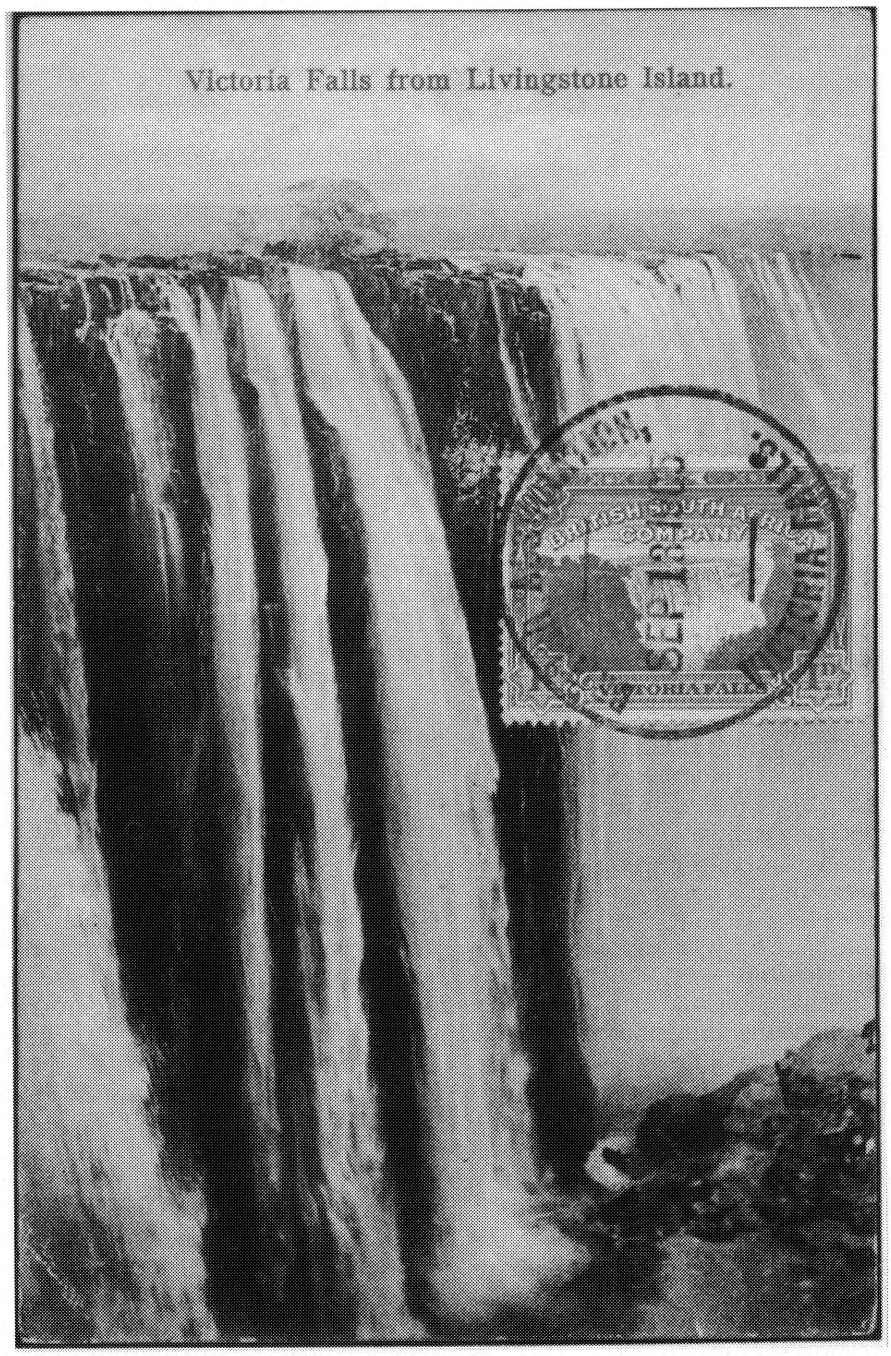


Fig. 1 An early "maxi-card" of the Victoria Falls.

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the 5d. duty, which appears to be uncommon in gauge 14, but is found in a spread of the other perforations.

It is interesting to note that the specimens are mainly perforated gauge 14 (including the 5d. duty), although the 5/- does occasionally turn up perforated gauge 14½.

A study of complete sheets, and indeed of large blocks, often shows lines of perforations that do not run parallel to each other, nor at right angles to the paper. This results in the most interestingly shaped stamps appearing. In addition there is also the occasional missing perforation at the end of a row.

Normally, the top gutter of each sheet is perforated, whilst the others are not (with the exception of the odd wandering perforation). However, one sheet of the 2½d. duty has been recorded with the bottom margin perforated and the top margin not. This must presumably have been the result of the particular sheet being passed through the perforator the "wrong" way around.

Printings

So far as is known there was only one printing of each value, the numbers being relatively small. Apart from those retained in London, they were all delivered to the chief post office in Salisbury in one parcel. To therefore try to relate postmarks to perforations may not serve a purpose.

However, what is interesting is that the 2½d. value was extensively re-engraved during the course of the printing, so much so that it is possible to plate certain parts of the sheet separately, thus identifying pre- and post re-engraved stamps. The other values that also have been plated (1d. and 5d.) do not show any similar re-engraving trends.

Extensive re-engraving of the top three values is not apparent from the examples seen so far.

Conclusion

This set fascinates because of the questions that remain unanswered.

Bernard has already asked why there are so many perforation varieties for such a short run issue. The only conclusion I have so far is that it was prepared "on the cheap", and that any available perforator was used.

Another query is why each value in certain sets of specimens was overprinted, whilst the 5d. value in others was perforated "specimen". There is no apparent logic to this. ■

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

Postmark record/Stempelverslag

'n Verduideliking

DAAR het 'n navraag by my uitgekom wat die volgende verduideliking benodig. Dit gebeur dat verwikkelinge soms lank nadat hulle die eerste keer opgemerk is, eers in die rubriek verskyn. Dit gebeur omdat ek nog voltyds werk en dus die rubriek in sarsies voorberei. Ons redakteur het dus by tye materiaal vir soveel as drie uitgawes tot sy beskikking. Ek wil nie namens hom gesels nie, maar sover ek weet is sy tyd ook maar beperk, en ek meen hy het nie juis tyd om items uit te kies om die rubriek so vars as moontlik te maak nie.

Daar is ook die feit dat ons tydskrif net elke tweede maand verskyn, wat sake so 'n bietjie moeiliker maak. Om die rubriek op datum te hou wat die verwikkelinge betref, is dus 'n moeilike, of onmoontlike, taak. Ek probeer om soveel verskeidenheid as moontlik in te bring, wat dan toelaat dat daar ook van die ouer materiaal behandel kan word.

Road safety slogans

IN 1951 and 1952, the South African Post Office used seven road safety slogans. They were: BE ALERT AVOID ROAD ACCIDENTS (used in Johannesburg), CAREFUL DRIVING SAVES LIVES (used in Port Elizabeth), COURTESY PROMOTES ROAD SAFETY (used in Kimberley), PRACTICE ROAD SAFETY EVERY DAY (used in Bloemfontein), ROAD SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOU (used in Pretoria), SAFE DRIVING SAVES LIVES (used in Cape Town), and PRACTICE ROAD SAFETY DAILY (used in Durban).

I am trying to establish full dates of introduction and withdrawal. Are there readers who have any of these slogans in their collections? Please be so kind as to let me have the dates on your impressions.

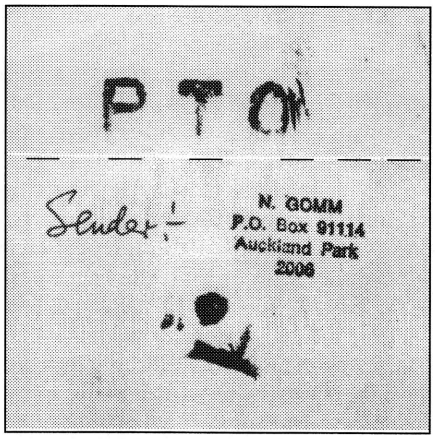
My address is PO Box 91-114, Auckland Park, 2006. If you are able to send photocopies, I would appreciate them very much.

EL POSTAL CNTR is opgelos

EK het onlangs 'n baie welkome brief van Chris Opperman van Panorama in die Kaap ontvang. Hy het gereageer op die EL POSTAL CNTR item wat in die Februarie 1995 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek verskyn het (op p10).

Chris sê die letters op die toonbankregisterkwitansie beteken inderwaarheid EAST LONDON POSTAL COUNTER. Die afkorting CNTR staan dus vir COUNTER en nie vir CENTRE nie.

Chris sê dit is nie ongewoon dat groter poskantore afsonderlike finansiële en postoonbanke bedryf nie. Postoonbanke (postal counters) is bedoel vir die aanname en aflewering van pakkette en aangetekende stukke. By finansiële toonbanke word alle tipes transaksies behalwe posstukke hanteer.



Muizenberg Depot's little rubber stamp

IN 1984, I mailed a letter to the Cape Town area, but had been given the wrong street name. As a result, my letter ended up at the Muizenberg Depot for returning to me.

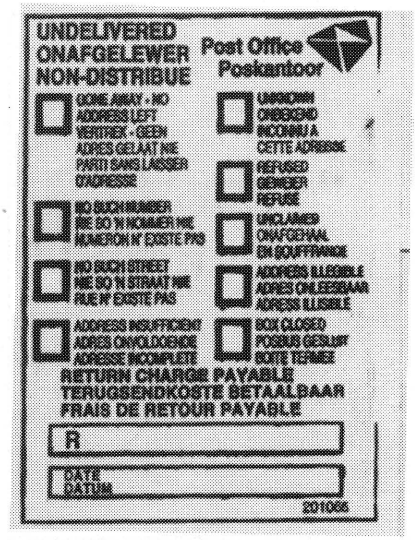
The staff member handling mail needing to be returned to the sender, had what appears to have been two homemade rubber stamps. These consisted of the letters PTO and TO, with the former applied to the front of the envelope, and the latter next to the sender's address on the reverse. Red ink was used.

Nuwe ONAFGELEWER etiket

'n POSSTUK met die datum 13 Maart 1995 wat by Nahoon in Oos-Londen gepos is, het die etiket wat hierby geïllustreer word, daarop gehad. (Sien ook *The SA Philatelist*, Oktober 1995, p149).

Soortgelyke etikette van die verlede het bestaan uit wit papier met swart drukwerk daarop. Hierdie nuwe etiket het 'n bietjie kleur.

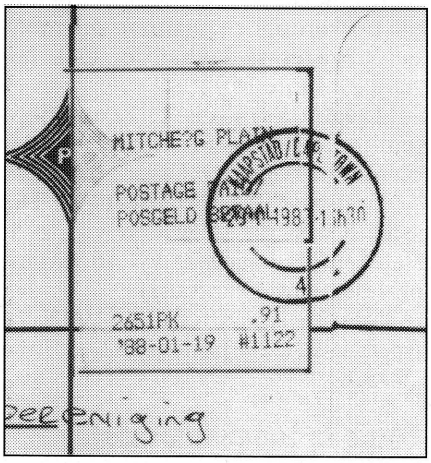
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Die area binne die groot blok wat die drukwerk omring, is geel, terwyl die binnekant van die klein blokkies wit is. Die drukwerk en blokke is in swart, dus geel en swart op 'n wit agtergrond. Dankie aan Nita Venter vir hierdie item.

Registration letter notes

THE June 1989 (p152), August 1989 (p203) and February 1995 (p11) issues of this feature contained details of registered letter envelopes with counter register receipts affixed, which were bought at one post office and presented at another post office for registration and onward transmission.



The example herewith was received from Guy Havoux and shows an envelope bought at Mitchells Plain and presented at Cape Town. Note the incorrect spelling of the word "MITCHELLS".

Kleinsee met 'n z ?

VIER geregistreerde koeverte wat George van den Hurk RDPSA lank gelede aan my gegee het, vertel 'n klein storie. Die koeverte is van Kleinsee in die Noord-Kaap Provinsie afkomstig.

Die storie gaan oor die naam van die poskantoor soos dit in die rubberstempel afdruk verskyn. Toe die poskantoor, volgens Ralph Putzel se *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, op 9 Februarie 1931 geopen is, is die naam as KLEIN ZEE (twee woorde) gespel. In 1953 is die naam na KLEINSEE verander.



Dit kan ook genoem word dat drie van die vier afsenders van die briewe die naam met 'n z in hul adres op die agterkant van die koeverte gespel het. Die z het skynbaar in die volksmond nog voortgeduur. Die feit dat die naam, soos in die rubberstempel, met 'n z gespel is, is dus nie buitengewoon nie.

Kleinsee het in 1978 minstens twee verskillende datumstempels gehad. In altwee is die datums, ingevolge 'n 1977 Poskantoor besluit om die I.S.O. volgorde te gebruik, met die jaartal eerste verstel. Daar was waarskynlik twee toonbank posisies.

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

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
February 1936
KING GEORGE V

AS citizens we mourn the passing of a great and good king. . .

As philatelists we have lost the greatest collector of the stamps of the British Empire and one whose enthusiasm for philately could hardly be surpassed. . .

Let us hope that the wonderful collection of stamps of the British Empire, representing some fifty years of keen interest and work by our late king, will not be broken up, but will remain as a lasting memorial to the memory of a truly great philatelist.
(Editorial)

30 years ago
February 1966
IETS VIR ALMAL

KONINGIN ELIZABETH besit 'n waardevolle versameling wat deur haar vader koning George VI, en ook haar grootvader, koning George V, vir haar nagelaat is.

Haar versameling word in drie kamers in Buckingham Paleis gehuisves, maar weens die omvang van die versameling, en die veeleisende studie wat dit meebring, het sy enige jare gelede sir John Wilson as bewaarder en kurator van haar versameling aangestel; 'n amp wat hy met waardigheid beklee.
(NC Combrink)

60 years ago
March 1936
DUPLICATES

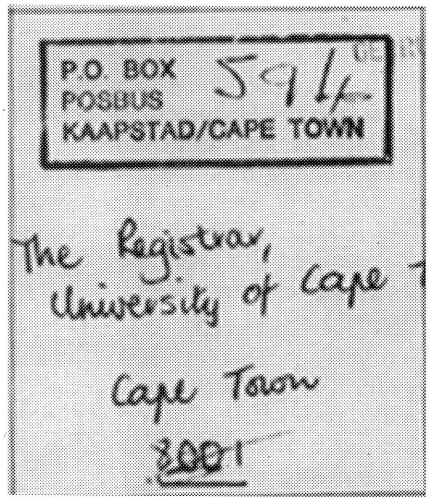
YOU probably have thousands of Cape, Transvaal and Union 1d Red, besides other common South African stamps, which will be of equally little value if you keep them for another fifty years.

I can make use of such bulk material...
(Advertisement)

30 years ago
March 1966
TRANSVAAL STUDY CIRCLE

THIS study group was formally inaugurated on 13 November 1965 with Major HM Criddle. . . as secretary and treasurer. . . Membership already includes residents in South Africa, Holland and Britain, but more will be welcomed on application.
(Maj. Harold Criddle was elected as an RDPSA in 1986 (see The SA Philatelist, *November 1986, p261, and August 1987, p152.)*

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Making things easier. . .

. . . is probably what was achieved with the rubber stamp impression illustrated here. It was applied to an item posted in Pietermaritzburg on 22 July 1976 and addressed only to the University of Cape Town, Cape Town. The sorting staff added the rubber stamp impression and added the box number to make matters easier.



More from Jan Smuts Airport

JUST when you thought you had seen the last of Jan Smuts Airport, up crops another item.

The rubber stamp impression which is shown here was applied to a letter I received from the postmaster in March 1995.

It seems that Jan Smuts Airport is destined to be renamed Johannesburg Airport, as news media in Gauteng are already referring to it by that name.

The airport does not fall in the Johannesburg municipal area, and it remains to be seen what the Kempton Park municipality, in whose area the airport is situated, will have to say about the matter.

Kempton Park has objected in the past when the airport was connected to Johannesburg in any way.

Die aflosstempels rekord

DIE volgende aflosstempels, met illustrasies van sommige van die beste voorbeelde, is deur David Allison verskaf. Die datums waarop die stempels gebruik is, verskyn tussen hakies.

Hadison Park (17 Januarie 1992. Sien ook die verkeerde spelling van die poskantoor se naam op die toonbankregister se kwitansie. Ook gesien, 20 Junie 1992.)

Houghton (14 Julie 1992 en 2 September 1992. Daar is 'n syfer 1 onder tussen die twee sirkels.)

Parklands (7 Februarie 1992. Die syfer tussen die twee sirkels is 'n 5. Beteken dit daar was vyf aflosstempels by hierdie kantoor?)

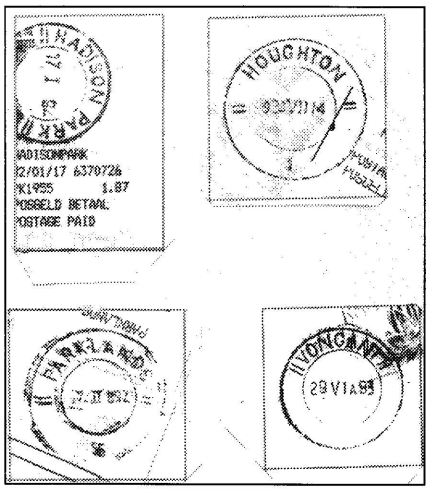
Vongani (23 November 1992, 28 April 1993, 29 Junie 1993, 5 Julie 1993.)

Foute in toonbankregister kwitansies

DAARDIE kwitansies met die verkeerde spellings wat ek so gereeld in die rubriek insluit, het my 'n roskam op die hals gehaal. Die klaar sê ek verkleineer die Poskantoor en sy personeel.

Dit is egter geensins my bedoeling om enigiemand te na te kom nie. Dit gaan suiwer daaroor om die verkeerdes op rekord te plaas, sodat wanneer iemand in die jare vorentoe op 'n verkeerde een afkom, daar minstens iewers iets op rekord sal wees om na te verwys en te kontroleer.

(Staff Pauw van Ladismith in die Klein Karoo het vir ons die paar items hierby gestuur.)

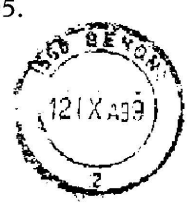




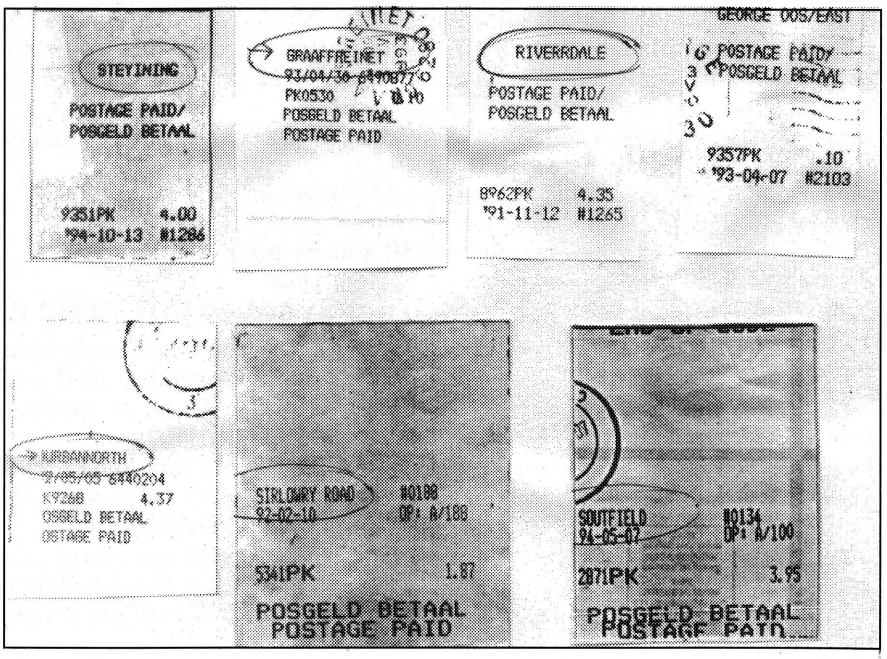
Ahead of the times

VIA the Editor, G. Govender of Chatsworth contributes a meter mark which shows that the Welfare Department is certainly well ahead of the times.

The date is given as 11.10.97, but the cover was received towards the end of 1995.



Also via the Editor, David Wigston documents a similar instance: a double circle datestamp of Benoni, counter 2, which shows "12 IX A99". ■



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This index for 1995 appears as a supplement in the centre of the February 1996 issue, for easy removal, and is separately paginated from i to iv. The index for 1994 appeared as a supplement in the Februry 1995 issue, also separately paginated from i to iv.

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News and notes/Aktualiteit

Wêreld se seëls in 1994

SOOS gebruiklik was die Duitse katalogusuitgewer, Michel, vinnig van die merk af met sy opsomming van 'n jaar se uitreikings. In 1994 het 246 posowerhede altesaam 10 428 seëls die lig laat sien, teenoor 9 755 in 1993. Dit beteken 'n vermeerdering van 6,9 persent.

Dit klop nie heeltemal met die syfers van 1992/93 nie, wat in *The SA Philatelist* van April 1995 verskyn het (p44), maar daar was ondertussen ongetwyfeld regstellings. Die punt is dat die persentasie toename toe 5 persent was – nou is dit prakties 2 persent meer, en dit behoort versamelaars van moderne materiaal al hoe meer in hulle dop te laat kruip.

Lande wat meer as 100 seëls in die loop van die jaar uitgereik het, is Antigua en Barbuda (162), Dominica (127), Gambia (157), Ghana (162), Grenada (125) en die Grenadines (112), Guyana (441, vanjaar se kampioen), Japan (115), Noord-Korea (120), Madagaskar (123, verlede jaar se kampioen met 419), die Maledive (179), Mali (244), Nicaragua (239), Oeganda (134), Panama (124), St Vincent (401), Tanzanië (308), die VSA (117), en die Sentraal-Afrikaanse Republiek (151).

Dit is feitlik almal ou vriende, maar Japan is 'n nuweling.

In Suider-Afrikaanse lande lyk die situasie so:

LAND	SEËLS	BLOKKE
Angola	32	1
Botswana	12	–
Burundi	12	2
Kenia	23	–
Lesotho	20	4
Malawi	14	1
Namibië	20	2
Oeganda	134	22
Suid-Afrika	32	2
Swaziland	12	–
Zaïre	32	–
Zambia	20	–
Zimbabwe	24	–

Niemand kan Suider-Afrika juis van oordaad beskuldig nie.

In Europa het dit min of meer as volg gelyk in 1994:

LAND	SEËLS	BLOKKE
België	49	1
Brittanje	69	–
Denemarke	24	–
Duitsland	59	3
Frankryk	70	1
Italië	53	1
Nederland	36	3
Noorweë	32	1
Oostenryk	30	–
Pole	39	2
Rusland	52	1
Swede	56	–
Switserland	24	–

Uitreikings vir ander groot lande elders was:

LAND	SEËLS	BLOKKE
Australië	76	2
Indië	38	–
Israel	34	1
Kanada	57	2

Die opstellers van die katalogus gee 'n sogenaamde multiplikator of faktor aan om aan te dui of 'n land se

SAPDA '96 - ROSEBANK SHOW

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THREE DAYS TRADE SHOW WITH A VARIETY OF EXHIBITS

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ADMISSION FREE

24 Dealers will be participating witn extensive stocks of stamps and postal history material available for purchase
The Post Office as usual will be in attendance

One of the most exciting events on your philatelic Calendar

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uitreikingsbeleid as billik beskou kan word. Dit word bereken as die faktor van sig- teenoor kataloguswaarde, en 3,5 maal sigwaarde word as redelik beskou.

Die faktor vir Suid-Afrika vir 1994 word aangegee as 2,21. Vir 1993 was dit 2,00, en in 1992 2,28.

Die hoogste faktor is loshande dié van Georgië, op 129,87, gevolg deur Benin (87,91). In terme van kataloguswaarde staan Suid-Afrika maar op nr 180 in die lys van 146 lande.

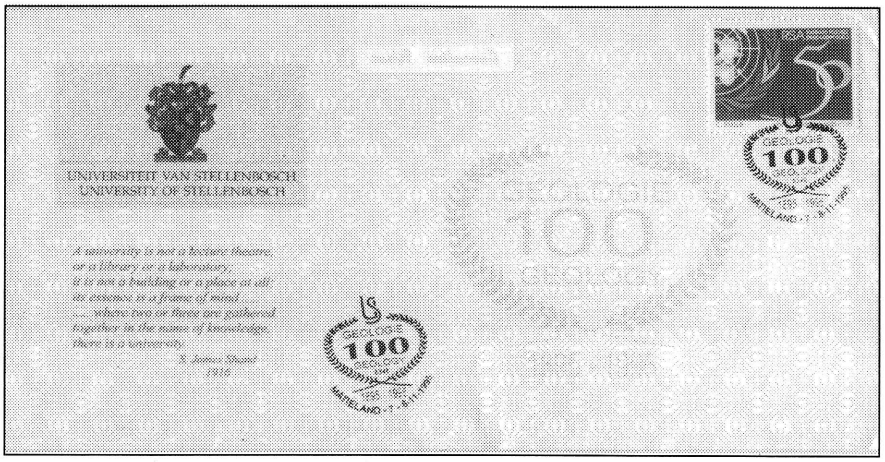
A new Digest strip

WHAT must be classified as an entirely new type of Reader's Digest strip has recently been sighted. Previous reports are to be found in *The SA Philatelist* of October 1993, pp150 and 165, October 1994, p157, and December 1994, p194. A tentative typology was put forward in August 1995, p114, and in December 1995, p177, there was a further report .

The latest manifestation of the RD strip has the magazine's name and its logo (a Pegasus in the waves) in the tab at left, printed in blue. Presumably strips with a right hand tab and the Pegasus also exist. The tab is dated 1995-11-01. In accordance with the previous tentative typology the description would be:

Issue No 4: Code MA621MCD.A-K,P; Stamps: 1-2-50-2-5; Heading: A prompt reply . . .; Date: ??

The reason why the date is given as ?? is that the previously published dates have been those given as the known job delivery dates by the Government Printer. No such schedules have come to hand recently, and the date on the tab might or might not be the correct one.



'n Geologiese gedenkkoevert

DIE Departement Geologie aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch was in 1995 100 jaar oud. Berthault de St. Jean van der Riet is op 1 Augustus 1895 aangestel as die eerste professor in geologie aan die ou Victoria College, wat in 1918 universiteitstatus gekry het.

Om hierdie geleentheid te herdenk is 'n eeufeeskonferensie gehou, en 'n spesiale datumstempel deur Filateliedienste uitgereik. Die stempel is op 7 en 8 November by Matieland-poskantoor op Stellenbosch gebruik.

Ten volle gedienste koeverte, gefrankeer met die standaard-tarief posseël ter ere van die Verenigde Nasies se 50ste bestaansjaar, is aan konferensiegangers te koop aangebied teen R5 elk, en ongedienste koeverte teen R3. Die oplaag was slegs 300. Bestellings gerig aan die Sekretaresse, Departement Geologie, Universiteit van Stellenbosch, Privaatsak X1, Matieland 7602, sal uitgevoer word solank die voorraad hou. Onthou om 85 sent posgeld by te voeg.

Die koevert bevat die universiteitswapen is kleur, sowel as die eeufees embleem waarop die datumstempel gebaseer is, en 'n aanhaling uit die beroemde geleentheidsrede van 1916 oor die wese van 'n universiteit deur professor SJ Shand, een van die vernaamste grondleggers van die departement.

'n Kort geskiedkundige oorsig in Afrikaans en Engels is op die verstywerkaart afgedruk.

Nuusvrystelling



Yes stampcards are used

COMPREHENSIVE information regarding stampcard issues was recently received from the originators, PostLine (International) AB, whose address is PO Box 1047, S-162 21 Kista-Stockholm, Sweden. The South African agent is Nick Meisel, PO Box 167127, Brackendowns 1454, and it is suggested that enquiries be made to either of these addresses.

Following an invitation to collectors in *The SA Philatelist* (June 1995, p78) to say whether these issues are regarded as collectable, no responses were received, and for the moment information is being passed on.

For one, the cards are now listed by Stanley Gibbons, Michel and Scott. For another, they were available from a specially designed vending machine at the international exhibition Finlandia 95 from 10 to 15 May 1995, where an issue from Korea was dispensed. These vending machine sales are to be expanded.

And finally: Yes, stampcards are used. The information was received in a cover registered at Chisinau 12 in Moldavia, franked with 10 x 1,50 L stampcard labels of that country.

News release

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Bird philately takes wing

Peter Southwood

THERE is a huge interest in Bird philately in South Africa, and what must be the fastest growing thematic society in the world – 800 new members in 8 months, is seeking interested collectors in Southern Africa.

Their initial foray at Johannesburg 100 resulted in a small membership, but these all melted away when the newsletter came out in German only. Times have changed, and the newsletter will now be published in English for a growing membership outside Germany.

When the founder of Phila Theme International, Herbert Suhren visited South Africa in 1994, the Maritzburg Society was treated to photocopies of three of the best bird exhibits in the world, and the quarterly newsletter was also on display – 70 pages of suberb research and country-by-country issue information – an impressive publication.

Bird thematic enthusiasts can contact Peter Southwood at PO Box 476 Hilton 3245 for futhter details.

News release

C Angus Parker dies

THE man who was joint managing director of Argyll Etkin Ltd, Charles Angus Parker, died on 15 November 1995, aged 68.

He merged his company, the Argyll Stamp Company, with that of Eric Etkin in 1976, having established himself in the early 50s, specialising particularly in postal history and other then such rather "esoteric" material as proofs, essays and postal stationery. Previously, he had served in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

He had notable collections of early Yemen, the Norwegian missionary stamps of Madagascar, and the postal history and maritime mail of Iceland. He must have been one of the few professional philatelists who was twice invited to display to the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

Both in organised collecting circles and in professional philately he served on numerous bodies, and he was an accredited FIP judge. At the same time, he gave talks and displays at countless societies, and contributed to the hobby's magazines and journals. Many collectors will miss him, and condolences are extended to his wife Betty, two children and three grand-children.

News release

Exchange rates

IT is a sobering thought that the money of a state in Southern Africa which attained its independence in 1966, when its currency was on a par with that of South Africa, now comfortably outranks the rand.

This is Botswana. According to the annual currency guide in *The Philatelic Exporter* (October 1995, 702), the Botswana pula is worth 23 British pence or 35 US cents. The rand will buy you 18 pence or 27 cents.

Nuwe poskantoormuseum

Alewyn Burger

ENIGEEN wat destyds die Poskantoormuseum in Pretoria besoek het, was baie jammer toe hy gesluit is. Daar was, behalwe die filateliese materiaal en poskantoorgoed, ook ou telefone en ander interessanthede uit die elektroniese kommunikasiewêreld.

Gelukkig het Telkom van die telefoonmateriaal in sy lewendige museum aan die Waterkant in Kaapstad gebruik gemaak maar die posgoed en die seëlversameling was skynbaar vir altyd verlore. Watter vreugde dus toe die funksie vir die vrystelling van die mikstokseël op Internasionale Posdag in die lokaal van die nuwe Posmuseum gehou is.

Hierdie verwikkeling het so stil-stil plaasgevind, en is eintlik nog besig om plaas te vind. Die lokaal is in Paleis Straat, regoor die Paleis van Justisie, aan die Wesfassade van Kerk Plein. Dit lê direk langsaan die ingang van die nuwe Hoofposkantoor se bussies, en beslaan die grondvlak van die Ou Mutual Gebou.

Op die vensters is die naam South African Mutual Life Assurance geëts – daar sal blykbaar later 'n geskikte naam uitgedink word, en dan sal die Poskantoor wel 'n sigbare naambord voorsien.

Sover mens nou kan sien, is daar twee lokale. Die groterige ingangsaal is netjies gerestoureer en sal ou posbusse, seëlverkoopmasjiene, 'n Frama masjien en soortgelyke apparaat bevat.

Ongelukkig is die saal nie akoesties behandel nie, en galm dat hoor en sien vergaan. Die toespraak tydens die funksie was waarskynlik in Engels maar kon net sowel in Tamil gewees het. Langsaan is 'n groot kluis. Daarin is op die oomblik al die swaairame met die seëlversameling van vroeër. Daar mag meer lokale agtertoe wees, maar dit is nog toe vir die publiek.

Mnr Pieter Hambridge is belas met die regmaak en instandhouding van die museum. Sy ondervinding by die vroeëre Filatelieburo sal hom nou goed te pas kom. Hy sê dat daar nog nie vaste besluite oor die bedryf van die versameling is nie maar dat hy in elk geval beoog om dit gereeld met nuwe uitgifte by te werk.

Voorlopig sal hy die lokaal oophou terwyl hy daar is, dit wil sê van 08:00 tot 16:00 Maandag tot Vrydag. As iemand die museum wil kom besoek sal dit vriendelik wees om hom eers daar te skakel by (012) 323-5078. Uiteindelik sal die lokale ingerig wees om skoolgroepe te ontvang. ■

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

China, People's Republic: Zhang Zhoushang, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yunnan Observatory, PO Box 110 Kunming, is interested in collecting mint stamps, souvenir sheets, covers and post cards featuring space, astronomy and astronautics. In exchange he offers Chinese stamps and covers of thematic interest.

Italy: Luciano Sechi, Reg. Gesu Giuseppe Maria 6, I-07100 Sassari, says he is a serious collector of South African stamps who is looking for exchange partners.

Lithuania: Virginijus Siauciunas, PO Box 29, Zarasai 4780, would like South African exchange partners, offering mint stamps from his own and other countries. He is also interested in phone cards.

Russia: Alexey Egorov, PO Box 4215, Murmansk 74, 183074, collects everything to do with polar philately, which he offers in exchange, and would also like to have mint South African issues.

Spain: Eva-Maria Perez, Apartado 28, E-08840 Viladecans, Barcelona, who is 25 years old, collects widely, is an odontology student, and fluent in several languages. She is interested in all mint and used stamps, especially from "little countries and islands".

United States of America: Timothy D Thorson, 61556 Glenwood Trail, Washington MI 48094, collects South Africa and its former related areas, and would like exchange contact. ■

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■ Eques

Ruminations of a Philatelist

THE last decade or so has seen an increasing emphasis on philatelic research, particularly in the field of postal history, really where in-depth research is now a *sine qua non* for a good collection or exhibit.

There are two basic aspects – *how* to research and *where* to research. Some philatelists do not have the training or experience to do basic research, and they are thus at a disadvantage, but it is the *where* that is the major difficulty. Not only do many lack the knowledge of where in this country information may be found – reference libraries, State Archives, specialised museums – but there is also the question of access to these sources although this problem may be alleviated by the use of the inter-library loan system.

Eques is fortunate to live in a city housing the leading reference library on Southern Africa, State Archives and one of the country's leading universities to whose library he has access, but in recent years he has been collecting in a field outside Southern Africa, and has come to appreciate the effort which has to be put into researching quite a simple problem when the basic records are overseas.

The facilities available to philatelists in England, collecting in any area which fell within the British Empire, make one go green with envy; in some cases the only remaining copies of gazettes of a particular territory are those held in London, and they are accessible to researchers. And this is not all.

Some months ago the Philatelic Writers Society organised a seminar in London on "Techniques of Philatelic Research" which was addressed by the Head of Philatelic Collections at the British Library, the Chief Archivist at the Post Office Archives and the Research Officer at the National Postal Museum. One wishes that we could organise a similar high-level seminar in conjunction with a Congress of the Philatelic Federation – many philatelists would no doubt be amazed to learn of the material available in this country and delighted to learn how to access it.

With luck, someone will pick up this ball and run with it – but don't hold your breath!

One of the perennial problems of philately is that of fakes and forgeries. Two cases came to my attention recently – one, in Britain, was a case of faked Machin Head varieties (See *The SA Philatelist,* April 1995, p44, and June 1995, p16) and the other, in the United States of America, of fake classic nineteenth century US covers.

The latter was uncovered by the American Philatelic Expertizing Service of the American Philatelic Society, and a full report was published in *The American Philatelist* of October 1995 (p918). These problems turned my mind to the services of Expert Committees.

As many will know, these operate in many countries and, for a modest fee (usually related to the value of the item) will provide a certificate stating that in the opinion of the committee the item is genuine or is a forgery, or cleaned or whatever. It is mildly surprising to find not only that many philatelists are only vaguely aware of the existence of the Expert Committees, but also that relatively few make use of their services.

Probably the most used in this country are the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa (PO Box 360, Montagu 6720) and the Expert Committee of The Royal Philatelic Society, London (41, Devonshire Place, London W1N 1PE). Both require items to be submitted with special forms, obtainable from the addresses given above, but this is not onerous, and the possession of a certificate gives an owner of a rare or possibly controversial item a certain peace of mind.

While the certificate is not an absolute guarantee but an opinion, in establishing a "pedigree" for a stamp there is no road beyond an Expert Committee.

Fakes and forgeries are one thing, the removal of dirt and the marks of adhesive tape and the general care of paper-based items is another. An interesting article in *The Philatelic Exporter* (September 1995, p49) drew attention to the use of draft cleaning pads for cleaning the dirt of years off covers, and of plastic adhesive solvent to remove sticky labels and old sticky tape.

I have used draft cleaning pads for years, and it is amazing how much better a cover can look when the dirt (or most of it) is removed. The pads are better than an ordinary eraser as there is far less risk of tearing or crumpling the paper, and they are available in this country from suppliers of archival aids.

The solvent is new to me, and I shall make enquiries as to its availability.

And shouldn't the enthusiastic philatelic society committee consider organising a workshop to inform philatelists of the best way to care for their stamps and covers using some of the archival expertise available in our important libraries and archives?

The rise in recent years of the computer has inevitably had an influence on philately in all sorts of ways – databases of your collection for instant reference, catalogues of your philatelic references and using a word processor as an aid to producing better exhibits, to name only some of the uses.

"Computers Aid Stamp Enjoyment" (*The American Philatelist,* September 1995, pp804-807) ranges widely over these and other points. Written by the chairman of the APS Computers in Philately Committee (yes, they have one!), the article quoted prices in US dollars (not unreasonably!), but now that the editor of this journal is pushing writers to use a computer to provide their work to him on disk, maybe some bold person should review the whole field and tackle the subject for our local enthusiasts.

If you can't wait, or have no faith that someone will eventually write the article, and if you're interested in the approach, get hold of the article and read, mark, learn and inwardly digest. And here, yet again, is a field in which the society committee aforementioned (the enthusiastic one) ought to be arranging to inform its members.

Some months ago, Eques threw a cat among the pigeons with some controversial thoughts on junior philately. It was good to hear at the recent congress that despite those remarks (or perhaps because of them) junior philately is flourishing and that exhibits have been entered for the Junior International being held in Indonesia.

Despite his "stirring" *Eques* wishes the exhibitors well, and looks forward to hearing of good awards; one never minds being proved wrong in a good cause! ■

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Op die velrand/In the margin

Stamp issue programme for 1996

IN the past it was customary for *The SA Philatelist* to publish in its first issue of the year the whole of that year's intended stamp issuing programme, as well as illustrations and descriptions of the stamps for the first four months.

This was followed in further issues by any revisions to the programme, and four months of stamp illustration and descriptions.

This year, no such information was received, and it can only be assumed that stamp issues are being planned on an *ad hoc* basis.

Only one issue is known thus far – the African Cup of Nations issue – which is dealt with below. According to a press report, an issue can be expected when South Africa's new constitution is formally put in place. The deadline for this is May 1996, but it is not yet known whether this will be met by the Constitutional Assembly.

SA Post Office appoints two committees

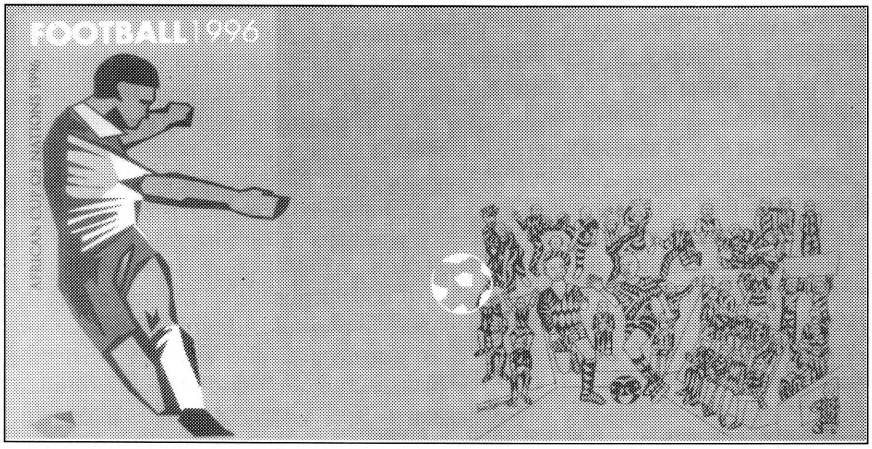
IN November 1995 newspaper advertisements called on qualified persons to make themselves available for consideration as members of two new advisory committees the SA Post Office wanted to institute. These were the Postage Stamp Programme Consultative Committee, and the Postage Stamp Consultative Committee.

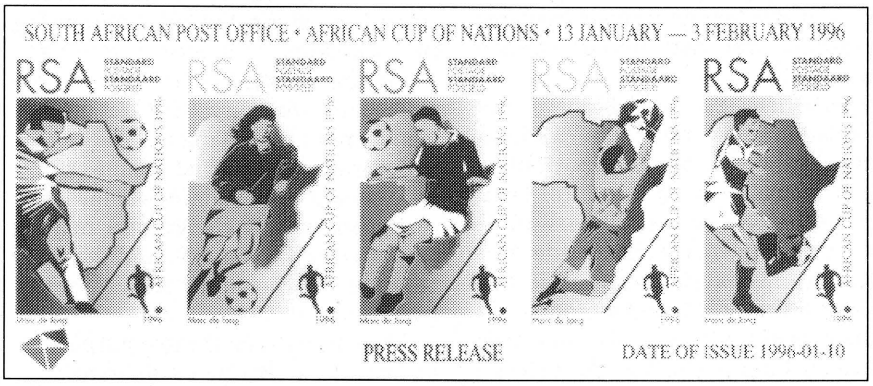
The former met for the first time in Pretoria on 15 December 1995, but details of its membership, or those of the stamp committee, have not been received by *The SA Philatelist*.

It is known that Robert Goldblatt RDPSA serves on the programme committee, and that Joh Groenewald RDPSA was nominated to it by the Philatelic Federation of SA to fill the seat to which it is entitled. Groenewald also fills the Federation's seat on the Postage Stamp Consultative Committee.

The Editor had been asked to make himself available, and was informed by a letter dated 14 December 1995 that he had been appointed to the programme committee as an alternate member. He will therefore not be attending meetings unless called upon.







Soccer series starts 1996

FIVE stamps at the standard postage rate (NVI), a miniature sheet at the same rate, and two covers – one serviced and the other not – were issued on 10 January 1996.

Perhaps unintentionally, a possibly interesting collectible was created by the manner in which illustrations were supplied to the philatelic press. In the past, these were taken either from the actual stamps, from philatelic bulletins in full colour, or from printed black and white artwork supplied.

This time the actual covers and miniature sheet were supplied, but the stamps appeared on imperforate, gummed paper, entitled "Press Release", defaced in the lower righthand corner by a thin diagonal line. It remains to be seen whether this will be accorded the status of a specimen.

The description supplied by the SA Post Office is:

The philately products consist of five standard postage stamps (60c), one miniature sheet and two commemorative envelopes. Each of the five stamps depicts a soccer player with the African continent on the background and the words African Cup of Nations 1996. The player on one of the stamps wears the colours of the South African soccer team.

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The five stamps were designed by Marc de Jongh and the miniature sheet by Zanele Mashinini. This is the first time in the history of philately in South Africa that the work of a black artist has been used on a postage stampe.

The design (players and spectators at a soccer match) on the one commemorative cover is by Zanele Mashinini, and the one on the other commemorative cover (an informal soccer match) by Gerald Sithule.

The two commemorative covers show a soccer ball, the date stamp 10 January to 3 February 1996 and the place is Johannesburg. The two commemorative covers will be sold at R2, 60 and R5,00, respectively.

RSA se seeskulpe

IN *The SA Philatelist* van Desember 1995, p181, is vyf posseëls teen die standaardtarief geïllustreer, wat op 24 November 1995 verskyn het. Dit beeld seeskulpe uit, en die beskrywing is inmiddels ontvang:

Hierdie seëls, wat ontwerp is deur Lambert Kriedemann, beeld vyf van ons treffendste skulpe uit.

Afivoluta pringlei, Pringle se marginaskulp, is die tweede spesie in sy familie. Die kleurryke salm-en-oranje skulp kom in diep water (100 tot 400 m) op die Agulhasbank voor, en was een van die eerste Suid-Afrikaanse weekdiere wat deur handelstreilers ontdek is.

Lyria Africana word somtyds die sjokolademerk-voluutskulp genoem vanweë die kenmerkende donkerbruin merk op sy binneste lip. Hierdie spesie leef ver van die kus af, alhoewel skulpe in verskillende toestande van verwering op strande vanaf Port Alfred tot Natal uitspoel.

Marginella Mosaica, die mosaïekmarginaskulp is een van die mooiste spesies in sy groep. Soos muntskulpe het marginaskulpe 'n hoë natuurlike glans wat geproduseer word deur voue van die liggaam wat die skulp bedek as dit lewe. Dit is 'n baie ontwykende spesie wat in fyn sand tot ongeveer 20 tot 30 meter diep wegkruip, sodat slegs verweerde of verbleikte skulpe op die strand uitspoel. Dit word ongeveer 32 mm lank.

Conus Pictus behoort aan 'n familie van weekdiere wat bekend is vir die giftige angel by sekere spesies. Die geverfde konusskulp is egter skadeloos. Dit is die kleurrykste van die Kaapse konusskulpe. Alhoewel dit baie gesog is by versamelaars is dit nog net deur duikers lewendig gevind. ■

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

The introductory page

Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPS,L Chairman, PFSA Judging Committee

THE careful reader of the prospectus for Bloemfontein 96, enclosed with this issue, will observe that a new requirement has been introduced for exhibits at national exhibitions – every exhibit must now include, as the first page, an introductory page "setting out the plan or concept according to which the exhibit has been developed".

Such an introductory page, in the form of a "plan", has long been a necessity for a good thematic exhibit, but it has now been made a formal requirement not only for thematic exhibits but for all exhibits at national level (it has been a requirement at international level for some years).

Because the concept is wellknown to exhibitors of thematic material, this note will concentrate on other classes of exhibit.

The purpose of this introductory page is two-fold. Firstly, it is intended to inform both the jury and other viewers of the scope and plan according to which the exhibit has been developed, thus not only helping viewers to understand the exhibit but also minimising the possibility of it receiving a lower award than it might otherwise have done because the jury "did not understand what I was trying to show".

Secondly, it should add to the exhibit by showing the exhibitor's knowledge of the material included and helping viewers (both the public and the jury) to appreciate the significance of the key items on display.

The emphasis on the two purposes is likely to vary slightly in different classes; in the case of a "Traditional" exhibit the scope may be quite easily defined ("This exhibit features the stamps of Barataria from 1866 - 1906") but a postal history exhibit may require a little more wording ("The exhibit deals with the principal postage rates, the postal routes and means of mail transport of Barataria from 1866 - 1906 and the effects of military action in the country during that period. Postmarks are mentioned only if they are of particular interest or importance").

In a postal history exhibit a clear statement of the concept of the exhibit and of the way in which it is developed is important because it is basic to such an exhibit that it develops an historical theme or aspect.

As regards the second point mentioned above, the introductory page should also be used to convey information which will guide the viewer through the exhibit, enable him to understand it and appreciate the importance of the key items; it may also contain further relevant general philatelic information which will enhance the knowledge of the viewer.

There are obviously numerous ways in which the page may be set out, and there is no "best" way of doing it; it is entirely in the hands of the exhibitor how he sets out the page and what information he includes. But it is possible to offer some general ideas.

Some exhibitors may find that the inclusion of an interesting piece of collateral material, a small map or a particular proof or essay will enhance an introductory page; others may find that because of the complexity of the subject they need virtually the full page for explanatory text (be aware, however, that text in a solid block may be difficult to read – the use of paragraphs to take the viewer through the frames or sections of the exhibit is preferable).

Nor is it of importance that the page be typed as long as it is neat and easily legible and the use of more than one page, except in particularly complex cases, may be regarded as a waste of space. In the case of a postal history exhibit the exhibitor may (but is in no way obliged to) include a short list of his principal sources of information, while in all cases the exhibitor may find that the inclusion of information about his new research or discoveries enhances the page. (This may however be more appropriately included in the body of the exhibit, depending on the nature of the information).

Generally, the simple listing of important items in the exhibit should be avoided, but it is sometimes possible to draw attention to the important items in a way in which the bounds of good taste are not overstepped. The line to be drawn is a fine one and the exact boundaries will only be determined by experience, but the object in dealing with the important items is to lead the viewer to appreciate not only that the items exist but why they are important.

What is not appropriate is to use the introductory page to give the viewer a history or geography lesson, or to simply say that "the exhibit consist of pages from my extensive collection. . ." Nei-

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ther of these approaches help the viewer in any way and are simply a waste of space, adding nothing to the philatelic value of the exhibit.

It goes almost without saying that the introductory page, the title of the exhibit and the exhibit itself must be consistent; it is no good saying in a postal history exhibit that you are dealing with the postal routes and then failing to do so, or making merely a passing reference to them. Where a "write-up" of the exhibit appears in the exhibition catalogue, that too must be consistent with the introductory page.

On the point of consistency, it is a valuable exercise, having completed one's introductory page and, at least preliminarily, one's exhibit, to review this in the light of the introduction to ensure that all the items included in the exhibit do in fact fit into the exhibit as defined in the introduction. It is not unusual at for such a review to lead one to discard items which, however interesting or rare, simply are not relevant to the exhibit as defined.

It is perhaps appropriate to mention briefly exhibits in the thematic class. In a thematic exhibit, as indicated above, it has long been neccsary to include a plan. "The plan should define the structure of the collection and of the exhibit by means of a rational classification in main chapters and their subdivisions, it should provide a clear and intelligible insight into the whole theme and be consistent with the title. The plan should be more than just a simple listing. It should detail both direct and cross references, developments and special characteristics of the chosen theme. It should include all the different aspects of the theme and cover the largest scope compatible with it." (FIP Guidelines for Judging Thematic Exhibits. See also "How to tackle thematic exhibits" in this issue, p10.)

Such a plan is a very detailed variant of the "introductory page" concept, and in the writer's view any thematic exhibitor who has a good plan of his exhibit has nothing to worry about at future national exhibitions.

In sum, the introductory page is intended to define the scope of the exhibit and to help, guide and inform the viewer on the philatelic aspects; for you to perfectly achieve all those aims in one page will take much thought, care and expertise!

SA exhibitors at Capex 96

EARLY in December 1995 Cedric Roché, the South African commissioner for Capex 96 in Toronto, Canada, was informed that six of the 12 South African entries had been accepted for the exhibition, which had been 100 per cent over-subscribed. These are:

Harry Birkhead RDPSA: "The Siege and Occupational issues of the Anglo-Boer War"

Dr Achi Frank RDPSA: "Canada 1868-1897"

Gerhard Kamffer: "Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa, 1910-1960"

RC Knight RDPSA: "British Zanzibar to 1935"

Neville Polakow: "South African Airmails"

John Wannerton: "The Candian Contingent in the South African War, 1899-1902"

Unsuccessful entrants were accorded the courtesy of a personal explanatory letter from the general manager of Capex 96, and in a press release various spokesmen gave the following additional information:

Just under 1 100 entries for a total of 6 200 frames were submitted for consideration, as well as nearly 200 literature entries. All of these exhibits were enough to fill twice all 3 800 available exhibition frames.

The chairman, Ken Rowe said that he did not recall any previous Canadian philatelic exhibition being so overwhelmed with potential exhibits.

Out of the frames accepted at Capex 96, 5 per cent are FIP Championship, 35 per cent are traditional, 25 per cent are postal history, 5 per cent are postal stationery, 7 per cent are aerophilately, 12 per cent are thematic, 2 per cent are maximaphily, 3 per cent are revenue, 5 per cent are youth and 1 per cent are mophila. Of the 827 exhibits selected for Capex 96, 23 per cent are literature exhibits.

Of all of the entries, 39 per cent have never previously been shown at an international or world philatelic exhibition.

Further information can be obtained from the Capex 96 office, or by visiting Capex 96 on the Net!© at: http:/www.interlog.com/-parrasoc/capex.html

Collectors wishing to learn more about Capex 96 can call 1-800-946-9696 or write to P O Box 204, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario, M4T 2M1, CANADA. The e-mail address is Info_CAPEX'96@parrassoc.com.

Meanwhile South African exhibitors should be considering their forward planning for other international entries well in advance.

FIP update

Peter van der Molen
Chairman, PFSA FIP Committee

THE first PFSA supported FIP event in 1996 will be Indonesia 96 World Philatelic Youth Exhibition held at Bandung from 21 to 30 March – our National Commissioner is Jill Redmond. We have not yet been notified which of the 15 philatelic and 5 literature provisional entries had been accepted, but we wish all our competitors much success.

Next is Capex 96 at Toronto, 8 to 16 June 1996 (see above) to which Howard Green RDPSA has accepted an invitation to serve as an apprentice juror in Traditional Philately.

Norwex 97 in Oslo from 16 to 21 April 1997 is a specialised World Exhibition of Postal History and Aerophilately – W Grütter RDPSA is the SA National Commissioner, also proposed as apprentice juror. Provisional entry closure is 31 May 1996, and Bulletin No. 1 is now available from the commissioner or FIP Committee chairman.

Pacific 97 in San Francisco, 29 May to 8 June 1997, will have Danny Swart RDPSA as National Commissioner. Provisional entries closed on 31 January 1996.

Please refer to *The SA Philatelist* (December 1995, p189) concerning the "celebration of philately of greater Southern Africa" which should make a visit to Pacific 97 especially worth while.

For 1998, the PFSA has nominated David Stern as National Commissioner for the Israel 98 World Stamp Exhibition, at Tel Aviv; 12 to 21 May 1998. Because of our Ilsapex 98 from 20 to 25 October 1998, at this stage it is not expected that the PFSA will support another overseas exhibition during 1998.

There are many other exhibitions, as listed in *The SA Philatelist* (December 1995, p189), which can be entered by anyone with a qualifying exhibit (vermeil and higher at national level), provided they themselves organise what National Commissioners do – deal with paper work and getting their exhibits there and back!

The above listing of exhibitions highlights that for international exhibiting, one has to think well ahead – to exhibit by mid 1998, ie 2½ years from now, there are only two practical opportunities available, viz Norwex 97 and Israel 98, to those that have already qualified nationally.

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If you are hoping to qualify at Bloemfontein, then you may only just make it to Israel 98, next one being Ilsapex 98.

One of the ways by which FIP endeavours to promote and develop world wide philately is through their Commissions which at present number 11; each FIP member has the right to nominate a delegate to each Commission. At present the Commissions cover the following areas, with our PFSA delegates being:

Aerophilately and Astrophilately : Col B Wilford

Forgeries : C Roché, RDPSA

Literature : W Grütter, RDPSA

Maximaphily : X Laubscher

Postal History and Postal Stationery : RC Knight, RDPSA

Revenues : C Roché, RDPSA

Traditional : DT Swart, RDPSA

Youth : JD Redmond

Should you wish any information on FIP activities in your area of interest, please contact the appropriate delegate. For general FIP information, please contact the Chairman of the FIP Committee, PW van der Molen, P O Box 12508 Benoryn 1504, Tel (h) 849 4822.

I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Cedric Roché RDPSA, for establishing the PFSA's FIP Committee in a most professional manner – a hard act to follow!

Pretoria society renames and revitalises itself

Val Brown

OUR society has had two major changes during 1995. After a period of over 45 years of meeting at the Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park in Pretoria, we have found it necessary to change our venue. I can assure you it has been quite an adjustment, especially for our members who joined at the club's inception.

Despite this we are very happy in our new venue which is in the Auditorium of the Main Library, corner of Cantonments Road and Unie Avenue, Lyttelton, Centurion (old Verwoerdburg).

Also, as from 1996, the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society is known as Centurion Philatelic Society. Otherwise everything else remains the same. Please refer to the Rendezvous for our particulars. (*The SA Philatelist*, June 1995, p88.)

We have had many very interesting meetings and seen some very interesting exhibits. The evenings when we have the members bring ten pages of their collections have proved very popular indeed with many original and interesting pages being shown.

Our congratulations to Geoff Harrison who won the Been Trophy for his modern Rhodesia collection. This included the comemorative envelopes of Rhodesia and there was also a small section of Northern Rhodesia. To Prof. Charles van Rooy we say congratulations on winning the Thematic Trophy for his very interesting collection entitled "Trains of the world – a Railway History".

Please remember to those of you who would like to visit us, we meet on the second Wednesday of each month. We would love to see you.

Windhoek has its National Stamp Day

THE September/October issue of the Windhoek Filatelievereniging (1995, No. 5) reports that the club celebrated 7 October 1995 as National Stamp Day.

This was the opportunity taken to stage its public club exhibition.

"As you know from our previous News-Letter, we found a very good venue at the home of the 'Deutsche Pfadfinder Bund'. The facilities were excellent and the material exhibited of high standard and most interesting.

"Thanks must go again to the small group of members, who organised everything, from transporting and putting up the frames, to the ladies, who looked after the catering and to the manger of the premises and his wife, who made sure nobody died of thirst.

"The participation of visitors could have been better, but those who were present thoroughly enjoyed themselves". ■

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

The 'Johannesburg' book of postmarks appears

The Postmarks of South Africa and former States and Colonies, Vol. 4 He, I, J, Ka; by Ralph Putzel RDPSA.
304 pp, ill., published by the author (1995), available from PO Box 30085, 7966 Tokai (Cape), hard cover R279,00 soft cover R199,00.

IT is not inappropriate to headline this the "Johannesburg" volume of Ralph Putzel's extended postmark compendium. Seventy of its 304 pages are devoted to this single city's postmarks, in other words constituting 23 per cent of the contents.

Surprises will always abound. Long before his collecting days, this reviewer's local post office was Kalkbank (p281) where, believe it or not, a negative sealer is now recorded, but without a date. Could it have been in the period of our rather imperious and dilly post-misstress, Mrs Hofmeyr, from the late forties to at least the early sixties?

The book contains two pages of marks omitted from the Ha section of Volume 3, and ends with Kayaseput in the Transvaal, a single strike being given for the period 1938-78, when it closed on 6 VI 78.

However, of primary importance in this volume is Johannesburg, and GJ van den Hurk RDPSA, an acknowledged student of this field, has contributed notes which suggest that a more rigorous procedure should have been followed (perhaps not only) in listing the Johannesburg marks. He writes:

During 1992-94 *The Transvaal Philatelist* published a number of articles incorporating Johannesburg postmarks for the period 1887-99. No cognisance was taken of this research, resulting – in my opinion - in too many unnecessary omissions and errors.

Putzel's no 1 should be preceded by an oval datestamp of 14 SEPT. 88 (Mathews type 7a), queried in the magazine's February 1992 issue, p19, Vol 27 No 1. A further note appeared in the November 1993 issue, p93, Vol 28 No 4.

Another mark which precedes Putzel's listing is a Johannesburg 22 mm single circle datestamp of 1887, which was discussed in *The Transvaal Philatelist* of August 1993, p77 (Vol 28 No 3).

The same volume (November 1993, No 4, pp 99-101) records a 22 mm squared circle datestamp with a complete inner circle which is missing from Putzel, and a similarly mis-

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sing 22 mm squared circle datestamp with thickened corners.

Also in November 1993, p102, a duplex single circle datestamp with BONC is shown, inscribed in the form of a fraction as 3 over 1 and 3 over 3, which does not appear.

Vol 29 No 1, (February 1994) gives other marks which do not appear in Putzel. On p3 there is a double circle datestamp without ornaments – Type 1 and Type 2 – and on pp3-5 a five-pointed star type without time index is given, described as types 1 to 4. Pages 9, 12 and 13 show the type with the five-pointed star (10 types) with a time index.

Putzel's no 6x for Johannesburg (p190) also elicited a note from Van den Hurk, which he said "refers no doubt to the squared circle datestamp JOHSBURG BEURS". This did not seem to make sense to the Editor, but a cross-reference given by Putzel (p260) under Johannesburg Stock Exchange (to "174 II", presumably p174 Vol 2) turned out to be a blind alley, although "De Beurs" is given on p269 of Vol 2. This further refers to "Beurs" in Vol 1 on p252, which helpfully lists Bishopsgate postmarks, but "Beurs" is nowhere to be found between Beukesplaats and Beverley on p243 of the same volume.

Van den Hurk also says that it is unfortunate that Putzel lists a Mirza Hadi forgery as his no 6c. These forgeries were listed in *The Transvaal Philatelist* of February 1994 on pp 17 and 18. Putzel's no 41 is a Fournier forgery, as is his no 241.

PWK marks (Post Wissel Kantoor) seem to be missing altogether. The Transvaal Philatelist records one type in the May 1992 issue, p45, and another on p52 of the same issue (Vol 27 No 2)

Several different marks of the PAID handstamp are also recorded in the May 1992 issue, p58, which are not reflected by Putzel from his p243 onwards. This also applies to the GE-REGISTREERD oval and rectangular handstamps recorded in Vol 27 No 3, on p65 *(The Transvaal Philatelist,* August 1992). Putzel's registered mail begins on p240.

Volumes 1 and 2 of this postmark compendium are still available at R150,00 for the softcover version, and R210,00 in hard cover. Volume 3 sells at R179,00 and R239,00 respectively, and Volume 5 is expected in July 1996.

WG and GvdH

Transvaal revenues worth gold

Transvaal, Revenue and Telegraph Stamps; by Alan R. Drysdall. 182 pp, ill., published by James Bendon Ltd (1995), available from Stephan Welz & Co, PO Box 52431, 2132 Saxonwold, hard cover R175,00.

THIS, the second volume in the Transvaal Study Circle's handbook series, breaks entirely new ground. The sub-title alone, "Including Customs and Pass stamps and Telegraph stationery", tells one how much new material has now been described and codified for the first time.

There could have been no hesitation in the mind of the jury at Total Stampex 95 last year when the book was awarded a gold.

Thus far, the only readily available listing of Transvaal's revenues and telegraphs were the succinct 12 pages which David Crocker devoted to them in Mathews' *Transvaal Philately* (1986). Here the treasure trove is infinitely expanded by virtually a decade of further research, copiously amplified by historical notes and descriptions.

Some of the entirely new subjects covered are postage stamps used for fiscal purposes, Swazieland Government Committee and Transvaal revenue stamps overprinted for use in Swaziland, Transvaal stamps overprinted for fiscal use in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and the stationery section even includes a chapter on Army Telegraphs.

All the material is presented in Drysdall's customary crisp and readable style, supported throughout with proper references and a bibliography which leaves one in no doubt about the debt Transvaal collectors owe the late Maj. Harold Criddle RDPSA. It is also interesting to note Drysdall's industriousness in referencing: the earliest catalogue he notes is FGC Lundy's *Revenue catalogue; Part I Great Britain and Colonies* – which appeared in 1891!

Two useful notes have come to hand since publication. Figure 26, which appears on p37, and Figure 34 on p49 were inadvertently transposed. Both illustrations were of gun licenses issued at Christiana.

This in no way detracts from the publisher's technically proficient and pleasant presentation of the text. The printer's devil is bound to rise to the bait offered by the complex nature of philatelic handbooks.

The other note concerns the KE VII colour trials, dealt with in the section "Essays, proofs, colour trials and 'specimen' overprints" beginning on p75. These are discussed in greater detail in *The Transvaal Philatelist,* Vol 30 No 4 (whole number 116) on pp141-142.

A further note concerns Drysdall's first handbook in the series, *Transvaal, The provisional issues of the first British occupation.* This was reviewed in *The SA Philatelist,* October 1994, p163. The "1d. on orange paper" on p34 is further elucidated in *The Transvaal Philatelist,* Vol 29 No 4 (whole number 112) on pp103-105.

This book is also available from Stephan Welz & Co, as above, at R125,00. Drysdall and Criddle's *The Tête-Bêche Varieties of the Transvaal,* reviewed in *The SA Philatelist,* August 1993, p128, published by BPE Expertizing, is available from the same source at R175,00.

WG

Challenge of a remote collecting field

Postal Cancellations of the Ottoman Empire, Part 4, Turkey in Asia; by John H Coles and Howard E Walker.

199 pp, ill., published by James Bendon Ltd (1995) for Christie's Robson Lowe, available from the publisher, PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus, hard cover £30,00, $52,50.

IT has been quoted before, but is always worth repeating: There is nothing quite as rewarding in philately as tackling a subject one knows nothing about – particularly if you can't even read the language!

This is the fourth and last part of a series on the Ottoman Empire by Coles and Walker, begun in 1979 in the pages of *The Philatelist & PJGB,* with the first volume appearing in 1984.

Coles has been collecting Turkish postmarks since the early 50s, and confesses that he has acquired an entirely false reputation for an ability to read Turkish. Walker followed in his footsteps ten years later, has been trying for years to master the Arabic alphabet, and his knowledge of Turkish is minimal.

Thus: language is not a prerequisite!

The book is not complicated to master at all. The co-authors set out their working method and typology

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with admirable clarity, and point out where the pitfalls between the Turkish and Gregorian calendar lie. For the rest, it is densely packed with check lists, notes to these lists, and pages of postmark illustrations.

To one's relief, the majority of postmarks also give the names of post offices and dates in roman type.

Equally important to potential collectors of the Ottoman Empire, the fourth volume contains addenda to the first three from p159 onwards. The first volume dealt with the lost territories in Europe, the second with the lost territories in Africa and Asia, and the third with Turkey in Europe.

Plenty of scope, thefore, for concentration on a particular aspect.
WG

More on the Ottoman Empire

Die Zeitrechnung; and Die Ganzsachen; both by Andreas Birken.
40 pp; 80 pp, ill., published by the German Ottoman Empire/Turkey Study Circle (1995), distributed by James Bendon Ltd, available from PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus, soft cover, respectively £6,00, $10,00; £10,00, $17,50.

THE titles of these monographs in parallel German and English text translate as *The Calendar of the Ottoman Empire* and *Ottoman Empire Postal Stationery.* They represent respectively Vols 3 and 4 of the study circle's handbook in its chosen field.

Vol 1 was the *Philatelic Atlas of the Ottoman Empire,* also by Birken (334 pp, soft cover, £39,50, $60,00, from Bendon). Vol 2, namely *Theory of colour,* is out of print.

The "Calendar", its introduction aside, is an elaborate tabulation of the beginnings of months from 1840-1926, given by Turkish religious date, civil date, and corresponding date in the Gregorian calendar.

"Postal Stationery" – a neglected field in most countries – is a comprehensive catalogue, with examples of all the items illustrated and discussed in some depth.

As this section of the handbook offers a fresh numbering system, it considerably enhances its value by relating the new numbers to those given in five previous catalogues: Michel (1992), Ascher (1925), H&G, Passer, and Pulhan (1973).
WG

Katalogus op CD-ROM

DIE 1996 uitgawe van die *Speciale Catalogus* (55e Editie) van die Nederlansche Vereeniging van Postzegelhandelaren, het die interessante aankondiging dat enigeen vanaf die middel van November die hele katalogus, kleurafbeeldinge inkluis, op CD-ROM oor die toonbank sal kan koop.

Die CD bevat dan alreeds nuwe inligting wat eers volgende jaar in die boek gedruk sal word, naamlik: "een compleet oversicht met prijzen van de Presentasiemapjes van de PTT vanaf nummer 1 tot en met nummer 139".

Volgens die beskrywing sal mens inligting langs enige van 'n aantal rigtings kan opspoor. So sal mens al die ontwerpe van 'n besondere kunstenaar kan oproep, of al die EUROPA-seëls of al die Kinderseëls. Mens kan dan ook op jou eie rekenaar aanteken of jy die besondere item reeds het en wat dit nou (volgens katalogus) werd is.

Dit is ook eenvoudig om lyste van jou seëlvoorraad of seëlbehoeftes uit te druk. Bywerk van die katalogus elke jaar is natuurlik ook maklik – dit sou tewens nou moontlik wees om meer dikwels by te werk.

Die skrif is aan die muur – ons sal binnekort baie spesialiskatalogusse op CD kan aanskaf. (Daar word wêreldwyd alreeds meer ensiklopedieë vir die rekenaar as vir die rak verkoop). Daarna volg die logiese stap om die voortdurend bygewerkte katalogus op die Internet beskikbaar te hê. Die versamelaar sal van dag tot dag die heel jongste inligting in volkleur op sy rekenaarskerm kan oproep en in volkleur kan uitdruk.

Klink dit alles onwaar? Aanvaar maar dat ons nóú die inligtingsrewolusie belewe!
AB

Rhodesia handbook proceeds

THE Rhodesian Study Circle has been chipping away at a major handbook project for some years, and the first results are now to hand.

In Part I, the British South Africa Company 1890-1924, the "Guide and Outline to Literature" is now available at £6,00, and Part V, the index to the RSC journal 1970-94, has seen the light of day at £4,00. An indexed binder, sub-divided into a listing of the complete project, is available at £7,50.

Keith Harrop (817 Wilmslow Roard, Didsbury, Manchester M20 2SN) points out that these are the prices for non-members. However, on joining the study circle at an annual subscription of £8,00, members will not only receive the quarterly journal of the RSC, but Parts I and V as well, free of charge. The binder remains chargeable to all who require it.

Payment, which includes surface mail postage, can be made by Visa or Mastercard, to which an administrative charge of 50p will be added.

New fiscals edition

NORMAN C MEWETT'S *Rhodesia/Nyasaland Fiscals 1892-1980* was first noted in *The SA Philatelist* of September/October 1991, p160, and it has obviously proved itself an authoritative and viable publication.

He has for many years been recognised among revenue collectors and in particular the collectors of the revenue stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland as the leading resercher into these fascinating issues.

In this, the third edition of this useful booklet, Tati Concessions, excise stamps, BCA/Nyasaland, cigarette surcharge stamps, employment and petrol rationing as well as embossed documents are listed. There have also been many price changes and additional information added for the serious collector.

This booklet is recommended to all revenue collectors as a useful addition to their libraries and may be obtained from the author or any recognised philatelic book dealer for £2 sterling or R10 locally.
David Crocker, RDPSA

Two new thematic aids

THE latest thematic catalogue from Stanley Gibbons is *Collect Shells on Stamps,* the first it has published in this popular area.

It covers all aspects of shells and molluscs, both sea and land, including such less obvious species as sea slugs, squids and octopuses. Compiled by Dr Tom Walker, an enthusiastic shell collector, the catalogue contains over 3 200 stamps, depicting more than 750 different shells and over 30 fossils.

The catalogue lists in alphabetical order, with prices, the various countries and territories which have issued mollusc stamps, followed by a detailed index and species section.

Since the first representation of a shell on a postage stamp in 1859, the-

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re have been well over three thousand different stamps issued showing shell and related molluscan animals.

The price is £16,95, and it can be ordered from SG Publications, Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH.

Bats in Philately is the latest topical handbook published by the American Topical Association (ATA).

Written by Thomas M Lera, this 64-page book includes detailed descriptions of each sub-order of bats shown on stamps, and is illustrated with appropriate philatelic material for each sub-order.

Included are sections on postal stationery and cancellations, scientists who have studied bats, as well as a checklist of bat stamps giving country, year of issue, Scott number, family, genus, and species as well.

This ATA Handbook No 128 costs $10,00 postpaid, and orders should be sent to: Bats Book – ATA, PO Box 630, Johnstown, PA 15907, USA.

News releases ■

Onderonsies/Society News

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

November 1995: The proceedings of the evening opened with a report by Dr Yudaken on the special meeting of the group at Total Stampex 95 which was chaired by our vice-president C Wollbrandt. Items of interest and exhibits on South West Africa were discussed.

The president reported then on his visit to "Philatelia mit T-card", an international stamp/phone card fair held at Cologne from 20-22 October 1995. More than 130 dealers and 47 postal agencies (Albania to Vatican) were in attendance. The special Namibia date stamp used at this fair was shown. The agent selling recent Namibian stamps did good business. Namibia's stamps are popular amongst German collectors because of the topics shown on the stamps, the excellent design and the prudent issuing policy.

Whether phone cards and stamps should be mixed is debatable, but it seems that these pieces of plastic will be with us for the time being.

Members had been asked to bring items along which they considered to be their more important acquisitions during 1995. Mr Kornacker showed rare flight covers from the 1931 period and the RSA FDC No 17 franked with the SWA "10th Anniversary of Republic" set. Dr Yudaken showed a postcard cancelled with the Outjo negative seal and the boxed fieldpost canceller No. 59 (Otavifontein) used on a civilian registered cover. Dr Bantz showed a Keetmanshoop cover addressed to A Schreiber, the Director of the Rhenish Mission Society from 1889 to 1903.

H U Bantz

ROYAL PS OF CAPE TOWN

14 August: Alan Macgregor showed his Vurtheim issues of the SA Republic (Transvaal). The exhibit centred round the issue of 1885, printed by Enschede & Son, Haarlem, Holland. Many colour trials were shown, including examples of the values in their issued colours and also in 'strange' colours (unissued).

Some covers illustrated the different rates of postage; one bore a 5 shilling adhesive (Alan only knows of this copy). The subsequent provisional issues (surcharges) are scarce, correctly postally used on cover (as opposed to "souvenir" usage), and a number of examples were shown. The postal history included some very attractive frankings, in fact embraced the most extensive collection of triangular numeral cancellers on cover ever formed.

The second part of the evening was devoted to New Acquisitions/Favourite (10) Pages – All Members.

28 August: The evening was devoted to two exhibits of "Border Mail", relating to the conflict on the borders of South West Africa and Angola.

David Watts displayed over 100 pages of such material covering the period 1975 to 1989. His interest was generated by the fact that he was doing his national service during 1975-76 (the time when the conflict was at its height).

David said that discoveries are constantly being unearthed – earlier dates, previously unrecorded censor markings, etc. He paid tribute to the research and writings of George van den Hurk whose publications on the subject were tabled, as were other relevant books.

Kevin Lodge's exhibit comprised 42 pages from the 3 frames he had shown at Telepex, Port Elizabeth, in 1982. Unfortunately illness prevented his being present, however the display was competently spoken to by David Watts. A number of the registered covers shown had originally contained money – Kevin's winnings at poker! – which he posted from the Border. Some items of note were a cover stamped "Destroy after reading" (David also had one), a mailing list, proving postal labels and and envelope postally sealed after being found open.

11 September: Congratulations to all members who had exhibited at the International in Singapore, each of whom achieved the same excellent award – large vermeil! They were: Des Hyland (Union of South Africa booklets), Mervyn Rosenberg (Cape rectangulars), and Wikus van Heerden (O.F.S. revenues).

Colin Rowe showed King George VI Crown Colonies on cover. He said this was intended to be a fun exhibit (the items were just a cross-section from a few of his collections.

John Cheminais treated us to 75 pages of Orange Free State/Orange River Colony postal history. The development of the postal services of the country from the pre-adhesive stamp period onwards was very well demonstrated by means of many choice items showing a wide range of frankings and markings.

9 October: We had the pleasure of welcoming two distinguished visitors from England, viz. Dr Alan Drysdall (the second speaker for the evening) and John Dickson (a notable researcher on Natal postal history).

Richard Knight displayed his outstanding collection of the postal history of Rhodesia. It may be recalled that this was an invited exhibit at "Rare Stamps of the World" in London last July. Near the conclusion of the meeting, Dr Drysdall handed Richard a large silver medal as a memento of the occasion.

Alan Drysdall gave an address, later on illustrated with slides, on the "Sitwell Correspondence". The term refers to letters written from Bechuanaland in the early 1890s by Captain, later Brigadier-General, William Henry Sitwell (1860-1932), CB, DSO. The correspondence has been well known to Bechuanaland collectors for many years, but also has much to interest Mashonaland collectors.

It is my sad duty to record the passing of two distinguished members of the Royal:

Len van de Kar, on 2 October 1995. A member since 1970, Len served as president of the society for the years 1975-76, and was also president of the Philatelic Federation of S.A. His outstanding collection of "King's heads" of S.A. His outstanding collection of "King's heads" was sold by auction just 12 days before his death.

Athol H Murray, MBE, on 6 October 1995: He joined in 1980. Local members will recall his first and only attendance at one of our meetings – this was on 13 February 1995, when he displayed part of his extensive Cape of GoodHope postal history collection. He was awarded the MBE in 1994 for services to the disabled (as chairman of Barrowmore Village Settlement, England).

23 October: Some feedback was given by John Cheminais and Des Hyland on Total Stampex 95. Only 6 members had exhibits at Alberton – the results being:-

Bill Ross – Cape of Good Hope postal history, 1690-1901: Vermeil;

Des Hyland – London & Pretoria typo, printings: Large Gold and State President's Trophy;

Fred Pike – St Helena Queen Victoria stamps: Vermeil with felicitations and Stanley Gibbons Award;

Siv Borgin – The Development of the Automobile and its Influence on our Society: Silver-bronze;

Nico Combrink – Poskantoor Stempels op Spoorwegstasies: Silver-bronze.

Well done to all, and especially to Des who not only walked off with the top award, but was elected Deputy President of the Philatelic Federation of S.A.; also to Alan Macgregor who was elected Vice-President (W. Cape) of Federation.

There were displays by two members of CASPIP:-

Harry Schiff showed Palestine – Stamps of the British Military Occupation, 5 March 1918 to 30 June 1920. This all mint collection began with the first gummed stamps.

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Aubrey Katzef's "Exhibitions of Israel" was spoken to by Jack Zeller, Aubrey being overseas. The display commenced with the Exhibition held in December 1946 which commemorated the 10th year of the founding of the Philatelic Society in Palestine.

13 November 1995: Congratulations were extended to Henry Berneaud, an Honorary Life Member and thrice President of the Society, on attaining the 80th anniversary of his birth. The evening was devoted to competition for the Solomon and Kaganson Cups and the Crocker Shield. (There were no entries for the Simenhoff Cup.)

The Chairman of the Judging Sub-Committee, Keith Brodovcky, thanked the exhibitors and announced the winners as being: Robin Pelteret – Solomon Cup (for this The Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902); David Dowie Dunn – Mammals of Africa, Kaganson Cup; and Mervyn Rosenberg – CGH King Edward VII issue Crocker Shield.

27 November: The exhitibors for the evening were a husband and wife team: Alicia Wannerton – Airmails of Greece. This was a comprehensive collection, comprising some 15 pages of stamps and 84 pages of covers. The stamps were shown in singles and multiples and commenced with the 4 values issued on 23 October 1926 (first used on 1 Nov.).

John Wannerton – Pioneer and Semi-Official Airmails of Canada. A very externsive display of the Aerial (Mail) Service stamps and covers bearing them. John stated that these were genuine postage stamps, sold by the post office in the area where they were to be used. Their original price/face value was often 10c or 25c, and they paid for the flight made by the Company concerned.

11 December: This was "President's Evening" and an assembly of over 50 souls admired Hugh Amoore's exhibit, which was divided into 3 parts:-

(i) The recently introduced 'Track and Trace' system in South Africa. The system was formally instituted on 1 July 1995, however track and trace labels were distributed and used on a trial basis several months beforehand.

(ii) 50 Selected pages of unusual material illustrating Southern African postal rates up to the present day. Hugh made the point that every envelope which comes through the post is an object for the student of rates, and the study of rates is the essential starting point to any attempt at postal history.

(iii) A small selection on the theme of Christmas: 3 early Christmas cards; the current (1995) S. African Charity Christmas seals; and military items such as aerograms and airgraphs reflecting a Christmas theme. The potential range of items which could be shown is wide, and Hugh posed the question, "Who will rise to the challenge of producing a thematic on Christmas?"

These informative and enjoyable displays were followed by an auction of 103 lots, comprising stamps, postal history, books and magazines, etc.

8 January 1996: The Vice-President Des Hyland welcomed two distinguished visitors to the meeting – Gerald Ellott, RDP-NZ, all the way from New Zealand, and Stan Naylor, RDPSA.

Jack Zeller exhibited his "Postal History of Palestine during the Mandate Period". He explained that strictly speaking the British Mandate only commenced on 23 September 1923, whereas the material shown dated from 1918 with the British Military Administration which lasted up to 1 July 1920; a Civil Administration then took over, into 1923.

Aubrey Katzef's Holy Land postal history exhibit was under 2 headings: (a) "It went through the Post". Some Palestine covers were shown, but most of the material was of Israel. Various facets were covered – returned items, underpaid mail, official free (e.g. a cover from a member of the Knesset), re-used envelopes (e.g. by Banks and Government Departments – one cover had been used no less than 4 times!), first day covers, a handmade envelope, and censored mail.

(b) "It never went through the Post" – these were items prepared by collectors in order to obtain a certain postmark or cachet, etc. A cover addressed in ball-point pen and posted supposedly at a date when the man in the street hardly had access to such an object, was thereby shown to the fraudulent.

Malcolm Murphy

NIGEL STAMP CLUB

October: This meeting was devoted

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mainly to the club's AGM and was well attended. In his report, the chairman Charles Rogers paid tribute to all the members for their involvement with the club and its activities. Of special note was the week-long National Stamp Week disply in the Nigel library.

Charles also gave a report back on the Federation Congress and the National Exhibition at Alberton. At election time the members saw fit to re-elect the committee en bloc with Charles Rogers as chairman, Reg Horak, vice-chairman, Lesley Leesmann, secretary and John Seaward, treasurer.

Our friendly trader Nick Meisel was in attendance with some interesting stock for sale. "He also gave us an educational, illustrated talk on Thematic Displaying."

November: Traditionally this is the club's last meeting of the year and after the 'parish notes' the evening was given over to fun and games. Amongst the guests were members of the junior club, Rev. and Mrs Stepen Barry of the Methodist church, from whom we hire the hall, and Alan Rose and his wife – Alan being our Regional Vice-president.

Charles showed some pages of his embryonic Egyptian collection. Some members were a litte puzzled at his comment about collection Egypt: "Ek dink ek het 'n lat gepluk vir my eie . . .".

Around the world in 80 stamps: 80 cards featuring the country's name jumbled up were spread around the hall. The members had to write down the correct names and it was a junior who showed the seniors how by finishing first.

Another highlight was the members' wearing fancy dress to represent some aspect of their collection: there was a dress made of two South African flags, two couples representing duplicates, an inverted watermark, Russia, roses and a genuine Egyptian outfit complete with camel bell. There were, however, no 'missing perfs'.

Charles Rogers

EAST RAND PS

October 1995: For our annual fun guiz the committee did not have to battle against a host of 20 members. This time it was left hand side versus right hand side. What we learned from it was far more important then who won. Although planned for juniors the quiz enlightened us with the fact that not all cotton reels provide thread for sewing, nor are all bull's eyes on a dart board and other more exacting details.

News from Junass was good for our younger ones: Graham Bleazard gained a Silver Bronze Award for "SA Maps on Stamps" and Warren Turner a Silver Award, and a SAPDA Award for "G.B. Machin Definitives". Congratulations to them.

More commendations go to Jill Redmond for being appointed a Commissioner for the Junass International in Indonesia in 1996, this is in addition to having her hands full as FIP Representative for Junior Philately. How does she have time to look at a stamp!

Peter van der Moeln also receives congratulations on his appointment as chairman of the FIP committee, and his election to represent Federation at Foundation.

November: The society planned a "shop window" in the activities room of the Benoni Library. This was to be a small exhibition by all members. The response was encouraging – perhaps because there was no compulsory competition, though the entries for the society's annual trophy awards were judged at this display.

Over 60 frames were filled, and visitors were pleasantly suprised that, for free, they could view aspects of stamp collecting that were fun and fascinating and attractive to the lay person subjects included "Shakespeares Birds on Stamps" with quotations as captions; steelmaking; Christmas form religious and traditional aspects, Postal Slogans, 15 days in Israel, Napoleon and a Beethoven Session.

At our monthly meeting, two days later the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society presented a fine collection of Railway related material. Nostalgically recording the steam locomotives, the ZAR days, trains during the war in 1944. Electric trains of 1976, the anniversay of the Blue Train in 1989.

This material was compiled from the Initial Pretoria Railway Society Collection, assembled by Mr Borgstein.

In furture they will be the Centurion Philatelic Society. This should dispel the assumption that the PRPS are collectors of "Trains on Stamps" only.

December: After a busy year, we relaxed in December with a lighter evening accompanied by spouses, celebratory eats and an Audio Visual on a general subject.

Asher Dubbs "Man against Germs" series was of interest to all. It told of the discovery of a disease in silkworms by a lawyer in the previous century, and took us through medical men's attempts to combat illnesses right up to the present day, when the germs now have the capacity to tolerate man's poisons and chemicals of the twentieth century.

Richard Plane

PORT ELIZABETH PS

1 August 1995: Barry Green was unanimously elected as an Honorary Life member of our Society.

The theme was the Quarterly and Contemporary Cup competition. In the Quarterly competition Jack Ellis showed Bicentennials of USA, Stamps from 1967 to 1976. In the other competition Peter Watson brought along his Nyasaland collection in mint condition, stamps from 1891 to 1964. The judges were Neville Polakow and Graham Butcher, but no cups were awarded.

Interesting material: Godfrey Monaghan – picture postcard from Norway – Northcape where the sun does not set for 88 days.

Graham Butcher – A cover which was sent by Tin Can Mail from Tonga to Karreedouw (SA) in 1937, 1984 FDCs from Botswana showing butterflies, aeroplanes and traditional transport.

5 September 1995: This was the evening of the President's Cup competition. The entries were:

Salome Jankelowitz – Israel, Jerusalem 3000. With FDCs and relevant stamps the historical important points of Jerusalem were shown.

Steven Gardiner – Postage Dues of the Union of SA. Displayed were a range of the postage dues in chronological order interspersed with letters or post cards showing the actual usage of the particular issues.

Sam Fanarof – Tristan da Cunha (1952 - 1993). This collection was shown in mint condition. Stamps of the Commonwealth were used on letters from the island up to 1952 when Tristan received its own stamps. The stamps showed the sea life, history, flora, fauna and industry of Tristan and its general association with happenings in the Commonwealth.

10 October 1995: The president reported that our long standing member Steven Gardiner will move to Cape Town by the end of this month. Steven joined our society 22 years ago after having been a junior for five years.

Evan Blecher, our Junior member (14 years of age) was invited to show us his "Dogs of the World" (3 frames) collection for which he won a Silver medal at Junass '95 Stellenbosch. Evan was invited to show his collection in Indonesia in March '96.

New acquisitions: Graham Butcher – various envelopes from SA, Pakistan and Nepal as well as English and French stamps with perfins.

7 November 1995: Neville Polakow gave feedback from Total Stampex 95 and from the 57th Congress.

Items of interest: Dallas Whitfield – 3 pages "Sport on Stamps".

Peter Watson – Examples of bisected items on cover; all machine cancelled.

Brian Briscoe – Envelopes from Russia, Korea, USA and RSA depicting the 50 Anniversary of UN.

J. Ellis – 1974 Centenary issue (art) of the UPU from USA.

Clinton Jones – Maxi Cards from SA – both privately and commercially produced.

Collin Annandale – A shift in perforation which was shown on a sheet (7c – 2nd Definitive issue).

Herwig Küssing

MASHONALAND PS

August: Letter "N": no entries, and a rethink on this monthly competition is called for.

Helen Allen exhibited "A philatelic look at the Transkei" for the Peinke cup. This was complete and included all FDCs. Her exhibit departed from the usual practice by showing sets arranged by subject rather than by S.G. catalogue sequence.

The audio-visual show was on "Collecting R.S.a. Stamps : Pt. II", and though specialised proved popular with most members. It dealt only with issues of the early 1970s and the many fantastic flaws which occurred then.

Derrick Byrom demonstrated the society's latest acquisition – an electronic perforation gauge, which has proved to be very accurate, recording in one tenths of a perf.

September: Four new members this month increased our membership to 230, but only around one fifth of these are regular attenders at monthly meetings.

Letter "M" produced 3 entries, won by Helen Allen with "Medical Men".

Derrick Byrom displayed a most interesting non-competitive exhibit entitled:

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"EPHEMERA" or "Even Philatelists Have Eventual Misgivings Examining Rare Adhesives", which he defined as "Pamphlets and cuttings of a temporary interest and value:. These consisted of very scarce postal history items such as the Opening of Birchenough Bridge (1935), the Chirundu Bridge (1939) and a registered cover (No. 7) of the Initial Training Wing of the Rhodesian Air Training scheme (1940): Cinderella material including a complete collection of R.A.P.T. Seals from 1956 to 1995.

Derrick, who has won most of the eight trophies – some more than once – and has stopped putting in entries for competitions to give others a chance, appealed to members to "have a go" and show fellow members the new, different and exciting material which he knew many possessed, but seem to keep hidden away.

A Bourse was held on 20 Septmeber, as asked for by many members, but in the event was poorly attended. For those who did, it was a pleasant occasion well worth the effort.

October: The letter "L" competition proved popular with 4 entries, which resulted in a tie for Tony Brown's "Lagos", and Helen Allan's "Lovely Large Lewd Lusty Ladies", which proved a difficult exhibit to view because of the throng of members (male) clustering overlong around it!

The audio-visual show was on "Maps on Stamps II" and proved most interesting to all. However, several faults were noted: The sound level was too low and inaudible to many: the commentary said "three" men landed on the moon, when in fact only two did so (Collins remaining in the command module); and the display of stamps included a mixture of mint and used examples – contrary to normal philatelic practice. Adrian de Bourbon exhibited his unmounted mint collection of "Pre-decimal Machins" for the Goldblatt trophy. This consisted of many pages of some 200 different stamps covering the many printings, papers, booklets, FDCs and flaws of what was a basic set of only 16 stamps, which he only commenced collating early this year.

Included was what seemed to be every possible variety and permutation of: errors, a wide range of postal stationery, Post Office Schools training stamps, and a presentation card of the high values signed by Arnold Machin himself.

The humble pre-decimal Machins were transformed by Adrian into a most impressive display.

Maurice Rainbow ■

Late auction news

Another Welz auction heads for a record

AS *The SA Philatelist* was going to press, the catalogue for the Postage Stamps and Postal History of the World sale to be held by Stephan Welz & Co on 21 February 1996 in Johannesburg came to hand.

Two highly important "name" collections aside, the 641 lots contain uncommon Cape of Good Hope, Falkland Islands, a reconstructed sheet of Plate 2 of the 1d. Black (estimated at R28 000 to R32 000) and some quite remarkable other finds.

The late Len van de Kar's collection of the first Union commemorative forms part of the sale. Among the outstanding items are Lot 371 (at left, below) which is the original Wilkinson essay for the issue. This is the one which formed the basis for all further essays and designs.

What this essay also proves was that Wilkinson was indeed the designer – some doubts have been expressed about this in the past – as the tiny initials "H.S.W" appear in the frameline. The lot, which includes further photographic essays, is estimated at R6 000 tot R8 000.

The next lot (at right below) consists of two essays by an unkown artist. The one depicted has a scene in the vignette below which is not dissimilar to the later 10/- issue in the London Pictorial series, and reminiscent of one of the earlier Cape of Good Hope 1d. rectangulars. The lot is estimated at R3 000 to R4 000.

Lot 381 consists of three items: The publicity notices and a specimen of the posters issued to the post office for the sale of the commemoratives. The only known notice printed in red was acquired by B.L. Cairncross at George after it was found in the Pacaltsdorp post office. (See *The SA Philatelist*, April 1961, p69. Cairncross was, incidentally, this journal's oldest reader while he was still alive, and one of the few to possess a complete run of it.) The lot is estimated at R1 500 to R2 000, while the only one known of these posters printed in Dutch (Lot 383) is expected to fetch between R5 000 and R6 000.





The other "name" material is Des Greenhalgh's specialised study of the RSA Definitives.

The total estimates for the sale are about R1,2 million at the lower end, and R1,5 million at the higher. It will be recalled that Welz realised over R1 million for the first time on 22 March 1995 (*The SA Philatelist*, June 1995, p77), and again on 14 June 1995 (also reported in June 1995, p92), and then established a record R39 600 for a South African stamp at their sale on 20 September 1995, namely R39 600 (December, p176).

Forthcoming auction dates

WHAT is stated to be the most important single-owner collection of Great Britain line-engraved issues is to be auctioned by Christie's in London on 6 October 1996. The 700 lots in the "Daisy" Collection are estimated to realise up to £2,2 million.

Phillips will be auctioning postage stamps and covers of the world on 22 February 1996, and British Commonwealth stamps and covers on 21 March 1995. Further stamps and covers sales of the world are due on 28 March, 25 April and 23 May 1996, and specialised Great Britain on 4 April and 6 June 1996.

Acorn Auctions of Manchester has auctions of stamps and postal history scheduled for 12 March, 21 May, 6 August and 15 October 1996.

News releases ■

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■ **DV HORN** *Stellenbosch Filateliese Vereniging*

Gevare vir die versamelaar

VIR die versamelaar van enigiets is daar gevare wat materiaal kan vernietig of beskadig. Die ernstige versamelaar sal verseker dat hy bewus is van dié gevare, en alles in sy vermoë doen om sy versameling daarteen te beskerm. Die filatelis is moet kennis neem van die volgende:

1. Roes

Waar die humiditeit (vogtigheid) in die lug baie hoog is, soos aan die kus, kan roes op seëls en koeverte voorkom. Dit is veral wanneer seëls en koeverte vir langer tye in 'n toe houer gestoor word. Sekere soorte papier absorbeer vogtigheid, wat 'n broeiplek vir die roes-swam vorm. Fyn stukkies kos in speeksel aan geplakte seëls veroorsaak dieselfde probleem.

Roes word sigbaar as 'n bruin lagie om die rante van die seël, of as bruin kolle op die koevert uitslaan.

Die beste manier om roes te voorkom is om die seëls en koeverte droog en koel te hou, en gereeld aan lig en lug bloot te stel. Die versamelaar wat gereeld met sy versameling werk, sal nie maklik hierdie probleem ondervind nie.

Daar is 'n metode om gerojeerde seëls en koeverte met roes te behandel. Indien dit egter te ver gevorder het, moet dit eerder vernietig word omdat dit op ander seëls en koeverte oorgedra kan word.

'n Middel bekend as Chloramine T is by sommige apteke beskikbaar. Dit word met 'n kwassie op die roesmerke aangewend, of die gerojeerde seëls kan in die oplossing geweek word. Dit *moet* egter in skoon water afgewas word. Posfris seëls kan op 'n sifdraad oor 'n oop houer, deels gevul met Jik, geplaas word. Oefen liefs eers met beskadigde seëls, en onthou – voorkoming van roes is baie makliker as die verwydering!

2. Vismotte

Die versamelaar wat gereeld aandag aan sy materiaal gee, sal hiermee nie maklik 'n probleem hê nie. Vismotte word veral op donker plekke gevind waar hulle nie gesteur word nie. Hulle vreet gedeeltes van die seël en/of koevert en beskadig dit onherstelbaar – en onuitstalbaar.

Daar is 'n poeier wat vismotte uitroei en verwilder, wat in kaste gestrooi kan word. Engelse sout dien dieselfde doel, maar slegs vir 'n beperkte tyd. Motgif kan ook gebruik word, maar dit ruik baie sterk.

Die beste metode, benewens gereelde aandag aan die versameling, is om elke drie tot vier maande die bêreplek met 'n insek-werende middel te bespuit.

3. Gewone kleeflint

Heelwat goeie materiaal is al vernietig omdat dit met kleeflint in aanraking was. Die gom laat naderhand 'n nieverwyderbare bruin merk wat die item waardeloos maak. Vroeër het Filateliedienste hulle seëlbestellings in deursigtige papierhouers geplaas, en met dié kleeflint gesluit. Word die seëls (of koeverte) vir 'n lang tyd hierin gestoor, kan dit skade ly.

4. Rekkies

Die meeste rekkies wat beskikbaar is, het 'n beperkte gebruikswaarde, en dan disintegreer dit. Indien daarvan om koeverte getrek is, sal dit mettertyd skade aanrig. Rekkievlekke kan nie verwyder word nie.

5.Houers (sakkies) van plastiek

Hier word veral verwys na houers waarin EDKs geplaas word. Van dié houers is van materiaal wat dit mettertyd sal beskadig. (Vir 'n volledige bespreking van hierdie gevaar word verwys na 'n artikel in *The SA Philatelist* van Februarie 1987, p30). Dit kom daarop neer dat die drukwerk op die koevert aan die plastiek vassit, en die seëls kan ook beskadig word.

6. Minderwaardige albums

Daar is ook albums op die mark wat liefs nie gebruik moet word nie. Die belangrikste een om te vermy is die een wat vir foto's gebruik word. Die blaaie het 'n klewerige basis sodat die foto's daarop vassit, wat met 'n deursigtige blad bedek word. Menige beginner het al van sy materiaal in so 'n album geplaas, natuurlik met katastrofiese gevolge, omdat dit bykans alles beskadig het. Albums moet slegs by goeie seëlhandelaars verkry word.

Moet nie posfris seëls in 'n ou album plaas nie. So 'n album mag dalk spore van die swam bevat wat roes veroorsaak.

Albums moet nooit plat lê nie, maar altyd regop staan om beskadiging van die inhoud te voorkom.

7. Plakkertjies

Ook plakkertjies moet liefs by seëlhandelaars gekoop word. Plakkertjies word natuurlik slegs op gerojeerde seëls gebruik, en liefs nie op posfris seëls nie. Dit is ook fataal om enige kleefmiddel hoegenaamd te gebruik; dit bring permanente skade mee.

8. Tangetjies

'n Goeie tangetjie om seëls mee te hanteer, is seker een van die belangrikste apparate van die filatelis, en so een is dan ook slegs by die seëlhandelaar beskikbaar. Die tangetjie moet aan die punte se binnekant glad wees.

9. Vuil vingers

Seëls moet slegs met skoon hande hanteer word. Was veral na ete, om alle vetterigheid te verwyder. Vingermerke op seëls en koeverte sal die waarde daarvan verminder. Chemies suiwer talkumpoeier aan die hande verhoed ook klewerigheid.

10. Sonlig

Filateliemateriaal moet nie vir lang tydperke aan direkte sonlig blootgestel word nie. Koeverte en seëls se kleure kan daardeur verbleik of verander (sogenaamde "changelings").

11. Hebsug

Dit sou nie verkeerd wees om seëls ook as 'n belegging te beskou nie, maar primêr behoort dit versamel te word vir die filateliese plesier. Indien die estetiese genot van seëlversameling plek moet maak vir die moontlike finansiële gewin die versamelaar verander in 'n skattejagter. 'n Versamelaar behoort te weet wat sy versameling werd is, maar om die randwaarde van elke item in die album aan te dui, maak van hom of haar 'n handelaar.

12. Aankoop van seëls

Wanneer seëls gekoop word, moet daar baie seker gemaak word dat dit wel voldoen aan die katalogusbeskrywing. Daar moet veral gelet word op watermerke, tanding en papier. Maak ook seker dat materiaal voldoen aan die verkoper se beskrywing.

Waarde van seëls, net soos enigiets anders, kan daal. Daar moet teen onrealistiese pryse gewaak word, veral wanneer dit by afwykings en skaars items kom. Wat vandag "skaars" is, is dalk oor 'n paar maande of jare nie meer gesog nie.

13. Onkunde

Alle probleme kan saamgevat word deur te sê dat onkunde die versamelaar se grootste gevaar is.

Dit kan verhoed word deur by 'n vereniging aan te sluit, en daar gereeld gebruik te maak van al die publikasies oor die onderwerp. ■

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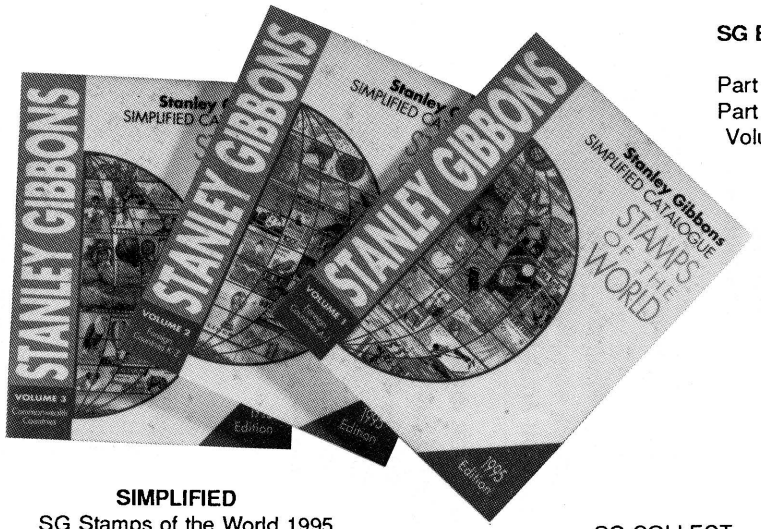
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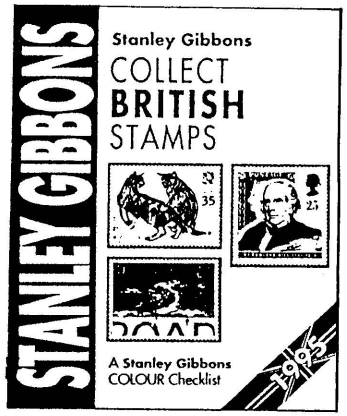
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nog enige vrywillige helpers, sal aanspreeklik wees vir enige verlies of skade aan 'n uitstalling vanwee enige rede of oorsaak ook al.

5.2 "Volle Risiko"-versekering kan gereel word vir versamelings terwyl dit in die sorg van die Reelingskomitee is, of van of na die eienaar in transito is. Besonderhede sal op die Finale Inskrywingsvorm verskyn. Uitstallers moet op hierdie vorms aandui of sulke versekering verlang word , al dan nie. Indien wel, moet die versekerde waarde van die versameling aangedui word en die tersake premie saam met die finale inskrywings betaal word.

6. JURIE EN BEOORDELING

6.1 Die Reelingkomitee het 'n persoon genooi om as Voorsitter te dien van die jurie, welke sal bestaan uit 'n Voorsitter, 'n Ondervoorsitter en minstens 7 ander lede, wat almal as geakkrediteerde beoordelaars gelys is by die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika. Hoogstens vier ander persone kan as leerlingbeoordelaars aangewys word. Die name van jurielede en leerlinge sal aan die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika voorsien word vir kennisname.

6.2 Die Voorsitter, of in sy afwesigheid die Ondervoorsitter, sal die werksaamhede van die jurie beheer kragtens die reels en Bywette van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika. Hoewel die jurie enige persoon kan raadpleeg, sal nog 'n konsultant, nog leerlingbeoordelaars enige stem in die jurie se verrigtinge hê.

6.3 In geval van 'n staking van stemme oor enige saak, sal die voorsitter van die jurie 'n beslissende stem uitbring.

6.4 Die beraadslagings van die jurie is vertroulik en sy aangekondigde beslissings is finaal en onherroeplik.

6.5 Beoordeling sal geskied op voorgelegde materiaal en geen verdere ondersteunende materiaal word verlang nie. Gekopieerde materiaal soos fotos of fotostate moet duidelik as sulks aangedui word. Die volgende items, waar ingesluit in 'n uitstalling, sal nie beoordeel word nie:
-enige item wat voorgee om 'n vlugkoevert te wees verwant aan die Vrystaat 81-uitstalling;
-enige ongesnyde velle of interpanneau geutpare of -blokke van enige posseels uitgereik deur die Republiek van Suid Afrika vanaf 14 Julie 1982.

6.6 Alle uitstallings moet voorsien word van 'n verklarende stelling wat duidelik die plan of konsep aandui waarvolgens die uitstalling ontwikkel is. Hierdie inligting vorm bladsy 1 van Raam 1 van die uitstalling.

6.7 Uitstalblaaie moet genommer word in die linker bohoek aan die voorkant soos volg : 1/1 tot 1/15 vir raam een , 2/1 tot 2/15 vir raam twee, ens., vir elke raam van die uitstalling. Hierdie sal korrekte nagaan en raammontering verseker.

6.8 Mededingende uitstallings sal beoordeel word op eie meriete en nie teen ander uitstallings meeding nie, behalwe in die geval van die Grand Prix en ander spesiale toekennings.

6.9 Geen uitstalblad mag enige aanduiding van prys of waarde bevat nie en geen uitstalling mag te koop aangebied word na inskrywing of gedurende die uitstalling nie.

6.10 Die jurie kan na eie diskresie 'n uitstaller se se verwante uitstallings saamgroepeer met oog op 'n hoër gesamentlike toekenning as wat die uitstallings individueel sou verwerf het. So 'n kombinasie sal nie in aanmerking kan kom vir 'n Goue of Groot Goue toekenning nie.

6.11 Die jurie kan na eie diskresie 'n uitstalling van een Klas na 'n ander Klas hergroepeer om 'n hoër toekenning moontlik te maak as wat andersins die geval sou wees.

6.12 'n Uitstaller wat minder rame voorsien as waarvoor aansoek gedoen is en wat toegeken is, bevestig op die finale inskrywingsvorm, se uitstalling sal nie beoordeel word nie. Alle rame moet terselfdertyd gevul wees met relevante materiaal.

7. TOEKENNINGS

7.1 Die uitstallingtoekennings sal as volg wees:
7.1.1 Groot Goud
7.1.2 Goud
7.1.3 Vermeil (Vergulde Silwer)
7.1.4 Silwer
7.1.5 Silwer-Brons
7.1.6 Brons
7.1.7 Sertifikaat van Verdienste
Vermeil en Silwertoekennings kan met gelukwense van die jurie geskied.

7.2 Geen uitstalling mag meer as een Uitstallingtoekenning ontvang nie.

7.3 Elke inskrywing wat nie 'n Uitstallingtoekenning verwerf het nie, sal 'n Sertifikaat van Deelname kry.

7.4 Alle Uitstallingtoekennings wat aan uitstallings in Groep E gemaak word, sal duidelik aandui dat dit vir 'n prentposkaartuitstalling is.

8. SPESIALE TOEKENNINGS

8.1 Afgesien van die Uitstallingtoekennings kan verskeie spesiale bekronings vir toekenning deur die jurie beskikbaar wees.

8.2 In die Groep vir Mededingende Filatelie , maar met uitsluiting van Groep E, sal die Grand Prix (die Staatspresidentstrofee) toegeken word aan die beste mededingende uitstalling vin minstens Goue standaard. Dit sal voorkeur bo ander toekennings geniet. Die Posmeester-Generaalskild sal toegeken word aan die beste uitstalling van Suid-Afrikaanse filatelie van minstens Goue standaard. Hierdie twee uitstallings sal nie vir enige ander spesiale bekronings kwalifiseer nie.

8.3 'n Uitstalling wat sedert 1 Oktober 1993 'n Goue toekenning op enige Suider-Afrikaanse Nasionale of Spesiale Nasionale uitstalling verwerf het, sal nie in aanmerking kom vir enige spesiale toekenning nie, tensy dit by hierdie Uitstalling 'n Groot Goud verwerf.

8.4 Geen ander uitstalling sal in aanmerking kom vir meer as twee spesiale toekennings nie.

8.5 Enige Spesiale Toekenning vir 'n uitstalling in Groep E sal duidelik aandui dat dit vir 'n prentposkaart-uitstalling is.

9. AANVAARDING VAN UITSTALREELS

9.1 Die invul en indiening van die Finale Inskrywingsvorm word beskou as aanvaarding van die reëls vir die Uitstalling en aanduiding van die uitstaller se volle aanvaarding van die Reelingskomitee se uitsluitsel oor enige saak wat kan ontstaan en wat nie deur hierdie reels gedek word nie.

10. UITSTALLINGBROSJURE

10.1 Elke inskrywer ontvang een gratis eksemplaar van die uitstallingbrosjure vir elke inskrywing volgens keuse aangedui op die finale inskrywingsvorm om gepos te word na finale inskrywing of om ingesluit te word by uitstallings wanneer dit teruggestuur word na die Uitstalling.

10.2 Waar die brosjure gepos word, sal 'n afskrif van die toekenningslys so gou doenlik gepos word, of ingesluit word by die terugsending van uitstallings .

10.3 Verdere afskrifte van die Prospektus en Voorlopige Inskrywingsvorms kan verkry word van :

Die Organiserende Komitee
BLOEM 150
Posbus 702
BLOEMFONTEIN
9300

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BLOEM 150
NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

BLOEMFONTEIN 150 SEËLSKOU 1996 · 10 · 9-12 STAMP SHOW

PROSPECTUS

1. STATUS OF THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition will be both competitive and non-compe-titive and open to all members of Societies affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, provided that any collection which since 1st October 1993 has -

1) gained a Large Gold award at any Southern African National or Special National, or a Gold or Large Gold award at any International Exhibition, shall not be eligible for competitive entry for this exhibition;

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

2. SCOPE OF THE EXHIBITION

Non Competitive:
GROUP A
Class 1 - Court of Honour
Class 2 - Invited exhibits

Competitive:
GROUP B - TRADITIONAL PHILATELY
Class 1 - South Africa - Pre 1910
Class 2 - South Africa & RSA - Post 1910
Class 3 - Rest of Africa
Class 4 - Europe & Colonies
Class 5 - Rest of the World
Class 6 - Cinderellas & Revenues

GROUP C - POSTAL HISTORY
Class 1 - South Africa - Pre 1910
Class 2 - South Africa & RSA - Post 1910
Class 3 - Rest of Africa
Class 4 - Europe & Colonies
Class 5 - Rest of the World
Class 6 - Aerophilately, Maritime & disaster mails

GROUP D - THEMATIC & TOPICAL

GROUP E - PICTURE POSTCARDS

GROUP F - LITERATURE
Refer to clause 6.6 of the Prospectus
Note: For the guidance of exhibitors:
"Traditional philately" encompasses exhibits based on the collecting of postal items, including items relating to the production of postage stamps, of as specialised or generalised nature as the exhibitor desires and which are not entered in one of the other Groups."Postal History" encompasses exhibits of postal items which have been carried by a postal service whether official, local or private, and postal documents arranged so as to illustrate or develop an aspect of postal history.

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1 A charge of R30 per entry to cover handling costs must accompany the submission of a Provisional Entry Form. This fee is not refundable.

3.2 Entries must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, and the completion of a provisional entry form is deemed to be an implied declaration to this effect.

3.3 A Provisional Entry Form, duly completed and accompanied by handling fees for each entry must reach the Organising Committee before or on 30th March 1996 to enable frame allocation.

3.4 All awards gained by an exhibition collection at any National , Special National or International exhibition in the past three years after the 1st October 1993 must be listed on the entry form for that exhibit. These particulars are solely for the information of the Organising Committee.

3.5 A Provisional Entry Form from a first time exhibitor must be accompanied by a statement from the Committee of his/her nominated Society confirming that the exhibit is of a sufficiently high standard. This statement will automatically enter the exhibit for eligibility for the ERPS Floating Trophy for 1st time exhibitors.

3.6 A maximum of two entries per exhibitor will be considered. If more than one provisional entry forms has been submitted the exhibitor must indicate his/her preference should only one be accepted. No exhibit may be entered in more than one Class.

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

3.8 A Final Entry Form for each accepted exhibit together with the prescribed frame fees and a description of the Exhibit in either English or Afrikaans must be received by the Organising Committee not later than 31st of May 1996. The description must not exceed 100 words and will be published in the exhi bition Brochure. Words in excess of 100 will not be published. This description must fit in all aspects with the introductory or plan page of the actual exhibit as these will be read together.

3.9 Upon receipt of completed and accepted final Entry Forms by the Organising Committee, special envelopes for submission of the exhibit will be forwarded to all prospective exhibitors. Only exhibits packed in these envelopes and properly marked and numbered will be accepted by the Organising Committee.

3.10 Exhibits must reach the Organising Committee strictly on or before 30th September 1996.

3.11 In case of doubt or dispute arising as to the eligibility of any entry, the rulingof the Organising Committee shall be final.

4. EXHIBITION FRAMES

4.1 Exhibition frames accommodate 15 pages in 5 vertical rows of 3 pages read from left top to right bottom, each with a maximum height of 300 mm. Exhibitors are warned not to utilise the top 3 cm for titling should pages be maximum height, as these will disappear under glass protection covers.

4.2 All exhibitors must provide their album pages with acetate or plastic exhibition covers to ensure the safety of their material. No entries without such covers can be accepted.

4.3 On the basis of the provisional entry form only, a maximum of four frames will be al located per exhibit by the Organising Committee. Space permitting, the Organising Committee may accept 6-frame exhibits for entrants referred to in Clause 8.3, thus those who have previously gained a Gold Award and wish to contend for Large Gold Awards.

4.4 The fee per frame or per literature entry is R35, payable together with the final entry form.

5. LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

5.1 Although every possible care will be taken of exhibits while in the custody or care of the Organising Committee, such exhibits shall at all times be at the owner's risk. Neither the Organising Committee, nor the officers , members or employees of the Sponsoing Society arranging the exhibition, nor any voluntary helper, shall incur any liability for any loss or damage sustained by an exhibit from any cause or for any reason whatsoever.

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5.2 "All risk" insurance to cover collections while in the custody of the Organising Committee and/or while in transit to and from the owner can be arranged. Details will be advised with the final entry forms when despatched. Exhibitors must indicate on the Final Entry forms whether or not such insurance cover is required. If so, the insured value of the collection must be declared and the relevant premium must accompany the final entry form.

6. JURY AND JUDGING FOR AWARDS

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a person to appoint and to chair the jury, which will comprise of a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman and at least 7 other members, all of whom will be on the list of accredited jurors of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Not more thanfour other persons may be nominated to act as learner jurors.The names of the acting judging panel, as well as those of the learner jurors will be forwarded to the Management Committee of the PFSA for noting.

6.2 The Chairman, or in his absence the vice- chairman, shall have full control over the activities of the jury, which shall be subject to the rules and bye-laws of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. While the jury may call in any person (s) as consultant, neither consultants, nor learner jurors shall have any vote in the jury's deliberations.

6.3 In the event of equality of voting any question, the Chairman of the Jury shall have a casting vote.

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

6.5 Judging for awards shall be on material submitted and no further supporting matter will be required or permitted. Copied material such as photostats or photographs must be clearly identified as such. The following items, if included in an exhibit, will not be judged:
- any item purporting to be a flight cover relating to the Vrystaat 81 exhibition;
- unguillotined sheets or interpanneau gutter pairs (or multiples) of any stamps issued by the Republic of South Africa after 14th July 1982.

6.6 All exhibits must be provided with an introductory statement, which will clearly indicate the plan or concept according to which the exhibit has been developed. This statement is to form page 1 of Frame 1 of the exhibit.

6.7 Exhibition pages must be numbered in the top left corner on the front as 1/1 to 1/15 for frame one, 2/1 to 2/15 for frame 2, etc. for each frame of an exhibit. This will ensure correct mounting and checking.

6.8 Competitive exhibits will be judged on their individual merits and not against other collections, except in the case of the Grand Prix and other special awards.

6.9 No exhibition page may bear any indication of price or value, nor shall any exhibit be advertised for sale after entry to and during the exhibition.

6.10 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibitors's related exhibits may be grouped together with a view of making an award for the whole greater than that which such exhibits would have obtained on their own. Such combinations shall not receive a Gold or Large Gold award.

6.11 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibit entered in a particular Class may be transferred to another Class with a view to making an award greater than it might otherwise have received.

6.12 An exhibitor providing less frames than applied for and allocated with, confirmed in the final entry form, shall not have that exhibit judged while all frames must be filled completely with relevant material

7. AWARDS

7.1 Exhibition awards will be:
7.1.1 Large Gold
7.1.2 Gold
7.1.3 Vermeil (Silver-Gilt)
7.1.4 Silver
7.1.5 Silver-Bronze
7.1.6 Bronze
7.1.7 Certificate of Merit

Vermeil and silver awards may be given with felicitations of the jury.

7.2 No exhibit may receive more than on exhibition award.

7.3 Each entry which has not received an Exhibition award, will be given a Certificate of Participation.

7.4 All Exhibition awards and certificates awarded to exhibits in Group E will clearly state that they were awarded to a Picture Postcard Exhibit.

8. SPECIAL AWARDS

8.1 In addition to the Exhibition Awards, various Special Awards may be made available to the jury to be awarded within each Exhibition Group.

8.2 Within the competitive philately Groups, but excluding Group E, the Grand Prix (State President's Trophy) shall be awarded to the best competitive exhibit of not lower than Gold Award standard and shall take precedence over all other awards. The Postmaster General's Shield shall be awarded to the best exhibit on South African philately of not lower than Gold Award standard. These two exhibits will not be eligible for any other special awards.

8.3 An exhibit which, since 1 October 1993, has gained a Gold Award at any Southern African National or Special National exhibition, will not be eligible for any special awards unless at this Exhibition it is awarded a Large Gold award.

8.4 No other exhibit shall be eligible for more than two Special Awards.

8.5 Any Special Award to an exhibit in Group E will clearly state that it was awarded in the Picture Postcard Group.

9. ACCEPTANCE OF EXHIBITION REGULATIONS

9.1 The completion and submission of the Final Entry Form, together with appropriate fees, shall constitute acceptance of the rules governing the Exhibition and indicate the exhibitor's agreement to accept as final the Organisation Committee's decisions in any matter which may arise, but which is not covered by therules.

10. EXHIBITION BROCHURE

10.1 Each entrant will receive one free copy of theExhibition Brochure for each exhibit entered, by choice indicated on the final entry form to be posted after final entry or to be included upon return of his/ her exhibit.

10.2 Where the brochure is mailed, a copy of the award listing will be mailed as soon as available, or included in the return of the exhibit.

10.3 Further copies of the Prospectus and Provisional entry forms can be obtained from:

The Organising Committee
BLOEM 150
P.O. Box 702
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BLOEM 150
NASIONALE FILATELIESE UITSTALLING

BLOEMFONTEIN 150 SEËLSKOU • STAMP SHOW 1996 · 10 · 9 - 12

PROSPEKTUS

1. STATUS VAN DIE UITSTALLING

Die uitstalling is mededingend sowel as nie-mededingend en is oop vir alle lede van Verenigings wat geaffilieer is by die Filateliese Federasie van Suider Afrika, dog enige versameling wat sedert 1Oktober 1993.

1) 'n Groot Goue toekenning by enige Suider-Afrikaanse Nasionale of Spesiale Nasionale, of 'n Goue of Groot Goue toekenning by enige Internasionale Uitstalling verower het, mag nie mededingend ingeskryf word nie.

2) 'n Goue toekenning by enige Suider Afrikaanse Nasionale of Spesiale Nasionale Uitstalling verower het, sal slegs behoudens artikel 8.3 mededingend by hierdie uitstalling kan deelneem.

2. BESTEK VAN DIE UITSTALLING

Nie-Mededingend
GROEP A
Klas 1 - Erehof
Klas 2 - Genooide uitstallings

Mededingend
GROEP B - TRADISIONELE FILATELIE
Klas 1 - Suid-Afrika voor 1910
Klas 2 - Suid-Afrika & RSA na 1910
Klas 3 - Res van Afrika
Klas 4 - Europa en Kolonies
Klas 5 - Res van die Wereld
Klas 6 - Aspoestertjies & Inkomsteseels

GROEP C - POSGESKIEDENIS
Klas 1 - Suid-Afrika voor 1910
Klas 2 - Suid-Afrika & RSA na 1910
Klas 3 - Res van Afrika
Klas 4 - Europa en Kolonies
Klas 5 - Res van die Wereld
Klas 6 - Lugfilatelie,Maritieme en Ramppos

GROEP D - TEMATIES EN ONDERWERP

GROEP E - PRENTPOSKAARTE

GROEP F - LITERATUUR

LEES SAAM MET ART.6.6 IN DIE PROSPEKTUS

Nota: As riglyn vir uitstallers: "Tradisionele filatelie" behels uitstallings wat gebaseer is op die versamel van positems, insluitend items verwant aan die vervaardiging van posseels, van sodanige algemene of gespesialiseerde aard as wat die uistaller verkies en welke uitstallings nie in enige ander Groep ingeskryf is nie.
"Posgeskiedenis"behels uitstallings van positems wat deur 'n posdiens vervoer is, hetsy amptelik, plaaslik of privaat, en posdokumente so gerangskik dat dit 'n aspek van posgeskiedenis illustreer of ontwikkel.

3. INSKRYWINGS EN UITSTALLINGS

3.1 'n Hanteringsfooi van R30 per inskrywing moet by die indiening van voorlopige inskrywingsvorms betaal word.Hierdie bedrag is nie terugbetaalbaar nie.

3.2 Inskrywings moet die bona fide eiendom van die uitstaller wees. Die ondertekening van die in- skrywingsvorm word beskou as verklaring hiertoe.

3.3 'n Voorlopige Inskrywingsvorm en hanteringsfooi vir elke uitstalling moet die Reelingskomitee voor 30 Maart 1996 bereik om raamtoekenning te kan maak.

3.4 Alle bekronings wat deur 'n uitstalversameling behaal is op enige Nasionale, Spesiale Nasionale of Internasionale uitstalling in die afgelope drie jaar vanaf 1 Oktober 1993 moet op die inskrywingsvorm vir daardie uitstalling vermeld word. Hierdie inligting is vir die uitsluitlike gebruik van die Reelingskomitee.

3.5 'n Voorlopige inskrywingvorm van 'n uitstaller wat vir die eerste keer deelneem, moet vergesel wees van 'n verklaring deur die Bestuur van sy/haar genomineerde vereniging dat die uitstalling van genoegsame standaard is. Hierdie verklaring sal die inskrywing outomaties in aanmerking bring vir die ERPS wisseltrofee vir 'n eerste uitstaller op nasionale vlak.

3.6 Hoogstens twee inskrywings per uitstaller sal oorweeg word. Waar meer as een voorlopige inskrywing gemaak word deur 'n uitstaller, moet hy/sy die voorkeur aandui vir geval net een uitstalling aanvaar kan word. Geen uitstalling kan in meer as een Klas ingeskryf word nie.

3.7 Die Reelingskomitee behou die reg voor om sonder opgaaf van rede enige inskrywing of uitstalling deels of in geheel te weier.

3.8 'n Finale inskrywingsvorm vir elke aanvaarde uitstalling moet, tesame met toepaslike raamfooie en 'n beskrywing van die Uitstalling in Engels of in Afrikaans, die Reelingskomitee bereik nie later nie as 31 Mei 1996. Die beskrywing moet nie meer as 100 woorde wees nie en sal in die Uitstal brosjure gepubliseer word. Teks wat 100 woorde oorskrei sal nie ingesluit word nie. Die beskrywing moet in alle opsigte inskakel met die inleidende of plan-bladsy van die uistalling self.

3.9 By ontvangs van behoorlik voltooide finale inskry wingsvorms, sal die Reelingskomitee spesiale koe- verte aan alle voornemende uitstallers stuur. Slegs uitstallings wat in hierdie koeverte verpak is en behoorlik gemerk en genommer is, sal deur die Reelingskomitee aanvaar word.

3.10 Uitstallings moet die Reelingskomitee bereik voor of op 30 September 1996.

3.11 Sou daar enige onsekerheid of dispuut ontstaan oor die geldigheid van enige inskrywing, dan sal die uitsluitsel van die Reelingskomitee finaal wees.

4. UITSTALRAME

4.1 Uitstalrame bevat 15 bladsye in 5 vertikale rye van 3 bladsye elk, wat gelees word van links bo na regs onder, elk met 'n maksimumhoogte van 300mm. Uitstallers wat maksimumhoogte-blaaie gebruik, word daarop gewys om nie die boonste 3 cm van sulke bladsye vir titels te benut nie, aangesien hierdie onder die glasdekstroke verskuil word.

4.2 Alle uitstallers moet hulle albumbladsye beskerm met asetaat of plastiese omhulsels. Inskrywings sonder omhulsels sal nie aanvaar word nie.

4.3 Op grond van voorlopige inskrywingsvorms alleen sal 'n maksimum van vier rame per uitstalling toegeken word deur die Reelingskomitee. Indien ruimte beskikbaar is kan die Reelingskomitee 6-raam uitstallings aanvaar vir uitstallers waarna in artikel 8.3 verwys word, dus die wat tevore 'n Goud toekenning verwerf het en wat wil probeer vir 'n Groot Goud.

4.4 Die raamfooi is R35 per raam of per literatuurinskrywing.

5. AANSPREEKLIKHEID EN VERSEKERING

5.1 Alhoewel alle moontlike voorsorg getref word terwyl uitstallings onder toesig van die Ree lingskomitee is, bly die uitstallings te alle tye die risiko van die eienaar. Nog die Reelingskomitee, nog die ampsdraers, lede en werknemers van die gasheervereniging wat die uitstalling reel,

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

APRIL
1996

R8,00 BTW inkl.

ISSN 0038-2566

Vol 72:2 815

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- Ook ander lande het rugbyseëls vir die beker
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view — The Editor/Die Redakteur

AS jy steel, sê hulle, steel net die beste. En daar het so 'n puik stukkie navorsing in die Pretoria Philatelic Society se *Newsmagazine* verskyn, dat dit hier sonder verskoning gesteel word.

Sy redakteur, niemand minder nie as ons korrespondent in Pretoria, Alewyn Burger, het 'n bietjie ondersoek ingestel na die databasis van hul lede. Dit is 'n vereniging met, op daardie tydstip, net minder as 'n indrukwekkende 200 lede op sy boeke – 144 daarvan tuislede – wat, soos vele ander, dit moeilik vind om vrywilligers vir komiteewerk te kry.

Dit blyk, met behulp van die rekenaar, dat die oorgrote meerderheid binne die "vanggebied" van die vergaderplek bly. Maar: dat die gemiddelde bywoning van vergaderings toon dat vier uit die vyf plaaslike lede nooit opdaag nie. Waarom sluit mense dan aan?

Die helfte van die tuislede doen mee aan ruilpakkies, 43 persent nietuislede ook, maar met 17 persent is hulle dan ook die grootste bydraers tot die stelsel. Dit is egter die enigste manier hoe hulle kan help.

Die algehele gevolgtrekking is ongelukkig dat meer as 'n kwart van die ouer, lojale lede baie min met die verenigingslewe te doen wil hê.

Klink dit bekend? Dit sluit aan by die pleidooi van Andries van der Walt waaroor op bladsy 60 verslag gedoen word. (Sien "Rubriek vou ná 15 jaar".) Ons moet van onsself gee.

THE president of our Federation, André Bezuidenhout, has outlined a practical membership theme for the year: *Everyone bring one.* Quite rightly he points out that this extends beyond inviting an interested person to a meeting, and then letting him or her sink or swim. Be a mentor, he says, up to the point of national exhibition status! And do it, one might add, before bewailing again the dwindling numbers of collectors.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

More issues around the Rugby issue

Dr Franco Frescura, senior manager Philatelic Services, writes: It is true that lovers of paintings of "blue ladies" and children with large eyes have found it difficult to accept the idea that other methods of graphic depiction may exist outside the tiny encapsulated world of white Saath Efrikan culture. Mr Nel of Menlo Park fame (see *The SA Philatelist*, February 1996, p4) for example, would probably have preferred the rugby stamps to have been designed by a roadside artist better known for his skills in replicating Tinus de Jongh landscapes.

I do not believe that his spurious comments about three teams being depicted on the R1,15 issue, referees tackling, or a winger carrying the ball under the wrong arm warrant reply. (Does Mr Nel seriously mean to imply that it is mandatory under the rules of rugby for a winger to carry the ball under the *other* arm?)

The question of whether or not to depict the Springbok emblem was discussed at great length in our staff forum, and the decision to omit it from the final design was arrived at by my staff through democratic process (a newfangled concept that few rugby administrators would seem to have heard of).

Not only was it too small to read on a stamp, but its future, at that stage, was still in the balance. As a matter of fact, none of our designs carried national emblems on the jerseys. Instead, we concentrated on team colours and, and as any schoolchild will be able to inform Mr Nel, the Irish colours differ radically from those of the amaBokoboko.

It is true that I only have a PhD in architecture, as well as 17 years of teaching graphic design at university level, and therefore may lack Mr Nel's appreciation of the finer points of art and design. On the other hand anyone who believes that I was going to come into my job and dutifully turn the handle of previous administrations must be wishing away any number of hard realities.

I think it about time that the blind old men of South African philately who seem to be hell-bent on taking the hobby to the grave with them should have the good grace to realise that their time has gone. The days of the White Old Boys Club are over.

Thanks to them South African philately is in a state of crisis, with shrinking attendances at club level, fewer clubs, a negligible and poorly funded youth programme, a dying audience and an outdated publication to sing its dirges.

In the 1990s its leadership is still trying to implement Victorian ideas amended in the 1930s to meet the needs of the 1960s.

Begone, I say. Go away in peace now and with our thanks for a job well done, but now allow younger men with youthful ideas and democratic ideals to take our hobby into the next century, and allow the next generation of young philatelists to enjoy the range of new opportunities that are opening up to them in the global village.

(*Note from the Editor: Readers who wish to react to the attitudes evident from this letter are welcome.*)

Telephone Cards

DA Wepener of White River writes: I do support Neville Gomm's view in *The SA Philatelist*, (October 1995 p157). Keep *The SA Philatelist* for sure and pure – for us.

And send the telephone card collectors to Hell (Norway) to establish their very own organisation and magazine – in the cold!

Another dealer recalled

Dr D G Mordant of Florida Park writes: Recently, numerous articles have appeared about our pioneer stamp dealers. (See *The SA Philatelist*, January/February 1992, p 2, July/August 1992, p122; December 1993, p 174, and February 1994, p31, among others).

One such gentleman, MP Vallentine of Box 1514, Johannesburg, was enterprising enough to do his advertising on stamp hinges.

His name is printed in capitals, followed by "Stamp Dealer" on the next line, and then the adress, making four lines. All this is naturally on the ungummed side of the hinge.

Is this unique?

Who knows Weiss of Natal?

David Collyer of Gladesville, Australia writes: I came across a membership list of the Sydney Philatelic Club of 1910-11 recently. The club was founded in 1890, and its patron at the time of listing was no less than "His Majesty the King".

The alphabetical list begins with Bacon, ED (honorary) and ends with Witney, JJ, of the Colonial Sugar Company, of Sydney.

Among the 110 odd names listed is one KFE Weiss, of PO Box 74, Natal, Durban, South Africa. Was he a known and significant collector, as his membership of the Sydney Philatelic Club might indicate?

Rissik Street Post Office

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes: On 29 December 1995, the grand old lady of Johannesburg Post Offices finally closed. Its passing appeared to be marked by complete apathy, with a simple printed notice appearing dotted about the decaying fabric of this old office.

Putzel records in Volume II of his *Encyclopedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies* that the Rissik Street Office was opened on 1 July 1898 and acted as the main Johannesburg Office until its status changed in terms of a notice dated 30 September 1935, and came into effect on 8 October 1935.

Although the building was extensively renovated approximately five years ago, outward, and inward signs of the building on the date of its closure showed an unfortunate lack of maintenance and upkeep. No doubt this was in anticipation of its conversion to Provincial Government offices. It nevertheless remains one of the grandest buildings to grace central Johannesburg at the present.

I made a "sunset" cover for myself, which got the double circle "Rissik St PO Johannesburg" datestamp of that date on a vertical pair of the 1982 five cent coil stamp (SG 530).

I am sure others can give a far more eloquent eulogy to the Post Office, but I thought I'd better start the ball rolling.

Aanvullende gegewens oor inkstrale

Frank van Rensburg van Roodepoort skryf: In *The SA Philatelist* van Junie 1995, p66, het ek berig dat slegs vanaf Johannesburg masjien Nr 1 is die bykomende "IN RSA" na die Engelse slagspreuk op 1995-02-01 gesien (vergelyk Fig. 5 daar) en dat op beide masjiene Nr's 1 en 2 was "RO-

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JEERING" met twee "E's" gespel.

Masjien Nr 1 het wel die bykomende "IN RSA" na die Afrikaanse slagspreuk en korrekte spelling "ROJERING" met een "E" op datum van inwyding, te wete 1995-02-01 gehad, alhoewel dit blyk dat dit van korte duur was. Tot dusver is die korrekte spelling met bykomende bewoording "IN RSA" net vanaf masjien Nr 1 gevind.

Vermoedelik is vroeg op die datum van inwyding bemerk dat "ROJEERING" nie op albei masjiene dieselfde spelling het nie, en is Nr 1 foutiewelik herprogrammeer, om dit soos op Nr 2 met twee "E's" aan te pas.

Terselfdertyd is "IN RSA" na die Engelse en Afrikaanse slagspreuke weggelaat.

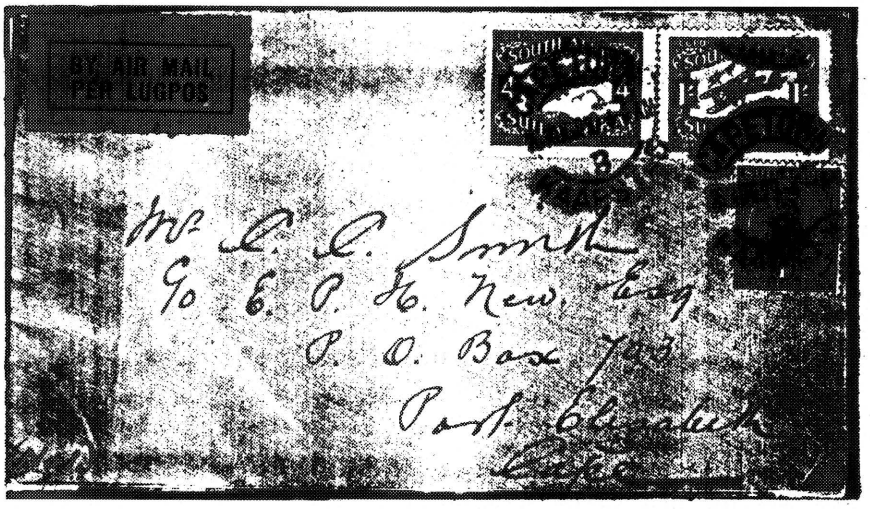
'n Verdere spieëlbeeld is van Pretoria af gevind. Die volledige inkstraalstempel was "Rugby '95 South Africa 1995-05-20" op die boonste reël, en op die onderste "Pretoria 15 May - 24 June 1995".

En op 31 Julie 1995 het 'n Johannesburgse masjien dit reggekry om Vigs te "verwelkom". Die "Voor" van "Voorkom Vigs" het in die slag gebly, sodat daar "Kom Vigs" gestaan het!

Eerste vlug van Kaapstad na Port Elizabeth

Mev KEG Meiring van Port Elizabeth skryf: Ek stuur graag 'n paar interessante fotostate aan oor ons vroeë lugvaartgeskiedenis. Op Maandag 26 Augustus 1929 het *The Cape Argus* 'n foto van majoor Allister Miller geplaas by sy vertrek. Dit was om 07h45 in die oggend, en hy het om 12h11 in Port Elizabeth aangekom.

Aan boord was daar 8 000 briewe. Hierdie een is om die een of ander rede in die onderste linkerhoek genommer (No 1.)



(*Ons leser het ook fotostate van koerantberigte gestuur. By aankoms op Port Elizabeth is Miller aangehaal: "Flying conditions had been favourable, except that he encountered a heavy mist over the Hottentots Holland Mountains". Red.*)

Private views on Transvaal cards

Wolfgang Zahn of Cologne, in a verbal communication to the editor, says: I have come across two private views on the socalled Disselboom issue (1895) of Transvaal postcards which are not mentioned in Mathews (*Transvaal Philately*, 1986, p 132).

One is in the series "The Late Crisis in Johannesburg", and it is captioned "Fortifications at Auckland Park". The photograph is by Bennett, showing a row of tents in the middle distance, behind some buildings, and quite a lot of empty foreground.

The series was produced by Sallo Epstein and MZ Booleman, and on the message side is a straightforward – probably mimeographed – solicitation for business by Booleman. It is addressed, interestingly enough – but not datestamped, and therefore probably batched with other material – to "MX Booleman, Briefmarkenhändler, Harmoesstraat 193, Amsterdam".

The reverse of another Disselboom card, mint, shows an oval portrait of Dr. (Leander Starr) Jameson in the upper half. The imprint at lower left indicates that it was published by Sanford & Newton, Box 2963.

At the bottom right of the oval portrait, there is an inscription reading "SANFORD DELET./2".

(*Note from the Editor: The "Sanford Delet." is probably an indication that Sanford was the artist, the full Latin for "Delet" would have been "Delineat". Neither Sanford nor Newton – or the two together – could be traced in Fransie Rossouw's* South African Printers and Publishers 1795-1925 *[1987]. Neither does Sanford appear in Greenwall's* Artists and Illustrators of the Anglo-Boer War *of 1992.*)

Poetical thematics

Sam Cowen of Lyndhurst writes: A propos your editorial in *The SA Philatelist* of October 1995, p129, I couldn't agree more.

I started collecting very late in life, and soon found – when I became a pensioner – that the cost of collecting was, for me, prohibitive. After a while I hit on a theme which I am sure is unique.

I have called it "Incidents in the Reign of the Kings and Queens of England". It can be compiled extremely cheaply. Paper (A4 size), corners and albums are ordinary stationery items.

Each of my pages has a stamp showing the portrait of the king or queen concerned, and at least one stamp showing the incident. It is all in

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my own handwriting, and the text is in rhyme.

Everyone can get something out of philately this way!

(Editor: One of the writer's pages, for example, has a portrait of Queen Victoria, and the Australian Cricket Centenary issue of 9 March 1977. The verse that goes with it reads:)

The first test match

The Aussies said: "Come out and play/ "The weather's lovely down our way/ "The girls are grand and so's the beer/ "Besides, we'd like to have you here."

This was the first strong sporting tether/ To bind the Commonwealth together.

First Trans-Africa Flight

A Davies-Coleman of Bulawayo writes: Readers and aerophilatelists may find the photograph of the plane used for the first trans-Africa flight 75 years ago of interest. As is stated in the accompanying write-up, very few people in Zimbabwe are aware of the epic flight. (This photocopy is taken from *The Chronicle* of 27 April 1995.)

I must admit, I also knew nothing about the flight until reading about it in the "New Issues" section of *The SA Philatelist* on page 9 of the February 1995 issue, especially as Bulawayo is marked on the SA 95c stamp.

A plaque still stands on the crash site in Bulawayo today.

I wonder how many other African countries, especially those along the original route which was taken in 1920, also remember the flight, and whether these countries have also issued stamps for the occasion, or are the South Africans the only ones to commemorate the event? ■



First plane's anniversary

Chronicle Reporter

THE 75th anniversary of the arrival of the first aircraft to land in Zimbabwe appears to have largely passed unnoticed by many individuals and organisations.

A Bulawayo resident, Mr Glyn Pinchen, is however, an exception. He said he felt that the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the first aircraft to touch down in the then Southern Rhodesia should have been commemorated.

The first aircraft to land in this country touched down at the Bulawayo Racecourse, now Ascot, at 12.50pm on March 5 1920.

According to a March 6 1920 edition of *The Chronicle*, the plane, named Silver Queen, a converted Vickers Vimy bomber, was flown from England, through the Mediterranean, Cairo and finally to Zimbabwe. It was sponsored by the South African government and was flown by Lieut Col Pierre van Ryneveld and Flt Lieut C J Quinton Brand.

Silver Queen, piloted by Mr Van Ryneveld and Mr Brand, makes its virgin landing on the Bulawayo Racecourse, now Ascot. It crashed the next day shortly after taking off — (Central African Archives Photo).

According to The Chronicle report, Bulawayo came to a halt as the whole population rushed to the racecourse.

"As Bulawayo we were honoured to have the first plane in this country to land here and I feel we should do something to mark the day," said Mr Pinchen.

An informal check with the Air Force of Zimbabwe and the national airline, Air Zimbabwe, indicated that they were not aware of this day.

However, if the Silver Queen was the first to land in Zimbabwe, it was so the first to crash. The plane crashed a few minutes after takeoff in what is now Hillside suburb. The crew escaped unhurt.

■ **TONY CHILTON FRPS,L** *South African Collectors' Society*

Notes on the SAAF aerogrammes in Korea

THE article on these aerogrammes by Jim Findlay and Alexander Ganse in *The SA Philatelist* (October 1995, p130) provided a listing based on the original notes of S.J. (Fanie) Vermaak. I can provide details of some further variations which can be found on these, now quite scarce, items.

The first of the 4-obliterating bar overprints (Ganse Type 2, Higgins & Gage 20/21) with LETTER CARD at the left comes in two variations. Both are on light emerald paper with the micro-printed words on the inside plainly visible.

The first variation (see Fig. 1) has the N of No malformed and the 5th and 11th dashes from the top at the left are damaged. The second variation is without these blemishes. (Both variations also appear on the unoverprinted aerogrammes: the first may be earlier as the flaws also appear on a proof of the (unoverprinted) aerogramme in my collection.)

TONY CHILTON of Britain, who has often visited South Africa in the past, is actively interested in many aspects of its philately. He is currently the membership secretary of the SA Collectors' Society, and chairman of the Transvaal Study Circle.

His monograph *The Pictorial Postal Stationery Cards of the Union of South Africa* appeared as a supplement to the January-/Februray 1992 issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

Ganse Type 3 (H&G 22/23) is illustrated at Fig. 2. As well as the POSVRY VANAF MAGTE inscription being longer (at 52 mm) than Type 2, the distance between the four bars on the stamp and the block obliterator on the back of the opened-up aerogramme is 76,5 mm, 3 mm more than in Type 2. My example is on very pale yellowish paper with the micro-printing inside scarely visible.

Ganse Type 4 may be a variation of H&G 24 which is shown at Fig. 3. The bars are 29 x 7 mm and thicker than on other types but POSVRY VANAF MAGTE is 46 mm long. The distance between the bars and the block obliterator in 76 mm. The paper of my example is the yellowish with indistinct micro-printing variety.

My example of Ganse Type 5 (H &G 23a) (see Fig. 4) is on the light emerald paper, with BRIEF KAART at the left. POSVRY VANAF MAGTE is 52 mm long and the distance between the bars and the block is 76 mm.

As for the colours of the overprinting, my examples of Ganse Type 2

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are practically ultramarine. The other types are in shades of Royal Blue. And I can report no variation in the dimensions of the obliterating block on the backs of the aerogrammes. It is uniformly 122,5 x 14 mm.

I can confirm the Findlay/Ganse statement that when the stocks of these overprinted aerogrammes were recalled in January 1953, British Forces Letter forms were used "which had to be franked with British stamps".

I have a letter from Capt. Oliver who was Chaplain with 2 Squadron SAAF. On 31 January 1953 he wrote from SAPO 5301 "The SA letter sheet has been withdrawn and we are not allowed to use them anymore. We are now using the British air letter sheet with a British 2½d stamp." This must mean an adhesive stamp as there were no British aerogrammes of this value.

Although the South African forces in Korea were able to make use of the Field Post Offices of the other UN contingents, a letter from the previous SAAF Chaplain in Korea, Capt. Scott Shaw, dated 6 April 1952 states that the overprinted South African aerogrammes were only valid to the Union of South Africa. ■

(Editor's footnote: Fortuitously, a copy of Capt MF Stern's *South African Airmails* [ca 1970] came to hand, from which have been extracted all the entries relating to the SAAF's Korean campaign. It would seem useful to have them published here. The numbers for each entry are those assigned by the author in his chronological listing.)

270

August 14, 1948: First Internal South African Air Letter Sheet: The imprinted stamp design depicts General Botha's statue with the Union Buildings at Pretoria in the background. Value of stamp was 1½ d. Stamps reads "Posseel" (sic) (Kessler Nos. 401 & 402). These were also overprinted for use by the S.A.A.F. serving with the United Nations Forces in Korea in 1950-52, and are listed under Korea by the Kessler Catalogue. (101-106).

295

November 16, 1950: S.A.A.F. in Korea: No. 2 Squadron under the command of Commandant S. van B. Theron, consisting of 49 officers and 157 other ranks, sailed from Durban for

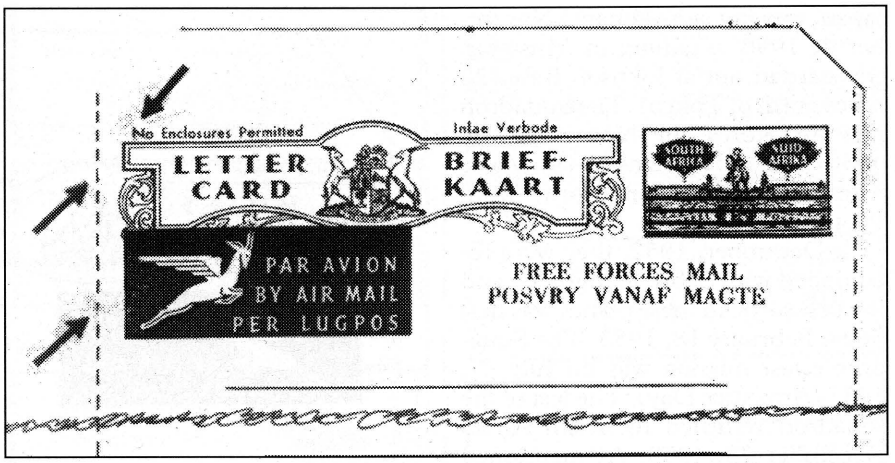


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

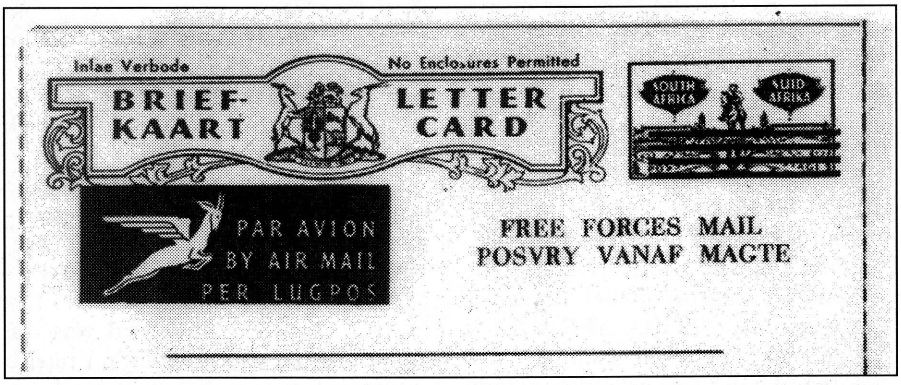


Fig. 3

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Japan, arriving at Yokohama November 4, 1950. Training in Mustangs was carried out at Johnson Base (20 miles north of Tokyo). The Squadron flew to Korea on November 16, 1950, and on November 19, Major Theron made the first sortie from Pyongyang.

In December, 1952, they were re-equipped with Sabre Jet fighters, and the first sortie in these planes was made on February 18, 1953. The Squadron's last mission was on July 27, 1953 (Armistice Day). The last of the squadron returned to South Africa December 23, 1953. As mentioned before, 86 400 Union of South Africa 1½d. inland letter cards were overprinted in Pretoria for use of the members of the Squadron. The value was obliterated by bars and printed 'Free Forces Mail/Posvry Vanaf Magte'. Six different types were issued. This free postage concession was withdrawn in January, 1953. (Kessler's Nos. Korea 101-106).

317

December 15, 1952: Korea: S.A.A.F. Air Concession –

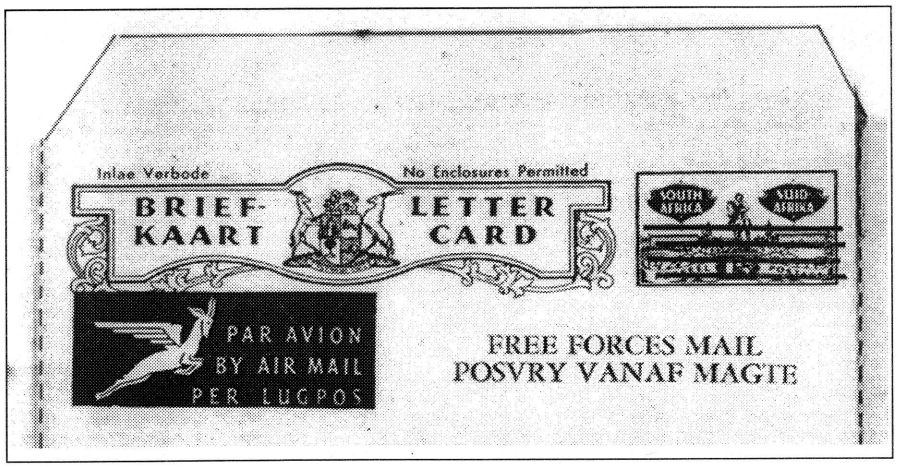


Fig. 4

Aerograms:
This concession was withdrawn and mail arrived from Korea, franked 2½ d. and cancelled F.P.O. 98. This was special Active Service Mail. Letters posted December 21 in Korea arrived at Cape Town, December 29, 1952.

318

1953: Korea: S.A.A.F.:

Outgoing mail from Korea was dispatched from A.P.O. 970, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California, using a British Forces Letter which required 2½d. franking. Letters to the S.A.A.F., however, had to be addressed 'S.A.O.P. 5301 Far East Forces'. The forces were then part of the 18th Fighter Bomber Wing. On February 18, 1953, the writer received an unfranked letter from Capt. J.A. Oliver marked 'Soldiers Free Air Mail'. This arrived at Cape Town on March 5, so that it was probably routed by surface mail.

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

Stralende pret met slagspreuke

DIE skrywer was die eerste om lesers van *The SA Philatelist* deeglik in te lig oor Imaje inkstraalrojering, met 'n omvattende artikel in die uitgawe van Junie 1995, p 66. Hy is gepas daarvoor vereer met 'n toekenning by die Federasie se 57ste Kongres. Meer besonderhede oor hom en ander onderwerpe waaroor hy al geskryf het, het saam met daardie artikel verskyn.

AS die Woltone die Vaalpense wil omkrap, dan vertel hulle die storie dat tydens die Groot Trek, toe die trekkers by die Vaalrivier kom, was daar 'n kennisgewing wat lees "Geen Toegang Nie" en dié wat kon lees het omgedraai. Met ander woorde slegs die onbelese het deurgegaan.

Of dit 'n wolhaarstorie is al dan nie, moet u maar self besluit nadat u verder gelees het – dit wil sê as u kan lees.

Met die ingebruikneming van inkstraalseëlrojeerders in Johannesburg (anderkant die Vaal) op 1 Februarie 1995 is "ROJERING" korrek gespel met een "E" (Fig. 1). In Fig. 2 is dit egter met twee "E's" en word "IN RSA" weggelaat.

Tydens "RUGBY 95" is "AFRICA" op 6 Junie korrek gespel met 'n "C" (Fig. 3) maar die volgende dag is dit met 'n "K" (Fig. 4). Ook moes die slagspreukdatum "25 MAY-24 JUNE" lees en nie " - 29 JUNE". Die Afrikaanse slagspreuk het die regte datums maar "SUID AFRIKA" is sonder 'n koppelteken (Fig. 5).

Iemand het dit seker onder iemand se aandag gebring want met "WERELDRUGBYKAMPIOENE" het beide "SOUTH-AFRICA" en "SUID-AFRIKA" 'n koppelteken (Fig. 6 en 7).

Met "VOORKOM VIGS" is die maand eers foutief as "OCT" afgekort met die jaar "1995" (Fig. 8). Later is die afkorting "OKT" korrek maar die jaar is slegs "95" (Fig. 9).

Gedurende September 1995 is die nuwe "WITSPOS" posbeheersentrum in Ormonde in gebruik geneem. Wel, as die Kapenaars dan "CAPE-MAIL" het wat anders as "WITS-MAIL". Na verneem word was dié benaming net gebruik met 'n Engelse slagspreuk en was dit van korte duur.

"WITSPOS" word nou gebruik vir



Fig. 1

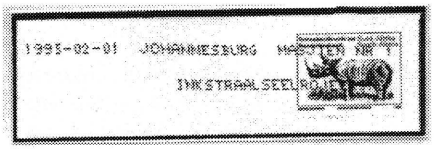


Fig. 2

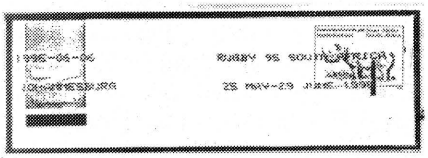


Fig. 3

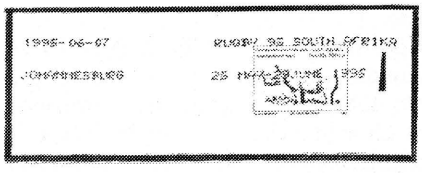


Fig. 4

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beide Engels en Afrikaans. Die vroegste datum gesien van "WITSMAIL", is Sondag 3 September 1995 (Fig. 10).

Oktober, alhoewel die mooiste, mooiste maand, bly maar 'n doring in die vlees want met "PLANT N BOOM" (sonder afkappingsteken) word dit weer eens eers "OCT" en daarna "OKT" gespel (Fig. 11 en 12) . Pretoria kon darem die afkappingsteken in hulle slagspreuk insluit (Fig. 13).

Die "TOTAL" uitstalling het ook sy probleme gehad. In Fig. 14 is "95" voor "ALBERTON" en "19-21" voor die maand. In Fig. 15 ontbreek "95" en is "19-21" ná die maand. Om verwarring te voorkom met "Oktober" word dit nou slegs as "10" in die drukdatum gebruik.

Alfa letters pleks van syfers vir die maand word voortgesit met "GEBRUIK POSKODES", maar helaas is "POST CODES" twee woorde (Fig. 16) en as 'n meevallertjie word dit oor die venster van die koevert en nie oor die seël gedruk.

Met die vrome slagspreuk "POST CHRISTMAS MAIL EARLY" is die woord "POS" in die Afrikaanse weergawe weggelaat (Fig. 17). Pretoria (Fig. 18) asook Capemail het darem die noodsaaklikheid vir die woord gesien.

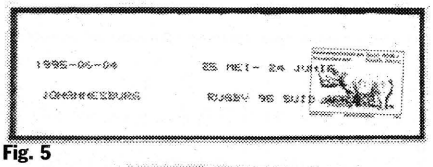
Pretoria, daardie groot bakermat van staatsamptenare wat so gesteld is op die taal, is ook skuldig aan 'n blaps of twee. Alhoewel "ROJERING" korrek gespel was, "POSTCODES" een woord is en "SUID-AFRIKA" 'n koppelteken het, word "JUNE" plek van "JUNIE" gebruik tydens "RUGBY '95" (Fig. 19).

Met die Engelse slagspreuk het dinge sommer lekker agterstevoor gegaan (Fig. 20) en met "NATIONAL STAMP WEEK" word die drukdatum weggelaat (Fig. 21).

Nou ja, hoe het dit gevorder met die belese mense wat omgedraai het? Daar kan nie veel fout gevind word nie, maar in Fig. 22 is daar geen afkappingsteken voor "E" maar wel in Fig. 23. Volgens Dick Klein (*The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1995, p169) was die "E" ook weggelaat.

In Fig. 24 is die drukdatum "1995" maar in Fig. 25 is dit "95" en is "CHRISTMAS-MAIL" een woord (Fig. 26).

Dit is mos 'n bekende feit dat Kapenaars niks oorlaat vir môre as dit nie ook die dag daarna gedoen kan word nie, en met al hierdie uitstellery


Fig. 5

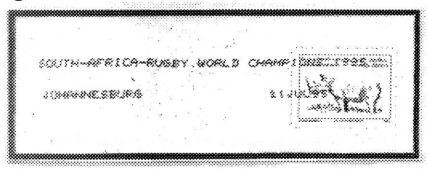

Fig. 6


Fig. 7

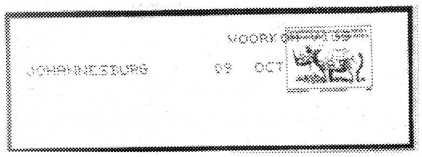
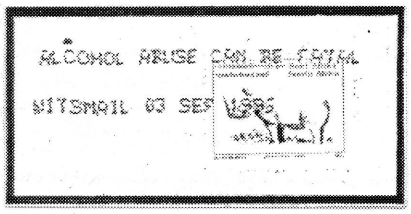
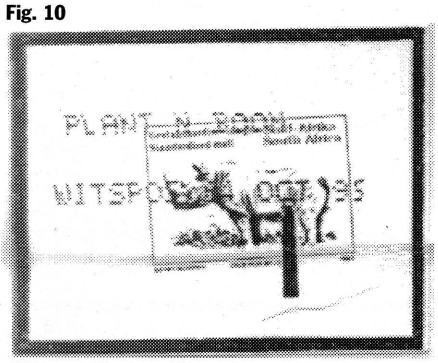

Fig. 8


Fig. 9


Fig. 10


Fig. 11

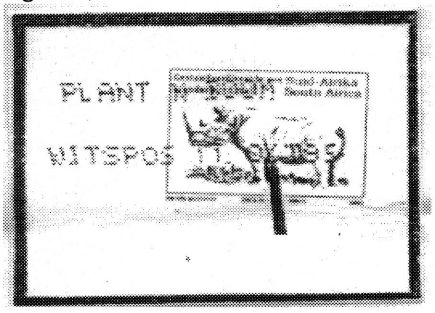
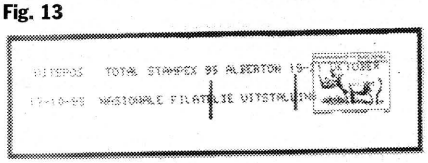
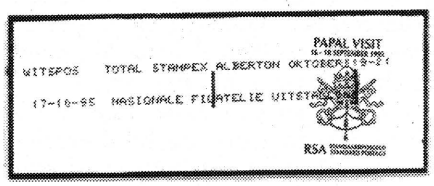

Fig. 12


Fig. 13


Fig. 14


Fig. 15

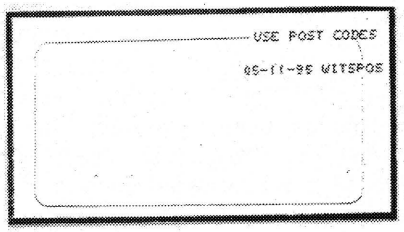
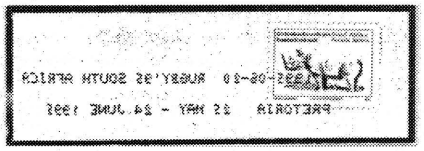
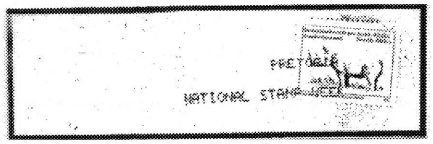

Fig. 16


Fig. 17


Fig. 18


Fig. 19


Fig. 20


Fig. 21

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tot oormôre het hulle nie 'n vertraging nie (Fig. 27) maar wel vertragings (Fig. 28).

Ek moet darem 'n lansie breek vir die Valies. Alhoewel hulle nie kan spel nie, is hulle ver voor met tegnologie. Volgens Fig. 29 kan jy vigs voorkom deur poskodes te gebruik, en les bes kan jy 'n boom plant (Fig. 30) vir dieselfde resultaat. Praat van wolhaarstories.

Ook is hulle ten volle tweetalig (Fig. 31 en 32) en "MPOST" (Fig. 33) is vermoedelik die voorganger van een van die ander elf amptelike tale, maar 1995 was maar 'n onderstebo jaar vir hulle (Fig. 34).

Voorafgaande is seker slegs groeipyne wat met die ingebruikneming van inkstrale in die loop van 1995 ondervind is. Vanjaar behoort 'n "groot" verbetering te toon, aangesien ons nou volgens "GROOTTE" (twee "T"s, Fig. 35) of "GROOTE" (een "T", Fig. 36) betaal. Die wat dit nie kan bekostig nie, hoef nie te betaal nie ("BETAAL" ontbreek, Fig. 37). En dit nogal alles op dieselfde dag – 07-02-96.

Dit is ook haas tyd dat Pretoria aanpas by benamings soos "CAPEMAIL" en "WITSPOS". "PRETORIA" klink so vaal, en aangesien hulle reeds 'n POSPARK het, behoort "JAKARANDAPOS" darem bietjie meer kleur te verleen.

Of wat van "PRETPOS" (PRET [ORIA]POS) of klink dit te veel na 'n lawwe grap? ■

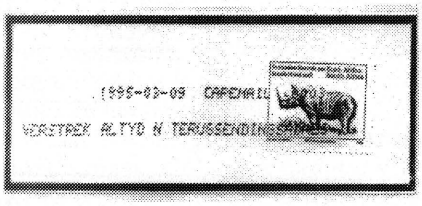


Fig. 22

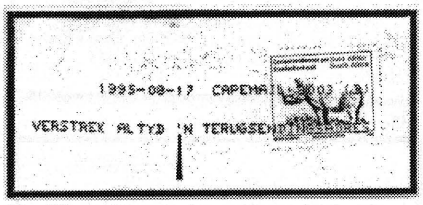


Fig. 23



Fig. 24

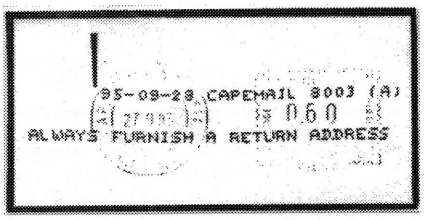


Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27

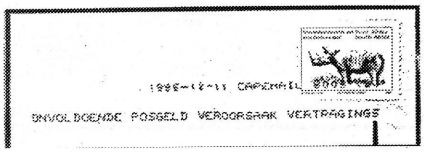


Fig. 28

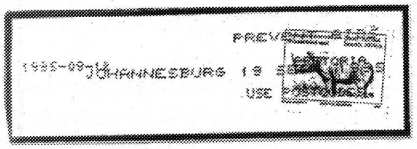


Fig. 29

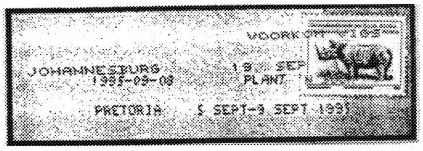


Fig. 30

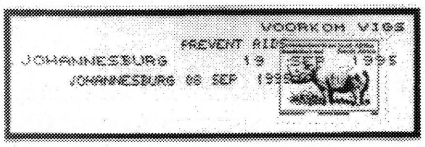


Fig. 31

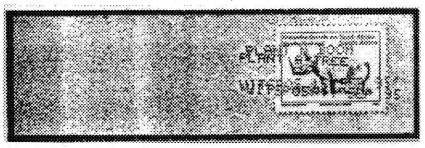


Fig. 32



Fig. 33

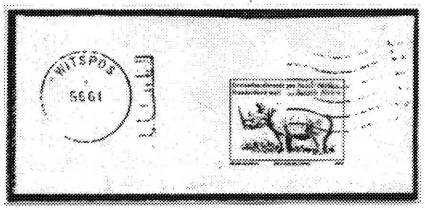


Fig. 34

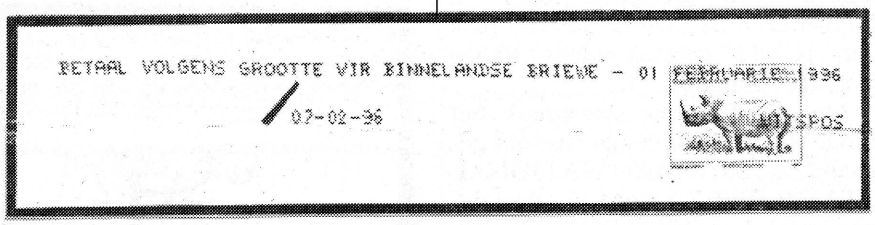


Fig. 35



Fig. 36

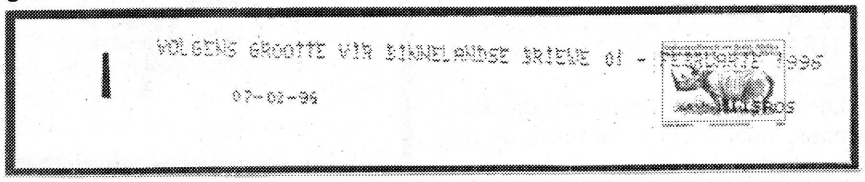


Fig. 37

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

Censored WW II mail from Switzerland

HAVING read the article by George van den Hurk RDPSA, on two covers addressed to Switzerland from South Africa during World War II (*The SA Philatelist*, December 1995, p195) reminded me of two covers in my collection from the same period, but sent from Switzerland to South Africa. These two covers make very interesting postal history, and this article forms the basis of an enquiry.

The two covers shown, were sent from Switzerland to South Africa in 1943 and 1944 respectively, one sent registered air mail and the other regular surface mail.

The first, Fig. 1, tied by the 1943 Pro Juventute 30+10 centime single stamp was sent from Geneva on 16 March 1944 by regular mail to Johannesburg, South Africa and was originally destined to be routed via England to South Africa. However, it was clearly redirected via Portugal. (Both Switzerland and Portugal were neutral countries in enemy-occupied Europe).

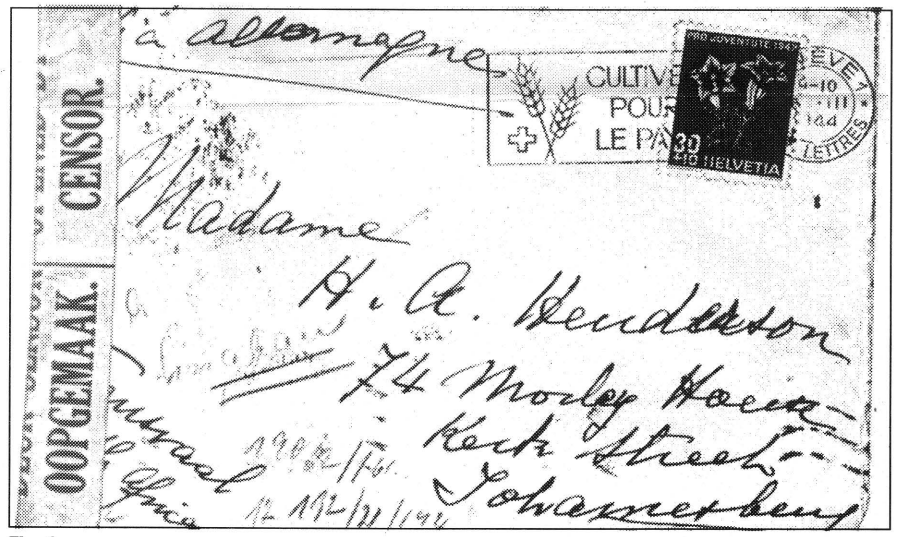


Fig. 1

Note the blue pencil deleting the words "Via Allemagne" and redirected "Via Lissabon". Fig. 2 shows the cover clearly backstamped with both machine and hand-stamp cancellers at the Lisbon Central P. Office on 17 May 1944.

The cover had been passed after being opened and inspected by both the Nazi and South African censors. My questions are:

a) At what stage during its travels did the cover receive the German censor markings? and b) Why did it take approximately two months to travel from Geneva to Lisbon?

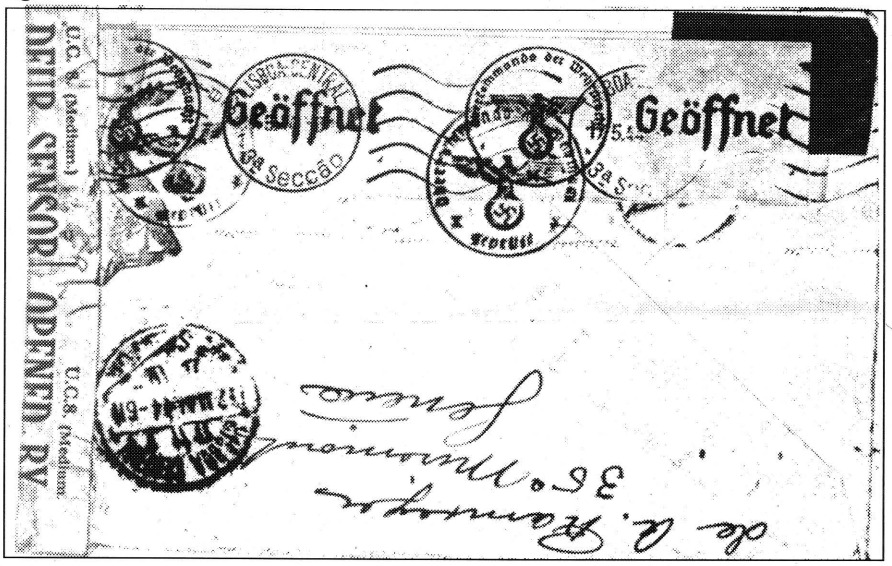


Fig. 2

The second cover, Fig. 3, is a registered air mail item sent from Geneva to a firm in Pretoria, tied by stamps with a value of SF 3,60 which presumably was the registered air mail rate at the time. The cover weighed 10 grams.

It was posted in Geneva on 2 June 1943, and as can be seen clearly, sent via Basel 2, written in blue pencil.

However, this is where the mystery deepens!

The reverse of this cover, Fig. 4, shows that it travelled to the United States of America. First it went to New York, and there the registered canceller was applied on 28 July 1943. Then it was flown to Miami,

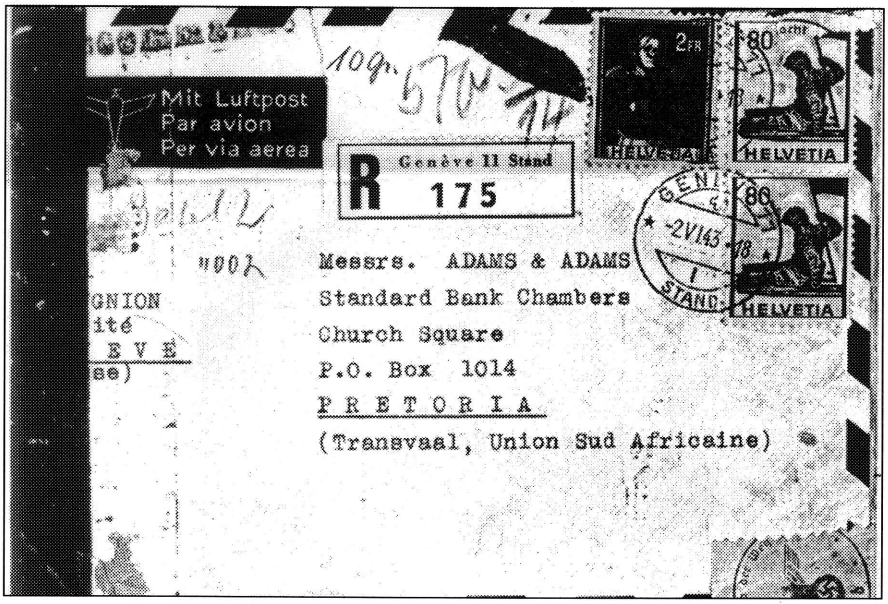


Fig. 3

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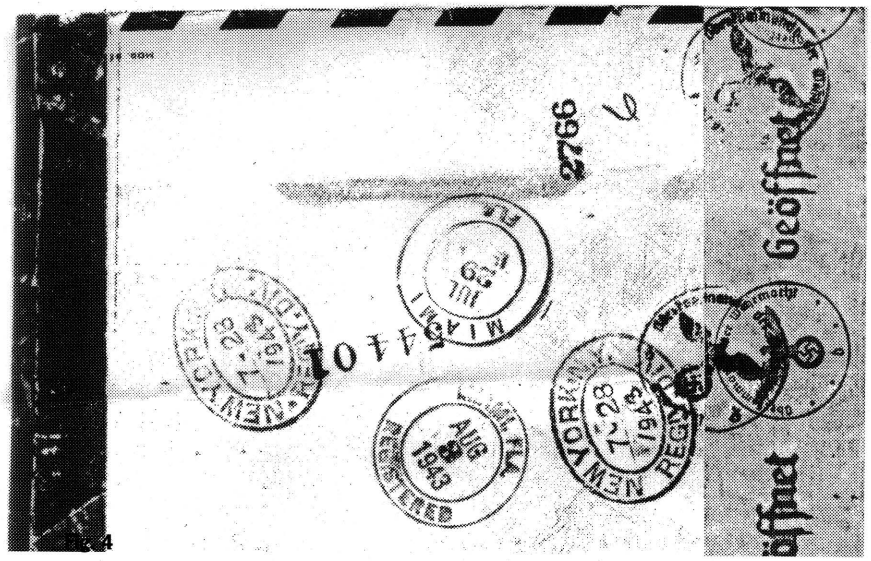
Florida where both the regular and the registration hand cancellers were applied on 29 July 1943 and 3 August 1943 respectively.

My questions regarding this cover are the following:

a) Why was the cover sent to America and not South Africa?

b) At what point was the cover intercepted by the Germans and their censor markings applied?

and c) Was the American censor marking sufficient to allow the South African censors to let the cover go through uninspected? ■



■ **ANTON DE KLERK** *Boksburg Filatelievereniging*

Seëls tydens die 1995 Wêreldbeker Rugbytoernooi

DIE derde Wêreldbekerrugbytoernooi is gedurende Mei en Junie 1995 in Suid-Afrika aangebied, en die Springbokke het vir die eerste keer sedert die instelling van hierdie toernooi in 1987 die geleentheid gekry om hul staal teen die wêreld se beste rugbyspanne te toon. Elke deelnemende land het sy hoogte- en laagtepunte gehad. Seker dié hoogtepunte van die 1995 toernooi was die Bokke se deelname onder die slagspreuk "One Team One Nation", President Mandela se entoesiasme en "deelname" en die Springbokke se oorwinning oor Nieu-Seeland na ekstra speeltyd, danksy Joel Stransky.

Seker dié laagtepunt van die toernooi moet die besering van Max Brito wees, vleuel van die Ivoorkus, opgedoen in die wedstryd teen Tonga te Rustenburg.

Die 16 lande wat vir die 1995 Wêreldbekerrugbytoertooi gekwalifiseer het, was die volgende : Argentinië, Australië (die verdedigende kampioen), Engeland, Frankryk, Ierland, Italië, Ivoorkus, Japan, Kanada, Nieu-Seeland (wenner van die 1987 toernooi), Roemenië, Skotland, Suid-Afrika, Tonga, Wallis en Wes-Samoa. In die eindstryd wat op 24 Junie 1995 te Ellispark gespeel is, het Suid-Afrika, teen die meeste mense se verwagting in, met 15-12 oor Nieu-Seeland geseëvier, en daarmee die gesogte William Webb Ellis-trofee, sowel as die voorreg om vir die volgende vier jaar as die wêreldkampioen op die rugbyveld te draf, verower.

DIE skrywer is 'n regsadviseur by Transnet, en versamel buiten rugby- en krieketseëls ook Suid-Afrika en Namibië, en EDKs van die SA Lugdiens en die SA Lugmag.

Anton de Klerk se vorige artikels in *The SA Philatelist* was "Sport op Suider-Afrika se Seëls" (September/ Oktober/ November 1992, p142, en ook "Rugby Stamps since July 1992", Desember 1993, p180.

Seëls ter herdenking van die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi

Posadministrasies van verskeie lande het nie op hulle laat wag nie, en dit was ook nie lank nie, voor die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi as 'n tema wat moontlik op seëls kan verskyn, erken en daadwerklik ontgin is.

Die eerste land wat seëls ter herdenking van die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi die lig laat sien het, was Ierland op 6 April 1995. Hierdie uitgifte het bestaan uit 2 seëls en 1 miniatuurvel (Fig. 1, 2 en 3). Die motief op dié seëls is onderskeidelik rugbywedstryde tussen Ierland en Australië en Ierland en Engeland. Die seël wat die rugbywedstryd tussen Ierland en Engeland uitbeeld, verskyn ook op die miniatuurvel.

Kort op die hakke van bogenoemde uitreiking, het 'n seël van Andorra op 22 April 1995 verskyn (Fig. 4). Hierdie seël het as motief 'n rugbyspeler wat met 'n bal hardloop, rugbypale en 'n wêreldkaart. Dit mag moontlik nie algemeen bekend wees nie, maar Andorra is 'n lid van die Internasionale Rugbyraad en is in die kwalifiserende rondtes vir die 1995 toernooi uitgeskakel.

Kwalifisering vir die toernooi het reeds in 1993 in Andorra 'n aanvang geneem toe Andorra vir Denemarke in die eerste kwalifiseringswedstryd met 3-0 verslaan het! Wie weet, moontlik neem Andorra in die toekoms ook wel aan 'n Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi deel?

Suid-Afrika, as die gasheerland, het op 25 Mei 1995, dieselfde dag waarop Suid-Afrika in die openingswedstryd Australië teen alle verwagtinge met 27-18 oorwin het, drie seëls en 'n miniatuurvel die lig laat sien. (Daar is oorspronklik deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor Beperk adverteer dat slegs 1 seël die lig sou sien, maar dit het egter nie plaasgevind nie). Die twee standaardposgeldseëls (60c elk), een vertikaal en een horisontaal, toon 'n rugbyspeler in volle vaart met 'n bal teen skadufigure in die agtergrond. Die R1,15 posgeldseël toon 'n lynuitbeelding van 'n skrum en twee rugbyspelers in volkleur. Die vertikale standaardposgeldseël verskyn ook op die miniatuurvel, wat as agtergrond 'n to-

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neel uit die rugbywedstryd van die vorige eeu, naamlik "The Last Scrum", uitbeeld. (Aangesien hierdie materiaal volledig geïllustreer is in *The SA Philatelist*, April 1995, p52; Junie 1995, voorblad en pp79 en 81; Augustus 1995, pp116 en 117; en Oktober 1995, p135 ff., word dit nie hier herhaal nie.)

Die SA Poskantoor Beperk het myns insiens, met respek, met hierdie uitreiking in 'n slaggat getrap aangesien die woorde "Rugby World Cup 1995 Wêreldbekerrugby" op die boonste rande van die velle seëls (wat uit tien seëls per vel bestaan), aangebring is. Dit beteken gevolglik dat versamelaars verplig is om velle seëls te koop ten einde hierdie versameling volledig te bekom. Sodanige optrede was na my mening onnodig!

Dink 'n mens aan Wes-Samoa en die kwarteindwedstryd wat op 10 Junie 1995 tussen Wes-Samoa en die Springbokke te Ellis Park plaasgevind het, en wat die Springbokke 42-14 gewen het, kom onder meer die volgende na vore:

Chester Williams se Suid-Afrikaanse rekord van 4 drieë in 'n toets; en

Mike Umaga (heelagter) se onwettige hoogvat op André Joubert en sy daaropvolgende skorsing vir 60 dae.

Rugby speel 'n belangrike rol in Wes-Samoa. In sommige gevalle is dit 'n persoon se enigste paspoort om die eiland te verlaat en byvoorbeeld in Australië of Nieu-Seeland rugby te gaan speel! Op 25 Mei 1995 het Wes-Samoa ook 'n stel van vier rugbyseëls die lig laat sien. Hierdie seëls beeld die volgende uit.

Onder 12- rugby ontwikkeling in Wes-Samoa (Fig. 5).

Hoërskoolrugby ontwikkeling in Wes-Samoa (Fig. 6);

Wes-Samoa v Nieu-Seeland (Fig. 7); en

Ellispark rugbystadion, waar die 1995 Wêreldrugbybeker finaal op 24 Junie 1995 gespeel is. Dit is dan ook die eerste keer dat hierdie stadion op 'n seël uitgebeeld is (Fig. 8).

Tonga, wat ook in die begin van die 1995 rugbyseisoen in die Topsport Super 10 rugbykompetisie gespeel het, en waar rugby 'n uiters belangrike rol in die samelewing daar vervul, het twee miniatuurvelle op 20 Junie 1995 die lig laat sien. Beide miniatuurvelle bevat vier afsonderlike seëls (waarvan 2 op elke miniatuurvel identies is), en dui Tonga rugbyspelers in aksie aan. Tonga het, net soos

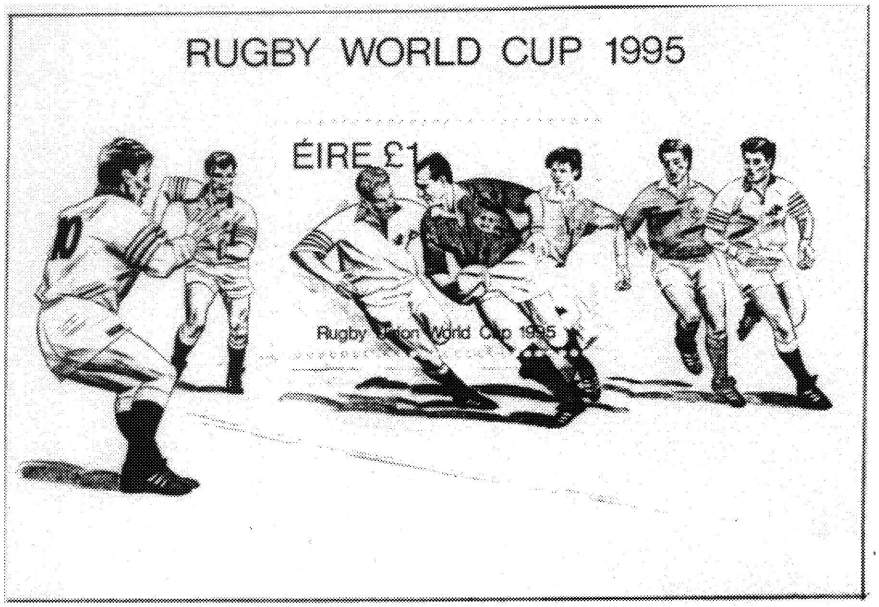


Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

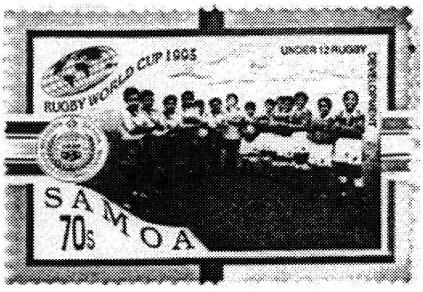


Fig. 6

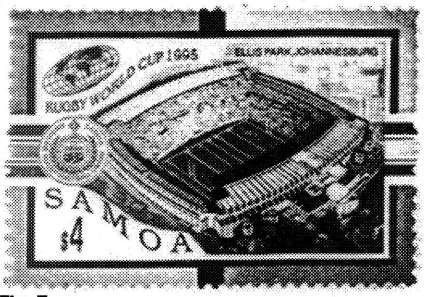


Fig. 7

Suid-Afrika, die woorde "RUGBY WORLD CUP 1995" en "SOUTH AFRICA" daaronder, op die boonste rand van die twee miniatuurvelle aangebring (Fig. 9 en Fig. 10).

Die SA Poskantoor Beperk het ná Suid-Afrika se oorwinning nie op hom laat wag nie, en op 28 Junie 1995 het twee verdere standaardpos-



Fig. 8

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geldseëls die lig gesien. Hierdie seëls herdenk Suid-Afrika se oorwinning vier dae tevore en op die een seël, wat as motief 'n rugbyspeler in volle vaart met 'n rugbybal bevat, verskyn die bewoording "WORLD CHAMPIONS 1995 WÊRELDKAMPIOENE" terwyl die ander seël 'n blondekop rugbyspeler uitbeeld (wat seker maar net die Springbok kaptein François Pienaar kan wees), wat die William Webb Ellis trofee omhoog hou.

Op die boonste rande van hierdie velle seëls, wat ook uit tien seëls per vel bestaan, is ook "Rugby World Cup 1995 Wêreldbekerrugby" aangebring. In hierdie geval het die SA Poskantoor Beperk egter veel verder gegaan en die uitdrukking "Viva Ma-Bokoboko!" met die Springbokrugbywapen aan weerskante daarvan, op beide syrande aangebring. Dus weer eens is die versamelaar verplig om beide velle seëls aan te koop ten einde sy versameling volledig te hê.

Verskeie bekende rugbyspelende lande, soos byvoorbeeld Engeland, Australië, Nieu-Seeland en Argentinië het nagelaat om enige rugbyseëls uit te reik. In die geval van Engeland en Nieu-Seeland is dit waarskynlik te danke aan die feit dat hierdie twee lande verkies het om die eeufees van beroepsrugby ("rugby league"), te herdenk.

Nieu-Seeland het dan reeds sy stel beroepsrugbyseëls op 26 Julie 1995 uitgereik, terwyl Engeland se stel beroepsrugbyseëls op 3 Oktober 1995 die lig sien.

Posstempels ter herdenking van die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi

Die SA Poskantoor Beperk het die Suid-Afrikaanse filateliemark totaal en al met posstempels oorstroom. Met inagneming van die stempel wat op 28 Junie 1995 die lig gesien het, het daar 'n totaal van 35 die lig gesien: naamlik een vir elke wedstryd!

Die motief van die onderskeie rugbyvelde het dieselfde gebly: net die datum waarop die wedstryd gespeel is, het telkens verander. Vir die openingswedstryd het daar buiten die Nuweland posstempel, ook twee ander posstempels die lig gesien. In kort kan die verskeie 1995 Wêreldbekerrugby se posstempels soos volg opgesom word:

Nuweland Rugby Stadion, Kaapstad 4
Vrystaat Stadion, Bloemfontein 3



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

Kings Park, Durban 5
Basil Kenyon Stadion, Oos-Londen 3
Ellispark, Johannesburg 5
Loftus Versfeld, Pretoria 5
Boet Erasmus Stadion, Port Elizabeth 3
Olympiapark, Rustenburg 3

TOTAAL 35

Of die uitreiking van so 'n groot aantal posstempels ter herdenking van die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi 'n positiewe bydrae tot filatelie gemaak het, is te betwyfel. *Drie* posstempels vir een wedstryd, naamlik die openingswedstryd op 25 Mei 1995 is, met respek, totaal en al onnodig. Tot tyd en wyl die teendeel bewys kan word, kan ek maar net aanvaar dat die groot aantal posstempels slegs vir finansiële gewin uitgereik is. (Posstempels van ander lande word buite rekening gelaat.)

Bo en behalwe die bogenoemde posstempels, het die SA Poskantoor Beperk dit ook goed geag om slagspreuke met 'n rugby-inslag deur inkstraalrojering op koeverte te gebruik gedurende die periode wat die Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi aangebied is, en nadat Suid-Afrika die Wêreldrugbybeker gewen het in gebruik geneem. (Sien *The SA Philatelist*, Augustus 1995, p103 en Desember 1995, p168.)

Die rugbyslagspreuk wat gedurende die Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi in gebruik was, het soos volg in Afrikaans gelui:

[Datum] 25 MEI - 24 JUNIE
[Stad/dorp] RUGBY 95 SUID AFRIKA;

en soos volg in Engels gelui:

[Datum] RUGBY 95 SOUTH AFRICA
[Stad/dorp] 25 MAY – 24 JUNE 1995.

(Die "1995" ontbreek wel in die Afrikaanse slagspreuk, terwyl die woord "Suid-Afrika" ook sonder 'n koppelteken in die slagspreuk gebruik word).

Stede waar hierdie slagspreuk in gebruik was, is, sover my kennis strek, Johannesburg, Pretoria en by Capemail. Die stempel is ook sonder die naam van 'n bepaalde dorp/stad gebruik.

Op 26 Junie 1995 het die Jeppestraat poskantoor te Johannesburg, die volgende slagspreuk in gebruik geneem (in Afrikaans sowel as in Engels):

"SUID-AFRIKA – WÊRELDRUGBYKAMPIOENE 1995
[Dorp/stad] [Datum]" en;
"SOUTH-AFRICA – RUGBY WORLD CHAMPIONS 1995
[Dorp/stad] [Datum]".

(Die woorde "wêreld" en "South Africa" is ook foutief gespel).

Ander plekke waar hierdie stempel in gebruik was, was Pretoria, Capemail en 'n stempel sonder enige dorp-/stad se naam.

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Gevolgtrekking

Die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi moes vir die filatelis van rugbyseëls en -posstempels 'n hoogtepunt gewees het, aangesien rugby as 'n rëel nie te dikwels op seëls voorkom nie. Sedert 1944 (toe die wêreld se eerste rugbyseël uitgereik is), tot ná afloop van die 1995 Wêreldbeker rugbytoernooi, het ongeveer 130 rugbyseëls en miniatuurvelle (insluitend seëls wat indirek met die spel rugby verband hou), wêreldwyd die lig gesien.

Dit is dus gevolglik nog redelik maklik om met die versameling van rugbyseëls as 'n tema te begin. Glo my egter, dis nie so maklik om die seëls van sekere lande sonder heelwat probleme te bekom nie! Tog is dit juis die soektog en die vonds van daardie "ontwykende" seël wat filatelie die moeite werd maak. ■

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

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

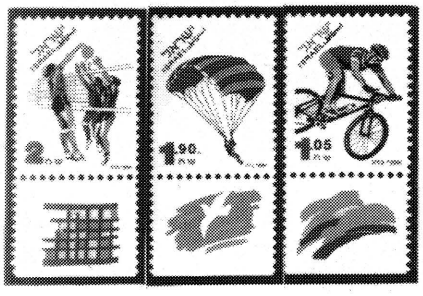
THE annual spate of Christmas issues has passed and the commemorative issues for the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations are diminishing. Now it is the turn of collectors of Olympic Games issues, or of individual sports as depicted on the no doubt numerous stamps and miniature sheets to come, to prepare themselves for the onslaught.

Once again the problem of having to purchase sets just to obtain a desirable item will arise. The range of material may cause collectors to re-think their subject. The Olympic issues will consist of the stamps of many lands – and the wisdom of one Olympics collector comes to mind. He collects only the stamps issued by the *host* country! Something to think about seriously.

On the subject of the Olympics, surely the first in line for the 1996 event was Nauru. This island issued a miniature sheet of four stamps each depicting wildlife with athletes shown on the border of the sheet as far back as September 1995! On the border is the wording "12 Months to our first Olympics" – the stamps are each valued at 60c + 15c – no doubt more to come.

The sheet is unfortunately too large to illustrate.

On the related Sports theme, Israel has released a three value set depicting Mountain Biking, Paragliding and Volleyball on the 1.05, 1.90 and 2 values respectively. Volleyball is already an Olympic sport, and Mountain Biking becomes one this year.





(Of interest regarding Paragliding is the fact that the world record for distance is held by a South African and stands at 286 km.)

. . . and lastly on sports, the European Football Championships are commemorated by the five value set from Jersey. The stamps, ranging from 19p to 60p, all depict action on a soccer field.





Southern Africa

Our neighbouring countries have in recent times issued some interesting and attractive stamps. The set from Botswana depicts the "conserved animal", the Brown Hyena. Each of the four stamps carries the Panda logo of the World Wildlife Fund, and this is the second Botswana issue to be included in the WWF Conservation Stamp Collection.

The Brown Hyena are not successful hunters and obtain much of their mammal food by scavenging. Unlike the spotted hyena which hunt in packs, the brown hyena usually travel singly or in pairs. The artist and designer of the issue is Judith Greenwood-Penny who lives in the Tuli Block.

Further to the north, in Kenya, two sets recently issued deal with "ICIPE" (parasites) and the 50th Anniversary of the UN Food & Agriculture Organisation. The first, ICIPE, depicts the Tse-tse fly on the 14/-, a Tick on the 26/- and a Wild Silk Moth on the 32/- value.

Two more insects known to South African farmers are the Maize Borer and the Locust shown on the 33/- and 40/- values respectively.

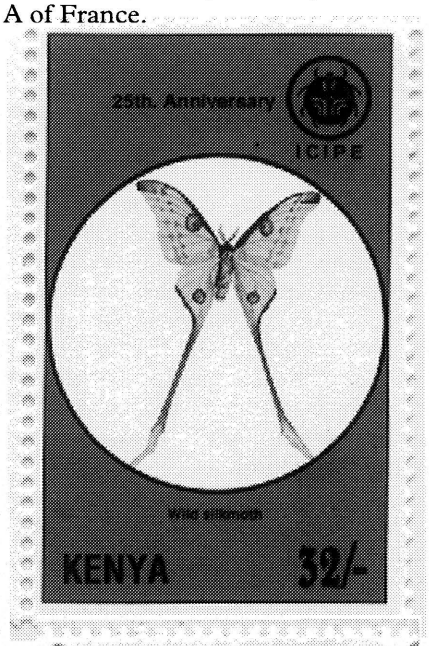
The FAO issue starts with Maize Products (two mealie cobs) on the 14/- value and then it depicts Cattle

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Rearing and Poultry Keeping on the 28/- and 32/- values respectively. The Fishing Industry and Fruits (orchard produce) are shown on the 33/- and 40/-. The set was designed by Mrs Devora Bochman.

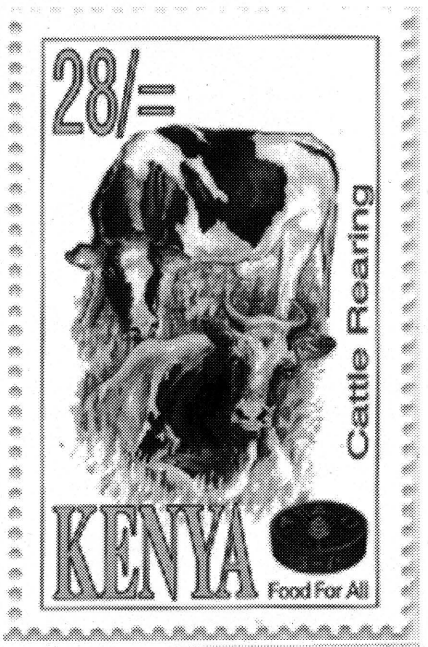
On the west coast of our continent Nigeria celebrated the centenary of the first telephone to be installed in the country with the issue of two stamps both depicting old style instruments. Printed by the Nigerian Security Printing & Minting Co Ltd, the values are N1.50 and N10.

For something very different, a move south to the island of Tristan da Cunha finds an attractive set of four stamps – two depicting the "Sub Antarctic Fur Seal" (*Arctocephalus tropicalis* 10p and 35p) and two depicting the "Southern Elephant *Seal*", *(Mirounga leonina)* on the 45p and 50p values. The set was designed by Ross Watton and printed by Cartor S A of France.





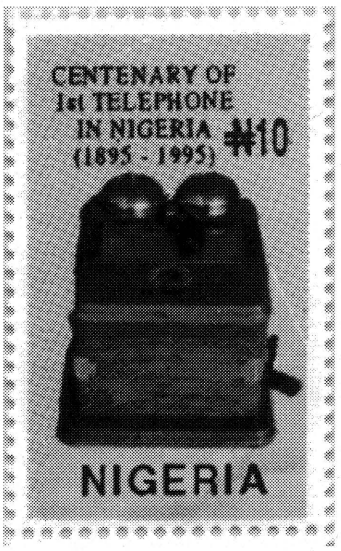






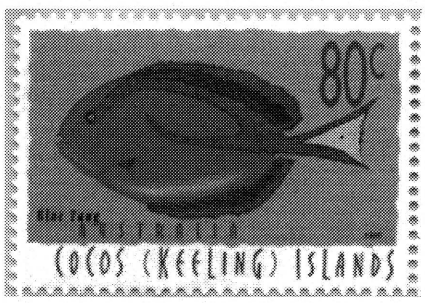






More additional definitives

The relatively new system of issuing a new definitive set in parts, two or three parts making the whole, seems to be spreading. Possibly one reason for this approach is that the amount of money spent by the collector at any one time is not too hard on the budget – "pocket friendly" in the current terminology.



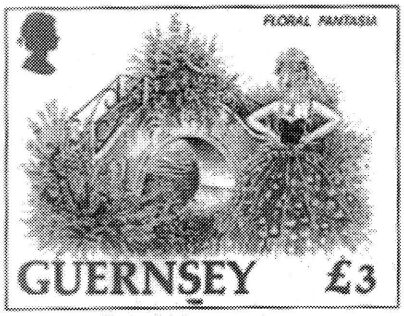
Countries which have recently added to their sets are Cocos (Keeling) Islands with three additional values –

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40c, 80c and $1.05 – to their Marine Life definitives. The Land Birds of Fiji definitive set has had the addition of the 1c, 2c, 3c, 4, 6c, 87c, $1 and $5 values.

Gibraltar also added eight more values to its Architectural Heritage set. The values ranged from 6p to £2, and here, as in the Fiji set, the retention of low value stamps in a definitive set seems to be another way of getting more from the collector!

Stamps ranging from 1c (or equivalent) to 9c can hardly be required for an actual postal rate, but maybe they serve to use up additional designs which were too good to reject.



Where a new value is introduced for a specific purpose there can be no quibble. The £3 stamp from Guernsey is an example. It has been introduced to cover a popular Priority Service rate, and showcases Floral Fantasia, an outstanding creation at a local floral exhibition.

Whether or not one approves of the theme of stars of the stage and screen, there can be no doubt as to their value to the postal authorities which issue them! A list from the U S Post Office of the most popular stamps of 1995 has the Marilyn Monroe stamp in the No 3 position with sales of 46,3 million stamps! However, Marilyn is only seventh on the All Time list which is headed by the 1993 Elvis issue – 124 million stamps! Now comes another



"Legend of the Silver Screen" – James Dean – whose likeness appears on a 32c value.

The sales value of the stars has not gone unnoticed by other countries – even Gibraltar issued two souvenir sheets featuring the film stars Ingrid Bergman, Marlene Dietrich, Marilyn Monroe, Yves Montand, Laurence Olivier, Audrey Hepburn, Romy Schneider and Vittorio De Sica on stamps with values between 5p and 38p.

The Netherlands celebrated 100 Years of Dutch Cabaret with two stamps. The 70c featured Eduard Jacobs and Jean-Louis Pisuisse, while Wim Kan and Freek de Jonge appear on the 80c value. Designed by Els Karremans of Rotterdam the stamps were printed by Joh Enschede Security Printing, Holland.

Hong Kong has also saluted its movie stars with a four value set. Only one of the actors pictured is widely known outside the Colony and he is Bruce Lee, the judo expert, who appears on the $1.20 value.

Poetry and cartoons

The Robert Burns issue by the Royal Mail on his birthday, 25 January, this year also marked the bi-centenary of

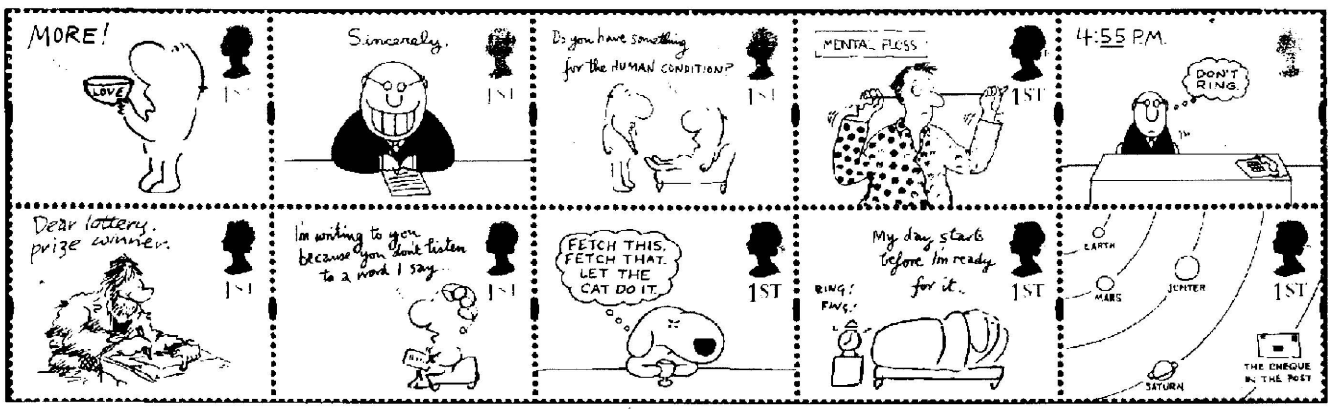


his death. The four values each feature quotations from Burns's best known works. Three are songs, and one a poem. Designed by Tayburn McIlroy Coates, the 19p bears the opening line of "To a Mouse" while the 25p has the title of one of Burns best known love songs "O my Love's like a red, red rose". The words "Scots, wha hae wi Wallace bled" on the 41p are the opening words of a song sometimes known as "Robert the Bruce's Address to his Troops at Bannockburn".

The subject of the 60p stamp is something of a paradox. "Auld Lang Syne" is probably one of the world's most widely sung songs, yet in spite of its universal popularity it has aptly been described as the song nobody knows. Even in Scotland, lines are misquoted, additional words are inserted, and terrible liberties taken with the world's great song of parting – "Should auld acquaintance be forgot" is the wording on the stamp.

Also from the Royal Mail came the delightfully humourous 1996 Greetings Stamps booklet, which consists of ten 1st class stamps, together with 20 free greetings labels. The designer, Michael Wolff, used the cartoons of several well-known artists and has produced ten lighthearted and amusing stamps.

Describing cartoons is at best a difficult job, so it is hoped that the illustration will provide some enjoyment of a novel and entertaining issue. ■



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

Postmark record/Stempelverslag

Datestamp developments

FROM now on, the name of the philatelist who submits details for an item for the feature will appear in brackets at the end of the writeup.

The Mossel Bay mobile post office datestamp herewith is unusual in that it does not include the number of the mobile office.

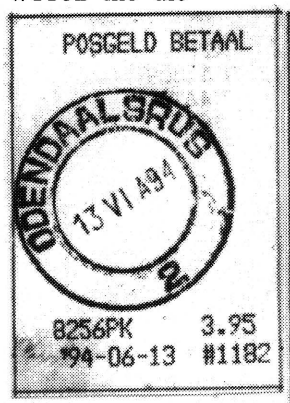


The copy of the datestamp of DIE TREMLOODS (Translation: The tram shed) appears to be a relief, and made of rubber, or a new innovation by the Post Office.

The name appears to be a renaming of the Strijdomplein post office in Pretoria, because it has the same postcode as Strijdomplein. Similar datestamp impressions numbered 2, 4, 8, 9 and 13 have been seen. **(David Allison, Teddy Whitlock)**

Toonbank register brokkies

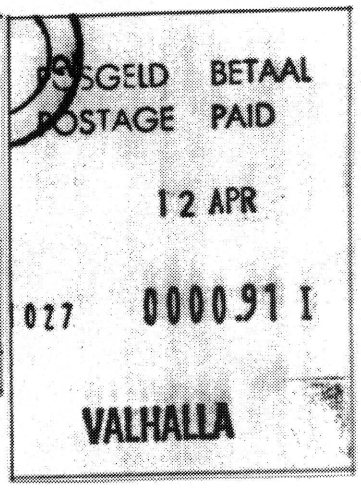
OP 13 Junie 1994 het Odendaalsrus se register nommer #1182 nie die poskantoor se naam op die kwitansie gedruk nie. Die kassier het toe die nommer 2 handstempel se afdruk daarop aangebring om die kantoor van herkoms aan te dui. **(John Hodgson)**



Wie kan vir ons sê van watter soort toonbankregister die kwitansie hierby afkomstig is? Die register het nie die jaartal gedruk nie, maar die handstempel afdruk wys dat dit in 1988 in Valhalla, buite Pretoria, in gebruik was. **(Guy Havaux)**

R-label bits

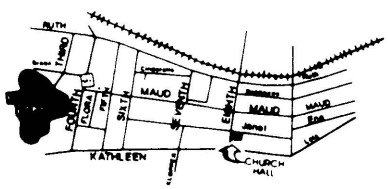
ON 27 August 1994, De Doorns near Worcester was using R-labels with the name spelled incorrectly as one word. The name De Doorns is derived from that of a farm that had already been established by 1725 in the upper reaches of the Hex River Valley.



South African Stamp Fairs
announce the
WEST RAND STAMP FAIR
N.G. CHURCH HALL
8TH AVENUE, FLORIDA SOUTH
08:30 am/vm to/tot 16:30 pm/nm
ADMISSION FREE/TOEGANG GRATIS
Tables available, dealers welcome, clubs special rates
Tafels beskikbaar, handelaars welkom, klubs spesiale tarief
CREDIT CARD FACILITIES AVAILABLE

1996 DATES/DATUM
Every Second Saturday of the Month

10 Feb * 9 Mar * 13 Apr *
11 May/Mei *8 June * 13 July/Julie *
10 Aug * 14 Sept * 12 Oct/Okt *
9 Nov * 14 Dec/Des



ENQUIRIES/NAVRAE:
TELEPHONE/SKAKEL: (011) 828-5460
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS/
LIGTE VERVERSINGS

AGENT
FOR POST OFFICE
NOW IN
ATTENDANCE

OBTAIN ALL NEW
ISSUES AT
POST OFFICE
PRICES

example:
1991 Ciskei Stars
R10-85 the set

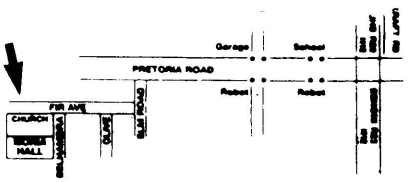
Cylinder blocks
R43.40 set

Ask for others
P O Box 6440
Homestead 1412

EAST RAND STAMP FAIR
N.G. CHURCH HALL (MORIA HALL)
BELHAMBRA ROAD/WEG,
PRIMROSE EAST/OOS,
GERMISTON
08:30 am/vm to/tot 16:30 pm/nm
ADMISSION FREE/TOEGANG GRATIS
Tables available, dealers welcome, clubs special rates
Tafels beskikbaar, handelaars welkom, klubs spesiale tarief

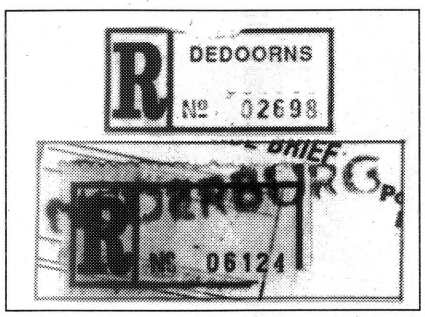
1996 DATES/DATUMS
Every Last Saturday of the Month

24 Feb * 30 Mar * 27 Apr
* 25 May/Mey *29 June *
27 July/Julie * 31 Aug * 28 Sept *
26 Oct/Okt * 30 Nov
* 27 & 28 Dec/Des



ENQUIRIES/NAVRAE:
TELEPHONE/SKAKEL: (011) 828-5460
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS/LIGTE VERVERSINGS

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On 28 June 1994, Nederburg in the Western Cape did not have R-labels with its name, and a rather worn rubber stamp was applied across blank labels. **(John Hodgson)**



Die aflosstempels

DIE afdruk wat hier gewys word is 'n aflosstempel van Queensburgh se poskantoor, langs die kus suid van Durban. Die datum is 24 Januarie 1981. Die illustrasie is onlangs eers ontvang. **(David Allison)**

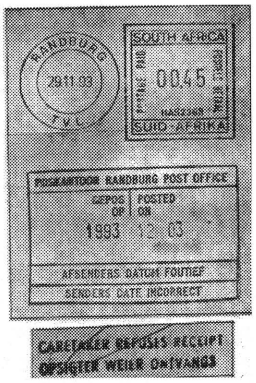


Pospapier: 'n Nuutjie

'n BRIEF wat in September 1994 van Port Elizabeth na Oos-Londen versend is, het die P 1/196 etiket daarop gehad wat hier afgedruk is. Die brief is na die straatadres van 'n maatskappy gerig.

Die poskantoor se personeel was klaarblyklik bewus daarvan dat die maatskappy 'n posbus het, en het gevolglik die etiket op die brief geplak. **(Nita Venter)**

Post Office rubber stamps



IS the Randburg post office the only one that uses a rubber stamp as illustrated? Please send an illustration if you have something similar from another office.

Note that the sender's meter frank would have you believe the item was mailed four days before it actually was. (The cheque is in the mail?)

Die geregistreerde brief vanaf Somerset West in die Wes-Kaap na 'n woonstelbewoner in Berea in Johannesburg het 'n interessante rubberstempel afdruk.

Berea is 'n voorstad met baie woonstelgeboue.

■ **WILHELM GRüTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society CT*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
April 1936
Perkins Bacon are no more

AFTER being in existence for 117 years, the fine old philatelic printing firm of Perkins, Bacon & Co Ltd is no more. Their name, of course, will never die out in philately, it being associated with so many issues of stamps, British, colonial and foreign, from the original Penny Black onwards.

Messrs Charles and Harry Nissen and Mr T Allen have purchased outright all the philatelic remains of the firm.

This includes many artists' original designs, proofs and essays, besides reference books, with numerous data of philatelic importance regarding the issue of stamps.

Most of the latter have been presented to the Royal Philatelic Society so that the information will be available to all collectors.
(News item)

30 years ago
April 1966
Robert Burns

EINDELIK het die Skotte hulle sin gekry toe Engeland op 25 Januarie 'n stelletjie van twee seëls uitgereik het (4d. en 1/3) ter ere van die alombekende Skotse digter Robert Burns (1759 - 1796). Dit het die Skotte 20 jaar se spook gekos om, soos hulle dit gestel het "die halsstarrige Sassenachs van Downing Straat" te beweeg om goedkeuring aan hulle "redelike versoeke" te verleen. Met die uitgee van die Shakespeare gedenkseëls kon Engeland die verdere Skotse aanslae nie langer afweer nie.
(NC Combrink)

60 years ago
May 1936
Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition

THE Johannesburg Publicity Association states officially that the rumour that accommodation will not be obtainable during the period of the Exhibition is untrue. But, the city will undoubtedly be crowded. . .

Make your arrangements now to spend your annual holiday in Johannesburg in November next and see the finest collection of stamps ever brought together in South Africa. Probably the greatest ever shown in the Southern Hemisphere.
(Advertisement)

30 years ago
May 1966
The 'Lobdell Sixpence' Changes Hands

THIS famous block of 30 of the King George V Sixpenny value, which is illustrated on p 44 of HE Lobdell's *The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa* found a new owner in February of this year at the disposal of Mr A Oliver Braby's collection by Wicks Stamp Agency in Durban. Some two or three years ago the piece was acquired for £200, but after spirited bidding, on this occasion it fetched R355, and the new owner was heard to declare that it would not be sold again during his lifetime.
(News item)

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Die personeel by die Yeoville Depot het seker genoeg gevalle gehad waar opsigters ontvangs van geregistreerde posstukke geweier het om die rubberstempel te laat maak. Yeoville is 'n voorstad wat aangrensend aan Berea geleë is.

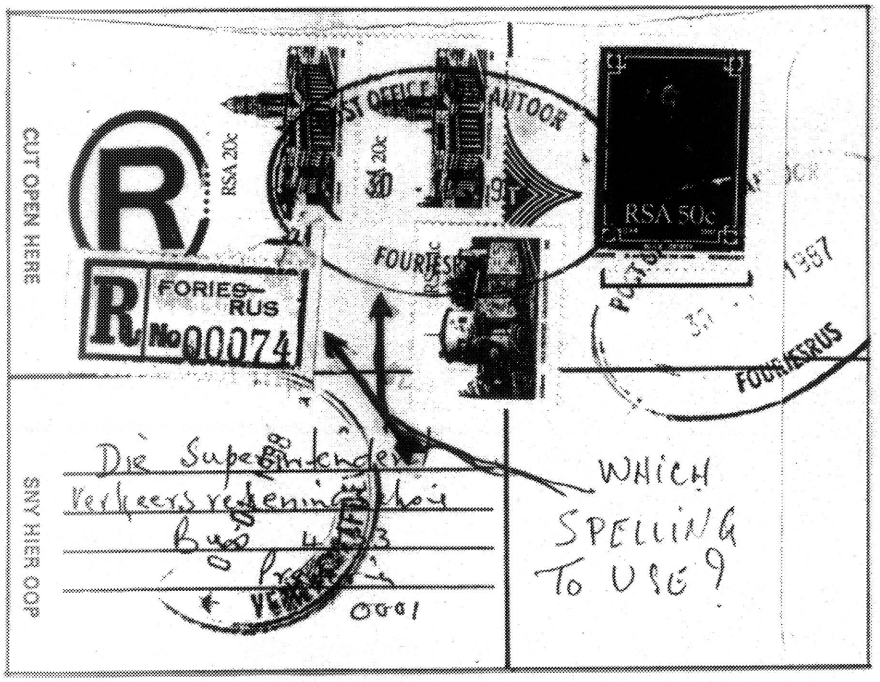
Buitengewone gebruik

FOURIESRUS, met Pretoria as hoofkantoor, het op 30 Desember 1987 om die een of ander rede 'n rubberstempel gebruik om seëls op geregistreerde items te rojeer. Sien ook die verkeerde spelling op die R-etiket. **(Guy Havaux)**



Returned Letter Office

AN item sent from Johannesburg to Kloof in Natal could not be delivered. Pinetown Depot then provided it with a rubber stamp impression to indicate that the addressee had left, and that the item had to go to the Returned Letter Office for opening to establish a return address, which had not been provided.



Die handroller rojeerders

IN die Augustus 1995 uitgawe van die rubriek (p108) het daar 'n afdruk van 'n Bloemfontein roller verskyn

WHEN LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL LOOK FOR THIS LOGO

DEAL IN CONFIDENCE THROUGH A SAPDA MEMBER

We do, from time to time, receive complaints from collectors regarding unsatisfactory business transactions. If the dealer is not a member of our Association our help for these people is, unfortunately, strictly limited.

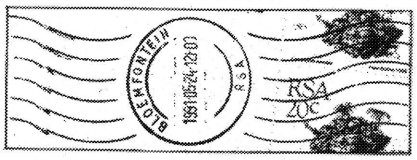
On the other hand, our members are bound by the Association's strict Code of Ethics and, whilst we support and protect our members when they are in the right, we will do all we can to ensure justice for the complainant when they are not.

LOOK FOR THE DEALER DISPLAYING THE SAPDA LOGO!
THIS IS THE PERSON YOU SHOULD BE DEALING WITH.
WE ARE THE ASSOCIATION TO WHICH THEY BELONG.

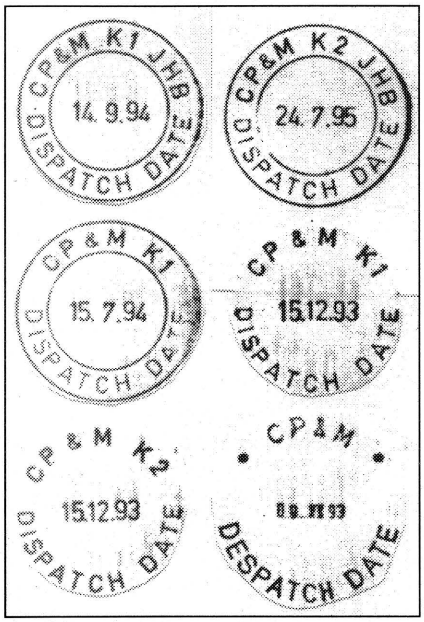
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 47285 PARKLANDS 2121

Member of International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association

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met die poskode onderaan. Die illustrasie hierby is van nog 'n Bloemfontein roller, maar hierdie een het die letters RSA onderaan.



Dispatch date on bulk mail

THE June 1995 issue of the feature also included (on p 76) an illustration of a datestamp applied to bulk mail. More details have been received of these datestamps, which all originate from mail posted by First National Bank.

Reading from left to right, top to bottom, the first datestamp has the distinguishing number K1, the next has the distinguishing number K2 (the same as that illustrated previously) and is the same type as the first.

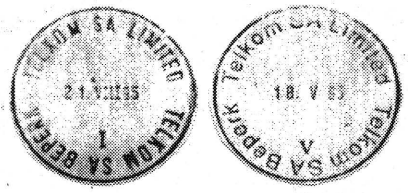
The third is similar to the first two, but does not have the letters JHB, and the next is the same, but without the concentric circles. The fifth is the same as the fourth except that it has K2. The last has the date in smaller characters than the other examples, and here the date is a mixture of Arabic and Roman numerals.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary indicates that the spelling of DESPATCH with an E is correct, although spelling it with an I is the preferred usage. **(Chris Opperman)**

Versamel munisipaliteite

DIE illustrasie hierby is van die wapen van Carolina in die Mpumalanga provinsie wat op 'n koevert gedruk is. Dit word ingesluit as 'n voorbeeld van wat in 'n versameling oor munisipaliteite se posstempels ingesluit kan word.

Baie plaaslike owerhede bring hulle naam en wapen op hulle koeverte aan. Ander weer, het besonderhede in hulle frankeermasjiene. Die wapens het natuurlik ook heraldieke betekenis om dit nog meer interessant te maak.



Telkom se eie stempels

IN die Junie 1995 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek (p76) het besonderhede verskyn van 'n datumstempel wat op die omslae van Telkom se rekeninge aangebring word. 'n Paar vrae is gestel waarop daar nou antwoorde ontvang is.

Om 'n moontlike afwyking of probleem, byvoorbeeld vertraging in die aflewering van Telkom rekeninge indien dit sou voorkom, sinvol te kan ondersoek, is dit noodsaaklik om die werklike datum van terposbesorging te kan bevestig. Deur middel van 'n hoë spoed gesofistikeerde masjien, word rekenaargedrukte Telkom rekeninge gevou, in koeverte geplaas, geseël en die spesiale datumstempelafdruk op die koevert aangebring in een deurlopende proses.

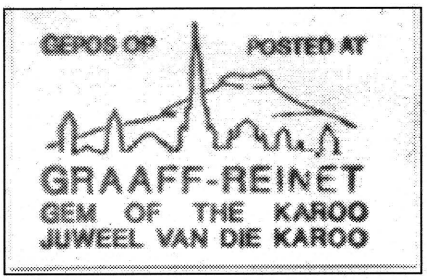
Telkom rekeninge word by twee rekenaarsentrums gedruk, naamlik Pretoria en Bellville, naby Kaapstad. Elkeen van die rekenaarsentrums beskik oor drie masjiene, en die Romeinse syfer in die datumstempelafdruk identifiseer die masjien wat die besondere rekening hanteer het.

Romeinse syfers I, II en VI word op masjiene in Pretoria gebruik, terwyl syfers III, IV en V op die masjiene in Bellville gebruik word.

Elkeen van die twee rekenaarsentrums het aanvanklik twee masjiene elk gehad – I en II in Pretoria en III en IV in Bellville. Bellville kry toe 'n derde masjien (V) en later kry Pretoria ook 'n bykomende masjien (VI).

Normaalweg word Telkom rekeninge ten opsigte van Transvaal, soos dit bestaan het toe daar net vier provinsies was, in Pretoria gedruk en die res van die land in Bellville. **(Chris Opperman)**

Die nommer III stempel is in Junie 1995 geïllustreer, en afdrukke van nommer I en nommer V verskyn hierby.



Posted at Graaff-Reinet

AN item received from Teddy Whitlock some time ago, bore a rubber stamp impression indicating that the item had been posted at Graaff-Reinet. I thought it strange that the effort should be made to apply an impression to letters because Graaff-Reinet has its own postal slogan. I wrote to Teddy to ask what the story was, after noticing that his item from Graaff-Reinet had a Port Elizabeth machine



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postmark over the postage stamp.

His answer was: "With the introduction of the hub and spoke system by the Post Office, all outgoing mail, except that addressed to Graaff-Reinet, Adendorp, Kendrew, Nieu-Bethesda, Aberdeen and Jansenville, is placed in plastic carriers (uncancelled and unsorted), weighed and dispatched 300 kilometres by road to Port Elizabeth (the hub) where it is cancelled and sorted.

"Mail to local addresses and surrounding places as listed above, is posted in a separate posting box at the post office especially erected for this mail, and items receive the machine postmark GEM OF THE KAROO. So now we are advertising Graaff-Reinet to Graaff-Reinet.

"Hence the idea of using the rubber stamp, of which we have a few and encourage businesses to use them. If a letter addressed to a Graaff-Reinet address is posted in error in the wrong postbox, it goes to Port Elizabeth, is cancelled and returned to Graaff-Reinet.

"All registered and insured mail handed in at the counters still gets the Graaff-Reinet circular datestamp impression".



And den: de jokers

PRIVATE handstamps can express many sentiments, as this boxed example shows.

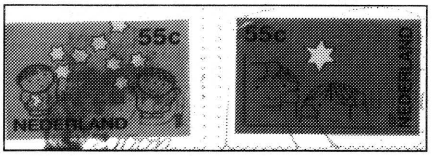
Meyer S Weitzmann of Vereeniging is responsible for this one, and his trend-setting example, together with Teddy Whitlock's, could lead to many more. **(The Editor)** ■

News and notes/Aktualiteit

Nederland se eerste selfklewende seëls

Arrie Bakker

UIT *Brepost*, nr 14/1 vir Januarie/Februarie 1996, is daar nie alleen berig van Nederland se eerste selfklewende seëls nie, maar ook hoe om dit af te week.



Die seëls was die twee "Desember Postzegels 1995" van 27 November daardie jaar. Die waarde in elke geval was 55c, en beeld kinders uit wat na 'n sterrebeeld, en die Bethlehem Ster respektiewelik kyk.

Dit is gedruk op gewone posseëlpapier met fosfor, waarvan die agterkant van die gebruiklike sintetiese gom voorsien is. Hierop is die selfklewende gom gestryk, en die geheel is op 'n spesiale silikoonpapier beskikbaar gestel.

As die seëls nou doodgewoon geweek word, los die gebruiklike gom op, die selfklewende gom bly op die papier, en die seël word gewoon gedroog en bewaar.

Daar word trouens afgeraai om die seëls met albei lae gom te bewaar, hetsy posfris of op posstukke, omdat die selfklewende gomlaag moontlik mettertyd 'n chemiese reaksie en verkleuring kan veroorsaak.

Sou 'n mens die hele posstuk wil behou, behoort die seël steeds versigtig afgeweek te word. Dan word die selfklewende gom met bensien van die posstuk verwyder, en die afgeweekte seël met 'n geskikte gom weer teruggeplaas.

Dit is klaarblyklik wenslik dat daar by die posstuk aangeteken word dat hierdie prosedure gevolg is.

A postal Cinderella

THE *Natal Witness*, the oldest daily newspaper in South Africa, became a 150 years old on 27 February 1996, and produced a commemorative sticker or Cinderella for the occasion.

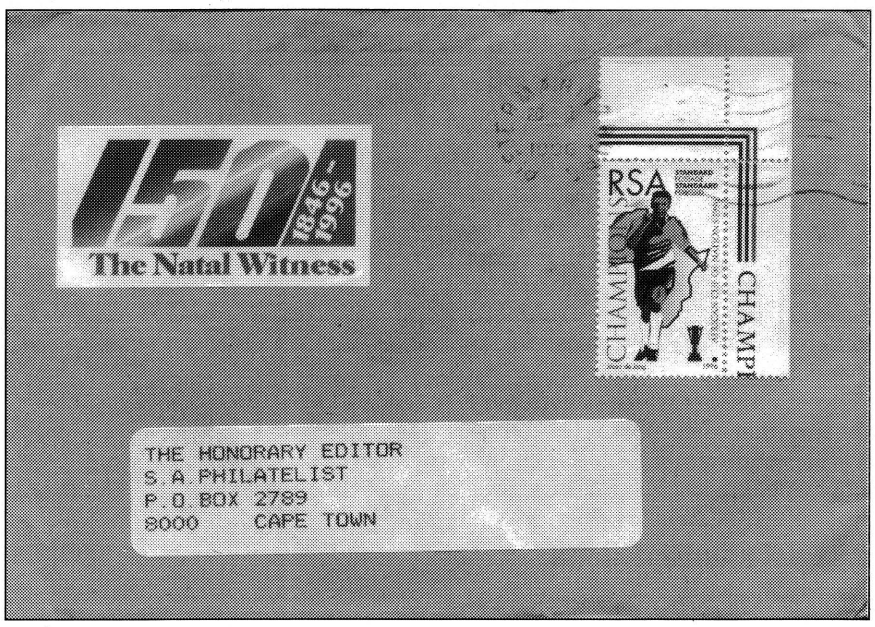
Their involvement with postal history goes far back, as the Maritzburg Philatelic Society Newsletter of January 1996 reports. The paper's editor started a mail delivery service between Pietermaritzburg and Durban in 1846, when the newspaper was founded, which only came to an end in 1850, when the official postal service was instituted.

In 1917 the *Natal Witness* made history once again by instituting a motorised express newspaper delivery from Pietermaritzburg to Durban (for which a private commemorative cover was later issued).

The *Witness* has also in the past printed Intersapa's publicity bulletins for new stamp issues.

Boost for the hobby in Britain

JUST before the Robert Burns issue on 25 January 1996, and Spring Stampex from 24 tot 28 January, stamp collecting in Britain was given a major boost by the publication, on 19 January, of a 16 page supplement to *The Daily Telegraph*.



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This may have had something to do with the fact that Stampex, held for the first time at the Business Design Centre in Islington, this time drew 16 392 visitors. This is an increase of 34 per cent on the attendance figure of 1995, and the highest for well over a decade. In support of the Paralympic Games, 85 kg of used stamps were collected.

The supplement, crammed with sound articles of a general "Did you know about this or that fascinating aspect of stamps?" nature, chiefly written by William Underhill, was largely sponsored by Royal Mail. Their head of philatelic productions, Alistair Sharp, said that the fascination of stamps aside, it aimed on giving advice on starting a collection, and on getting those people with a collection in the loft to start all over again.

Articles with catchy headings like "Spot the kid collector: It's the one good at Trivial Pursuit" and "Tony Benn and the stamp of revolution" are varied with "The timeless icon unlikely to change" (about the Machin head) and "The peer and his peerless library" (about the Earl of Crawford).

It is a major promotional effort, which has also been brought to the attention of the Southern African Federation's executive.

Versamelaarspatrone in die VSA

DIT blyk oral in die wêreld dieselfde te wees: mense versamel hul eie land eerste. *The American Philatelist* van November 1995, mondstuk van die American Philatelic Society, berig oor sy rondsenddiens dat sy vier gewildste kategorieë dié land se uitgawes van die vorige eeu is, lugposseëls van Amerika, enkelseëls met drukplaatnommers in die rand, en "US Officials".

In die vyfde plek volg Danzig, dan weer twee Amerikaanse kategorieë, en dan die state aan die Baltikum.

Die slegte nuus is dat die rondsenddiens nie alleen te veel voorraad van die Britse Gemenebes het nie, maar dat onafhanklike Afrikastate en Suider-Afrika onderskeidelik feitlik onderaan die gewildheidslys staan op nommers 151 en 150.

Society for philatelic writers

THE Philatelic Writers Society was formed in Britain to propagate philatelic writing, to persuade collectors that their research is important, not only to themselves, but to others of similar interests, and to support their efforts to write about it.

The society puts it like this:

"A philatelic collection represents a large number of sheets of stamps or covers with a necessary and sufficient amount of explanatory text. A philatelic publication contains a large quantity of text with a necessary and sufficient number of illustrations.

"Together they form an entity, a unit of philatelic knowledge and information."

Recently, eighteen members met for a seminar week-end in France

■ **In memoriam**

Nico Combrink RDPSA 29 Januarie 1996

NICOLAAS CASPARUS COMBRINK is op 14 Julie 1904 gebore. Hy was ongeveer 30 jaar senior tekenaar by Shell in Kaapstad, en as toegewyde gesinsman het hy ook diep spore getrap in die gemeenskap van die Paarl. Hy het verskeie termyne gedien as stadsraadslid, en het by twee geleenthede as burgemeester gedien. Ook het hy as kerkraadsdlid op verskeie komitees diens gelewer.

Hy was baie jare voorsitter van die beheerliggaam van die Oude Pastorie Museum.

Nico Combrink laat 'n besonder groot leemte in die geledere van filatelie in Suid-Afrika. Hy was een van die stigterslede van die eerste Afrikaanse posseëlvereniging in Suid-Afrika: die Paarlse Filateliste, gestig in Februarie 1950.

Hy was 'n wel belese en berese leiersfiguur, en baie jare lank ons voorsitter. As skrywer in 1960-1961 het uit 'n reeks van twaalf artikels vir *Die Suiderstem* sy inleidende boek vir die jeug, *Posseëlversameling* ontstaan. Hy het ook van 1966 tot 1973 'n posseëlrubriek in *Die Burger* behartig, en in daardie tydperk meer as 200 tweeweeklikse artikels die lig laat sien.

Met die drie nasionale filateliese tentoonstellings wat in die Paarl aangebied is, was hy die steunpilaar. Hy het ook die leiding geneem met die permanente posseëlvertonings in die plaaslike biblioteek.

Nico Combrink het gereeld ten toon gestel, en so onlangs as by Total Stampex 95, op 91-jarige ouderdom, is 'n Silwer-Brons aan hom toegeken vir sy versameling van Stempels op Spoorwegstasies. Hy het die Rembrandt Wisseltrofee van die AFV, en sy Veka Wisseltrofee, sewe en twee maal onderskeidelik ontvang.

Sy versamelgebied was wyd: dit het ingesluit die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog, die Kaapse Balknommerstempels, Griekwaland-Wes se Pos- en Inkomsteseëls, en verskeie tematiese versamelings.

Hy was ook vir twee termyne president van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika, en is in 1988 genooi om die Ererol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suider-Afrika te onderteken. In 1987 is die Federasie se plaket aan hom toegeken vir sy onbaatsugtige diens aan filatelie.

Theo Beukes, die laaste oorblywende stigterslid van die Paarlse Filateliste

THE death of our friend Nico Combrink leaves a void in philately in South Africa. He was well known as a true and serious collector, and as an honoured and distinguished philatelist, he was rewarded with numerous trophies and awards.

We pay tribute to his memory.

Dave Inkin, Chairman, Paarlse Filateliste

OOM NICO, soos hy algemeen bekend was, het die eerste gereelde rubriek in Afrikaans vir *The SA Philatelist* geskryf onder die titel "Iets vir Almal". Dit het, ingevolge 'n kongresbesluit, in April 1965 (p71) vir die eerste maal verskyn – weliswaar sonder sy naam daarby!

Dit wil voorkom asof die laaste bydrae in Junie 1970 (p136) was, die daaropvolgende bydrae onder daardie titel in Julie 1970 (p160) is ten minste gedeeltelik deur PO Kraamwinkel versorg.

Oom Nico se laaste artikel vir *The SA Philatelist* het verskyn in Julie/ Augustus 1990, p106.

Die Redakteur

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with German and French members of similar societies.

The PWS publishes a newsletter, *The Quill*, and inquiries can be made to the membership secretary, Mrs E Berry, 24 Irwin Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5PP, UK.p

News release

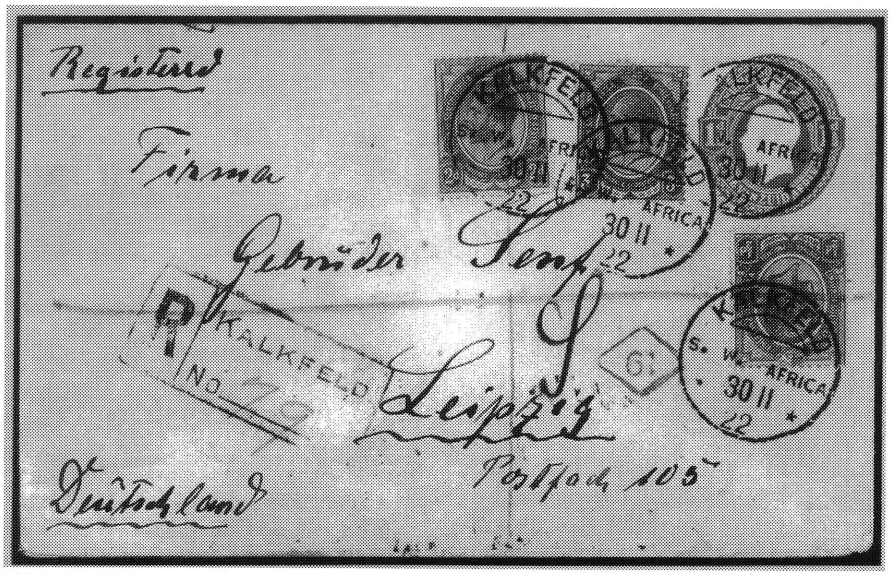
Vrye mark vir seëls?

IN *Die Burger* se weeklikse "Nuus-Oorsig" op 24 Februarie word onder die gereelde rubriek "Blapse" die volgende berig:

'n Museum in die Noordelike Provinsie het die Departement van Kuns, Kultuur, Wetenskap en Tegnologie gevra om twintig R2 seëls en twintig 60c seëls vir museum posstukke te verskaf. Die Departement het drie kwotasies vir die aansoek verlang. Daarná sal die aansoek oorweeg kan word.

Yet another record for Welz

YET once again Stephan Welz & Co broke the record the company has set previously for the highest realisation at a stamp auction in South Africa by totalling R1 777 424 at the sale held on 21 February 1996. At lower estimate, the sale was expected to fetch R1,2 million, at the higher end R1,5 million. (See also *The SA Philatelist*, June 1995, pp 77 and 92, December 1995, p 176, and February 1996, p30.)



The big bang of over R1,75 million got off the mark in style, with Lots 1 and 2, under collections and accumulations, respectively realising R17 600 and R12 100 against upper estimates of as little as R10 000 and R6 000.

The single biggest bang was reserved for Lot 127, a lightly cancelled 1861 Woodblock 1d error of colour (pale milky blue), which was described as "a lovely copy of this extremely rare shade".

THE LARGEST BUYERS OF PHILATELIC PROPERTIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

We are prepared to travel near or far to purchase collections, accumulations, covers, postal history, postcards and better single items, Br. Commonwealth or Foreign.



Buying Trip - February 1994.

FILATELIC PHRIENDS C.C.
TRADING AS
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PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS

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International: Tel. +2721 - 790-5943/4 : Fax +2721 - 790-5745

103 The Place
Melkhout Crescent
Hout Bay 7800
South Africa

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It fetched R115 500, as against the high estimate of R80 000.

Every item of the late Len van de Kar's fine study of the Union's first stamp (Lots 369 to 413) was sold. Here Lot 371 fetched the highest individual price – R33 000. It was the Wilkinson essay, illustrated at bottom left of *The SA Philatelist*, February 1996, p 30, and rather modestly estimated at only R6 000 to R8 000.

Well in support were Lot 374 (R18 700), which was two De La Rue essays, Lot 375 (R14 300), the final composite essay, and Lot 376 (R22 000), an appendix sheet which had attached four different imperforate colour trials.

Lot 383, the Post Office publicity card for the 2½d issue, in Dutch, realised R16 500, which was more than three times the lower estimate.

The attractive South West Africa cover, Kalkfeld to Germany in 1922 (illustrated here) which featured on the cover of the sale catalogue, realised R7 700 (R5 000 to R6 000). It is one of only three recorded examples of the Union 3d blue on full cover.

One lot which did not quite reach expectations was 207, a reconstruction of Plate 2 of the Penny Black (R28 000 to R32 000). It sold for R24 200.

A general comment which is in order, in view of the fact that the Editor has recently been extensively reviewing philatelic literature prices in overseas markets, is that South Africa is lagging behind in this respect. As an example: the difficult classic *The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope* by D Alan Stevenson, with supplement, fetched R605 (Lot 62), and is elsewhere frequently sold for the equivalent of R100 more.

However, it is clear from this sale that quality material is more than holding its own, and that the exceptional material usually does exceptionally well.

Auction news from far and wide

SEVERAL lots of Southern African interest were sold at Greg Manning in New York on 2 December 1995, reported by Herman Herst jr.

A South Africa collection of 1910-1990, which consisted of hundreds of mainly mint stamps, estimated at $900 tot $1 300 went for $1 050, and another collection of 280 mint stamps up to 1960 (top estimate $1 000) even fetched $1 250. Similar material, described as "a few hundred mint stamps", was knocked down at $900.

South West Africa featured with a mint collection from 1923-64, which was knocked down at $1 000, and another, which brought a top estimate of $2 700, went for $2 000. One with a fair amount of duplication was sold for $800.

An important collection of Northern and Southern Rhodesia, formed by Geoff Lovejoy, is to be offered by Cavendish Auctions on 26 April 1996. Gambia, in a specialised collection, also forms part of the auction.

In Hong Kong, from 29 April to 2 May 1996, Sotheby's of London will be offering what it describes as "the world's most important collection of Chinese stamps", formed by the late MD Chow FRPS,L, who died in 1949. There are also rarities from various other owners, making up more than 700 lots.

On 29 and 30 April 1996, Postal History Auctions' Spring sale takes place in London, with over 2 500 lots anticipated.

Christie's in London is offering George Bloch's collection of Straits Settlements on 22 May 1996, as well as important stamps and covers of the world. On 11 June United States Stamps and Covers are on the programme in New York, and in London on 18 June, GB stamps and postal history feature. The following day it is the turn of British Empire stamps and postal history, containing Cape of Good Hope, the Rhodesias, the Bechuanalands and Mauritius.

A Christie's sale in London on 16 and 17 July 1996 features European and overseas stamps and postal history.

Phillips have two sales in June: on 20 June 1996 it is British Commonwealth stamps and covers, and on 27 June, it will be stamps and covers of the world. Similar material to the previous sale will again be on offer on 25 July.

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

France: Francis Bitard, 23 Chemin de Bernones, 33480 Castelnau de Medoc, is looking for mint South African stamps between 1910 and 1995. He is using the SACC, and is particularly interested in fauna and flora of South Africa.

France: Serge Ricetti, Villa Marcel, 93230 Romainville, wants to establish a regular exchange partner for used stamps.

India: PG Kamath, B/14 Vaibhav Apts, Vasai Road West, Dist Thane, 401202 Barampur, would like to establish regular stamp exchange contact in South Africa. (He is also interested in music and reading.)

India: Rammohan Mennon, 2 Sunder Villa, 12th Road, Kher, Bombay 400052, would like to exchange stamps and FDCs.

Italy: Fabio Gorian, Via del Ponte 256, 37020 Peri (VR) wants to exchange mint stamps on a face value basis. He can supply Italy, the Vatican, and San Marino.

Kuwait: MPM Chalat, PO Box 23390, 13094 Sarat, is not only a collector but also a journalist and columnist about philately and numismatics. He is looking for contact in Southern Africa, particularly with a view towards obtaining more information for his writing.

Russia: Victor E Papkov, Khimkinskiy Boul 15-1-97, 123364 Moscow, would like to establish "a stamp relationship" with South Africans who are interested, as he is, in fauna.

Russia: Dr E Zuravlev, PO Box 111, Kursk 305000, is a 37 year old medical man, who offers mint stamps, blocks, etc, from his region in exchange for similar material from Africa.

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Op die velrand/In the margin

Several questions answered

SIX questions were put to Dr Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services. The questions and their answers are given here.

1. Who are the members of the Stamp Programme and Stamp Consultative committees and, where there are alternates, who are they, and whose are they?

The Stamp Programme Committee is: Prof. Gavin Younge, Michaelis School of Fine Art; Prof. Reuben Musiker (alternate BV Feinberg); Prof. Stephen Gray (alternate André Bezuidenhout RDPSA); Prof. Dennis Radford (alternate MJ Nethersole RDPSA); Leon Jacobson, McGregor Museum (alternate CJ Baron); Dr. Gerhard-Mark van der Waal (alternate Suresh Jugroo); Dr. Tom Lodge, Department of Political Science (alternate Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA); AK Matlou (alternate Robert Goldblatt RDPSA), and Joh Groenewald RDPSA.

The Stamp Consultative Commitee is: FH Touwen, managing director SA Post Office; WM Joubert, senior general manager SA Post Office; Marilyn Martin, director SA National Gallery; Dr. Koogan Moodley; Colin Smuts; Prof Jeff Peires; Eric Lubisi; Joh Groenewald RDPSA.

2. What is the stamp issue programme for 1996?

A. STAMPS
10 January: African Cup of Nations.
28 March: Bloemfontein 150
20 April: Freedom Day
25 May: 75th Comrades Marathon
1 June: Gerard Sekoto
8 June: Youth Day
5 July: Olympic Games
5 August: SA Merchant Marine
2 September: To be announced
9 October: World Post Day
9 October: Christmas 1996
4 November: Nobel Centenary

B. BOOKLETS
January: Masakhane
April: Aids awareness
July: To be announced
9 October: Christmas 1996
March (provisional) Tourism

C. SPECIAL PROJECTS
4 May: Lunar Yeaar, China 96, Capex 96
9 October: Bloem 150
22 November: Centenary of the post card.

In this regard please note that, following a request from the Cabinet:

Freedom Day has been replaced by an issue on the new constitution. The date for this has not been finalised and will be subject to the progress of negotiations by our politicians. (A possible date is 17 May.)

The "issue to be announced" for 2 September has now been replaced by a Women's Day issue on 9 August.

The booklet "to be announced" will not be issued. Instead there will be a reprint of our standard mail rhino stamp, albeit with a slightly enlarged image, thus making it a new stamp.

In addition to the above collectors can expect a number of changes to our definitive range. This includes the replacement of Latin names (with something a little more understandable!) on all future reprints. We have not been notified officially of these, but my understanding is that reprints of the 5c, R1 and R2 are due quite shortly, probably in sheetlets of 10. Also we are looking at the issue of a R20 stamp, but this is something we are fighting.

We are also planning to issue a standard airmail postcard rate stamp – or five to be exact, featuring the lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino and elephant. These will be available in booklets of five (se-tenant) with five new airmail tabs below, from tourist-based agencies. PO's will carry these in sheetlets of ten (2x5) with no airmail tabs. This is not an extra commemorative issue, but an extension of the current definitive.

3. What are the details of the Africa World Cup Championship issue, and is an illustration possible?

A printed leaflet with no illustration was received, stating that the standard rate stamp queried above was issued on 8 February 1996, and that serviced first-day cards were also available on that day from philatelic counters. The stamp design was by Marc de Jongh, and sheets consisted of 2 x 5 stamps.. The first-day card was designed by Zanele Mashinini.

Fortuitously, the stamp can be seen on p52 of this issue of *The SA Philatelist*, used by the Maritzburg Philatelic Society to mail its newsletter. The specimen shown is the top right stamp of the sheetlet.

4. A rumour has reached me that booklets of 90c International Tourism stamps featuring penguins have been issued, and that the "Big Five" are shortly similarly to be featured. What are the facts, and are there illustrations?

The booklet of standard airmail stamps described above was preceded by a survey of market requirements in this area. An initial seeding process was initiated in mid-1995, when a batch of old 85c Tourism booklets were sold to our agents, Leisure Stamps, who, at their expense, added an extra 10x5c stamps to make up the required 90c rate.

Similarly all our extra 45c airplane booklets were off-loaded into the tourism market. The response was excellent and we immediately moved into planning for a special tourist-orientated postcard stamp.

However, once stimulated, the market literally started driving the process and rather than lose momentum we decided to fill the gap by bringing out a 90c booklet using the current 90c value from our current definitive, that is, the Jackass Penguin.

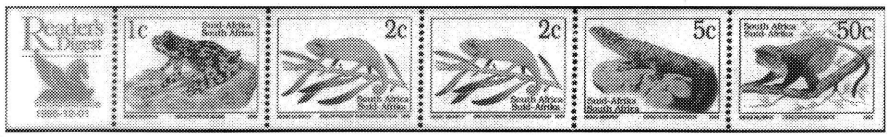
Because of the urgency and costs involved it was decided to let this printing ride piggy-back on the second Masakhane booklet issue, then about to be printed. As a result the uncut sheets of this booklet issue will show nine Masakhane panes and one penguin pane. The quantity printed here was 1,5 million booklets, or 150 000 penguin booklets.

5. Similarly rumoured is an issue of the Masakahne stamp in a different format in conjunction with 4. Details and illustrations would be welcome.

On the question of the Masakhane booklet, collectors are also owed a brief explanation. The first Masakhane booklet was linked to the Masakhane issue of last year and effectively used the same stamp. However, this was longer then the normal booklet stamp (i.e. the rhino) and necessitated a fractionally longer cover. Unfortunately these were not guillotined properly by our printers, leading to problems in the production process.

Thus, when the PO requested us to carry the Masakhane message to a second booklet issue, we had no alternative but to reduce the stamp to the size of the current definitive.

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6. Finally, please feel free to add any comment or information you may have, including possibly an up-date on the depositholders' backlog situation.

Collectors of RSA stamps will be interested in a small variety which has arisen recently in our CAF Champions issue. The football (or a small dot) at the base of Row 1 No 2 was inadvertently left out during the lay-out process. The issue was printed six-up on every sheet and occurs on sheetlets no. 5.

Thus one sheet in every six, or one stamp in every 60, bears this variety. When the Government Printer notified us of this variety, I gave instructions that our supply of stamps received should reflect this ratio. Similarly, the same proportion was kept in the manufacture of commemorative cards. Therefore collectors should know that approximately 500 to 550 cards will bear this variety. These are sent out at random and no attempt was made to separate out any of these items.

An area where collectors have begun showing a certain amount of interest is in our corporate product range. Best known are the Readers' Digest strips which have now undergone seven different printings (with a new one to come in about April). Although negotiations are yet to be finalised, it is probable that products (of different design) are likely to be issued during 1996 for at least three more corporate clients.

Good news for commenstrative cover collectors is that the price of covers has been cut to R2 plus the face value of the stamps.

An interesting outcome of the CAF Champions' issue is that demands of production and deadline required us to abandon the standard envelope format and introduce a commenstrative card. Thus we were able to cut its costs down to R1,20 (plus stamps) per item. We shall be returning to the standard envelope for the Bloem 150 issue, but should collectors fiend it acceptable we shall be pleased to change to cards in future issues. We propose to freeze these prices at this level until December 1998.

Bad news however is that our parent company, the SA Post Office, is no longer prepared to carry our postage expenses. This means that collectors of single stamps (also myself!) will no longer be able to have their 60c worth of stamp delivered to their door at a cost just under R7,00 to Philatelic Services.

We have now been instructed to recover this cost as of January 1996. In future all our mailings to account holders shall be made by insured mail once every two months, in a specially designed stiff card envelope which will bear no marking indicating its philatelic origins.

We apologise to our small-quantity purchasers, who will obviously feel inconvenienced by this event, and

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suggest that they take advantage of our extended range of year packs to keep up their collections. However, in view of the fact that our average order is R132,00, we feel that the recovery of this cost is obviously in line with modern business practice.

Finally some news for our many (and long suffering!) clients. Over the past 12 months Philatelic Services has been restructuring itself from an archaic civil service into a business and service orientated unit which will be able to meet the needs of South African philately well into the 21st century. This has involved the introduction of four new management positions, the appointment of a full-time editor and a youth activities officer, the retraining of staff, the revision of all business procedures, and relocation to new and cheaper primises.

Understandably our delivery system and production capacity has not gone unscathed, and before our move just before Christmas an enormous backlog of some 90 000 orders had built up. Happily these have now been disposed of, and we are confident that during 1996 our clients will see a marked improvement in our service.

None the less, a "hard-core" of some 500 dissatisfied clients, victims of our changeover to a new computer system in August 1994, remains. Unfortunately we have not been able to devise a swift and easy solution to their problems, and I earnestly urge these persons to contact me directly in order that their difficulties be resolved.

I promise that each case will receive the immediate attention of my staff and each and every problem will be cleared up to our clients' satisfaction.

Maak nou voorstelle

DIE SA Poskantoor, wat in die verlede voorstelle vir nuwe posseëls ten minste twee jaar voor die tyd wou hê, vra nou voorstelle vir volgende jaar. Versamelaars, geskiedkundiges, belangegroepe, en alle ander belangstellendes moet voor 30 Mei 1997 van hulle laat hoor.

Voorstelle vir 1997 moet bondig gemotiveer wees, en die naam van die voorsteller, adres en telefoonnommer insluit. Dit kan gerig word aan Seëlprogram 1997, Privaatsak X16, Hatfield 0028.

Aansoeke vir spesiale datumstempels om geleenthede in 1997 te gedenk, kan nog tot 30 November vanjaar oorweeg word.

Stamp news from Namibia

COLLECTORS of the stamps of Namibia can now become standing account holders of the Windhoek Philatelic Bureau, as it is now independent. A complete price list of past and present issues can be obtained from Philately Services, Namibia Post Limited, Private Bag 13336, Windhoek.

Meanwhile, there has been a reprint of the 1995 Railways miniature sheet (N$3,50), and printings of prepaid envelopes (N$0,65) for inland mail. The design is the Camel Post stamp by the late Heinz Pulon, first issued in 1988 as part of the centenary of Namibian postal services.

Pre-paid aerogrammes (N$1,00) have been printed, intended for use to all world destinations. The stamp depicts the *Acacia erioloba*, commonly called the camelthorn tree.

A set of ten pre-paid post cards (N $10,00) has also been printed, each with a different design depicting Namibia's mineral wealth. The N$1,00 card includes the international postage rate, and the stamp depicts the mineral cuprite of the fourth decimal definitive issue of 1989.

Harrison and Sons Limited, security printers of the United Kingdom, have been awarded the tender to print Namibian stamps from 1996 to 1999.

The Namibian issue programme is still subject to change, and additional souvenir sheets will be issued for certain international philatelic exhibitions. At the moment, the following are planned for 1996:

On 1 April four tourism stamps will appear. They will depict the Ruacana Falls, Epupa Falls, Bogenfels and wild horses of the Namib, with an Etosha FDC. There will also be maxi-cards.

The Centenary of the Catholic Mission will be celebrated on 27 May, showing Heirachabis, St. Mary's Cathedral in Windhoek, Döbra and the Ukuambi Church School at Bethanien. The FDC depicts Oshikuku Hospital.

Two stamps based on the themes of "Children have Rights" and "Educate the Girl Child" will be issued on 14 June for Fifty Years of Unicef.

On 27 June there is to be an Olympic Games issue, depicting athletics, swimming, cycling and boxing. It will also be issued in miniature sheet form, and the FDC will show an opening parade.

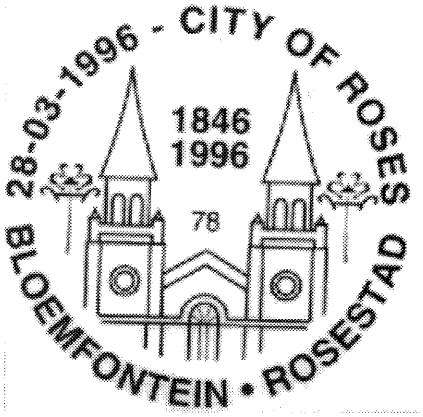
Stars in the Namibian Sky are the theme of an issue on 12 September. The four constellations are Orion (The Hunter), Sagittarius (The Archer), the Southern Cross and Scorpio. There will be a souvenir sheet, with the FDC showing the Gamsberg Mountain and the Milky Way.

The final issue planned thus far is Early Pastoral Pottery, to be released on 17 October. Five subjects have been chosen: Urn-shaped storage vessel (Lüderitz district), globular storage vessel (Okahandja district), bag-shaped cooking vessel (Karibib district), large storage vessel (Outjo district) and 1st century storage vessel (!Khuiseb Delta). The FDC will show a 19th century storage and cooking vessel from the area of the Goangtagab River.

News releases

Bloemfontein se 150ste

Op 28 Maart 1996 het die SA Poskantoor 'n seël vrygestel om die 150ste bestaansjaar van die stad van Bloemfontein te gedenk.



Volgens oorlewering het die stad Bloemfontein sy naam geërf van 'n plaas wat aan 'n Voortrekker genaamd Nicolaas Brits behoort het. In 1846 het majoor Henry Douglas Warden, destydse Britse Resident van die Griekwa-gebied, dié plaasopstal gekies as die ideale plek om 'n nedersetting te begin. Na bewering het daar groot hoeveelhede blomme rondom 'n spruit op die plaas gegroei.

In 1854 het die gebied tussen die

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Oranje- en Vaalrivier onafhanklikheid verkry, met Bloemfontein as die hoofstad. Hierdie nuwe Vrystaatse Republiek het gefloreer, veral onder die leierskap van sy President JH Brand, en het snelle groei beleef nadat die spoorlyn tussen Bloemfontein en die Kaap in 1890 voltooi is.

Na die Anglo-Boereoorlog het die Vrystaatse Republiek sy onafhanklikheid verloor, en in 1910 'n provinsie van die Unie van Suid-Afrika geword. Bloemfontein is aangewys as die regterlike hoofstad van Suid-Afrika.

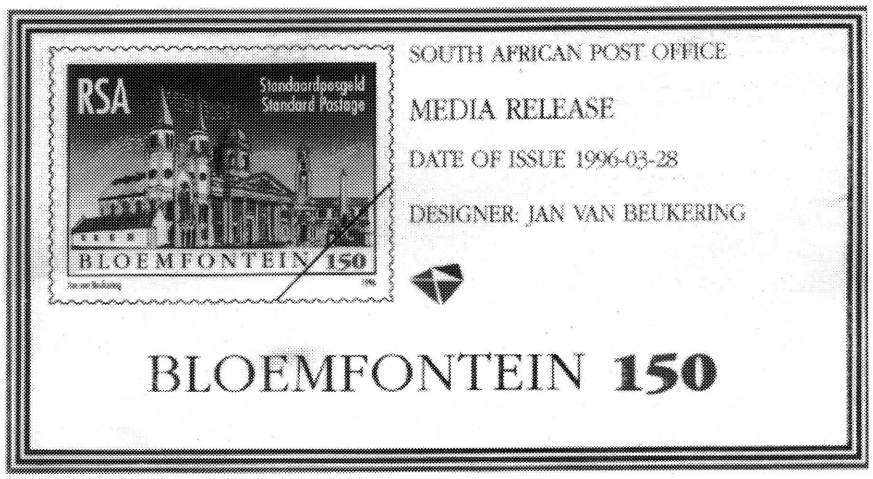
Die seël en die meegaande gedenkkoevert is ontwerp deur Jan van Beukering. Van links na regs stel die nuwe seël die sosiale en politieke ontwikkeling van Bloemfontein sedert die middel van die 19de eeu voor deur vyf historiese geboue of struktuure wat elk 'n sleutelrol vertolk het in die vorming van die stad se huidige kulturele identiteit.

Aan die linkerkant is die Eerste Raadsaal, in 1849 opgerig deur majoor Warden.

Tweede van links op die seël is die alombekende Tweetoringkerk, en in die middel is die grootste historiese gebou wat in Bloemfontein opgerig is om as Raadsaal te dien, nadat snelle groei in staat en administrasie meegebring het dat die Raadsaal drie keer verskuif moes word. Die bou van die Vierde Raadsaal is vertraag deur finansiële en kontraktuele probleme, maar die Raadsaal is op 5 Junie 1893 in al sy glorie geopen.

Die vierde gebou op die seël is die Ou Goewermentsgebou, steeds aan die bopunt van Maitlandstraat.

Die laaste struktuur is die obelisk net buite Bloemfontein, opgerig in herinnering aan die Boerevroue en -kinders wat tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog van 1899 tot 1902 in Britse konsentrasiekampe gesterf het.



Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Die Federasie se president het 'n boodskap

André Bezuidenhout RDPSA

ELKE lid van die Federasie hou hom uiteraard besig met die "Koning van Stokperdjies". Daar rus egter ook nog 'n verantwoordelikheid op elke lid en wel ten opsigte van die Federasie en juis daarom wil ek as tema vanjaar hierdie verantwoordelikheid by elkeen tuisbring.

Die tema is: ***Elkeen bring een.***

Graag wil ek toelig wat die volle implikasie hiervan is. Elke lid van 'n vereniging moet een ander persoon bekendstel aan ons stokperdjie op so 'n entoesiastiese wyse dat hy hom wen vir filatelie.

Hierdie moet egter nie 'n eenmalige poging wees wat slegs daarop neerkom dat 'n persoon na 'n vergadering genooi word en daarna op sy eie gelaat word om dan te "swem of te sink nie". 'n Lid kom eers sy volle verantwoordelikheid teenoor so 'n nuweling na indien hy as *mentor* begin om die nuweling te help met raad en daad totdat hy 'n liefde vir sy eie versameling ontwikkel, en so bewus word van die tegnieke en konvensies wat sy versameling waarlik tot uitstalstatus sal laat ontwikkel.

So dikwels word hierdie tipe tema van kennis geneem en die jaar is verby voordat dit werklik tot uitvoering gebring word, dus wil ek 'n teikendatum by die tema insluit: Elke lid moet probeer om van hierdie tema teen die middel van die jaar 'n werklikheid te maak.

Ten slotte, laat 1996 vir elkeen 'n genotvolle jaar wees, waarin elke versameling gaan baat by u entoesiasme en waarin u stokperdjie aan u die bevrediging en ontspanning gaan bied wat so noodsaaklik is in hierdie haastige en veranderende tye.

(Briefly, in English: Our theme for the year should be: *Everyone bring one.* This extends beyond inviting an interested person to a meeting, and then letting him or her sink or swim. Be a *mentor*, up to the point of national exhibition status!

And do it by mid-year.)

Gearing up for Bloem 150

THE Bloem 150 National Stamp Exhibition promises several highlights and innovations. Visits are planned to Onze Rust, well known to some of our older philatelists, while further afield possible trips will be arranged to nearby battlefields and monuments, museums and other tourist attractions.

One evening is set aside for those interested in the delights of Sol (Kerzner that is!), while a week after the Stamp Exhibition the famous Rose Festival takes place.

The opening of the exhibitons, both Senior and Junass, will be combined on 9 October 1996, which is World Post Day, and the issue of the RSA stamp for that occasion will probably be from Bloemfontein.

The exhibition is at the Bloemfontein Civic Centre – the so-called Glass Palace – and Congress will be on 11 October.

It is an all day affair with a "compulsory" entertainment that evening which should not be missed. Societies will be approached to book their delegates' seats early, to allow for the catering and other arrangements for the arrangements.

The fee for delegates will be payable by their societies well in advance. Late registration of delegates will mean that they will not be able to participate that evening, as there can be no late-comers after the cut-off date.

Spouses of delegates who may wish

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to join in will also have to meet the deadline for additional bookings well in advance.

The no-pay, no-play attitude of the Bloem 150 Organising Committee stems from past experience at many nationals, where many arrangements were disrupted by last-minute changes. The Bloem 150 show aims to offer value-for-money at all functions, the committee promises.

Accomodation is available from guesthouse type set-ups, to multi-star hotels or overnight facilities, ranging from about R85 to R230 per night. Details will be available later.

'n Belangrike voorvereiste vir alle deelnemers, en dit sluit genooide deelnemers in, is dat elke uitstalling voorsien sal wees van 'n behoorlik opgestelde inleidende beskrywing. Hierdie is 'n voorvereiste vir mededingende deelname. Meer inligting hieroor is in *The SA Philatelist* van Februarie 1996 op p22 gegee.

Daar word gehou by die Suid-Afrikaanse 15-blad per raam formaat, in drie horisontale rye van vyf bladsye elk, wat van bo na onder en dan regs na links lees. Deelnemers wat Bloem 150 wil benut as afspringplek vir internasionale deelname by Ilsapex 98 sal bly wees om te verneem dat bogenoemde raamformaat ook daar sal geld.

Die Organiserende Komitee verwag 'n groot toeloop van inskrywings, wat noodsaak dat daar streng by afsnydatums gehou sal word. Net tydige inskrywings en opvolgwerk kan verseker dat alles glad verloop.

'n Spesiale datumstempel sal tydens die uitstalling beskikbaar wees, en etlike versamelbare items word in die vooruitsig gestel. Die spesiale posseël wat vir die Bloemfonteinse 150-jarige fees op 28 Maart 1996 uitgereik is, is aangekoop om beskikbaar te wees tydens die uitstalling.

Verskeie Vrystaatse hoogwaardigheidbekleërs het hul volle steun aan Bloem 150 toegesê, en sal van die geleenthede bywoon.

Daar sal vir die volle duur van die uitstalling 15 handelaars teenwoordig wees, sowel as die Poskantoor en Filateliedienste.

Die adres vir alle navrae is: Organiserende Komitee, Bloem 150, Posbus 702, Bloemfontein 9300, of skakel Jan van Beukering by ☎ (051) 430-6550.

Organising committee

Innovation for Junass at Bloem 150

AMONG the four non-competitive classes at Junass this year, to be held concurrently with Bloem 150, is something enirely new: Class 3, Development exhibits, and Class 4, Club exhibits.

Development exhibits are for those who do not wish to compete, who do not necessarily want to follow the rules, but who do want to "show their faces". The maximum is two frames. Club exhibits must have more than one participant per frame, thus a whole club, or its keenest members, can also be "there".

Unlike the other two non-competitive classes, the court of honour and invited exhibits, however, Classes 3 and 4 have to pay entry fees.

The usual age groups can compete, namely Under 10 years, 10 – 12, 13 – 15, and 16 – 18 years.

There is also a group C this time for junior exhibitors, namely post cards.

Full details and the entry forms, which have to back in the hands of the organisers by 30 April 1996, are available from the Organizing Committee, Bloem 150 Junass, PO Box 702, Bloemfontein, 9300.

(Or telephone Jan van Beukering, w & h, at ☎ (051) 430-6550, or André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, ☎ (051) 33-1122.)

Rubriek vou ná 15 jaar

EEN van die georganiseerde filatelie se onversaagde medewerkers op talle gebiede, Andries van der Walt, het op 20 Februartie 1996 met sy seëlrubriek in *Beeld* se daaglikse bylaag, Kalender, gegroet. Soos hy dit self uitgewerk het: "Op vyftien jaar en een dag na. . .

Dit was 'n poging wat wyd weerklank onder versamelaars gevind het. Die rubriek is dikwels in verenigings se nuusbriewe aangehaal of herhaal. Die waarde daarvan oor 15 jaar moet onskatbaar wees.

Een van die redes waarom dit verval, is die gebrek aan inligting uit die SA Poskantoor se afdeling Filateliedienste. Maar soos Andries self sê, hy wil nie verder daaroor skryf nie. "Dit is te vervelig."

Hy bly eerder positief. "As ek 'n laaste oproep kan doen," skryf hy, "dan is dit dat u u gewig agter die georganiseerde filatelie moet ingooi. Dat u betrokke moet raak en moet help om die stokperdjie uit te bou.

"Ons kan nie net verwag om te neem nie, maar ons moet ook van onsself gee."

Dit het Andries sonder meer gedoen, ruimskoots.

Die Redakteur

PFSA supported FIP Exhibitions

THE current involvement of South African organised philately at international level is:

The Indonesia 96 World Philatelic Youth Exhibition at Bandung, 21 – 30 March, where Jill Redmond is our National Commissioner – results from our 15 entrants are eagerly awaited.

Capex 96 at Toronto, 8 – 16 June 1996, where Cedric Roché RDPSA is our Commissioner with six accepted entries – good luck to all participants.

Norwex 97 at Oslo, 16 – 21 April 1997, is a specialised World Exhibition of Postal History and Aerophilately. Entries close 31 May 1996 – contact our Commissioner W Grütter RDPSA ☎ (021) 23-8763 (h) or (021) 406-2176 (w).

Pacific 97 at San Francisco, 29 May – 8 June 1997, is a General World Exhibition with Danny Swart RDPSA as our Commissioner.

Please note that the deadline for entries has been extended to 3 June 1996 – contact Danny at ☎ (011) 880-3125 (w).

Israel 98 World Stamp Exhibition, Tel Aviv, 12 – 21 May 1998 with David Stern FRPSL as Commissioner – entry deadline not yet known. If you are interested in entering, but have not yet achieved the required National Vermeil Award, then Bloemfontein will be your last chance to qualify.

The FIP Commissions

The listing of our PFSA delegates on p24 of *The SA Philatelist* (February 1996) should also have included our delegate for Thematic Philately, who is Martin East.

The Commission listed simply as "Forgeries" in fact is titled "Commission for the Fight against Forgeries", and by agreement, Michael Wigmore has accepted this portfolio, which will now link our Expert Committee into the Commission's work.

The following is the first outline of one of the commission's activities,

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prepared by our delegate Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPSL:
Peter van der Molen

The FIP Commission for Postal Stationery

THIS commission, whose subject is defined as "postal matter which either bears an officially authorised preprinted stamp or device or inscription indicating that a specific face value rate postage has been prepaid", is currently under the chairmanship of Dr Alan Huggins, a renowned collector in the field.

It was responsible for drawing up the revised Special Regulations for the Evaluation of Postal Stationery exhibits and the relevant Guidelines for Judging, which came into operation at international exhibitions on 1 January 1995. The practical working of these is currently being evaluated, a process which will last some years.

The commission is also compiling information on philatelic organisation, magazines and catalogues concerned with postal stationery, and preparing an introductory booklet to the subject as well as teaching material; these are all on-going projects which, as is the nature of international matters, take some time to bring to fruition.

At the Finlandia 95 World Philatelic Exhibition, which was limited to postal history and postal stationery, the Postal Stationery Commission organised a very worthwhile seminar on collecting, exhibiting and judging postal stationery, which attracted a great deal of interest.

The commission issues a newsletter from time to time which reports on the progress of the various projects, draws attention to recent literature (including short reviews of specialised books on the subject) reports the results of recent international exhibitions insofar as they concern postal staionery, and publicises the reports of the various office-bearers of the Commission.

For further details on the above, please contact Richard Knight on ☎ (021) 782-2223 (h).

A copy of the FIP Judging Guidelines mentioned above can be obtained from the Federation's FIP Committee Chairman – P.W. van der Molen, PO Box 12508 Benoryn 1504 ☎ (011) 899-6019 (w).

A South African machine postmarks study group

Neville Gomm

THERE have been several publications in recent years on the postmarks of South Africa. Ralph Putzel's mammoth work, *The Postmarks of South Africa,* which is in the process of publication, is the latest to be issued. These volumes all deal mainly with postmarks other than those applied by machines.

Only one book has been published on South African machine postmarks: *A Chronology of the Postal Slogans of South Africa* by S.J. (Fanie) Vermaak, RDPSA, was issued in 1979. This pioneer book is more in the line of a catalogue than an in-depth study of the postal slogans.

As far as other South African machine postmarks are concerned, there has been nothing that gives particulars. There has also not been a publication on the machines that have

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been in use in South Africa.

Machine postmarks of South Africa as a field of specialisation appear to be very much of a Cinderella facet of South African philately. To try and rectify this situation, George van den Hurk, RDPSA, recently suggested the formation of a study group to intensify and concentrate effort on the machine postmarks. This has been considered a good idea to implement.

I am prepared to get the group established and running it mainly through the post. (Adress: PO Box 91-114, Auckland Park, 2006, South Africa). I am prepared to produce a modest newsletter, and will keep the group going until someone else is in a position to take over, or it disbands through lack of interest.

Please contact me for further particulars, and a copy of the first four-page newsletter. It lists 313 offices known to date which have used machines to apply cancellations.

New committee for Sapda

THE South African Philatelic Dealers Association recently elected a new committee.

The president is John Bleazard, with George Cafetzoglou as vice-president – and secretary. The treasurer is Henk de Lange.

News release.

A reader's query

John Ineson, Highfields Farm, Bures, Suffolk CO8 5BN, UK, writes: I am writing a book on the Paper Currency of the Anglo-Boer War, and I would appreciate any help your readers could give.

Included are the Boer Notes from Pretoria, Pietersburg and Pilgrims Rest ("Te Velde"), and the besieged towns of Koffyfontein (sic), O'Okiep Lichtenburg, Mafeking and Upington. There are also the POW camps of Green Point Track (Cape Town) and Belle Vue (Simonstown).

The overseas POW camps of Diyatalawa and Ragama of Ceylon, and Trichinopoly of India feature, and also included will be the soup tickets of Mafeking and Kimberley.

I am looking for any information on the printing and numbers issued of the above banknotes.

If your readers would let me know the numbers, value and issue date of their notes, it would be of great help towards ascertaining the quantities issued.

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

A valuable trio

Cape of Good Hope Postal History, and Cape of Good Hope Revenue; Orange Free State; price lists prepared by David Crocker. 28 pp each for CGH, 36 pp for OFS, available from the author, PO Box 294, 6720 Montagu, self-bound.

WHILE dealers' price lists have thus far not featured heavily in philatelic literature (but what is SG if it is not a dealer's list?), it is worth noting that those prepared with care and expertise warrant at least the stature of major auction catalogues. And these, as we all know to our cost, are often indispensable.

The CGH postal history list is not only an indication of the extent of the subject, but an indicator of current market prices. It contains over 400 items, the earliest dating from the 1700s, and covers historical significance as well as popularly collected postmarks.

The revenue list is based on one of the best collections of this material of the Cape ever formed. It includes scarce multiples, examples of correct usage, and – difficult to come by as a reference – die proofs, plate proofs and specimens.

Both Cape lists were preceded by an OFS and Bechuanaland listing. It was one of the most comprehensive summaries of what was on the market, and in its coverage and cross-referencing – which applies also to the Cape lists – it deserves the accolade of being "almost a reference work in its own right".

Similar price lists have previously been published by Crocker. These are King George I, Bechuanaland, Maritime South Africa, and Tristan da Cuña. All of them are worth following up by specialists.

WG

SA colonial post offices listed

A listing of Southern African post offices 1891-1892, edited by Franco Frescura.
36 pp, ill., published by Philatelic Services (1995), available from Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001, soft cover R10,00.

IT took some time before this publication came to hand, in the end having to be acquired personally (foeitog!) by the Editor. But it was worth waiting, and finally paying for.

The editor of the publication's interest and expertise in postal history are well known. This small volume, he writes in his introduction, "is the first step in creating a simplified listing of Southern African Post Offices" aiming at covering a period at the end of the 19th century when postal services were becoming generally available.

Listings are given for the Cape, Transvaal and Swaziland, and Natal, OFS, Bechuanalands and Mashonaland, together with maps where available. arious sources were drawn on for the facsimile reproduction, always with regard to the most relevant one, and the result is not only a valuable, but also typographically an enchanting publication.

There is no doubt that the typography and cartography of the time breathes a nostalgia of its own, and this alone makes the brochure worth while having, like an insect caught in amber.

WG

Onderonsies/Society news

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

September 1995: The 'Competition Israel 2' is for novices and newer collectors, and we had three exhibitors.

Lionel Maron showed 34 pages comprising some philatelic covers and some modern material, very well presented.

John Bleazard showed postal rates from 1948-52 – a 15 page exihibit and a completely new attempt.

Willie Mann had 50 pages of the shekel issue in singles, cylinder blocks, and tabs, with various errors and varieties, all mint.

October 1995: Moira Bleazard showed her annual exhibit of all the Israeli stamps issued. As in the past, she presented it in a most professional manner, even to the extent of special plastic folders with small insert pages which house a single stamp with tab, a plate block with cylinder number, a FDC, and the official bulletin – a beautiful exhibit.

Maurice Daniels showed 20 pages of 'Arbor Day', one of his favourites, 17

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pages of the Peace Stamp with Egypt, 27 pages of errors from 1948 to the present, and 27 pages of inflation over the years, including a big cover with no less than 120 stamps on it!

November 1995: The meeting was held on a sad day, the day when the Israeli prime minister Izthak Rabin was laid to rest. There was an excellent attendance of 16 members, as well as five visitors from the West Rand PS.

Derrick Blann showed stamps and philatelic memorabilia in the making, reading a paper on the subject.

Frank van Rensburg showed the Flood Disaster stamps of 1987-88 and gave a paper on the subject, as well as a second paper on ink jet cancelling, which was something new to most present.

Mary Bromfield showed her outstanding British postal history, which had won a Vermeil.

Everybody was thrilled to hear that Joel Latinsky had received a Gold at Total Stampex 95 and the SIP floating trophy, as well as the ERPS floating trophy for a first time exhibitor.

December 1995: The following were seen at a meeting to 'Bring along a visitor' and '3 + 3' (three best and three worst sheets!)

Graham Bleazard, the son of Moira and John, showed three pages of his favourite postal slogans and three of his favourite maps. Dave Hunt of the ERPS brought along six pages of Pitcairn Island and the mutiny on the Bounty.

John Bleazard had three pages of errors on rugby slogans, and three of the postal rates of Israel, while Lionel Maron showed three pages of the best and worst stamps of South Africa, and three of Israel's best and worst.

Maurice Daniels had three pages of stamps that brought back happy memories, and three with sad ones. Joel Latinsky contributed with three pages each of his favourite 'Flying Scrolls' and 'Doar Ivri'.

Selwyn Uria showed six pages of 'Doar Ivri' stamps on covers.

It was an enjoyable meeting to end a fruitful and memorable stamp year.

Willie Mann

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

January 1996: Dr D J Retief treated us tonight to a once-in-a-lifetime philatelic experience.

He showed three letters written between 1853 and 1856 by missionaries of the Rhenish Mission Society to the head office of this society in Barmen/Germany. Transit time from South West Africa to Germany either via Walvisbay/Cape Town or overland via the Cape Colony ranged from 70 to 160 days. The letters had a variety of endorsements re postal fees and transit cancellattions.

The contents gave an insight on conditions in this country 30 years before the colonialisation of South West Africa by Germany.

Mr C Elliot, our guest speaker for the evening gave us a spirited talk on his recent trip to Namibia. His talk was illustrated with excellent photographs taken by himself and with stamps, postmarks and covers related to and depicting the places visited.

H U Bantz

NIGEL STAMP CLUB

January: Well, 1996 has certainly started with a bang! Our cricketers convincingly beat England, good rains in most areas, a healthier gold price and the 'Madiba Magic' ensured our soccer team winning the CAF Trophy. Maybe we should as President Mandela to design the commemorative stamp!?

And the Nigel club are no slouches when it comes to "skouer aan die wiel sit." Two innovations were implemented at the January meeting. In looking for more individual involvement from the members, the chairman established a tea roster with members taking turns at arranging the refreshments at the meetings.

Secondly, the members were divided into five teams and each team will have a turn to mount a display, with the emphasis of education. (A recent survey in the club showed a need amongst the members for improving their philatelic knowledge.)

Starting the ball rolling were Paul, Reg, Charles, Guiseppe and John who contributed pages of stamps illustrating "Stamp Features". Ilustrated were such aspects as Surfaces, Overprints & Surcharges, Perforrations, Watermarks, Papers & Gums, and Sheet Attributes. Each member of the team gave a short explanation of his pages and answered questions from the floor.

This exercise was well received and it is to be hoped that the members will continue to enjoy and learn.

An excellent AudioVisual on "Stampdoctoring" was shown, and this too contributed to the learning curve. We at Nigel appreciate the work and co-operation of the AudioVisual committee and trust this facility will continue to be available to us for many years to come.

Charles Rogers

MARITZBURG PS

November 1995: Peter and Anne described their trip to Australia – Anne to the Dealers and Post Offices, including a visit to the top marketing man at the National Philatelic Centre in Melbourne, and Peter's escapades at the World Town Crier Championships, backed up by "Philatelic" evidence by way of Postcards of participating Town Criers from around the World, and of course his FRAMAs!

There were some nice exhibits at the last meeting, Riaan showed Ciskei, Susan showed Cyprus, Peter showed Cricket, Cape Mail and Cape of Good Hope from Robin, also Conservation.

For items of interest Mike showed his brand-new Friendship Bridge of Vietnam, a coveted item recently obtained from our two Aussie Tourists.

Peter showed the double issue of Rugby League Centenary, UK and New Zealand. Alex Duigan showed a Union Castle menu dated August '21.

January 1996: Under Items of Interest Peter showed the Imaje Inkjet cancellations of the Rugby World championships.

Roger Porter said that John Dickson had shown early Post Offices of Natal referring to cancellers – it is only through "proving" covers that they found No. 1 issued to Durban. This was because in early 1861, the Postmaster General was not in Durban, but was in the UK on holiday, so his assistant handled the issuing of the Barred Oval cancellers. John Dickson has also spoken about rates and how they were calculated.

Alex Duigan spoke about an event that happened 100 years ago – on 29 December 1885 – the discovery of diamonds, and which was held secret. He showed a map and mentioned Harrison asn the Honeyball story when gold was found and the start of the Witwatersrand. He went on to say that Cecil John Rhodes' brother had been involved and in the attack on Johannesburg.

Roger replied saying that he had a relative in the Jameson Raid, an uncle who had decorated his cell with Union Jacks, and an outstanding fine that he had refused to pay. This all led to Elandslaagte.

Anne Southwood

MASHONALAND PS

November: The letter "K" one page competition attracted no entries. The evenings exhibit was presented by Mrs Helen Allen, "An ABC of Sport", for the Peter Beck Trophy. This dsepicted every conceivable form of sport arranged alphabetically from A to Y. There being no available sport activity displayed on stamps beginning with the letter Z so this was omitted.

The Audio Visual Slide Show was on South Africa. This proved to be quite interesting to those members who collect the country, although not a very exciting display. It would have been far more beneficial if the society had been forewarned of it's arrival, but of late the slide shows have been arriving unheralded.

December: The one page copetition on the letter "J" attracted one entry, from Mrs Barbara Morrison on Jersy.

The exhibit for the evening was by Mr Ron Ireland, "Sport", another entry for the Peter Beck Trophy. This was based on the concept of nine categories of sport.

The Audio Visual slide show was on the Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa". It was a colourful presentation, with it's interest lying with those philatelist collecting this particular category of material.

S A Weaver

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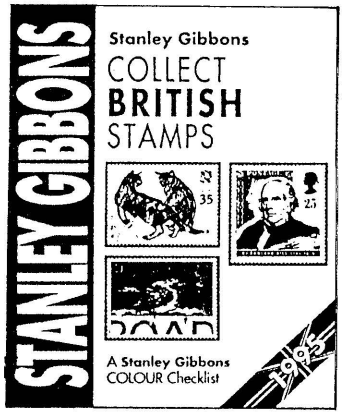
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view — The Editor/Die Redakteur

Dear Dr Frescura

There is so much evidence of a growing rift between philatelic collectors and your department in this issue of our journal that the matter can no longer be ignored or wished away.

Yet, in my view, the issues are simple to reduce to essentials. Neither do they have anything to do with the – I must admit, sometimes bleakly amusing – aspersions which are currently being cast back and forth so freely. These can safely rest then, at least for the moment.

The first issue is that collectors are not being informed timeously of the stamp issues they can expect, let alone of the issuing programme. It is now June – and the first time I have been able to publish something resembling a year's programme, on page 91.

This creates apathy.

The second issue is that collectors are frequently not informed at all of any of the material which could be classed as special products, were it not for the alertness of some our readers. It is thanks to them that we have, starting on pages 75 and 92, a reasonable overview of the Tourism booklets which have been in circulation since. . .?

This creates frustration.

The third issue is that collectors complain consistently of incompetence of one kind or another in the handling of their orders.

This creates anger.

The fourth issue is that special products are being created to which collectors do not, for one reason or another, have access.

This is in conflict with the ethics of all reputable issuing authorities.

Perhaps apathy, frustration and anger are the issues to address, before resorting to other accusations about the current state of philately.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Reply to Frescura: I

MP Barry of Bellville writes: In answer to dr. Frescura's letter (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 34), I think he is the blind one who is hell bent on taking the hobby to the grave, as thanks to him, Philatelic Services are in a state of crisis.

I wrote to Philatelic Services on 27 November 1995 regarding the Rugby World Championship stamps, which I ordered. I received a reply in January 1996, but they have not yet arrived.

Since then I have written twice again, at the end of February and again on 5 April 1996 (this time asking for my Rugby stamps plus others ordered) asking them to at least return my money – without any reply.

I also bought RSA stamps for friends overseas, but as from my last letter I've given up collecting RSA, as many other South Africans have done, as their service leaves much to be desired.

I belong to the Bellville Philatelic Society, and I'm not an old man at 51.

Antwoord op Frescura: II

JP van Zijl van Graaf-Reinet skryf: Miskien is "the days of the White Old Boy's Club. . . over, maar sakkerloot! Ek kan helder en duidelik konstateer dat toe hulle nog aan die bestuur was, is ons korrespondensie beantwoord, ons bestellings gereeld en (vroegtydig!) uitgevoer, en ons het met elke besending 'n rekeningstaat ontvang sodat ons gewéét het wat ons saldo was. . .

Valete ac plaudite.

Reply to Frescura: III

David Sinclair of Cape Town writes: I would like to make some comment regarding Dr Franco Frescura's letter published in the April 1996 The SA Philatelist (p34).

A number of important issues have been raised, and Dr Frescura has expressed his views on the problem of shrinking attendance at philatelic societies and the general decline of philately itself in South Africa.

I would add that declining interest appears to be a world wide trend. For instance, *The American Philatelist* recently published the results of a survey on collecting interests in the USA and compared it with a much earlier survey undertaken (if I remember correctly) in the 1960s. The first survey showed stamp collecting very highly placed, but in the recent survey stamps didn't even make the top ten.

The dwindling numbers have also been discussed at some length in the philatelic magazines of the UK and Australia. Thus one could say it is a matter giving rise to some concern throughout the collecting world and possibly not just a South African phenomenon.

Surely the real question is what can be done in South Africa to halt this trend? I would suggest that a committee be set up to find ways in which declining numbers can be halted. This should be treated as matter of urgency. Cognizance should be taken of the methods being discussed and implemented in countries overseas. There must be a wealth of ideas out there on this matter. Dr Frescura has commendably stated his interest and support for youth philately. This is, indeed, an area which should be thoroughly explored.

I would also think that readers of The *SA Philatelist* have much to contribute in this area. Perhaps the Editor could have a special section in this magazine for such ideas?

I would close by saying that we, as stamp collectors, must find solutions. Nobody else will.

Antwoord op Frescura: IV

Ds Cassie Carstens van Centurion skryf: Die tirade van dr Franco Frescura PhD (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 34) verwys. Ek vind dit nogal interessant dat die agbare PhD die "wit" seëlversamelaars en die bestuurskomitee van die Federasie aanvat en bykom, terwyl hy eintlik kleinserig (soos gewoonlik?) reageer op kritiek oor die rugbyseëls – dit lyk mos vir my nou al te veel na die soek van 'n stok om die onskuldige hond mee te slaan. . .

Oor die rugbyseëls het ek niks (verder) te sê nie – ek het reeds by die Alberton Kongres 1995 my waardering teenoor Filateliedienste (én die persoon van PhD Frescura) gelug vir die besonder smaakvolle uitgifte. PhD sal dit nie kan onthou nie, want hy "hoor" nie Afrikaans nie.

Of ek deel is van die "White Old Boys Club" is ietwat van 'n debatteerbare saak. Ek is nog nie 50 nie, en versamel minder as 20 jaar. Maar ek skaar my graag by die "vet wittes", soos PhD by 'n vorige keer na ons verwys het, en ook by die "blindes" wat met groot ywer bereid is om sonder enige vergoeding diens te lewer aan ons stokperdjie.

En wys my die klub of vereniging of aksie wat nie in hierdie onsekere tye waarin ons leef juis sukkel met meelewing en bywoning en fondse nie!

En gedagtig aan die feit dat Filateliedienste se dienslewering tans in chaos verkeer, en dat die "mense hoër op" dreig om dit binne drie maande "toe te maak" (indien daar nie merkbare verbetering intree nie), vra ek myself nou af: Kan die pot (alias PhD) nou die ketel (alias die Old Boys) verwyt?

Dit bring my by die Bestuurskomitee – 'n klompie manne en 'n dame wat hulle tyd en talente (sonder vergoeding!) ten bate van filatelie in breër Suid-Afrikaanse verband inspan.

- Dat hulle almal "wit" is, is nie hulle skuld nie. Ek weet nie van enige "swart" of "bruin" filateliste wat bereid is om leiding te gee nie.
- Dat hulle "geamendeerde Viktoriane" is, is 'n blatante leuen.
- Dat hulle eenvoudig moet "padgee"?! Wie de dywil gaan hulle portefeuljes oorneem – PhD en die "young philatelists" vanuit die "global village"?! Wat jy wáár kry?! Behoede ons. . .!

Tog jammer dat PhD nie teenwoordig was by die afgelope Algemene Komiteevergadering van die Federasie nie. Daar kon hy mos (soos 'n man) deelgeneem het aan die gesprek oor die "doel en toekoms" van die Federasie. Maar nee, hy skitter in sy afwesigheid! En nou vertel die mense dat hy juis wegbly omdat hy nie meer die baie kritiek op Filateliedienste se patetiese diens kan vat nie. Hy is skynbaar ook moeg om aanhoudend apologie vir blapse te maak. Dit laat mens dink, né?

Vergun my hiermee 'n opregte woord van dank en waardering aan die FFSA-Bestuurskomitee vir hulle onbaatsugtige dienslewering. Ek stal nie nasionaal uit nie, maar ons klub (Afrikaans Pretoria) is nog elke keer doelmatig bedien met die nuutste kompetisiereëls (Thank you, Richard Knight).

Wanneer my jeugklub in 1999 die JUNASS aanbied, weet ek by voorbaat sal ons volle ondersteuning en

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hulp van die Uitstallingskomitee ontvang (Dankie, Harry Birkhead).

Van "jeug" gepraat: die leiding en inspirasie wat ons van YAC kry, is genoeg om ons met ywer en entoesiasme te laat voortgaan (Thank you, Jill Redmond).

Van finansies verstaan ek nie veel nie, maar ek weet dat die Finanskomitee by elke kongres die grootste applous ontvang (Dankie, Danny Swart en Howard Green).

Wanneer *The SA Philatelist* oor die pos arriveer, los ek gewoonlik alles waarmee ek besig is en geniet die lekkerte van die blad (Dankie, Wilhelm Grütter).

Die Oudio-visuele programme is so 'n groot treffer by ons, dat ons nou elke jaar twee vertoon (Dankie, Emil Minnaar).

En so kan ek voortgaan – dankie David Crocker (Keurkomitee), dankie Peter van der Molen (FIP), dankie Joh Groenewald (Bestuurskomitee), dankie Jan van Beukering (Bloem 150), dankie André Bezuidenhout (huidige president met die mooi tema: "Elkeen-bring-iemand"), dankie George van den Hurk (FFSA-sekretaris), en al die ander seëlmense wat so baie-baie vir ons "gewone ouens" doen en beteken! Julle is almal sterre!

'n Laaste woord aan dr Franco Frescura PhD: Gaan vlieg!

Reply to Frescura: V

Ronald Mephius of Germiston writes with the heading, "A Dichotomy that must be healed": It doesn't take much reading between the lines of (a) Joh Groenewald's recent open letter to societies re discussions with the Post Office, and (b) the Senior Manager, Philatelic Services letter in "From the Mailbag", to realise that a rift is developing between the Philatelic Federation and the Post Office. One of the main bones of contention seems to be on the matter of a philatelic publication. On this issue we feel that papering over the cracks will in no way help the future of our hobby.

While Mr Groenewald's letter appears to stick to facts, the tone of Dr Frescura's is taking side-swipes at anything and everything that the Philatelic Federation stands for. This couldn't come at a worse time for Southern African philately when both parties very definitely are mutually dependent upon one another.

To take the very minor subject first, Mr Nel's letter (in the February 1996 issue, p4) regarding the Rugby Stamp designs is perhaps, facetiously, a little bit over the top, but nevertheless anyone in politics or even in quasi-Government occupation knows that if the heat is too great he can resort to vacating the kitchen!

The larger issue of *The SA Philatelist* being "an outdated publication" needs a firmer response to the allegation of being an "Old Boys Club". It has, and will, outlive its detractors, and that, largely because over the years it has created a niche of excellence which has been acclaimed not only locally but around the world – thanks to the quality of its contributors who can be measured rather for their intelligence and agility of mind than for their physical age.

(Note from the Editor: The above appeared in the May 1996 issue of the newsletter of the Germiston Philatelic Society – Vol 34, No 5 – and the Editor was requested to consider it for publication here as well.)

Reply to Frescura: VI

Collector of Stellenbosch writes: I think Dr Frescura should face the facts: Despite his protestations to the contrary, he inherited an organization that ran efficiently and to the satisfaction of deposit holders for many years.

Through disastrous transformation policies and the appointment of incompetent staff, he is now losing customers at an alarming rate.

Shifting the blame, and a sarcastic response to criticism, will not solve the problems of Philatelic Services.

Reply to Frescura: VII

Maurice Daniels of Sandringham writes: Whilst Dr Frescura's choice of expression, sarcasm and obvious dislikes are perhaps too boldly stated, he is, in essence, correct in what he writes. Mr Nel is nit-picking, the Springbok emblem was at that time under review, Dr Frescura does have experience in matters graphic, and it is time for Victorian ideas to be discarded.

One can only agree that our hobby "is in a state of crisis, with shrinking attendances at club level. . . a poorly funded youth programme. . . and an (regretfully) outdated publication".

If Dr Frescura has the answer I don't rightly know, but what I do know is that South African philately is not the vibrant hobby it once was.

Ons stokperdjie se toekoms

Neville Gomm van Auckland Park skryf: Die briewe van A R van der Berg van Wonderboom-Suid *(The SA Philatelist,* Februarie 1996, p 2) en van Martin Nicholson van Northamptonshire *(The SA Philatelist,* Oktober 1994, p 158) het my laat besluit om hierdie brief te skryf.

Wanneer 'n mens in die algemeen kyk na wat die twee briefskrywers te sê gehad het, dan wil 'n mens tot die gevolgtrekking kom dat dit hoofsaaklik te make het met finansiële implikasies. Ek wil met eersgenoemde saamstem dat filatelie nie deurgaans bekostigbare plesier aan deelnemers bied nie.

Daar is diegene wat vinnig en lief daarvoor is om te sê 'n mens versamel wat jy wil, en dat jy dus sonder groot uitgawes 'n versameling kan opbou. Ek is self 'n voorstander van hierdie beginsel, maar juis daarom sal ek nooit met my goedkoop versameling enige hoogtes bereik nie.

Nou gaan die nuwe filatelis, en hy soek goed wat hy kan bekostig, en hy begin sy versameling. Hierna kom die probleme en die groot onkostes wanneer die nuweling 'n bietjie verder wil gaan as net sy versameling wat hy teen bekostigbare pryse bymekaar gebring het. Dit is die stadium waar mense besluit om maar liewer tou op te gooi.

Laat ons nou maar eerlik wees. Enigiemand wat 'n betekenisvolle merk in die filatelie wil maak, moet finansieel vermoënd wees.

Die publisiteitsplakkers sê seëls versamel is groot pret, en dit is gesinsvermaak, en vra dat mense op seëlversameling verlief moet raak want dit is die stokperdjie van konings. Maar dit wil voorkom of dit net konings is wat dit deesdae kan bekostig om in die filatelie bolangs uit te kom.

Diegene wat met die filatelie gemoeid is, sal maar verlief moet neem met die werklikheid. Baie mense begin belangstel, en begin met 'n versameling. Namate hulle vorder, ontdek hulle dat die filatelie in sy wese nie is soos hulle dit vir hulself voorgestel het nie, of soos dit aan hulle voorgehou is nie.

Veral die finansiële implikasies wat vordering meebring, blyk die groot afskrikmiddel te wees. Ek meen baie mense vergelyk mettertyd die koste van filateliese plesier met die koste van al die ander plesier in die lewe, en vind dat dit na hulle mening meer waarde vir geld bied.

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Ek het 'n spesialis versameling masjien posmerke wat uit duisende items bestaan. Die versameling word met baie navorsing verbeter. Dit is na my mening een van die grootste en omvattendste in sy soort in die land. Daardie versameling sal egter nie in my leeftyd uitgestal word nie. Dit sal ook nooit so volledig wees soos wat dit kan wees, of soos wat ek begeer om dit maak nie.

Die rede hiervoor is suiwer dat ek nie finansieel in staat is om aan die vereistes wat die filatelie stel, te voldoen nie.

Skulp met 'n "c", nie "g"

Frank van Rensburg van Roodepoort skryf: In *The SA Philatelist* (Februarie 1996, p 22) word die RSA se seeskulpe behandel – almal behalwe die laaste een heel regs, naamlik *Gypreaea fultoni*. (Sien *The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1995, p 181 vir illustrasie).

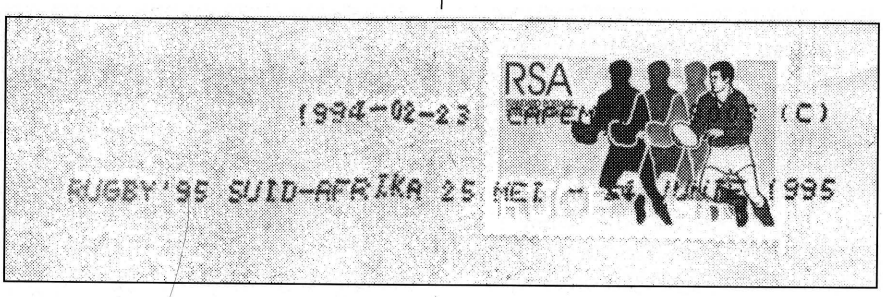
Rudolf Lasar van Keulen in Duitsland het my aandag daarop gevestig dat dit *Cypraea*, met 'n "c", en sonder 'n "e" ná die "r", moet wees. In *Sea Shells of South Africa* deur Richard Kilburn en Elizabeth Ripley, is daar 'n *Cypraea felina* maar die *fultoni* word nie aangegee nie.

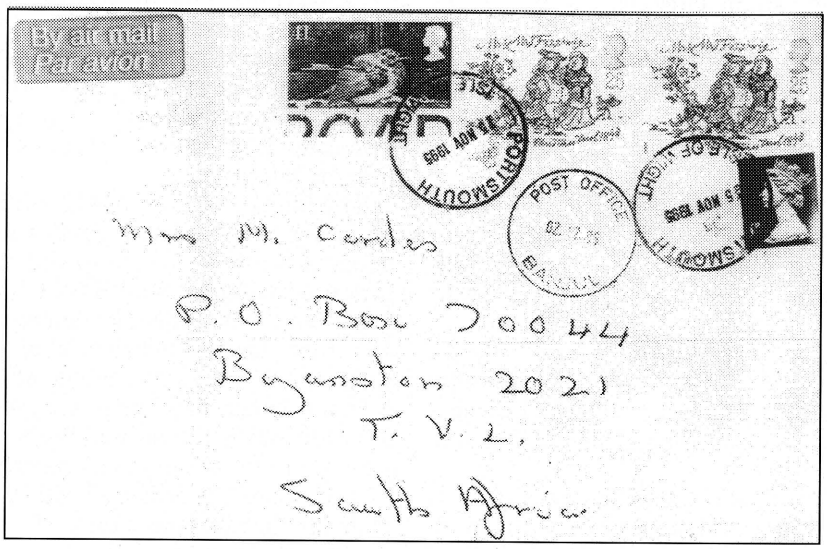
Is daar dalk 'n skulp-foendi wat kan help met die juiste weergawe?

Another Rugby World Cup slogan find

Brian Bredenkamp of Stellenbosch writes: The slogans of the Rugby World Cup have had extensive coverage with the article by John Bleazard in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1995 p 103 and the sequel by Dick Klein in the December issue p 168. According to these sources the earliest recorded date of the "Rugby '95 South Africa 25 May – 24 June 1995" slogan is 22 May 1995, cancelled with inkjet at Capemail.

From the same source I show on the accompanying illustration an impression dated 23 February, 1994, one and a quarter years earlier!





Sorting problems all over

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes:

I enclose herewith a photocopy of a cover my mother received on 13 January 1996. It enclosed a Christmas card, relatively clearly addressed to South Africa (including Transvaal!), posted from the UK on 25 November 1995.

The transit strike of Banjul (ex Bathurst, Gambia) is dated 2 December 1995.

This illustrates that our own Post Office is not the only one to have sorting problems. It is also interesting to note that it took some six weeks to get here from the Gambia.

Obviously this is not the date of actual usage. The cover was found within the limits of usage defined by Bleazard and Klein. It was not contrived, and it served normal postal usage. As it is obviously a mere error, the implication is that there may have been many more items cancelled with the incorret date on that one day during late May or June 1995.

The more things change. . .

DG Mordant of Florida Park writes: I have a sunset cover which shows that the more things change, the more they remain the same.

It carries a London Tombstone postmark of 5 May 1840 – the last day before the introduction of the Penny Black. It was adressed to Mr William Sloan, Miller Street, Glasgow, posted from Wapping, and arrived in Glasgow on 7 May 1840.

The contents are so similar to the sort of complaint still being voiced today in the commodity trading business: Denying liability for a claim.

"We are this day favoured with your letter of the 2nd instant, with manifest pr *Olive* and enclosing two bills of lading for Iron p that vessel.

"We observe that Mr. Murdoch had received a letter from the Great Western Railway complaining of the 41 bags of Waste. . . being damaged. . . but as far as our judgement goes, we can discover no fault belonging to it. . .

"We have been given to understand that some other parties have been offering waste to the company. . ."

Be on the alert for a forgery

Ken Joseph of Hout Bay writes: Readers should perhaps be made aware of a rather inept forgery which recently popped up. It purports to be a Peddie handstamp, but no such South African type with the initials "S.A." exists, and it is dated (also in a non-existent type of dateline) "6-JNE/42".

The copy shown here has been manipulated on a photostat machine to

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make as much as possible of the background drop out. The forgery was found on blocks of four of the Large Union War issue, 3d and 6d, and on a pair of the 4d.

According to the Union Handbook, these were issued on 1 August, 3 September and 20 August 1941 respectively. So our forging friend at least got the date in his bogus handstamp right!

Apologie oor 'n illustrasie

Die Redakteur skryf: Op p 35 van *The SA Philatelist* van April 1996 is daar 'n wit gat waar 'n illustrasie moes verskyn het by die brief "Eerste vlug van Kaapstad na PE".

Dit was 'n ou koerantfoto van die vlieënier majoor Allister Miller, waarvan die reproduksie op die laaste oomblik onoorkomelike tegniese probleme veroorsaak het. Dit moes derhalwe helaas geskrap word.



It went through the mails

The Editor writes: A collector who wishes to remain anonymous – as he has just defrauded the SA Post Office, of course – has offered proof of the fact that the "press release" sheetlet of January's soccer stamps went through the mails. He had stuck it onto an envelope which he adressed to himself.

The Capemail handstamp was applied in February 1996, the day's date is unfortunately illegible. (The sheetlet was described in *The SA Philatelist* of February 1996 on p 21.)

He had better luck with the Standard Postage Bloemfontein 150 "press release" (see illustration on p 59, *The SA Philatelist*, of April 1996). With PAID/BETAAL in a rectangular box on the right of the double circle Capemail datestamp – the colour is a violent magenta – the date clearly reads 1996 -3 - 20.

The actual date of issue was, in fact, 28 March 1996!

■ **J E VAN PUYENBROEK** *Cinderella Stamp Club*

British embossed colourless revenue stamps at the Cape, 1825

THE second British occupation of the Cape of Good Hope followed the battle of Blaauwberg when the Dutch Settlers and troops under Lt-Gen Janssens were defeated by Maj-Gen David Baird. The Articles of Capitulation detailed by Proclamation were signed at 4 o'clock on 10 January 1806 in the Castle of Good Hope.



Fig 1

The Articles declared that "private property was to be untouched, and the Dutch VOC paper money was to continue in circulation". Unfortunately, that did not mean that only the VOC rix-dollars and stuivers were in circulation (Fig 1), but also the guilder and skilling of the Batavian Republic.

Transfers of property, of loan places and mortgages were paid for in guilders, with VOC embossed revenue stamps impressed on the relevant documents to pay the stamp duty. Even worse, the confusion over currency did not end there. Spanish gold dubloons, Portugese gold Johannas, Indian gold Mohurs and other coins, making eleven in all, were also in circulation.

No wonder the C-in-C felt obliged to issue the proclamation "to prevent all disputes, and the better regularity of trade" (See Fig 2). Something of a financial nightmare!

THE author's first contribution on the revenue stamps of the Cape of Good Hope – in the VOC period – was in *The SA Philatelist* of December 1995, p162.

For the record, a contemporary document shows that what is described as "Cleyn Zegel" in the second paragraph of that article, was properly written as " 't Kleyn Zegel".

This article continues what John van Puyenbroek has aptly described as "the Cape Revenue saga", which he would seem to be the first to have tackled at such length and depth.

The British were obviously at ease with the VOC rix-dollars, stuivers, guilders and skillings because this currency and the VOC embossed revenue stamps continued in circulation for no less than nineteen years, until the introduction of the British Embossed stamps in 1825. Even then, the new stamps did not prevent

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PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Major-General Sir DAVID BAIRD, &c.

WHEREAS it is highly necessary for the prevention of all disputes, and the better regularity of trade, that the several Coins of Money which are current in this Colony should have a fixed and determined value assigned to them, I having taken the same into my most serious consideration, have determined, and do hereby order accordingly, that the respective values of the Coins hereafter mentioned should be as follows:—

	Sts.	Stvs.	Sterling:-
A Guinea,	44	264	£1 2 0
A Doubl. 16 Span. Dollars,	160	960	4 0 0
A Johanna, 8 ditto,	80	480	2 0 0
A Ducat,	19	114	0 9 6
A Venetian Sequin,	19	114	0 9 6
Gold Mohr, 15 Sic. Rup.			1 17 6
A Pagoda,	16	96	0 8 0
A Spanish Dollar,	10	60	0 5 0
A Rupee,	5	30	0 2 6
English Shilling,	2	12	0 1 0
Copper Coin,		2	0 0 2

And whereas it is important for the prosperity and welfare of this Settlement, that the exportation of all Gold or Silver currency should be prohibited; and whereas the same has been accordingly forbidden by several Proclamations issued from time to time, not only in the Dutch Government, but also by the British Governors and Commanders, I think proper to issue this Proclamation, strictly prohibiting the exportation of any Money or Monies current in this Settlement.

Any person convicted of attempting to act contrary to this Regulation, and found guilty of having exported a greater sum than to the value of Ten Pounds, will be punished by the confiscation of the whole of the Money or Monies so exported, one third of which will be given to the Informer.

Given under my Hand and Seal, this 23d day of January, 1806.

(Signed) D. BAIRD,
Major-General, Commanding in Chief.

By Order of His Excellency,
(Signed) J. C. SMYTH, *A. C. Secretary.*

Fig 2

the VOC issues being used until well into the British period. I have a document dated 18.11.33 bearing an 1825 embossed 9d, 3/- and 6/- together with a 1791 VOC embossed 6 stuivers. No doubt there are even later dates of usage than this.

A proclamation issued on 23 January 1806 valued the English shilling at 12 stuivers. A further proclamation on 12 June 1806 said that "the Quarter Guilder is to pass for 6 Stivers (sic) Currency, or be equal to the present Paper Skilling". Further, "the English Copper Pennies imported into the Settlement during the last war are to be thrown again into circulation and to pass current for two Stivers (sic) or the third part of a Paper Skilling". The rix-dollar was valued at 4 shillings sterling.

A Government Advertisement published on 23 January 1806 "By Order of His Excellency Sir David Baird" and signed by JC Smyth, Acting Colonial Secretary, Castle of Good Hope, gave notice that "all Stamps above the value of One Rix-dollar are to be signed as usual by the Colonial Secretary or Officer acting as such, and all stamps of a smaller value by Mr Brand, Chief Clerk in the Secretary's Office".

On 22 May 1812 a "Tariff of Stamp Duties in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope" was issued by proclamation. Again, the rates were listed in stuivers and rix-dollars. The tariffs were little changed from the tariffs issued by the Dutch Authorities of the VOC period. (This tariff is reproduced here in typescript.)

district in which he resides, to be placed on right side of each cart and waggon. Fine for non-compliance 50Rds. A person must lead the first pair of any waggon drawn by oxen. A penalty will be levied upon all carters who shall crack their whips on passing through the Town."

Tariff of Stamp Duties
Published 22 May,1812

Art.1	Transfers passed at the Secretary's Office
2	Transfers of Loan Places
3	Mortgages passed at the Secretary's Office Government Bank and Orphan Chamber
4.	Bonds Passed before Notaries
5	Wills and Codicils
6	Deeds and other Papers connected with the Government Secretary's Office, Court of Justice or other Inferior Courts
7	Agreements and all other Deeds relative thereto
8	Vendue Notes, or Vendue Accounts, and all other documents relative to Public Sales
9	Privileges and Licences
10	Powers of Attorney
11	Protests of Bills of Exchange, Drafts, Promises or Affidavits
12	Transfers of Mortgage Bonds, Moveables or Slaves
13	Civil Servants, Deeds of Appointment or Promotion, Admissions of Notaries and Attornies
14	Court of Appeals, Exhibits, Sentences, Cases, Orders of Court and Reports
15	Admiralty Court, Affidavits, Claims, Every other and each Witness, Decree of Unlivery, allegations, Minutes of Court, Letters of Marque, etc.

Sgd. Lieut-Gen Sir John Craddock
and Henry Alexander, Secretary
Cape of Good Hope

Proclamation of 12 May 1806 announced: 'Silver coinage issued: ¼ Guilder = to 6 Stiver, Penny pieces equal to 2 Stiver currency. *Proclamation* of 8 December 1808: Licences are renewable on January 1808. After 15 January no such licences will be granted but lists will then be forthwith transmitted to His Majesty's Fiscal for his information and guidance [veiled threat!] *Government Advertisement*. 1 December 1811, TG Ter Blans dismissed from his situation of Heemraad (Cape District Officer for George) for ill treatment of his slave. *Proclamation* of 3 June 1814 listing a tariff of stamps to be used for the receipts of rent payable on land granted on perpetual quitrent. Loan leases were changed to perpetual quitrent on 6 August 1813 (See Fig 4, page 30). Quitrents were rents payable by a freeholder to the Cape Government. No land was to be granted which had been occupied before a legal tenure was obtained.

By a Proclamation dated May 1817 deeds of burghership could be granted to foreigners and aliens having resided for the last five years in the colony, "to be written on a stamp of 250 rix-dollars."

On 23 June 1809 a certificate on a stamp of 6 St was introduced for waggons. The proclamation said "Accidents frequently happen and that great danger is incurred especially in the night-time, from the negligence of Drivers of Carriages and particularly Bullock Waggons passing backwards and forwards from and to the Country and Cape Town. Number of regulations issued; keep to the left-hand side of the road giving always the right hand to carriages they meet. Numbers to be painted 1½in in length on a blackboard 1 ft. sq with owner's name and district in which he resides, to be placed on right side of each cart and waggon. Fine for non-compliance 50Rds A person must lead the first pair of any waggon drawn by oxen. A penalty will be levied upon all carters who shall crack their Whips on passing through the Town."

A proclamation of 12 May 1806 announces "Silver coinage issued; ¼ Guilder = to Stiver, Penny pieces equal to 2 Stiver currency".

Proclamation 8 December 1808: "Licenses are renewable on 1st January 1808. After 15th January no such licences will be granted but lists will then be forthwith transmitted to His Majesty's Fiscal for his information and guidance". (Veiled threat!)

Proclamation 3 June 1814, listing a tariff of stamps to be used for the receipts of rent payable on land granted on perpetual quitrent. Loan leases were changed to perpetual quitrent on 6 August 1813 (See Fig 3)

PROCLAMATION.

His Excellency Lieut.-General Lord CHARLES HENRY SOMERSET, &c. &c.

WHEREAS in consequence of the Regulations directed by the Proclamation of the 6th August, 1813, for the change of the Tenures of Loan Leases to Tenures on Perpetual Quitrent, some doubts have arisen with respect to the value of the Stamps on which the Receipts for the several amounts of Quitrent due to His Majesty's Government should be drawn out, I do therefore, by virtue of the Power and Authority in me vested, hereby order and direct, that Stamps, according to the following Tariff, be hereafter used for all Receipts for Money paid, on account of Quitrent due to the Government, of which the Receiver General of Land Revenue, the Collector of Tithes, and the respective Landdrosts, are desired to take especial notice.

TARIFF of Stamps to be used for the Receipts of Rent payable on Land granted on Perpetual Quitrent.

			Rds.	Sks.
From	1 to	10 Morgen	0	2
10 to	30	——	0	3
30 to	50	——	0	4
50 to	60	——	0	5
60 to	80	——	0	6
80 to	100	——	1	0
100 to	500	——	1	4
500 to	1000	——	2	4
1000 to	2000	——	4	0
2000 and upwards,			5	0

And that no Person may plead ignorance hereof, this shall be published and affixed as usual.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and Seal, at the Cape of Good Hope, this 3d day of June, 1814.

(Signed) C. H. SOMERSET.

By His Excellency's Command,
(Signed) H. ALEXANDER, *Secretary.*

Fig 3

Quitrents were rents payable by a freeholder to the Cape Government, and no land was to be granted which had been occupied before legal tenure was obtained.

By a Proclamation dated 2 May 1817, deeds of burghership could be granted to foreigners and aliens "having resided for the last 5 years in the Colony, to be written on a stamp of 250 Rix-dollars".

Proclamation 14 March 1823: "The Annual Fair is to be held at Hartham(?) in August next. Arrangements to be made for a sufficient number of armed inhabitants to attend to maintain order and tranquility. Natives of the Colony to Northward allowed and encouraged to bring their wares for sale. The superintending Magistrate is to ascertain that all the transactions with the Natives are just and fair and he is to arbitrate in any disagreements over price of bartering.

"Disposal of Spirits, Wines and Beers etc. is forbidden (Fine 50Rd on a stamp) and seizure will be effected. No firearms or ammunition to be sold or bartered. Inhabitants attending the Fair are to be kind and courteous to

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the Natives, to ensure a continuance of friendly intercourse with neighbouring people."

Proclamation 18 March 1823: "Regulations for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Slave Population; eg No Field Labour on the Sabbath Day. Christian Slaves exempt from all Taxes. Slave Children to be sent to Free Schools. In cases of Marriage, the children to belong to the Proprietor, Husband and wife not to be sold separately nor Children to be separated from their parents by sale until 10 years old. If to a Christian woman, but not in wedlock, not until 9 years old; if Mother is not a Christian, 8 years old.

"Reports on slaves in irons to be made within 24 hours. Maltreatment of a slave punishable by law, by fine, imprisonment or banishment. Every day the slave is to be supplied with sufficient and wholesome food (Penalty 25Rd). Slaves not to be compelled to work more than 10 hours in each 24 (1 Apr to 30 Sep) or 12 hours in 24 (1 Oct to 31 Mar) Number of Stripes given to a slave in one day is limited to 25."

Advertisement 4 June 1823: "His Majesty having been pleased to dispense with the Services of Lieut-Col Christopher Bird as Secretary to the Government, HE the Governor has been pleased to appoint Pieter G Brink Esq to be Acting Colonial Secretary until the arrival of Lt-Col Bird's Successor."

Col Bird was nominated "Signer of Stamps above 1 Rix-dollar" in 1818, a duty taken over by Brink.

A new tariff of stamp duties was issued by proclamation on 10 December 1824, also in stuivers and rix-dollars as previously, and which made some amendments to the 1812 issue.

In Art. 7 the Hiring of Houses and Lands was increased from 24 St. to 1 Rd. Under Art. 9 the Annual Licence for Wine Merchants went up 5 times, from 50 Rd to 250 Rd and Letters of Burghership from 100 Rd to 250 Rd.

A Special License to be United in Marriage without publication of the Banns was introduced on a stamp of 200 Rd, and a very large duty of 600 Rd on an Annual License to "Brew Cape Beer".

The stamp on Transfer of a Slave by Gift, Sale or Inheritance went up from 3 Rd to 5 Rd. Against Art. 14 Court of Appeal, stamp duties for Exhibits and Reports doubled to 24 Stuivers.

Finally, under Art. 15 Admiralty Court Tariffs including Affidavits, Claims, Decree of Unlivery and Allegations etc were all doubled. All the new charges were 1 Rd or below except for "Letters of Marque" (a lisense granted to a private citizen to arm a ship and seize merchant vessels of another nation). This lisense was increased from 50 Rd to 100 Rd.

On 15 June 1825 a proclamation reduced the value of the rix-dollar to 1/6d and the skilling to 2¼d or 9 farthings, and the Cape guilder to 6d. At about the same time, the first British embossed uncoloured issues were introduced.

The stamps ranged from ½d to £50, and the dies were made for the Cape Government at the Stamp Office, Somerset House, London (see Table I)

Some of the 1825 stamp duties/tariffs are listed in Table I. £15 for a Special Marriage License was a small fortune in those days!

An annual license for inhabitants of Constantia, Wynbergen (sic) and Steenbergen (sic) to graze their cattle cost 15/-. Constantia is now an exclusive suburb of Cape Town and recent "new settlers" there are Earl Spencer, Mark Thatcher, and families. (I hope they don't forget to pay their sheep grazing tax!)

The dies for the 1825 issue are all of a similar design (see Fig 4) These stamps do not photocopy well and the 6/- and 3/- in Fig 4 have been given a little artistic(?) help so they can be seen better.

All the stamps have "Cape of Good Hope" in a banner at the top, with a crown beneath, over a decoration with the value inside, in capitals. The shields surrounding the stamps are all different.

The 1825 issue was superseded after the promulgation of Act No 3 of 1864, by the 1864 Embossed in Colour, and the 1865 Embossed uncoloured issues, and the 1865 De La Rue perforated adhesives. The Stamp Act came into force on 1 September 1864, but the De La Rue adhesives were not ready for shipment to the Cape until 6 March 1865, arriving in Cape Town on 13 April 1865, along with the De La Rue Embossed, uncoloured issue stamp dies.

To bridge the gap the Cape Government gave permission for Cape triangulars and rectangulars to be used for revenue purposes until 1868. The triangulars are found used mainly on cheques and promis-

TABLE I

Cape of Good Hope 1825 Rates of Stamp Duty

½d	No Rate. Used with 4d to make up 4½ Rate, for example
3d	(1) Licence for a waggon (2) Transfers, value 6d to £7.10s
4d	Receipts of Perpetual Quintrent on land of 1 to 10 Morgen
4½d	(1) Deed proving the Inheritance of Minors (2) With a 4d stamp, Acknowledgement of a Debt
6d	Every other and each Witness in Admiralty Court
9d	(1) Annual Licence to go to the Hot Baths (2) Licence to cut timber, each load
12d	Receipts of Perpetual Quintrent, 30 to 50 Morgen (Morgen is approx 2/3 of an acre)
18d	(1) Arrests of Persons or property (2) Bottomry Bonds from 1/6 to £36 (3) Annual Licence for a Boatman (3) Extracts from the Register of Slaves
2/-	Decree of Appraisement and Sale, with Decree of Removal
3/-	Certificate of Mortgage on Transfer of a Slave
4/-	Vendue Notes (Public Sales) from £7 tot £9
5/-	Used on a Quitrent receipt with a £2 stamp, for 60 to 80 Morgen
6/-	Bottomry Bonds from £35 to £70
7/6	Annual Licence to kill Game (6/- used with 1/6)
10/-	Used with a 6d stamp for Vendue Sale Notes of £25 to £35
12/-	Bottomry Bonds from £70 tot £170
15/-	(1) Charter Parties for a Ship under 200 tons or 100 Lasts (2) Licence for Inhabitants of Constantia, Wynbergen and Steenbergen to graze their cattle (3) General Power of Attorney to Persons not residing in the Colony
18/-	Reply to a Memorial for Venia Agendi
20/-	Grants on Land on Quitrent from 10 tot 30 Morgen
25/-	Transfers passed at the Secretary's Office, from £500 to £750
30/-	Annual Licence for keeping a Retail Shop in Cape Town
£2	Bills of Lading from 50 Tons upwards (2) Licence for retail of Cape Brewed Beer
£3	(1) Annual Licences for Clubs or Societies (2) Annual Licences for Wine Merchants
£4	Deeds of Venia Aetatis. (2) Annual Licences for Butchers and Bakers (3) Mortgage Bond, with a stamp of 5/-
£6	Annual Licence for each Public Billiard Table
£10	Annual Licence for Vendue Master
£15	(1) Special Licence to be united in Marriage without publication of the Banns (2) Annual Licence for retailing Foreign Wines
£20	Granting of Deeds of Burghership to Foreigners and Aliens having resided in the Colony for the last 5 years
£50	Annual Licence for the Brewing of Cape Beer (2) Annual Licence to sell Cape Wines, and Cape and Foreign Spirits, in the Table Valley

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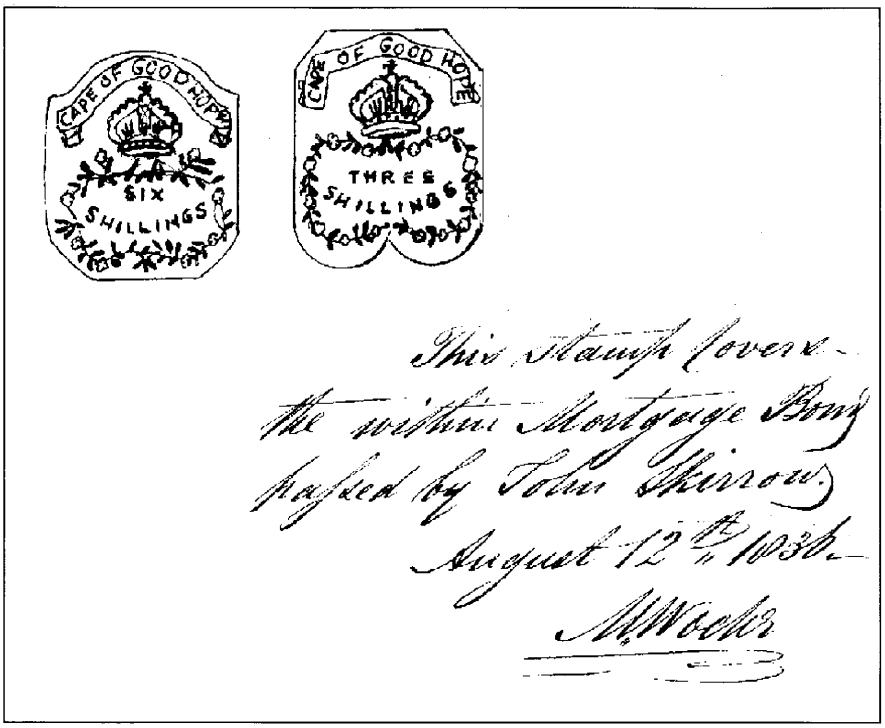


Fig 4

sory notes. Pairs of 1/- triangulars are to be found rouletted, on notes. (These stamps will be covered in future articles.)

Initially, taxable documents were taken to the Stamp Office in Cape Town and there impressed with the appropriate stamps. Later stamps were embossed on slips of paper approximately 172 by 80,3 mm and supplied to Distributors of Stamps at the various drostdys (magisterial offices) etc., where they were sold to the public as required. They were then affixed to the document by glue or wafers.

The 1825 issues are to be found on coloured laid paper – blue, white, azure and a pale greyish azure – and on white wove paper. A white to yellowish paper was the commonest used until around the 1860s, when blue predominated for the embossed issues. The paper bore a watermark, the year of manufacture and the name of the manufacturer.

The earliest I have seen has a Britannia watermark, the name "Laverstoke" and the date "1825".

I have not seen the white wove paper with a watermark, and it appears to have been the least used.

The earliest pale greyish azure seen also has a Britannia watermark, the date "1827" and the name "W Tucker".

There appears to be no real significance to the various colours, this seemed to depend solely upon which manufacturer supplied the paper. This tends to be supported by the fact that I have five Powers of Attorney bearing 9d stamps on each of the five papers. (If anyone knows differently, I would be very pleased to hear from them.)

The *Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser* for 8 November 1822 carries an advertisement. This requests "Tenders for the supply of 100 Reams (50 000 sheets) of Foolscap paper for use of the Stamp Office, stating price per ream accompanied by a sample of the paper, by 13th November 1822. P G Brink, Acting Commissioner, Stamp Office". There was no mention of colour.

A further 50 000 sheets were requested on 1 March 1823, 11 July 1823 and 62 500 on 28 November 1823, another 50 000 on 3 April 1824 and 10 000 sheets on 30 July 1824.

In all 272 500 sheets were ordered over a period of sixteen months. The Cape Stamp Office was certainly getting through a lot of paper!

In Table II, I have listed the number of 1825 embossed stamps in my collection, together with those known in other collections (eg The Kay Collection in the British Library and Gary Ryan's Gold Medal collection of Cape Revenues) plus information from dealers, and auction catalogues.

It is obviously a very incomplete listing because it does not take into account collections, dealers and auction catalogues around the world.

TABLE II

Cape of Good Hope: British Embossed Colourless Revenue Stamps 1825

Value	Number in my Coll.	Others known to me	Total	Price Rand
½d	15	11	26	35
3d	7	11	18	60
4d	11	5	16	80
4½d	5	4	9	85
6d	6	18	24	50
9d	20	11	31	45
12d	1	2	3	125
18d	8	17	25	80
2/-	9	15	24	85
3/-	9	9	18	90
4/-	3	2	5	115
5/-	4	3	7	90
6/-	10	17	27	65
10/-	2	6	8	100
12/-	3	2	5	105
15/-	1	3	5	115
18/-	1	3	5	140
20/-	2	11	13	75
*25/-	2	1	3	170
30/-	5	13	18	115
£2	3	3	6	150
£3	3	3	6	160
*£4	1	0	1	260
£6	1	2	3	220
£10	0	1	1	275
£15	1	2	3	320
*£20	0	1	1	375
£50	0	1	1	430

* Not listed by Sherwood

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But from the point of view of my 25 years of collecting (the last 15 years, exclusively Cape Revenues) it does give a rough idea of which values are commonest and which are the rare ones. I still await my first 1825 £10, £20 and £50.

The price quoted are an update of the Sherwood South African Revenues Catalogue of 1980, and prices I have paid or noted. If anyone has any suggestions regarding prices I would be very pleased to hear from them.

Acknowledgements
Virtually all the historical information in this article including all references to Stamp Tariffs comes from the Cape Records held by the British Library and stored in Doncaster, Yorkshire. They are shipped to London when required for research by a reader.

My sincere thanks to Mr Richard Cheffins, Head of Official Publications and Social Sciences Services at the British Library in London for his kind assistance in making available to me the various Cape publications listed below, and to Chrissie Ronalds of the Photocopy Desk in BL Reproductions for help in producing a mountain of photocopying, most expertly done. ■

References
British Library Records:
Cape of Good Hope Proclamations and Government Advertisements, from 10 January 1806 to 25 January 1825, Ref. No. CSD10
Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser, from 18 January 1806 to 26 December 1827 Ref. No OGC70
Cape of Good Hope Gazette, from 3 January 1818 to 31 December 1830 Ref. No OGC70

Other References
Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal by Leonard J Dodd, Pretoria, 1958 and 1967 Editions.
Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of South Africa by Eric Sherwood, Sale, Cheshire, England, published 1980, with prices.

■ **JOH GROENEWALD RDPSA** *Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society*

'Stopped by censor' – hoe party briewe teruggekom het

DIE skrywer se versameling van die Boerepos in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog is by Disa 79 met 'n internasionale Grand Prix bekroon, en is sedertdien 'n waardevolle besit van die Oorlogsmuseum in Bloemfontein. Soos hierdie artikel toon, het sy belangstelling in sy onderwerp voorgeduur.

Joh Groenewald is ook voorsitter van die Filateliese Federasie se bestuurskomitee, die vorige redakteur van *The SA Philatelist,* en steeds voorsitter van die Federasie se subkomitee vir die tydskrif.

"STOPPED BY CENSOR – Return To Sender" – maar het die briewe ooit teruggekom?

Dit was in die eerste maande van 1900, en die Britse Ryk was gewikkel in oorlog met die twee klein Boere-republieke in die Suid-Afrikaanse binneland.

Posverbindings tussen die republieke en die aangrensende Britse kolonies is met die begin van die oorlog in Oktober 1899 opgeskort. Die republieke het egter nog 'n pos-poort na die buiteland gehad: die hawe van Lourenço Marques in Delagoabaai, in die neutrale Portugees-Oos-Afrika.

Vanuit die republieke is pos na die buurlande en na die buiteland gemerk "via Delagoabaai", en vir Europese pos soms selfs met die naam van 'n vertrekkende skip.

Die meeste van die pos was vir die res van Suid-Afrika of vir Brittanje en is van Delagoabaai verskeep na Durban.

Hier is die briewe oopgemaak en meestal teruggehou. Party is gemerk "Mail service suspended". Sulke stempels vir "posdiens opgeskort" is egter in hoofsaak (in Kaapstad en Durban) gebruik vir pos wat vanuit die Kaapkolonie en Natal na die republieke gerig is.*

Hierdie kennisgewing beteken bloot wat dit sê: daar is geen posdiens nie want dit is gestaak.

In werklikheid was daar steeds 'n posdiens (oor Delagoabaai), onderhewig aan briewesensuur. Vroeg in 1900 het 'n reghoekig omraamde handstempel in Durban verskyn, met in hoofletters:

STOPPED BY CENSOR
RETURN TO SENDER

Hierdie merk, in violet, word hoofsaaklik gevind op posstukke vanuit die republieke. Die aanwysing lui dat die sensor die brief onderskep het en dat dit aan die afsender terugbesorg moet word – nie omrede die "diens opgeskort" is nie, maar waarskynlik omrede van sensuur.

Die merk is aangebring op die voorkant van poskaarte en van briewe, al het die briewe verdere plakkers wat aandui dat sensors dit oopgesny en weer verseël het.

Sulke posstukke het reëlmatig dan ook op die voorkant die enkelkringstempel van die "RETURNED LETTER OFFICE / NATAL" met datum in die middel.

Dit het nog altyd gelyk of hierdie kantoor die laaste rusplek vir menige brief geword het. "Return to sender"? In die afgelope halfeeu se studie van



Fig 1: Koevert vanuit die ZAR na Kaapstad, via Delagoabaai. (Fig 2 toon die rugkant).

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die oorlogspos was daar nog nooit getuienis dat enige briewe ooit teruggestuur is nie.

Nou het ons twee soorte voorbeelde wat bevestig dat dit wel gebeur het.

Dr Mark Chutter van Pretoria het 'n koevert met twee ZAR 1d seëls, gestempel Potchefstroom op 27 Januarie 1900 na Kaapstad. (Fig 1) Die pienk ZAR-sensorplakker "Geopend onder Krijgswet" is linksom, met 'n Pretoriase rugstempel van 29 Januarie 1900. (Fig 2)

Die Durbanse aankomsmerk is vir 7 Februarie 1900. Voor op die koevert is die reghoekige STOPPED BY CENSOR / RETURN TO SENDER, met die sensorplakker "Opened under Martial Law" bo-oor die hoek van die reghoekmerk.

Ook op die sigkant is die stempel van die Returned Letter Office/Natal met moeilik leesbare datum 19-2-00.

Mark het nie die oorspronklike brief nie, maar binne die koevert is 'n bleekgroen papiertjie (Fig 3) van 64 mm diep by 107 mm wyd, met daarop gedruk:

Deze brief is niet verzonden, daar de militaire authoriteiten in Natal weigeren brieven van dezen Staat te laten doorgaan.
ISAAC VAN ALPHEN
Postmeester-Generaal

Aan die regterkant is daar in twee lyne "Datum" en "Stempel" en hiertussen is 'n dubbelkring-stempel aangebring: "ONAFGEHAALDEN BRIEVEN DEPT / Z.A.R." met datum -9 MRT 00.

Dus het die brief teruggekom, met die verklaring oor die omstandighede. Mark benadruk dat daar niks is wat die strokie met die koevert verbind nie, behalwe dat hy die twee items jare gelede as 'n eenheid verkry het.

Die tweede soort voorbeeld is verskaf deur Harry Birkhead RDPSA.

Die koevertjie is aan Misses K & J Leask, c/o Mrs Copland, Dundas St, Stromness, Orkney, Scotland. Dit is gefrankeer met 2 ZAR 1d seëls en een ½d seël (vir die oorsese brieftarief van 2½d), gestempel Wolmaransstad/ ZAR op 6 Januarie 1900. (Fig 4)

Dit is van hul ma, aan die twee klein meisietjies op kosskool: (Fig 5) Dit lees:

Wolmaransstad
Jany 5th 1900

My darling Children
Another year has dawned on us. You are still young and I am getting advanced in years, but may we all be enabled to spend this year better than any previous year of our life. May God give us grace to do our duty faithfully. May we all be enabled to live nearer our Heavenly Father, and to perform our daily routine conscientiously.

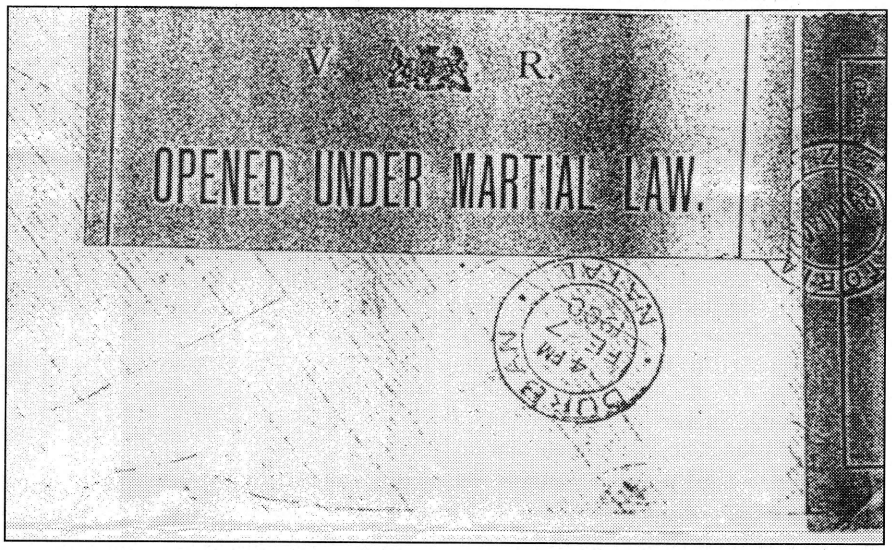


Fig 2: Rugkant met sensorplakker



Fig 3: Binne die ZAR-koevert was die strokie met die verduideliking onder die naam van die ZAR se Posmeester-generaal, gestempel met die datumstempel van die onafgehaalde briewe-departement.



Fig 4
Die koevertjie aan twee jong meisies op kosskool in die Orkade.

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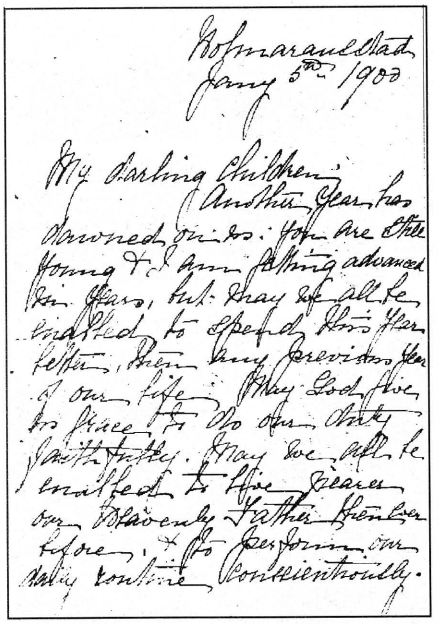


Fig 5

Try and learn your lessons well and be good girls, both in school and out of it, & I hope we will receive as favourable reports of you when the war is over. Never forget to be gentle and polite . . . [en verder in hierdie trant]
Ever your loving Mother

Die ZAR-sensorplakker is in Pretoria gerugstempel op 30 Januarie 1900. In Durban het die brief die "Opened under Martial Law"-plakker gekry, die merk "Stopped by Censor/Return to Sender" en die Returned Letter Office se stempel van . .-2-00.

Hierdie brief het in Wolmaransstad teruggekom in 'n groen amptelike koevert ("In Dienst") gerig aan "Mrs Leask, Wolmaransstad" (Fig 6). Die koevert het aan die regterkant die woorde "Teruggezonden Brief", met links bo: " Wet No 1, 1886 (Art 61) en links onder: "Terugezonden Brieven Departement, Generale Postkantoor, Pretoria, Z.A.R." met bo-oor hierdie adres 'n klein reghoekige omraamde stempel in donker violet.

Dit lees:

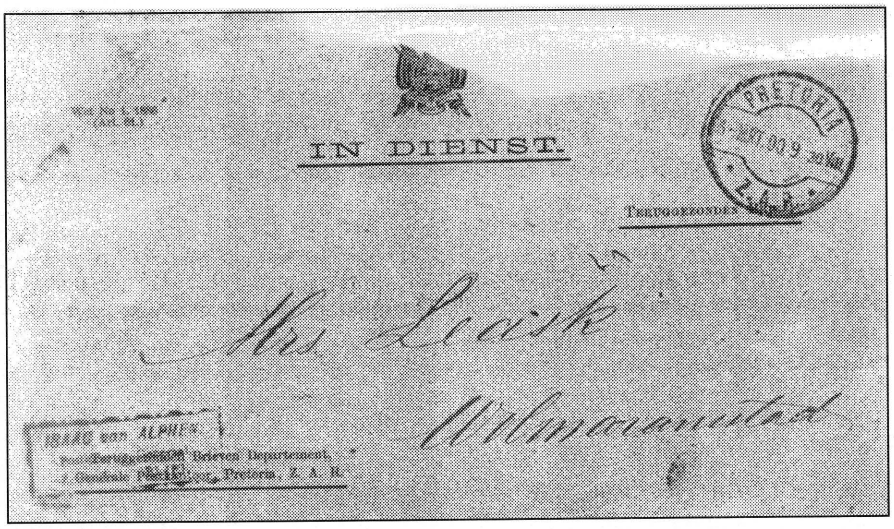


Fig 6
Die amptelike koevert waarin die moeder se brief teruggekom het, nadat die sensor in Durban dit na die ZAR teruggestuur het.

ISAAC VAN ALPHEN
Postmeester Generaal
Z.A. Republiek

Die koevert, wat aan die bokant oopgesny is, het 'n Pretoriase poststempel vir 6 Maart 1900, 'n Johannesburgse rugstempel van 6 Maart 1900 en die aankomsmerk vir Wolmaransstad op 8 Maart 1900.

'n Tweede soortgelyke koevert is op Wolmaransstad gestempel op 21 Januarie 1900, met 'n Pretoriase rugstempel van 22 Januarie 1900. Die pienk ZAR-sensorplakker "Geopend onder Krijgswet" het 'n Pretoriase stempel van 30 Januarie 1900.

Ook hierdie koevert het die "Stopped by Censor/Return to Sender", en die Returned Letter Office/Natal se datumstempel vir 20-2-00.

Die amptelike ZAR-koevert vir die "Teruggezonden Brief" toon die Pretoriase stempel vir 6 Maart 1900, 9.30 vm; 'n Johannesburgse deurgangsmerk van 6 Maart 1900, 4.30 nm; en die Wolmaransstadse aankomsmerk van 8 Maart 1900. Voorop het die koevert ook Van Alphen se stempeltjie.

Soos die vorige, is hierdie ouerlike briefie gerig aan *My darling Children* en geteken deur *Ever your loving Mother.* Die datum van die briefie is 21 Januarie 1900.

Getuienis van 'n hartelose Britse sensor? Minstens het die ouers toe geweet wat van die briefie geword het.

Hierdie twee koevertjies, met briefies en die terugstuur-koeverte, het sorgvuldig as eenhede bewaar gebly. Anders as die voorbeeld van Mark Chutter, is daar nie enige verduidelikende poskantoorstrokie by nie.

*** Verwys:**

The "Mail Service Suspended" cachets applied at Cape Town and Durban. Richard Stroud. *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, Vol 34 No 4, December 1991.
The "Mail Service Suspended" and "Stopped by Censor" cachets applied at Durban. Richard Stroud. *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, Vol 35 No 3, September 1992.

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

The Jackass Penguin booklet and its forerunners

IT was found that outlets selling picture postcards to tourists could not readily supply stamps for the cards to be sent airmail to overseas friends/relatives. Meanwhile, all unsold "Tourism" booklets held by Philatelic Services were acquired by Leisure Stamps, of Horison, Roodepoort.

A single strip of 10 x 5c stamps was pasted into the inside front cover (Fig. 1) of the "Easipost" booklet (Fig. 2) and made available at Kruger

ON p56 of *The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, the Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, responded to a question concerning current rumours about 90c international postcard rate booklets.

Fortunately, the author of this article had kept abreast of the situation, and the picture can now be rounded out thoroughly, and with illustrations.

It must be recorded that no information, except what was provided in response to direct questions, was released to collectors or *The SA Philatelist*, and that the illustrations are from the author, and not from Philatelic Services.

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National Park as a market survey. A sticker "FOR OVERSEAS POSTCARDS ONLY" was affixed to the cover with instructions to use 1 x 85c plus 1 x 5c stamp (Fig. 2) making a total of 90c which is the international airmail postcard rate.

These 90c booklets (5 + 85c) proved so popular that further orders were received, but as complete tourism booklets were no longer available and tourism booklet stamps depleted, all unused tourism folders were attained. A strip of 5 x 2 stamps of the tourism series sold in post offices to the general public was pasted therein with two rows of 5 x 5c stamps. Two versions of this booklet was made, one with the 5c succulent stamp, and the other with the 5c girdle-tailed lizard (Figs. 3 and 4).

The 85c stamps were, of course the same as those shown on the inside back cover at Fig. 1.

The sticker which was used previously was again affixed. These booklets too, were soon sold out. To replenish orders, booklets of the 45c "AVIATION" series which were still available were used, and a sticker affixed with instructions to use 2 x 45c stamps (Fig. 5).

Of the Aviation booklets, only the May 1993 cream board with basic postage rates on the inside front cover, and July 1993 white board with station numbers on the inside flap and the "Savings Bank Certificates" advertisement on the back cover, have been seen. However, as no record was kept of the individual types of the aviation folders, there is a strong possibility that the May 1993 issue on white board, without basic postage rates on inside front cover, was also used.

Approximately 22 000 Tourism and 1 700 Aviation booklets were prepared.

The idea of providing stamp booklets for international airmail postcards at the Kruger National Park was so successful that it was decided to produce booklets with stamps for such cards. The first is the "Jackass











Penguin" booklet (Fig. 6) containing 10 x 90c penguin stamps of the Threatened Fauna Series.

Release of the Jackass Penguin booklet was announced on 15 January 1996 on GMSA television by Dr Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services and DR McCabe, Managing Director of Leisure Stamps.

Rumour has it that a more "tourist attractive" stamp booklet with appropriate international airmail postcard stamps will be issued shortly. ■

(Editor: The rumour was not confirmed/denied by Frescura in the response referred to above. See also p92.)

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■ **DR W D KOTZÉ** *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging*

Gedagtes oor filateliese rariteite

WILLIE KOTZÉ het die eerste maal tot *The SA Philatelist* bygedra met "RSA se apartheidsmeesters" (Oktober 1994, p 140). Hy is ook 'n gerekende Afrikaanse prosaïs, 'n oud-LV en voormalige ambassadeur in Bophuthatswana.

Die volledige titel waaronder hy hierdie artikel voorberei het, is "Is filateliese rariteite, meer bepaald posstempels, altyd betroubaar?"

ELKE filatelis streef daarna om iets uitsonderliks vir sy versameling te bekom, hetsy dit 'n posseël met 'n afwyking is, of 'n rare posstempel. Dit maak nie net 'n versameling uniek en waardevol nie, maar verskaf ook groot genoegdoening aan die eienaar.

Die vraag is egter: hoe betroubaar is rare posstempels om *bona fide*, in die normale uitvoering van 'n posbeampte se pligte of deur toevallige meganiese toedoen geskep te gewees het? Of miskien moet gevra word: hoe betroubaar is posbeamptes aan wie se sorg en verantwoordelikheid posstempels en meganiese toerusting toevertrou is? Is baie sogenaamde rare posmerke nie maar gemanipuleerde materiaal nie? 'n Verder vraag wat gevra moet word is: wat is die filateliese waarde van sulke "gefabriseerde" materiaal?

Rare Posmerke

Met 'n rare posstemel of -merk bedoel ek 'n stempel wat te goedertrou in die normale uitvoering van sy taak, sonder enige manipulasie, deur 'n posbeampte in 'n poskantoor deur middel van 'n hand-posstempel of meganiese toerusting geskep is om iets unieks te wees.

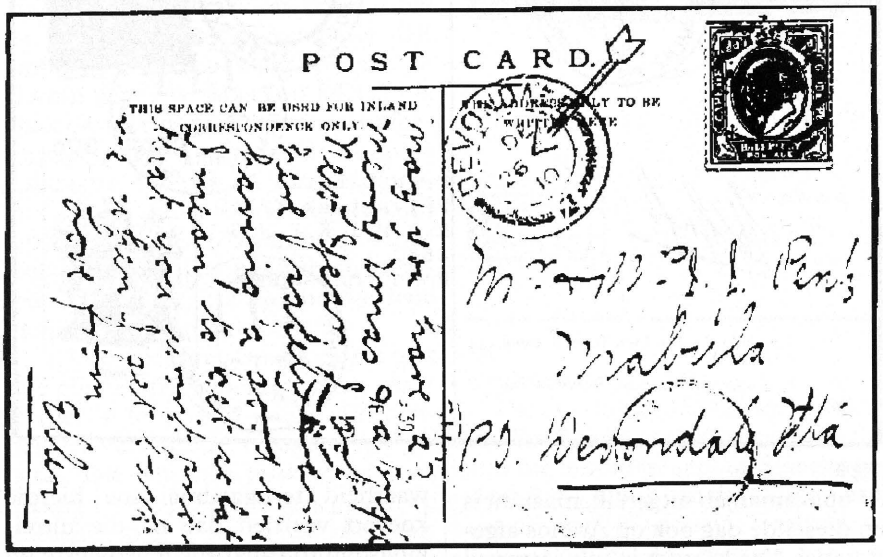


Fig 1

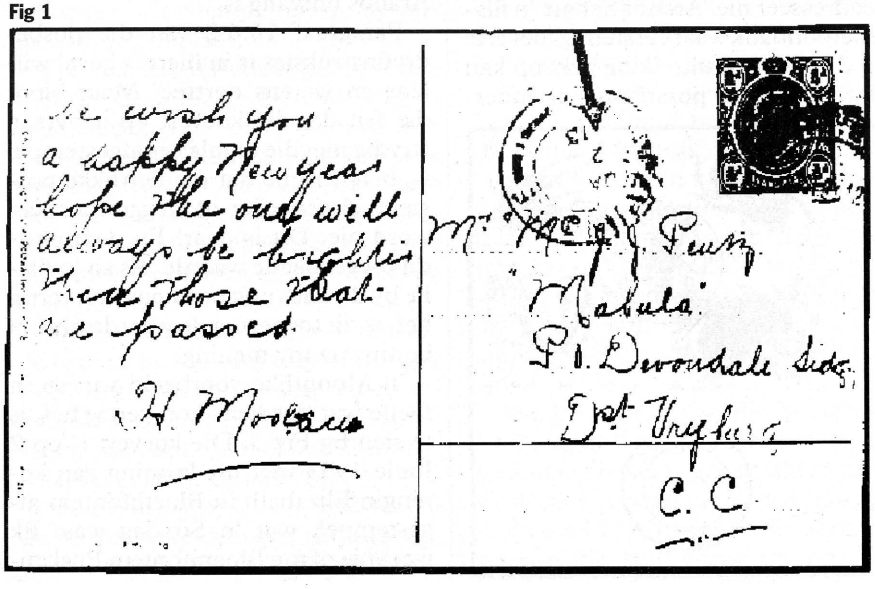


Fig 3



Fig 2

'n Voorbeeld wat ek wil gebruik is 'n poskaart wat op 26 Desember 1910 te Devondale (Kaapprovinsie) gestempel is. (Fig 1) Dit was op Tweede Kersdag. Ek kan my dit indink dat 'n ywerige en toegewyde posbeampte op 'n klein plekkie soos Devondale, die pos selfs op 'n vakansiedag sal sorteer. Want daar is seker niks anders te doen nie!

Omdat die poskaart op Tweede Kersdag afgestempel is, is dit 'n rare of unieke posstempel. En ek hou my daarvan oortuig dat dit nie 'n foefie was nie, want Fig 2 dui aan dat 'n soortgelyke poskaart op 25 Desember 1912 (Kersdag) afgestempel is, ook by Devondale, die keer by ontvangs, op die rugkant.

So ook die posstuk by Fig 3 wat op 2 Januarie 1913 afgestempel is, terwyl 2 Januarie tot betreklik onlangs 'n openbare vakansiedag (Tweede Nuwejaar) vir die Kaap was. Die optrede deur die posbeampte te Devondale is te patroonmatig, want ek beskik oor verskeie ander voorbeelde, om foefies te kan wees. Elkeen van hulle is unieke versamelstukke, in die sin dat elke

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individuele posstuk uniek is – die stempels is dit uiteraard nie.

Foefies

'n Posstempel wat 'n foefie, vervalsing, boereverneukery of bedrog is – noem dit wat u wil – is een waar daar ooglopend met die posstempel of meganiese toerusting gepeuter is om iets buite die normale te skep. Dit wil sê waar die posbeampte nie op 'n betroubare wyse rekenskap gegee het van die taak en verantwoordelikheid wat aan hom toevertrou was nie, naamlik die korrekte hantering volgens posbedryfinstruksies van die posstempel en/of toerusting nie.

Daar is streng voorskrifte in die posbedryfinstruksies betreffende die gebruik van poskantoordatumstempels wanneer spesiale versoeke deur filateliste ontvang word: Dit moet summier geweier word!

(Vir die volledige teks van paragrawe 16.6.1 en 16.6.2 van die posbedryfinstruksies in hierdie verband, sien later.)

Die vraag is nou: het so 'n vervalsing enige filateliese waarde? Die meeste filateliste sal waarskynlik "nee" sê, maar andere sal ook "ja!" sê. Ek wil my by laasgenoemde skaar, want vervalste posseëls het filateliese waarde en maak goeie versamelstukke. Waarom nie ook iets wat met 'n posstempel geskep is nie? Vindingrykheid wat deur 'n versamelaar aan die dag gelê word, kan 'n bydraende faktor wees om iets buitengewoons oor 'n poskantoortoonbank te bekom.

Ek wil egter 'n kwalifikasie hieraan toevoeg, en dit is dat so 'n posstuk posdiens met sy vervalste posstempel moes verrig het.

'n Voorbeeld van 'n foefie wat nie posdiens kon verrig het nie, is by Fig 4 te sien. Die koevert is op 1987-05-07 op Kamanjab uitgereik, maar dit is op dieselfde dag ook op Aranos afgestempel. Die koevert is aan niemand geadresseer nie. Aranos het nie 'n filatelietoonbank waar eerstedagkoeverte op die dag van uitreiking gekoop kan word nie. Die posstempel is inderwaarheid teruggedraai toe hierdie koevert veertien dae ná die uitreikingsdatum vanaf Filateliedienste op Aranos ontvang is.

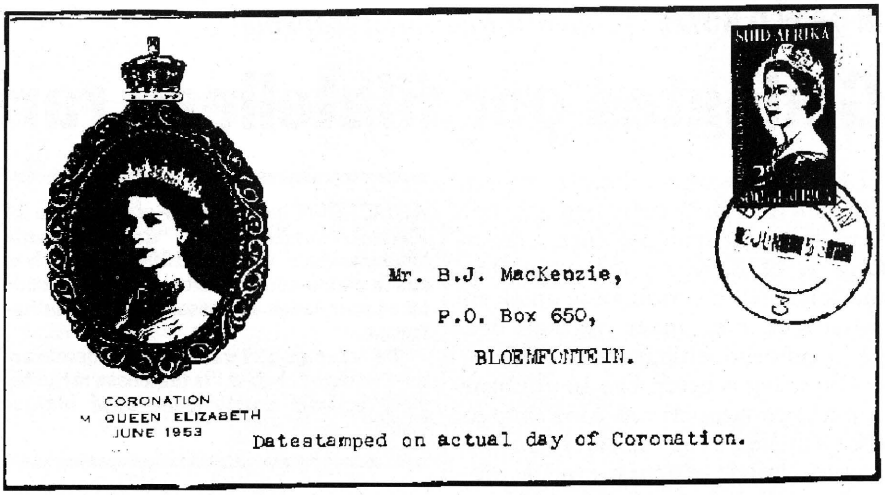


Fig 4

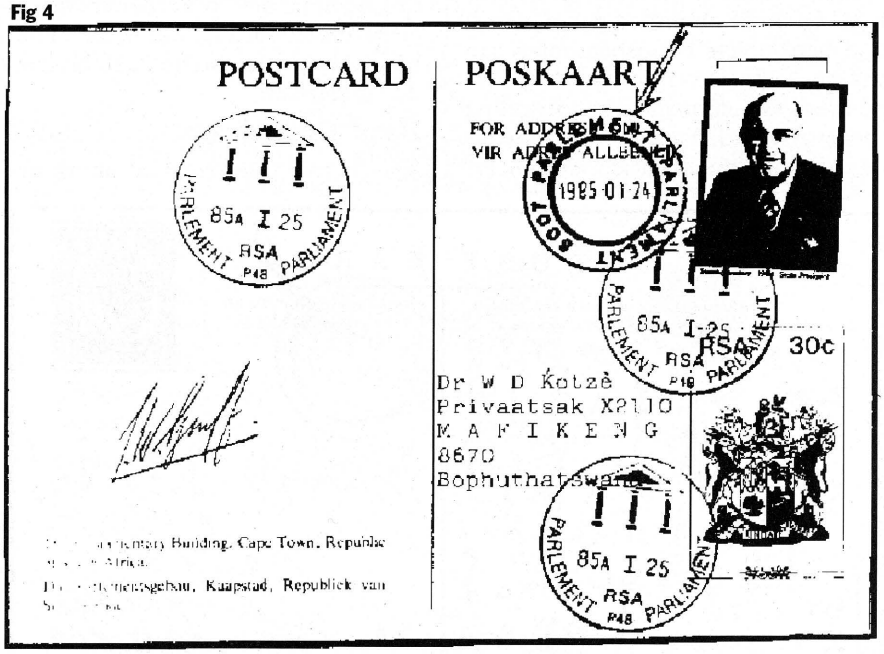


Fig 5

Paragraaf 16.6.2 van die posbedryfinstruksies is in hierdie geval willens en wetens oortree. Maar bloot die feit dat die koevert op aanvraag strydig met die regulasies afgestempel is, beteken nie dat die betrokke posstempel genegeer of weggewens kan word nie. Dit is daar! En daarom is dit toegevoegde waarde. As so 'n foefie by dit alles nog posdiens ook verrig het, is dit toegevoegde waarde plus 'n bonus, na my mening.

'n Moontlike voorbeeld van so 'n foefie wat posdiens kon verrig het, is te sien by Fig 5. Die koevert is op 2 Junie 1953 met die kroning van koningin Elizabeth in Bloemfontein afgestempel, wat 'n Sondag was. Ek weet nie of die Bloemfontein Poskantoor op 'n Sondag oop was om afstempeling van koerverte te doen, wat

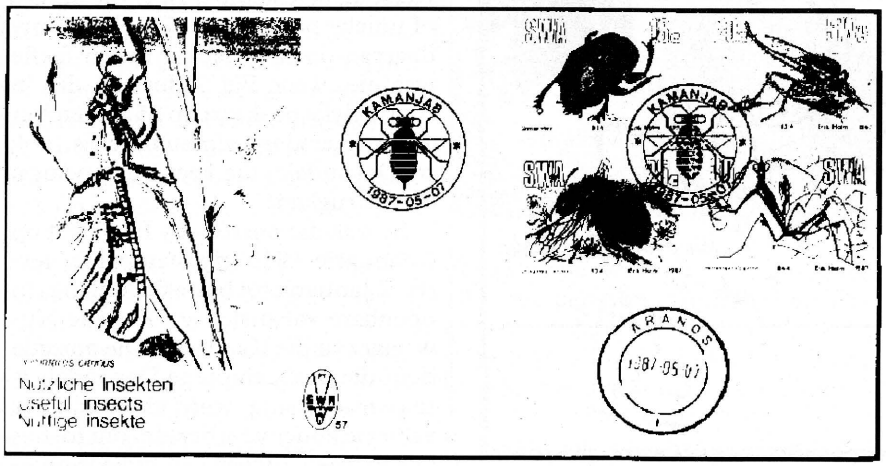


Fig 6

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nie as amptelike eerstedagkoevert deur die Poskantoor uitgereik is nie. Ek betwyfel dit ten sterkste en glo dat die posstempel willens en wetens gestel is om 'n buitengewone posstuk te skep. Die koevert is behoorlik geadresseer. Voordeel word dus aan die twyfel gegee of die koevert wel posdiens verrig het.

Fig 6 is 'n duidelike voorbeeld van manipulasie. Met die uitfasering – filateliegewys – van die ou konstitusionele stelsel van 'n blanke parlement onder Staatspresident P.W. Botha en oorskakeling na die Driekamerparlement, wat deur artikel 37 van die Wet op die Grondwet van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika, Wet No 110 van 1983, geskep is, is op 1985-01-24 weggedoen met die bestaande posstempel van die Parlement.

Die poskaart by Fig 6 is behoorlik geadresseer na 'n bestemming in Mafikeng en op bogenoemde datum, die laaste van die gebruik van posstempel nr. 8007, daarmee afgestempel. Dit impliseer dat die posstuk op gemelde datum gepos is. Maar op 85.1.25 is dit ook met die nuwe stempel afgestempel, wat beteken dat dit nie op 24 Januaarie 1985 as 'n posstuk ingeneem is nie. Die poskaart is goedskiks op 25 Januarie 1985 van beide stempels voorsien. Die posstuk en stempels dra dus die littekens, hoewel baie netjies, van manipulasie.

'n Voorbeeld van waar daar nie met die posstempel gepeuter is nie, maar eerder 'n toonbeeld is van effektiwiteit van vervloë jare, word by Fig 7 gevind. Die betrokke poskaart is op 1 Maart 1930 op Tafelberg gepos en op dieselfde dag is dit, nadat dit reeds posdiens verrig het, deur Kaapstad gesorteer, afgestempel en op sy reis na Vryburg geplaas.

Dit was nie opsetlike manipulasie met die doel om op dieselfde dag 'n posstempel van twee verskillende poskantore op die posstuk te kry soos wat die geval met die posstuk by Fig 4 was nie. Dit was die gebruik om posstukke te stempel elke keer as dit vir 'n nuwe bestemming gesorteer en versend word.

Anders as wat die geval was met die posstukke by Fig 4 tot Fig 6, is hier by Fig 7 dus geen sprake van onbetroubaarheid deur beamptes wat posstempels in hulle hande hou as die bewaarders van 'n erekode nie.

Hulpvaardigheid deur welmenende posbeamptes kan ook vir groot opwinding sorg en ware filateliese juwele oplewer. Maar heelpad is dit een lang oortreding van die Posbedryfin-

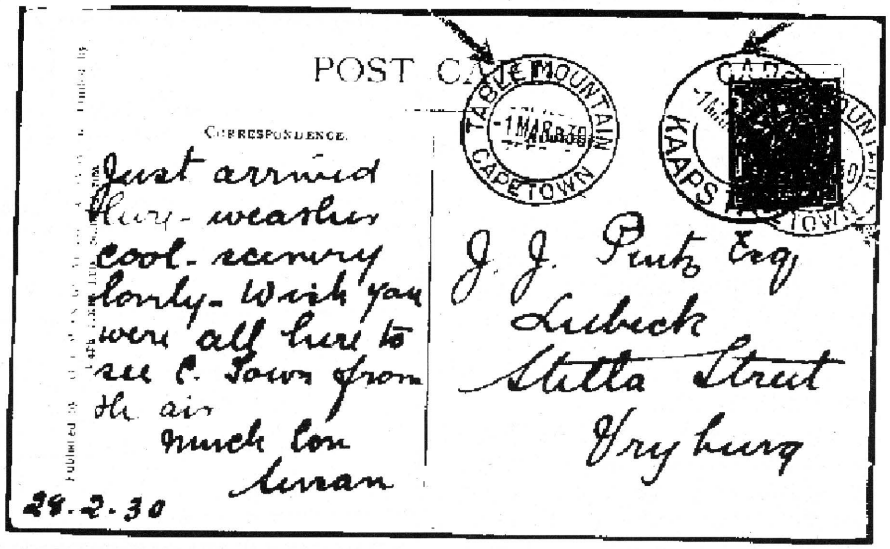


Fig 7

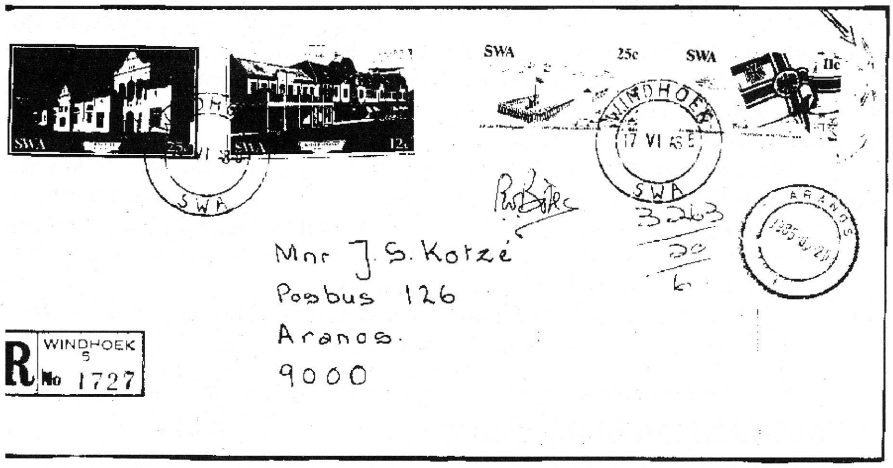


Fig 8

struksies.

Die posstuk by Fig 8 is op 17.VI.85 in Windhoek geregistreer op die dag van die inhuldiging deur Staatspresident P.W. Botha van die Oorgangsregering van Nasionale Eenheid vir SWA/Namibië. Die posstuk is te Aranos afgelewer sonder dat Windhoek die seëls behoorlik met die belangrike historiese datum afgestempel het.

Daar het net 'n paar merke op die 11c-seël by Fig 8 verskyn soos met die pyltjie aangedui, en ook aan my bevestig is deur 'n brief van die posmeester van Windhoek, gedateer 4 Julie 1985. Dit lees ten dele: "Dit spyt my om te verneem dat die posstukke wat ingehandig is, nie reg behandel is nie . . . Die koeverte is nou van die nodige datumstempels voorsien . . ."

Die posstuk is aan die Windhoek Poskantoor teruggestuur met die versoek dat die seëls gekanselleer moet word met 'n posstempel wat teruggedraai is na 17.VI.85, wat die datum is waarop die stuk geregistreer is. En hoewel die posstuk behoorlik as geregistreerde stuk te Aranos afgelewer en

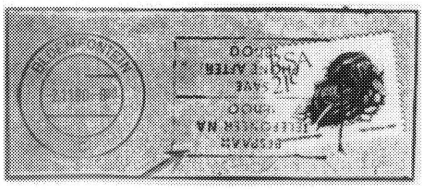


Fig 9

deur die geadresseerde ontvang is, waarmee die poskantoor inderwaarheid sy taak volvoer het, is geredelik aan die versoek voldoen om die datumstempel terug te draai en die koevert weer eens te stempel.

Fig 9 toon 'n posstempel aan van 2.11.90 waarvan die slagspreuk onderstebo is. Ek het die posstuk toevallig self deur die pos ontvang en glo dat die huls van die slagspreuk op 'n bona fide wyse onderstebo aangebring is.

Die huls is ongeveer 7cm van die posstempel geleë en die strepe wat dit veroorsaak, loop simmetries met die baan op die posstempel. Dit is die normale posisie van 'n huls teenoor die posstempel en dui daarop dat die posstuk meganies gerojeer is.

Dit is dus 'n ware afwyking van die

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normale, wat iets heeltemal anders is as die manipulasie van hulse en posstempels wat ek twee jaar vroeër ervaar het.

Vloedramp

Die verwoestende vloedramp van 1987/88 het tot gevolg gehad dat die Regering besluit het 10c toeslag te plaas op die 16c-vastereeksseël. Hierdie seëls is op 1987-11-18 uitgereik met die woorde: "Vloedramp Natal" en "Natal Flood Disaster + 10c" afwisselend oorgedruk.

Die slagspreuk: "Help/Vloedramp/Flood Disaster/Natal" is aan agt poskantore in die land uitgereik, naamlik: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Kaapstad, Port Elizabeth en Kimberley.

Die vloedskade het voortgeduur en 'n verdere geleentheid tot noodleniging is geskep met die uitgifte van die Hugenote-seëlreeks (1988-04-13) wat afwisselend met die woorde "Nasionale Vloedramp" en "National Flood Disater + 10c" oorgedruk is.

Die volgende slagspreuk is aan dieselfde agt poskantore soos hierbo genoem uitgereik met 'n duidelike aan-

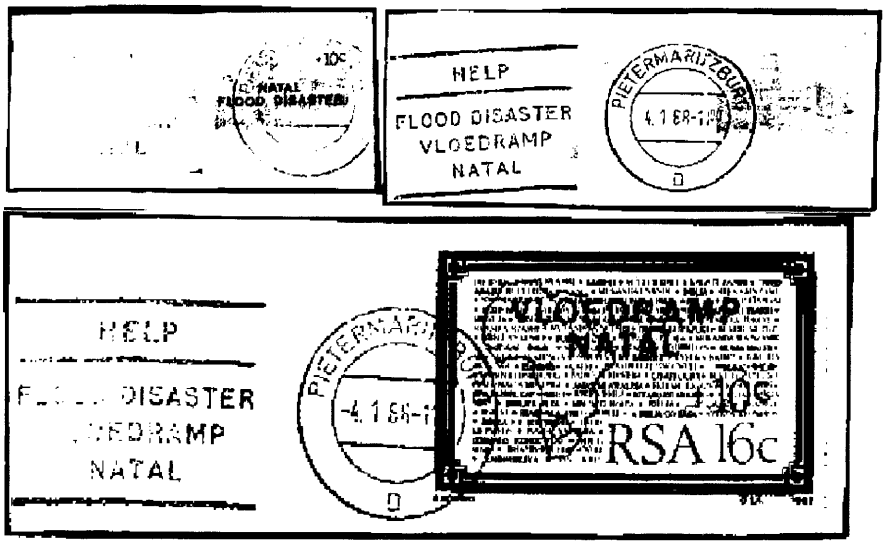


Fig 10

kondiging dat dit op die datum van die seëluitgifte in gebruik geneem sal word: "Rampnoodleniging Koop Toeslag seëls/Disaster Reliefs Buy Surcharge Stamps.

In 'n poging om bogenoemde twee slagspreuke van al agt poskantore te bekom, het skeppings na vore gekom wat 'n versameling van 45 bladsye beslaan.

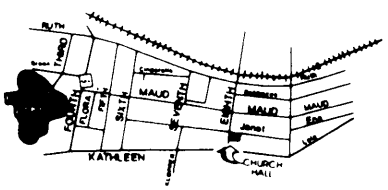
Die aanvanklike versoek was bloot dat die seëls met die betrokke slagspreuk afgestempel word sodat dit duidelik leesbaar is, terwyl die posstempel slegs die rand van die seël moet raak omdat ek die koeverte as versamelstukke wil gebruik.

By Fig 10 is slegs die eerste item meganies deur die seëlrojeermasjien gerojeer. Die daaropvolgende twee items is uit eie beweging deur die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg met die

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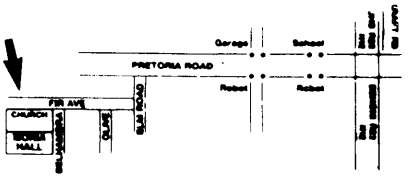
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hand afgestempel "omdat die afstempeling wat meganies gedoen is van 'n swak gehalte is daar die seëlrojeermasjien die afstempeling teen 'n hoë spoed doen en gehaltebeheer onmoontlik is," aldus die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg. Hy skryf verder soos volg: "Die stempels . . . is om die rede onleesbaar en waardeloos as versamelstuk. Ek sluit ander koeverte in wat per hand gedoen is en waarop die slagspreuk en datum duidelik voorkom."

Let op die posisie by items 2 en 3 van die posstempel teenoor dié van die seël, die dikte van die inkstrepe en die posisie van die huls teenoor die stempel in vergelyking met item 1 van Fig 10. Dit beteken dat die rojeermasjienhulse spesiaal gemanipuleer is en dat 'n filateliese rariteit geskep is deurdat die meganiese proses hier "gefnuik" is.

Hierdie optrede deur die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg het my op die gedagte gebring om al agt die poskantore wat met die hulse toegerus was, te vra om die afstempeling met die hand te doen.

Die presiese omvang en betekenis van hierdie optrede deur die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg word beklemtoon in 'n brief van die Streekdirekteur: Noord-Kaapland, wat soos volg lui:

"Die betrokke hulse is vir gebruik in seëlrojeermasjiene ontwerp en kan nie normaalweg vir handstempeling aangewend word nie. Voldoening aan u versoek, sal vereis dat die betrokke rojeermasjienhulse spesiaal gemanipuleer moet word wat nie gewoon gangbaar is nie. Dit sal ook meebring dat 'n filateliese rariteit geskep word wat nie billik of regverdig teenoor ander filateliste sal wees nie. Ooreenkomstig Posbedryfinstruksies is die terugdraai van die datum- en tydindekssyfers of -letters van datumstempels ongelukkig ook nie toelaatbaar nie, hetsy rojeermasjienhulse of handstempels."

Nieteenstaande die Streekdirekteur se antwoord hierbo, het Kimberley Poskantoor tog my posstukke met die hand afgestempel en selfs die datumstempel by item 1 van Fig. 11 teruggedraai na 14.111.88. Let op die dikte van die ink, die kurwes wat die strepe van die huls maak, die afstand tussen die huls en die posstempel by item 2. Die huls lê by item 2 aan die regterkant van die stempel, wat verkeerd is omdat die slagspreuk nie veronderstel is om oor die seël te strek

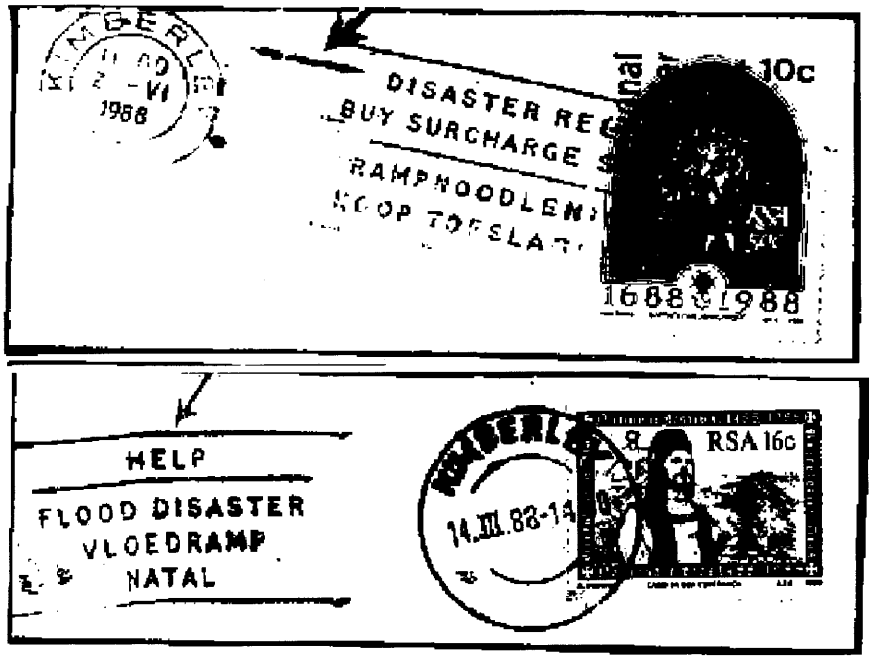


Fig 11

nie, want dit maak dit onleesbaar. Die graad waarmee die huls by genoemde item teenoor die stempel lê is opvallend. Dit alles is duidelike bewyse dat die stempels en hulse gemanipuleer is.

Soos gesê, het ek talle verdere voorbeelde van soortgelyke manipulasie in verband met die vloedramp-verhaal. Byvoorbeeld: hulse wat nooit in Kaapstad gebruik is nie, is op my versoek in Pretoria as afstempelings voorsien en in Kaapstad na-gedateer.

Ook poskantore elders (Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Durban, Pretoria en Johannesburg) het geredelik aan soortgelyke versoeke voldoen.

Presies welke filateliese rariteite bostaande materiaal – betreffende die vloedramp – is, en in hoe 'n erge mate die posbedryfinstruksies sonder uitsondering deur al die groot poskantore wat ek aan die begin genoem het, oortree is, word weerspieël in die brief van die Streekdirekteur: Noord-Kaapland wat hierbo aangehaal is.

Dit word onderstreep deur onderstaande memo, wat seker as 'n ernstige teregwysing beskou kan word, deur die Senior Direkteur: Posdienste aan die Streekdirekteur OVS gerig na aanleiding van 'n verdere versoek om handgestempelde koeverte te bekom:

"1.0 Dit is ongelukkig nie duidelik onder watter omstandighede daar aan die buitengewone versoeke van dr. W.D. Kotzé voldoen is nie, veral gedagtig daaraan dat die voorskrifte in die Posbedryfinstruksies met betrekking tot die afstempeling van filateliestukke uitdruklik soos volg bepaal –

1.1 Paragraaf 16.6.1 – Die enigste datumstempels waarmee posseëls vir filateliedoeleindes afgestempel mag word, is die volgende:

16.6.1.1 Gewone poskantoordatumstempels

16.6.1.2 Permanente spesiale datumstempels

16.6.1.3 Tydelike spesiale eendag- en tydperk-datumstempels.

1.2 Paragraaf 16.6.2 – Ten einde wanpraktyke te voorkom, word die terugdraai van die datum- en tydindekssyfers of -letters van datumstempels ten strengste verbied. Dit volg dus dat indien 'n filatelis sou versoek dat die datum van 'n datumstempel teruggedraai moet word vir die afstempeling van posseëls op 'n filateliestuk, sodanige versoek summier geweier moet word.

2.0 Aan die hand van die voorafgaande blyk dit dat die koeverte wat op dr. Kotzé se versoek van 2 Februarie 1988 met die gewone Bloemfontein hand-datumstempel en 'n afdruk van die slagspreuk, 'HELP/VLOEDRAMP NATAL' afgestempel is, onreëlmatig behandel is aangesien slagspreuke in die gewone gang van sake nie tesame met gewone datumstempels uitgereik en gebruik word nie. Insgelyks is die 4 koeverte wat op sy versoek van 14 April 1988 met die 'Pilanshoek 1688 - 1938' datumstempel (teruggedraai tot 13 April 1988) afgestempel is, asook dié waarna in paragraaf 3.2 van die Posmeester, Bloemfontein se brief van 16 Julie 1988 verwys word, onreëlmatig behandel."

Slotsom

Die slotsom waartoe gekom kan word is ongelukkig dat filateliese rariteite nie altyd betroubaar is om in die normale bedryf van die posdiens geskep te gewees het nie. Manipulasie vind plaas, en items vind hulle weg na die versamelings van filateliste wat nooit onder normale omstandighede daar sou gekom het nie.

Dieselfde gebeur ook ten opsigte van posseëls. 'n Mens sien dikwels items wat twyfel by jou laat ontstaan of sulke materiaal ooit oor 'n poskantoortoonbank verkoop is. Vandaar die volbladadvertensie op die voorblad van *The SA Philatelist*, Nr 6 Desember 1995, aangaande seëls wat (by die Staatsdrukker/Poskantoor?) gesteel is. ■

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

The C-crown-C and other early South African postal slogans

INSTEAD of his usual postmark column, Neville Gomm in this issue returns to one of his favourite research subjects.

Since 1992, his writing and research have earned him congress awards and research have most notably for his "Operational area territorial divisions in the SWA war" in *The SA Philatelist*, March/April 1992, p34.

IN the April 1994 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, p39, I wrote about two early slogans. There was some very encouraging reaction to that article, and I am in the process of following up on some information as a result. The previous reaction has led me to present the following, and I hope that again there will be readers who will be able to add informarmation to our philatelic record.

In that article, I mentioned the book *A Chronology of the Postal Slogans of South Africa*, which was published in 1979 by S J (Fanie) Vermaak RDPSA. The items dealt with then are the C-crown-C mark of the Cape Colony, and the mark bearing the word TRANSVAAL.

Vermaak did not include the C-crown-C item, but commenced his book with the TRANSVAAL cancellation. I can still do with more good photocopies and information of these two items as there are still some outstanding questions concerning the C-crown-C cancellation.

They are posed in this article in the hope that answers will be obtained. (Is it not an indictment that almost a century after the introduction of this postmark, we are still not able to tell its full story?)

Since the April 1994 article, I have had an opportunity to peruse some more sources. The most important aspect is to determine the brand of machine that was used to apply the early C-crown-C marks with the large letters and crown as in the illustration (Fig 1). The indications were that they originated from either a Boston or a Bickerdike machine, with Bickerdike being the more likely.

As a result of the article, David Allison sent copies of correspondence he had received from Paul Reynolds of Sketty in Swansea. Paul said the early C-crown-C mark was reminiscent of the British Bickerdikes of the same period (V-crown-R), but the way in which the length of the cancelling bars were shaped to the circle of the datestamp, was Boston.

There the matter rested until I visited George van den Hurk RDPSA early in August 1995. (It was George

S·A·P·D·A·
S·A·F·H·A·

WHEN LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL LOOK FOR THIS LOGO

S·A·P·D·A·
S·A·F·H·A·

DEAL IN CONFIDENCE THROUGH A SAPDA MEMBER

We do, from time to time, receive complaints from collectors regarding unsatisfactory business transactions. If the dealer is not a member of our Association our help for these people is, unfortunately, strictly limited.

On the other hand, our members are bound by the Association's strict Code of Ethics and, whilst we support and protect our members when they are in the right, we will do all we can to ensure justice for the complainant when they are not.

**LOOK FOR THE DEALER DISPLAYING THE SAPDA LOGO!
THIS IS THE PERSON YOU SHOULD BE DEALING WITH.
WE ARE THE ASSOCIATION TO WHICH THEY BELONG.**

**SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 47285 PARKLANDS 2121**

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who had suggested that the C-crown-C mark ought to be included as a slogan, something which Vermaak did not do in his book.) While chatting to George about machine cancellations, he drew out a copy of the book *Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia* by Frederick Langford of Pasadena in the USA.

In this detailed work of more than 100 pages, Langford provides the answer to the type of machine used in Cape Town. He said that in the middle of 1897, efforts had been made to get some Bickerdyke (he spells it with a "y" in the third syllable) machines into use in the British postal service. Eight of them were put into service in England, and one more went to Cape Town, where it was installed in 1899. Langford said on the title page of his book, which was published in 1976, that it had been compiled from original sources, including official records no longer existing.

It now seems that we have to accept, until the contrary is proved, that the Cape Town C-crown-C impressions with large letters and crown emanated from a Bickerdike machine. It now also seems that we have to accept that the machine went into use in 1899.

What now remains, is to try to ascertain the day and month in 1899 on which the machine was commissioned. In the absence of definite details, a start would be to look at earliest dates of actual examples. Robert Goldblatt, in his *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope,* illustrated a Bickerdike cancellation with date 30 March 1899, which would have been on a Thursday. An illustration prepared by Franco Frescura and appearing on p30 of *The Post Office Stone,* Volume 15 Number 4 (Consecutive Number 84) December 1983, had a date of 28 March 1899, two days prior to Goldblatt's example. If there are readers who have earlier of similar dates, please let me know.

Associated with the date of introduction of the Bickerdike machine, is its date of withdrawal, or last day of use. The latest date I have seen is 3 June 1903. However, I think the machine remained in use until 1904, when a Columbia machine was introduced in Cape Town. There also may have been an overlapping period during which both machines were in use. We need to determine the latest date of usage for the Bickerdike. Who can help?

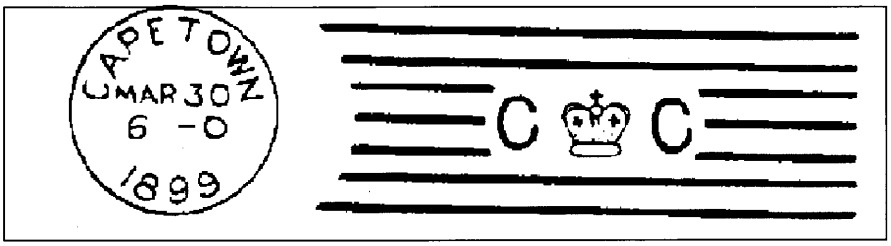


Fig 1

George van den Hurk also lent me several pages of material that had been photocopied from publications of which the titles were not included. From these pages, to which I would very much have liked to have given due recognition, I extracted the following information concerning the Bickerdike machine.

It was first produced in 1897. It was the first stamp cancelling machine to be driven by electric power, and letters could pass through the machine at a rate of 250 items per minute.

The next three items in Vermaak's book are the slogans UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA/UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA, POSTAGE FREE PASSED BY CENSOR, and PAQUEBOT. The information that has been published on these three items is rather scant. What appears here, is mainly from Vermaak.

There are two types of UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA slogan. They were used in the period 1910 to 1917. Who can give dates of actual items so that earliest and latest dates can be established? My collection contains only one partial item from 1913.

The first type of the slogan consists of a continuous impression. There are eight equi-distant horizontal lines of the same length between the circular datestamps. Seen from the top, the words UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA appear between the second and third lines, and UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA between the sixth and seventh lines.

Figure 2 shows type 1 of the slogan. The illustration comes from Vermaak's book. David Allison has pointed out that the letters MY for the month in the illustration should presumably be MAY, because the type of machine involved did not have three-letter abbreviations for the month.

Type 1 was used in Johannesburg only, and then from 1910 to 1913. There were two types of circular datestamp for Johannesburg, but Vermaak did not indicate how they differed. Can any reader help, please? This first type of the slogan is scarcer than the second, because the second was used at four post offices.

It may be of interest to note here that the Union Postmaster-General's report for 1913 mentions that stamp cancelling machines had been installed at the Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth post offices.

The PMG report for 1914 said the use of stamp cancelling machines had been extended by the introduction of a third machine at the Johannesburg post office, and one at Pretoria.

These extracts from the PMG reports therefore confirm that by 1913, Johannesburg had had two machines. It was therefore possible that type 1 of the slogan as applied at Johannesburg could have appeared with two different circular datestamps as pointed out by Vermaak.

Type 2 of the UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA slogan was used from 1912 to 1917 at the Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth post offices. As with type 1, more accurate dates need to be established for the use of this type.

Figure 3 shows type 2 of the slogan. It is a continuous impression. There are four horizontal lines of the same length between the circular da-

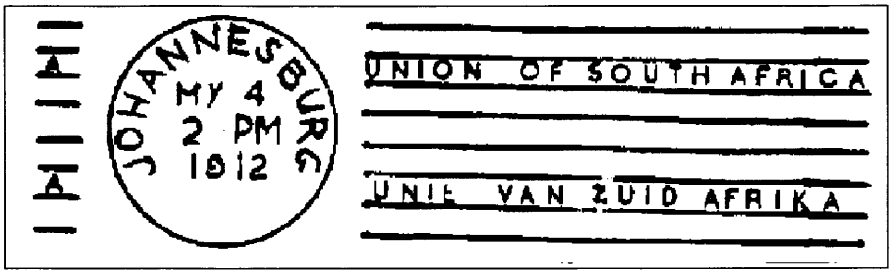


Fig 2

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testamps with UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA appearing between the first and second lines, and UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA between the third and fourth lines. Figures 2 and 3 are touched-up examples of the originals. I would be grateful for some photocopies of items in the collection of readers, especially so if they prove new information. Complete strikes of both types are scarce.

As mentioned, type 2 was used at the Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth post offices. Some of the circular datestamps were numbered, and some not. Vermaak says the datestamps in the Cape Town machines did not have numbers. Cape Town at this time most probably had at least two machines.

In the case of Durban, Vermaak says there were machines with the figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 in the datestamps. This seems to suggest that by 1917, when the use of the slogan ended, Durban may have been using seven stamp cancelling machines. Could this be possible?

Johannesburg had, by the end of the period of usage of the slogan, had machines with circular datestamps 1 and 4. In the case of Johannesburg and Durban, are there readers who have examples of datestamps 2 and 3, and 5 and 6 respectively?

Port Elizabeth, like Cape Town, did not have any datestamps with numbers, at least not that have been recorded.

Postage Free Passed by Censor

Figure 4 shows what Vermaak described as the pioneer of South African postal slogans. It appeared in English only, was used in 1914 only, and is extremely rare. In the April 1946 issue of *The SA Philatelist* (p57), A Hilton Sydow wrote that only one example of the slogan was known, and it was in the collection of L Simenhoff. I wonder how many more have since come to light?

Vermaak shows an example with a Cape Town datestamp, but he does not say whether the slogan was used there only.

The slogan is believed to have been used for official bulk posting. If it was applied to official bulk mail that needed to be censored, then it could possibly have been mail sent out by the military authorities because 1914 saw the start of the First World War. Does any reader know more about the background to this slogan?

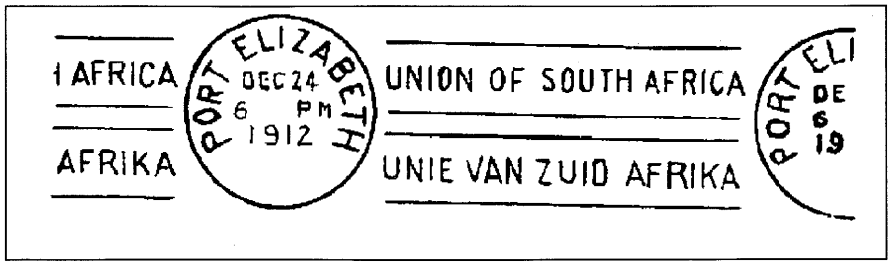


Fig 3

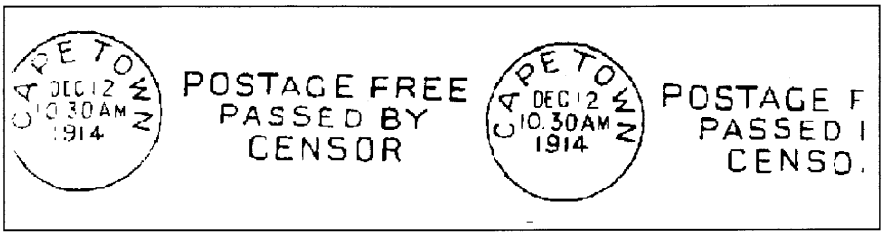


Fig 4

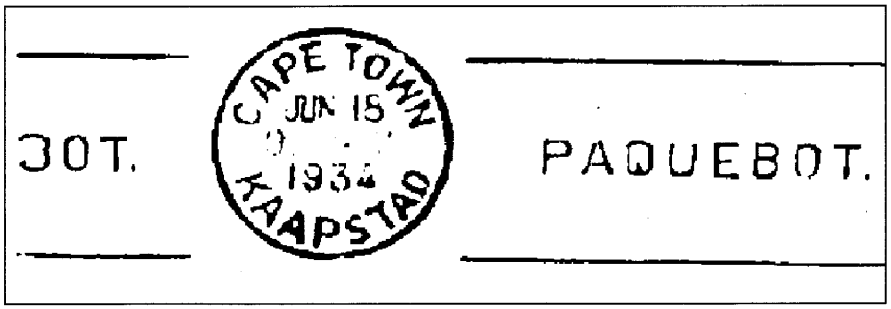


Fig 5

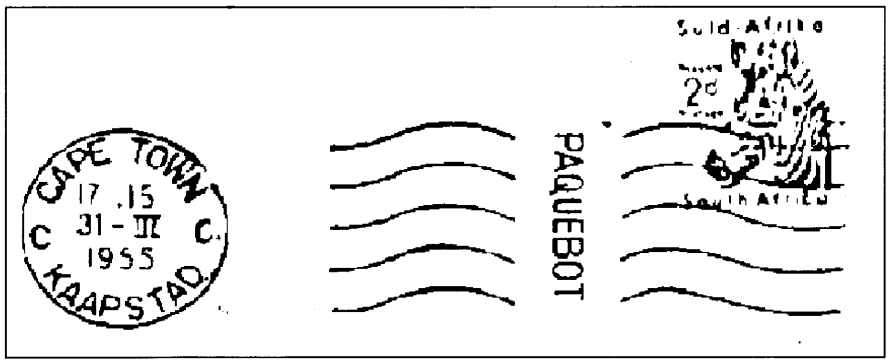


Fig 6

Paquebot

Vermaak illustrates two types of this slogan, but says there were many other types. It seems therefore that a lot more information and illustrations need to be gathered. The slogan was used from 1915 to 1969.

Figure 5 shows the first type illustrated by Vermaak. Of this one, he says it was used at Cape Town post office between 1915 and 1940, in ten different types. I am wondering how these types differed from each other? He said that during 1940, the circular datestamps were undated or were totally omitted.

Figure 6 shows the second type, which was used in Cape Town from 1946 to 1969. Various other types also came into use later.

What appears above, seems to be the sum total of recorded information on the four slogans. I therefore would like to appeal again to any readers who are able to add to this philatelic record, to please try to let me have a communication at P.O. Box 91-114, Auckland Park, 2006, South Africa. Dates and illustrations are particularly important, and I would like more information – and particularly an illustration! – of the Bickerdike machine. I also need lots of information on the other early machines. ■

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Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

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

THE hunt is always on to find a new and different subject for a thematic or topical collection. The "old" subjects such as Sport, Birds and Animals are losing their following due to the proliferation of issues. Even some of the newer subjects such as Marine Life and its subdivisions, Whales or Turtles are becoming a little crowded with attractive new items which can cause the collector the pain of scrapping existing pages because a beautiful new item must be included – the judges will want to see the latest and best.

It is only in thematic collections that the issues the general public always enjoys are to be seen. This includes the majority of people who are stamp collectors and have no aspirations to being called philatelists.

A relatively new theme has emerged over the last year or two – the Cinema. While this is a section of the overall Entertainment theme, it is rapidly developing into an entity of its own. We have had the Elvis and the Marilyn issues as well as Stars of the Silver Screen from the USA.

The Royal Mail in the UK gave us pictures with the autographs of Peter Sellers, David Niven, Vivien Leigh, Charlie Chaplin and Alfred Hitchcock in its British Film Year issued in 1985, and this year have issued a set of five stamps celebrating "50 Years of 'Going to the Pictures' ". (The first commercial screening of a film in Britain took place on 21 February 1896, and it was seen by 54 people at the Regent Street Polytechnic in London.)

The five stamps depict different aspects of going to the pictures. The 19p shows the exterior of the Odeon at Harrogate, a 1930s cinema. A classic screen embrace between Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh from the fllm *That Hamilton Woman* appears on the 25p stamp while a cinema ticket is shown on the 30p.

Newsreels were an important part of any visit to the cimema, and the familiar motif of the Pathé News cockerel is depicted on the 35p value with a "Big Screen Showing" appearing on the 41p stamp.

It is interesting that Sweden celebrated the "100 Years of Cinema" in October last year with a set of six stamps – did they really beat Britain by a year?

Sports to the fore



With the Olympic Games in the offing, there have been a number of sports sets issued recently. Not all have had the Olympic connection as, for example, the set of four from North Korea. An attractive set featuring Figure Skaters and commemorating the 5th "Paektusan Prize" competition, there are three individual stamps, the 10, 20 and 30 jon values, with a souvenir sheet with these values plus a 50 jon value. The cancel has a skater as central motif.

Also non-Olympic is the 32c USA Marathon stamp which was issued in conjunction with the 100th running of the Boston Marathon, but honours



all marathons. The stamp, designed by Michael Bartalos, has "a comtemporary design depicting a fleet-footed character that alludes to the legend of the Greek god Hermes, the fastest mythological character."

Kenya has issued a Pre-Olympic set of 26 values. There is a sheetlet of nine x 20/- values, another of nine x 25/- values, a sheetlet comprising one each 14/-, 32/-, 40/-, 50/- and two x 20/-, with two souvenir sheets each bearing a 100/- stamp! Known Olympic sports and sportsmen and women are featured throughout, but the inclusion of Muhammad Ali is strange – he never competed in the Games under that name!

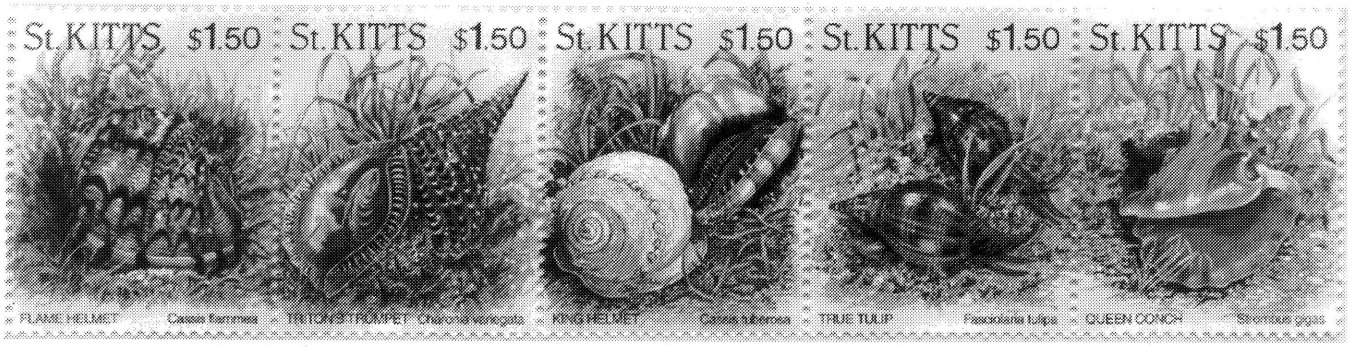
Selling sea shells

On the Marine life theme there have been three issues of a slightly different subject recently. From the British Indian Ocean Territory came a four stamp set of Shells. The 20p stamp shows the *Crenulata Auger* shell with





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the "Warty Frog" appearing on the 24p value. The "Pimpled Nassa" and the "Cock's Comb Oyster" appear on the 30 and 56p values respectively.

The second shell set is the new definitive series from the Bahamas and comprises 15 stamps from the 5c to the $5 values. The total face value is $12,25 – which with our present rate of exchange would tend to make collectors think twice before ordering.

Third is the sea shells set from St Kitts. This comprises a se-tenant strip of five $1,50 values depicting the "Flame Helmet", "Triton's Trumpet", "King Helmet", the "True Tulip" and the "Queen Conch". The "King Helmet" and the "Queen Conch" also appear in the Bahamas set, but there is no other duplication.

Low on values

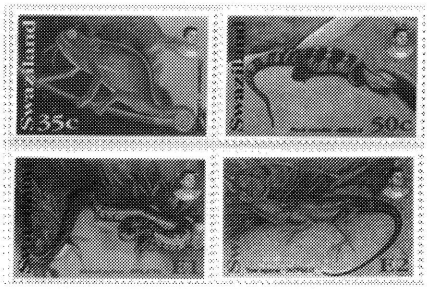
The issue of a full new definitive set is no longer general practice as has been mentioned in earlier reports, and this trend is followed by the USA, where a new definitive 2c value was recently released. A Red-Headed Woodpecker is featured, and it is printed in sheets of 100.

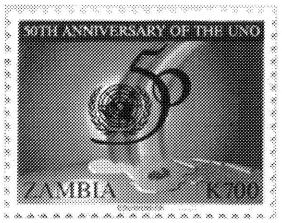


The American Kestrel appears on the 1c coil stamp, available in rolls of 500 and 3 000. It would be interesting to know what specific purpose these two values serve in the postal rates of the USA!

Southern Africa

Looking at some of the stamps from nearer home, we have a couple of interesting releases. Swaziland has issued a four value Reptiles Part II set which shows a chameleon on the 35c and a rock monitor on the 59c value. The two top values, the E1 and E2, feature the African python and the tree agama respectively. All subjects are also found in South Africa and would make a useful addition to a local fauna collection.





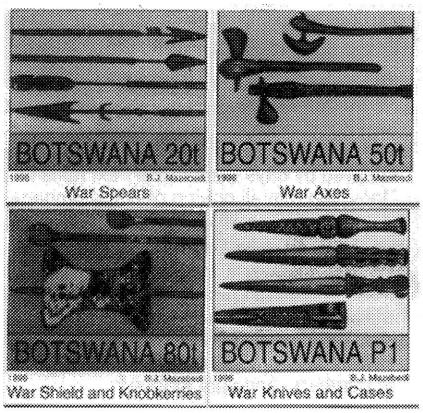
Zambia commemorated the 50th anniversary of the United Nations with the issue of one K700 stamp with a rainbow over the logo of the UN.

Another publicity set was the Monuments issue of four stamps. This featured the David Livingstone Monument and the Mbereshi National Monument on the K100 and K300 values. The K450 and K500 stamps depicted the Von Lettow-Vorbeck Monument and the Niamkolo Church National Monument

A recent issue from Kenya was the tourism set of five values. The 6/- and 25/- feature lion and hippopotamus respectively. Mount Kenya appears on the 14/- and water sports and culture are the subjects of the 20/- and 40/- values.

While traditional weapons are a talking point in South Africa, they are the subject of a set of four stamps released by Botswana. Among the items depicted are war spears and war axes (the 20t and 50t values), A war shield and knobkerries and war knives and cases, the latter appearing on the 80t and P1 values.





A set of particular interest to South African collectors of memorabilia is that issued by St Helena. Each of the four stamps depicts a ship of the Union Castle Line.

The RMS *Walmer Castle* (12 546 tons) on the 12p value, was the first vessel under the new company name of the Union Castle Mail SS Co to make the South African run. Her maiden voyage began on 15 March 1902, and apart from the First World War period, she called regularly at St Helena until 1930.

The RMMV *Llangibby Castle*, gracing the 25p value, was the first mo-

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tor ship to operate the "Round Africa" service. She sailed from London to East and South Africa, returning via St Helena and Ascension. Built in 1929, she was withdrawn from service and broken up in 1954.

The RMMV *Stirling Castle* (of 25 554 tons), shown on the 53p value, was built in 1936, and in the very same year broke the old 1893 record for the journey from Southampton to Cape Town by completing the voyage in 13 days 6 hours. She was sold in 1966.

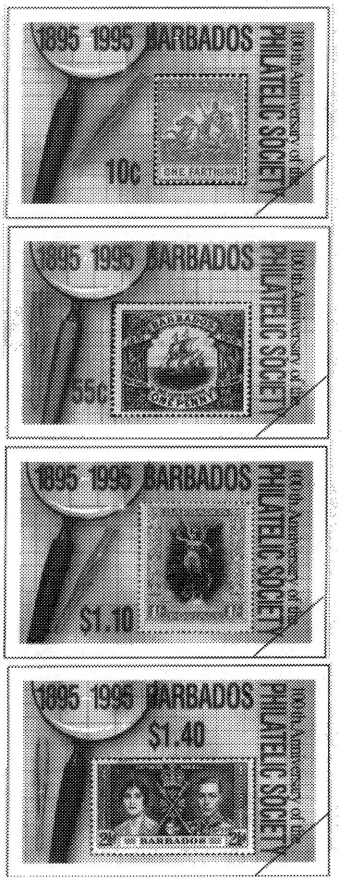
RMS *Pendennis Castle* (28 582 tons) shown on the 60p stamp was the last ship ordered by Union Castle Line before the merger with Clan Line. In 1973 she took over the calls at Ascension and St Helena that had been made by the *Good Hope Castle*. She also held the record for the Southampton to Cape Town run, taking ten and a half days at an average speed of 23,75 knots (approx 44 km/h).

Philately honoured by issue

It is not uncommon to have special issues to commemorate 100 years of the birth or death of a famous person or major event in a country's history – it is unusual to have the founding of a philatelic society honoured! It is to be hoped that more such issues will occur in the future.

Barbados elected to honour the centenary of the Barbados Philatelic Society by the issue of a four value set which is an addition to the Stamp on Stamp theme. Each value shows one of the earlier Barbados issues on a background of an album page and a pair of tweezers and a magnifying glass.

The 10c features the 1896 One Farthing stamp, said to be the first of this value ever issued anywhere. The One Penny *Olive Blossom* of 1906 appears on the 55c, and the 1/- Victory stamp of 1920, one of a set of eleven stamps, is on the $1,10 value. The top value, $1,40, depicts one of the George VI Coronation issue of 1937.



News and notes/Aktualiteit

Welz doen dit weer!

VIR die eerste maal in Suid-Afrika het 'n filateliese veiling meer as R2 miljoen opgelewer. Dit was weer by Stephan Welz & Kie, waar 751 lotte op 15 Mei 1996 'n totaal van R2,13 miljoen bereik het, waarop nog 'n verdere premie van 10 persent betaal moet word.

Die sterk versameling van Rhodesië van dr. John Strong, wat oor 143 lotte versprei was, is vir meer as R630 000 verkoop, terwyl dit voor die veiling op ongeveer R350 000 geskat is.

Hier is ook die rekord opgestel vir die hoogste prys wat nog in Suid-Afrika vir 'n Rhodesiese seël betaal is, naamlik R110 000 vir lot 422: 'n £1 grys-pers BSA seëlpaar, in 1909 oorgedruk met Rhodesië, waarvan die oordruk op die onderste eksemplaar makeer.

In die Danna Strydom versameling van Kaap die Goeie Hoop (39 lotte) is die skaars "Cape Packet Letter" stempel van 1817 toegeslaan op R7 000, teenoor 'n geraamde hoogste prys van R5 500.

Onder die goewerneursbriewe het Van de Graaff die beste gevaar (lot 124) met R2 200, maar Rhenius (agerend), geskat op R1 000 tot R1 300, is nie verkoop nie. 'n Briefstok brief na Swartruggens (lot 128, R700 – R900) is verkoop vir R1 700.

'n Besonder hoë prys vir Suid-Wes Afrika was lot 717, vyf waardes van boeteseëls (1931) in posfris ongetande velle van 60. Die raming was R12 000 tot R15 000, en 'n verstommende R135 000 is bereik! Dit was ook die enkele hoogste prys op die veiling.

Pryse van R20 000 en meer is behaal deur die volgende:

- Lot 213, 'n uitgebreide versameling van Duits-Oos Afrika posstempels van 1892 – 1917, R20 000 teenoor 'n hoogste raming van R15 000,
- Lot 298, die enigste bekende Noord-Rhodesiese hoekblokke van die 5/- en 20/- sonder waardeopdruk van 1963, R54 000 (R50 000),
- Lot 357, 'n BSA oordruk op Kaapse 4d paar (1896) waarop "Company" op die onderste seël makeer, R42 000 (R24 000),
- Lot 375, 'n drukkersproefplaat van die BSA £2, R38 000 (R9 000),
- Lot 425, 'n Rhodesië £2 oordrukpaar op BSA, R22 000 (R18 000),
- Lot 503, £1 rooi en swart "Double Head", posfris, van 1910 tot 1913, R34 000 (R40 000,
- Lot 655, 'n aangetekende brief van Windhoek na Java in 1919, gefrankeer met onder meer die enigste £1 koningskop op omslag, R60 000 (R40 000), en
- Lot 721, die vier waardes van die 1931 SWA "Offisieel" opdrukke in posfris ongetande blokke van 42, R92 000 (R12 000).

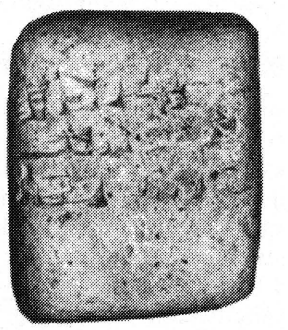
Welz & Kie het op 22 Maart 1995 vir die eerste maal meer as R1 miljoen vir 'n seëlveiling in Suid-Afrika behaal, 'n bedrag waarop in daaropvolgende veilings voortdurend verbeter is. Die volledige rekord is te vinde in *The SA Philatelist* van Junie 1995, pp 77 en 92; Desember 1995, p176; Februarie 1996, p30, en April 1996, p54.

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Voorkant



Rugkant



Die wêreld se oudste posstuk

OP Hans R. Schwarzenbach van Zürich in Switserland se veiling van 12 en 13 April 1996 was daar sekerlik die oudste posstuk wat nog ooit aan versamelaars aangebied is.

Onder die hofie "Irak", lot 1633, was daar 'n Sumeriese brief op kleitablet, wat presies op die jaar 2042 vC gedateer kan word! In die destydse jaartelling is dit gedateer vanaf Drehem, op die 5de in die jaar van Amar-Sin.

Dit bevestig in die gebruiklike wigskrif die ontvangs van 'n boodskap

■ **In memoriam**

Dick Findlay 28 March 1996

DICK FINDLAY is best remembered amongst South African philatelists for his Protea definitives, but he also designed numerous issues with biological themes for Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei and South West Africa. In the 1970s he designed one of the local airmail labels. His bird and plant stamps are especially well known for their distinctive, almost clinical quality.

Dick was born in Pretoria in 1928. He studied architecture and started his professional career as architectural assistant in the well-known practice of Burg, Lodge and Burg. He was skilled in water-colour, and executed the firm's perspective renderings.

Later, when he became a full-time artist, he worked in many media, but preferred water-colour for its fresh transparency. He always worked in a realistic style and his illustrations graced at least ten books and over fifty different journals. His paintings have been exhibited all over the world, in Europe, the Middle East and Japan, and his work can be seen in many South African art museums.

A versatile man, he tried his hand at playwriting, articles for magazines and coin design. His largest public commission was a mural at Johannesburg Airport.

The first stamp designs entrusted to him were the SWA 1973 Succulents, 1974 Protected Birds of Prey, and 1976 Fauna conservation. These were executed in the prevailing photographic style established by Kobus Esterhuysen, Johan Hoekstra, Aschenborn and others. The whole stamp area was painted in (Fig 1).



When he was commissioned to design the Medicinal Plants issue for Transkei in 1977, he broke with tradition and established a new illustrative style for botanical and zoological themes, which left the background white (Fig 2). This was later also adopted by Denis Murphy, Jeanette Stead, Hein Botha and others.



Although this style was his trademark, he also explored other avenues, as in the 1982 and 1983 Indigenous tree series for Venda, where he simply painted landscapes.

Dick Findlay left his mark in Southern African philately and his contribution will be missed.

AP Burger

Huldiging: Dick Findlay

DIT was my besondere eer om Dick Findlay in 1978 te leer ken as gevolg van my belangstelling in sy seëlontwerpe, en oor baie jare met hom kontak te behou. Ek bring graag hulde aan 'n ontslape vriend en 'n veelsydige kunstenaar – skilder, illustreerder, dramaturg en skrywer.

Hy het opgegroei in 'n huis waar kuns, boeke en liefde vir die natuur huishoudelike verbruikersware was. Aan een kant was hy verwant aan die digter, Eugène Marais en aan die ander kant aan die skryfster, Olive Schreiner. Hy het homself as argitek aan die Universiteit Pretoria bekwaam en vir 12 jaar hierdie beroep beoefen. Tog het hy steeds tyd gevind vir sy stokperdjies, waterverfskildery. Sy enigste formele opleiding in skilderkuns het hy op skool onder prof. Walter Battiss ontvang.

Dick was 'n perfeksionis en vervolmaak sy besondere tegniek – delikate suiwerheid, frisheid en 'n absoluut getroue weergawe van dit wat hy waarneem – in sy eie woorde: "If you are unable to draw what you see, you are unable to draw what you imagine." Hy het wyd gereis, wyd gelees en was oop vir invloede van buite. So byvoorbeeld het hy groot bewondering gehad vir die werke van Japannese kunsskilders. Hierdie alleenmens kon lang tye in die natuur deurbring en dit was dan ook sy leerskool sowel as ateljee.

Hy was onder meer verantwoordelik vir 32 gedenkuitgawes van plant- en dierreekse vir SWA, RSA, die Tuislande en Lesotho. Hoewel Dick Findlay se kunswerke op baie plekke te vinde is, is dit sy seëlontwerpe wat wêreldwyd hierdie beskeie man se naam immer in herinnering sal roep.

Laurette van Tonder

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wat deur 'n posbeampte, ene Abba Sjagga, na Toeram Dega oorgedra is.

Die stuk, wat voor en agter min of meer lewensgrootte hier afgebeeld word, is beskryf as "goed behoue", en is geskat op 1 500 Switserse franc. Die bod is toegeslaan op S.fr 1 700, het Schwarzenbach by navraag gesê.

Hy het ook daarop gewys dat 'n soortgelyke kleitablet uit die jaar 2031 vC in Junie 1994 S.fr 3 800 op een van hulle veilings gehaal het. Dit was gedateer van Oemma, in die sewende jaar van Sjoe-Sin, en op die rugkant was die afsender se identifiserende seël duidelik afgestempel. Waarskynlik die oudste rug- en versendingstempel in die wêreld!

Veilingskatalogus

Society seeks nominations

THE Philatelic Writers Society (PWS) in Britain is accepting nominations for two eminent awards in philatelic literature from anywhere in the world, published in any one of the main languages of philately.

The first is the Nugent Clougher Award, which was established by the Postal History Society in 1968. It was reorganised by the PWS in 1987, and is awarded every year for research work published in book form for the bebefit of postal history.

The Ronnie Spafford Award was established in 1988. It is awarded annually for philatelic writing of a general nature, excluding work qualifying for the Clougher Award.

Judging is by a jury drawn from the membership ranks of the PWS, and takes place at the annual PWS weekend event held every autumn. Further details can be obtained from Philip Lindley, Paddack House, High Street, Yardley Hastings, Northants NN7 1ER, UK.

News release

Stampex dates for 1997

SPRING Stampex is to be held from 22 tot 26 January 1997, the council of the Philatelic Traders Association in Britain has announced, and Autumn Stampex will be from 17 to 21 September 1997. Meanwhile Autumn Stampex 1996 has already been 90 percent subscribed, the council says.

News realease

A society for Natal on the cards

ONE of the neglected Southern Africa philatelic areas – in terms of there being no research group devoted to it – is Natal. This is now to be rectified with a proposal to form a collectors' society fot the study of the stamps and postal history of Natal and KwaZulu.

A number of collectors in this field have recently expressed enthusiasm fot the formation of a society to cover this area. Although united by a geographically defined interest, the interests themselves are varied. Some collect colonial Natal, and hope to see a united effort to produce a handbook to match those covering Transvaal and the OFS.

Others are interested in colonial Zululand, or in the postal history of the early settlement, and others again

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in the Anglo-Zulu War or the Anglo-Boer War periods. Yet others are looking at current post offices and postal developments.

The orginators of the proposal to form a society for Natal would like to hear from all with similar interests before settling on the precise objectives and mode of operation of such a society. Anyone interested should contact John Dickson.

His address is Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 OLJ, in the UK. He can be reached at ☎ (+1460) 24-1534, or fax 24-0028.

News release

Bloem 150 posseël feestelik uitgereik

Die Bloemfonteinse Poskantoor het op 28 Maart 1996 die uitreiking van die Bloemfontein 150 gedenkposseël op feestelike wyse hanteer, en klante met verversings verwelkom. Die voorraad gedenkkoeverte was om 9 uur reeds uitverkoop en die belangstelling was groter as verwag.

Die vorige dag het die SA Poskantoor by 'n onthaal by die streekbestuurder se kantoor spesiaal gemonteerde seëls en EDKs oorhandig aan die burgemeester van Bloemfontein, raadslid Jani Mohapi, en aan die ontwerper van die seël, Jan van Beukering.

Hy, en Strooi Sorour van die OVS Filatelievereniging, was op 28 Maart by die filatelietoonbank in Bloemfontein se hoofposkantoor, om te help met die afstempeling van EDKs en briewe.

Daar was twee handstempels van die spesiale tydelike datumstempel, maar onderskeid is feitlik onmoontlik. Heelwat versamelaars het spesiale stempels van vier uit die vyf geboue wat op die seël afgebeeld is op koeverte aangebring, naamlik dié van die Eerste Raadsaal ('n permanente stempel), die Tweetoringkerk (No 78, tydelik), die Vierde Raadsaal (P77) en die Vrouemonument (P39).

Spesiale korrespondent

Auction calendar

FURTHER dates up to the end of the year for auctions world-wide to be held by Christie's have been made known. London will have a Great Britain stamps and postal history auction on 8 October 1996, and Hong Kong on 6 November 1996 will see Fine Stamps and Covers of Hong Kong and China.

British Empire stamps and postal history come under the hammer at Christie's in London on 19 November 1996, and on 17 December it will be Great Britain stamps and postal history, with European and overseas stamps and postal history following the next day.



Die Streeksbesigheidsbestuurder OVS van die SA Poskantoor, mnr Van Schalkwyk, oorhandig 'n spesiaal gemonteerde velletjie posseëls en 'n EDK aan die ontwerper, Jan van Beukering (links), terwyl raadslid Jani Mohapi, die burgemeester van Bloemfontein (regs) toekyk.

Wêreldwye navorsing oor die versameling van seëls

TYDENS die internasionale tentoonstelling Singapore 1995 het die internasionale firma Young en Rubicam 'n navorsingsverslag oor seëlversameling onder die titel "Worldstamp" vrygestel. Volgens die verslag daaroor deur Les Winick, in *The Philatelic Exporter* (Maart 1996) is die volgende posadministrasies kliënte van Y & R: Amerika, Australië, Brittanje, Denemarke, Frankryk, Kanada, Noorweë, Portugal, Singapoer, Switserland – en Suid-Afrika.

Worldstamp is, volgens Winick, die grondslag vir potensiële bevorderingsveldtogte wat die reklameagentskap Y & R besig is om vir posadministrasies te ontwikkel. Van die gevolgtrekkings, is:

- Daar is konsensus onder mediumgroot administrasies dat versameling óf stagneer óf afneem.
- In Europa het die vervaardiging van filateliese produkte betekenisvol afgeneem van 1980 tot 1990.
- In 1953 het Amerika se vier vernaamste filateliese tydskrifte 100 000 lesers gehad. Die hoogtepunt was 200 000 in 1973, en sedertdien het die leserskap bestendig gedaal.
- Die getal Amerikaanse huishoudings waarin daar seëls versamel word, het van 1989 tot 1991 met 2 persent gedaal. (Winick meen persoonlik dat die daling groter was.)

Y & R het op tematiese versameling besluit as grondslag vir die stokperdjie se bevordering. Hulle redeneer dat daar 'n groot verskeidenheid mense is wat seëls bêre bloot omdat hulle dit aantreklik vind. So byvoorbeeld het die Amerikaanse posadministrasie 500 miljoen Elvis seëls verkoop, en dit was bepaald nie almal aan versamelaars nie.

Die ernstige versamelaar word beskryf as geesdriftig oor sy stokperdjie, hoofsaaklik manlik, 45+ jaar oud, in die hoër inkomstegroep, goed opgevoed, en hy versamel vir beleggingswaarde of weens die enigheid van sy versameling.

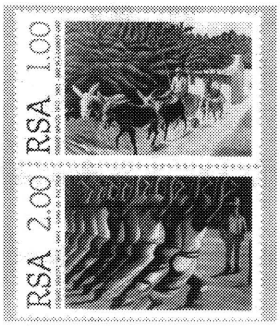
Die terloopse versamelaar is hoofsaaklik vroulik, is slegs op klein skaal betrokke by die stokperdjie, jonger as 50 jaar en in die middel-inkomstegroep, met op die minste sekondêre kwalifikasies. Hulle versamel tematies, omdat hulle persoonlik in die onderwerp belangstel, of oor die algemeen die seëls aantreklik vind.

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Op die velrand/In the margin

SA Post Office issuing programme

OUR correspondent in Pretoria, Alewyn Burger, has thus far managed to elicit to following stamp issuing programme information from Philatelic Services. It is subject to review – and obviously to changes since going to press – and was issued with the proviso that there were four so-called wild card slots for possible usage during the course of the year, should this be warranted by events.



STAMP ISSUES

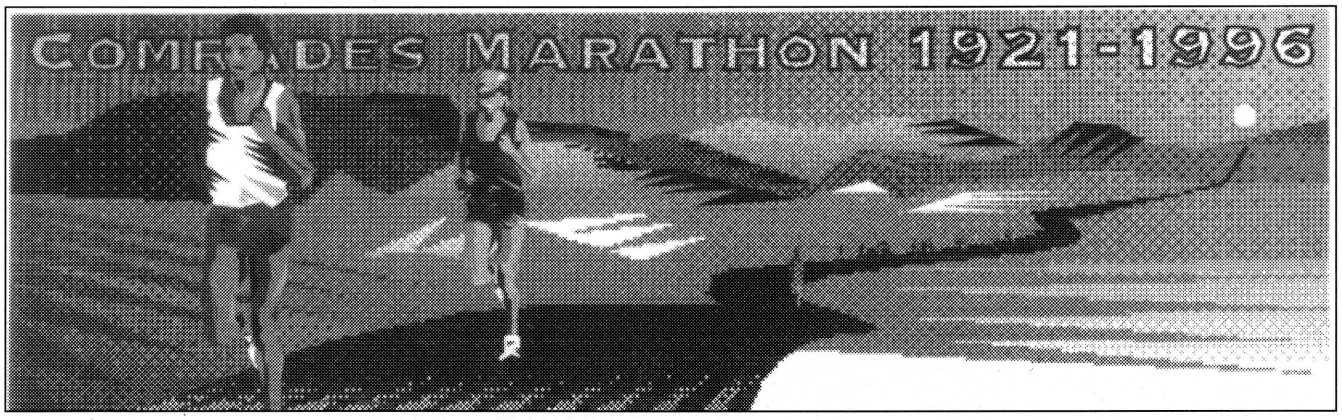
Theme	Items	Date, 1996
African Cup of Nations	5 stamps, 1 MS, 2 FDCs	10 January
Bloemfontein 150	1 stamp, 1 FDC	28 March
New Constitution	1 stamp, 1 FDC	to be confirmed
75th Comrades Marathon	1 stamp, 1 FDC	17 June
Gerard Sekoto	2 stamps, 1 MS, 2 FDCs 2 postcards	2 June
Youth Day	1 stamp, 1 FDC	8 June
Olympic Games	6 stamps, 1 MS, 1 FDC	5 July
SA Womens' Day	to be confirmed	9 August
SA Merchant Marine	2 stamps, 1 FDC	August
World Post Day	1 stamp, 1 FDC	9 October
Nobel Centenary Year	to be confirmed	November
Christmas 1996	1 stamp, 1 FDC	25 December

BOOKLETS

Theme	Items	Date, 1996
Masakhane (new format)	10 stamps, standard rate	January
Tourism (see article below)	10 stamps, postcard rate	8 May
Redrawn rhino stamp	10 stamps, standard rate	April
Aids awareness	to be confirmed	July
Christmas 1996	10 stamps, standard rate	9 October

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Theme	Items	Date, 1996
Capex 96	1 MS, 1 FDC	8 June
Bloemfontein 96	1 MS, 1 FDC	9 October
Centenary of the postcard	5 postcards	22 November



Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Algeria: Hamia Med, of PO Box 270, Rouiba 35300, is very interested in exchange contact with South African collectors.

Brazil: Julio Conde, of Caixa Postal 1131 CEP, 74001-970 Goiâna-Go, would like to initiate new issues exchange of stamps, souvenir sheets, FDCs and maxicards, for material of his own country.

Holland: CW Post, of Varendonk 1, 4907 XL, Oosterhout, is 62, very conversant with South Africa, and interested in exchanging stamps – as well as news and letters. He collects SA classics (Union), the small Bantams and war effort postal history. He can exchange Dutch stamps and magazines, postcards and FDCs.

Poland: Jan Szwej, of ul Kühna 39, 42-256 Olsztyn woj Częstochowa, can send complete mint sets of his own country and Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, North Korea and North Vietnam, as well as themes like birds, butterflies, ships, dogs, cats, etc. He uses Michel and Scott catalogues. He would like complete mint sets of the following themes: birds, butterflies, ships, mushrooms, and Pope John Paul II emanating from Southern Africa.

Poland: Andrej Weinert, of 60-848, Poznan 6, PO Box 43, would like to exchange mint and used stamps from Poland, the USSR and Bulgaria, for mint RA material.

Russia: Timoor Haziev, of Klenoryi 3, Ulyanovsk 53, 432053, would like to correspond with South African and Namibian philatelists.

Switzerland: Roberto di Casola, of Via Ferri 29, 6900 Lugano, is hunting for meter franks of the Transkei and Ciskei, as well as similar South African material in sterling currency (i.e. £., s. and d.)

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David McCabe and the Big Five

Alewyn Burger

THREE years ago Dave McCabe was selling packets of local stamps to tourists in the Kruger National Park. He supplied the shops in the park under contract as Leisure Stamps. He was also marketing picture postcards franked for local and overseas post.

It struck him that it was very difficult and cumbersome for a tourist from abroad to obtain the correct stamps for air mail postage home. The idea formed that one should sell booklets containing no more than five stamps and five airmail labels. The booklet would have to be attractive, with a tourist theme, and the stamps would be standardised for the overseas airmail postcard rate. Advertising for tourists would be possible, initially on the four sides of the cover, but perhaps also on inserted pages.

In July 1994 he approached the Post Office, and in September that year, Philatelic Services. Herman Steyn, former senior manager of Philatelic Services, was then about to retire, and the idea was shelved.

Early in 1995 Dave spoke to Dr Franco Frescura at a SAPDA bourse, and allowed the idea to take root. In March the park asked that Dave produce the booklets. He then ordered Tourism booklets with ten 85c stamps, and stuck a strip of ten 5c stamps on the inside front cover to make up the required 90c.



Fig 3

These booklets were supplied at R8,55 each, and 20 000 were sold at face value over the next five months in the Kruger National Park alone (Fig 1). A further 3 000 of the aeroplane booklets were sold in the Park during the same period, with a sticker to indicate that two stamps must be used.

In December 1995 he had follow-up discussions with the Post Office and Dr Frescura. They offered him the 90c Penguin stamp in booklets of ten and with a suitable cover, to fill the gap, and Leisure Stamps was appointed an agent. The booklets appeared on the market in January, pretty much on the QT. Collectors were caught unawares, ostensibly because the booklets were meant only for the tourist industry. (See "The Jackass Penguin booklet and its forerunners" by Frank van Rensburg on page 75 of this issue.)

The Penguin booklet did not fill the bill, however – a penguin is hardly something you find in the Kruger Park. Also there were too many stamps, there were no airmail stickers, and the stamps would become worthless at the first increase of postal rates.

Back to the bargaining table.

It was then decided to issue a se-tenant strip of five stamps as an extension of the animal definitives, bearing pictures of the Big Five of the animal kingdom and valued at the standard airmail postcard rate (Fig 2, but read also comments below). A strip of five airmail labels, shaped like stamps, form part of the sheetlet). These were inserted in a special booklet for the tourist industry, to be distributed by Leisure Stamps.

The cover has a lion, and describes the contents (Fig 3).

Now for the denouement. From 8 to 11 May the regular Indaba of the tourism industry took place in Durban, and it is strictly verboten to outsiders. On that occasion the booklets were released at the stand of Leisure Stamps.

A special VIP folder containing the issue was prepared in a limited edition of 5 000, of which 3 000 were distributed amongst delegates, and the rest sold at the Indaba only. After the Indaba the booklets will be on sale at tourist places countrywide.



Fig 1

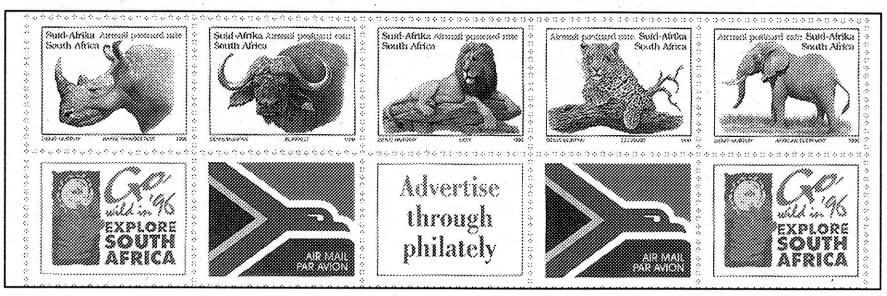


Fig 2

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Philatelic Services issued and distributed another booklet for the man in the street (and, presumably, collectors). This was to contain the usual strip of ten stamps, but without the airmail stickers. (However, once again, read the note.)

Meanwhile, good luck to the enterprising Dave. He saw an opportunity and grabbed it. That is what business is all about.

(Editor's note: Advice was received from Philatelic Services that booklets for "the man in the street" had been put on sale on 8 May 1996 at all post offices and philatelic counters, where First Day Covers are also on sale for R7,00.

The first news about the issue reached Cape Town collectors in a report in the morning daily Die Burger *on 15 May 1996, where the contents of the booklet were shown in full colour, and from where the accompanying illustration – Fig 2 – was "lifted".*

At that stage, no illustration material except technically inferior computerised colour trials had reached The SA Philatelist, *which is also editorially based in Cape Town.*

Enquiries at the Cape Town GPO philatelic counter ascertained that the booklets were indeed in stock.

Surprise, surprise!

The booklet at Fig 2 illustrated in Die Burger *was evidently not the one for the man in the street, but the limited issue for the Indaba, as it clearly carries advertising tags surrounding the two airmail stickers.*

The booklet obtained at the GPO – which was not supposed to have stickers – does have them in a strip of five. The message "Advertise through philately" is on the inside front cover of the "MitS" booklet.

The stamps were designed by Denis Murphy, and a description of the animals, redundant here at this stage, should be available from Philatelic Services.

Two postmarks, illustrated here from the material supplied by Philatelic Services, were in evidence.)







Tourism in Namibia

ON 1 April 1996 the Namibian Post Office issued a special set of four stamps, along with a commemorative envelope and a maximum card, to celebrate the Namibian Tourism Industry.

The first of the four has a value of 45c and depicts the Bogenfels Arch. Situated in the Sperrgebiet (between Lüderitz and Keetmanshoop) on the west coast of Namibia, this folded dolomite rock arch is approximately 55 metres high. It is estimated to be between 700 and 900 million years old, and was caused by continuous wave erosion.

The second stamp has a value of 90c and depicts the spectacular Ruacana Falls. The falls are situated on the bend of the Kunene River where it turns westwards and forms the border between Namibia and Angola. Although situated on a perennial river, the flow at the falls can vary from a trickle to 500 cubic metres of water per second thundering over the 140-metre drop.

The third stamp has a value of N $1,00 and it depicts the Epupa Falls. The falls are situated int he Kunene River in northwestern Namibia, approximately half-way between the Ruacana Falls and the coast, and are surrounded by palm trees, boababs and a spectacular rocky scenery.

Here the Kunene River is fairly narrow, and the falls consist of a serious of cataracts ending in a drop of 40 metres.

The fourth stamp has a value of N $1,30 and depicts the mysterious wild horses of the Southern Namib desert. These horses have been roaming the harsh desert regions between Lüderitz and Keetmanshoop for almost a century, and theories as to their exact origin abound. The most likely theory is that they are descendants of horses left behind when the German Schutztruppe abandoned Aus during the German South West Africa Campaign in 1915.

A few of the horses have been caught and used for research at the Veterinary Research Institute at Onderstepoort (South Africa). They provide valuable clues about animal adaptation to true desert conditions, as they have evolved physiological mechanisms which help to ensure their survival in the Namib.

The commemorative envelope has a value of N$5,65 and depicts animals found in the Etosha Game Reserve. The reserve, also called "The great white place of dry water", is situated in the northern part of Namibia and consists of 2 227 000 ha of saline desert, savannah and woodlands. It was proclaimed a game reserve in 1907 by the German Governor, Dr Friedrich von Lindequist.

The four postage stamps and the commemorative cover described above, as well as the maximum card, were designed by Christine Marais. This material can be ordered from the Windhoek Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag 13336, Windhoek.

News release

UN in South Africa

ON 30 April 1996 the Pretoria correspondent of *The SA Philatelist* was informed by means of an unedited version of a press release that "for the first time in the history of South African philately, the stamps of the United Nations will be sold in this country". The information continued:

The United Nations Stamps are unique in that the UN is the only international institution entitled to issue its own stamps. These stamps are issued in three different denominations: US dollar, Swiss franc and Austrian schilling. The themes of the stamps deal with the problems of this world in our time.

The UNCTAD IX Conference (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) is being held at the Gallagher Estate, which is situated between Halfway House and Midrand.

The Post Office was selling these special stamps at the Conference from 27 April – 11 May 1996 from 09h00 to 17h00.

The stamps were available for one week after the Conference at Philatelic Services Hatfield, Pretoria. A special date stamp canceller and date stamp card commemorating this event were available.

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Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Bloem 150 streef vooruit

DIE Bloemfontein 150 Nasionale Senior Posseëlskou wat van 9 tot 12 Oktober 1996 plaasvind is ten volle ingeskryf voor die sluitingsdatum en sekere uitstallers se voorlopige inskrywings moes teruggestuur word vanweë beperkte ruimte aan rame. Om 'n paar ekstra uitstallings te kon aanvaar moes selfs van die genooide uitstallers versoek word om hulle versamelings te onttrek.

Daar is dus sowat 230 kompeterende senior uitstallingrame van 19 verenigings waarvan lede van die Royal Philatelic Society van Kaapstad die meeste ingeskryf het, naamlik twaalf. Hierop volg die OVS Filatelievereniging met 9. Ander verenigings waarvan vier of meer lede ingeskryf het, is die Windhoek Filatlie Vereniging, die Philatelic Society of Natal en dié van Johannesburg, en die Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Vorige prestasies van uitstallers sluit in 9 eerstes, een vorige brons, twee vorige silwer-brons, tien vorige silwers, sewe vorige vermeils, twee vorige klein goud, en daar is altesame 27 nuwe uitstallings.

Slegs waar vorige prestasies van die uitstaller bekend was as vermeil of hoër, het die reëlingskomitee 'n vyfde raam toegestaan. Ses rame is slegs toegestaan aan vorige goue presteerders wat nou vir groot goud mik. Alle ander inskrywings het soveel rame ontvang as waarvoor gevra was.

Senior verenigings met moontlike jeuguitstallers in hulle geledere kan inskrywingsvorms aanvra vir die Junass Uitstalling by die reëlingskomitee van Bloem 150.

'n Totaal van sowat 75 junior kompeterende raaminskrywings word verwag, waarvan sommige hierdie jaar reeds aan die internasionale uitstalling in Indonesië deelgeneem het.

Reëlings vir 58 ste kongres

VERENIGINGS is in Mei 1996 genader om hulle verteenwoordigers vir die Federasie se 58 ste Kongres te nomineer. Registrasie geskied in Junie geskied, teen R45,00 per verteenwoordiger. Slegs opbetaalde verteenwoordigers sal die kongres kan bywoon, aangesien 'n paar spesiale funksies daaraan verwant is, waarvoor lank vooraf beplan moet word.

Lyste van ander aktiwiteite waarvoor verteenwoordigers kan bespreek word in Julie uitgestuur. Geen toegang sal by enige van die funksies verleen word tensy die persoon in besit is van uitnodigings, of kaartjies daarvoor gekoop het.

Akkommodasie in die Rosestad

BESPREKINGS by Bloemfonteinse gastehuise kan gedoen word by ANSU Gastehuise, wat plek het by privaatwonings, meesal met eie ingange en *en suite*, vir so weinig as R80,00 per dag vir enkelkamers, en tot R130,00 per dag vir dubbelakkomodasie. (Die dames wat hierdie gastehuise bedryf behandel gewoonlik hulle gaste soos konings!) Skakel ☎ (051) 436-5154 vir inligting of besprekings.

'n Kortlys van hotelakkomodasie in en om Bloemfontein (die skakelkode is deurgaans 051) behels:

Die Herberg, vanaf R77 (1) tot R 126 (3), ☎ 430-7500
Outspan Lodge, w/stelle vanaf R80 (1) tot R100 (2), ☎ 430-3483
**Unitas Herberg, vanaf R95 (1) tot R150 (fam.), ☎ 22-6874
Lala Dene, vanaf R130 (1) B&O tot R169 (2), ☎ 448-9205
Hydro Gastehuis, vanaf R80 (1) tot R150 (2), ☎ 448-0523
Halevy House Hotel, vanaf R120/kamer, ☎ 448-0271
**City Lodge, vanaf R165 (1) tot R186 (2), ☎ 447-5669
***Garden Court Holiday Inn, vanaf R219 /kamer, ☎ 430-5669
***Garden Court Naval Hill, vanaf R214/kamer, ☎ 430-1111
****Hotel Bloemfontein, vanaf R275 (1) tot R300 (2), ☎ 430-1911

Die naaste hotels is Halevy House en die Herberg, en daarna wissel dit van 1 tot sowat 3 km.

Spesiale geleenthede

VANAF Dag 1 is daar vir elkeen iets om te doen, en daar word veral gekonsentreer op aktiwiteite saans. Die opening van die uitstalling vind plaas op 9 Oktober 1996 om 11h00, en dieselfde aand word 'n onthaal deur die stadsraad aangebied vir genooide en bevestigde gaste.

Op 10 Oktober is Bloem 150 heeldag oop vir besigtiging van die uitstallings, en saans is daar 'n toer na die bekende Thaba'Nchu Sun hotel waar gaste hulself ryk (of arm) kan dobbel of 'n kabaret kan bywoon.

Vrydag vind die kongres plaas, en registrasie begin om 08h00 op die kop. Die kongres word amptelik om 09h00 geopen, en behoort teen 16h00 voltooi te wees, waarna gaste en verteenwoodigers 'n uur kry om voor te berei vir een van die hoofdisse van die week – 'n museumtoer met 'n verskil. (Dit is waarvoor kongresgangers moet opdok!)

Die organiseerders beloof iets heel besonders wat kulmineer by die alombekende Oorlogsmuseum, waar die aand afgesluit word.

Die prysuitdeling en onthaal vir die seniors vind op Saterdag op die plaas Onze Rust, tuiste van President Steyn van die Vrystaat se agterkleinkinders, en histories soos min ander plekke. Dit geskied vanaf 17h00, met skemerkelkies en 'n maaltyd in 'n buitengewone atmosfeer.

'n Geskiedkundige perderit langs die posroete vanaf Colesberg sal gedenkkoeverte vervoer, en hopelik by Onze Rust se nuwe posagentskap ontvang en met 'n splinternuwe aankomsstempel afgestempel word ten tye van die banket.

Die tentoonstelling self

DIE uitstalsale van die nuwe Burgersentrum word aldrie benut vir die tentoonstelling, wat beloof om van die luuksste lokale te wees wat tot nog toe vir posseëls gebruik is. Ten volle luggereël, en voorsien van 24-uur sekuriteit, en met 'n kongressaal van die heel modernste, sal weinig dié geriewe kan klop.

Die program vir juniors word parallel aangebied, en alle belangstellendes is baie welkom by die uitstalling, waar toegang gratis sal wees. Brosjures kos R10,00 stuk, wat ook alle uitslae, senior sowel as junior, sal bevat.

The jury for Bloem 150

JURORS appointed for the Bloem 150 exhibition were noted by the Management Committee at a recent meeting as follows:

Danny Swart RDPSA (chairman), Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPS,L (vice-chairman), and Howard Green RDPSA (secretary).

Members are Jan Bakker, Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPS,L, Leo Crandel (Netherlands), David Crocker RDPSA, Martin East, Sebastian Endrödy-Younga, Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, Alan MacGregor, Gunter von Schumann RDPSA and Michael Wigmore.

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The learner judges are to be Emil Bührman, Des Hyland and Meyer de Kock.

Nominations for Junass jurors are Neil Cronjé (chairman), David Stern (vice-chairman), Dave Wigston (secretary), with Richard Johnson and Danie Scheepers as members. Learners are Henriette Botha, Dave Hunt and Captain Robbie Harms.

Spesiale stempels

DAAR sal twee spesiale afstempelings wees vir die seëlskou self, asook een vir Wereldposdag op 9 Oktober, en 'n miniatuurvel vir die Filateliestigting word oorweeg.

Navrae kan gerig word aan Jan van Beukering ☎ (051) 430-6550 of André Bezuidenhout RDPSA ☎ (051) 33-1122.

Bladsyborgskappe vir die brosjure is R50 per bladsy en individue of besighede kan hiervan gebruik maak. Tariewe vir advertensies in die brosjure is op aanvraag beskikbaar, en kan reeds teen einde Junie sluit.
Reëlingskomitee, Bloem 150

Current and future FIP exhibitions

CONGRATULATIONS to our Juniors who did so well at Bandung, Indonesia – see separate report – and our thanks to Jill Redmond for a job obviously well done as our National Commissioner.

Capex '96 will now in full swing (8 to 16 June 1996), with our best wishes to our 6 exhibitors and the commissioner, Cedric Roché RDPSA.

Your next opportunity for international exhibiting with PFSA support will be at Israel '98 World Stamp Exhibition, Tel Aviv (12-21 May 1998) with commissioner David Stern FRPS,L. The first bulletin is expected to be published soon – contact David on (011) 403-3967 (w) to book a copy. The entry deadline is not yet known, but likely to be after Bloem 150, which is thus your last chance to qualify.

For Ilsapex '98, it appears that Bloem 150 is also your last chance to qualify, since Ilsapex entry closure will be well before our next national planned in Cape Town during September/October 1997.

Please contact the PFSA FIP Committee Chairman P W van der Molen at (011) 899-6019 (w) for any information you require on international aspects of philately and exhibiting.
Peter van der Molen

Norwex 97 entries off to Oslo

WHEN entries for Norwex 97 in Oslo closed on 31 May 1996, the South African commissioner for the exhibition, Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, had been able to send application forms from five exhibitors. These are David Deighton, Neville Polakow, Roger Porter, William Ross and Christian Wollbrandt.

Although South Africa was initially allotted only 15 frames in all (either three five-frame or two eight-frame exhibits) the assurance was received that the organisers would carefully review the position.

An indication of the international strength of potential South African

■ **WILHELM GRüTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society CT*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
June 1936
Another Union Jubilee variety

MR. WB Simkins of Cape Town reports finding a ½d Union Jubilee (English stamp) showing a closed "9" in "1910" so that it looks like "1810". The stamp had been posted in Durban.
(News item)

30 years ago
June 1966
Skotnes unruffled by flare-up over stamps

MR CECIL SKOTNES, top Johannesburg artist, was completely unperturbed yesterday after a week-long flare-up over his designs for the Republic Festival series of stamps.

"I have been a professional too long to be concerned over criticism which is not constructive, or which comes from people who do not deal in design," he told me (writes David Pincus).

Mr Skotnes was referring to the controversy in the Afrikaans press which was sparked off last Sunday. A week-end newspaper said it could not understand the symbolism of some of the stamps.

"Even the publicity department of the Post Office is slightly in the dark" it said, and advised its readers to "remain courageous" because an explanation was expected from the Postmaster-General later in the week.

The newspaper asked: "With which ravine or pair of space-pliers is the poor little dove on the two-and-a-half cent stamp due to collide?

"What pennant or ribbon is draped around of the seven-and-a-half cent stamp and is the drawing in the background of Table Mountain, Karookop, or of a mine dump?

"And excuse me, but is that a diamond or a carrot on the one cent stamp?"
(News item, shortened)

60 years ago
July 1936
Jipex: 25 per cent reduction in fares for overseas visitors

EXCURSION rates for overseas visitors have now been approved. The South African Conference Lines (Union-Castle, German, Holland-Afrika and Italian) are making a reduction of 25 per cent on their ordinary rates, the only condition being that there must be a booking of a combined rail and sea ticket, including a visit to Johannesburg.
(News item)

30 years ago
July 1966
Auctioneer puts ban on lipstick

LONDON stamp auctioneer Robson ("Robbie") Lowe has been getting world-wide news headlines in recent months.

Cause of the uproar is his staff ban on lipstick and cosmetics. He pays the girls on his staff a third over the average wage, but insists they wear no make-up at work.

"It mucks up a young girls's magical charms", he explained, adding that a mathematician had worked out for him the startling fact that between the ages of 15 and 75 a woman spends four years 14 weeks and six days applying make-up to her face.
(News item)

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exhibitors is the fact that 16 local exhibitors were approached to consider entering, who between them had a spread of 26 exhibits eligible for Norwex 97, qualifying by virtue of previous awards of a sufficient standard either nationally or internationally.

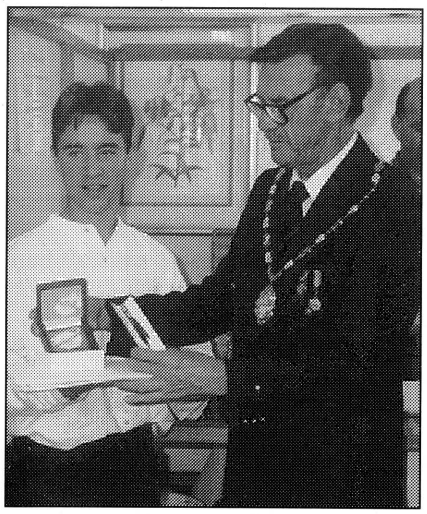
Commissioner's report

Youth in Indonesia

THE official opening of Indonesia 96 at Bandung – from 21 tot 30 March 1996 – commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Sea of Fire when Bandung citizens, rather than re-submit to colonialists, set fire to the city. A dual stamp issue for Indonesia/Australia ws also celebrated.

Apart from checking South African exhibits daily for slipped pages, material or page supports there were commissioners' meetings to attend, seminars on youth philately, and a conference of the FIP Youth Commission for Youth Philately. Looking at the exhibits, dealer stands, etc took stamina, since there were over 200 000 visitors to the exhibition. Doors were closed many times to yet more visitors, as the air conditioning plant kept breaking down.

Delegates showed much interest in the South African Philatelic Federation and thought we were doing well to survive some seven decades. It was hoped a delegate would attend Beijing to witness ratification of South Africa's application to join FIAP. Koh Seow Chuan, the FIP Co-ordinator, has a wine farm in Paarl and, having met some South African philatelists, would very much like to meet more of them.



Willie Conradie, Goudveld, ontvang sy Groot Silwer vir Indonesië 96 van André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, President van die Federasie. Syne was die hoogste toekenning aan 'n Suid-Afrikaanse deelnemer.

It was most interesting to learn of the philatelic scene in other countries. Hours were spent discussing FIP exhibition rules: initially these seemed onerous but eventually I saw much sense in being given a framework in which to exhibit. The introductory page with its brief statement and the numbered plan makes viewing easier and helps the exhibitor develop his exhibit in a simpler way. Notes on the subject will be distributed to youth clubs.

Prizes were donated by many countries, and the Federation gave a large stock book for a deserving youngster.

We now have three more affiliated members: Finland, Korea and Poland, with the hope of yet more members and the promise of much co-operation from numerous people. Of our five literature entries, four were recommended, and one was acceptable.

Finally, I would most like to thank our fifteen juniors who worked so hard and did so well for South Africa, as follows:

Beukes, Leon; 18 yrs; Environmental Conservation; Bronze; 60%
Bleazard, Graham; 13 yrs; South African Postal Slogans; Bronze; 60%
Blecher, Evan; 15 yrs; Dogs: Breeds, Heroes & Friends; Bronze; 60%
Borgstein, Quintus; 15 yrs; The Stampworld of the Elephant; Bronze; 63%
Cameron, Sean; 16 yrs; Australian Georgian Heads; Silver-Bronze; 66%
Conradie, Dawie; 12 yrs; Genesis; Silver-Bronze; 66%
Conradie, Frikkie; 14 yrs; Wildlife of Southern Africa; Diploma; 49%
Conradie, Willie; 14 yrs; My African Farm; Large Silver; 76%
De Kock, Francoise; 20 yrs; Early Cape to Stick-on Insurance; Silver-Bronze; 66%
De Kock, Geo; 17 yrs; Ciskei: Decade of Apartheid Homeland; Diploma; 55%
König, Dewald; 17 yrs; Rocks and Minerals; Silver-Bronze; 65%
Meyer, Johan; 16 yrs; World Flight; Diploma; 58%
Scheepers, Lizette; 12 yrs; Union of South Africa; Silver; 72%
Turner, Warren; 14 yrs; GB: Machin Definitives; Silver; 71%
Van Beukering, Ingrid; 17 yrs; The Post Office Presents . . .; Silver; 70%

No South African entries qualified for the two highest awards possible, namely Vermeil or Large Vermeil.

Clubs represented were Benoni, Centurion, OFS, Goudveld, Penny Black of Seapoint, Port Elizabeth and Mr Yaccy Postal Club.

The head of the jury said South African junior exhibits were well above average, and their efforts have ensured that our first entry into international youth exhibiting was most successful. Eleven of these exhibits were on show at the SAPDA Fair, Rosebank from 19 tot 21 April 1996 where the theme was "Youth".

Medals were presented to those who were able to attend the show on 20 April 1996.

Jill Redmond

Overseas subscriptions amended

WHILE the subscription to *The SA Philatelist* remains unchanged locally, recent restructuring of overseas postal destinations and changes in rates have neccessitated an adjustment for overseas subscribers.

It is in fact, much simpler. *The SA Philatelist*, by surface mail to anywhere in the world, including the rest of Africa and Southern Africa, henceforth costs R65,00 per year.

An airmail subscription to any destination outside South Africa is R120,00 per year.

Hon Circulation Manager.

Gesprekforum met SA Poskantoor

NADAT die sameroeper van die Federasie se afvaardiging na die gesprekforum met die SA Poskantoor (Joh Groenewald RDPSA) aan die begin van Maart 1996 'n volledige agenda voorgestel het aan André du Pisani (Senior Hoofbestuurder, Besigheidseenhede) was daar op 26 Maart 1996 'n vergadering wat bygewoon is deur dr Franco Frescura, Senior Bestuurder, Filateliedienste. Die agenda was gegrond op breë konsultasie met die Suider-Afrikaanse filateliese gemeenskap.

Die aantekeninge wat hier volg, som die belangrikste punte op wat by die geleentheid gedek is.

1. Die posdiens

Ons het kommer uitgespreek oor die vertragings, pos wat eenvoudig wegraak, en die skandalige toestand met geregistreerde briewe wat oopgemaak word of net verdwyn. Ons het voorbeelde uit verskillende dele van die land gewys.

Ons is meegedeel: Daar is twee probleme. Eerstens, standaarde van aflewering word nie bereik nie. Tweedens, diefstal en "verlies van pos". Die rede is dat Poskantoor-personeel gedemotiveer is.

Die Witwatersrand hanteer 40 persent van die land se pos, en die vertragings is hier die ergste. Dit raak die

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hele land se standaarde omdat so baie pos hiervandaan kom. Pos moet eintlik teen 95 persent van die afleweringstandaard loop. Die Poskantoor probeer nou die personeel kry om "deel te neem" en die mikpunt is om teen Junie 1996 'n syfer van 90 persent vir die Wits area te kry.

'n Hoofbestuurder vir sekuriteit is pas aangestel om te kyk na diefstal en verliese van pos. Die Poskantoor sê hy het in Januarie 1996 die hoogste vlak van klagtes ooit ontvang. Die nuwe besturende direkteur, Frank Touwens, gee prioriteit hieraan.

2. Non-service by Philatelic Services

Our delegation pointed out that the lack of service at Philatelic Services reached a level where it was really harming the hobby. We cited examples.

Management said according its monitoring, the all-time low point in service by Philatelic Services was in December 1995/January 1996. The senior general manager: business units, has now made this section his personal priority in what he calls "Project Philately Survival".

In March the senior general manager met with all staff of Philatelic Services, and deficiencies were pointed out. The deficiencies relate to management, management supervision, and the basic system itself.

A business consultant has been appointed fulltime project manager to get Philatelic Services right, and he is working on a project plan. If this does not succeed in three months, the Post Office management will close down Philatelic Services.

3. Verhoudinge met Filateliedienste

'n Hele aantal krapperighede in die verhoudinge tussen Filateliedienste en versamelaars is openlik bespreek. Dr Frescura het op twee van die agendapunte apologie gemaak, en ook gemeld dat hy miskien soms idees uitspreek wat dan as stellings vertolk word.

4. Other matters

It is intended to announce the annual stamp programme at an earlier date in future.

Standard-rate stamps will be issued for overseas airmail.

Philatelic Services intends to provide starter packs for kids containing low-value incomplete TBVC stamps set, album, tweezers, hinges and magnifying glass.

TBVC stamps, including revenues, will be demonetised as from 1 April 1996(?).

A subcommittee will be set up by the Post Office and the Federation to deal with the promotion of National Stamp Day/World Post Day.

The "Great Celebration"

PLANS are well under way for "the greatest gathering of the British Africa collecting clan in die annals of organized philately" – *Celebration of British Africa Philately Convention.* The convention will be part of the events at Pacific 97, which honours the 150th Anniversary of the issue of the first postage stamps of the United States.

Participants in the celebration include specialty groups, dealers, auction firms and postal administrations from a number of African countries. A number of specialized seminars and programmess are being developed and dr. Franco Frescura is scheduled to give a "Founder's Lecture". There will also be a British Africa Specialty Auction.

Collectors attending Pacific 97 will be able to obtain information and assistance at the celebration superbooth. A hospitality suite will be available for informal social gatherings, business meetings and the like.

Individuals interested in receiving *The Celebration Newsletter* and other information on the event can do so by writing to Dr. Robert Taylor, Event Director, 674 Chelsea Dr., Sanford, NC 27440 USA.

News release

Lesersnavraag

Carel Breedt, van Posbus 792, Klerksdorp 2570, (☎(018) 431-2049) vra: Die "Pietersburgs" was die laaste uitgawe van die ZAR, waarvan my studie nog 'n paar onopgeloste probleme het. Moontlik kan lesers help met kennis, en veral met fotokopieë.

Hierby afgebeeld is twee ½d seëls wat gedruk is op wit/room sagte karton, en dit staan eintlik 53 mm van mekaar. Volgens die eienskappe is dit soortgelyk aan posisies 5 en 3 van ry 4.

Daar word opgemerk:

Die 1/ wat gelyk staan met die 2 by ½ (Fig 1, vergelyk Fig 2) het op posisies 3 en 5 van die eerste en tweede drukke voorgekom. Maar die POSTZECEL en die AER (pleks van AFR) het eers by die derde druk in posisies 4 en 5 verskyn.

Op volledige velle van die drie drukke het daar nêrens 'n gebreekte 1/, soos hier in Fig 1, verskyn nie.

As die drukkersmateriaal met die inval van die Engelse magte in Pietersburg op 9 April 1901 vernietig is – of verlore geraak het – waar kom hierdie item in Fig 1 vandaan?

En waar kom hierdie druk van die twee ½ seëls vandaan?

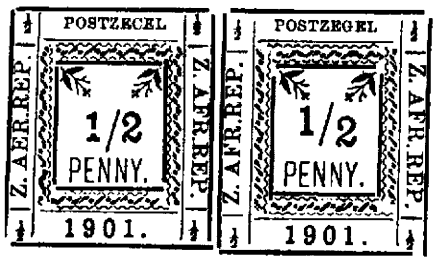


Fig 1 **Fig 2**

Federation Services and Rendezvous: 1996

Hon secretaries are earnestly requested to check the information about their societies, and to notify the Hon Editor of any changes or additions, at the same time as they notify the Hon Secretary of the Federation.

Ere-sekretarisse word dringendversoek om die inligting oor hul verenigings na te gaan, en om die Ere-redakteur te verwittig van enige veranderings of byvoegings wanneer hulle dit ook aan die Ere-sekretaris van die Federasie verstrek.

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000

Hon Life President
Jonas Michelson RDPSA

Hon Life Vice-Presidents
Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPS,L
Joh Groenewald RDPSA

President 1995/1996
André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, PO Box 389, Bloemfontein 9300; tel h (051) 33-1122; fax (051) 448-9820

Deputy President
Des Hyland, PO Box 6220, Welgemoed 7538; tel h (021) 913-3990

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Regional Vice-Presidents

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Neville Polakow, 149 Cape Road, Mill Park 6000 Port Elizabeth; tel h (041) 33-2226; tel w (041) 54-2237; fax (041) 54-2061

WESTERN CAPE
Alan MacGregor, PO Box 3130, Cape Town 8000; tel (021) 696-4643; fax (021) 696-4797

KWAZULU/NATAL
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GAUTENG, NORTH WEST, MPUMALANGA & N PROV
Alan Rose, PO Box 14033, Dersley Park 1576; tel w (011) 376-3449; tel w (011) 376 -9111; tel h (011) 816-1928; fax (011) 834-2884

NAMIBIA
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AREAS OUTSIDE RSA
Gawie van der Walt, PO Box 20022, Noordbrug 2522; tel w (0148) 294-4201; fax (0148) 294-4202; tel h (0148) 294-8027

Immediate Past President
Danny Swart RDPSA

Management Committee
Chairman: Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001; tel h (012) 802-0679; tel w (012) 325-1330; fax (012) 21-1398
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
George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPS,L, PO Box 4095, Edenvale 1610; fax/secr. (011) 452-6511; tel h (011) 452-3263; fax h (011) 609-8217

Treasurer
Howard Green RDPSA, PO Box 299, Florida Hills 1716; tel h (011) 442-7190; tel w (011) 474-1915; fax (011) 473-1874

Finance Committee
Chairman: Danny Swart RDPSA, PO Box 52431, Saxonwold 2132; tel h (011) 465-3246; tel w (011) 880-3125; fax (011) 880-2656
DANNY SWART is also the Hon Circulation Manager of *The SA Philatelist* and administers its subscriptions, circulation, and address changes.

Advertising, *The SA Philatelist*
Hon Advertising Manager: Jonas Michelson RDPSA PO Box 9314, Johannesburg 2000; w (011) 493 6260; h 646 3654: fax (011) 493 0602.
ALL advertisement bookings from full pages to small announcements, and all advertising copy, must reach this address by the 5th of the month preceding publication, i.e. in January, March, May, July, September and November every year.

The South African Philatelist:
Hon Editor: Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, PO Box 2789 Cape Town 8000.
PLEASE note that enquiries regarding subscriptions, address changes and advertising should be directed to the appropriate two addresses directly above.

Convener of the sub-committee for *The SA Philatelist* is Joh Groenewald RDPSA.

Gauteng Editor *SA Philatelist*:
Alewyn Burger, Posbus 95786, Waterkloof 0145; tel h (012) 46-6913

Promotions Committee
Chairman: David Wigston, PO Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463; tel h (011) 896-2975; tel w (012) 429-6423/6565/6791; fax (012) 429-3346
THE committee advises societies on local activities such as gaining publicity and promoting philately. It is also in close contact with the marketing arm of the postal authorities.

Youth Committee
Chairman: Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463, (011) 896-2845
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 13664 Northmead 1511; h (011) 849-1817
AFFILIATED societies can obtain slide shows on a large variety of philatelic subjects from this committee, which has a current list available on request. It provides about 200 shows annually already, and the cost is only the current certified non-standard mail 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 FRPS,L 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, FRPS,L, 6 Highway, Fish Hoek 7975; tel h (021) 782-2223; tel w (021) 461-8080; fax (021) 782-6560
THE committee constantly reviews exhibition by-laws and tackles prac-

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tical problems to provide a consistent framework for fair judging. It also maintains, in consulation 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, Benoryn 1504; tel w (011) 899-6019; tel h (011) 849-4822; fax (011) 914-1183
THIS committee is charged with keeping the Federation and its members abreast of FIP developments.

Expert Committee
Chairman: David Crocker RDPSA, PO Box 294, Montagu 6720; (0234) 41424; fax 42521
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 etc. by the PFSA's Expert Committee were revised from 5 May 1995 with the following structure being implemented:

(i) For a certified opinion of an item, 2 percent of current catalogued value with a minimum charge of R30.

(ii)For an unquoted item, cover or postal stationery etc. the charge will be solely at the discretion of the Committee with a minimum charge of R40.

(iii)A handling fee of R6 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. Owners are urged to send items for certification by registered post and with an official submission form (one per item sent) - these being obtainable from the Secretary of the Committee at PO Box 360, Montagu 6720. These submission forms also detail the full conditions of acceptance by the Expert Committee.

It is felt that the charge represents real value for money as with current exchange rates, it is approximately half of the figure that would have to be paid for the cheapest overseas equivalent and the local certificate is, in any case, internationally recognised.

The other most important fact to remember is that the Expert Committee works on an honorary basis, and moneys accrued by their service are paid over to Federation for its work in the promotion of philately.

SA Philatelic Dealers Association
Chairman: John Bleazard
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 Committee and National jury, to name a few.

SAPDA organises 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.

The Philatelic Foundation
President: Danny Swart RDPSA
THE foundation funds the promotion of philately, and is jointly managed by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and the postal authorities.

Philatelic Calendar
30 September - 6 October 1996 : National Stamp Week
9-12 October 1996 : National Exhibition Bloemfontein 150, together with the Junior National Stamp Show (JUNASS) 1996, "Glaspaleis", Civic Centre, Bloemfontein.
6-11 November 1996 : Mini Exhibition Sasolburg
16-21 April 1997 : Norwex 97, Oslo
29 May - 8 June 1997 : Pacific 97, San Francisco
June/July 1997 : JUNASS 1997, East Rand, Benoni
September/October 1997 : National Exhibition, Cape Town
12-21 May 1998 : Israel 98, Tel Aviv
20-25 October 1998 : International Exhibition, Ilsapex 98, Johannesburg, Gallagher Estate, Midrand
1999 Bloemfontein : Centenary of the start of the Anglo-Boer War
11 October 1999, Exhibition by invitation
22-28 May 2000 : Stamp World 2000, London
2000 : National Exhibition Paarl

Society meetings

Where only one telephone no. appears, it is that of the home:

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
Vergader vierde Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 teekamer, Patologiegebou, h/v Soutpansbergweg en Beatrixstraat, Pretoria. Eresekretaris ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 706, Pretoria 0001; (012) 660-2720.

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Johannesburg
Vergader tweede Saterdag van die maand. 14h00 "Harmoniehof", Saratogalaan 9, Doornfontein. Eresekretaris mnr A de Jong, Posbus 91287, Auckland Park 2006. Jeugafdeling vergader eerste Saterdag van die maand. Sekretaris A de Jong; (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 Mrs R. Janse van Vuuren. PO Box 641, Bellville 7535; (021) 946-3665.

Boksburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Committee Room, Town Hall. Trichardt Street, Boksburg. Hon Secretary Mrs Ursula White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; h (011) 896-1308.

Botswana Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Gaborone Sun Hotel, Gaborone. Hon Secretary Ms Lene Bay, PO Box 1240, Gaborone, Botswana.

Brits-Filatelistevereniging
Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 by Brits Hoërskool. Eresekretaris mev Susan Habig, Posbus 889, Brits 0250; (01211) 22160.

Centurion Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Auditorium Main Library cnr. Cantonments Rd and Unie Ave, Lyttelton. Hon Secretary Mrs Val Brown, PO Box 2388, Pretoria 0001; (012) 664-3347.

Cusaf Stamp Club
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 13h00 26 Loveday Street, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary W Scott, PO Box 62035, Marshalltown 2107; h (011) 862-2588; w 491-1405.

East London Philatelic Society
Meets fourth Thursday of the month. 19h30 Langenhoven Hall, Central Library, Glad-

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stone Street, East London. Hon Secretary Mrs Joan Muller, PO Box 925, East London 5200; (0431) 24740

East Rand Philatelic Society
Meets second Monday of the month, 19h30 Benoni Library Theatre, Rothsay Street. Hon Secretary Jan Bakker, PO Box 13664, Northmead 1511; (011) 849-7766.

Edenvale Philatelic Society
Meets first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Edenvale Community Centre, entrance 2nd Street off van Riebeeck Ave. Hon Secretary Eric Perrett, 3 Marlena Street, Birchleigh North 1619; (011) 972-8829.

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Minor Hall, Civic Centre, Central Circle, Fish Hoek. Hon Secretary Mrs Margaret Reynolds, PO Box 22388, Fish Hoek 7975; (021) 782-2653.

Germiston Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Wednesday of the month (except December). 20h00 Library Conference Theatre, New Civic Centre, Germiston. Hon Sec. Mr Mike Jackson, PO Box 30, Germiston 1400; h (011) 826-2005; w 820-5157.

Goudveld Filatelievereniging
Vergader laaste Donderdag van die maand. 17h00 Kerksaal NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus, Sekretaresse mev G Conradie, Posbus 209, Odendaalsrus 9480; (057) 42864.

Hoëveldrif-Seëlklub
Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Biblioteek-Auditorium, Secunda, Posbus 2574, Secunda 2302. Hon Sec. Colin Thomas; (017) 634-1762; w (017) 639-1380.

Kempton Park Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 19h30 Bennie Jacobs Hall, Public Library.

Kimberley Philatelic Society
Meets second Monday of the month. 19h00 Venues to be advised in monthly newsletter. Hon Sec. Mr 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 Sec. Mrs W Ward, PO Box 712, Klerksdorp 2570; (018) 22671.

Kuilsrivier-Filatelistevereniging
Vergader op die eerste Maandag van die maand. 19h30 Manatokalaan 23. Eresekretaris mej Marianne Bosman, Posbus 65, Kuilsrivier 7580; (021) 903-1381.

Lower South Coast Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Monday of the month. 19h30 Activities Room, Uvongo Library. Hon Sec. Mrs Isobel Collier, PO Box 1458, Manaba Beach 4276.

Lowveld Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Thursday of the month. 19h30 Nelspruit Library. Hon Sec. J.B. Dill; (01311) 43609.

Malawi Philatelic Society
Hon Secretary Mr Tony Hawken, PO Box 1443, Blantyre, Malawi.

Maritzburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Monday of the month (except December). 19h30 Room, 107 New Arts Block, University of Natal, Gold Road, Pietermaritzburg. Hon Sec. Anne Southwood, P.O. 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 Mrs S.A. Weaver, PO Box 2735, Harare, Zimbabwe; (4) 331347.

Nigel Stamp Club
Meets on the last Monday of the month. 18h30 Methodist Church Hall, Nigel. Hon Secretary Mrs Lesley Leesman, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; (011) 739-3377.

Noord-Natalse Filatelistevereniging
Vergader op die derde Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Openbare Biblioteek, Newcastle. Eresekretaris Frans van Es, Posbus 8224, Newcastle 2940; (03431) 24626.

Orange Free State Philatelic Society
Meets on the fourth Friday of the month (except December). 19h15 Auditorium, National Museum, Bloemfontein. Eresekretaris Philippe Burger, Posbus 702, Bloemfontein 9300; (051) 46-2710.

Paarlse Filateliste
Vergader op die derde Donderdag van die maand. 20h00 Dagsentrum, Huis Vergenoegd, Hoofstraat, Paarl. Eresekretaris M. Moll; (021) 872-5219; w (021) 873-1131.

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 4967, Johannesburg 2000; 802-8076; w (011) 951-2814; fax (011) 762-7327.

Philatelic Society of Natal
Meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Penzance Primary School. Francois Rd, Durban. Hon Secretary Mrs Ann White, PO Box 35054, Northway 4065; (031) 834124; w (031) 305-1930.

Pietersburg Philatelic Society
Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 19h30 Culture Board offices, Market Street, Pietersburg. Hon Secretary Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; h (0152) 297-2723; w 297-2942; fax 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, Lynwod Glen. Hon Pres. Dave Young, PO Box 514, Pretoria 0001; (012) 348-9716.

Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
Meets on the second and fourth Monday of the month. 20h00 Athenaeum Trust (off Newlands station carpark). Hon Secretary Malcolm Murphy, PO Box 1973, Cape Town 8000, (021) 64-3440.

Royal Philatelic Society Zimbabwe
Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Senior Citizens' Club Bulawayo, 11a Clark Road, Suburbs Hon Secretary Mr Gordon Murray, PO Box 803 Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; tel Blwyo 71627; w 322702.

Sandton Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Monday of the month. 19h30 Moth Hall, Philatelic Centre, Cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Mrs S Heyl, PO Box 226, Pinegowrie 2123; (011) 787-5573.

Sanlam Filatelievereniging
Posbus 1 Sanlamhof 7532. Sekr. A.C. 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. Eresekretaris mnr G.J. Scheepers, Posbus 806, Sasolburg 9570; (016) 76-9925.

Society of Israel Philately
Meets on the first Monday of every month in the Committee Room of the Waverley Synagogue, 5 Kenneth Road Waverley, Johannesburg at 20h00. Hon Secretary Rabbi Shalom Zaiden, PO Box 1915, Houghton 2041; (011) 440-3885 (never phone Friday sunset to Saturday sunset).

South West Africa Philatelic Society
Meets Sundays. 11h00 at the home of Mr Roehrkohl. Hon Secretary Mrs E. Roehrkohl, PO Box 3330, Windhoek 9000.

Springs Philatelic Society
Meets on the third Monday of the month. 19h30 Springs Community Centre, cnr Fifth St and Sixth Ave. Hon Secretary Mrs A Jakoveljevic, PO Box 487 Springs 1560; (011) 818-4320.

Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging
Vergader op die eerste Dinsdag van die maand. 19h30 (behalwe in Desember en Januarie) Lesingsaal, Openbare Biblioteek, Pleinstraat, Stellenbosch. Eresekretaris mej C de Kock, Posbus 2163, Dennesig 7601; (021) 883-8880.

Vereeniging Stamp Club
Meets on the third Friday of the month. 19h00 Small Activities Room, Public Library (Leslie Street entrance). Contact Mr M.S. 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 Meeting Room (old Vos's Hotel), Florida Lake. Hon Secretary R.P. Rong, PO Box 1118, Florida 1710; (011) 704-1313 .

Windhoek Philatelic Society
Vergader op die vierde Donderdag van die maand (behalwe Desember). 19h00 in die Sportklub Windhoek, Talstraat. Eeresekretaris Jochen Bracht, Posbus 2285, Windhoek 9000; (061) 23-1681.

Witbank Philatelic Society
Meets every second month at a member's home. Hon Secretary Mr John Bird, 8 Karel Street, Del Judor, Witbank 1035; (0135) 92-8872.

Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 at Johannesburg Country Club. Secretary Mervyn Baily, PO Box 61166, Marshalltown 2107; h (011) 762-8865; w 762-023.

Worcester Philatelic Society
Meets on the first Monday of every second month. 20h00 at a member's home. President Dr M.D. de Klerk, 10 Koort St, Panorama, Worcester 6850; (0231) 28044.

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Specialist Societies

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa
Transvaal section meets on the third Saturday of odd months at 14h00 at Moth Hall – Philatelic Centre – cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Mrs 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 P.M. Prime, 56 Mount Way, Waverton, Chester, Cheshire, CH37QF, 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 Albo Centre, Hatfield Street, Cape Town. Hon Secretary Dr Leon Stein, PO Box 6160, Roggebaai 8012; (021) 52-4124.

Filatelisten Vereeniging Zuidelijk Afrika
Eresekretaris mnr J. Stolk, Wilgensingel 166, 3053 CZ Rotterdam, Nederland. Verteenwoordiger in Suid-Afrika, mnr G.D. 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 Mrs 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 Mr 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 D Chapman. San Francisco, CA. Representative in South Africa Dr H.U. Bantz, PO Box 6913, Westgate 1734; (011) 376-2524.

Postmark and Postal History of Southern Africa
Meets on the third Saturday of the month in which there are five Saturdays. 14h00 Philatelic Centre, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary Mrs Marge Viljoen, PO Box 835, Groenkloof 0027; (012) 46-7339.

Rhodesian Study Circle
Meets quarterly. Hon Secretary Mr K.D. 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 Dr Steven Glassman, PO Box 84550, Greenside 2034; (011) 440-4762

South African Collectors' Society
Hon Secretary W.A. Page FRPSL, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 3LG, England.

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 Mrs Marge Viljoen, PO box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; (012) 46-7339.

Southern African Post Card Research Group
Proceedings are by correspondence only as membership is too scattered for meetings. There is a quarterly newsletter. Chairman: Archie Atkinson, 8 Scarlett Rd, Castletown, Isle of man, UK. Secretary (South Africa) Dr Ryno Greenwall, PO Box 23363, Claremont 7735; (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 Clem R Baker, PO Box 146, Cape Town 8000; h (021) 96-2059.

Transvaal Study Circle
AGM held in London. meetings are also held in South Africa. Hon Secretary Mr Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale Street, Chatham ME4 6QH. A specialist journal The Transvaal philatelist is published quarterly. Representative in South Africa Gerhard Kamffer, PO Box 218, Balfour 2410; (017) 778-0241.

Specialist Societies, Trade

South African Philatelic Dealers' Association
PO Box 47285, Parklands 2121. Hon Secretary Mr George Cafetzoglou; (011) 782-6985.

Philatelic Traders of Southern Africa
PO Box 167127, Brackendowns 1454. Secretary Mr X. Laubscher; (011) 867-2811.

Junior Rendezvous

Youth Activities Committee

Chairman/Secretary
Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2845 (h)

Newsletter editor
David Wigston, PO Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2975 (h); (012) 429-6423/6565/6791 (w); fax (012) 429-3346

Stamp Packet Service/Mr Yaccy Postal Club
Ursula White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel.: (011) 896-1308 (h)
MR YACCY is a countrywide stamp club by mail to all its members

Treasurer
Rowland Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2845 (h)

OFS Representative
Jan van Beukering, PO Box 29005, Danhof, Bloemfontein 9310; tel (051) 430-6550

Western Cape Representative
Dennis Horn, PO Box 471, Kuilsrivier 7580; tel (051)

Club Liaison
Allan White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel (011) 896-1308 (h)

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 tel no.:

Alberton Junior Stamp Club
Third Saturday 10:00-11:00
Brackenhurst Library
Mr John Hersey/Mrs Alet Swanepoel, PO Box 2458, Alberton 1450; tel (011) 907-6049/ (011) 907-4414 (h); fax (011) 907-6049

Alkantrant Library Junior Stamp Club
Third Friday of the month 15:00-16:00
Alkantrant Library
Mev Renitha Verwey, PO Box 75945, Lynwood Ridge, Pretoria 0040; tel (012) 662-0039 (h); (012) 47-4512 (w)

Benoni Junior Stamp Club
Third Saturday of the month 09:30
Rynfield Primary School, Malherbe St, Rynfield, Benoni
Mr Dave Hunt, PO Box 11388, Rynfield 1514; tel (011) 849-4578 (h); (011) 845-3045 (w)

Centurion Seëlmaats
Eerste Saterdag van die maand 14:00
Eldoraigne Biblioteek
Ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 52011, Wierdapark 0149; tel (012) 660-2720 (h) & (w); fax (012) 660-2720

De Kuilen Jeugklub
Eerste Maandag van die maand 17:15
Manatokalaan, 23
Dennis Horn, Posbus 471, Kuilsrivier 7580; tel (021) 903-3363 (h); (021) 403-6097 (w)

Edenvale Youth Philatelic Society
First Wednesday of the month 18:30-19:30
Edenvale Community Centre, cnr. Van Riebeeck Avenue & 2nd Street, Edenvale
Mr Steve J Bailie; Mr Rodger Fardell, 62 Karen Road, Illiondale, Edenvale 1610; tel (011) 609-2709 (h); (011) 834-4230 (w)

Freeway Park Primary School Junior Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 14:00-15:00
Freeway Park Primary School, Room C7
Mrs Rojane Chivers, PO Box 9151, Cinda Park 1463; 7 Sheldon Street, Libradene, Boksburg, 1459; tel (011) 896-1675 (h); (011) 893-2027 (w)

George Posseëlklub/Stamp Club
Once a month
Meyerstraat 75, George-Oos
Elsabé du Toit, PO Box 4135, George Oos 6539; tel (0441) 71-1481 (h)

Goldfields Junior Stamp Club
Last Thursday of the month 19:00
Church Hall, NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus
Mrs Gerrie Conradie, PO Box 209, Odendalsrus 9480; tel (057) 4-2864 (h); fax (057) 398-1104

Highveld Ridge Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of the month 10:00

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Secunda Library Auditorium
Colin W Thomas, PO Box 304, Secunda 2302; tel (0136) 34-1762 (h); (0136) 64-1286 x2222 (w); fax (0136) 64-1359

Highway Youth Stamp Club
First Friday Each Month 17:00
Umdoni Centre
Howard Lenton, 33 Umdoni Centre, Crompton Street, Pinetown 3610; tel (031) 700-3176 (h); (031) 701-0631

Houtbay Junior Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 15:30
Hout Bay Library
Kenny Joseph, PO Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872; tel (021) 790-4287 (h); (021) 790-5943/4 (w)

Lepono Land Philately
Tuesday & Thursday 13:15
Lepono Primary School
Solomon Bonoko, Lepono Primary School, P.O. Swartbooistad, North West Province; tel 0020-1811 Swartbooistad

Nigel Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of each month 09:00
Nigel Tennis Club
Mrs Lesley Leesmann, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; tel (011) 739-3377 (h)

Olienpark Jeugvereniging
Kontak Mev Habig
Mev S Habig, Posbus 889, Brits 0250; tel (01211) 2-2160 (h); (01211) 58-9111 (w); fax (01211) 58-2203

OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging
Elke tweede Saterdag van die maand 09:30-11:15
Nasionale Museum, Henry Straat, Bloemfontein
Mev S Sorour, Gelderlandstraat 10, Bayswater 9301; tel (051) 33-2038 (h)

Penny Black Stamp Club
Every Thursday
406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point
Lee Donlin, 406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point, Cape Town 8001; tel (021) 439-9293 (h)

Philatelic Society of Natal Juniors
First & Third Wednesday 7:30 for 8:00
With the seniors
Phillipa McIntosh, PO Box 588, Durban 4000; tel (031) 84-6151 (h); (031) 305-1930 (w)

Pietersburg Philatelic Society (Junior Section)
Last Tuesday of the month 19:30
Department of Culture, Pietersburg
Mr Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; tel (01521) 95-3516 (h); (01521) 95-4915 (w)

Port Elizabeth Junior Stamp Club
First Saturday every month 14:30
Walmer Library
Clinton Jones, PO Box 23355, Port Elizabeth 6000; tel (041) 51-4453 (h); (041) 55-9889 (w)

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; tel (012) 329-2464 (h)

Pretoria Central Moot Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 15:00
Central Moot Library
Quintus Borgstein, PO Box 23168, Innesdale 0031; tel (012) 311-0006 (h)

St Mary's Seëlklub
Eerste Saterdag van die maand 10:30
St. Mary's R K Primêre Skool Biblioteek
Mev Elizabeth Fernold, Posbus 215, George 6530; tel (0441) 75-8229 (h); 75-8450 (w)

Two Four Junior Stamp Club
Second & Fourth Saturday of the month 14:00-16:00
Vincent Library, East London
Mr Dave McWilliams, PO Box 925, East London 5200; tel (0431) 47-1378 (h); (0431) 47-2588

West Rand Philatelic Society(Junior Section)
For details contact Lionel Bruyns, PO Box 1118, Florida 1725; tel (011) 760-2590 (h)

Worcester-Oos Seëlklub
Second & Fourth Monday during school term 13:30
Biblioteek, Laerskool Worcester-Oos
Dihana Kloppers, Posbus 1000, Worcester-Oos 6849; tel (0231) 2-229 (h)

Mr Yaccy Postal Club
For details contact Mrs Ursula White, P.O. Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel (011) 896-1308 (h)
This is a country-wide stamp club operating by post to all its members.

Associated Affiliates

Junior Philatelists of America
MaryAnn Bowman, PO Box 1451, Waukesha, WI 53187, United States of America

Lions International Stamp Club
Max Lurie, 29 McCaskill Way, Noranda 6062, Australia

Philatelic Youth Council of New Zealand, Inc
Rob Hunt, PO Box 2979, Auckland, New Zealand

Youth Development Programme
Western Australian Philatelic Council, Inc
Arthur Holmes, GPO Box 9800, Perth 6001, Western Australia

■ **Eques**

Ruminations of a philatelist

REGULAR readers (if any) will have noticed that it is Eques' habit to give more brickbats than bouquets, but this month two bouquets and one brickbat (one does not want to be too consistent) seem to be in order.

For many years Eques has been resigned to receiving his copies of *The London Philatelist* and *The American Philatelist*, published by The Royal Philatelic Society, London, and the American Philatelic Society respectively, one, two or even three months after publication depending on the vagaries of surface mail; by the time the journals arrived any special auction news or information regarding new books was probably out of date.

Both societies have recently arranged, quite independently, for their journals to be airspeeded to their overseas members resulting in Eques receiving his copies of both in the same month as that in which they were published. Big bouquets to both for this initiative – with an extra large one to the APS for having an e-mail facility which enables Eques to correspond with it quickly and cheaply.

Exhibiting their collections, whether at club, national or international level, is, for many philatelists, one of life's little pleasures.

But at national and international exhibitions sheets have to be clearly numbered. One of the exhibitors' crosses is that different organisers demand that numbers be placed in a different place (front top right, top left, bottom right or bottom left – with the same options on the reverse).

So that either one keeps marking one's sheets, which in the end have to be re-written, or one marks the plastic protectors which are therefore rendered unusable for another exhibition which has a different requirement. Replacing sheets is time-consuming and expensive, and replacing covers is simply becoming very expensive.

Some exhibitions are more considerate – they simply specify that the sheets/covers must be clearly numbered and leave it to the exhibitor to decide on the position. (Presumably people mounting an exhibit are reasonably intelligent and will be able to mount the sheets in correct order if the numbers are clearly marked in the same place.)

It was therefore inevitable that a paragraph in the prospectus recently issued with this journal would rouse Eques to fury. It states "Exhibition pages *must* be numbered in the top left corner on the front as 1/1 to 1/15 for frame one. . ." Why?

In Eques' view this type of bureaucratic requirement is the sort of thing that discourages potential exhibitors from entering – and increases the cost of exhibiting.

A brickbat, then, for the prospectus in question. ■

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Onderonsies/Society News

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

February 1996: The President welcomed eight members to this meeting which was for the first time held at the Parkhurst Philatelic Centre. All present expressed their satisfaction with this value.

The exhibit by Mr M Wierzbowski on German South West Africa shown in the adjoining hall, where the Summer Show of the South African Dealers Association (SAPDA) took place, was studied and commented on. This exhibit was well written up and beautifully illustrated with watercolours of SWA fauna and flora and of historic events.

It narrated South West Africa's early exploration by Portuguese sailors and its colonisation by Germany. The arrangement of the postal history section followed the opening times of the various post offices, starting with Otyimbingwe.

March 1996: We were very pleased to see Bertie Simpkins back after a long absence due to illness. He surprised us by showing a Cape 6d single stamp (SG No. 52a) with a magnificent Walvisch Bay strike (Putzel B2), dated 3.7.1890 with the day slug "3" inverted.

Mr Kornacker showed railway cancellers from Kalkfontein – mentioned, but not illustrated by Putzel. Mr C Hardijzer showed a map issued in 1909/10 and an album with picture postcards of the various indigenous tribes found in South West Africa at the beginning of the century. This could be a postcard exhibit at one of the next Nationals.

P van Zeyl showed and explained his exhibit "Comparative Postal History of Swakopmund and Walfish Bay to the End of World War II (Silver at Alberton 95).

H U Bantz

MARITZBURG PS

February 1996: Mike Dyer commended the out-going president Anne Southwood on her stint "in the Chair", and spoke highly of her commitment to the society, and made special reference to the now famous "Anne's Quiz", and her continuing efforts with regard to the teas at meetings.

Robin Castle showed a selection of government meter franks now used on departemental mail – slogans and "Officials" stamps. Kees de Jong showed the new Readers Digest "50 in the middle" strip, but with ugly obliterated cancellations, and the back of as A4 envelope, with a whole sheet of the "Family" stamps. Susan Bowes-Taylor showed three of the new Robbie Burns stamps from the UK. Anne showed the UK "Robin-in-the-letterbox" Christmas stamp.

Alex Duigan then took great pains to explain the errors of our ways with regard to the report-back of the previous month's items of interest. The letter "D" was for Doornkop, the site of the finding of the first diamonds, and the story of Kitchener's movements related to the hi-jacking of the mail by the Boers, and thus finding the information about which way the troops were moving – in 1902. The Jameson raid was on 24 December 1895.

Alex pointed out Clem Baker's letter in *The SA Philatelist* (February 1996, p3) wherein the Thematic Stamp Club is now the Thematic Club of Southern Africa and was seeking new members.

He then dissected Martin East's article "How to tackle Thematics" (February 1996, p10), and pointed out the difficulty of getting proofs and colour trials in this areas. The cherry on the top was his suggestion that an original document signed by Da Vinci would enhance an exhibit. "I'll say!!"

He also made the bold statement that Zeppelins were hard to find – "Not so", says Alex.

Our visitor from Gauteng – J-P Wharton-Hood – then showed us a typical 15-page one-frame exhibit on Zululand, and pointed out the highlights of the stamps, postmarks, and postal stationery. He also displayed a hand-painted essay for the first SA Airmail stamp by Hans Vogel, but rejected on the grounds of the two Junkers aircraft, with a fine pair of running ostriches in the foreground.

March 1996: The new president Michael Dyer welcomed especially Francis Eustace, newly arrived back from UK.

Mike said the club was not responsible for the activities of Postnet, but since Francis was now actively engaged in the promotion of the philatelic side, he was asked to elaborate. He said that he had visited the Bureau and spoke about their difficulties.

Francis will now field all queries and endeavour to resolve problems. Francis then handed out the supplement of the 1995 stamps he had prepared for reference.

Robin Castle showed a cover with a mysterious EEB cachet, which Francis identified as Eastern Electricity Board. Anne Southwood showed an envelope with an uncancelled 3d 1960 first six SA Prime Ministers stamp, and when she enquired why it hadn't been cancelled. The Post Office said it was too old, but they didn't surcharge it either! She also showed a superb Saint Helena cancellation.

Alex Duigan spoke about an auction catalogue with the famous 40c light red bisect and showed two examples (not the valuable one however!) He also showed a "Chinese" cover with all sorts of Eastern calligraphy, which turned out to be Japanese!

Geoff Mitchell showed 15 pages of his East African collection, accompanied by a most interesting overview of the history and development of the country.

"E" Competition. Robin showed stamps of Egypt after Syria – British Forces and United Arab Republic, then Arab Republic, whilst Riaan showed Energy, First Day of issue from Australia of Oilwells, Electricity and even thunderbolts!

Peter Southwood

ROYAL PS OF CAPE TOWN

22 January 1996: The first part of the meeting was devoted to a workshop on Total Stampex 1995. Three members put up the exhibits they had shown at Alberton last October: Des Hyland (The London and Pretoria Typo. Printing), Bill Ross (Cape of Good Hope Postal History, 1690-1901) and Fred Pike (St Helena Queen Victoria Stamps).

Our President invited then to comment on their perception of the strengths and weaknesses of their exhibits. Constructive criticism and discussion ensued. However, as none of these exhibits had achieved less than vermeil, serious faults were hardly discernible!

Next up was John Taylor from the UK, with an extensive showing of Adrian Jurgens fabrications taken from the archive of the BPA Expert Committee. There were stamps (many of them Cape triangulars) both off and on cover, bearing fake cancellations. Many of the covers were of the official free (OHMS) stampless variety, to which Jurgens had affixed stamps (often damaged copies) which he then cancelled. (He employed, for instance, at least 4 types, all forgeries, of the 1853 small triangular obliterator.)

The three lovely covers bearing revenue stamps illustrated in Chapter 59 of Jurgens' book on the Handstruck Letterstamps of the Cape (for which he was awarded the Crawford Medal of the Royal of London), were all fabricated by him.

This full and enjoyable meeting closed with picture postcard displays by nine members.

12 February 1996: David Crocker said his interest in Germany is in three areas – the period of currency reform; the buildings stamps; and the struggle between East and West. (Unfortunately, however, he had left his inflationary period material behind!) German stamps and postmarks can be very difficult when it comes to expertisation, he said.

Quality items were shown, both stamps (including some cancelled "by favour" and other forms of cancellation) and postal history. Also, Danzig overprints, and the use of anti-Semitic propaganda on stamps.

Dr Mervyn Rosenberg showed the provisional issues of the CGH Rectangulars. An impressive and beautifully presented display, with all the surcharges being show. There were rarities such as a bookpost cover of 1874 bearing a 1d on 6d deep lilac adhesive and a 4d stamp with spelling error, on cover.

Dr Chris Board from UK descussed Taxe Markings of the Transvaal. An array of covers was shown in photocopy (some being in colour) spread over 30 pages. A plain "T" mark has been recorded for Marabastad in 1876, but the main types date from about 1894.

The "T in circle" type, often accompanied by a value, is associated with Johannesburg. Most intriguing are the due marks with different Roman numerals at the foot; certain offices of use have yet to be identified.

Other types include the TPO (Travelling Post Office) marks. Of particular interest was a cachet reading "Postage not prepaid in Transvaal stamps".

26 February 1996: At the 85th Annual General Meeting of the society all outgoing committee members were re-elected.

Among the reports was the Hon. Librarian's news that the society's 1 348 titles were now cross-referenced in a computerised catalogue.

Malcolm Murphy

EAST RAND PS

January 1996: Peter van der Molen conducted a workshop on the preperation of an exhibit. With the experience of many exhibitions, Peter gave us much valid advice on laying out and writing up each page with special attention to page sizes and mounting.

February: George van den Hurk, our guest, presented the Annual Society Trophies to Jill Redmond, Anne-Tudhope and Richard Plane. The evening concluded with a fine display of George's "Transvaal Letter Rates, 1872-1900" and Mittenholzer airmail covers.

March: A well-attended meeting enjoyed Joel Latinsky's dsiplay of "Flying Scrolls" from Israel. This exhibit won the ERPS trophy at last year's National Total Stampex 1995, so we are eager to view this presentation – certainly a worthy winner of the trophy.

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A mini-auction with material donated by Wilhelm Grütter for the promotion of youth activities raised R170. These very varied items attracted much interest.

The stalwarts of the society sat back and learnst about the Boer War situation from an audio-visual presentation of Dr A P Burger's collection of envelopes and letters of his grandfather, a Dominee and family, sent between POW camps in Howick and similar camps in India. A most interesting study from within a family history. Our Annual Auction will be in October – on the second Monday of the month, that is 14 October in the Benoni Libary Theatre, as usual. On 9 November we plan to repeat our "Shop Window" local exhibition. Last year the response from our own members had us running out for more frames!

In addition to the non-competitive exhibits, the society's members' entries for the annual trophies are exhibited and judged. Therefore the Benoni public are able to view both prize-winning collections and fun collections.

M K Lowe

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RSA: Neat commercial covers with standard postage stamp franking wanted. Very desirable are frankings with booklet stamps! Stamps on cover without any perforation damage, clean cancellers of any sort, by preference small covers without any bend and tear. Faultless postal stationery covers from the mailbag. Want also Frama vending machine labels on commercial cover, cash register receipt franking, and combinations of these. Mint Frama vending machine labels RSA, SWA, Zimbabwe, from local vending machines, and unusual Frama items, also desireable. Offer German stamps /money. Rudolf Lasar c/o Reinhard, Im Rabengrund 8a, 50997 Köln, Germany.

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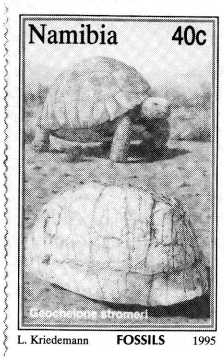
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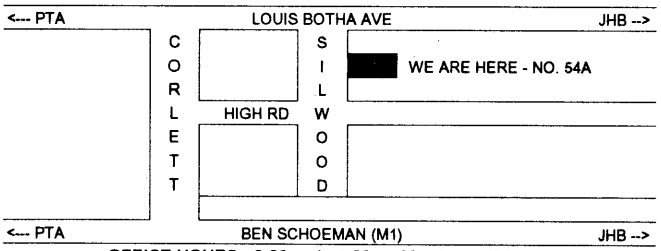
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AUGUSTUS 1996

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Vol 72:4 817

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- The modern Centenary Games in Greece
- Diplomate se pos as versameling
- A major analysis of OFS postcards
- Prentjies van party onlangse seëls
- Go hunting for a missing red

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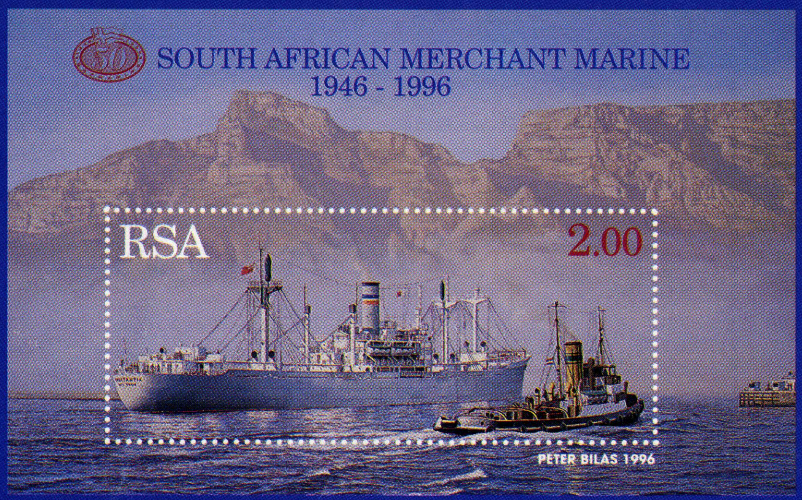


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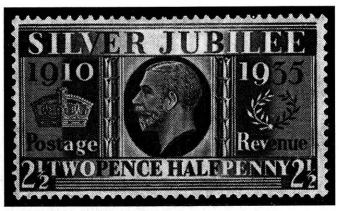
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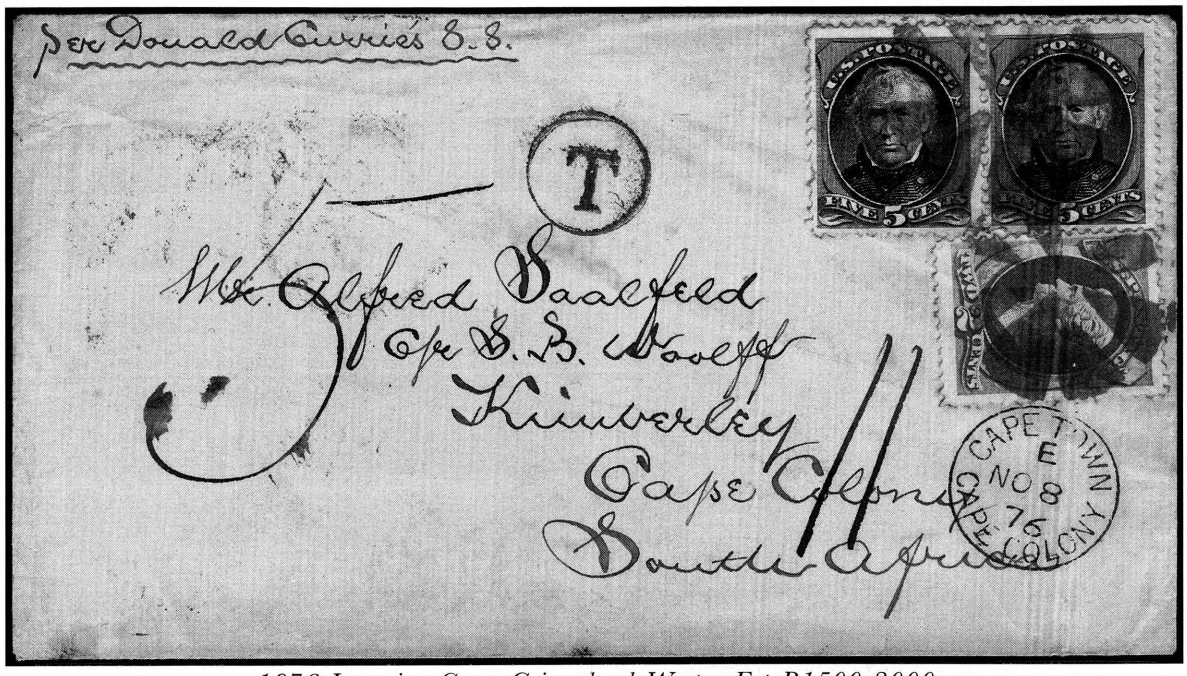
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THE SOUTH AFRICAN
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view — The Editor/Die Redakteur

MOONTLIK is dit gerade om 'n bietjie te verwyl by die brief van ons korrespondent, Rex Osborne, op bladsy 108 van hierdie uitgawe.

Hy spel onder meer uit wat almal van ons eintlik weet, maar nooit hardop wil sê nie: daar is 'n verskil tussen 'n filatelis en 'n versamelaar, en ons moet dit nou maar erken. Hy gaan selfs so ver as om aan die hand te doen dat ons 'n nuwe titel moet kry sodat dit hierdie toedrag van sake weerspieël.

'n Filatelis wy hom aan die studie van posmateriaal wat voortspruit uit die werklike behoeftes van die posdiens. Eerstedag koeverte, byvoorbeeld, miniatuurvelletjies en maksimumkaarte, vervul geen sulke behoefte nie. Dit bly versamelbaar bloot as soeweniers.

Maar ander materiaal, selfs iets soos lugposetikette, vervul wel deeglik 'n behoefte, is studie werd, en sou by 'n tentoonstelling in 'n afdeling vir Aspoestertjies ten volle erkenning geniet.

Daar is geen rede om te kla dat dit net die manne met die vet tjekboeke is wat "filatelie" kan bekostig nie. Dié wat hulle toespits op die studie van hedendaagse materiaal wat posdiens verrig, wat hulle bekom teen kosprys of verniet, is net sulke waardige filateliste soos dié wat hulle op die vorige eeu se tandings van Timboektoe toelê.

CURRENTLY attention is frequently drawn to the problems of dwindling membership of societies, the decline of the hobby, the competition offered by other distractions. (Let's not even mention TV.)

There is a South African society which has met this problem head on, and is succeeding. Read the report in this issue on page 131.

Or go back to the issue of May 1987, page 86, and re-read the article "What works at stamp meetings?"

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Reply to Frescura: VIII

FF Driesselmann of Durban writes: Your hard hitting comments are to a degree correct, Dr Frescura, but also I am afraid a little unfair.

To have to justify your actions to the degree that you have, smacks of an inferiority complex, and is really unnecessary.

You could be right about the blind old men, "hell bent", but you do not realise that the younger men who we agree may be more dynamic are all too busy trying to make a living and spending all their time and efforts keeping their jobs in this pitiful economic climate. They won't have the time or the dedication to take up these roles.

With regards to the dwindling membership, that is also due to your price increases on postage stamps, and now your latest innovation of R7, 00 per order, in other words, what youngster can afford to collect stamps today?

As regards the publication, well here I am inclined to agree with you, but the fault lies with the fact that two languages "have" to share thirty pages, the half of which you cannot export.

No doubt about it Dr. Frescura, it is time for change.

Reply to Frescura: IX

RC Knight RDPSA, FRPS,L of Fish Hoek writes: One of my philatelic friends once alleged that I regarded any stamp issued after 1924 as a "jam label". (With friends like that. . .). While the statement is not seriously true, it is true that I do not collect current issues, so I am not entering into the controversy over the operation of Philatelic Services.

But I do take exception to allegations that *The SA Philatelist* is outdated and/or "Victorian".

I have been receiving the journal for around 20 years, and freely admit that for possibly the first ten the current issue was glanced at and consigned smartly to oblivion. No longer. With a face-lift in format, *The SA Philatelist* has become a "fun read" even for someone whose collecting interests fall outside the general run of articles.

As a member of the relevant societies, I receive both *The London Philatelist* and *The American Philatelist* and I read probably six other major philatelic journals on a regular basis. While *The London Philatelist* may possibly be consistently more learned in its content and *The American Philatelist* is fatter (but it's backed by a society of 55 000 members), overall *The SA Philatelist* doesn't need to stand back for either of these or, indeed, for any of the other major magazines.

"Outdated" it certainly isn't, in my view; it's lively (or as lively as a philatelic journal can be), it has interesting bits of philatelic news culled from a variety of sources, the articles are generally informed and informative, the format is user-friendly and, best of all perhaps, it doesn't hesitate to be critical and controversial if occasion seems to demand.

And as for being "Victorian" – has the reader who made the allegation actually *looked* at some of the magazines of the Victorian era?

No one, (least of all, I imagine, the editor) would suggest that the magazine is not susceptible of improvement, but in my view critics should put forward ideas, not merely statements which make good "copy", but are totally unhelpful to anyone concerned with the production of a first-class journal.

Replies to Frescura

*Several further replies to Dr Franco Frescura's letter (*The SA Philatelist, *April 1996, p 34) were received after the deadline of the previous issue. Their publication now – some in somewhat shortened form – is in fairness to the right of readers to voice their opinions, and should not be construed as an on-going campaign. The issues raised will by now have been thoroughly covered, and that is where the matter should rest. The numbering continues from the issue of June 1996, p 67. – The Editor.*

Reply to Frescura: X

AR van den Berg of Wonderboom South writes: It continually appears from the pages of *The SA Philatelist* that some philatelists believe that their hobby is not flourishing. The apparent rift between the manager of Philatelic Services on the one hand and organised philately and veteran collectors on the other, is not likely to improve the situation. A major cause of the mentioned rift seems to be an unwillingness (perhaps inability) of some role players to accept that other role players should not be castigated for their different views on how philately should be practised and/or organised.

The letter of Dr Frescura in the April 1996 issue indicates that there is some misunderstanding on who speaks on behalf of whom. In Mr Nel's letter in February 1996 (p 4), to which Dr Frescura refers, Mr Nel does not claim that he is speaking for anyone but himself. (I have to admit that I personally do not like the sarcastic tone of that letter).

In Dr Frescura's vitriolic letter he creates the impression that he assumed that Mr Nel spoke for organised philately as well as veteran South African philatelists. Furthermore, Dr Frescura's derisive remarks about white South African culture are built on racial sterotype, and seem to be specially aimed at being hurtful. Such remarks should not come from someone in public office.

Dr Frescura's letter further urges (almost blatantly orders) persons in organised philately to go away.

One cannot determine with certainty for whom he speaks. If he speaks only for himself, it must be regarded as just another, and perhaps idiosyncratic, opinion. If he speaks for Philatelic Services, it would be most inappropriate. If he speaks for some sub-group of philatelists, they should rather follow the democratic way and elect persons who would do things their way.

The unfortunate implication in Dr Frescura's letter that *The SA Philatelist* is "outdated", is in my opinion, unnecessarily caustic. Constructive suggestions to change things that Dr Frescura does not like, would be much more helpful.

There are many tastes in philatelic art. Tastes in design and art are not right or wrong. Fashions come and go, and sometimes return. I do not think that it is courteous of Dr Frescura to deride (by implication) the taste of persons who admire "paintings of blue ladies and children with large eyes", or replications of "Tinus de Jongh landscapes". In the same

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way it would be inappropriate to imply that Dr Frescura's tastes are poor and/or parochial.

For philately to flourish, it should be enjoyed by all who want to participate, veterans as well as newcomers. I further believe that most philatelic veterans would like to see many newcomers, also from groups who did not previously participate.

Reply to Frescura: XI

Brian Bredenkamp of Stellenbosch writes: Franco Frescura is certainly doing his best to bite the hand that feeds him! During his speech at the official opening of Junass at Stellenbosch last year, in his capacity as guest of honour, he referred to us philatelists and stamp collectors as fat white men, to the chagrin of all present. A few weeks later, in his capacity as invited exhibitor at a meeting of the Stellenbosch Philatelic Society, he made similar distasteful remarks.

As an aside, we have a group of very active ladies in our society, and some wonderful members of both sexes who are not white; at present we have no thin black junior members. Perhaps that is why Dr Frescura thought it fit to be equally rude to all.

Now, in his capacity as Senior Manager of Philatelic Services, he refers to "the blind old men of South African philately" and proclaims the "days of the White Old Boys Club are over"! It is hard to believe the gall of the man.

In the first place he should be well aware of who his clients are. They will never be from the ranks of the underprivileged, whatever their colour or age, or however unfortunate, that might be. He should also be well aware that the organization of which he is the head has changed very dramatically in a short space of time from an efficient distribution service to one which is in total chaos.

We did eventually get a stamp programme, but that was no more than a wish list. Stamps do not appear on time, or even at all, and nobody knows, what is happening with their accounts. Thirdly, we can collect what we will. It's *our* hobby. He needs to think about that!

It's amazing that Franco Frescura has not been fired yet. He will though: It's inevitable. In his own words, "Begone, I say".

Reply to Frescura: XII

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes: At first I thought Dr Frescura's letter was a humorous response to rather direct criticism previously published in your columns from a Mr Nel.

Whilst I fully appreciate that on every topic under the sun there are many and varied views, I question whether or not the columns of our magazine should contain quite such harshly worded matter, given that it is a hobby, and a pastime of innocent pursuit.

Having said that, it is worth mentioning that any person who puts himself up for public office (even if this is a paid position) should expect to come under criticism from time to time, and no matter how hurtful this may be, it has to be accepted as part of the rough and tumble of public or "high profile", if you wish, office.

Also, one cannot help but notice the soupçon of politics creeping into the letter. This immediately put me in mind of one of the country's past presidents whose motto seemed to be "If I say it, then it must be right".

If that is the attitude of the "new, Philatelic Services", then the hoped for customer directed service will remain a myth.

Reply to Frescura: XIII

Lappe Laubscher of Hatfield writes: What a wide mouthful from a (young?) man who is suppose to be in my service!

Remarks such as ". . . the tiny encapsulated world of white South African culture", ". . . blind old men of South African philately. ." and ". . . the days of the White Old Boys Club are over. . ." I ignore. There are other platforms on which to discuss those points of view.

What I do object to is Dr Frescura's reaction to Mr Nel's comments. He claims to be "a young(er) man with youthful ideas and democratic ideals. . ." Good for him.

But he will have to learn that dialogue is the backbone of a democratic society. I, for one, do not agree with Mr Nel's opinion about our rugby stamps (ball under the wrong arm, etc), but I will defend his right to express his views till the day I die.

Dr Frescura's attitude seems to be one of "I know best and you better realise that". That sort of attitude has a terrible fascist ring about it.

Or am I wrong?

Philatelic non-services I & II

Xavier Piat of Cape Town writes: I welcome and support fully your front page editorial "Soos ek dit sien/In my view" in the June 1996 issue, p 65. Frustration, anger and arrogance in the non-answering of multiple phone calls, faxes and fast-mail letters, are indeed issues to address. Let us hope your intervention perhaps will help to smooth things with the officialdom in Pretoria.

Re the Editor's note (p 93, June 1996) I wish to correct your story when the first news about the big five booklet reached Cape Town collectors. Prior to the report in *Die Burger* on 15 May 1996, the full story and colour picture appeared in my weekly stamp column in *The Argus* magazine on 11 May 1996, followed by a news item on p 11 of *The Argus*, dated 16 May 1996, and full picture of the FDC with the lion and an air-mail sticker.

(Editor's note: Apologies! What was intended, of course, was that the news first reached readers of Die Burger . . .

A copy of a letter from E Hurley of Centenary, Zimbabwe, addressed to Dr Frescura and detailing negligent service, has also been received. It is perhaps best simply to hope that matters have meanwhile been set right.)

Philatelic non-services III

CHD Brown of Ermelo writes: I am 70 years old, and took over my father's collection as a boy.

I made up four post cards concerning the 1995 visit of Queen Elizabeth II with the standardised mail stamp, addressed to myself, and requested the cachet P92, and return.

Non-receipt was queried several times, and there was never any reply. Simply a note of non-receipt would have been something!

Eventually a card was received, bearing the 30627 Pretoria double circle canceller, coded 104, dated 1995 03 23 – but not the cachet.

I hope whoever was responsible has a cramp . . .

Filateliese nie-Diens IV

Koos Verzantvoort van Halsteren, Nederland, skryf: Hierdie môre het een van ons lede my geskakel en gesê

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dat die seëlprogram van SA weer verander is. Hy was wel geskok deur die soveelste verandering, en sal my die gegevens toe stuur.

Ek weet dus nie regtig wat aangaat nie, dog als dit so is dan vint ik dit baie baie betreurenswaardig! Besef jullie wel wat jullie doen? SA is altyd een aangenaam land om te versamel gewees, dog ek vrees, nee ek is seker dat, als jullie op hierdie weg voortgaan, baie versamelaars sal ophou om jullie "prentjies" te versamel. Ons het die afgelope jaar baie lede verlies, en ek het van nog meer lede gehoor dat hulle oorweeg om te stop.

Tot aan die koms van Mandela is jullie uitgawe politiek steeds beheers gewees. Dog na de omwenteling, word nu elke geleentheid aangegryp om seëls uit te gee. Besef jullie nie dat jullie hiermee jullie eie graf graaf nie? Ek lees jullie abonnemente is baie verminder. Dit verwonder my niks deur die uitgawe politiek.

Als jullie so verder gaan dan word jullie deur die ernstige versamelaars gelijkgeskakel met een "bananen republiek" en sal geen enkele versamelaar jullie nog wil hê nie.

Jy moet my verontskuldig dat ek jou dit skryf. Het is nie persoonlik bedoel nie. Maar als jullie kan, probeer om die huidige politiek van posseëls aan die lopende band te stop.

Doen iets voor het te laat is!

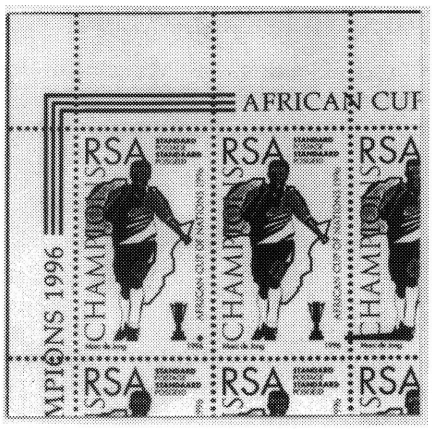
Die Groot Vyf en nog een en ander

Frank van Rensburg van Roodepoort skryf: Die verslag in *The SA Philatelist* van Junie 1996, p 92, wek die indruk dat die stel van die Groot Vyf in boekievorm die vyf seëls bevat het bokant 'n se-tenant strook van twee lugposetikette wat verskyn tussen drie reklame-etikette.

Volgens Dave McCabe is diè velletjie gemaak as 'n korporatiewe produk vir die algemene versamelaar, en by die Durban Indaba bekendgestel. Dit was nooit vir boekies bedoel nie.

Die vrygestelde boekie het wel 'n strook van die Groot Vyf gehad, met daaronder vyf lugposetikette.

Dan: in my artikel "Imaje inkstraalrojering in Suid-Afrika" (*The*



SA Philatelist, Junie 1995, p 66) het ek aangetoon dat spieëlbeelde van die inkstrale opgemerk is. Dat dit nie tot die vroeë tydperk beperk is nie, word aangetoon deur die Total Stampex Alberton inkstraal van 17 Oktober 1995, Witspos, wat ek onlangs raakgeloop het.

Hierby is ook 'n illustrasie van die vermiste sokkerbal op die velletjie van tien wat uitgereik is om die Bafana Bafana se oorwinning in die Afrika Beker Wedstryd te gedenk. Die fout kom voor op seël 2 in ry 1, waar die bal makeer, net regs van die beker en bokant die datum 1996.

A few points

Rex Osborne of Durban writes: There are some points I would like to make arising from your latest edition.

There is certainly something seriously wrong with Philatelic Services. The exact cause we don't know, but it must be remedied soon.

There is a basic difference between a stamp collector and a philatelist. I think all philatelists know this, but not all stamp collectors. Anyone can collect/accumulate stamps. It does not take much effort or application.

To be a philatelist one has to apply oneself. There are, of course, degrees of this. The late Ray Walsh of Durban made a life-time study of the Union ½d Springbok. And thematics require more general study than philately.

Your correspondents mention the decline in interest in the hobby. There is a fall-off all over the world. The over-issue of stamps by many countries has a lot to do with this. (Guyana has issued 2 300 stamps since 1966, mostly over-prints.)

This is totally unneccessary. Such policies can only harm the hobby.

We must try to influence those in authority to see that they are "killing the goose that lays the golden eggs".

And finally: we all know errors creep into stamp printings now and again. My query is: when are all these errors constant, or are they corrected by the printer after they are found?

I point out a few examples:

The "sea gull" flaw in the 5/- Kariba issue of Rhodesia & Nyasaland (SG 37). I have seen two in 30 years, both mint. I always look at used copies, but have never found one. The same applies to the 1/- dam wall retouch and the "earring" flaw in the same set.

The 2d SA Royal Visit stamp (SG 112a) has a "bird" flaw. Again I've searched through thousands of these stamps and never found one. I've even checked a complete mint sheet – no error.

I can mention many more, some quite common, however.

Can the knowledgable help with my query?

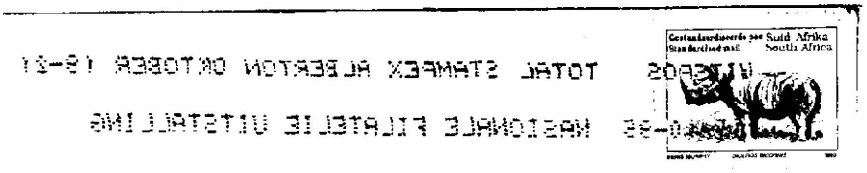
PS Maybe you should change your name to *The SA Philatelist & Stamp Collector.*

(*Editor's note: The terms "error" and "flaw" are unfortunately used rather indiscriminately, and both cover quite a number of "varieties". The descriptions given in Bennett and Watson's* Philatelic Terms Illustrated, *and in Williams'* The Fundamentals of Philately *are good points of departure.*)

Sensorpos uit Switserland

Wilbert Davids van Utrecht, Nederland skryf: Graag reageer ik op de vragen die Robert Wenger geopperd heeft in de artikel "Censored WWII mail from Switzerland" (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 41). Ik wil reageren op de tweede brief, de brief van Genève naar Pretoria via New York en Miami.

De brief is hoogst waarschijnlijk per ongeluk naar Amerika gestuurd, omdat de adressering de naam "Union Sud Africaine" bevat, afgekort USA. In Amerika is de brief doorgestuurd naar Miami, vanwaar de brief alsnog per vliegtuig naar Zuid Afrika ging. De brief werd in Duitsland



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gecensureerd, denk ik, toen dit Zwitserland verliet. De brief werd pas daarna per vliegtuig naar Amerika gestuurd.

Blijkbaar is de vergissing onopgemerkt gebleven, hetgeen een aanwijzing is dat de route die de brief volgde (naar Amerika) gebruikelijk was, en één van meerdere uit een postzak was. De vraag alsof de Amerikaanse censuur voldoende was kan positief beantwoord worden, de reden waarom blijft in het midden.

Overigens heb ik in mijn verzameling ook een brief die lang onderweg was, net zoals Roberts eerste brief. Blijkbaar gebeurde dat vaker: ik heb een brief van Durban naar Umea (Zweden) uit 1943, en eveneens overland verstuurd. De brief reisde circa 3 maanden van Durban naar Cairo (Egypte) en reisde verder via Istanbul naar Zweden.

De brief werd driemaal gecensureerd: in Zuid Afrika, in Egypte en door de Duitsers.

Ik hoop een bijdrage te hebben kunnen leveren aan de discussie rond deze stukken.

The C-crown-C slogan

David Mordant of Florida Park writes: With respect to Neville Gomm's article (*The SA Philatelist*, June 1996, p 82) about this slogan, I have a cover from the Loest correspondence showing usage on 31 December 1904. (A copy has been forwarded to the writer.)

It goes without saying that this would be a good date for a sunset cover! As with most of the Loest correspondence, the original letter is enclosed. It is a reminder from Ridout's, a Cape Town book and stationery store, that Miss HH Loests's subscriptions to two journals have expired.

Those shells again

David Dowie Dunn of Cape Town writes: In response to Frank van Rensburg's letter (*The SA Philatelist*, June 1996, p 68), *Cypraea* is indeed the correct family name for the cowrie, and not "Gypreaea" as per the stamp depicting the *Cypraea fultoni* in the RSA stamp issue.

The *Cypraea fultoni* is one of the rarest shells in the world, and was thought to be endemic to South Africa. However, in 1990, new habitats were discovered off Mozambique. Initially, it was found only in the stomach of the musselcracker (fish), generally in good condition, having been totally cleaned by the gastric juices of the fish.

There is a second spelling error in the same set, where the *Afrivoluta pringlei* has the name incorrectly spelled as "priglei".

Two obvious errors in a very ordinary set – very disappointing.

(Editor's note: Rudolf Lasar of Cologne, Germany, confirms the "priglei" error, and Jan Korrûbel of Pietermaritzburg adds about the C. fultoni, *quoting from Deidre Richards'* Shells of Southern Africa: A concise guide for collectors, "C. fultoni *is a deepwater cowrie endemic to southern Africa, and is not found on our beaches".)*

■ **PAUW STEYL** *OVS Filatelievereniging*

Die oktagonale stempel 44: Belvidere – nie Knysna!

VOORDAT ek by die storie agter die opskrif van hierdie artikel kom sal 'n kort agtergrond sekerlik gepas wees. Gedurende die afgelope bykans vier jaar is ek besig om die posgeskiedenis van die oorspronklike George distrik in die Argiefbewaarplek in Kaapstad na te vors. Tuis word argivale getuienis gesorteer, verwerk, geïnterpreteer en die geskiedenis van elke poskantoor beskryf.

Met die stigting van die dorp George op 23 April 1811 het die distrik George ook die huidige distrikte van Mosselbaai, Knysna, Oudtshoorn, Uniondale en selfs dele van Calitzdorp en Willowmore ingesluit.

Die brondokument wat hier van groot belang en onskatbare waarde is, is: *GPO – Incoming letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster-general 1814 – 1880.* Die eerste 70 volumes tot einde Maart 1862 is reeds deurgewerk!

Met my navorsing in die periode 1849 tot einde 1852 is 'n baie interessante posgeskiedkundige ontdekking gemaak. Dis reeds onder Knysna se posgeskiedenis aangeteken. Miskien is dit goed as die bevraagtekening nou op rekord gestel word.

WANNEER lesers die naam van hierdie medewerker bo-aan 'n artikel sien, weet hulle dadelik dat hulle 'n stewige bydrae met 'n deeglike bronnelys kan verwag. In hierdie artikel bevraagteken hy ná grondige navorsing 'n lank reeds gevestigde veronderstelling.

Pauw Steyl se vorige bydrae tot *The SA Philatelist* was "Die ou posstal langs die N2", in Februarie 1996, p5. Daar het ook verdere biografiese besonderhede oor hom verskyn.

Die eerste posstempel wat aan die poskantoor op Knysna uitgereik is, was die Agthoekige Nommer Handstempel (Octagonal Numeral Handstamp) van 1849. Knysna se stempel is No 44. (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1.

Of hierdie handstempel wel aan Knysna se poskantoor toegeken is, wil ek nou op grond van my navorsing bevraagteken. Ek wil die stelling maak dat No 44 aan Belvidere en nie aan Knysna toegeken is nie. Om my stelling te staaf, gee ek graag die volgende uiteensetting.

1. Posontwikkeling op Knysna

Aangesien ek hoop om by 'n latere

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geleentheid meer breedvoerig oor Knysna se posgeskiedenis te skryf, noem ek nou net baie kortliks enkele ontwikkelings.

George Rex, wat met reg die stigter van Knysna genoem kan word, het die plaas Melkhoutkraal in 1804 aangekoop. Reeds met die instelling van die posroete van 1810 tussen die Kaap en Graaff-Reinet was Rex met die vervoer van die pos gemoeid. Later is hy en, ná sy dood, ook sy seun John Rex, as posagente sonder vergoeding op Melkhoutkraal aangestel. Die *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers* (Blue Book) van 1845 meld dat John Rex op 1 Januarie 1845 as posmeester van Knysna aangestel is.

Twee dorpies het mettertyd langs mekaar ontwikkel. Melville is in 1825 gestig met die gedagte dat dit in 'n vlootdorp sal ontwikkel. Die dorpie het egter baie stadig ontwikkel, en teen 1846 was daar slegs vyf huise. 'n Kolonel Sutherland van die Indiese Kavallerie het die Rex boedel in 1844 gekoop, en aan sy seun opdrag gegee om nog 'n dorpie aan te lê. So is New Haven in 1846 gestig.

Nadat die twee dorpies in 1882 saamgesmelt het, is die dorp Knysna gestig.

Die *Blue Book* van 1846 meld dat John Rex posmeester van Knysna (Melville) was, met ander woorde die dorpie het teen 1846 sy eie poskantoor gehad. Die inwoners het juis gedurende Junie 1845 'n petisie aan die Posmeester-Generaal voorgelê waarin hulle aansoek gedoen het vir 'n poskantoor vir Melville, aangesien die poskantoor op Belvidere vir hulle heeltemal ongerieflik geleë was. Gedurende die laaste paar maande van 1852 is die poskantoor na New Haven verskuif. (Fig. 2)

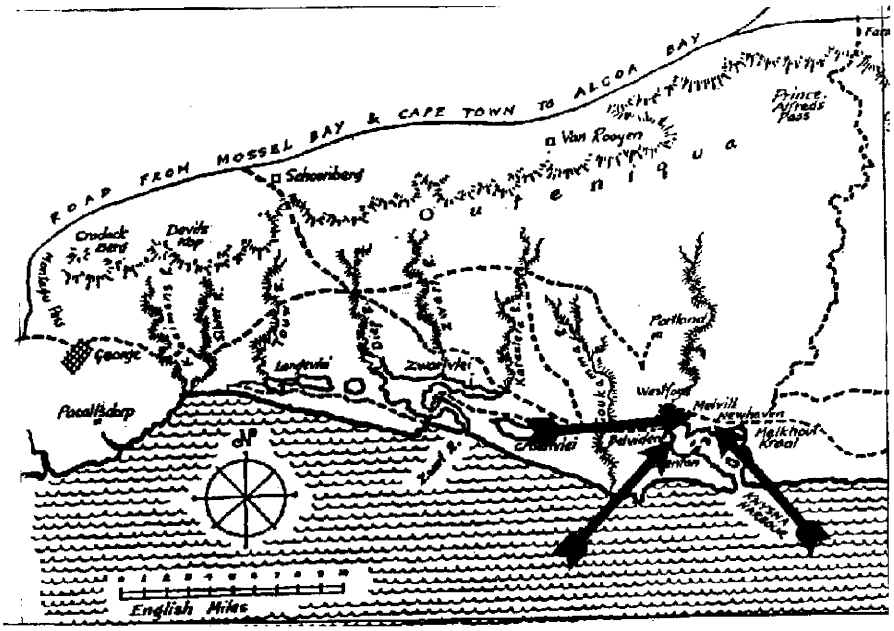


Fig. 2. Kaart van Knysna en Belvidere omgewing. Uit: *Thelma Gutsche – The Bishop's Lady*

2. Posontwikkeling op Belvidere

Die dorpie Belvidere op die wesoewer van die Knysna Meer het ontwikkel op die plaas Uitzigt wat op 8 Oktober 1830 deur George Rex van Melkhoutkraal aangekoop is. Rex het die plaas na Belvidere herdoop, en op 7 Oktober 1834 aan sy skoonseun, luit. Thomas Henry Duthie, verkoop.

Belvidere se posagentskap het op 1 Februarie 1844 met TH Duthie as posagent sonder vergoeding geopen. Belvidere was dus die "senior" kantoor in vergelyking met die een wat in 1846 op Melville geopen het.

Belvidere het op die takposroete tussen George en Plettenbergbaai gelê. Die posryer, te perd, het die pos vir Belvidere en omgewing op Belvidere afgelaai, en dan verder oor Melkhoutkraal na Plettenbergbaai gery. Duthie het Melville se pos met 'n bootjie oor die meer na die dorpie vervoer.

Hierdie interessante inligting kom uit 'n brief van John Rex (2 Julie 1845) aan die Posmeester-Generaal, waarin hy die stigting van 'n poskantoor op Melville teengestaan het. Omliggende inwoners soos die Barringtons van Portland, sowat 16 km vanaf Belvidere, het ook hulle pos op Belvidere ontvang en versend. (Brief, 29 Julie 1851).

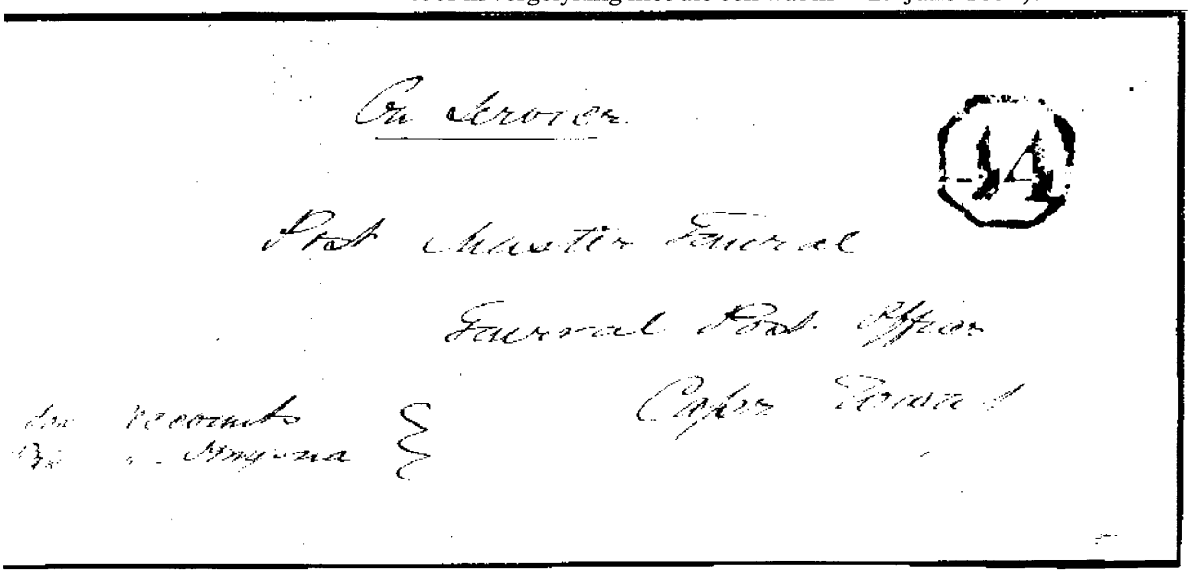


Fig. 3. Posstuk vanaf Belvidere na Kaapstad. Behalwe die handstempel 44 en die adres kom die volgende woorde in handskrif op die buitekant voor: "On Service" en "Post Accounts Belvidere-Knysna" Die teks aan die binnekant lees as volg: "Belvidere-Knysna July 8 1851 / Sir, I enclose my Post Office Accounts for May & June 1851. / Amounting to £2.3.10 which sum I shall cause to be paid to the Civil Commissioner for George without delay. / I am Sir / Your Servant / T Duthie / Honorary Agent / Belvidere-Knysna."

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Belvidere was dus 'n verspreidingspunt van pos, en nie net 'n stilhouplek op die roete na Plettenbergbaai nie.

3. Die gebruik van die handstempel 44

Argivale navorsing vir die tydperk 1849 tot einde 1852 het nie een brief vanaf Melville opgelewer met die handstempel 44 daarop nie. Trouens, briewe vanaf Melville was maar uiters skaars, en dan sonder enige posmerke. Daarteenoor is verskeie posstukke, almal geskryf deur TH Duthie vanaf Belvidere, met die handstempel 44 gevind.

Dit was almal briewe waarin Duthie, maandeliks of tweemaandeliks, amptelik aan die Posmeester-Generaal verslag gedoen het van die gelde wat by die Belvidere posagentskap ontvang en aan die siviele kommissaris op George verantwoord is. Datums van posstukke vanaf Belvidere met die handstempel 44 kan as volg gelys word:

1849–1850: Geen.

1851: 15 Januarie; 14 Februarie; 19 Maart; 10 April; 8 Julie; 22 Oktober; 9 Desember;

1852: 2 Januarie.

Die posstuk gedateer 8 Julie 1851 vorm deel van my eie versameling (sien Fig. 3). Ná 2 Januarie 1852 bestaan geen verdere posstukke waarop handstempel 44 gebruik is nie.

Belvidere se geografiese ligging aan die westekant van die Knysna Meer was twee uur te perd vanaf die poskantoor op Melville. Die posryer vanaf George het eerste Belvidere aangedoen, en vandaar via Melville en Woodside na Plettenbergbaai gery.

Gesonde logika sê net vir my dat Duthie bogemelde briewe nie eers na Melville sou gestuur het om daar die handstempel 44 te ontvang nie, en 'n paar dae daar oor te lê totdat die posryer weer met die pos vanaf Plettenbergbaai via Woodside, Melville, Belvidere na George terugkeer.

4. Die uitreiking van die handstempel 44 in 1849

Goldblatt sê in sy standaardwerk oor die Kaapse posgeskiedenis die volgende wanneer hy die instelling van die Agthoekige Nommer handstempel beskryf: "The design of this handstamp was a numeral enclosed in an octagonal frame; the numeral representing the town or district in which the post office was located." Wat in 1849 en vandag as die Knysna distrik bekend staan, het met die uitreiking van die agthoekige nommer handstempel binne die George distrik geval.

Op daardie stadium kon die handstempel 44 dus nog nie die Knysna distrik verteenwoordig het nie. Van 'n dorp Knysna was daar ook nog nie sprake nie. Dus, die stempel moes 'n spesifieke poskantoor in die Knysna omgewing verteenwoordig het.

Uit ou dokumente en registers is dit duidelik dat poskantore in die omgewing van Knysna as volg beskryf is:

Knysna (Belvidere); Knysna (Melville); Knysna (New Haven) en Knysna (Woodside). Op dié wyse is die presiese ligging van poskantore aangetoon. Woodside was byvoorbeeld halfpad tussen Knysna en Plettenbergbaai geleë, terwyl Belvidere aan die oorkant van die Knysna Meer geleë was.

Dis net die twee poskantore Melville (1846-1852) en New Haven (1852-1868) wat met die dorp Knysna verbind kan word.

Vanaf 1869 word Knysna se poskantoor as sulks gelys en nie meer as New Haven nie.

Ek glo dat die wyse waarop in ou dokumente na Knysna se poskantore verwys is, die rede is dat die handstempel No 44 foutief aan Knysna toegeskryf is.

5. Ander stempels toegeken aan Belvidere en Knysna

Behalwe die handstempel No 44 onder bespreking is ander posstempels ook nog in die beginjare aan Belvidere en Knysna toegeken.

Knysna:

Die eerste Knysna posstempel wat ek in die Argiefbewaarplek kon opspoor was die Ovaal Datumstempel (die sogenaamde "Dated Town Oval Handstamp" oftewel DTO) van einde 1853. Die vroegste gebruik vir Knysna in die Argiefbewaarplek is 8 Februarie 1854.

Die kombinasie: Balkie-ovaal nommerstempel (BONS) ("Barred Oval Numeral Canceller, BONC") en die sirkelstempel van 1865 kon nog nie positief met Knysna verbind word nie.

Belvidere:

Belvidere het ook 'n Ovaal Datumstempel (DTO) ontvang. Die vroegste voorbeeld in die Argiefbewaarplek is 30 Oktober 1860.

Belvidere het wel 'n BONC, No 345 in kombinasie met 'n sirkelstempel van ongeveer 1869, gebruik.

Dit bewys dat posstempels wel aan Belvidere toegeken is.

6. Ter opsomming

As bogemelde uiteensetting objektief bekyk word, staan 'n paar feite duidelik uit:

Belvidere was die "senior" poskantoor rondom die Knysna Meer;

Belvidere was 'n verspreidingspunt van pos in die omgewing;

Alle posstukke in die Argiefbewaarplek waarop die handstempel No 44 gebruik is, is van Belvidere afkomstig, en is almal deur TH Duthie geskryf;

Pos vanaf Belvidere versend is nie eers na Melville gestuur om gestempel te word nie;

Met die ingebruikneming van die handstempel No 44 het die dorp sowel as distrik Knysna nog nie bestaan nie;

Ander posstempels is ook aan Belvidere toegeken;

Die metode van verwysing na poskantore rondom Knysna was verwarrend, en kon die toeskrywing van die handstempel No 44 aan Knysna tot gevolg gehad het.

Ek kan geen ander afleiding maak as dat No 44 aan Belvidere en nie aan Knysna toegeken is nie. Wat sê ander posgeskiedkundiges?

Bestaan daar dalk êrens in 'n versameling 'n posstuk waarop die handstempel No 44 gebruik is, en wat sy oorsprong in Melville gehad het? Totdat die teendeel bewys is, glo ek, sal ons moet aanvaar dat No 44 aan Belvidere behoort. ■

Bonnelys:

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Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek, Kaapstad: *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers (Blue Book) 1845-1869.*

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■ FRANCESKA RAPKIN

The centenary of the modern Olympic Games in Greece

THIS year marks not only the XXVI Olympic Games in Atlanta, but also the centenary of the modern Olympic Games. Greece is still bitter that the Centenary Games were awarded to Atlanta and not to Athens.

This was obvious when both the President of Greece, who opened the exhibition entitled "1896 Athens 1996" and the Minister of Posts made reference to the fact in their opening address. Whether or not Athens should have been awarded the Games as their right is open to debate. The heart says "yes" the intellect says "no". It is certainly true that the traffic and the pollution of Athens, if nothing else, would have made the organisation and security a nightmare.

It is also true that the Greeks were so sure of being awarded these prestigious Games, that they made few, if any preliminary plans; unlike Atlanta, which had already started on several stadia, and had an almost complete blueprint for hosting the event, should their bid be successful.

Several years ago Athens applied to FIP to hold a full international exhibition in the autumn of 1996, and then pulled out in the spring of last year. There were rumours that instead they were going to organise a special Olympic exhibition to coincide with the exact dates of the 1896 Games. However, they remained rumours until the late autumn of last year.

Anyone involved with the planning of even a small local exhibition knows how much time, effort and forward planning such an event takes. It is therefore remarkable that two men, Giorgios Dolianitis and Michalis Tsironis, almost single handedly organised such an exhibition. It was the end of December 1995 before Hellenic Post agreed to finance the Centenary exhibition, and it was only after that date that the size and scope of it could be finalised.

It says a great deal for the dedication of these two men and their helpers that the exhibition was such a resounding success.

THE author is a prominent British philatelist. Her monograph *Guidelines for Thematic Judges and Exhibitors at Local and Federation Level* was published by the British Philatelic Trust in 1989.

This article records an under-publicised event in Greece earlier this year – and its associated philately – to commemorate the centenary of the modern Olympic Games which ended in Atlanta, USA, this month.

The author's notes and illustrations were kindly made available to *The SA Philatelist* by Naomi Beinart of Cape Town.

The dates of the exhibition "1896 Athens 1996", co-incided exactly with those of the first Olympic Games a hundred years ago. The opening day of the Games was 25 March, and so it was that the exhibition opened on that date too.

However, it has to be borne in mind that in 1896 Greece was still using the Gregorian calendar while the rest of Europe had already gone over to the Julian calendar. For the rest of Europe 25 March 1896 was 6 April. It was therefore decided that the dates of the centenary exhibition should defer to the dates in Greece a hundred years ago.

By international standards, this was a small exhibition, some six hundred frames belonging to some hundred exhibitors from most parts of the world. Surprisingly, apart from one literature and one competitive exhibit, there were none from the Americas. As in previous Olympic and sports exhibitions, this one was divided into two main competitive groups.

These were the FIP class, open to those who had attained at least a silver-gilt medal in a national competition, and the Promotion Class, open to those exhibits that had no previous qualification. The former were marked to full international standard, and the latter to the standard one would expect at a national exhibition.

If the national federations are in agreement, any medals awarded that are silver-gilt or higher, would be acceptable for accreditation at future FIP international exhibitions.

The exhibitions was held in the Zappeion Hall, a neo-classical exhibition hall in the centre of a park near the Panhellenic (Olympic) Stadium. It was the venue for the fencing contests one hundred years ago.

It was an ideal and elegant site for a relatively small stamp exhibition, though it would have been impossible for a larger exhibition, or if dealers had been present.

That was the one constant criticism from all the visitors to whom I spoke. The presence of dealers would have been an added bonus and would have brought in useful revenue. I understand from a member of the organising committee that it was not possible to invite dealers since the terms of hiring the Zappeion Hall include a clause prohibiting commercial ventures of any kind. One does wonder then why the post office was selling stamps and miniature sheets!

The standard of the exhibits was very mixed. There were some outstanding collections; in particular the one that won the Grand Prix, belonging to the Finnish exhibitor Ossi Virtanen. His collection of the Olympic Movement 1896-1955 would be outstanding in any exhibition, and richly deserved its award.

Many of the exhibits came from the former Eastern Bloc countries, which are now independent nations: Estonia, Ukraine, Croatia, Slovakia, Armenia and the Czech Republic, to name just a few. One or two of these exhibits were very good indeed, showing a clear grasp of the principles of thematic philately, and many were able to find some surprisingly good material.

I believe that it will not be long before some of the top thematic collections will come from these areas. The greatest problem for many of them appears to be getting hold of good quality album leaves and a modern typewriter or computer.

For the jury, commissioners and exhibitors who attended the exhibition, an extra treat was the outings

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that had been planned. It is usual for the jury and commissioners to be taken on one, or in rare instances two outings by way of thanks for their efforts. That the exhibitors were also invited is rare indeed, and the number and quality of the outings was I believe, unique.

The first ever Olympic Marathon was run from Marathon, some 42 kilometres away from the Olympic stadium on 29 March 1896.

On that date a hundred years later we were driven there to witness the placing of a plaque at the starting point to commemorate Spiridon Louis' historic run. It was the first gold medal that was awarded to Greece in the track and field events, and such was the emotion in the stadium when it was announced that a Greek was in the lead that the two royal princes ran to meet Louis to escort him to the finish line.

The marathon had no counterpart in ancient times; the longest race being a *dolichos*, a distance of some three miles. The marathon of 1896 was the brainchild of Michel Breal, a French philosopher and educator living in Greece, and a great Grecophile. He felt that it would be appropriate to have a race that was dedicated to the Greek love of freedom, and chose the historic run by Pheidippides from Marathon to Athens to tell the Athenians of their victory over the Persians in 490 BC.

The second outing was, I am sure for everyone present, the highlight. On 30 March, the flame was lit at Olympia to begin its long journey, first through Greece and then through the United States, until it finally reached Atlanta in time for the opening ceremony on 19 July at the start of the Games of the XXVI Olympiad.

The organising committee of "1896 Athens 1996" chartered a plane for all the participants, including the helpers, to fly to Olympia to witness the lighting of the torch. Hillary Clinton and William Porter Payne, the President of the Atlanta Olympic Organising Committee, were amongst the dignitaries present. It was a simple ceremony at Olympia before a crowd of some 20 000 people in the ancient stadium.

After the raising of the Olympic, United States and Greek flags, the playing of the three anthems, and a few speeches, the actual lighting of the flame took place away from the crowds in the inner sanctuary of Olympia. Greek girls in white flowing dresses (Fig. 1) escorted the flame, lit by the rays of the Greek sun, back into the stadium, where the first runner dipped his torch into the firebowl, still held in cupped hands, and so started the torch relay for the Summer Games for the fourteenth time.



Fig 1.

The torch relay has only been a part of Olympic tradition since the Games of 1936 in Berlin, and has a story of its own.

Although a torch relay was not part of the ancient Olympic Games, various fire ceremonies were a part of many Greek pagan festivals. At Olympia, the winner of the 1 stade race (approximately one hundred yards), the most prestigious race of all, was invited to light the flame that marked the end of the quadrennial Games.

For the ancient Greeks fire was identical to Light, Truth, Purity and Knowledge. At Olympia a temple was dedicated to Hestia, the goddess of the hearth, where priestesses were responsible for keeping the sacred flame alight at all times. The flame symbolised the chain of life and death and the succession of generations who transferred the spiritual light.

In 1896, when Athens was chosen to host the first Modern Olympic Games, the first Hellenic Olympic Committee organised a torchlight procession through one of the central streets of the city. At both the 1928 Games in Amsterdam and the 1932 Games in Los Angeles, a flame burned in a brazier specially prepared for it at the stadium.

However, the modern torch relay was the brainchild of Carl Diem, the German sports educator and Secretary General of the Organising Committee for the XI Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936. He suggested a relay connecting the two stadia, Olympia and Berlin, at the International Olympic Committee's Session, held in Vienna in 1934, and those present voted overwhelmingly in favour of the suggestion.

Ever since that first relay, when the flame was lit by the sun's rays with a giant magnifying glass specially produced by the Carl Zeiss company in Jena in Germany, the torch relay has become a part of Olympic tradition. In 1936, each country through which the torch passed supplied her own athletes, who each ran 1 kilometre, before handing over the flame to the next runner.

The torches were made by the Krupp Works in Essen, and became the property of the runner in commemoration of his participation. In all, 3 075 runners were needed in that first relay to cover the distance from Olympia to Berlin.

At every Summer Games, and more recently at every Winter Games, the celebrations have started with the lighting of the flame at the Temple of Hera at the ancient sanctuary of

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Olympia, and the length of time taken to carry the torch from Olympia to the opening ceremony has got longer and longer. The distances too have increased, for the torch now travels the length and breadth of the host nation before finally coming to rest in the brazier specialy prepared for it.

In contrast to the razzmatazz that would accompany the torch on its journey throughout the United States, the ceremony at Olympia was simple and moving and lasted less than an hour. After the speeches a small group of dignitaries went from the stadium into the sanctuary of Olympia itself through the arch, and into the ruins of the Temple of Hera, where the flame was lit, much as it was in 1936.

The large crowd outside the sanctuary waited patiently and fell silent when they heard the drum roll that indicated that the flame had been lit. Then a single girl in flowing white robes emerged from the sanctuary slowly beating her drum. She was followed by more girls in classical white Greek dresses, each carrying on olive branch.

In their midst was the girl carrying the flame in cupped hands. The container was so small that at times it seemed as though se carried the flame in her naked hands.

After a short graceful dance, the first of the many runners approached and dipped his torch into the flame. Before he left the stadium, a white dove was released, symbolically spreading the news that the Olympic celebrations had started.

Interestingly enough, the torch relay, which has a direct link to the Centenary Games in Atlanta, was hardly fêted at all. I heard from several sources that the torch passed on its way through Greece with little comment and less publicity, except in those places where it stayed overnight.

Even the lighting of the flame in Olympia received little coverage on the national television, though its arrival in Athens, as a part of a re-enactment of the sporting events of a hundred years ago in the Pan Hellenic Stadium, did receive wider coverage.

Without stamp collectors, it is possible that there might not even have been a cancellation. To get any information about the torch's journey after leaving Greece was almost impossible. It arrived in Athens on 6 April, and was due to arrive in Los Angeles for a torch run through the United States on 27 April.

No-one could tell me for sure where it would be in the intervening twenty one days. There were rumours that it was to tour the Greek Islands. Another fairly reliable source said that it was to visit all those previous Olympic cities that had asked for it. I am fairly confident that it visited Munich and Berlin, but if it went anywhere else, I know not.

A special cancellation was used at the only post office in Olympia to commemorate the lighting of the flame marking the start of the Games of the XXVI Olypmiad. After leaving Olympia, the torch wound its way through the Peloponnese by way of Kalamata, where it made its first overnight stop. The following day the torch reached the centre of the Peloponnese at Tegea, where it again stayed overnight. The third day it travelled to Nemea, another site of important games in ancient times, and on to Corinth where it made its third overnight stop. On the Tuesday (2 April), the torch passed through Kiata, Akrata and Aegio to Patras. After an overnight stop at Patras, it left the Peloponnese and crossed the water to the Greek mainland, coming to rest in Delphi for the fifth night.

The end of the sixth day found the torch in Vergina. This city became well known in the late 1970s when the professor of Archeology, Manolis Andronikos, discovered so many rare and valuable artefacts that he came to the conclusion that Vergina was actually the first capital of the kingdom of Macedonia. A series of royal tombs were found, amongst them the tomb of Phillip II (359-336 BC) the father of Alexander the Great, one of the most important figures in Greek history.

On the seventh day the torch left Vergina and continued its journey north to Salonika, where it again stayed overnight. On 6 April, it was taken either by car or bus to Marathon, some 42 kilometres to the south of Athens, from where it started the final journey through Greece. It arrived in Athens at the Pan Hellenic Stadium at the end of an evening of sporting events, held as they would have been a hundred years ago.

For us, this was the final outing, which was also the final day of the exhibition, and the last day of the Games a hundred years ago.

In the Pan Hellenic Stadium sporting time was turned back. No elec-



Fig 2.

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Fig 3.



Fig 4.



Fig 5.



Fig 6.



Fig 7.

tronic clocks – the only piece of modern equipment was a giant TV screen, so that the spectators could see the events.

The marathon race was re-enacted and, as a hundred years ago, the spectators went wild when the first Greek runner came into the stadium. On this occasion, he had to be satisfied with second place, for the winner was from Australia. All the participants were sports students from those countries who participated in 1896. They wore the type of singlets and shorts, familiar from old, faded photographs.

The highlight of the evening was the arrival of the torch at the Pan Hellenic Stadium after its journey through the Peloponnese and the Greek mainland.

Hellenic Post issued three miniature sheets on 25 March 1996 to honour the Centenary Games, which were adapted by Mirsiny Vardopoulou from the original designs of the 1896 issue (Figs. 2, 3 and 4). They were off-set printed by the Alex Matsoukis Corporation on unwatermarked paper.

There are three miniature sheets in the set, each with four stamps, with a total face value of Drachmae 3 000 (approximately £8.55). They will remain valid for postage until 24 March 1997. In total, 250 000 complete sets were issued.

There appeared to be some controversy surrounding these miniature sheets. Tired of the proliferation of Olympic issues, the International Olympic Committee has decided this year that permission to use the Olympic rings, one of the registered symbols of the IOC, will not be granted for use on miniature sheets commemorating the Atlanta Games. Had the sheets been issued to commemorate "1896 Athens 1996", permission might have been given.

It will be interesting to learn whether Hellenic Post will have to pay a heavy fine for using the rings "illegally", or whether they will get away with it, since the sheetlets clearly commemorate the Centenary of the Games, and not Atlanta.

Personally, I believe that Greece should be allowed her moment of glory in this historic year, without further acrimony. There has been enough bitterness about the siting of the Centenary Games without adding fuel to the flames.

There was a special cancellation for each day of the exhibition, most of which had the same design, the only difference being the date and the inscription. The opening day cancellation was the only one to have the Olympic rings as a part of the design (Fig. 5).

The other cancellations were as follows:

26 March Dimitrios Vikelas Day (he was the first President of the IOC (Fig. 6)
27 March Pierre de Courbertin Day (he was founder of the modern Olympic Games)
28 March Day of American Olympic Winners
29 March Day of Greek Olympic Winners
30 March Day of German Olympic Winners
31 March Day of French Olympic Winners
1 April Day of English Olympic Winners
2 April Day of Austrian Olympic Winners
3 April Day of Hungarian Olympic Winners
4 April Day of Australian Olympic Winners
5 April Day of Danish Olympic Winners
6 April Day of Swiss Olympic Winners.

On 29 March 1996, a special handstamp was used at the post office at Marathon to commemorate the unveiling of the plaque to Michel Breal and Spiridon Louis.

On the following day a handstamp was used at Olympia's only post office to commemorate the start of the torch relay (Fig.7).

Several similar handstamps were used at the exhibition post office to mark the arrival of the torch in the Greek capital, and elsewhere, at points along the route. ■

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

Die pos van diplomate

'n KLOMPIE maande gelede het 'n leser gekla oor probleme wat hy gehad het met die versameling van sekere items. Die gedagte het by my ontstaan dat ons filatelievriend, wat op daardie stadium die filatelie wou los, sy versamelingsrigting moes verander.

Daar is werklikwaar baie wat versamel kan word teen 'n baie lae koste, dit wil sê, as 'n mens met moderne goed begin. Ek het 'n groot versameling moderne items, en my ondervinding is dat die versameling my relatief niks uit die sak gejaag het nie. Inteendeel, die boeke en houers waarin ek die versamelstukke bewaar, kos meer as die stukke self, maar dit is 'n ander storie.

Terwyl ek onlangs besig was om 'n paar items wat ek uitgeruil het, by my versameling te voeg, het ek afgekom op 'n item wat van die Chinese diplomatieke sending in Suid-Afrika afkomstig is. (Fig. 1) Dadelik dink ek toe aan ons vriend wat die filatelie vaarwel wou roep. Hier is nou 'n versamelgebied, die pos van die diplomate. Dit is nou weliswaar nie 'n versamelgebied waarvan 'n mens gewoonweg baie items gaan teëkom nie. Dit het as versamelrigting egter baie om die entoesias besig te hou.

Diplomasie is die metode waarvolgens lande met mekaar onderhandel. Om diplomasie te kan bedryf, stuur regerings gewoonlik verteenwoordigers om in die lande te gaan woon waarmee daar diplomatieke bande aangeknoop word. Hierdie verteenwoordigers, of diplomate, beywer hulle om politieke of ekonomiese voordele vir hulle land te bekom, en om internasionale samewerking te bewerkstellig.

Diplomate is gewoonlik werknemers van die departement van buitelandse sake van 'n land. In die lande waarheen hulle gepos word, is hulle meestal die woordvoerders vir hulle regerings. Ander take van diplomate is dat hulle informasie oor alles wat van belang vir hulle regering kan wees, bymekaarmaak en daaroor verslag doen, en ook na die belange omsien van landgenote wat hulle in die buiteland bevind.

Die hoofkwartier van diplomate is gewoonlik 'n ambassade of gesantskap. 'n Ambassadeur staan aan die hoof van 'n ambassade terwyl 'n minister die hoof is van 'n gesantskap. Lae vlak betrekkinge word in sommige gevalle deur 'n handelsverteenwoordiger behartig.

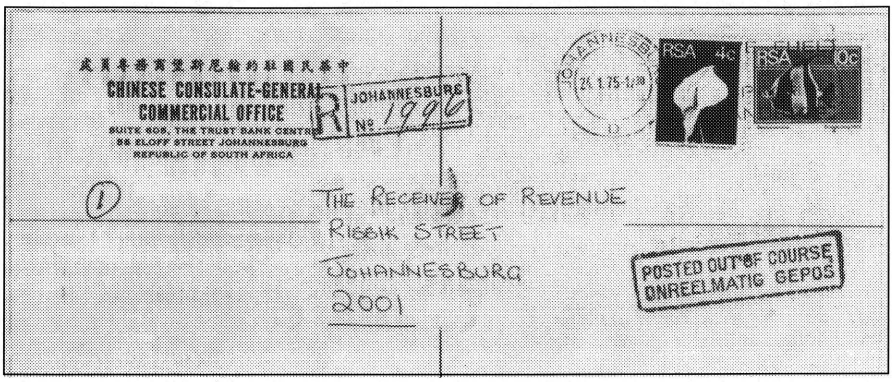


Fig 1

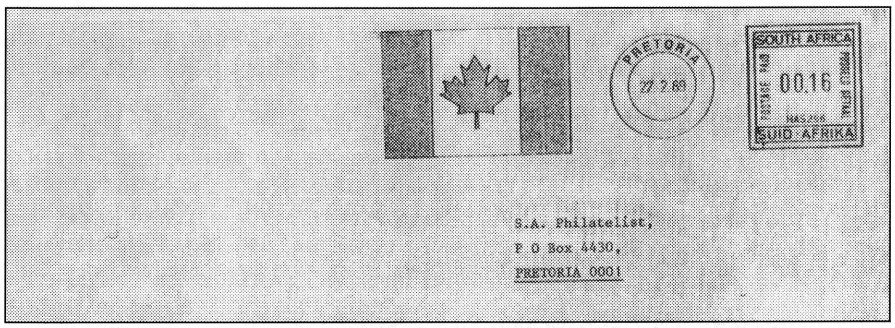


Fig 2

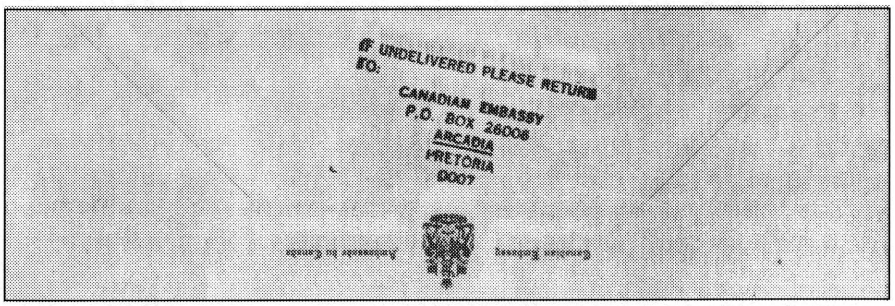


Fig 3

Twee items wat afkomstig is van buitelandse ambassades wat in Suid-Afrika gevestig is, word hierby geïllustreer. Soos reeds genoem, is die een van China. Maar nou moet 'n mens versigtig wees want daar is twee lande wat hulself China noem!

Die een is die eiland wat ook as Taiwan bekend is, en die ander een is die werklike China op die Oosterse vasteland, wat soms ook Kommunistiese China genoem word.

In die apartheid era het Suid-Afrika nie betrekkinge met laasgenoemde gehad nie.

Ons voorbeeld is dus van Taiwan se verteenwoordigers.

Die tweede item is van Kanada se diplomatieke verteenwoordigers in Suid-Afrika. (Fig. 2 en 3.) Daar is nog baie wat oor die diplomate se pos geskryf kan word, maar kom ons volstaan eers met dit wat hier verskyn. My groot oogmerk was om 'n aspek van filateliese versameling aan te raak wat baie interessant behoort te wees. Daar is so baie wat met min moeite en teen geringe koste versamel kan word, dat dit my verbaas dat daar klagtes kom van mense wat sê hulle het belangstelling in die filatelie verloor.

Die probleem is dat daardie mense wat belangstelling verloor, onder die indruk verkeer het dat hulle uit die filatelie gaan geld maak! ■

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■ **JOHN CHEMINAIS** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

A setting analysis of the stamped provisional postcards of the OFS: 1889–1900

THE Orange Free State postal authority introduced a postcard service in 1884. The cards were printed by Thomas De la Rue in London at the internal rate of One Penny. These cards, incorporating the design of the One Penny stamp, were reprinted on a number of occasions but, presumably due to a delay in re-ordering, stocks became exhausted early in 1889.

It was decided to undertake a local provisional printing to replenish stocks. In its implementation this decision resulted in the formation of an unusual and very interesting class of postal stationary: postage stamps were affixed to plain card before the card design was impressed. This method was persevered with for nine years, during which period it was used for the Half-Penny and One-and-a-half Penny values as well.

The cards have been the subject of a number of studies: Warhurst (1900), Leon de Raay (1923), Pennycuick (1956) and have featured in *The SA Philatelist* on more than one occasion. The studies were summarised in Vol. 1 of Buckley and Marriott's *Stamps of the Orange Free State* (1978).

As Pennycuick puts it in his introduction, "With this wealth of references it may seem surprising that there is any more to be said." The fact is that the references are not easy to follow, and only Pennycuick's research makes identification easier. To provide an easy-reference classification was Pennycuick's first objective; his second was to bring the available information up-to-date in so far as varieties were concerned. They provided the scope of the first part of this research; the second part covered postal use.

Why then, is there any more to say? This article is intended firstly to show that there *is* further information available, so that some of the conclusions reached in earlier researches need to be revised, or added to. More importantly, it adopts a fresh approach towards classification of the cards: a classification by *setting* i.e. the settings of the type used to overprint the stamp and the cards, thus enabling the understanding of the sequence of events over the nine year period.

MANY years of research have gone into John Cheminais' multi-layered collection of the Orange Free State. This is the first time he has shared some of it with readers of *The SA Philatelist*.

John is retired and, besides devoting himself to ceramics, recently established his society's first computerised library listing. He is, needless to say, the society's honorary librarian.

The need to adopt this approach stems from the fact that none of the previous studies attempted to analyse the sequence which gave rise to the numerous differences between one "printing" and another.

Such an approach does this, and removes the anomaly that exists in Buckley and Marriot's Volume 1, where all overprints of stamps are described in terms of *settings*, each used for one or more *printings*, whereas postcards (in Chapter 16) are described in terms of *printings* only.

The more important setting characteristics are set out in the check list that accompanies this article. Both deal with the first series of cards: the bordered cards.

The bordered cards

There are four distinctive settings of the bordered cards, printed between January and June 1889. In all four the One Penny brown stamp of the sixth printing, 1888, was affixed sideways near the top centre of the card cut to 114 x 75mm. The cards were then printed singly with a single impression. The stock used for the cards was of various shades and thicknesses (thickness is not dealt with here).

The general type of bordered card is shown in Fig 1.

Analysis of Settings

The main points of differences are:

- The border
- The type of shield (coat-of-arms)
- BRIEF KAART setting
- Address line make-up

The border: The check list shows that there are four settings of the border frame, not two. The border letters also differ in all four settings; the third and fourth settings are not

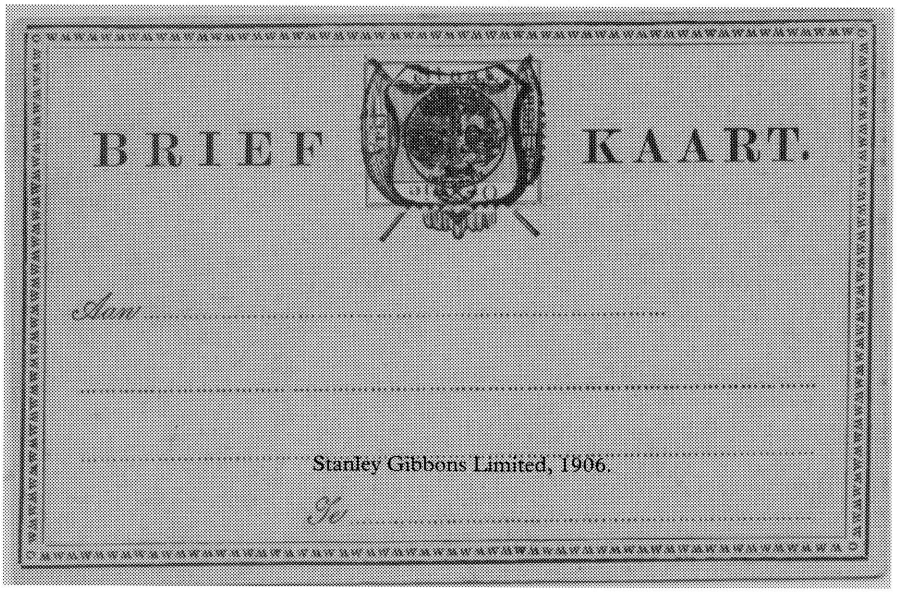


Fig 1

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SETTING	CHARACTERISTSICS: FRAME & BORDERS	ADDRESS LINES	BOARD COLOURS	DIE	CHARACTERISTICS: BRIEF KAART
1	Frame size: 106 X 71mm O in corners: vertical Non-inverted letter pairs: Left border - Nos 8/9 Top - Nos 54/55 Right - Nos 36/37	Short dashes: Three missing from top line, two from second, one from third and one from fourth T: Loop missing	White	1	RT appear to be closer than normal BRIEF and KAART 26, 0mm 88,5mm overall Stop vertical oval
2	Frame size: Top 110, bottom 109,5mm O in corners: horizontal Non inverted pairs: Bottom nos 31/32 NOTE: frame opens out at left bottom	Dotted: No 28 in top line is damaged; sometimes appears as colon T: loop normal	White Grey Blue-granite	2	BRIEF and KAART 29, 75mm 92,75mm overall
3	Frame: Top 110; bottom 110.5mm; left 71.0; right 70.75mm O in corners horizontal Larger letters MW: No 17 in top border; 25 and 28 in bottom	First line: Dots 7.18 missing, 33 weak Second: Dot 25 from right missing Fourth: Dots at left weak or missing, e.g. 2.6	White Rosy-granite Rosy-white	2	BRIEF 29,5mm KAART 30,25 mm 93,25 overall
4	Frame: Top and Bottom 110,5mm Left 71,5, right 71mm O in corners horizontal Larger letter: No 11 left NOTE: corners not joined	Second: Dot 33 missing, seventh from right deteriorated Third: Dot 46 weak, 63 damaged Fourth: Dot 41 weak	Rosy - granite White Rosy-white	2	BRIEF and KAART 29, 5mm 93mm overall RT are close Vertical oval stop

identical as is generally thought.

Coat of arms: This may be simply described with reference to flags or absence thereof, shield with point, blunt point or no point. Five types of shield are thus identifiable. Only the first two were used on the bordered cards.

Briefly described, the shield comprises a central circle enclosing an "orange tree" (tree of liberty) with a lion on the right and oxen on the left; "VRYHEID" at the top in a box and "IMMIGRATIE" below; under the animals a ribbon with motto "Gedult en Moed" with a trek-wagon below. Three posthorns with fringes appear at the top corners of the shield and the bottom.

Numerous differences in detail are to be found in the literature and are summarised in Buckley and Marriott, Vol 1, pp 268-9. However, shortly after their handbook was published, a study of Prof EHD Arndt's collection, held in the national Cultural History Museum in Pretoria using photomicrographs, revealed the following:

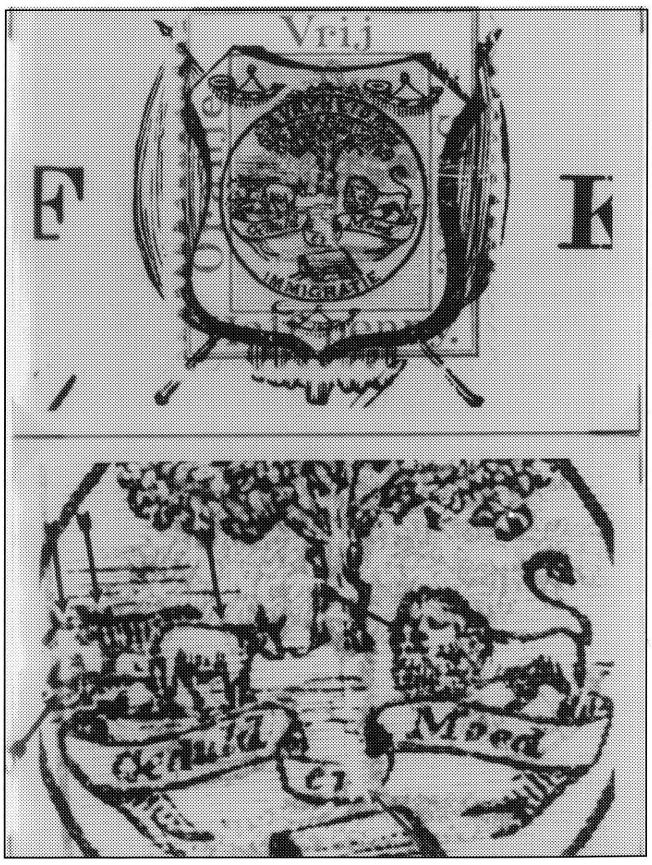


Fig 2

Fig3

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Die 2:

Fringes – Top left: 16 not 18; Bottom: 20 not 22

Oxen – Three standing and one recumbent, not two standing and two recumbent.

Die 2 is illustrated as Fig 2 and 3 (reproduced with the kind permission of the Cultural History Museum, Pretoria).

Brief Kaart: Again, no two settings are identical. The use of a vertical oval stop in settings 1 and 4 suggests that there was a limited amount of type in the selected font.

Address lines: The first setting differs from the others in that the lines are made up of short dashes and are 29mm overall. The dotted line printings are all 27mm and spaced 9,5 mm, 9,0 mm and 8,5 mm, but each is readily distinguishable as is shown in the checklist. ■

Acknowledgements

Thanks must be recorded for the assistance of Michael Smith in the UK, who is also undertaking research on the stamped postcards, and Bob Allison, Editor of the *Orange Free State Study Circle Bulletin*, for constant help and encouragement. Also to Wikus van Heerden for providing access to so much new information including the study of Pennycuick's collection, and Flip Olivier for the loan of the AC Fenn collection.

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The Philatelic Society, London, *Africa Part III*,

In memoriam

AGM Batten, RDPSA, FRPS,L
17 May 1996

"ARCHIE" BATTEN, as everyone knew him, had a long and fruitful association with philately in Southern Africa. He was, in fact, the first non-resident of this country to be elected to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa.

Fittingly, this occurred at the Federation's congress held in the course of the Vrystaat 81 exhibition, for Free State philately was ever his first love. (See *The SA Philatelist*, September 1981, p 287, and December 1981, p 403.)

His invaluable contribution to the philatelic literature of the Free State – the innumerable articles excluded – was listed in a comprehensive bibliography published in *The SA Philatelist*, March/April 1992, p 52. Long after he actively ceased writing, there was still a seemingly inexhaustible supply of his articles.



Bob Allison, editor of *The Orange Free State Bulletin*, outlined Archie Batten's professional career in the June 1996 issue of the magazine. He was born on 12 September 1902, studied at King's College School at Wimbledon, and began a long career in short-term insurance, writing several substantive handbooks before he retired in 1966. In 1927 he had married Nessie Spooner.

Allison continued:

When those qualities of industry, leadership and enthusiasm, which had enabled Archie to achieve such a distinguished, and successful, professional career, were also brought to bear upon his favourite hobby, philately, it is no small wonder that he was soon acclaimed a notability in philatelic circles, especially for his organisational work.

For six years he was president of the Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society, during which time he set up Branches in Canada, South Africa, Australia and the UK. In 1968 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

With the Woking Philatelic Society he was awarded the Iain Bain Memorial Cup in 1977 for the member who, over the years, had done most

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the advance the interests of the society. In 1979 he was awarded recognition by the Surrey Federation for his distinguished service in the field of philately.

But Archie's great love was South African philately and, in particular, the stamps and postal history of the Orange Free State, on which he became a prolific writer.

He published seven books on the postal history of the Orange Free State and Boer War philately, receiving many awards. These included the Royal Philatelic Society (London) Crawford Medal and the Postal History Society's Nugent Clougher Award in 1977; the Albert H. Harris Literature Trophy 1972 and 1976; the Harvey Pirie Memorial Award in South Africa (twice) as well as eight South African Congress Awards and three Gold Medals.

Archie's collection of OFS postmarks and covers formed the most significant collection of OFS postal history ever made. He exhibited in many countries: India, Australia, Poland, Canada, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Israel and, of course, South Africa. Over 30 medals, mainly Vermeil or Silver, were awarded. Eleven medals have been donated to the RPSL Medal Collection.

Apart from his OFS collections Archie formed notable collections of i) Butterflies on Stamps (21 volumes), ii) London Postal History (40 volumes) and iii) British Commonwealth (30 volumes). He gave papers to the RPSL on three occasions, including the Royal's first thematic display.

He had been a member of the Orange Free State Study Circle almost since its inception in 1953. Apart from being a regular contributor to the Study Circle's *Bulletin*, he served in many capacities. In recognition of his work he was elected Honorary Life President in 1983, and in 1991 he was elected Life President Emeritus. Archie's other interests included gardening and entomology. He collected extensively the butterflies and months of many countries – Jamaica, Canada and Malaysia, as well as the Far East. His collecting labels appear on some 300 specimens now in the National Collection.

Deepest sympathies are extended to Nessie, Donald, their son, and the family.

■ **WILHELM GRüTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society CT*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
August 1936
Completion of the first Empire flying-boat

CANOPUS, the first of the Imperial Airways fleet of new Empire flying-boats, was brought out on July 2, from the erecting shops of Messrs Short Bros, at Rochester, Kent, and was seen for the first time in all its impressive size, as it stood out on the slipway prior to being launched on the river Medway, for preliminary flights.

When these flying-boats will be in commission, one can gain an idea of the mighty power that will waft these winged ships through the sky in day and night flights, enabling an air journey right through from England to Australia to be accomplished in not more than about a week, and to Durban, in not more than four days.
(News item)

30 jaar gelede
Augustus 1966
Vuilspel!

PROPAGANDISTE het nie lank op hulle laat wag om Rhodesië oneer aan te doen nie. 'n Redelike goeie boekdruk weergawe van die 2/6 onafhanklikheidseël met toegevoegde woorde het verskyn, en een eksemplaar is nogal op 1 Februarie op Salisbury gepos. Vertaal lees die bewoording van die propagandaseël soos volg: "Onwettige onafhanklikheid, 11 November 1965. Posgeld verskuldig 2/6". (Die woorde "Illegal" en "Due" is bygevoeg.) Rhodesiese poswese glo dat die gemene spel sy oorsprong in Engeland het.
(NC Combrink)

60 years ago
September 1966
"JIPEX" exhibition stamps

THE Postmaster-General has unexpectedly decided to honour the Exhibition with specially overprinted stamps in miniature sheets of six.

There will be sheets of six of the current ½d stamps, each stamp being overprinted, in two lines, "JIPEX/1936", and similar sheets of six of the current 1d stamps, every stamp being likewise overprinted.
(News item)

30 years ago
September 1966
Bloemfontein cancellation

MR AGM BATTEN of Great Britain writes that the accompanying illustration* is a reproduction of a cancellation "the circles measuring 32 and 19 mm" found recently on a 1d Transvaal Edward VII stamp. . .

It is not known what appeared in the lower part of the double circle, but presumably the letters "O.R.C" in some form or other.

It would be interesting to know whether there is any information available as to whether this was in fact used for postage or whether it was a Revenue cancellation.
*(*Editor's note: The double circle carried "Bloemfontein" in capital letters in its upper two thirds, and in the centre, where a date would normally ap-*

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

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

ONCE upon a time the advent of an omnibus issue received the keen attention of a large number of collectors. Is this still the case today? The major contributor to omnibus issues has probably been the British Commonwealth, if you consider all the issues bearing the WWF logo or stamp exhibition logos as omnibus issues, with other countries tagging along for the ride.

An example – the flood of Churchill issues from many lands outside the Commonwealth, most of them never even having had him as a visitor, let alone any political contact.

Originally, as with the King George V Silver Jubilee issue, all the stamps of all the participating countries had the same design – only colours differed. Today, as with the 75th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force, we find no two stamps the same among all the participating countries – even the inclusion of the souvenir sheet was not constant.

Some issued one, others did not. The only real plus for the issue was the wonderful variety of aircraft depicted, many of which had not previously adorned a postage stamp!

Now we have the Crown Agents omnibus series to commemorate the 70th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Ten countries, from Ascension Island to Tristan da Cunha, have issued a set of four stamps each, with six of the ten adding a souvenir sheet.



The subject matter is varied and encompasses events in which the Queen has taken part at home and around the Commonwealth. It's an interesting series from an historical aspect, with other Commonwealth countries now joining in – Australia has issued a 45c stamp and Jersey a £5 value!

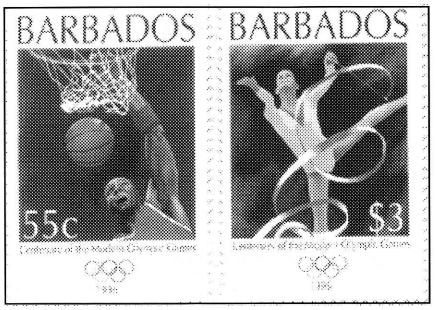
The set of four from Pitcairn Islands is typical of the series. Each stamp has a head-and-shoulders picture of the Queen as she appeared attending a different function with, in the bottom one third of the design, a scene from the issuing country.

The 20c value depicts the Queen as she appeared at Chelsea Harbour in 1993, with Bounty Bay shown below. The 90c has the Queen at the RAF Akrotiri base in Cyprus, also in 1993, and the jetty and landing point in Bounty Bay below. On the $1,80 the Queen is shown as she appeared at Bristol in 1995 with Matt's Rocks in the lower third of the stamp. The $3 top value has the Queen in Germany in 1992 with Pitcairn's St Paul's below.

The stamp in the souvenir sheets differs in that only Her Majesty's portrait appears. On the issue by the British Indian Ocean Territory she is shown as she appeared at the 50th Anniversary of VE Day at the Guildhall, London in 1995. The sets will be of great interest to collectors of Royalty, providing as they do a great variety of pictures and portraits of Queen Elizabeth II.

Olympics upon us

Possibly the event of the year as far as new issues goes is the Olympic Games. There is always the chance for thematic collectors of getting a new sport or a better example of one of the old ones. With a couple of new additions to the Olympic menu this year the hunt is on.



Starting with the USA which hosted the Games in Atlanta, we have, firstly, a sheet of 20 x 32c stamps. Each stamp depicts a different sport, and the set includes the following sports which were included this year for the first time: Women's Soccer, Women's Softball and Beach Volleyball. The sheet of 20 stamps is much too large to illustrate, but could well be a useful addition to any collection which features sporting events.

Of interest in the write-up provided by the United States Postal Service is the fact that Freestyle Wrestling (also depicted) is the only event in which there is a maximum weight limit – "wrestlers must be less than 286 pounds" (130 kg).

The USA has also commemorated the Paralympics with a 32c postal stationery envelope of which 16,5 million were printed. The stamp design features "Starfire", the logo of the Paralympic Games, also held this year in Atlanta.

The northern neighbour Canada has issued a set of five stamps "as a tribute to the 100th anniversary of the Modern Olympic Games as well as this summer's Game".

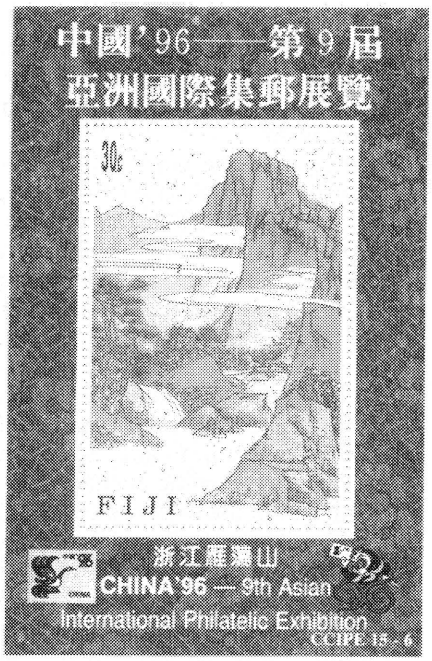
The subject matter honours five Canadian Olympic gold medallists – Etienne Desmarteau, 56 lb weight throw (1904); Ethel Catherwood, high jump (1928); Fanny Rosenfeld, 4 x 100m relay (1928); Percy Williams, 100m and 200m (1928) and Gerald Ouellette, smallbore rifle, prone (1956). All stamps are 45c values.

Barbados has also commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Modern Olympic Games. The set comprises four stamps and a souvenir sheet. The subjects are Football (20c); Relay Race (30c); Basketball (55c); Gymnastics ($3) and the figure of Discobolos (the discus thrower) appears on the $2.50 souvenir sheet, featuring the Olymphilex '96 logo and the caption "100 Years of Olympic Games Stamp Designs" together with illustrations of various sports.

Exhibition stamps

The Ninth Asian Philatelic Exhibition has received support, in the form of stamps bearing the official logo, from, among others, Fiji, Kiribati and

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Pitcairn Islands.

The Fijian stamps depict ancient Chinese relics: a Bronze Monster – Mask and Ring ca 450 BC are on the 63c, with an Archer (210 BC) on the 81c value. A plate from the Hsuan Te Period graces the $1 (1426-35) and a Central Asian Horseman dated 706 appears on the $2.

The souvenir sheet has a single large format stamp which is unusual in that its value is 30c! It is a most attractive sheet which has the China '96 logo on the border but not on the stamp, as do the other four stamps in the set.

Kiribati's issue is of one stamp only in a souvenir sheet, and again the China '96 logo is only on the border.

Two $1.80 value stamps depicting a Chinese junk and the fated *Bounty*, and a souvenir sheet with two 90c stamps make up the Pitcairn Islands issue for China '96. The stamps in the sheet represent a Chinese Rat and a Polynesian Rat, and again the logo for China '96 is only on the border of the sheet.

New Zealand's Health

The annual Health Stamps issues from New Zealand have a large collector following and this year's set of two stamps will be welcomed. The values, a 40c + 5c and an 80c + 5c,



have this year a specific theme – child road safety. The lower value shows an infant safely buckled into a child restraint and the high value has a child on a pedestrian crossing holding the hand of an adult. The 5c surcharge per stamp sold is passed on to the Children's Health Camps by New Zealand Post.

Wildlife, particularly marine wildlife, is still popular, and a recent set of six stamps from New Zealand will no doubt be well received. It shows aquatic birds and marine mammals in a variety of areas.

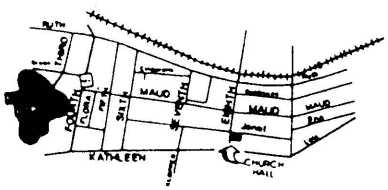
Featured are the Yellow-eyed Penguin (40c); the Royal Albatross (80c) ; the White Heron ($1); the Sperm Whale ($1.20) and the Bottlenose

South African Stamp Fairs
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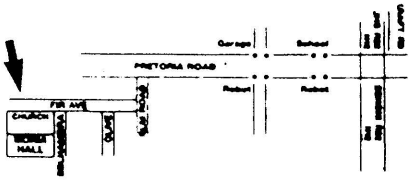
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Dolphin ($1.80). Designed and printed in New Zealand, this is an attractive set.

To interest South Africans

Something different came from the British Antarctic Territory, which issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to honour SCAR XXIV 1996 (the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research). The set is of particular interest to South Africans as this country was one of the twelve founder members in 1958.

From 1978 onwards another thirteen full members and seven associate members have joined SCAR.

The 17p and 35p values depict International SCAR Membership and Earth Sciences respectively. Atmospheric Sciences and Life Sciences appear on the 40p and 76p values respectively.

The £1 souvenir sheet has a map of the Antarctic with the border showing most of the research areas – biology, geology, chemistry and medicine.

The trees of Swaziland were featured on a set of four stamps. Some of them must surely be found in South Africa and would make a useful addition to an indigenous plant theme. Depicted are the Water Berry (Umcozi) and the Sycamore Fig (Umkhiwa) on the 40c and 60c values. The E1 and E2 stamps show The Stem Fruit (Umnumbela) and the Wild Medlar (Umntulwa) respectively. One of the more attractive sets from Swaziland.



Artists of Sweden

For art lovers Swedish Post Stamps has issued a set of works by five Swedish artists. The artists whose works are shown are Sven Erixson (1899-1970); Roland Svensson (b 1910); Eric Hallstrom (1893-1946); Thage Nordholm (1927-1990) and Ragnar Sandberg (1902-1972). Each artist is represented by a painting "with a vision of summer by the sea". The stamps are in coil format. ■



News and notes/Aktualiteit

Starting a rhino hunt

IT would seem that there are rhino's out there that are missing their reds.

In mid-May, Naomi Beinart showed members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town a cover franked with the standardised mail rhino stamp. However, the wording "Gestandaardiseerde pos/Standardised mail", in red in the upper left corner, was completely non-existent.

The cover had an impeccable inkjet cancellation of Capemail 8003 (A) , dated 1996-02-02, with the slogan "Betaal volgens grootte vir binnelandse briewe – Feb. 1996".

L N Williams, in *Fundamentals of Philately* (1990) enumerates several substances which can affect stamp printing inks in the sections on fugitive colour. These are water, benzine, carbon tetrachloride, petroleum, and bright light. Particularly the mauve-violet colour group is susceptible to the latter.

As a control, a similar rhino stamp on cover was exposed to continuous daylight by the simple expedient of taping it to a window facing the sun. This cover also had a Capemail inkjet cancellation, was dated 1996-05-05, and the slogan was "Prevent aids".

It was left there from 15 May to 6 June 1996 – three weeks.

There was absolutely no change or fading in the red. For good measure, the stamp was then doused with a 5 per cent solution of Chloramine-T, a philatelically well known bleaching agent. No change.

It would seem that there really must be rhino's out there, missing their reds, and the hunt is on.

Agente is besorg

DIE toenemende gebruik van filateliese owerhede om hul produkte ook deur ander posowerhede te laat verkoop, het gelei daartoe dat die Duitse agent Hermann Walter Sieger, vise-

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president van Ascat (die internasionale vereniging van redakteurs van seëlkatalogusse en filateliese publikasies) sy eie vereniging se aandag daarop gevestig het.

Die *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung und Sammler-Express* (nr 8/96) het vroeër vanjaar berig dat die Nederlandse PTT Post Filatelie nou nie alleen sy eie land se seëls aanbied nie, maar ook dié van die Verenigde State, Finland, Noorweë, Denemarke, die Faroëse Eilande, Groenland - en ook Suid-Afrika.

Sieger sê: "Dit is sterk mededinging vir filateliese groot- en kleinhandelaars en vir alle seëlagente. . . As posowerhede ander lande se produkte teen sigwaarde verkoop, sal die handel en die agentskappe hul klandisie verloor."

Borek in Duitsland, wat sowel uitgewer as agent is, het reeds sy klante meegedeel dat hy sekere agentskappe laat vaar – daaronder Suid-Afrika, vir wie die agentskap Georg Roll sederdien aangestel is.

Salvation Army marches to the philatelic drum

INFORMATION about the Salvation Army Philatelic Circle (SAPC) indicates that its roughly 100 members also have a wide range of other philatelic interests, such as for example country collecting, picture postcards and thematics. Membership encompasses over 15 countries.

The SACP publishes a quarterly journal, runs a packet service and an auction, and operates a question and answer service.

Harry Hayes, secretary of the society, has a number of questions of his own which South African readers may be able to answer. He writes:

"There have been various post offices in Southern Africa which were staffed by or for the Salvation Army, for instance Salvation 3110 via Vryheid, Natal; Posini 3804 Zululand, c/o Amatikulu 3801; Tshidimbina 0972, via Sibasa, N. Transvaal 0970.

"Now I learn that Howard Institute, Zimbabwe, has a PO of its own."

He would appreciate relevant data, as well as enquiries about membership in the SAPC. Harry Hayes' address is: 11 Chatsworth Drive, Haxby, York Y03 3QS, UK.

News release

Two major UK stamp events

FOLLOWING the success of Stamp 96 in April 1996, with a total of 20 465 adult visitors over the four-day event, plans are well in hand for the autumn Stamp 96, to be held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from 22 tot 24 November 1996.

A new venture is PhiLondon, sche-





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duled for 28 to 30 December 1996, to be held at Croydon College, Croydon. It is an international stamp fair, with the accent on dealers rather than displays, and a promised maximum of seating comfort for attendees.

The address is PO Box 438, Brighton BN1 6LX, telephone (0944) 1273 55-8066. True to curent form, there is also electronic information:

The web address on Internet, to be regularly up-dated, is http:// www.mistral.co.uk/philondon, and the e-mail address is philondon @ mistral.co.uk.

News releases

Auction sales in Britain

THE highest realisation for an All World sale by Stanley Gibbons in London was produced on 23 and 24 May 1996, when a record £765 000 was reached. New homes were found for 1 800 lots.

An "old-time" offer of Rhodesia realised £4 830, and a fine used example of the CGH 1d Woodblock (brick red) raised £1 840, as against an upper estimate of £1 500.

Whyte's, of 30 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, in Ireland, are having sales of stamps and postal history on 7 September and 7 December 1996.

News releases

Major CGH sale at Christie's

ON 18 and 19 June Christie's had a British Empire and Postal History sale of 1 146 lots, of which 377 lots were of particular significance to collectors of Cape of Good Hope.

Although the lots from 1074 to 1450 were not identified as such, the bulk of them were from the collection of the late Athol Murray, who was a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, which he visited on 13 February 1995.

On that occasion he showed what became Lot 1280 in the sale, a spectacular registered cover addressed to Charles Bell at Grahamstown, despatched from Port Elizabeth on 27 February 1857. It was franked with altogether 22 copies (2 x B4, 6 x pairs, 2 singles) of the Perkins Bacon 1855 printing of the 4d blue Cape triangular which Bell himself had designed.

The remarkable franking of 7/4d is correct, and the cover is further enhanced by Bell's filing note and his signature thereto.

It was estimated at £400 to £600 (and included four other items associated with Bell), and realised £2 760.

Another clue to the fact that it was the Murray collection was given in Lots 1215 and 1216, which were correspondences from Captain Arthur S Murray to his father, Lt.-Gen. Henry Murray, around 1848, and from AK Murray between 1852 and 1875, to his parents or cousins in Scotland.

Arthur Murray served with the Rifle Brigade at King William's Town, and AK Murray served in the police, and later the Public Works Department, of the Cape Colony.

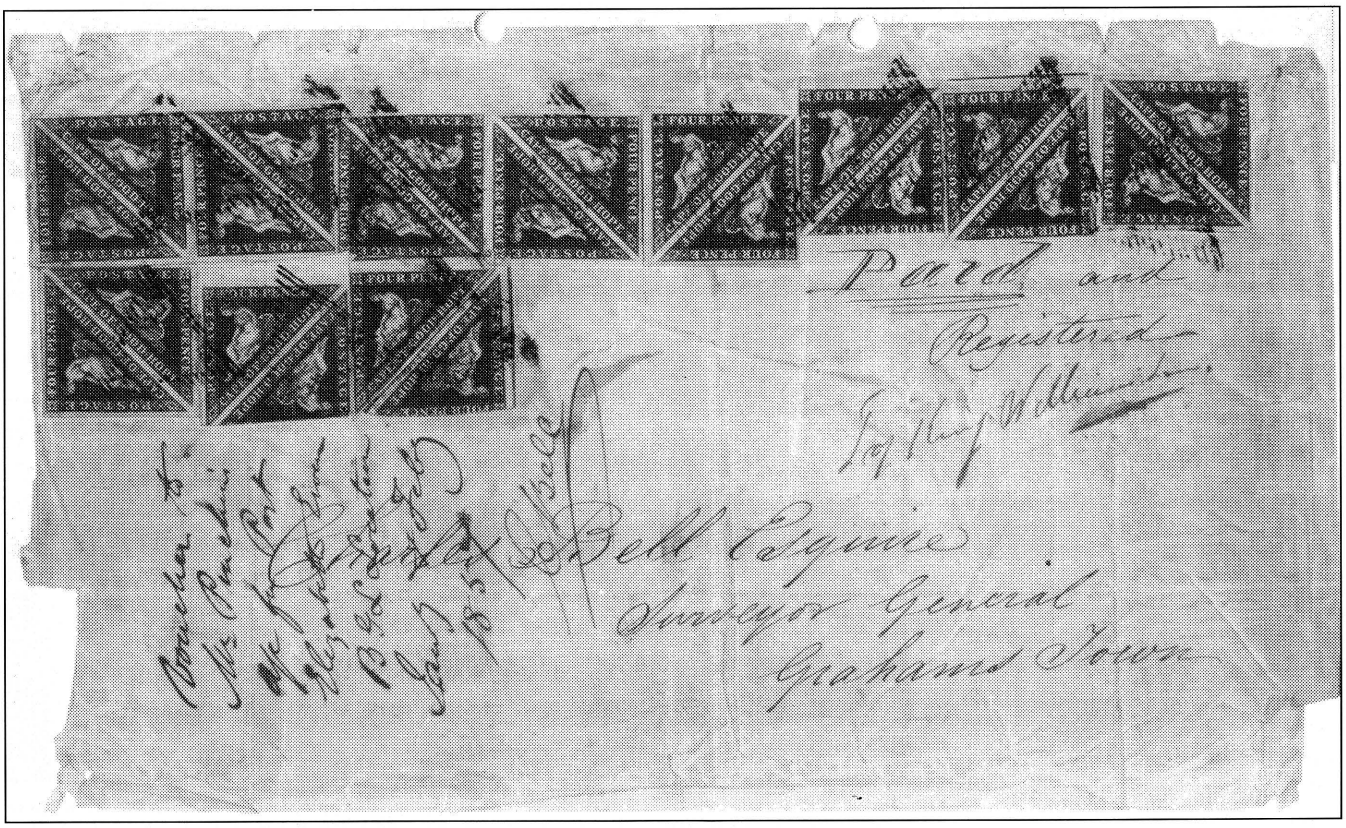
These lots, which probably account for Athol Murray's collecting interest in the Cape of Good Hope, realised £172 and £126 respectively.

Among the earliest material was an entire to "Joan van Riebeeck" at the Cape (with two contemporary wax seals), Lot 1074, estimated at the top at £2 000, and beating this by £760.

Two lots of briefstok letters, 1086 and 1087, probably disappointed, falling just within the lower estimate limit, or slightly below. The first, from Stellenbosch in 1717, fetched £517, and the second (two items) realised £920.

Collectors of pre-adhesive postmarks would do well to study the catalogue. There was a represenative collection of such items.

Among them was the rare CGH Packet Letter datestamp, which went for £402, which was £2 above the upper estimate. (All realisations include



Lot 1280 at the Chistie's auction of 18 and 19 June 1996.

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the buyer's premium of 15 per cent at this level, which accounts for this rather odd figure. Auction houses would be doing philatelists a greater service by not including premiums in their realisation figures.)

The almost equally rare Port Elizabeth "PAID" datestamp was represented by no less than four lots (1188 to 1191). The average realisation was £192.

There was also a vast array of stamps, including Woodblocks. Lot 1303 had 13 Woodblocks, "condition very mixed", and estimated at £5 000 to £7 000. The realisation was £5 750. (In catalogue terms, the value was given as £105 900.)

Maritime mails were well represented, as were Officials and Instructional markings. Among the former was the boxed "SHIPLETTER" handstamp (Lot 1152), listed by Robson Lowe, but not by Jurgens or Goldblatt. (Since Murray's display at the Royal PS in Cape Town, Goldblatt has confirmed that this is indeed a Cape mark.)

The lot was estimated at £600 to £800, and realised £1 380.

Heelwat Kaap en ook goeie Suid-Afrika by Harmers

'n VERRASSEND groot hoeveel Kaap die Goeie Hoop is aangebied op Harmers se veiling van 3 Julie 1996 in Londen, hoewel dit in die eerste plek 'n aerofilateliese katalogus was.

'n Briefstok "Aan Den Burger Roedolph Brits" met 'n rooi waksseël (lot 1250) het £280 gehaal, teenoor 'n skatting van £300. (In hierdie geval sluit die resultate nie die koperspremie in nie, wat verkieslik is.)

Interessant was lot 1261, 'n omslag van 1810 na die Kaap, teen 'n tarief van 6/-, agterop geëndosseer deur die Kaapse posmeester "forwarded 23 April 1810 pr your obt servt" en "No 9 2/6".

Die katalogus se verklaring hiervoor was dat wanneer pos vir die binneland in die Kaap aangekom het, het die Kaapstadse posmeester die geaddresseerde in kennis gestel, die brief genommer, en die posgeld bygeskryf wat vir verdere bestelling nodig was. Goldblatt kon hierdie prosedure nie bevestig nie.

Die raming was £250, en die verkoopprys £200.

Die skaars Paarl handstempel wat die arme mev Wrankmore in 1827 verlê het – die kroon in die sirkel – en waarvan glo net 14 bekend is, is teen die raming van £400 verkoop.

Ramings vir die oktagonale nommerstempels op brief was tussen £200 en £275. Die hoogste prys hier is behaal deur lot 1295 (Bathurst, nr 51), naamlik £300.

Onder die seëls het 'n nie-amptelik getande Kaapse driehoek die hoogste prys behaal. Dit was £1 100 (raming £1 000), en die seël was voorheen in die Levett en sir Maxwell Joseph versamelings.

Onder Unie van Suid-Afrika was daar ses uitstaande lotte, wat 'n eksemplaar van die dubbeldruk van die ½d "Koningskop" ingesluit het. Dit was geraam op £5 000 (ongeveer R34 000), maar nie verkoop nie. Op 20 September 1995 is daar op 'n Stephan Welz veiling in Johannesburg 'n soortgelyke eksemplaar toegeslaan vir R39 600.

Die een lot wat wel toegeslaan is (1754), en wel teen die raming van £1 800, was die stel van vier Jubileumseëls van KGV – in volledige velle wat alle variasies toon!

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Germany: Horst Eggert, Neukirchenstrasse 17c, Osterwieck-Harz, D-38835, is interested in establishing a firm exchange correspondence, but can only write in German. His main interest is in South African material.

Pakistan: S Issam, 64/1 11th Commercial Street, Phase IV Defence Housing Authority, Karachi, collects birds on stamps and everything else, from souvenir sheets and aerogrammes to labels – mint, used on cover and FDC. He offers exchange from particularly Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka.

Ukraine: Sergei Zinevich, PO Box 2831, 340120 Donetsk, is president of Pan Ass Stamp Club, whose members would like to establish contact with South Africa. They offer stamps and covers of local issues.

Op die velrand/In the margin

Issues known to date:

Gerard Sekoto

THE R1,00 and R2,00 values of the Gerard Sekoto issue of 1 June 1996 were pictured on p 91 of the June 1996 issue of *The SA Philatelist*. They depicted Sekoto's paintings *Song of the Pick* and *Man in a Donkey Cart* respectively.

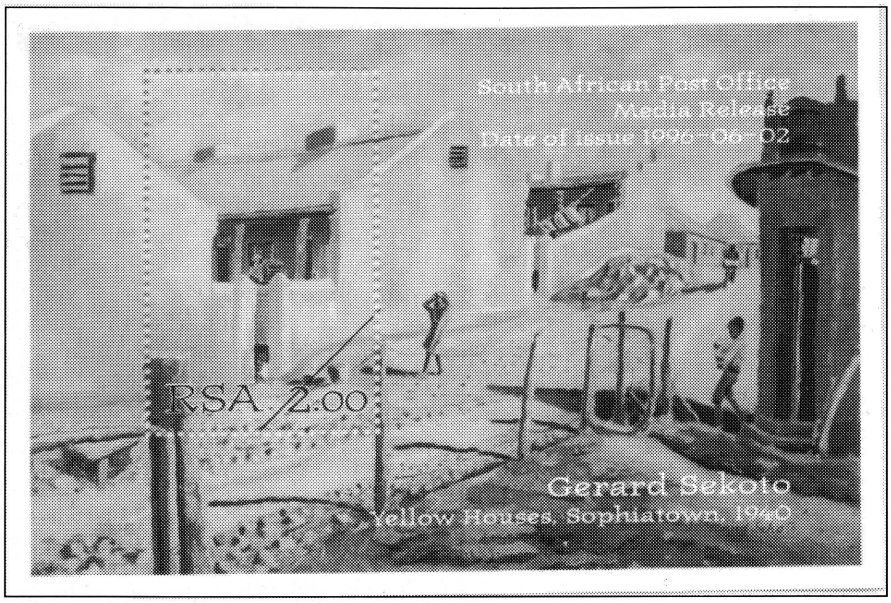
There was also a miniature sheet (R2,00) which is now shown. This is based on the painting *Yellow Houses, Sophiatown*.

Jan Gerard Sekoto was born in 1913 in Botshabelo, a Lutheran mis-



Dr Franco Frescura and dr Ivan May of Nedbank Marketing. Nedbank was involved with the stamp issue as part of an on-going relationship with the artist's work. Nedbank was presented with a framed set of the issue, and Frescura received a limited edition print of the painting used for the miniature sheet.

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sion station near Middelburg in what is now Mpumalanga. He left the country in 1947 – as so many outstanding South African artists preferred to do – and settled in Paris, where he lived and worked for 46 years. He visited his country of birth only once after that to attend a conference for South African artists.

To support his family in South Africa, he often sent some of his paintings to be sold in his mother country. In 1990 he was awarded the *Chevalier dans l'ordre des artes et lettres* award in France, and, in 1992, the Clermont Art Society of Germany prize was awarded to him. Gerard Sekoto died in 1993 at the age of 81 years, in an old-age home for artists near Paris.

Jeugdag

'n SPESIALE seël, standaardtarief, is op 8 Junie 1996 uitgereik ter herdenking van Jeugdag op 16 Junie. Dit bevat elemente van die logo van die Nelson Mandela Children's Fund (NMCF) en beeld kinders uit wat onder 'n groot son speel. Die NMCF-logo is deur Planet Earth Productions ontwerp.

Jeugdag het sy oorsprong in die tragiese gebeure van 16 Junie 1976 toe kinders in Soweto geskiet is. Sedert 1991 huldig die Organisasie van Afrika Eenheid (OAE) en ook die United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 16 Junie ter nagedagtenis aan daardie kinders, asook uit respek vir 'n besluit van die 26ste Vergadering van Staatshoofde van die OAE dat 16 Junie tot Dag vir die Kinders van Afrika (Day of the African Child) verklaar word.

Comrades Marathon

ALSO issued on 8 June 1996 was a standard rate postage stamp commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Comrades Marathon (shown in *The SA Philatelist*, June 1996, p 91).

From its humble beginnings the Comrades Marathon has developed into one of the biggest and most exciting road races in the world. Only 34 runners took part in the first Comrades in 1921, while more than 13 000 ran the race in 1995 and a record number of more than 15 000 did so in 1991.

In 1919 Vic Clapham, who fought in World War I, conceived the idea of a road race between Pietermaritzburg and Durban as a memorial to the comrades of the Great War. He approached the ex-soldiers' association, the League of Comrades of the Great War, requesting permission to organise a race between Pietermaritzburg and Durban under the name of Comrades Marathon.

Permission was refused then, and again in 1920, but in 1921 permission was granted to organise a race under the auspices of the league.

He was given about R5 for expenses. This had to be refunded, and the race was not to cost the league a cent!

Capex 96 Miniature sheet

TO celebrate the World Philatelic Exhibition Capex 96 held in Toronto from 8 to 16 June 1996, a miniature sheet and also commemorative cover were issued.



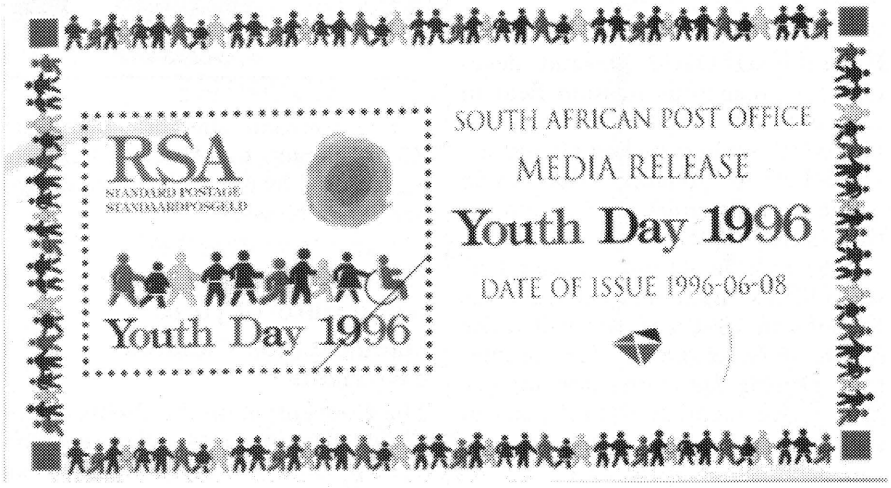
The design was by Alan Ainslie and depicts the Houses of Parliament in Toronto and in Cape Town. The commemorative cover features a painting from an old postcard of the House of Parliament in Toronto.

Eeufees Olimpiese Spele

OM die Suid-Afrikaanse deelname aan die Olimpiese Spele in Atlanta te gedenk, is 'n reeks van vier standaardtariefseëls en een vir die oorsese tarief op 5 Julie 1996 uitgereik.

Dis ontwerp deur Marc de Jong, en beeld fietsry, swem, boks, naelloop en paalspring uit. Die oorsesetariefseël, ook deur Marc de Jong ontwerp, beeld die Suid-Afrikaanse Olimpiese embleem in helder kleure uit teen 'n silwer agtergrond.

'n Hekkiesatleet en naelloper wat



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die eindstreep bereik, word respektiewelik op die gedenkkoeverte uitgebeeld. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Olimpiese embleem kom ook op die datumstempel voor.

China 96 Miniature sheet

THE China 96 miniature sheet was issued on 18 May 1996 (and *The SA Philatelist* informed only on 11 June 1996. It was depicted in SA Philatelic Services' advertisement on the front cover of the June 1996 issue of the magazine.)

Since 1996 is the Chinese Year of the Rat according to the Chinese lunar calendar, the miniature sheet features two indigenous rodents by the artist Denis Murphy. The striped mouse and the chestnut climbing mouse are depicted in a landscape against the background of a rising full moon. The full moon is a reference to the Chinese lunar calendar.

The miniature sheet also features the China '96 Exhibition logo and mascot. The logo depicts a swan spreading its wings – the symbol of the Chinese Postal Service. The mascot depicts Sun Wukong, the well-known Monkey King in Chinese classical literature who is infinitely resourceful.

The Chinese calendar was first devised during the reign of the Yellow Emperor, around 2700 BC. It has been in continuous use ever since. Thus according to this calendar, the Chinese are currently living in the 48th Century, not the 20th.

Twee wat weggekom het

VIR 20 April 1996 was daar op Filateliedienste se seëlprogram vir 1996 'n uitreiking aangekondig vir "Vryheidsdag". Dit is in *The SA Philatelist*, Junie 1996, p 91, op grond van 'n latere berig, gekorrigeer na "Nuwe Grondwet, om bevestig te word".

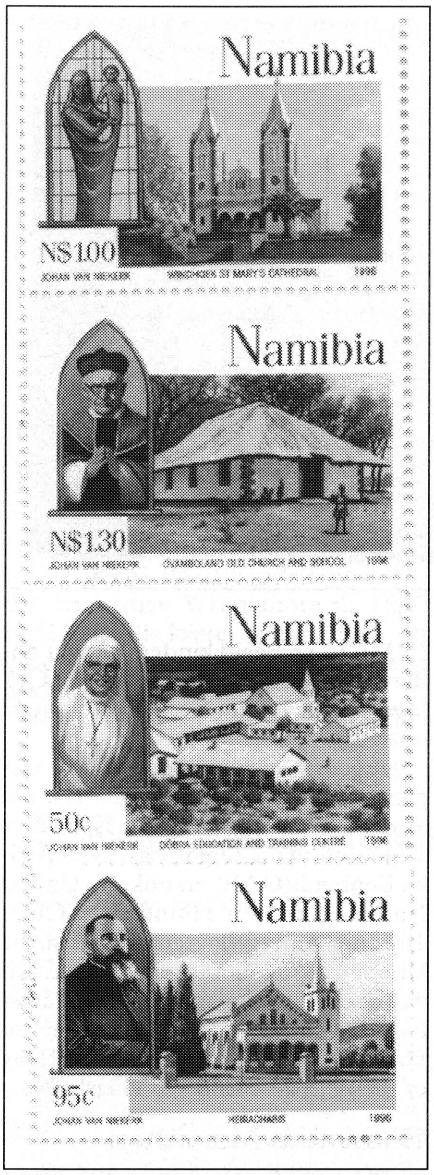
Geen van die seëls het verskyn nie.

Latest issues from Namibia

Catholic Mission 100
Issue date 27 May 1996

50c – Döbra Education and Training Centre

The Catholic Mission bought the small holding called Döbra just outside Windhoek in November 1904. A small school was erected to educate orphans which were collected in the district. Later on, on 8 May 1924, an educational centre was established by



Prefect Gotthardt, with Father Jacobi as rector.

Sister Leoni Kreitmeier (depicted on the stamp) served the community at Döbra for over thirty years and was deeply loved and respected by all students and lecturers alike.

95c – Heirachabis

Father Josef David Devaud developed a prosperous mission field in the south of Namibia on the farm Heirachabis where he and his successor, Father Johann Malinowski (depicted on stamp), worked among the Nama people.

This mission station, situated between Karasburg and Ariamsvlei, was founded in 1896 and was called the *Mother of Good Advice* after completion. During the Nama uprising various peace negotiations took place in the mission station with Father Malinowski acting as mediator.

N$ 1,00 – Windhoek St Mary's Cathedral

The Catholic Mission Station in Windhoek was founded by Fathers Hermann, Filliung and the lay brother Havenith in December 1896. At first a prefabricated building with a tarpaulin roof served as the chapel, but the foundation stone for a church with one tower was laid on 29 March 1903. The central part of the church was enlarged and converted into a cathedral with the addition of a second tower in 1931. The new cathedral was consecrated on 23 April 1932.

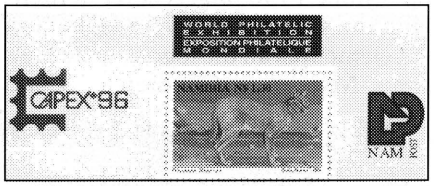
N$ 1,30 – Ovamboland old church and school

On 13 May 1924 King Ipumbu granted the Catholic Mission the right to settle in the Ukuambi region in the northern part of Namibia. This resulted in a further agreement among the different missionary organisations whereby the Catholic Church was destined to work in the Ukuambi, Ongandjera, Ombulantu regions and at Uukualuthi Eunda and Ekualikathe.

The first mission station was founded at Oshikuku in August 1924, followed by a second in July 1927 at Ombulantu, with the third at Okatana in June 1932. The late Archbishop Joseph Gotthardt (depicted on stamp) gave great support to the development of schools and hospital facilities.

Capex 96 Souvenir sheet
Issue date 8 June

Namibia Post issued a souvenir sheet to coincide with the CAPEX '96 International Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto, Canada, from 8 to 16 June 1996.



The souvenir sheet (available at R3,50) depicts the African Lynx and was created by the well-known designer Sheila Nowers.

Unicef, 50 years
Issue date 14 June

Standard rate: Children have rights

The Convention on the Rights of the Child as an international agreement has the clearest expression of what

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the world community has established as minimum standards for protecting children.

Among the rights recognised in the Convention's 54 articles are the rights to education and basic health care, to leisure, and to play, as well as the right to protection from sexual exploitation, from abuse, and from hazardous work.

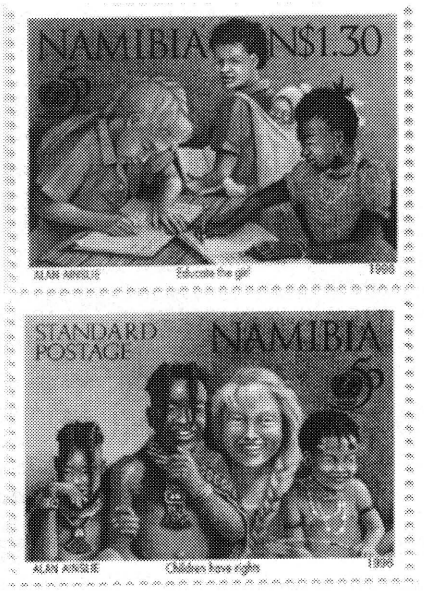
Namibia is among the 186 countries which ratified the Convention, and the country is now obliged to bring its normal laws in line with the Convention.

N$ 1,30 stamp – Educate girls: Today's girls are tomorrow's women

A girl's education is an essential investment in her future and that of any nation.

"To build a better future for all, we must ensure that every girl has not only the right but also the means to get an education – and realize her dreams" says Carol Bellamy, Unicef Executive Director.

Olympic Games 1996
Issue date 27 June





A set of four stamps and a first day cover were issued by Namibia Post to commemorate the Olympic Games, where Namibia joined some 180 other countries.

The following stamps were issued: Boxing (standard postage), Cycling (90c), Swimming (N$ 1,00) and Athletics (N$ 1,30).

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Naming competition restricted

ON 22 May 1996 an editorial advertisement appeared in the *Pretoria News*, under the heading "A challenge for the philatelists". The challenge was to find a name for the SA Post Office's permanent stamp collection, henceforth to be housed in the old African Bank building.

This building now forms part of the Pretoria main post office at Church Square.

The advertisement said that: "The South African Post Office believes the collection belongs to the people. . ." and therefore "invited all *Pretoria News* readers to help find a suitable name for the collection".

The competition was to close on 15 June 1996, and the reader whose name suggestion was chosen would receive a Postbank savings account to the value R1 000. Ten lucky runners-up were to get a Post Office stamp album each.

But why were readers of *The Sowetan*, or of *The SA Philatelist* for that matter, not invited to participate?

Demonetisation queried

THE Editor gathered from a society newsletter that TBVC stamps had been demonetised as from 1 April 1996, but there were no further details. Such details are naturally important for future philatelists, and need to be put on record.

He wrote to FH Touwen, managing director of the SA Post Office, on 27 May 1996, requesting full particulars, as such knowledge is of prime importance to collectors.

In particular, it was requested that the date be confirmed, and that it be made known how the demonetisation was effected, i.e. Government Gazette Notice, PO Circular. . .?

By the time this issue went to press, no reply had been received.

■ **Eques**

Ruminations of a philatelist

SITTING somnolently in the back row of a recent philatelic society annual general meeting, Eques was stirred to life by the doleful tones of the secretary pointing out to members that there had been a steady decline in the number of members of the society over the past ten years.

This is not unique to the society concerned – many societies are having the same experience – nor is the trend peculiar to this country. It was therefore with particular interest that Eques read (*Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, January 1996, p84) of the Strategic Plan formulated by the British Philatelic Trust for the development of the hobby.

Quite simply, the plan wants to make Britain "the best philatelic country overall, worldwide, at all levels" and to create more collectors where there aren't many now. The British propose to concentrate on four groups – young people, women, the early retired and "the DE income group" (a term which unfortunately leaves Eques totally baffled – but perhaps some erudite reader will explain.)

Maybe some of the ideas are inappropriate for South Africa, but has anyone thought of looking at the British plan in case we could pick up some good ideas?

If not, shouldn't someone; and if so, shouldn't we be hearing about it?

Comments on the concentration on youth (which may not be quite the same as "young people") has got Eques into hot water before so will be avoided this time, but concentration on the "early retired", and possibly the ordinary retired has always seemed a fruitful field; these are the persons with leisure time they may wish to fill and probably with surplus funds who should be "sitting ducks" for philately if properly encouraged.

Judging by the exhibits at national exhibitions, women are already fairly well represented in our ranks but there is always room for improvement.

For some years Eques has felt that the standard of thematic exhibits at National exhibitions has been lower than it ought to be, and he was therefore gratified to read Martin East's comment to this effect in the February issue of this journal.

The problem is, as East remarked, that many collectors regard thematics as an easy option.

In my view, thematics is in fact one of the most difficult and demanding fields of collecting. Not only does the collector require philatelic expertise, the ability to find elusive items, an encyclopaedic knowledge of the chosen subject and endless persistence but he (or she) also needs, in large measure, imagination. This means the imagination to conceive an original theme in the first place and then the imagination to put it all together in a way that will attract the viewer and make an outstanding story.

And so many of us (Eques included) lack that spark of imagination and originality, in which case we probably shouldn't be collecting thematics but good old stamps or postal history. This is not to say that thematics shouldn't be tackled, but that to be really good it must be tackled with imagination and flair.

Possibly a starting point would be an association on the lines of The British Thematic Association which was established to help collectors who collect philatelically by theme rather than by country.

The association, which was a section of the British Philatelic Federation, may have died with that body but if guidance is needed someone interested in the field could always find out. ■

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Federation Flashes/Federasieflitse

Thematics are thriving

THERE is one society in the Federation which has stopped complaining about dwindling membership and done something about it.

What used to be the Cape Town based Thematic Stamp Club, has now become the Thematic Stamp Club of Southern Africa, and its chairman, David Dowie Dunn, reports an increase of membership over the past year of 32 per cent.

He says, "New members are both local and national, confirming the trend towards thematic collecting, and the need to cater for this branch of philately."

How was this (pardon the pun) Dunn?

At its meeting of 14 May 1996, the society tabled a proposal for a "South African Thematic Association", which was the brainchild of Cassie Carstens and some other concerned philatelists in Gauteng.

The society's newsletter set forth a straightforward, brief constitution, and envisioned that such a club "could – and should – play a major role in establishing such an association".

"With our increased efforts" David says, "and the publicity in *The SA Philatelist* (Clem Baker's letter, February 1996, p 3) we are reaping the rewards of forward planning."

The society has been looking at a foundation meeting in the course of Bloemfontein 150, and already the possibility of arranging a national thematic exhibition in 1997 is on the horizon.

Also envisaged are a quarterly journal, to be published from February 1997 onwards (*Themafrica*, *Themapex*?) and mutual contact with other societies: ThemeNZ, Thematic Society of Australia, and so forth.

The society is obviously already affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, and also to the ATA (Chapter #1) and the BTA.

Apart from its membership drive under its new and widened constitutional mandate, the society is looking at financial support from the Philatelic Foundation.

Current subscription fees amount to R30,00 per year, and further details are available from PO Box 146, Cape Town 8000.

Report on Capex 96

Cedric Roché, RDPSA

THIS was the fourth World exhibition to be held in Canada and Toronto, and was hosted by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada under the patronage of FIP. The sponsor of the exhibition was Canada Post Corporation, and their tremendous support helped make Capex 96 an outstanding success.

Paid admissions (at $8 per adult with discounts for children and free entry for schools) were in the vicinity of 20 000 and the enormous venue – which held 4 600 exhibition frames, 75 dealer stands, 45 postal administration stands plus special exhibits – was constantly filled with visitors.

The special exhibits included Canadian items from the Queen's collection, classic China from the Mizuhara Foundation, and displays from the National Postal Museum.

The 42 member jury under the chairmanship of Robert Chaplin judged 760 exhibits from over 60 countries (with 40 per cent being first time world exhibition entries). A total of 29 Large Gold, 94 Gold, 154 Large Vermeil, 138 Vermeil, 145 Large Silver, 104 Silver, 60 Large Bronze, 28 Bronze and 8 certificates were awarded. The six South African exhibitors fared well and obtained the following results:

- Gold – Neville Polakow (South African Airmails)
- Large Vermeil – Harry Birkhead (Siege & Occupation Issue of the ABW)
- Large Vermeil – Gerhard Kamffer (Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa)
- Vermeil – Joachim Frank (Canada 1868-1897)
- Vermeil – Richard Knight (British Zanzibar to 1935)
- Vermeil – John Wannerton (Canadian Contingents, SA War 1899-1902)

These results once more confirmed the healthy standard of South African exhibiting and judging.

Howard Green RDPSA was selected to be one of the ten apprentice jurors. The apprentice results will only be released by the FIP Board in October 1996.

We were fortuntate enough, Harry Birkhead RDPSA (who accompanied me as assistant commissioner) and I, to attend a FIP Traditional Philately judging seminar on the last day of the exhibition, run by Robert Odenweller, head of the FIP commission for this category. Interesting points which emerged were:

(1) Computer printed or well typed exhibits are now the preferred means of write-up for reasons of clarity.

(2) Page headings must be tasteful and not distract, and the choice of heading for each page is left to the exhibitor. The use of sub-titles at the head of each page to indicate the flow of the exhibit is however, to be encouraged.

(3) Because of the ever increasing size of exhibitions the shortage of time for judging, the introductory page is assuming an ever increasing importance. Exhibitors must use it to their fullest advantage. One can simply not rely on "the material speaking for itself". This page does not require any philatelic material and should consist of two to three paragraphs describing the intentions of the exhibitor, how the exhibit fits into the broader philatelic picture (importance, any research or discoveries by the exhibitor plus an index to the exhibit and a short bibliography).

Humility is no longer a virtue! Rare material must be indicated (say one of three copies known to the exhibitor – but avoid "unique"! This should, however, be done on the page with the material and not on the intro page.)

(4) The excessive use of provenance ("ex Burrus", "ex Ferrari") and so forth is frowned upon, as it is no guarantee of genuineness, and does not remove the necessity of obtaining an expert certificate for items which are heavily faked.

(5) The writeup should not just state the obvious, but show knowledge. Do not just say "block of 4" but rather "Early usage of the scarce bistre-brown shade".

(6) Finally pages should be numbered continously, for example from 1 – 80. I would suggest that this be done on the front of the page in the bottom right-hand corner. This will firstly indicate if a page has been mounted out of sequence (a major problem at Capex 96, which forced me into remounting almost all the

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South African exhibits) and secondly will allow the index on the introductory page to be more useful by referring to the precise page in the exhibit.

An up-date on FIP

Peter van der Molen

CAPEX 96 is now history – warmest congratulations to our six exhibitors who achieved from Gold to Vermeil – see above report – and our thanks to our National Commissioner Cedric Rochè RDPSA for so effectively dealing with the many aspects that invariably beset a commissioner, and also to Harry Birkhead RDPSA for all his assistance.

Entries for the next two events staged by FIP and supported by the Federation – Norwex 97 and Pacific 97 – are now closed and we await the allocation of frames.

For Norwex, a restricted exhibition, there were five provisional entries, but for Pacific 97 there were no less than 19 entries and that event appears to be well over 100 per cent oversubscribed.

Also, our National Commissioner for Norwex 97, Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, has been invited to serve as an apprentice juror at Norwex, in the class Postal History.

The next available opportunity for international exhibiting with PFSA support remains Israel 98 in Tel Aviv, from 12 to 21 May 1998, with Commissioner David Stern FRPS,L. The entry closing date is likely to be about May 1997, and this can include qualifying Youth Exhibits.

There has been confusion and debate amongst jurymen and exhibitors about the different approaches required between compiling a Postal History and a Traditional Philately exhibit. To provide some clarification, in 1993 the FIP Commissions for Postal History and Traditional Philately jointly published a guide to Exhibiting and Judging such exhibits by showing actual examples using material from the early issues of Egypt.

The four single frame displays are designated the "good" and "bad" Traditional Exhibit and the "good" and "bad" Postal History Exhibit. The Bloemfontein 150 Organising Committee has very kindly provided frames to show these (printed) exhibits, with FIP permission.

A booklet will be available with detailed comments on most pages of each exhibit, and it is hoped that these practical examples will clarify the different approaches that are recommended. This is yet another good reason for you to go and visit the Bloem 150 exhibition!

(Please contact the PFSA FIP Committee Chairman, PW van der Molen, at (011) 899 6019 (w) for any information your require on international aspects of philately and exhibiting.)



Jan Stolk van Rotterdam (naaslinks) die sekretaris van die Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika, het sy versamelgebied in lewende lywe in Maart 1996 besoek. By 'n vleisbraai-ontmoeting was (van l na r) Gawie van der Walt, die Federasie se vise-president vir buitegebiede; Jan; en vier plaaslike lede van die FVZA: Henk de Lange; George van den Hurk RDPSA; Joh Groenewald RDPSA; en Gerrit Bresser, die FVZA se kongresverteenwoordiger. (Die FVZA het ruim 200 lede, en vergader vyf maal per jaar naby Utrecht. – Foto: Stien Stolk)

Bloem 150 set for success

BOTH senior and junior sections for Bloem 150 (9 to 12 October 1996) have been over-subscribed, which enables the organising committee to make final selections, and all brochure entries and articles can be finalised. It is expected that the brochure will be going to the printers as this issue of *The SA Philatelist* reaches its subscribers.

Interesting articles are promied by prominent Bloemfontein citizens, although not neccessarily of a philatelic nature.

The organising committee is striving to have special covers available on 12 October 1996, at the banquet at Onze Rust, carried by horse from the south. On that date it is also intended to initiate the use of the proposed permanent special datestamp for the Onze Rust postbox.

Special trophy miniatures are being prepared, described as being "definitely unique", which will also be on sale (but obviously "without trophy status"!) The design and manufacture is by a member of the OFS Philatelic Society, Jon Williams.

It is expected that the concurrent Junass will provide a lot of fun. (It is also to be reviewed – for educational purposes! – by the senior jury. There will be several first-timers and one-framers to challenge them.)

Planning for the Cape Town Stamp Show 97 is in hand

NO date has yet been set for Cape Town Stamp Show 1997, but several venues have been thoroughly investigated, and the most likely choice at the moment would seem to be the Large Exhibition Hall at the Cape Town Civic Centre – which also housed Cape Town 91.

The booking is subject to avoiding the problems experienced in 1991.

The prospectus is being finalised, and it has been decided that Richard Knight RDPSA will head the jury.

It was reoprted that to keep the ball rolling, the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town had meanwhile decided at a special general meeting to underwrite the exhibition.

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Ilsapex 98 gathers steam

BULLETIN No 1 for Ilsapex 98 has become available. This is South Africa's first international exhibition with FIP support, and DN Jatia RDP, FRPS,L, president of FIP, notes in his message:

"South Africa has previously held international exhibitions with great success... FIP is proud to give its support...

The exhibition venue is to be Gallagher Estate, and the executive committee consists of David Stern FRPS, L (chairman), Henk de Lange (vice-chairman), Maurice Daniels (honorary secretary), Brian Gruzd (honorary treasurer).

The other members are George Cafetzouglo, Dr Franco Frescura, Julian Gecelter, Howard Green RDPSA, Danny Swart RDPSA, and Selwyn Uria.

Danny Swart is also the commissioner-general for the exhibition, and commissioners have been appointed for countries ranging from Argentina to Yugoslavia.

Bulletin no 1 outlines eight exhibition classes and the special regulations applying to Ilsapex 98. It is available from PO Box 1916, Houghton 2041 (South Africa).

● It should be noted that the closing date for provisional entries given in the bulletin has been extended to 31 October 1997, so that South African exhibitors can still qualify by entering Cape Town Stamp Show 1997.

Management meetings of the Federation

THE General Committee met on 19 April 1996, and among other matters, David Crocker RDPSA, chairman of the Expert Committee, reported that there were problems with the delivery of registered mail containing philatelic material for expertising.

He also said that the Expert Committee had made a contribution towards the publication of the first Ian Mathews Memorial lecture (given by Alan Drysdall, RDPSA, see *The SA Philatelist*, December 1995, p 189).

It was reported that stocks of Foundation miniature sheets had been taken over from Philatelic Services, and that future orders should be placed with the Foundation (PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000).

Among the sub-committees approved was the one for Federation awards. This now consists of Joh Groenewald RDPSA as chairman, with J Michelson, Danny Swart, Richard Knight and David Crocker (all RDPSAs) as members.

Jill Redmond, chairman of the Youth Activities Committee) reported that Junass 97 was to be held at Benoni. (This was subsequently amplified: it is to be at the Benoni Small Town Hall, from 11 to 13 July, and is to be called Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair. Dr Ian Matheson is to head the jury.)

Junass 98 was to be organised by the Highway Youth Stamp Club, and Junass 99 by Cassie Carstens at Centurion City.

The Management Committee met on 21 June 1996. A disappointment was that David Wigston had declined to take on the chairmanship of the promotions committee, and the post was therefore still vacant.

The accreditation of four learner judges as full judges at national level was recorded. They are H Cook, J Fabian, D Scheepers and Jan van Beukering.

It was noted that National Stamp Day would be on the first Saturday in October (5 October 1996), although World Post Day, commemorating the founding of the UPU, is officially 9 October 1996.

The meeting congratulated Jules Danneels for his support and effort on behalf of organised philately and his club. He is once again organising a Sasolburg Mini (11 to 16 November 1996).

The Management Committee received a bound report on Total Stampex 1995 (as did *The SA Philatelist*) from its chairman, John Hersey. He was congratulated on the organisation and his detailed reporting. It was also agreed that the surplus of R2 500 remain with the Alberton Society for the further promotion of philately in its region.

Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

Invaluable directory now in a new edition

International Stamp Dealers' Directory; edited by Graham Phillips.
212 pp, published by Philatelic Exporter (1996), available from PO Box 137, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL10 9DB, UK, soft cover £9,95, add £1,50 surface mail p &p.

THIS is the 11th edition, nearly six years after the previous one was published, and certainly overdue for some time. It is gratifying to note, however, that the current edition, as opposed to the previous one, is maintained on a data-base, which should facilitate more frequent publication.

The world-wide list of dealers alone, occupying over 100 pages of the A5 format, was naturally in need of up-dating. (And, the way things are bound to be, is already probably out of date.) This main alphabetical listing contains just under a staggering 1 400 entries.

It is the only directory of this kind in the English publishing world of which one is aware, and it offers a wealth of information in other areas. The Speciality Index, for example, is a mine of information. Through Accesories to Postal History dealers, ending with Worldwide, you can quickly find all the suppliers that are available.

In addition, auctioneers, philatelic bureaus, magazines, are all listed (including The SA Philatelist).

It is a publication which has obviously been prepared with a great deal of thought. Somehow, one does notice that the cover, which consists of a collage of stamps, now contains the RSA's issue showing President Nelson Mandela, which was naturally absent from the 1990/91 edition.

WG

Aerophilately flies again

AFTER a period of silence, The Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa has resumed publication of the *Aeroletter* in a revised, A5 format. No 77 was dated November 1995, and no 78 March 1996.

It is edited – jointly – by Ronnie Mephius (PO Box 335, Germiston 1400), and Neville Polakow (149 Cape Road, Mill Park 6001).

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Both issues ran to twelve pages, but given the high reduction proportion employed, they pack considerably more punch into the contents than 12 x A5 pages may lead one to believe.

The president of the society is Col. Brian Wilford, and its secretary Jana Uys, 3 iolet Avenue, Kempton Park 1620.

Membership of the society, which includes the quarterly newsletter, and affiliation to FISA, PFSA and PSG-SA, costs R60,00. Affiliation to PFSA includes a subscription to The SA Philatelist.

The Hon Treasurer, from whom complete details can be obtained, is George Cafetzoglou, the address PO Box 84636, Greenside 2034.

Literature catalogues

AN extensive collection of philatelic literature has been acquired by HR Harmer Inc, according to a recent news release. The company planned to issue its "largest literature list ever" in May 1996.

The primary strength lies in auction catalogue runs from 1920 onwards, and numerous name sales are included. Those interested in receiving a list should write to the company at 3 East 28th Street, New York, NY 10016, USA.

The **James Bendon** listing of philatelic literature continues to grow, and the latest issue (dated September 1995) now stands at 48 pages, (3 x 16 pages A4). The address is PO Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus.

Leonard H Hartmann, of PO Box 36006, Louisville, Kentucky 40233, USA, has issued the 2nd and 3rd supplements to his Catalogue No 20.

The big news is that he is on the Internet, and can be visited by e-mail at the address pbbooks@ibm.net. (He admits he is "not yet comfortable" with this, and prefers his dedicated fax, 502 459-8538 – or even an old-fashioned letter).

Among the books Hartmann lists in his supplements is *The Philatelic Exhibitor's Handbook* (Randy Neill, 1995) and vols. 1 & 2 of *Norddeutscher Lloyd, Bremen* (Edwin Drechsel, 1994 & 1995).

New publication from ATA

THE latest handbook from the American Topical Association (ATA) is *Railways of the World on Stamps*.

The author is Howard J Burkhalter (edited by Florence and Norman Wright), and the 272 pages, with 50 illustrations, list nearly 15 000 items.

Order, at $20,00, from PO Box 65749, Tucson, AZ 85728, USA.

Onderonsies/Society news

AFRIKAANSE FV VAN PRETORIA

Mei 1996: Daar is aanduidings dat die harde werk wat ons bestuur besig is om te doen, vrugte begin afwerp. Lede begin meer betrokke raak en 'n gesonde gees heers by maandvergaderings.

Die poskantoor het ons hierdie maand lelik in die steek gelaat toe 'n betydse bestelling vir 'n oudio-visuele program nie betyds opgedaag het nie. Bestuurslede het in die bresse getree en van hul versamelings kom uitstal, toegelig deur interessante praatjies.

Theo Brunslaff se "Duitsland onder Hitler" het veral beïndruk. Hans Stronkhorst se PRO EUROPA versamling sedert 1993 het ook heelwat aandag getrek.

Die proliferasie van Readers Digest se posseëlstroke het heelwat bespreking uitgelok. Die huidige problematiek van versamelaars in verband met dié uitgiftes kan maar net versleg indien ander ondernemings ook sou besluit om later van die poskantoor se produkte (posseëls, posstempels en so meer) gebruik te maak.

Die jaarlikse vasvra wat tradisioneel deur ons voorsitter opgestel word, is deur ds. Cassie Carstens gewen.

Ons vereniging het met leedwese kennis geneem van die heengaan van dr. Johan Flierenga wat jare lank 'n lid van die AFP was. Hy het as roetehoof baie bygedra om ons rondsenddiens te bevorder, en sy skenkings van katalogusse aan die biblioteek was altyd hoog waardeer.

Brig. Hein Friebus

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

April 1996: The president welcomed eight members and one guest to the 21st annual general meeting. The proceedings went smoothly, and the standing committee was re-elected for yet another year with the exception of our treasurer, M Hammerschlag, who had tendered his resignation after filling this position since the founding of our group in 1975.

This must be a rare record, and the meeting thanked him with a round of applause for his services.

The meeting was followed by the traditional "President's exhibit". He invited first those present for "A walk through Time" by showing items which had been posted in 1896, 1906, 1916 etc, up to 1996, which reflected on the political situation, and on the postal service too.

His second exhibit was incoming mail addressed to Fritz Küstner of Swakopmund, starting with a postcard written by the young Fritz himself in 1916 and ending with mail received from various countries over the years till shortly before his death in 1991, whereby transit times and postal routes can be studied.

May 1996: The winter took it's toll and only five members turned up for this first meeting after our AGM. The president paid tribute to R ("Dick") Findlay, the designer of many fine South African and South West African stamps, who passed away in March this year.

The evening was a study of cancellations applied at post offices starting with "O". A range of interesting cancellations including the Okasise and Okaukueyo rubber stamp, and the Okowakutjiwi and Okahandja "Wanderstempel" were shown and discussed.

HU Bantz

MARITZBURG PS

April 1996: The president, Michael Dwyer, welcomed the twenty members present, and especially Ron Buchel who had visited before, and has now applied for membership.

Alex Duigan "complained" that his newsletter had arrived unstamped AND UNTAXED! After much banter, it was agreed that HE owed us money!

Peter Southwood reported that membership now stood at 59. Eric Holmberg had donated R300 to the society, which generous gift the committee had acknowledged with thanks. Francis Eustace gave a comprehensive report on his visit to Johannesburg and Pretoria, and discussed the change of date for the Comrades issue to 6 June, and gave out the revised issue programme.

We were inundated with "items of interest" – what a pleasant surprise. First was Robin Castle, with his "Airmails" comprising, Pigeon post, Hot-Air Balloon Post, and the glider cover from PMB150.

He also showed his postcard from "HELL" in the Caribbean – visitors can now say: "When someone says go to Hell, you can say I've already been there!"

Alex Duigan referred to his de Haviland Aircraft cover which travelled at 100 mph in comparison to his recent flight to Cape Town at 500 km/h at 34 000 ft.

Peter Southwood showed his postage labels which had somehow changed back to transaction No. 0001 in April. He also showed Albemarle #0001 – a first day cover? Susan Bowes-Taylor showed her Royal Mail from Edinburgh cancelled

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ROYALMAILINTERNATIONAL (all one word!) – Glasgow O.E.R.P.

Kees de Jong showed a PAID/BETAAL cancellation and queried why no stamp. It was suggested that it was the normal bulk-mail canceller.

Peter then clarified the HOËVELDRIF "argument". Evidence had come to light during the month that Hoëveldrif is part of the Secunda area, and is Hoëveld-rif i.e. HIGHVELD RIDGE, and the "proving piece" was shown. Peter also showed the Post Office's envelope size-measuring device to choose the right postage rate for size and thickness.

Anne Southwood showed the now famous "Bobbit flaw", that is, the missing ball on the Bafana-Bafana "CHAMPIONS" stamp.

The Alphabet competition – Letter "P": We had a "flood" of entries here too – Robin Castle showed six pages from his "FLOOD" collection, Geoff Mitchell showed five pages of his farm animals, Susan Bowes-Taylor showed six issues from Fiji from 1938 to 1950, and Mike Dwyer showed a cover of the First Airmail Flight to UK – and back(!).

Peter Southwood then showed some FUNNY/FUNNIES from his postal receipts of mis-spells, the imaginative use of dots and abbreviations at King William's Town, a page of till slips with the machine No. 0000 (Ladysmith being given the priviledge of #0001).

He also showed a folder from the Essen International Exhibition, filled with maxicards of Framas and ATMs, a stock-book of SA Exhibition clichès, and three catalogues of the Framas and ATMs.

Alex Duigan then showed a selection of horrendous emissions from the PMB Frama machine, since discontinued because of the constant failure to deliver, owing to matchsticks and other foreign bodies being forced into the coin slot.

Alex showed a spectacular strip of clichès where the cutter failed to operate, and some equally impressive clichès, which included the test strip, and some with values, where the ink had soaked through.

He also showed some early (and extremely sought-after and rare) 1935 slogan cancellers from Johannesburg.

We then saw a most interesting audio-visual show from the Federation's library "Special and Record Flights". It was excellent, much enjoyed by those present.

Peter Southwood

ROYAL PS OF CAPE TOWN

11 March 1996: There were three exhibitors:

Bill Ross – Manchester. 20 pages of postal history. Bill gave a very interesting resumé of the history of this English city and inland seaport. It became the headquarters of cotton manufacture, as reflected by a number of the postal history items of view.

The earliest item displayed was dated 1734. Of note was an envelope to Rochdale bearing a Manchester mark, in use for but a few months.

Manchester was the first town ever to have a Penny Post within the town itself. Letters for towns beyond it were chared 2d; a Morris Brothers cover of March 1834 from Manchester to Lancaster was shown, struck with a very rare "2d" hand-stamp.

Covers of the adhesive stamp period had a variety of Manchester markings; one bore a Penny Black cancelled by the distinctive Manchester Maltese cross.

David Allison displayed about 90 pp of a larger collection of postmarks from Cambridge and the southern part of Cambridgeshire. It seems that the earliest Cambridge postmarks date from 1704, David's earliest one being in 1774.

Brian Franklin – Malta. This very attractive and detailed display consisted mainly of stamps, commencing with the 1863 issues of the ½d yellow stamps.

It has been shown before, in whole or part; significant additions included some War Tax overprints and the first four booklets. Many overprint or surcharge errors were displayed, also postage dues and some covers and postal stationery.

25 March: "An Evening with Mr Henry Berneaud" – and what an Evening!

Mr Berneaud recounted, in his whimsical and highly entertaining manner, a sort of philatelic autobiography, which started in 1926. His father, then working in Danzig, sent him stamps and Henry also swapped stamps with other lads. In those days postal history was unknown – "A cover was a stamp that had not yet been soaked off", as he charmingly put it.

A wide cross-section of material was displayed: Covers and postcards addressed to his forebears in Aberdeen, Scotland; the 1920 provisionals of Danzig (German stamps overprinted) commercially used on covers; the Free City and Port of Hamburg – 21 pages of pre-adhesive stamp covers bearing numerous fascinating markings; Württemberg – 60 odd pages of mostly imperforate stamps, on and off cover, up to 1874; and sundry fascinating issues.

22 April: "Islands". The three exhibitors were introduced by Jack Zeller.

Martin Crawford – The Tristan da Cunha "potato" stamp. The deep background to the subject goes back to 1937 when Martin's father, Allan B Crawford, FRGS, undertook a survey of the island and produced a map which is still in use!

Allan Crawford was strongly associated with Tristan thereafter and wrote two books on it. He designed the so-called "potato" stamp depicting a penguin with the island beyond it, and inscribed "ID. /local value 4 potatoes". It was only one of a number of his designs submitted, together with a petition for postage stamps for Tristan, to the Colonial Secretary in London in May 1946. These designs were not accepted and only the 1d value was actually printed.

1996 is, of course, the 50th anniversary of the designing of the "potato" stamp; Martin has learnt that a proposal for a commemorative issue has, sadly, been turned down.

His display – much of it unique – embraced everything which could possibly be in such an exhibit: artist's drawings, the original die of the 1d label and a sample of the result, official correspondence relative to the proposed issue, the "potato" stamp on cover, forgeries of the label, etc.

Fred Pike – St Helena. Most of the material had been shown before. It comprised mainly stamps, such as the King George V issues from 1912 to 1935, plus a few covers bearing adhesives with varieties. The whole was beautifully presented, and all the stamps including the many with varieties, were pristine.

Mrs Nora Fillary – Pitcairn Islands. A straightforward showing on 46 pages of most of the KGVI and QEII emissions, commencing, however, with a 1938 cover bearing a New Zealand stamp used from the island. The well-printed stamps and the diverse range of designs made for an attractive display, nicely presented.

Malcolm Murphy

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

March 1996: "Competitive Israel I", convened by Selwyn Uria, was intended for the more serious collector.

We had a first time exhibitor in this bracket, Paul Rips, who has been working for some years on "The Coins of Israel". He has expanded his exhibit, has added a number of interesting items, and even without the top three values, he put together a very interesting and dignified collection.

April 1996: As is now customary, Moira Bleazard showed all the issues of Israel for 1995. In addition, she compiled a quiz and, to answer her questions, one had to scrutinise the stamps and also read the information pamphlets.

The quiz winner was – not surprisingly – David Stern, long established as "the" expert on Israeli stamps.

May 1996: The annual Sam Kelly Evening, in honour of our most distinguished member, has to encompass 15 pages of any item of Israel stamps.

David Stern showed a selection of Israeli artists' proofs. It was brought to our attention that some stamps were designed by more than one artist.

Selwyn Uria showed the low values of the Doar Ivri in covers and plate blocks.

The convenor of the evening, John Bleazard, thanked exhibitors, and his wife Moira brought along photographs of the latest Israeli issues.

Willie Mann

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MASHONALAND PS

March 1996: The one-page competition on the letter G was won by Mrs H Allen's entry, "Gold".

The exhibit for the evening was non-competitive: Derrick Byrom on "Exhibiting made easy". The committee is very hopeful that as a result more members will come forward with exhibits for the society – competitive or not.

An important point, so well made by Mr Byrom, is that there is so much stationery available that, when used, exhibiting can be easy.

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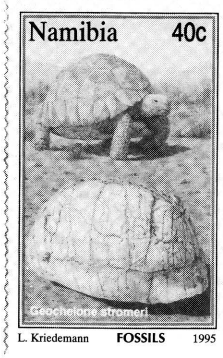
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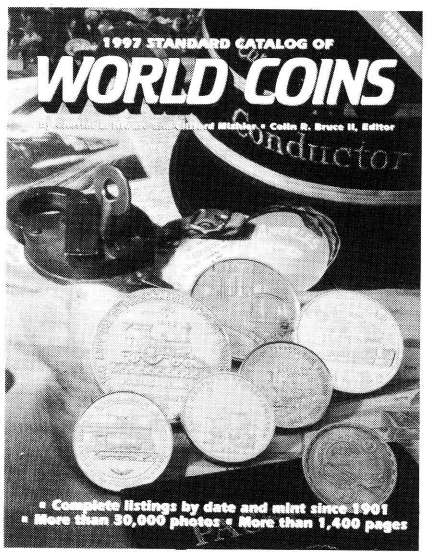
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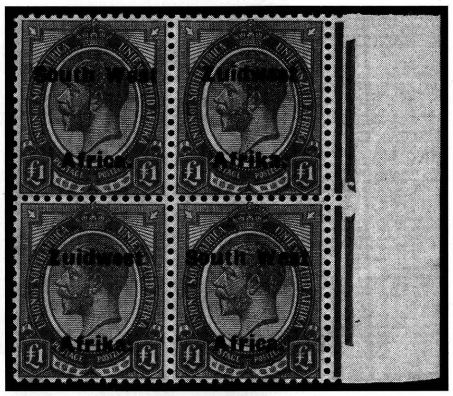
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view — The Editor/Die Redakteur

IT is evident from some of the comments in these pages that there is a growing and glib assumption that exhibitions, such as the one we are about to witness at Bloem 150, are events for a small, elite group. Its members are known, rather derisorily, as "pot hunters".

Be that as it may. Not everyone wishes to compete, and some do take an inordinate interest in "pots". But the implication is that this elite excludes from a national exhibition – any competitive exhibition for that matter – that pure and simple soul, the collector.

Hardly so. National exhibitions serve various purposes beyond providing pots. They expose people who would otherwise not give a stamp a second glance to the joys of collecting – they publicise the hobby. They expose collectors to the joys of competing, which are considerable. And they expose everyone, from the casual visitor to the exalted pot hunter, to that gratifying sport which our dealers provide so generously, namely bargain hunting.

Finally, competitive exhibiting at this level also brings together the philatelic fraternity for an indispensable function: the annual Congress of the Philatelic Federation. Never mind the bouquets and brickbats. It is not the bloodletting that counts, but the ultimate cameraderie – and indispensible exchange of views and information that fuel the hobby.

DAAR is 'n inisiatief om ten minste een van die aspekte van ons filatelie behoorlik te dokumenteer, en dit is om so veel as wat 'n mens te wete kan kom oor die ondertekenaars van die Federasie se Ererol te boekstaaf. Verwysings in hierdie tydskrif sal uiteraard nageslaan word, maar enigiemand met verdere verwysings, met foto's, met persoonlike herinnerings, word genooi om inligting aan die redakteur te stuur.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

The role of FIP in philately

Alexander Newall of London writes: The International Philatelic Federation, FIP from its French initials, represents today, without any doubt, the highest authority in organised philately worldwide. During the last 20 years or so it succeeded in bringing together most of the viable philatelic national associations, national stamp issuing authorities (i.e. post offices) and various trade organisations.

It also completed a binding set of rules and regulations covering every aspect of competitive exhibiting.

These regulations deal with the rights, duties and codes of behaviour of all connected with the exhibition's organisation as well as those of the individual exhibitors.

Now, after years of trials, experiments and experience of successes and failures, FIP controls a framework as efficient as any system dealing with independent people, can muster.

One of FIP's greatest merits is the way it managed to avoid the pitfalls of political schisms, maintaining over the years a strict independence from ideological, economic or political involvements which beset some of its members.

Often gaining from the experiences of the brains behind the organisation of the United Nations, FIP created a number of new posts and entities such as individual commissions covering special philatelic interests, a now well established squad of trained coordinators, the institution of national commissioners and, last but not least, a fairly competent army of international judges.

Is there then a downside to such an excellent authority? Is there any room for criticism of an organisation which works, and also works so effectively? And who should consider himself qualified to voice it?

Answering the last question, I believe that any bone fide philatelist has the right and duty to voice his opinion. Let us state plainly that there is room for positive criticism.

The achievements outlined above relate to one activity alone, they deal with competitive international exhibiting. Alas, on a fair estimate, only 0.3 of a percentage point of the world's philatelic community take part in international exhibitions.

The rest of the philatelic populace has also need of guidance and leadership and FIP cannot just leave them to the tender mercies of national federations, however fair and efficient some of them may be.

Whether they like it or not, they should be given "GRB" ("General Rules of Behaviour") and guidelines as to how to deal with their membership, how to create a sound financial base and how best to apply their income to the benefit of all philatelists within their realm. It is patently not enough to restrict the duties of national federations to the application of FIP rules and payment of fees and subscriptions.

Having been given the right to select and propose international jurors, commissioners and others who benefit from their appointment, the national organisations should also be taught how to make those elected work for the good of individual collectors and the hobby as a whole.

Much of the above takes place already, but on a rather haphazard basis. Every juror could hold a prescribed number of teach-ins and seminars, every commissioner could publish a report of the difficulties which confronted him, as well as on the results of his activities. Every "luminary" could be morally bound to visit a number of humble stamp clubs and to do it, if at all possible, free of charge.

In short, any beneficiary of the system should be presented with a programme spelling out tasks he is expected to perform in order to retain his benefits.

Such measures would increase the feeling of contact between the collector and his national and, consequently, international authority.

Hopefully they would also create new channels of communication independent of, often, profit motivated media.

Above all, an action of this kind would diminish the chasm which exists, at the moment, between "those on top" and the potential fee and subscription paying stamp collector.

Frescura and collectors

Mary Bromfield of Roodepoort writes: Having read with interest both the letter from Dr Frescura (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 34) and the flood of replies (June 1996 p 66, and August 1996) may I be permitted to add my tuppence worth?

The subject of the Rugby stamps has I think been done to death, so I will refrain from comment there.

It is notable that most of the replies published so for came from known *philatelists* and not stamp collectors, and it is with these latter that Frescura's interest lies. They, after all, form the bulk of his clientele, and also form the majority of society members, although Federation seems to ignore them completely.

As regards the Philatelic Federation (and its journal *The SA Philatelist*), which is, I assume, what Dr Frescura is referring to in the latter part of his letter, I am afraid that in a lot of respects I must agree with him.

As a past president of Federation, having served two terms, I think I am qualified to speak. I must disagree with him in calling it an Old Boys Club which implies continued recognition once you have served Federation. Let me assure Dr Frescura that once you leave the exclusive clique which is Management, you definitely become *persona non grata.*

Does Federation really serve the hobby in its entirety, or is it only there to further the interests of the few fat cheque books whose main interest lies in pot hunting both nationally and internationally?

Let us take a look.

Ds Carstens hands a number of bouquets to various members of Federation – the Judging Committee, the Exhibitions Committee, the Expert Committee, the committee organising Bloem 150, the Youth Committee and the one looking at FIP and our membership thereof. All of these, while they do do excellent work, are of benefit only to the seasoned philatelist who wishes to exhibit and not to the bulk of proponents of our hobby.

Even the Youth Committee are primarly interested in Junass and getting the kids to exhibit – no, I'm not taking a swipe at Jill Redmond, she knows my feelings.

Ds Carstens lauds the Audio-Visual Committee and then spoils it all by admitting that his society takes only two shows a year – if that is not a back handed compliment I don't know what is!

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Coming to *The SA Philatelist,* it is an excellent publication and richly deserves the honours it has won on various exhibitions – but, the majority of the articles are far too esoteric and specialised for the average simple "one-of-each" stamp collector. One has only to listen to the number of societies who complain at each Congress that the majority of their members do not want *The SA Philatelist.* If, as has been mooted, Philatelic Services bring out a magazine for the stamp collector, it will not be in competition with *The SA Philatelist* – they will serve two different markets – but, it will also not require a compulsory levy to make it viable.

As for the "old men of South African philately", old is not merely a matter of years. I have known men old at 35. Whether MP Barry and Ds Carstens are old depends entirely on their mind sets.

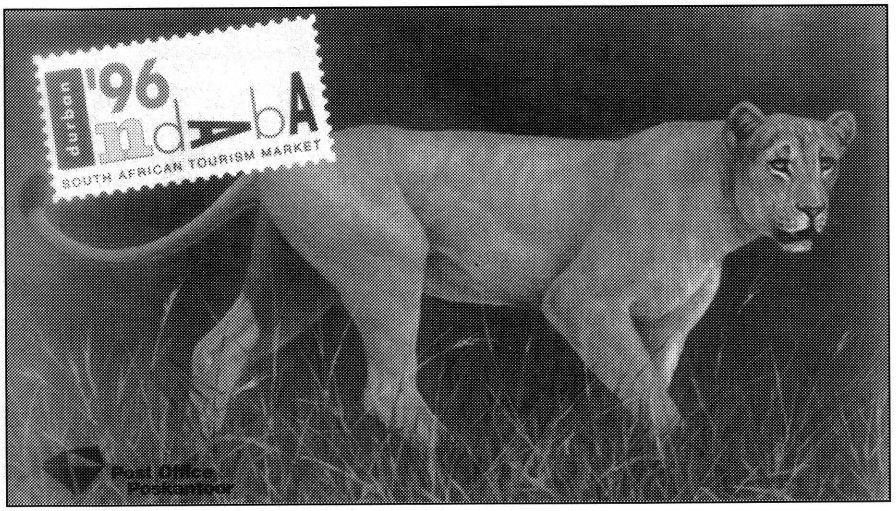
Regarding the gripes about the service received from Dr Frescura's department, Collector of Stellenbosch writes "he (Frescura) inherited an organisation that ran efficiently. . . (did it!) others write in a similar vein. I have it on the authority of a senior official of the Post Office (note the Post Office, not Philatelic Services) that the bulk of the problems being experienced by Philatelic Services were caused by deliberate sabotage of the computer system by a staff member inherited from the old regime! So don't blame the present staff.

If Dr Frescura's comments can induce some soul-searching and not merely hysterics in the Federation it may yet serve some purpose. What he has said needed to be said – maybe not in quite so vitriolic a vein but having heard the flack that has been hurled at Dr Frescura by certain members of Federation I can understand his feelings.

More about the Big Five

ES Whitlock of Graaf-Reinet writes: I do not know if Philatelic Services provides you with all the information in view of their poor service, so I am sending the enclosed just in case you do not know about it.

At Indaba, Durban, each participant was given a folder (Fig 1) containing a sheetlet of the Big Five animal stamps (mint, mounted in a Hawid type strip). The outer front of the folder is identified with "Durban '96 Indaba, South African Tourism Market", and pictures a lioness.



On making enquiries as to availability to collectors, the Port Elizabeth Philatelic counter knew nothing about the sheetlet, but they had booklets available (see Figs 2 and 3, *The SA Philatelist,* June 1996, p 92).

Further enquiries to Client Services, Philatelic Services, produced firstly the response that they did not know of such an issue, but on returning my call, told me that they are available, but not in a folder.

Of course, as collectors, we were not advised by Philatelic Services of the proposed issue! (See also *The SA Philatelist,* August 1996, p 108).

Listing of FDCs

Hulme Sugden of Randburg writes: We all recognise that Philatelic Services is in an administrative mess, but little will be achieved by further correspondence. In my view we must take other steps.

As an example I, as a collector/accumulator, have a standing order with the Philatelic Services. Items arrive at various stages, and I have difficulty in allocating them in correct chronological sequence in my collection of first day covers, and my collections of mint and of cancelled stamps. I am never sure that I have received what should have been sent.

Covers are numbered, and that would normally be a guide. However one finds the 6.22 is followed by 6.23b. Was there a 6.23 and 6.23a?

The Singapore '95 came out, and was followed by "Dec 1995", but the latter was not sent to me from Philatelic Services.

While I appreciate the fact that part of the fun of collecting is the research and follow up, it would be a great help if your/our publication would assist the very large numbers of generally unheard from and unknown non-serious collectors like myself, by printing a simple up-date of issues at regular intervals. The easier it is made to buy any commodity the more of the commodity will be purchased.

I envisage something simple like:

cover 6.22 was (title) issued on (date)

covers 6.23 and 6.23a were not issued

No	Title	Date	Description /Value
6.28	"Football 1996"	10 January	5 Std Post se-tenant
6.29	"Football 1996"	10 January	1 Min Sheet Std Post
6.29a	Stamp, "Champions" on card	8 February	1 Std Post
6.30	"Bloemfontein 150"	28 March	1 Std Post
6.31	Big Five	8 May	5 Air pcard rate se-tenant
6.32	"Comrades Marathon 1921-1996"	8 June	1 Std Post
6.33	"Gerard Sekoto 1913-1993"	1 June	1 Std Post
6.34	"Gerard Sekoto 1913-1993"	1 June	1 Min Sheet R2,00
6.35	"Capex '96"	8 June	1 Min Sheet R2,00
6.36	Youth Day	8 June	1 Std Post
6.37	"New Democratic Constitution"	1 August	5 Std Post se-tenant
6.38	"Centennial Games Atlanta"	19 July	5 Std Post se-tenant
6.39	"Centennial Games Atlanta"	19 July	1 R1,40
6.40	"SA Merchant Marine"	5 August	2 Std Post, 2 R1,40
6.41	"SA Merchant Marine"	5 August	1 Min Sheet R2,00
6.42	"Women's Day 1996"	9 August	1 70c

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cover 6.23b was (title) issued on (date)
and
Singapore '95, no number, (title) was issued on (date)
Dec 1995, no number, (title) was issued on (date)

● The Editor received from Philatelic Services, for record purposes, a batch of FDCs presumably encompassing all of the 1996 issues to date. These are listed on p 139, and *The SA Philatelist* will happily publish listings of other series provided by collectors. It should be noted that the chronology of issue dates does not echo the numerical FDC sequence.

En toe los ek filatelie

Nic Welman van Arcadia skryf: Alhoewel ek vir alle praktiese doeleindes in omtrent 1985 my seëlversameling gestaak het, toe ek 'n volle R2,00 moes betaal vir 'n Britse pond, is ek nog al die jare 'n gereelde leser van u puik tydskrif en volg ek die lotgevalle van die stokperdjie met aandag.

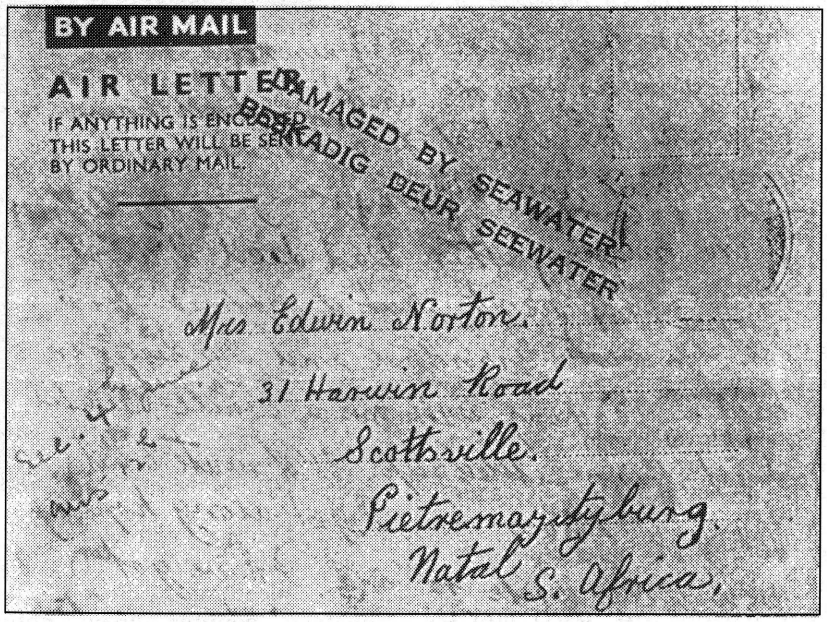
Die staking was deels ekonomies van aard en deels omdat ek by Filateliedienste in Pretoria moes toesien hoe sekere persone toegelaat word om deur toonbankvoorraad te krap vir afwykings, terwyl dieselfde voorreg my geweier was. Soos baie ander met toegang tot Filatelietoonbanke het ek ook, waar daar verskillende tale op verskillende seëls was, vir my blanko EDKs gekoop en dan my eie EDKs met die ander taal op die eerste seël laat afstempel.

Die afstempeling was dikwels so swak gedoen dat ek nie die EDKs wou aanvaar nie, terwyl dit vir ander persone omgeruil en oorgedoen is, en ek maar met die gemors moes sit. Ek het dus maar stil-stil die filatelie verlaat, en my versameling word deesdae dalk twee keer per jaar uitgehaal en bekyk.

Nog iets wat my tot kommer ruk is die snelle ontwikkeling van die tegnologie en meer bepaald rekenaartoerusting soos skandeerders (scanners) wat sketse, dokumente en selfs seëls akkuraat en in die korrekte kleure kan reproduseer.

Die kleurfotostaatmasjien is ook reeds met ons en word byna week liks meer verfyn. In veral die Verre Ooste word vervalsing van enigiets van waarde, van Rolex horlosies tot ontwerper T-hemde op al groter skaal gepleeg.

Hoeveel vervalste seëls is al in omloop en hoeveel kenners is al daardeur ingeloop? Ek het nog niks daaroor in die *SA Philatelist* of die pers gesien nie.



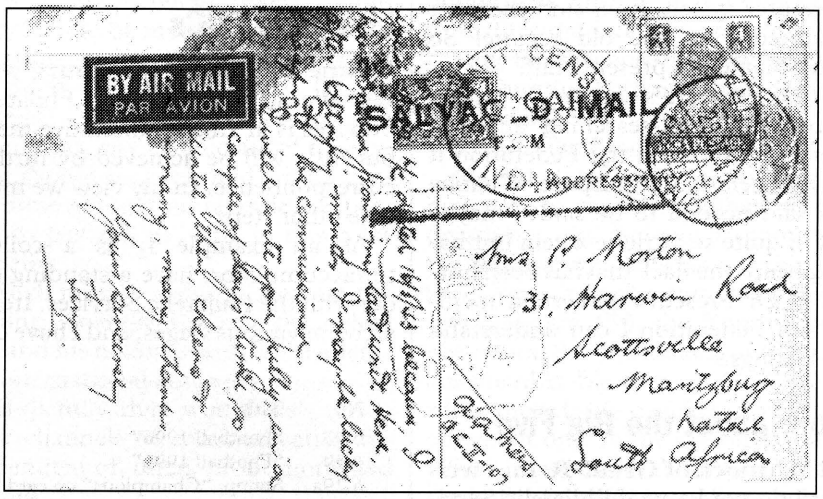
Information wanted on crash covers

A Duigan of PO Box 2567, Pietermaritzburg 3200 writes: I have two crash covers in my collection and I would be grateful for any information readers of *The SA Philatelist* could provide.

The first is an Air Letter from England, written on 10 March 1943, received in Pietermaritzburg on 4 June. The cachet "Damaged by Seawater/Beskadig deur Seewater" has been applied.

The second is a post card from India, written on 17 June 1943, posted at Dehra Dun (some 100 km south-east of Chandigarh on 1 July. It was forwarded to Egypt (canceller 109) and dated 29 July 1943. It has the cachet "Salvaged Mail".

It is presumed that air mail delivery was discontinued to South Africa.



Quaint cachet needs an explanation

Ken Joseph of Hout Bay writes: Recently we purchased a batch of post cards, one of which had a violet handstamp, "No. 2 S.A.R.". The upper section is separated by asterisks from "Overseas Dominion Section" in the lower part. The date is "12 JUN 1917".

The card is imprinted Carte Postale, with Post Card and Postkaart added in smaller type on the next line,

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but unfranked, and bears no other postal markings.

Can anyone shed any light?

Collectors and philatelists

Jan de Jong of Melville writes: The letter by Rex Osborne (*The SA Philatelist*, August 1996, p 108), preceded by the Editor's remarks on p 105 refer.

Of course there is a practical difference between collectors and philatelists. But the question is not so much as what the difference is, as how we are going to manage this can of worms, now that it has been opened, without alienating those who are where we all once were when the "bug" bit?

When is a "collector" a philatelist, and a "philatelist" a collector? A rhetorical question! When is a painter an artist, or an artist a painter? There are many art forms and painting is but one of them, yet a person applying a single colour to a wall with a 10 cm paint brush is not an artist!

The first postage stamp, as we know them, was issued in 1840. The following year an advertisement appeared in *The Times* of London from a young lady, asking for stamps because she wanted to cover the walls of her dressing room with cancelled postage stamps. This was obviously neither collecting nor philately, but rather decorating. But it shows that there might well have been in interest in collecting these "fanciful pieces of adhesive paper". The term "philately" hadn't even been thought of in 1841!

By 1864 there was a strong collector's drive for stamps. In France this craze was reffered to as "timbromanie", derived from the French word for stamp – "timbre". Georges Herpin felt that this term was derogatory, and he coined "philatélie" from the two Greek words "phil" or "philo", meaning "beloved" or "loving", and used as a prefix indicates a "strong affinity" or "preference", and "ateleia" or "telein", meaning "exemption from tax".

Did he want to create a new concept or did he want to differentiate between "tibromaniacs" and serious collectors? Is there any difference in French today? How did the constitution of the first known philatelic society that Georges Herpin started in 1865, define "philatélie"?

What about those who collect stamps for an investment? They have even less of a right to be called philatelists – they collect for the love of money!

Much more could be argued along the lines of what collectors should and philatelists shouldn't, but what do we want to achieve now that this issue has come into the open? Do those "who apply themselves" to our hobby, or even those who believe that any stamp printed after say 1937 is not worth the paper it was printed on, wish to reserve sole right to the term "philatelist"?

No, for the survival of the "king of hobbies" we must make room for those who, in ignorance, at least have a preference for stamp collecting as a hobby and help them become philatelists in the modern day understanding of the word.

Maybe the reconciliatory times we live in is the right time for a name change to our magazine to show that we care about those who are regarded as "collectors". But this will have little meaning if the content of the magazine is not modified as well.

Rex Osborne's almost hidden line on thematic collectors, as well as the remarks by Eques, were much appreciated and shows just one aspect of the amount of ground work that needs to be done by those who have the knowledge and experience.

We cannot expect the editor to do this on his own. Philatelists should supply informative and educational material for all levels of the hobby, and I'm sure the editor will be able to do something with it.

The size of cylinder blocks

CE Adams of Port Elizabeth writes: On 29 April I wrote to you with the following query:

> I have a quantity of material from the Union Animal and RSA first definitive issues in cylinder pairs. All the catalogues list cylinder blocks of four or more. Do the pairs have any market value, if so how would I value them in comparison with the blocks?

In your reply you recommended that I contact the vice-president of the Federation in the Eastern Cape, Mr Polakow. I was however hoping that you would publish my enquiry in *The SA Philatelist,* as I feel that debate on why cylinder blocks should consist of four stamps would be of some value.

Personally, I can see none in having the additional two stamps, as they do not provide any more information than the pair does.

Beskikbaarheid van die nuwe uitreikings

Jac J Cilliers van Mondeor skryf: Dankie vir *The SA Philatelist* – baie interessant! Ek het ook aan twee buitelandse versamelaars geskryf (Engeland en Australië) wat in die tydskrif gevra het om seëls te ruil, en geniet die ruil en geselsies.

Ek wil graag hoor waarom daar nie meer van die nuwe uitreikings, byvoorbeeld die Olimpiese Spele, Vrouedag, en so meer by plaaslike poskantore bekom kan word nie.

Ek word elke keer na die filatelietoonbanke (hoofposkantoor en elders) verwys, wat amper neerkom op die Groot Trek om dit te bereik. En geen advertensies van die nuwe uitreikings word meer aaangebring nie.

Die seëls kan wel ook op die dag van uitreiking by handelaars bekom word, maar hulle is ook in ander voorstede geleë, wat onnodige onkostes meebring.

Dit wil lyk asof ons "klein versamelaars" uit die stokperdjie uit gedwing word deur nie die gestandardiseerde posseëls by alle takke van die poskantoor beskikbaar te stel nie.

Why interest dwindles

"Jayalby" writes: There was great concern in the United Kingdom during the 1960s that the interest in philately was decreasing. There was at the time correspondence in the then weekly journal *Stamp Collecting* about diminishing attendances at society meetings. Rather surprisingly and against the forecast of these correspondents, there was a resurgence of interest in stamp collecting as a result of a strong demand for the material

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that was available on auction.

In spite of what the most recent Minister of Finance thinks about market pressures, this demand naturally forces up prices.

As a consequence of an increase in prices, new issue services saw an increase in membership. This in turn resulted in further pressures being brought to bear on the postal authorities and the number of issues increased. The number of stamps contained in an issue increased from two to three and then to four or more.

Unfortunately this appeared to have been taken to its extreme, and consequently in the early 1980s the interest started to dwindle. These comments naturally apply to the United Kingdom at that time, where the writer was employed by a large firm of stamp dealers for a number of years.

The object of the comments is to show that in spite of all the present gloom about philately, there is hope, however this is going to take a concerted effort by stamp issuing authorities (note that I have not referred to Philatelic Services specifically as they appear to prefer to remain independently autocratic and dictatorial), the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (and its affiliate societies) and organised commercial philately (i.e.: the professional stamp dealers).

It is clearly absolutely essential that all three of the aforementioned consider utilising the synergy of a combined effort to strenuously promote philately in its deepest sense and stamp collecting in its basic form.

The recent spate of correspondence concerning a particular individual and his attitude towards collectors and philatelists in creating a rift between the stamp issuing authority and its principal customers. The whole hobby is basically becoming user unfriendly, whereas to increase interest in a hobby it has to be very user friendly. In addition to being user friendly, new collectors also have to find it stimulating.

Many collectors who started in the late 1970s found the most difficult part was keeping up the instalments to their new issue service, and frequently merely kept the issues as received in their original envelopes. This is proven by the number of auction lots that come for sale that read something along the lines of "an accumulation of issues from 1970s to 1980s as issued. . ."

Careful study of the auction reviews in recent numbers of *The SA Philatelist* indicates that there is an improvement in the general demand for auction material. Under these circumstances, could we not look to the same resurgence in interest that took place in the United Kingdom during the mid 1960s? In which case would it not be practical for our issuing authority to rather get its house in order, ready for the resurgence, rather than have its spokesman casting aspersions at its clients?

The writer had heard a few years ago that the Australian postal services had undertaken the rationalisation of its stamp issue programme and had gone into promoting collecting, with the result that its number of account holders had increased dramatically.

An interesting development was that there was an outcry when the British Philatelic Bureau levied a charge of 2/6 on all orders to cover registration and postage. The blow was softened somewhat by the fact that in every order was a card with a 2/6 commemorative stamp attached, very neatly cancelled.

Maybe this is a tip that Philatelic Services could use to advantage.

■ **JE VAN PUYENBROEK** *Cinderella Stamp Club*

The Newspaper Tax Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope 1827 - 1844

DURING April 1958 Leonard J Dodd of Pretoria published a catalogue *Revenue Stamps of Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and the Union of South Africa*, the first update on these stamps since details of "new finds" were given in the *Bulletin of the Fiscal Philatelic Society* between 1908 and 1928. A year after publishing his new catalogue Dod wrote to the publishers of *The Philatelist* with details of his investigations into the Newspaper Tax stamps of the Cape, enclosing a copy of an ordinance promulgating the new tax.

A copy of Ordinance N°26 dated October 27, 1826 was published in *The Philatelist* Vol.26 N°2 November, 1959 on pages 52 and 53. The ordinance imposed a tax on all newspapers and other periodical works published in the colony, and came into force from and after 1 January 1827. It is published below with its attached Schedule of Duties, in full:

JOHN VAN PUYENBROEK continues his exhaustive studies of the Cape of Good Hope revenue stamps with this contribution. The previous two were in *The SA Philatelist* of December 1995, p 162, and June 1996, p 69.

He gained a Large Vermeil at Capex 96 for his CGH revenues, having been invited to exhibit at the last moment, and intends to show at Pacific 97 and Ilsapex 98.

An interesting footnote to this article may be found in *The SA Philatelist*, August 1936, p 118, where these newspaper tax stamps were hailed as "The Philatelic Discovery of the Century", then mistakenly being regarded as the world's first adhesive postage stamps. The matter was corrected in subsequent issues, September 1936, pp 133 and 142, and October 1936, p 153.

Ordinance N°26

Of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council

For levying a Stamp Duty on Printed Newspapers,

and certain other Periodical Works

Whereas it is expedient to levy a Stamp Duty on Newspapers and certain other Periodical Works, printed and published in this Colony, which are not included in the Tariff annexed to the Proclamations of 30th April and 10th December, 1824 (Handbills & Sale Lists of immoveable and moveable Property): Be if therefore enacted.

That from and after the commencement of this Ordinance there shall be collected and paid in this Colony, for and in respect of the several Articles, Matters, and Things mentioned and described in the Schedule of this Ordinance annexed (except those standing under the Head of Exemptions) the Several Sums of Money and Duties as therein respectively inserted and described; and that there shall be allowed and paid, for and in respect of all

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such Articles, Matters, or Things as are inserted and described in the said Schedule in that behalf, the several Allowances therein set forth; and that the said Schedule, and every clause therein respectively contained, shall be deemed and taken as part of this Ordinance.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the commencement of this Ordinance, any Person who shall be convicted of Printing or Publishing, within this Colony, on Paper not duly stamped, any Newspaper or other Periodical Work required by this Ordinance to be stamped, shall be sucject to a Penalty of Twenty Pounds for each such offence – one half whereof shall be paid to the informer, and one half to the Colonial Treasury.

III. And be further enacted, That this Ordinance shall take effect, and be in force, from and after the 1st day of January, 1827.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given at the Cape of Good Hope, this 23rd day of October, 1826 by Command of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

R. Plasket
Secretary to Government
By Order of the Council

Schedule of Duties
On Newspapers and other Periodical Works printed and published in this Colony
Any Newspaper, or Paper containing Public News Intelligence, or Occurrences, and not exceeding
One Sheet . . . One Penny
For every additional Half-sheet thereof . . . One Half Penny

Any Almanack or Calendar for any Year or time less than a Year
. . . Sixpence
Any Almanack or Calendar made to serve for any time longer than a Year, or for several Years . . . Three Shillings
Any Colonial Directory . . . Sixpence

Schedule of Allowances for the Purchase of Stamps enumerated in the foregoing Table

TO any person who shall bring Paper to the Stamp Office in Cape Town, or who shall buy Stamped Paper at the said Stamp Office, the Duties thereof shall amount to Ten Pounds or upwards, an allowance after the rate of Ten Pounds for every Hundred Pounds, upon prompt payment of the said Duty upon such Paper so bought or stamped.

Exemptions from the Duties on Papers containing Public News, Intelligences, and Occurrences.

Acts of Parliament, Proclamations, Orders in Council, Ordinances, Government Minutes, and Acts of State, or other matters printed by order of His Majesty, or of the Colonial Government.

Any Paper containing a single Adverisement, printed and dispersed separately: save and except handbills, as specified in the Proclamation of 10th December, 1824 Article 6. (Hand-Bills 24 Stuivers (2/-Stg.).

Daily Accounts, or Bill of Goods imported and Exported and Prices Current.

The schedule listes stamps of ½d., 1d., 6d., and 3/-; *The Philatelist* notes that "so far no copy of the highest value has come to light. Examples of the 6d. tax stamp have been seen in the Library of the South African Parliamant, embossed on almanacks, but we have no other details. It would seem that this value was not impressed on the paper prior to printing the almanack."

I have yet to see my first 6d. or 3/- Newspaper Tax Stamp!

The Newspaper Tax Stamps: First Issue 1827

THE first ½d. and 1d. Newspaper Tax stamps were brought into use on 1 January 1827 (Figs. 1 & 2) and have a frame in the form of a shield, with the inscription "CAPE OF GOOD HOPE" curving above a crown, below which is a flower motif, and at the foot, the value in words.



Fig. 1 First Issue 1827 ½d.

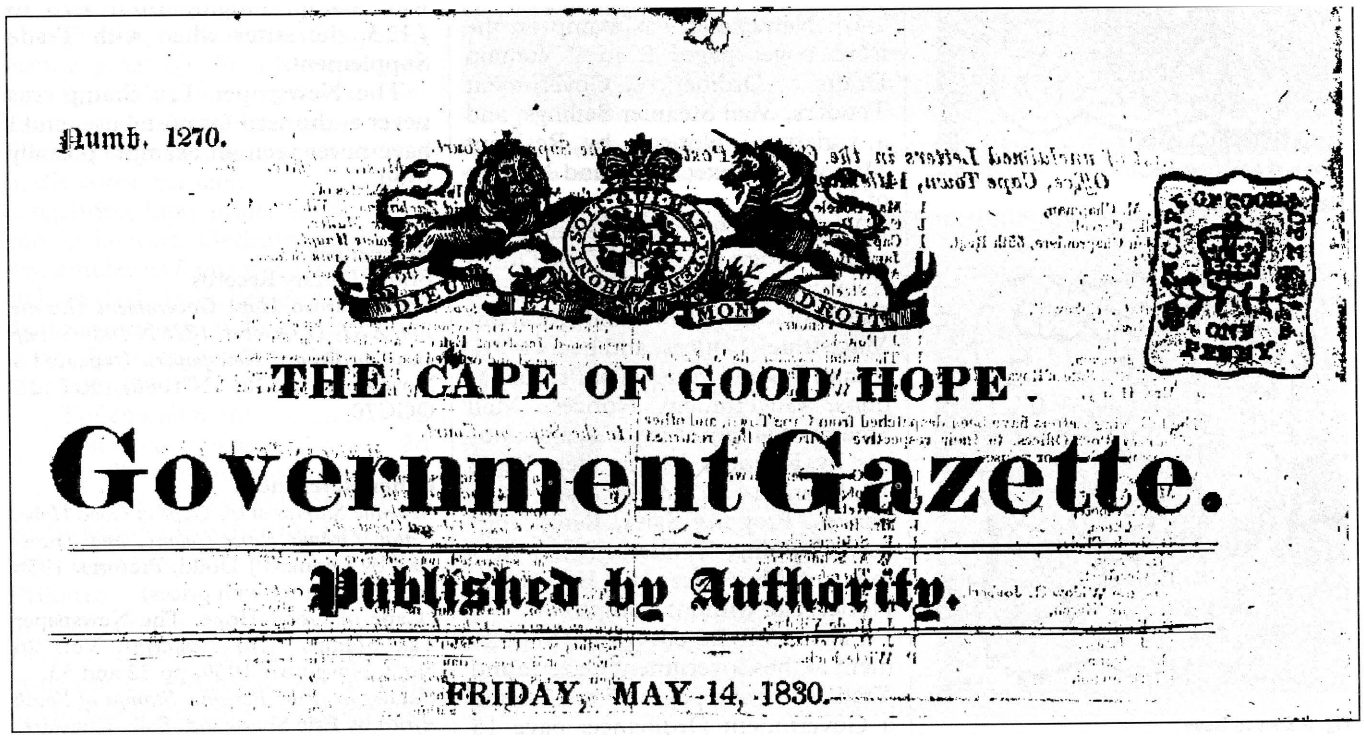


Fig. 2 Masthead of the Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette of Friday 14 May 1830, bearing an imprinted First Issue (1827) 1d., Die I.

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The 1d. Issue, Die I has a different crown, the value is printed in smaller letters, and in both stamps the word "CAPE" curves round slightly at the letter E.



Fig. 3 First Issue 1827 1d. Die II

The 1d. Issue, Die II (Fig. 3) has the word "CAPE" running along the edge of the frame, a different crown, and there is more of a gap between the top of the crown and the words "OF GOOD" above it.

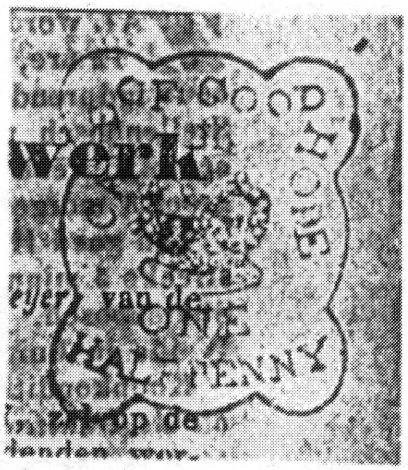


Fig. 4 Second Issue 1844 ½d.



Fig. 5 Second Issue 1844 1d.

Catalogue Prices	Sherwood 1980	Price 1996
1827 First Issue (with motif)		
½d. red. Handstamped on piece	£20	£26
1d. red. Handstamped on piece Die I	£20	£26
1d. red. Handstamped on piece Die II	£21	£30
6d. red. Handstamped on calendars	£30	–
3/- red. Handstamped on almanacs	£30	–
1844 Second Issue (without motif)		
½d. red. Handstamped on piece	£22,50	£28
1d. red. Handstamped on piece	£21	£26

The Newspaper Tax Stamps: Second Issue 1844

NEW dies of the ½d. and 1d. stamps were engraved in 1844 (Figs. 4 & 5) flower motif of the 1827 issue omitted. The 1d. value retained the frame of the earlier issues, but the ½d. stamp was given a different frame. Both stamps have yet another, and taller, crown.

Conclusion

THE Newspaper Tax stamps are to be found largely on a piece of newspaper, but also, occasionally, used as adhesives, on excised newspaper Mastheads and – rarely – on complete newspapers.

I have a complete copy of the Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette, published bound with the Supplement to the Government Gazette and Trade List, for 2 December 1847. The Gazette consists of 14 pages with a 1d. Newspaper Tax stamp on the front page, pages 2 to 9 contain Drafts or Ordinances, Government Tenders, Mail Steamer Sailings, and a variety of Notices, by Resident Magistrates, Executors, and Notices of Marriage.

Pages 2 to 9 have no stamps impressed. Page 10 is all in Cape Dutch covering Tenders, Bank Notices, Executors, Solicitors and Resident Magistrates Notices, and bears a ½d. stamp. Page 11 consists of Proclamations, Government Notices, Mail Steamer Sailings, Licences, and notices by Resident Magistrates. Pages 12, 13 and 14 include Drafts of Ordinances, Property Sales, Bank Notices, Shipping, Tenders, Announcement of Marriages, and Excecutors Notices; all without stamps.

Pages 15 to 22 cover the "Supplement to the Government Gazette and Trade List" and pages 15 to 17 detail a Government Ordinance; page 15 has an impressed ½d. stamp, 16 and 17 do not. Page 17 has Notices of Insolvency and Sequestration of Estates.

Page 17 (no stamp) concerns Notices to Creditors/Debtors, and Public Sales. Page 19 contains a Trade List, and Notices for Executors and Election of Ward Masters, and has an impressed ½d. stamp. Pages 20 to 22 have a Proclamation and Notice, in Cape Dutch, and a Notice "Slave Absconded" and one regarding Creditors, but no ½d. Stamp.

If one looks at the list of Exemptions from Duties, and at the list of items on Pages 1 to 20, the stamping of certain pages with ½d. stamps seems to be at odds with the quoted exemptions.

Ordinance N°26 of 1826, The Newspaper Tax, was repealed on 6 July 1848, after being in force for 21 years.

Other recent prices are: 1d. red on masthead of *Cape Argus* 1846 £45; and prices for a complete newspaper with stamp, ranging from £78 to £113, the latter when with Trade Supplement.

The Newspaper Tax Stamp was never authorised for postal use, and I have never seen an example postally used.

References

British Library Records
Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette Vol. XXI, 27 October, 1826 N°1085 Stamp Duty on Printed Newspapers. (repeated 3 November, 1826; N°1086) Ref N° OGC70

Other References

Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony, and Transvaal by Leonard J Dodd, Pretoria, 1958 and 1967 (latter with prices)
"Cape of Good Hope, The Newspaper Tax Stamps" *The Philatelist*, Vol. 26 No.2, November 1959, pp 52 and 53.
Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of South Africa by Eric Sherwood, Sale, Cheshire, England 1980 (with prices)

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■ **GERHARD KAMFFER** *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging*

Die etikette en handstempels van die 'Customs Duty' seëls 1908 – 1913

IN 'n belangrike artikel deur SJ Hagger in *The SA Philatelist* Mei/Junie 1991, p66 getiteld "The customs duty handstamps and overprints of the Union" is 'n opsomming gegee van die douane seëls van die Unie van Suid-Afrika. Die doel van hierdie artikel is om aanvullend daartoe te wees, veral oor die periode net voor en net ná Uniewording.

'n Ontleding van Transvaalse seëls wat oorgedruk is Customs Duty word ook gegee deur Alan Drysdall in sy *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph Stamps* wat onlangs verskyn het. In die *Transvaal Philatelist* van Februarie 1994 gee Carel Breedt in 'n artikel getiteld "Customs Duty Labels" 'n opsomming van die Transvaal Customs Duty etikette.

Hierdie artikel sal 'n opsomming probeer gee van die handstempels en etikette wat in die verskillende provinsies gebruik is. Daar word veral gekonsentreer op die handstempels voor die "Group 1 Handstamped in violet in two lines, thin letters 2, 25 mm tall" wat deur Hagger uitgewys is.

Die vier kolonies, naamlik die Kaap, Oranje Rivier Kolonie, Natal en Transvaal het in 1905 'n douane unie gevorm, en daarna is douane belasting gehef op alle advertensiemateriaal, katalogusse en pryslyste wat van buite die doune-unie gepos is. 'n Tarief is vasgestel, wat betaalbaar was in die vorm van seëls
aangebring links onder in die hoek van 'n koevert. Gedrukte materiaal wat minder as 8 ons weeg was vrygestel van die heffing, behalwe as dit gedruk is namens 'n Suid-Afrikaanse firma. In so 'n geval was die minimum tarief:

Tot en met 8 ons 1d
Van 8 ons – 16 ons 2d
Vir elke addisionele 8 ons 1d

Later was hierdie seëls beskikbaar by die kantoor van die Hoë Kommissaris in London en ook in New York.

Etikette

In die periode 1908 tot ongeveer 1911 is "Customs Duty" etikette gebruik om op posstukke aan te bring waarop douane seëls aangebring is. Voordat die stelsel van vooruitbetaling van douane belasting ingestel is, moes die ontvanger van die pakket douane daarop betaal. In die geval van die Transvaal is groen etikette oorgedruk met "CUSTOMS DUTY TRANSVAAL" in twee reëls gebruik. Hierdie gegomde etikette is ingedeel in drie vakkies in die grootte van 'n seël uit daardie periode. 'n Soortgelyke etiket het vir Natal bestaan.

Dieselfde tipe etiket behoort vir die Orange River Colony te bestaan maar is nog nie gerapporteer nie. Dit is onwaarskynlik dat dieselfde tipe etiket vir die Kaap bestaan, omdat die eerste Kaapse seëls wat met "Customs

DIE skrywer dra dikwels by tot *The SA Philatelist* oor onderwerpe wat nie die aandag kry wat dit verdien nie. Die vorige maal het hy in die uitgawe van Februarie 1994, p 11 geskryf oor " 'Native Refugee Camps' in the Transvaal during the Boer War", en sy "Oordrukke op Suid-Afrika se 1d Skip" (April 1993, p 38) is tydens e'Thekwini later daardie jaar met 'n Kongrestoekenning vereer.

Gerhard Kamffer is 'n boer in Balfour se wêreld, en het in 1987 by Paarl 300 die Staatspresidentstrofee verower met sy tentoonstelling van "Die Inkomsteseëls van die Unie van Suid-Afrika".

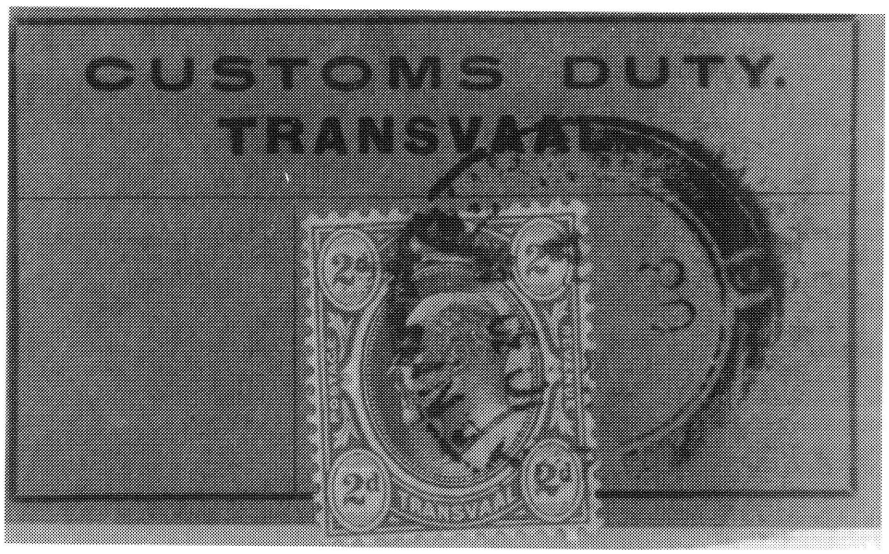


Fig 1: Voorbeeld van 'n Transvaal Customs Duty etiket (Tipe 1) gebruik met 'n 2d Transvaal seël gerojeer met 'n Johannesburg stempel gedateer 1908.



Fig 2: Transvaal etiket (Tipe 2) gebruik met Transvaal 1d en 2d seëls gerojeer met Johannesburg driering stempel gedateer 28 Oktober 1909. Let op die dun lettertipe van die woord Customs Duty.

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TABEL 1

Tipe	Mates van Etiket	Mates van Customs Duty	Mates: Transvaal	Datums gebruik bekend	Opmerkings
1	67,5 x 40,5mm	Lengte: 49,9mm Hoogte: 2,1mm	Lengte: 27mm Hoogte: 2,5mm	1908	Sien Fig. 1
2	66,5 x 38,5mm	Lengte: 49,5mm Hoogte: 2,5mm	Lengte: 23mm Hoogte: 2mm	28 OKT 1909- 17 MRT 1910	Sien Fig. 2
3	68 x 43 mm	Lengte: 49,9mm Hoogte: 2,5mm	Lengte: 27,5mm Hoogte: 2,5mm	14 OKT 1909- 14 APR 1910	Sien Fig. 3
4	67 x 37 mm	Lengte: 51,5mm Hoogte: 2,5mm	Lengte: 22,6mm Hoogte: 2 mm	30 MEI 1911	Sien Fig. 4 Komma na "DUTY"

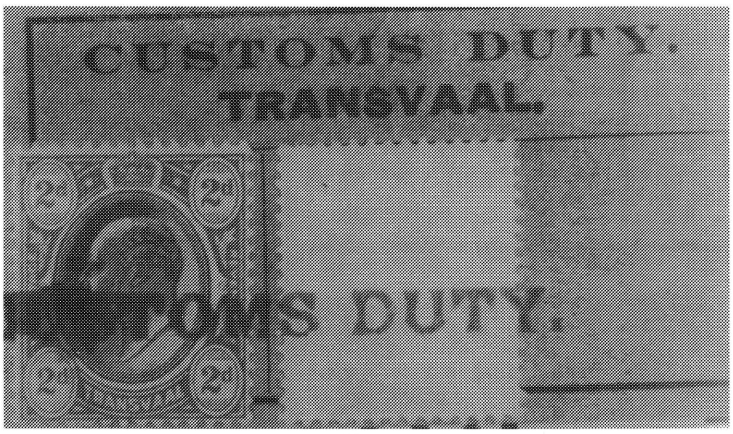


Fig 3: Transvaal etiket (Tipe 3) gebruik met 'n handstempel om die seëls te kanselleer. Die woord Customs Duty kom in vet lettertipes voor.

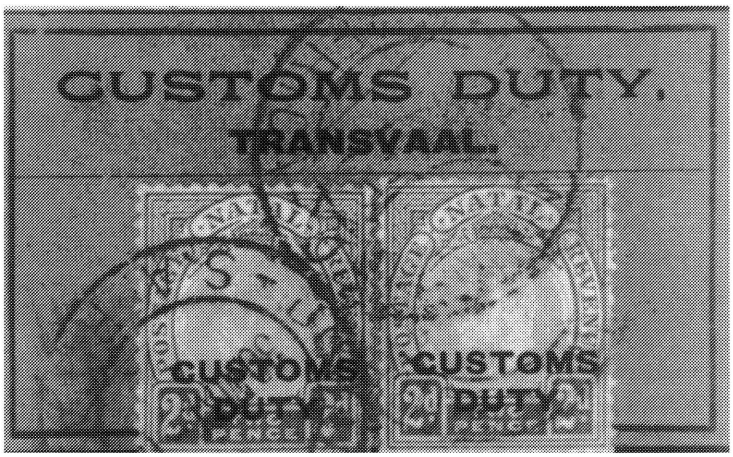


Fig 4: Transvaal etiket (Tipe 4) met 2 x 2d Natal seëls gebruik in die interprovinsiale periode met 'n Johannesburg stempel gedateer 30 Mei 1911. Hierdie etiket kan maklik van die ander tipes onderskei word deurdat 'n komma na Customs Duty voorkom in teenstelling met 'n punt by die ander.



Fig 5: Natal etiket met 'n 2d seël gedeeltelik handgestempel. Tot op datum is hierdie die enigste etiket wat nog aan die lig gekom het.

Duty" oorgedruk is reeds in 1908 in gebruik geneem is. In die geval van die Transvaal, Natal en Orange River Colony is gewone posseëls van Edward VII aangebring op die etikette.

Transvaal etikette

Die verskillende tipe etikette wat in die Transvaal gebruik is kan veral uitgeken word aan die lettertipes wat vir die drukwerk van "CUSTOMS DUTY" en "TRANSVAAL" gebruik is. Al die Transvaal etikette kom in verskillende skakerings van groen voor.

Natal etiket

Nog net een voorbeeld van 'n Natal etiket is waargeneem. (Sien Fig. 5) Die kleur is donkerrooi met die bewoording "CUSTOMS DUTY" en "NATAL" in twee reëls. Die plakker is ook soos die Transvaalse etikette verdeel in drie vakkies waarop seëls geplak kon word. Die grootte van die etiket is 47,5 mm x 68 mm. Soos uit die illustrasie afgelei kan word is velle seëls vooraf met 'n handstempel in twee reëls gestempel, "CUSTOMS DUTY NATAL".

Tipe handstempels gebruik

Vervolgens word die verskillende tipes handstempels wat gebruik is bespreek. Die volgende tipes, metodes en stempels is gebruik in die Transvaal Natal en Orange River Colony voordat oorgedrukte seëls in gebruik geneem is:

a. Manuskrip met die hand geskryf "Customs Duty"
b. Handstempels van verskillende grootte dwarsoor die seëls
c. Stempels op die seël
d. Johannesburg driering stempel

Manuskrip

Voorbeelde waar "Customs" of "Customs Duty" met die hand geskryf is (Sien Fig 6 en 7) is waarskynlik gedoen waar daar geen handstempel beskikbaar was om die seël te rojeer nie. Voorbeelde is nog net op Transvaal seëls waargeneem.

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Handstempels dwarsoor seëls

Die gebruik van rubber handstempels wat groter as die normale see"l is, het voorgekom in Natal, Orange River Colony en die Transvaal.

NATAL

In die geval van Natal is een tipe al waargeneem (Sien Fig 8). Hierdie stempel het die woorde "CUSTOMS DUTY" in die boonste reël en "NATAL" in die onderste reël. Die grootte van die letters is as volg: Customs Duty: Hoogte: 4 mm, Natal: Hoogte: 4,5 mm. Die stempel is gebruik vir velle seëls, en het min of meer twee seëls op 'n keer gestempel. Die enigste voorbeeld met 'n datum is gebruik op 27 Mei 1910. (Sien Fig 8). Hierdie stempel is nog slegs gesien in blou ink. Die volgende waardes is bekend gebruik met hierdie tipe stempel: 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

Twee tipe handstempels kom voor. Die een is die woorde CUSTOMS DUTY in twee reëls (Sien Fig 9) en die ander CUSTOMS DUTY in een reël. (Sien Fig 10). In die twee-reël stempel is die hoogte van die letters 3, 5mm en die reguit lyn 3mm. Beide hierdie stempels is nog net gesien gebruik op die 1d van die ORC.



Fig 9: Handstempel in pers ink gebruik in die ORC.

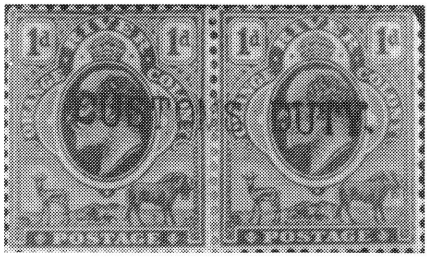


Fig 10: Handstempel in pers ink gebruik op ORC 1d seël.

TRANSVAAL

Twee tipe handstempels in blou ink is al gesien. In beide tipes kom die woord "Customs Duty" in een reël voor. In die eerste tipe (Fig 3) is die hoogte van die letters 4mm en in die tweede tipe (Fig 11) is die hoogte van



Fig 6: Twee 3d Transvaal seël met manuskrip "Customs" gebruik in Port Elizabeth gedateer 4 Junie 1912.



Fig 7: Voorbeeld van manuskrip "Customs Duty" op 'n Transvaal etiket.



Fig 8: Natal handstempel in twee reëls "Customs Duty Natal" wat gebruik is om volledige velle vooraf te stempel. Die datum van gebruik is 27 Mei 1910.

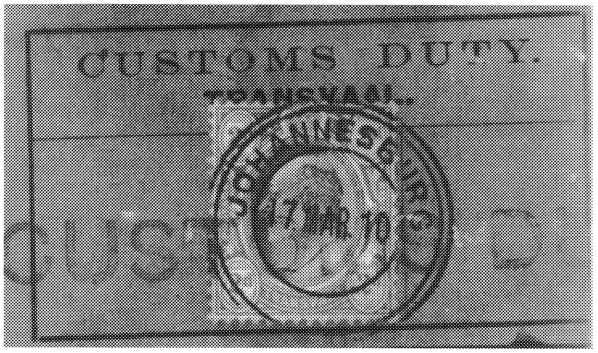


Fig 11: Handstempel CUSTOMS DUTY gebruik saam met 'n Johannesburg driering stempel gedateer 17 Maart 1910

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die letters 7mm. Geen oorgedrukte Transvaal "Customs Duty" seëls was op hierdie stadium beskikbaar nie, aangesien die eerste Transvaalse seël wat oorgedruk was, die 2d was, in Maart 1911.

Stempels op die seëls

Aangesien hierdie tipe oordruk volledig deur Hagger gedek word, word daar kortliks net volledigheidshalwe daarna verwys. Hierdie tipe is op 'n enkelseël aangebring, en die letters is 2,25 mm hoog.

Wharton-Hood het, volgens Drysdall, vasgestel dat daar moontlik 'n metaal- en 'n rubberstempel gebruik is na aanleiding van die indruk van die stempels (Sien Fig 12). Drysdall meen egter dat dit eerder 'n kwessie is van dieselfde stempel wat geslyt het, as dat twee tipes handstempels gebruik is.

Hierdie tipe stempel kom net voor op die seëls van die Transvaal, Natal en Orange River Colony, aangesien die Kaap alreeds vanaf 1908 oorgedrukte seëls in gebruik gehad het.

Driering stempel

Hierdie Johannesburg drieringstempel (Sien Fig 11) is heel waarskynlik in die douane afdeling van die Johannesburg poskantoor gebruik waar douane pos ontvang is. Datums van gebruik bekend is 14 Oktober 1909 tot 14 April 1910.

Eerste oorgedrukte Customs Duty seëls

Die verskillende kolonies, naamlik die Kaap, Natal, Transvaal en die Orange River Colony se seëls is oorgedruk deur De La Rue in Londen met die woorde: CUSTOMS DUTY. Hieronder volg 'n tabel saamgestel deur Alan Drysdall in *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph Stamps* van die verskillende oordrukke:

Uit hierdie tabel kan die volgende interessante afleidings gemaak word:

– Dat slegs die Cape of Good Hope voor Uniewording in 1910 oorgedrukte Customs Duty seëls gebruik het. Hierdie waardes was die 1d, 2d, 6d en 1s.

– Dat Natal, die Orange River Colony en Transvaal se posseëls na Uniewording vanaf Julie 1911 oorgedruk is deur De La Rue. Dit beteken dat alhoewel die verskillende voormalige kolonies se seëls oorgedruk is, hierdie in werklikheid die eerste Unie "Customs Duty" seëls is. Die rede hiervoor is waarskynlik dat groot hoeveelhede van sekere waardes nog beskikbaar was.



Fig 12: Voorbeeld van die stempel wat op die Transvaal, Natal en ORC se seëls gebruik is. Die voorbeeld regs is waarskynlik meer geslyt, daarom die smeer effek. Daar bestaan egter ook 'n moontlikheid dat dit twee stempeltipes was.



Fig 13: Voorbeeld van die "S" variasie (links). Die "S" se onderste deel is platter terwyl die "S" regs opkrul.

TABEL 2

Datum	1d	2d	3d	4d	6d	1s
Cape of Good Hope						
6- 7-1908	–	2400	–	–	1200	2340
9- 7-1908	–	660	–	–	480	60
24- 9-1908	–	6960	–	–	1200	–
24-10-1908	2880	–	–	–	–	–
27- 5-1909	2400	4800	–	–	–	–
6- 9-1909	2400	4800	–	–	–	–
18- 3-1910	7200	4800	–	–	–	–
26- 1-1911	9600	9600	–	–	–	–
23- 1-1911	14400	9600	–	–	–	–
TOTAAL	**38800**	**34020**			**7680**	**2400**
Natal						
13- 7-1911	–	24000	–	2400	–	–
Orange River Colony						
13- 7-1911	9600	–	4800	–	–	–
Transvaal						
23- 3-1911	–	9600	–	4800	–	–
11- 1-1912	12000	19200	–	–	4800	–
10- 6-1912	–	–	–	2400	–	–
11- 9-1912	–	–	6000	2880	–	–
19- 9-1912	–	–	4800	4800	–	–
6- 2-1913	–	15000	–	4800	1800	–
14- 5-1913	–	18000	–	–	–	–
16- 9-1913	4800	–	9600	7200	2400	–
TOTAAL	**16800**	**61800**	**20400**	**26880**	**9000**	

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Die "S" variasie

'n Interessante verskynsel op die seëls wat vanaf 1908 oorgedruk is deur De La Rue, is die "S" variasie wat op sekeres voorkom. Die onderste been van die "S" is plat (Sien Fig 13 seël links) in teenstelling met die meerderheid seëls waar die onderste been van die "S" opkrul na bo. Hierdie verskynsel kom ook voor op die latere oorgedrukte Koningskoppe.

Ná die ontdekking van 'n hoekblok van die 1d Koningskoppe (Sien Fig 14) kan nou bepaal word dat hierdie afwyking slegs in die eerste ry van elke vel voorgekom het. Uit die De La Rue argiewe kan afgelei word dat die plate wat gebruik is slegs 60 seëls per slag (6 x 10) kon hanteer. Dit beteken dat 6 uit elke 60 seëls (net 10 persent) met hierdie afwyking kan voorkom.

Wat baie duidelik is uit die periode 1908 – 1913 is dat die laaste woord nog nie gespreek is oor die gebruik van hierdie seëls nie. Eers as koeverte of dele van pakkette uit die periode voor Uniewording ontdek word sal meer lig gewerp kan word oor die praktiese gebruik van die plakkers en Customs Duty handstempels uit die periode. Geen sodanige volledige koeverte of pakette is na my mening egter bekend nie.

Bronnelys:

– Alle foto's geneem deur Gawie van der Walt, en alle illustrasies is in skrywer se versameling

– Drysdall Alan: *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph Stamps*, James Bendon Ltd Cyprus,1995

– Hagger SJ: "The customs duty handstamps and overprints of the Union," *SA Philatelist* May/June 1991



Fig 14: Voorbeeld van 'n hoekblok van die Koningskoppe 1d wat aantoon dat die "S" variasie in die eerste ry van die plaat voorgekom het.

■ **MARY BROMFIELD** *West Rand Philatelic Society*

Showing off your stamps

THE way a person houses his stamps shows, I think, a great deal about his personality. I have seen collections permanently stored in stock books, I knew one collector, if she bought an item at a meeting, that item would be mounted, written up and placed in her album before she went to bed that night.

Both extremes have their disadvantages – although in both cases the stamps are well protected – the first, because, unless you put slips of paper alongside the stamps in the stock book, you tend to forget what you have, and the second because, if you later get another item which "goes" with one you have previously mounted, you will have to remount the entire page, possibly having to waste the original page and use a new one.

MARY BROMFIELD is a former president of the Philatelic Federation of SA, (a two-year term for 1983/84 and 1984/85) and to boot, she was the first woman to be elected to this position.

She is currently chairman of her society, which she joined in 1967. Her collecting interests in early Great Britain gained her a Vermeil at Benoni 94.

On the other hand, I have seen collections which start out in beautiful albums, continue in tatty exercise books and end up in shoe boxes!

Your stamp collection should reflect your personality and your pride in your material as well as giving pleasure to anyone who looks at it. Also remember that when you come to sell your collection, neatly written up pages will enable any possible purchaser to see at a glance what material there is and get a better assessment of its value.

First I want to look briefly at various types of albums. There is the bound album with the country names printed at the top of the pages. These

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are almost unknown today except for the small albums produced for the very young collector, although larger ones are available. The problem is that there is never enough space for new issues, and in any case very few people today collect the whole world.

Then we have the pre-printed one country album, where every basic stamp issued by that country is shown, usually with one set to a page, sometimes with the mounting pockets already fixed over the picture ready to just slip the stamps in. Even if you are a "one-of-each" collector, this system has its limitations, the greatest, in my opinion, being that until you have completed a set, you have the unfilled spaces glaring at you every time you open the album. As it is sometimes impossible to get the missing items, it becomes a source of great irritation.

Also there is no provision made for varieties which do come along, such as a major colour variation or an interesting cover. And there is no scope whatsoever for any individuality on the pages, every collection in that type of album will look identical except for the blank spaces.

Then we come to the blank album page, which I think is what most of us use today. Here imagination can run riot – and unfortunately often does! These pages need careful mounting and it is up to the collector to decide on the amount and content of the write-up.

Choose a good quality paper with a good writing surface, if you handwrite your text. If you use a typewriter or computer try to get a page that will go into the machine. If this is not possible, you will have to type onto thin paper, which is then glued to the page. This last method is quite acceptable and is used by numerous people who prefer a thicker board than will go into a typewriter.

Finally look carefully at the style of the page. By this I mean the type of border and printed grid on the page as well as the paper colour. Avoid a border that is very ornamental as this will detract from the stamps and you are more likely to tire of it. Also taste in ornamentation comes and goes with fashion, and when you need more pages they might not be available. The same will apply to unusually coloured paper.

The grid should be feint enough not to detract from the stamps, but at the same time clear enough to aid in setting them out. If you are going to be mounting a lot of covers or large blocks of stamps it is a good idea to consider totally blank pages.

Such a page will give you more flexibility, but don't imagine that you can make use of the entire page except in rare instances. The size I use is about 250mm x 300mm, which gives a "grid" area of 180mm x 230mm, with margins of 40mm (left), 30 (right), 40 (top) and 30 (bottom). Even a plain page should be treated as if there were an invisible border where the grid would be. If it is necessary to mount a large block, this border can be exceeded without it being noticeable, provided you do not go too far out.

A general rule of thumb is that the mounting should not overlap more than about 6 – 8mm beyond the invisible borders except in very exceptional circumstances, and these should be few and far between if the pages are to maintain a harmonious appearance. Regardless of what you do, stay within the top and right hand edges of the page. Overlap should only be in the left and lower margins where it will be less intrusive.

The basic "tools" required are not expensive and it is a good idea to assemble a set just for your stamps and store it where it is not likely to be borrowed by you or anyone else for other purposes.

A minimum list would be some-



Fig. 1

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thing like this:

– Pencils – 6B (very soft), HB, and 2H (hard) – one of each

– Pen and Ink – DO NOT USE a ball point pen as the solvent used in the ink can cause problems. A good lettering pen is one with which it is easy to make a stroke of uniform width. A "Fineliner" is useful for reproducing postmarks. Avoid using fancy coloured inks.

– Erasers, pencil – do not use the eraser on the end of a pencil as this can leave marks on the paper. Use a good soft eraser.

– Compass, pencil – sooner or later you will want to reproduce postmarks, and compass ink

– Guillotine – A small Hawid guillotine is essential for cutting your stamp mounts. The guillotines sold by photographic shops are useful for trimming maps or newspaper clippings.

– Straightedge – A steel ruler can serve both as a straightedge for ruling lines as well as for measuring if it has clear graduations in both centimetres and inches. Remember a lot of imported album pages are scaled in inches so check before you begin.

– Set squares – These are useful for drawing parallel and vertical lines You should have two, a small one with a 90 angle and and one large enough to go the full length of your page.

– Tracing paper – This is useful for illustrations

– Stencils – if you use them.

Now we come to the actual layout, mounting and write-up which is a consideration too few spend enough time on. The job is made much easier if you remember one basic point – **The object is to please the eye, and at times fool it**. Page layout when mounting stamps has always stumped many people.

One is always being told that the stamps and the write-up should be "balanced" on the page and that pages should not be overcrowded – but no-one tells you what balance is. This is something that any artist knows by instinct. Look at Fig 1, which we will discuss at some length later.

But, I hear you say, I am no artist – never mind – there are a few basic rules, which if followed will achieve the same result. Often, when a layout is completed "something" is not quite right. Nothing obvious, just a feeling that the page does not look "right".

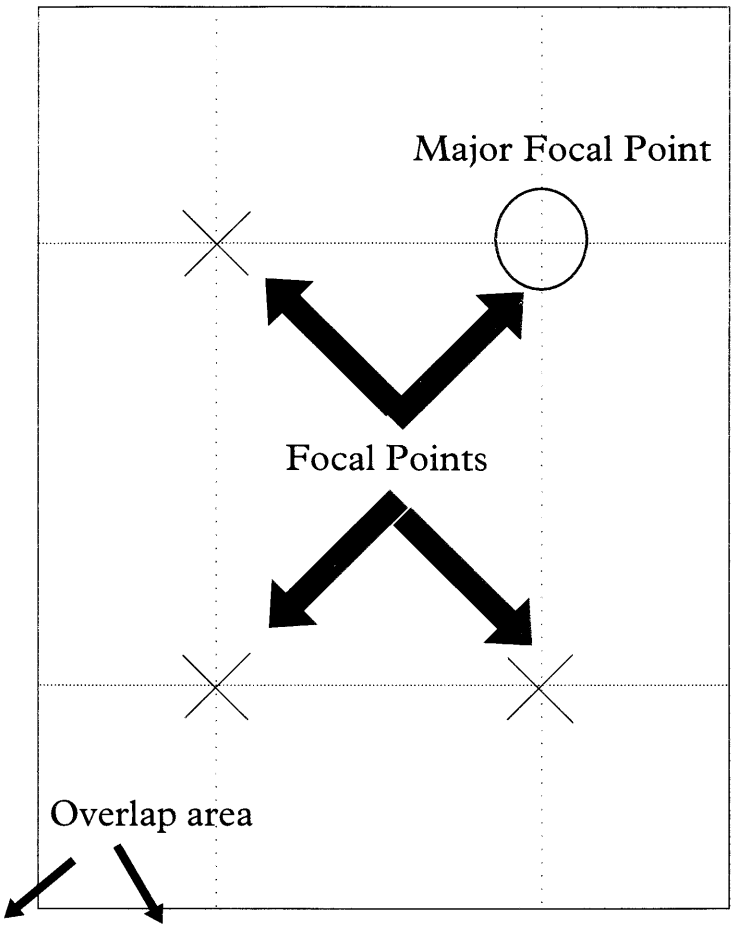


Fig. 2

The eye automatically seeks out what are called the natural focal points on a page. There are four of these. They occur at the intersection of the lines dividing the page into thirds, with the most prominent being the upper right. If you can take advantage of them, your pages will be more appealing to the viewer.

The major focal points to which the eye is drawn have been found to be the four points as shown in Fig 2, with the major point being the upper right. To obtain a good balance stamps should, if possible, be located on or near the focal points, particularly on or near the major upper right. A good example is shown in Fig 1, where the knife point has been placed on the major focal point, catching the eye immediately.

Turn the page upside down and you will notice that the hand with the handle of the knife now catches your attention first. Turn the page clockwise so that the text is now at the upper right and notice how the picture almost disappears.

Look carefully and you will see that the $^1/_3$ grid lines have been superimposed on the picture, and note where the focal points fall. Now look at Figs 3 and 4. Which page has the better appearance and balance? Try visualising where the points lie. In Fig 3 your major focal point is a short write-up and the stamps lose their impact. Now look at the focal points in Fig 4 – much better.

To make your own layout grid, take your album page and measure the mounting area which will be the area covered by the quadrille lines. Divide each measurement i.e. width and height by three, and draw the outside border and the $^1/_3$ lines onto tracing paper (or grease proof paper – NOT wax paper) with a thin koki pen. Draw the grid using the correct top and right hand margins so that when you use it you can place it level with the top and right hand side of the page and your grid will be in the correct position over the mounting area.

If you use blank pages you will need to do a little more arithmetic. Measure the width of the page and subtract 2,5 – 3 cms (± 1") to allow for the page to be inserted into the album. Then subtract 2 cm which will give you a 1 cm border on each side of

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the mounting area. Now measure the height of the page and allow ± 3,5 cm for a 2,5 cm top margin and 1 cm lower margin. These measurements will be your mounting area. Now comes the calculation, but first a brief explanation.

Look at an A4 page – it is long and narrow. If you divide the height by the width you get a ratio of 1,4:1. A better shape for mounting is a ratio of 1,3:1. So take the height of your mounting area and divide it by 1,3. This should be the width of the mounting area. Compare this to the width you measured, and see if you need to make any major adjustments to the 1 cm margins. If this makes your margins either too wide or too narrow then take the width and multiply it by 1,3 and see if you can adjust the top and bottom margins more easily.

Once you have got your mounting size, then divide into thirds and draw your grid. Once the grid and outside border have been drawn, add dotted lines ± 0,5cm outside the left and lower margins to indicate the overlap "cushion".

To use place the grid over the page and slide the stamps underneath and juggle them about. If you are mounting a long set, put one stamp on each focal point and arrange the rest around them. You do not need to have the stamps absolutely on each point, as long as they are close. With a little practice the grid actually becomes very quick and easy to handle.

Your philatelic material should dominate the page and the write-up must not overshadow it. In other words, the stamps are not pictures to illustrate the write-up. Use plenty of space, don't crowd too much material onto one page. Having said that, there are times when this cannot be avoided, but crowded pages should be minimal in the overall collection. Treat each page as a "picture" and compose it as such.

However it is not a good idea to mount each page in isolation. Whether you are mounting an exhibit or a collection the principle remains the same. If it is an exhibit, you will have decided what material you are going to show. If it is an entire collection that is being mounted, it is usually possible to break it up into sections – say, one set of definitives with all the varieties, or a particular period, maybe the use of a particular watermark, anything which gives a natural break.

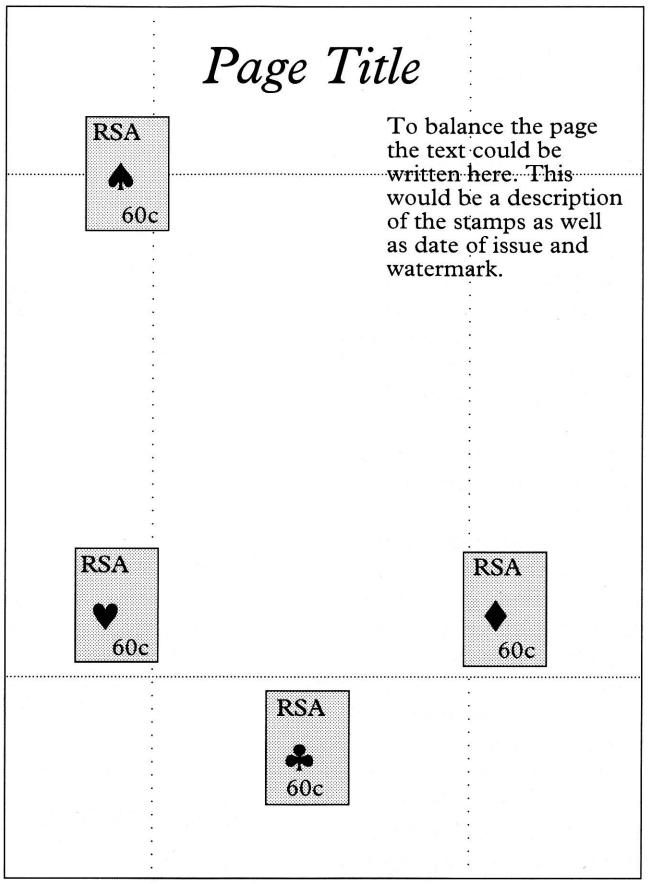


Fig. 3 **Compare this with the page where the top stamp has been placed on the major focal point.**

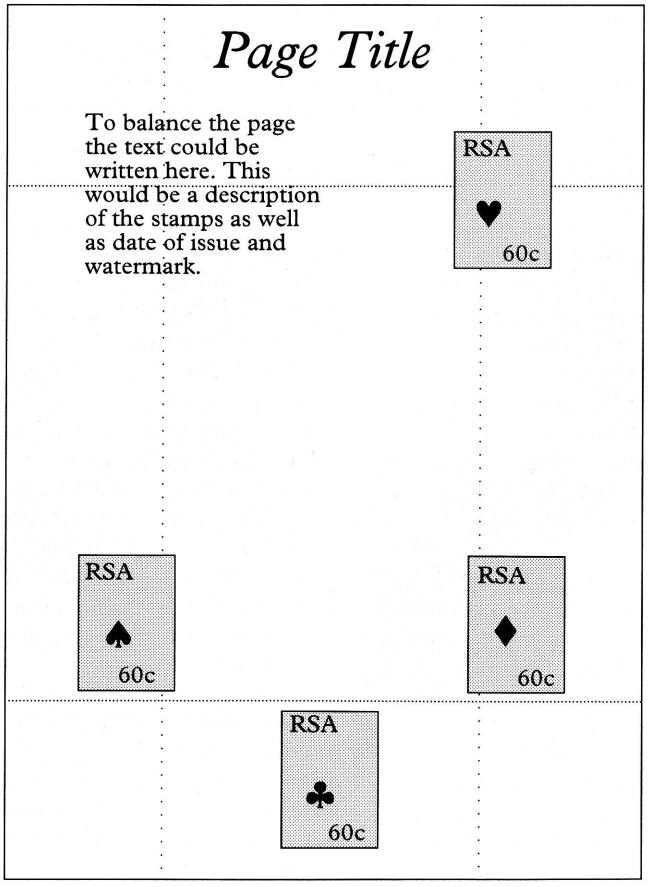


Fig. 4

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This section is then treated as a sub-collection in its own right.

In arranging your pages you need to achieve harmony between balance and symmetry. Stamps arranged equally on either side of the centre will be symmetrical but not necessarily balanced. Many people sacrifice balance for symmetry, because symmetry is a mechanical thing while balance is more subjective. It is a good idea to look at full page advertisements, especially in magazines, and try to analyze why the layout man arranged it as he did. What point caught your eye and why.

Always choose appearance and balance over sequential order if the stamps are not of uniform size or shape. High values, very often of a different size and in a different unit of currency could go in a line by themselves. Vertical and horizontal stamps should not be mixed merely to keep them in order of value.

Compare Figs 5 and 6 which show two treatments of a series of stamps with different size stamps in one set. Here you should sacrifice value order to get a better balance. The space between the stamps and between the rows should be kept uniform on each page unless the nature of the items makes this impossible. Generally the larger the stamps, the greater the distance between them should be.

In a long set, if the first and second rows of stamps are the longest, they should cross the upper optical third of the page. Always try to establish an "eyeline" row. This does not have to be exactly on the upper optical third, but should be fairly close to it. Once this is done, you will usually find that the other stamps will fall into place more easily.

Where large pieces, covers and stamps need to be accommodated, together with sketches and an extensive write-up, balance must still be maintained, but here the optical balance lines serve only as a guide. When mounting covers, where the postal markings are of more significance than the stamp, try to arrange so that the significant mark falls on or near one of the focal points.

Always try to vary the layout on your pages. This can be difficult if you have several covers to mount on subsequent pages. Here you should consider various placings of the covers so that they are not all in the same place on the page and make use of maps, if appropriate, or reproduc-

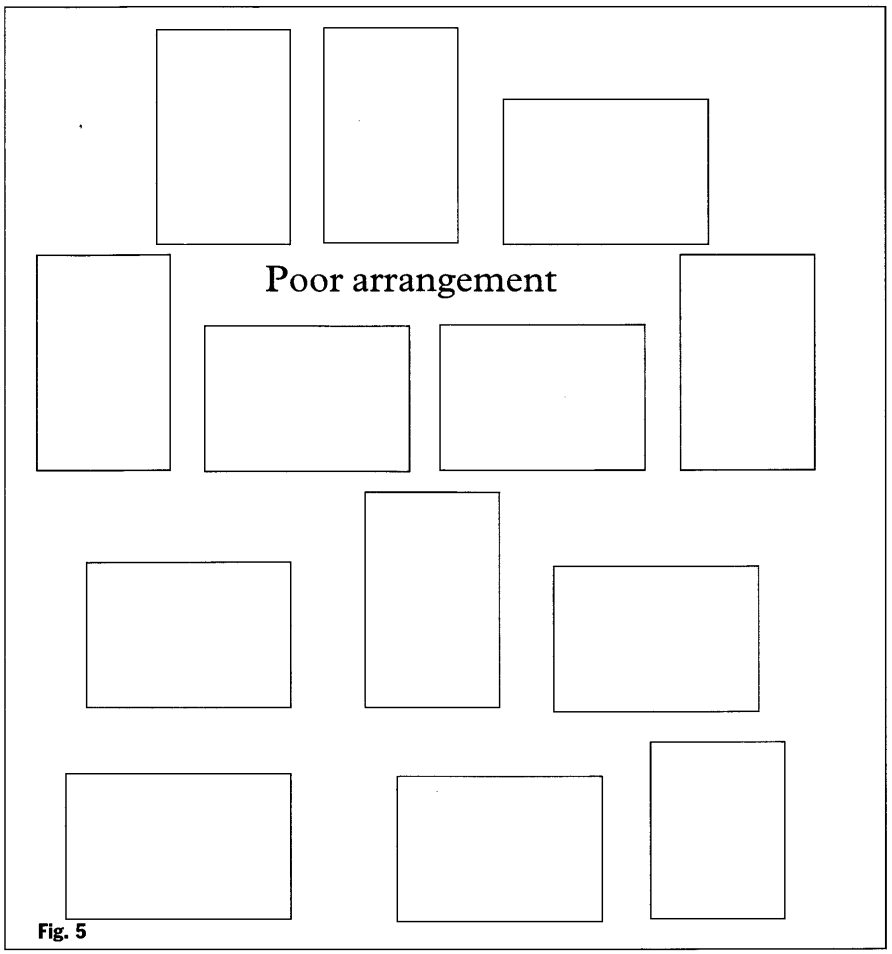


Fig. 5

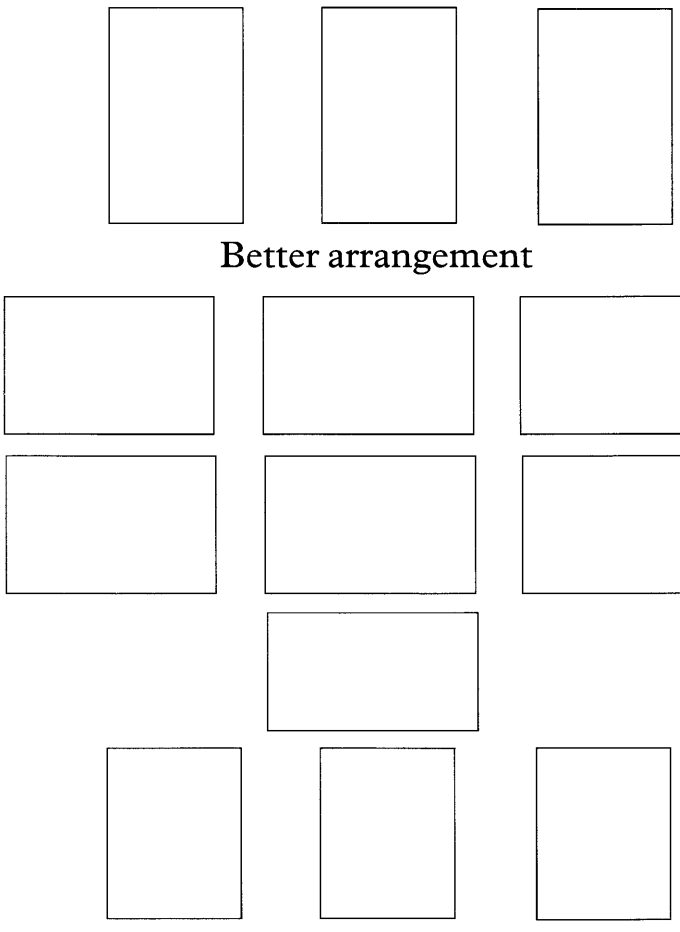


Fig. 6

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tions of postal markings. Even newspaper clippings can be used in moderation.

Once you have assembled all the material for what you are mounting, divide it approximately into pages, i.e. which sets or covers will go onto each page. I find it easiest to spread out a number of pages on the table and pile each set of stamps or covers onto the pages. Move the stamps round to get a very rough idea of layout and to check that the page will not be too overcrowded or too lean (although this can be rectified by adding maps etc).

Once you have done all the pages stand back and look at the whole picture, if it is reasonably pleasing, and remember this is just a rough plan, you are ready to start your first page.

I find it essential to do the layout and write-up on scrap paper before starting on the actual album page. If you use a thinnish paper over the layout sheet you should be able to see the lines through it to help you get your balance.

Decide what your write-up is going to be and either write it or type it as you think it will fit in the layout. Cut this out and use it to get the best position on the page. The stamps should be arranged where you think they should go, and the write-up placed in position. Now stand back and look at the page. Move the stamps and write-up around. Consider the write-up in a narrow column on one side of the page – type it up and try it.

Would a map be appropriate or a sketch of a cancellation? Remember a sketch does not have to be a work of art as long as it is neat and shows the essential features you are trying to draw attention to. In fact the simpler the better. Postal markings and outline maps are usually easy to trace. If you have the facility, photographs can also be used with the salient features highlighted. If you decide to use photocopies, they must be identified as such.

Once you are satisfied that you have got it right, draw in the position of the stamps, write-up lightly in pencil on the page and go onto the next page. It is recommended that several pages are prepared before you start the actual mounting, as you may find that you need to alter a previous page to accommodate the layout on the next page. Also, mass production technique gives better results, where you do all the typing, sketching and mounting at the same time on several album pages.

Whether you handwrite, stencil or type your text is up to you, but it must be neatly done. Normal handwriting as well as fancy script (whether produced by hand or printed) is not recommended for the write-up. The latter can be used for titles if the type of material lends itself to it, but not for the main body of text.

Freehand block lettering is quite acceptable and not difficult to learn. However many people prefer to use a stencil or typewriter. Letraset can be used and if well done can look exceptional, but it is difficult to get the small sizes of type lined up and spaced exactly, it is very time consuming and it is also very costly.

If you are using a typewriter or computer, it is advisable to type the text in rough first and, by adjusting the spacing, to get both the left and right margins even. Then use this spacing when typing directly onto your page or onto the paper you are going to strip in. This is done automatically on a computer.

Illustrations can lift an otherwise dull page if used properly. By this I mean maps, reproductions of postal markings on the stamp or cover or sketches of important varieties. With a flown cover a skeleton map with the route taken will often enable you to condense the write-up. A sketch detailing a particular variety does away with the necessity of using arrows which, in some exhibits I have seen, make the page look more like the Battle of Hastings than a stamp exhibit. In mounting postal history, it is advisable to illustrate incomplete or poor strikes.

When it comes to mounting the items we come to the question of "framing" the stamps or covers. Mint stamps are usually mounted in Hawid mounts which have a black background. Care must be taken here that the size of the frame is uniform and not too wide or it will detract from the stamp. But when we come to used stamps and covers the use of Hawids is unnecessary as far as protecting the gum on the back of the stamp is concerned – there is none – and, in my opinion, is an unnecessary cost.

However some form of framing will enhance the appearance, and several methods can be used. Covers can be mounted on thin coloured card slightly larger than the cover and the card mounted onto the page or, as I do, you can draw a fine black line around the stamp or cover. Whatever method you decide to use, it should be carried through the entire collection or exhibit.

It is not necessary to have the name of the country at the head of every page and, in fact, to do so becomes repetitive and tedious. If you should decide that you want to put the country name on each page, it should be done uniformly, that is each page must be done in the same size print or type and placed in the same position on the page.

As you get the "feel" for arrangement and write-up you will find that you can bend the rules and even at times break them altogether and still end up with a pleasing arrangement. Sometimes there will be an intractable item, but put it on the page and hope for the best. If you have tried your best to find a balanced layout without success you will just have to go ahead and accept the result.

But such pages should be only a very small proportion of the total number; if you are finding that you are getting too many pages like that, maybe you should go back to the basics and look again at your mounting techniques.

To summarise:

– Decide what you are going to mount – either as an exhibit or as a self-contained section of your collection.
– Outline the sequence in which you are going to mount the items.
– Plan your pages as recommended above.
– Select a title – whether it is an exhibit or a section of a collection, a title page with some form of introduction will always enhance it. For exhibits at National level or higher an introductory page is mandatory.
– Decide on any illustrative material such as maps or sketches and assemble them close to hand.
– Prepare the rough pages setting out the stamps, the write-up and illustrations to achieve the best possible layout.
– Pencil in the positions of all the material on the rough pages.
– Transfer the plan from the rough pages to your album pages in pencil
– When you have several pages ready, do the final write-up and mount the stamps.

Finally, enjoy your collecting!

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■ **WILHELM GRüTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society CT*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
October 1936
Post Office exhibits at the Empire Exhibition

POST Office Stones, beneath which mariners passing Table Bay before the days of white settlement were accustomed to hide their letters, will be brought up for the first time to Johannesburg for the Empire Exhibition, where they are forming part of the unique Post Office section in the Union Government pavilion.

By means of a diorama the organisers will show how these stones were actually used in the 16th century. . . Included among the Post Office stones will be several that have only lately been discovered.
(News item)

30 years ago
October 1966
Royal PS of Cape Town

JULY 14: Mr IR Goldblatt, a newcomer, staged an excellent collection of the "Cape of Good Hope". In spite of the large number of collectors who are attracted by this subject, there is always something new to be seen and to be learnt, and it was apparent that a tremendous amount of research had gone into this collection. Starting with the early voyages of exploration, we saw items of the VOC period and some very rare and beautifully conditioned covers from 1797-1818.
(Society news report)

60 years ago
November 1936
Leon de Raay passes

WE regret to have to report the death of Mr Leon de Raay in Amsterdam. It is only a few months since we gave a short summary of the proceedings which accompanied the celebration of his jubilee. He has been a voluminous writer on various philatelic subjects, but particularly on various South African stamps and postal services, so that we especially deplore the loss of his passing.

At the time of his death he was engaged on a monumental work on the stamps of the Transvaal. We trust that this will not be lost to posterity.
(News item)

30 years ago
November 1966
PERSONAL

WE are pleased to learn that Mr SJ Vermaak has been appointed a member of the Africana Museum Advisory Committee in place of the late Dr JH Harvey Pirie who held the position for a number of years. . .

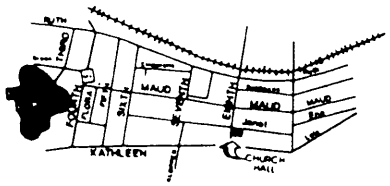
We congratulate Mr Vermaak upon his entry into a new era, and trust, through his interest and endeavours, to obtain information pertaining to philatelic material hidden among the many gems of the Africana Museum.
(News item)

South African Stamp Fairs
announce the
WEST RAND STAMP FAIR
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08:30 am/vm to/tot 16:30 pm/nm
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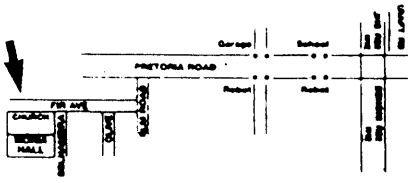
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PRIMROSE EAST/OOS,
GERMISTON
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1996 DATES/DATUMS
Every Last Saturday of the Month

*31Aug *28Sept *26Oct/Okt

*30Nov *27&28 Dec/Des



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LIGHT REFRESHMENTS/LIGTE VERVERSINGS

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

Postmark Record/Stempelverslag

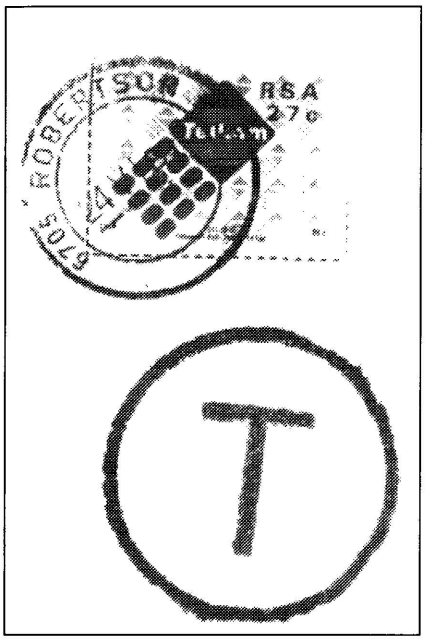
The tax marks record



IN 1992, I was very pleased to receive an item posted at my town of birth, Robertson, to my employer, the SABC. I was even more pleased because the item had an impression of the tax stamp in red that is used at Robertson and is illustrated here.

The item is dated 24 June 1992, and was taxed because the rate for standardised mail had by then increased from 27 cents to 35 cents on 1 May 1992.

The tax marks applied to mail at South African post offices continue to be of an interesting and varied nature. The illustration shows a mark applied to a letter sent from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg in April 1981. The block around T2c measures 29 to 15 mm. Are there any specialist South African tax mark collectors who can present us with an article on the subject?



Sport administrasie as tema

ONLANGSE artikels oor sport filatelie het daartoe aanleiding gegee dat

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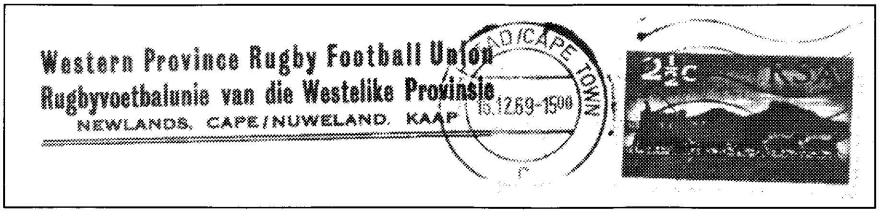
11 Dealers in attendance with varied stock of stamps, postal history and accessories. 40 frames of exhibition material will be on view

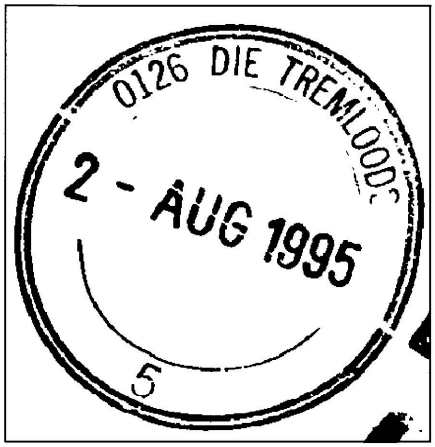
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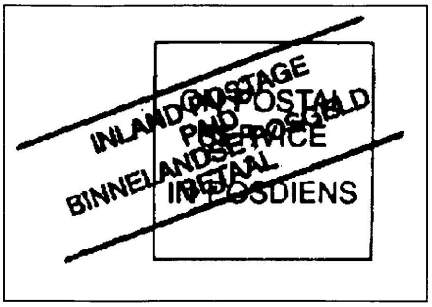


hierdie item ingesluit word. Indien daar iemand is wat na 'n tema soek, wat van die sport administrasie organisasies?

Sommige, wat nie soos die WP se rugby unie hulle naam en adres op die koevert laat druk nie, gebruik soms 'n frankeermasjien waarvan die afdruk besonderhede bevat. Kyk gerus rond. **(David Allison)**

Change to change of address cards

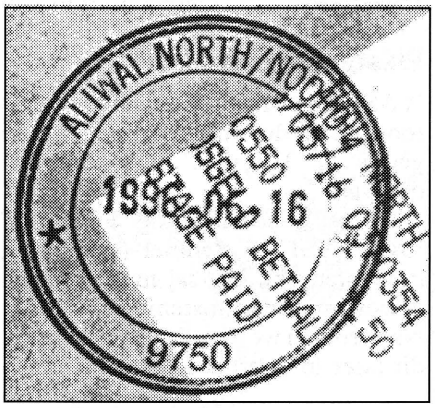
A Post Office change of address card used in July 1995 has an interesting development. The front of the card was originally printed with a block in the top right hand corner in which are the words ON POSTAL SERVICE/IN POSDIENS, in blue. On the example that is illustrated, the



block has been overprinted at an angle between two lines INLAND POSTAGE PAID/BINNELANDSE POSGELD BETAAL in black. Does any reader know what the reason can be for the overprint. **(Wilhelm Grütter)**

Tremloods se storie

NA aanleiding van David Allison en Teddy Whitlock se berig in *The SA*



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Philatelist van April 1996, p48 in verband met "Die Tremloods" – die Strijdom Plein poskantoor het op 3 Junie 1995 gesluit en op 5 Junie in die "Tramshed" winkelkompleks geopen, van watter datum dit as "Die Tremloods" bekend is. Hiermee 'n eksemplaar van die datumstempel met "5" onderaan.

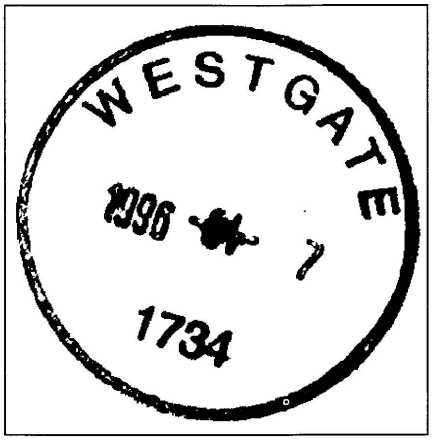
Ek noem hierdie stempels die "New Look" – onthou mense nog die "New Look" rokke wat vrouens in die laat veertigerjare gedra het, of is dit darem te vroeg?

Aliwal Noord het ook nou so een – 'n eksemplaar hierby. **(Frank van Rensburg)**

Westgate se Trodat

WAS einde Mei by Westgate poskantoor toe ek die nuwe datumstempels gewys is. Hiermee 'n eksemplaar daarvan.

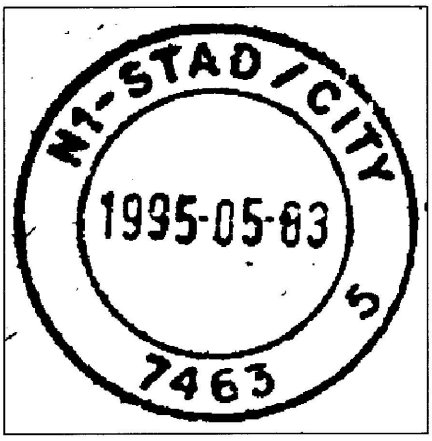
Dit is 'n self-inkende TRODAT PRINTY 4740 stempel (vervaardig in Oostenryk). Dit sal mettertyd die gewone staal datumstempels vervang. Na verneem word, sal alle poskantore dit later in gebruik neem. Dit is glo goedkoper om te vervang as die staal stempels.



Die ding lyk baie soos die stempel wat jy kry om jou adres agterop koeverte aan te bring. Filateliedienste het geruime tyd so 'n stempel wat hulle gebruik om spesiale datumstempels op EDKs aan te bring. **(Frank van Rensburg)**

Nog notas oor N1-STAD/CITY

IN die Junie 1995 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek (p75) het besonderhede verskyn van die N1-Stad/City poskantoor. Ons Redakteur het bykomende besonderhede verstrek. Nog besonderhede is intussen ontvang. Dit lui: "In aanvulling tot die Redakteur se verduideliking dat N1-Stad 'n winkelkompleks is naas die N1 snelweg uit Kaapstad na die noorde, in die stadsgebied Goodwood, verstrek ek graag die volgende bykomende inligting.



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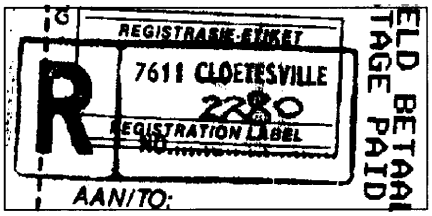
Trading hours: Mon - Sat. 9:00 - 16:30

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toor se verklaarde beleid oor rasionalisering van poskantoorfasiliteite, is drie voorstedelike poskantore, te wete Monte Vista 7461, Tygerdal 7462 en Vrijzee 7495 gesluit en 'n nuwe poskantoor, N1-Stad/City met poskode 7463, met ingang van 1 Mei 1994 in die N1-Stad winkelkompleks geopen.

"Om ongerief en onnodige koste verbonde aan adresverandering en voorafgedrukte skryfbehoeftes, byvoorbeeld briefhoofde, te vermy, behou 'n kliënt wat 'n private posbus gehuur het by een van die kantore wat gesluit is, sy vorige posadres, maar ontvang nou sy pos by die nuwe N1-Stad/City kantoor." (Van **Chris Opperman)**

In the rubriek waarin die eerste besonderhede verskyn het, was daar 'n illustrasie van die kantoor se nommer 1 handstempel. 'n Afdruk van die nommer 5 handstempel word hierby geïllustreer.



R-label rubber stamps

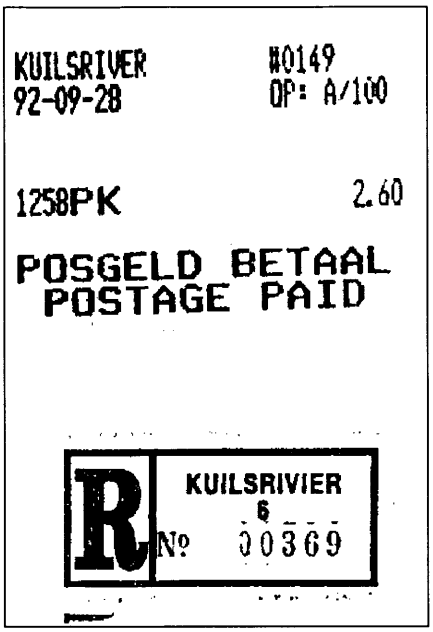
ON 13 December 1993, the Cloetesville post office with Stellenbosch as head office was using a rubber stamp instead of R-labels. An example is illustrated. **(John Hodgson)**

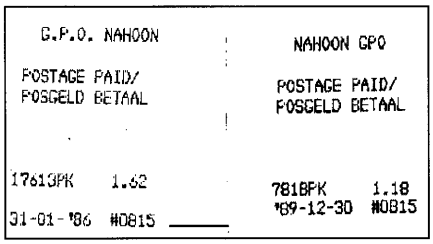
From Worcester in the beautiful Breede River Valley, has come the following information on post offices using R-label rubber stamps: Bella Vista (Ceres) – 23 August 1992; Goudiniweg/road – 20 September 1989; Hexrivier – 21 June 1990; Montagu – 29 May 1991; Robertsonnoord – 30 April 1990; Wolseley – 26 February 1990. Unfortunately there are no suitable examples for illustration. **(Dr David de Klerk)**

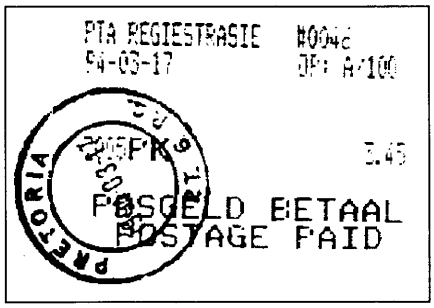
Counter register receipts

COUNTER register number #0149 at Kuilsrivier near Cape Town had the name incorrectly adjusted on 28 September 1992. The R-label shows the correct spelling. **(John Hodgson)**

At Nahoon post office, the people concerned with the adjusting of the name in the counter register seemed to like variety. On the other hand, the two receipts are dated almost four ye-





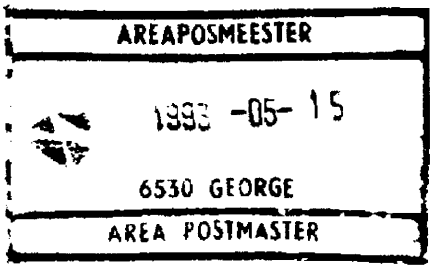


ars apart, so they could have come from different registers that had been given the same number –#0815. The date sequence differs in the examples. **(Peter Southwood)**

The PTA REGIESTRASIE (REGISTRASIE would be the correct spelling) receipt is the only one I have yet seen with this word after the name of the post office. The registration counters in the Pretoria post office are probably separate from other counters for this distinction to be added. **(G.J. Scheepers)**

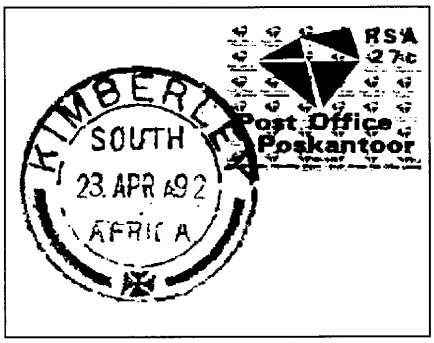
Die Poskantoor se rubberstempels

DIE rubberstempel afdruk wat hierby verskyn, is dié van die areaposmeester op George. Dit is die eerste keer dat ek 'n stempel van 'n posmeester sien



met die kwalifiserende woord AREA.

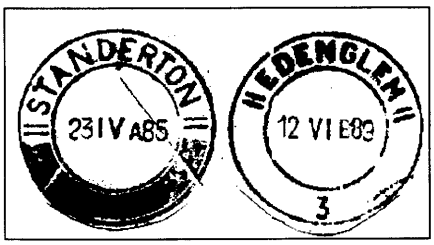
Ek wonder of daar nie iemand is wat vir ons 'n uiteensetting van dié soort range kan gee nie? Wanneer word 'n areaposmeester 'n posmeester, of is dit anders om? Wat is onder, of voor, en bokant daardie twee? Wie mag sy eie rubberstempel hê? **(Chris Opperman)**



Handstamp developments

OUR Editor sent me the item illustrated here. I did not know that there were still datestamps of this nature in existence that could be used in 1992!

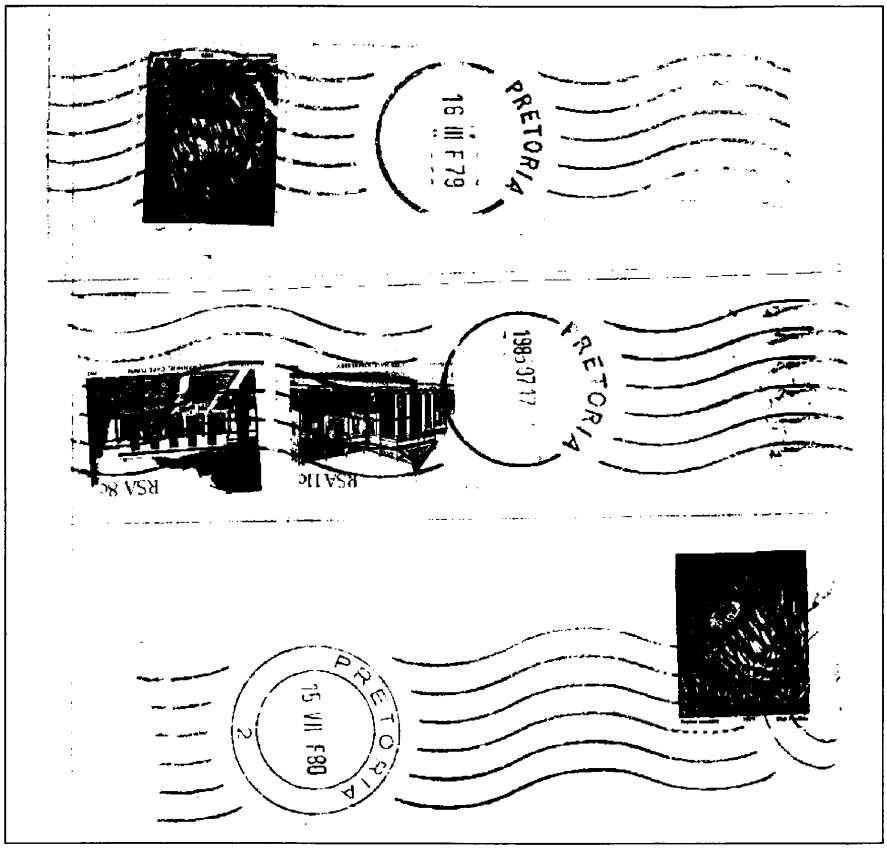
Putzel's *The Postmarks of South Africa* reflects this type as being in use (from what I saw) from as early as 1914 to the late 1930s. If the datestamp was put into use as a relief, I think some people have something to hold on to.

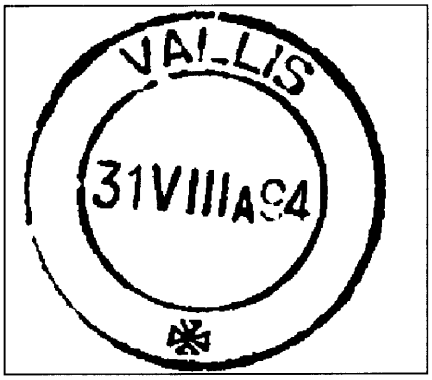


Relief datestamps

THE impressions of the 1985 Standerton and 1989 Edenglen relief cancellers were provided by **Guy Havoux**. Are there any serious collectors of these postmarks who can let us have an article?

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Vallis poskantoor gesluit

DIE SA poskantoor het in 1994 sewe voorstedelike poskantore in die Pretoria omgewing gesluit. Een daarvan was Vallis. 'n Laaste dag stempel afdruk word geïllustreer. **(Joh Groenewald RDPSA)**

Ek het met die Poskantoor in verbinding getree om 'n reëling te probeer tref waarvolgens ons gereeld van die oopmaak en die sluiting van poskantore in kennis gestel kan word, veral van die datums van sulke gebeure, want dit is mos vir ons as versamelaars belangrik.

Hand roller cancellations

THESE three Pretoria impressions have not yet been illustrated in this feature. Two of them appear to be the same, but look at the details of the dates for the differences. **(Chris Opperman)**

Pospapier is mooi

HIERDIE woord waarmee ons Redakteur tevoorskyn gekom het vir die Poskantoor se etikette en ander dinge, is vir my sommer baie mooi. Die illustrasie wys 'n afdruk van 'n kaartjie (P1/176) wat ek lank gelede in my posbus gekry het nadat ek by my posmeester gaan kla het oor pos wat ek in die posbuslokaal opgetel het.

Ook hier geïllustreer is 'n bondeletiket wat 'n bondel pos vanaf Kimberley na Auckland Park vergesel het. Die etiket is van ligblou papier met donkerblou drukwerk. Die KB driehoekige stempelafdruk is in rooi.

"V for Victory"

IN die Mei/Junie 1991 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek (p87) was daar 'n prentjie van 'n item uit die tydperk van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog met 'n groot letter V daarop aangebring. Ek het nog so 'n item ontvang waarop die V waarskynlik, weens die netheid daarvan, met 'n patroonplaat in rooi



NOTICE FOR BOX RENTERS

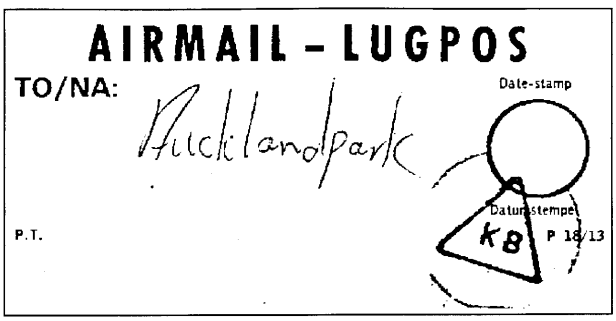
Mail matter delivered in error or accidentally addressed to a wrong box must be immediately reposted with the words "**Not for box . . .**" written on it. If a box renter or person in charge of a box key detains or delays mail matter owing to non-compliance or gross neglect in the above regard, the box may be declared forfeited and the return of the keys demanded.

KENNISGEWING AAN POSBUSHUURDERS

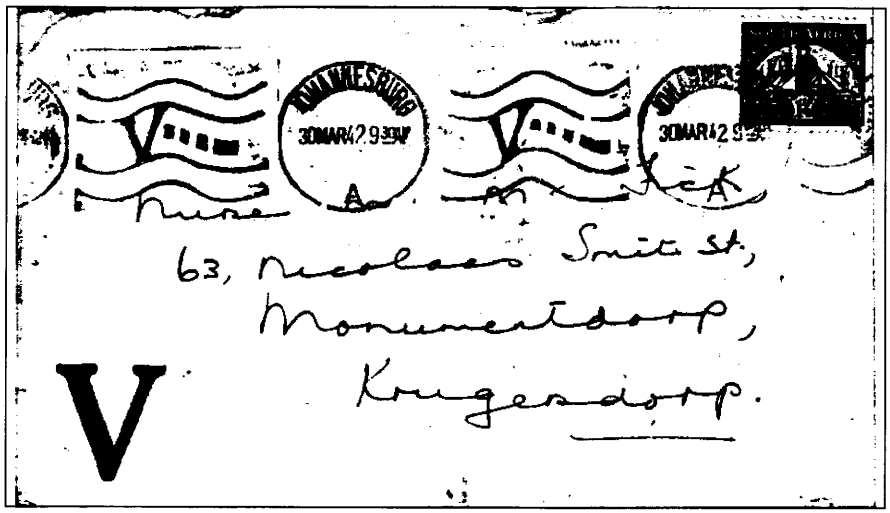
Posstukke wat verkeerd afgelewer of per abuis na 'n verkeerde posbus geadresseer is, moet onmiddellik weer gepos word met die woorde "**Nie vir bus . . . nie**" daarop geskryf. As 'n bushuurder of 'n persoon aan wie 'n bussleutel toevertrou is pos weens nie-nakoming of growwe nalatigheid in bogenoemde verband terughou of vertraag, kan die bus verbeurd verklaar en die sleutels opgeëis word.

P T

P 1/176



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ink aangebring is.

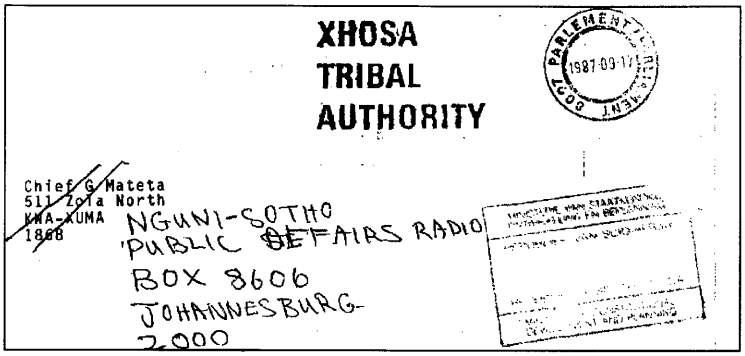
Ek kan nog onthou hoe dat ek as klein tjokker daar op Robertson in die Boland geleer het om "V for Victory" te skree. **(David Allison)**

Die illustrasie wys ook die slagspreuk wat in rojeringsmasjiene aangebring is. Dit bestaan uit die letter V gevolg deur die Morse kode vir die letter, naamlik ". . .-". Die slagspreuk is in die tydperk 1942 tot 1944 gebruik.

Amptelike pos rekord

'n KLEIN kopkrapper ontstaan as 'n mens kyk na die illustrasie hierby. Dit wys 'n gedeelte van 'n koevert met op die agterkant die ou Suid-Afrikaanse wapenskild. Dit is blykbaar in die eerste plek deur die destydse Ministerie van Staatkundige Ontwikkeling en Beplanning uit Kaapstad (Parlement) na Hoofman G. Mateta gestuur. kwaXuma poskantoor het Johannesburg as hoofkantoor.

Dit wil voorkom of die koevert daarna 'n tweede keer gebruik is. Die hoofman se adres is deurgekrap en die adres van die Nguni/Sotho radio-



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diens van die SAUK is daarop aangebring. Agterop is geskryf: "THE DEPT OF HOME AFFAIRS HAD ISSUED MORE THAN 3 000 000 I.D. DOCUMENTS AT THE MOMENT".

Nou ontstaan die vraag, waar is die XHOSA TRIBAL AUTHORITY stempel aangebring? My vermoede is dat dit by die hoofman se kantoor aangebring is omdat die kleur van die ink van daardie stempel effens verskil van die kleur van die stempel van die ministerie.



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"Natal Witness" celebration

THIS important milestone in Pietermaritzburg's and indeed Natal's and the whole country's history, was celebrated in fine style on 27 Frebuary with the release of 2 000 balloons and a parade of vintage cars, trompoppies, Zulu dancers and Maritzburgers in period costumes.

Even the only Town Crier in South Africa, Peter Southwood, Hon Treasurer of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society, put in an appearance. Unfortunately, no special canceller was activated, but the society put together a suitable "philatelic" memento of South Africa's oldest daily newspaper, and the only independent newspaper, what's more! These are available from the Society at R5 each (for club funds) – P.O. Box 256, Pietermaritzburg 3200.

The Natal Witness was vitally involved in the history of Natal. Its involvement with philatelic history did not start with the motorised express newspaper delivery in 1917 from Pietermaritzburg to Durban, but long before that its energetic and enterprising editor had instigated a mail/delivery service to and from the seaport of Durban, with the obvious initial intent of increasing readership in *The Natal Witness*. Eventually of course the arrival of the "Official" postal service to the province saw the demise of this enterprise.

Also on the philatelic side, *The Natal Witness* printed Intersapa's publicity bulletins re new stamp issues for many years.

A Cinderella sticker on the cover accompanies the franking machine cancellation, with slogan! **(Peter Southwood)**

Be addressed: Don't take an address for granted, Francis Eustace told members of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society recently. Accurate numbering of properties only happened in the late 19th century.

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News and notes/Aktualiteit

Supplement with *The SA Philatelist*

THANKS to the generosity of the Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa, it has once again been possible to publish a supplement based on specialised research in an area of South African philately.

With this issue of the magazine (Vol 72, No 5) comes *The Branch Post Offices of Natal*, by John Dickson, which significantly advances philatelic knowledge about the former colony which was last explored in detail in the work of Kantey, Hart and Leon, and also by Wright.

Stamp issuing policy set out in detail

THE SA Post Office recently issued a policy declaration about a matter of concern to all collectors and philatelists, outlining the criteria it adopts in henceforth determining stamp issues. It is published in full below.

Introduction

THE South African Post Office sets out to issue stamps with mirror the unique and varied nature of South Africa society. This includes its rich cultural heritage, its history, its institutions, and the struggles, joys and traumas which have moulded its communal psyche.

In order for it to meet up to this commitment, the Post Office looks for, and promotes, the participation of the general public, organisations, interest groups, civic bodies and individuals in its annual search for stamp ideas and concepts. These are considered on an annual basis by the Stamp Programme Advisory Group (SPAG) which, in conjunction with the Stamp Advisory Committee (SAC), advises the Post Office as to the events or themes it should celebrate upon its stamps.

The broad stamp programme is formulated two years in advance and is finalised one year before its implementation. Suggestions from the public may be forwarded to the Secretary, Stamp Programme Advisory Committee, Private Bag X16, Hatfield 0028, to reach it before 30 May of each year. Under exceptional circumstances the Post Office will consider applications up to 3 months before the proposed date of issue, but then only in cases of extreme national importance or concern.

National stamp issuing policy

Every year the South African Post Office receives many proposals and suggestions for themes it can feature upon its stamps. The range of topics available is, theoretically boundless and for practical reasons only a certain number of these can be accommodated each year within the practical bounds of our postal system. Due regard is also taken of the wishes of the Philatelic community as well as the general public. In consequence a number of consultative channels have been opened to allow for a cross-section of the South African public to make their views heard upon this subject.

In addition a number of criteria have been formulated against which potential themes are tested before they can be considered further. This includes the following:

1. Exclusions. The following subjects are specifically excluded from depiction on South African stamps and postal products:

- Living persons, with the exception of the State President, and then only upon his or her induction into office.
- Persons who have not been deceased for at least ten years.
- Anniversaries of the founding of a village, town or city, or local governing body.

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- The death of any individual.
- Anniversaries or events connected with religious organisations, political parties, commercial enterprises, brand name products, or subjects appertaining to sectarian interest groups.
- Subjects likely to cause public divisiveness.
- Events of a non-periodic nature with the exception of events of major national or philatelic interest.
- Subjects which reflect an ideological standpoint or which are propagandist in nature.

Exceptions to the above may be made upon, say, the visit of a foreign head of state, of the fact that South African citizens may have achieved international recognition for efforts in their own chosen fields of endeavour. Topics of a non-South African nature may be considered only in exceptional circumstances and then only when they are shown to have some connections to local structures, such as the UNO or the UPU.

2. Anniversaries. Most countries will only consider anniversaries in units of 50 years or multiples thereof. South Africa proposes to abide by this principle but, in deference to the relatively young character of its civil society, may, under special circumstances, consider 10th and 25th anniversaries as well.

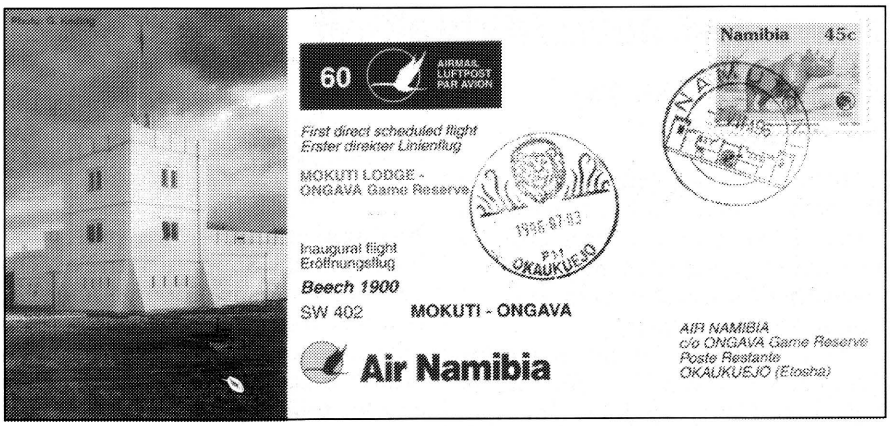
3. South African stamps should, ideally, portray the following:

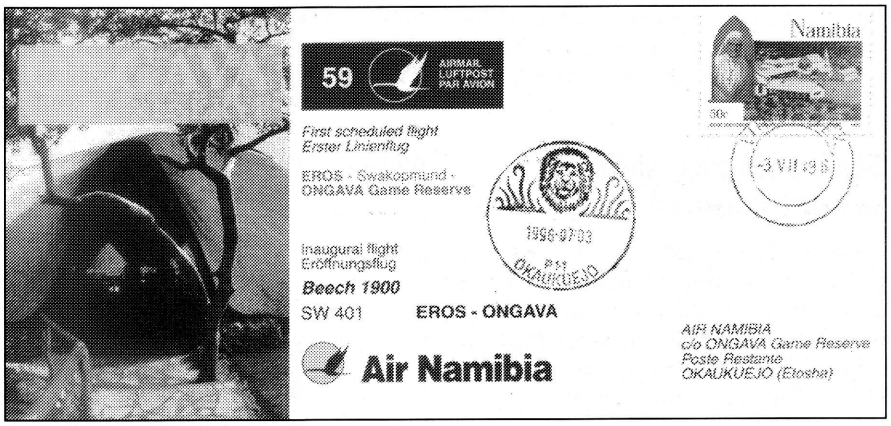
- subjects related directly to South Africa.
- events of outstanding national and international interest or significance.
- the material culture and achievements of the South African people.
- the country's contribution to international affairs.
- the contribution of our people to the scientific, cultural and economic development of a broader world society.
- the varied aspects of local life and values.
- the flora and fauna of the country.
- the economic activities of its people.
- any other topic which reflects positively upon our values, culture, aspirations and achievements.

In addition, however, the chosen topics should also abide by the following broad guidelines:

- the chosen subject should be capable of being portrayed satisfactorily in a much reduced format.
- it should fit in with the broad philatelic objectives of the SA Post Office.
- there should be a variety of subjects within the same calendar year.
- the stamp issuing programme for any one year should provide a balanced picture in the context of previous years.

Editor's note: The Federation is represented on the Stamp Programme Advisory Group and the Stamp Advisory Committee by the chairman of its Management Committe, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, who also chairs the Federation's New Issues Liaison Sub-committee.





Two new first flight cards issued

EARLY in July 1996 Air Namibia introduced a revised "Fun Route" for tourists, which was commemorated on 3 July 1996 by Flight Cards Nos 59 and 60. Ongava now replaces Mount Etjo as an Air Namibia destination.

They commemorate the first scheduled flights from Windhoek /Eros to the Ongava Game Reserve (arrival cancel Okakuejo) and from Mokuti (Namutoni cancel) to Ongava (Okakuejo cancel).

These are the first issues with souvenir Etosha postal cancels.

There are now two scheduled flights per week, undertaken in a Beechcraft 1900 from Eros Airport via Swakopmund to Ongava Game Reserve, and onwards to Mokuti Lodge.

The set of two cards (only 470 issued) is available from Commemorative Covers, PO Box 9298, Eros /Windhoek, at R15,00 plus R8,00 for registered postage.

News release

Life begins at forty!

ON 22 June 1996 members of the British-based Malta Study Circle held a luncheon and display in Derby to mark the beginnings of its 40th anniversary celebrations.

The circle started its life in 1956 with a membership of 51 (there are five founding members now still remaining), and peaked at 273 exactly thirty years later. It now has just under 200 members world-wide, and UK members meet four times a year.

Members have a proud record of having published 49 papers and 16 revisions relating to Malta's adhesives and postal history over the years, as well as a 400-page handbook, with a supplement in 1985.

The Malta Newsletter, which is now in its 14th volume, is published three times a year. Among the publications the circle's committee is considering over the next ten years are the expansion and updating of the handbook, and study papers featuring Malta's picture postcards.

In South Africa the Malta Study Circle is represented by HP Mervis, PO Box 39086, Bramley 2018. The treasurer and membership secretary in the UK is D Ward, 40 Kingsman Road, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex SS17 0JW.

News release

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South Atlantic society celebrates its 20th

THE publication of a 20th Anniversary Anthology, a world-wide public auction and special issues of the South Atlantic Chronicle are to mark the 20th birthday of the St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society this year.

The society is based in America, where it is affiliated to the APS, and its journal *South Atlantic Chronicle* appears quarterly.

The planned anthology will offer twenty of this quarterly's best articles (many of them revised), and a history of the society. For more details about the publication, the editor, Dr Russell V Skavaril can be contacted at East Torrence Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214.

The South Atlantic auction is scheduled for 15 November 1996, and the hundreds of lots range from common to rare.

Stamps and postal history aside, they include literature, ephemera, island curios and souvenirs and maritime artefacts. Napoleonic items, Darwiniana and Boer War material are also to be on offer.

The auction is open to non-members, and the catalogue, at $4,00, can be ordered from the sociey's president, Michael D Mueller, 3201 Wisconsin Ave NW, Apt 401, Washington DC, 20016. Aucton lot listings can also be found on the Internet at http://ourworld.compuserve.com-/homepages/ST HELENA ASCEN TDC.

Membership of the society is $25, 00, and there is no entry fee during the 1996 anniversary year. Sample copies of *South Atlantic Chronicle* are available at $5,00, and information is available from the secretary, John Havill, 205 N Murray Boulevard #221, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80916.

News release

Auction sales – local and overseas

IMMINENT is the next Stephan Welz philatelic auction, to be held on 23 October 1996. It includes two aspects of major interests: the sale of the Peter Smith Collection of 1935 Silver Jubilees, and of the Norman C Mewett Collection of Rhodesian Revenues.

In the latter is, for example, the elusive KG VI 7/6 revenue stamp of Southern Rhodesia on an entire quitrent receipt (part illustrated) and the rare £100 Cherry Red of the BSA Company in combination with examples of the £10 and £5.

The Irish auctioneers of collectibles, Whyte's of 30 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, have announced three sales of stamps and postal history. The dates are 19 October 1996, and 1 February and 17 May 1997.

HR Harmer Inc at 3 East 28th Street New York NY 10016, will have a general auction, with Canada, on 4 and 5 December 1996.

News releases



Datumstempel gedenk 50ste bestaansjaar

OP 26 Oktober 1996 word 'n gedenkdatumstempel by die Crown Mines poskantoor beskikbaar om die 50ste bestaansjaar van die SA Blindewerkersorganisasie te vier. Dit neem die vorm aan van die SABWO se gedenklogo.

Mense kan self op die dag koeverte by die poskantoor laat stempel, of selfgeaddresseerde, gefrankeerde koeverte vir die doel stuur aan die Posmeester, Crown Mines 2025.

SABWO se leuse is "Werk Verdryf ons Duisternis", en die organisasie, wat vir 'n groot deel uit blindes bestaan, spits hom toe op selfstandigheid deur onderlinge hulpverlening. Die organisasie is behulpsaam met werkverskaffing, verkryging van spesiale apparate, die voorsiening van braille dienste, en beurse aan skoliere en studente. Hulle help blindes van alle ouderdomme om sosiaal aan te pas, verskaf inligting en ondersteun lenings en koophulp.

Navrae kan gerig word aan die sekretaris, CJ Donaldson, by (011) 753-1121.

Nuusvrystelling.

Free postage is a Kiwi first

THE newsletter of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society (August 1996, Vol 11/8) reports what it believes to be a world first: 1 July 1996 was New Zealand Post's "Free Post Day". It said, "All medium-size, 40 cent letters with a hand-written address which are posted before 5 pm will be delivered free of charge in New Zealand".

The society reproduced a cutting from an unnamed newspaper, dated 3 July 1996, with the following report by David Gee:

New Zealand Post's free-post day was much bigger than expected.

Nationally, the 6,7 million items posted on Monday broke all records and 4,6 million of the total were in unstamped, hand-addressed envelopes. New Zealand Post's public relations manager, Catherine Sands, said yesterday the free post was a way of thanking customers for their support over the past year, when a record pro-

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fit of $75m was made.

Christchurch and some rural customers were expected to send about 450 000 letters on Monday and the Central Mail Room geared up to handle the number.

In fact, 650 000 letters were received and while most of them had been sorted and some delivered, the last would be delivered by today, said centre manager Theo Bunker.

A total of 300 extra hours were worked on the sorting. On a normal Monday at the beginning of a month, 250 000 items went through the centre, he said.

Von Schumann tree vroeg af by Namibia Filatelie

DAAR is pas verneem dat Gunter von Schumann RDPSA op 1 September 1996 onverwags vroeg afgetree het as bestuurder van Namibia se Filatelieburo, wat hy die afgelope paar jaar opgebou en onlangs selfstandig gemaak het.

Magret de Bruyn, 'n gekwalifiseerde ouditeur, is die nuwe bestuurder, terwyl Von Schumann se dienste vir 'n onbepaalde tydperk as konsultant behou word.

Von Schumann, wat eers oor twee jaar sou afgetree het, het in Oktober 1994 sy taak by Namibia se filateliese afdeling opgeneem. Briewe van versamelaars, agente en handelaars wêreldwyd het sedertdien getuig van sy buro se goeie diens.

Nuusvrystelling

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Brazil: M Cesar, Caixa Postal 1131, Goiânia Go, Cep 7401-970, writes to initiate exchange of complete new issues, souvenir sheets, FDCs, maximum cards of South Africa, and offers equivalent material over a wide range of countries.

Germany: *Junge Sammler* is the youth arm of German philately, which can be reached by writing to Heiko Nuss, Heinskamp 44, Hamburg D-22081. He runs a special department introducing young German collectors to other young people all over the world.

Germany: Ulrich Kiekebusch, Im Hölk 70, Bad Oldesloe 23843, collects used stamps of RSA and Namibia. He would like to exchange with collectors who are looking for German stamps - the Bundesrepublik, Berlin, the former DDR and the German Reich.

Japan: Fatima Ishimoto, 2405-36 Niida, Kochi-shi, Kochi-ken 781-01, has expressed an interest in stamp exchange, but expressed no preferences.

Japan: Jaime Montesur, Heights Olive 201, Kasuga 4-24-19, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken 305, is keen to exchange stamps.

Japan: Loida M Tobias, 1-105 Aban Koyadai, 3-10-1 Koyadai, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken 305, is a beginner who is keen to exchange anything with anyone, anywhere.

Nepal: RK Pradhan, Post Box 40, Dharan, Koshi Zone, says he is very keen to exchange all kinds of current RSA issues - stamps, post cards, prepaid envelopes and aerogrammes and FDCs - for similar material of his country.

Philippines: Dr Veronica Migo, University of the Philippines at Los Banos, College, Laguna 4031, is at the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and would like to exchange stamps.

Suid-Afrika: W Grobler, Posbus 2125, Bethlehem 9700, wil sy mooi Russiese posfris stelle - meesal fauna en flora - ruil vir posfris stelle van enige ander land.

Ukraine: Simon Milkus, Box 313, Odessa Centre, 270000, would like to exchange mint stamps from his country, the USSR and new ex-USSR countries for thematics of the RSA.

Ukraine: AM Piskun, Rue de Richelieu 56-4, Odessa-11, 270011, wishes to exchange mint stamps of his country the USSR and ex-USSR countries for mint issues of South Africa.

Op die velrand/In the margin

Catching up on 1996

IN consequence of the rather erratic flow of information from Philatelic Services to *The SA Philatelist*, some up-dating is required.

The Gerard Sekoto issue appeared on 1 June 1996, was illustrated in the June issue on p 91, and further illustrated and described in August on p 126.

On 8 June 1996 the Comrades Marathon issue appeared, illustrated on p 91 of the June issue, and described on p 127 in August.

National Youth Day also appeared on 8 June 1996, as did a Capex miniature sheet, and both were described and illustrated on p 127 in the August issue.

The Olympic issue of 5 July was described on p 127 in August, but not illustrated, which is now done here.

Some of the issues detailed below were illustrated in colour on the cover of *The SA Philatelist*, August 1996.





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Terug na die tekenbord vir die Grondwet

OP 8 Mei is 'n nuwe Grondwet vir Suid-Afrika aangekondig na 'n lang onderhandelingsproses. Om dit te vier het die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor 'n stel seëls en 'n gedenkkoevert voorberei. Aangesien die Grondwet egter nog nie gesertifiseer is nie, is die uitgif teruggehou tot tyd en wyl 'n nuwe datum deur die Regering aangekondig sou word.

Ongelukkig is die seëls weens 'n administratiewe fout na sowat 400 poskantore landwyd versprei, en was reeds sedert 7 Augustus 1996 te koop. As gevolg hiervan het die Pos-



kantoor en sy Filateliedienste hierdie seëls nou beskikbaar gestel.

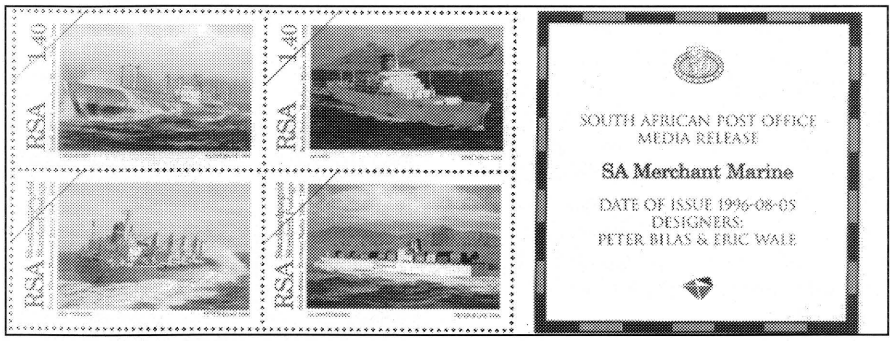
Vir filateliese doeleindes is die uitreikingsdatum vasgestel vir 1 Augustus 1996, die datum waarop die seëls deur die verspreidingafdeling verstuur is. Die Poskantoor sê hy betreur enige ongerief wat hierdeur veroorsaak is en verseker versamelaars dat daar genoeg voorraad beskikbaar is.

● Redakteur se nota: Die uitreikingsdatum van 1 Augustus 1996 is klaarblyklik fiktief, en behoort versamelaars van EDKs tot nadenke te stem. Die vroegste datum waarop 'n omslag met diè seël op gestempel is, en wat die redakteur bereik het, is 20 VIII 1996, van Pietermaritzburg af.

Die grondwet is sedertdien op 6 September 1996 deur die Grondwetlike Hof van die hand gewys, en die nuwe teikendatum vir die bekragtiging van 'n aanvaarbare grondwet is 1 Januarie 1997.

SA Merchant Marine honoured

ON 5 August 1996 the South African Post Office issued four postage stamps, a miniature sheet and two commemorative covers featuring South Africa's merchant marine fleet. The ships depicted on the stamps and miniature sheet are part of the Safamarine fleet and the issue coincides with the 50th anniversary of the company.





In memoriam

Thys Rall, RDPSA 16 September 1996

DIT is onmoontlik om hierdie groot filatelis en minlike man wat ons pas op 'n rype ouderdom van 80 ontval het anders te noem as oom Thys. Nie so lank gelede nie het hy sy gevierde versamelings laat opveil, wat sekerlik vir hom gemoedsrus besorg het, en die groot vreugde wat hy aan sy stokperdjie gehad het, by ander voortgesit het.

Oom Thys, oorspronklik van Riversdal, maar uiteindelik van Mosselbaai, was tot met sy aftrede in 1974 LV vir die kiesafdeling Mosselbaai. Ook in die Parlement het hy sy merk as filatelis gemaak: sy nooienstoespraak het hy gewy aan sy stokperdjie, die filatelie.

Die Federasie het hom in 1987 vereer deur hom tot die Ererol te benoem. Op daardie tydstip het hy een van die puikste vyf bekende versamelings van Unieseëls opgebou gehad, wat hy vryelik met ander gedeel het, en almal gewillig van raad bedien het. Hy het filatelie bevorder waar hy kon, en was in 'n stadium die beskermheer van Mosselbaai se filateliese vereniging.

Sy versameling is plaaslik en internasionaal bekroon – om maar net 'n paar toekennings te noem: Kaapstad 1961 die Grand Prix, RSA 19 (Kaapstad) 1971 internasionale Goud, Saphil 74 (Pretoria) die PMG Skild.

Van die Oos-Londense nasionale tentoonsteling af in 1959 tot by Paarl 300 in 1987 het oom Thys nie minder nie as 14 maal op nasionale en internasionale juries gedien nie. By drie geleenthede was hy die voorsitter: Oos-Londen 1968, Potchefstroom 1978, en Paarl 1987.

Oom Thys sal lank in die geheue bly voortleef. Hy laat sy vrou Toitjie en vyf kinders agter, na wie ons meegevoel uitgaan.

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The two standard rate stamps (70c) depict the Safmarine vessels *Sea Pioneer* and *SA Winterberg* from paintings by Peter Bilas. The overseas rate stamps (R1,40) feature the vessels *Langkloof* painted by Peter Bilas and the *SA Vaal* by Eric Wale respectively. The miniature sheet (R2,00) depicts Safmarine's first ship, the *Constantia,* from a painting by Bilas, specially commissioned by Safmarine.

On 21 June 1946 South Africa's premier shipping company, Safmarine, was formed under the name South African Marine Corporation, to operate the post-war USA-South African trade. After an initial year of chartering tonnage, Safmarine aquired its first vessels – three specially modified Victory class ships, from the US Maritime Commission. The first one, the *Constantia,* arrived at Cape Town in August 1947.

The next milestone occured in December 1949, when Safmarine successfully applied to join the Europe-South African Conference, up until that time comprising only European members. Expansion into refrigerated and bulk trades followed, mainly during the 1960s. Safmarine's Far East liner trade also begin around this time. The company ventured briefly into passenger shipping in the late 1960s and in the 1980s.

Of particular interest to collectors are the six different first day covers which have been specially designed for Safmarine as a corporate gift. The first day covers will be posted at sea, on board the Safmarine ships, by the Master who will personally sign each one. They will then be cancelled on arrival at their final destination of either Hamburg, London, Japan, Hong Kong, New York or Rio, before being returned to South Africa for distribution or sale.

Safmarine also "mailed" 60 messages in bottles along the various sealanes traversed by its ships. A lightweight, wooden casket was specially designed to house the bottles, and sealed to protect the message.

Anyone finding a casket will be asked to notify Safmarine. A reward is offered for the return of the message, and Safmarine has further undertaken to donate – for each message returned – R5 000 to the Missions to Seamen Organisation.

Safmarine can be contacted at 22 Riebeek Street, Box 27, Cape Town, 8000.



Nasionale Vrouedag gedenk

VEERTIG jaar gelede, op 9 Augustus 1956, het duisende vroue na die Uniegebou in Pretoria marsjeer in opstand teen die paswette. In 1995 is Nasionale Vrouedag vir die eerste keer gevier om nie net eer te betoon aan dié vroue nie, maar ook om dank te betuig aan alle vroue wat geveg het vir 'n demokratiese, nie-seksistiese, nie-rassige gemeenskap, en aan diegene wat bydra tot die opheffing van die gemeenskap.

Meer as 12 000 vroue het in 1995 by die Uniegebou bymekaargekom.

Die Vrouedagseël met 'n waarde van 70c, word geïllustreer met 'n skildery van 'n tradisionele Xhosa vrou deur die kunstenaar George Pemba. Dié waterverfskildery op papier dateer uit 1946, en is deel van 'n private versameling in Kaapstad.

George Milwa Mnyaluza Pemba is in 1912 in Korsten, Port Elizabeth gebore. Sy kunstalent het reeds na vore gekom toe hy nog in die laer-



skool was, en teen die tyd dat hy 19 jaar oud was, het hy al pryse gewen vir sy tekeninge.

Pemba teken en skilder sy onderwerpe hoofsaaklik van die lewe self af soos sy talle portrette en tonele van die alledaagse lewe in die townships getuig. Sy sosio-historiese dokumentasie van Suid-Afrika sedert 1930 tot die hede, is van groot belang. In 1979 het die Universiteit van Fort Hare 'n Ere-meestersgraad aan hom toegeken.

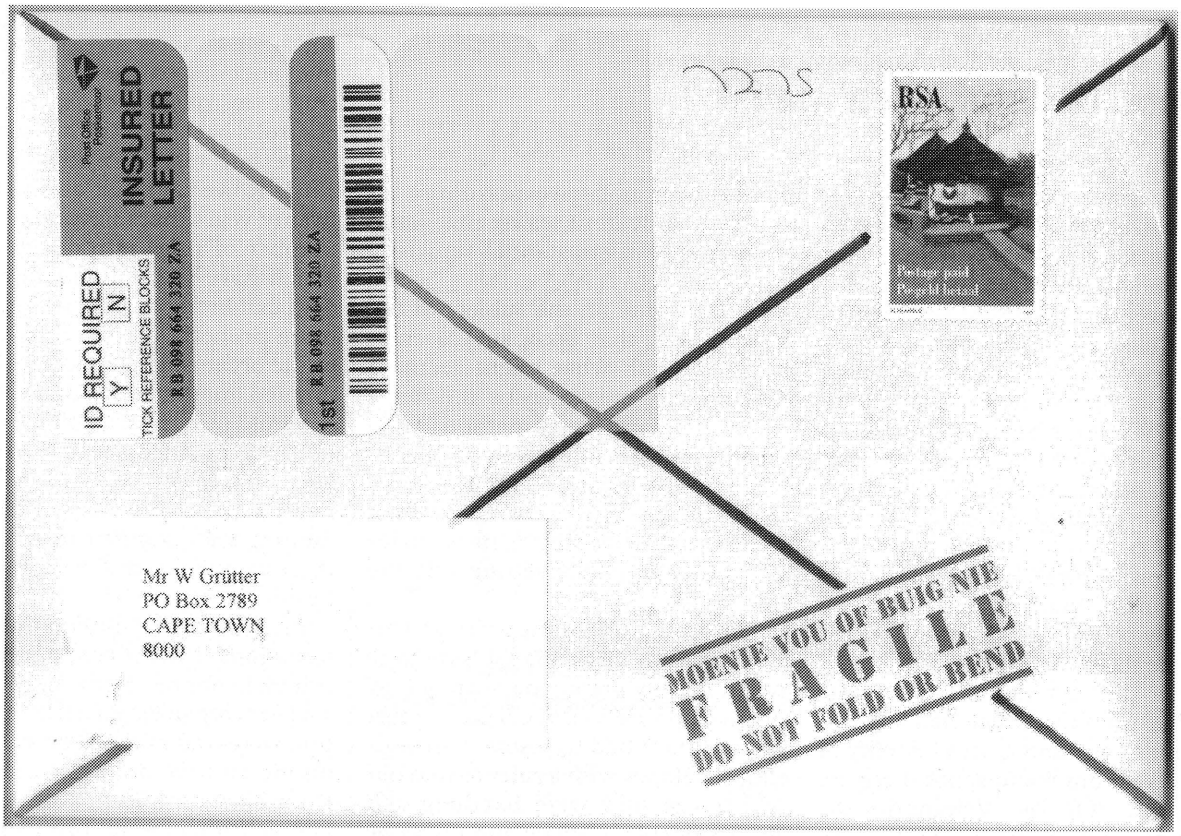
Hy is nou in sy tagtigerjare en skilder steeds ondanks toenemende verswakking. 'n Versameling van sy werke was tot 28 Julie by die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Kunsmuseum in Kaapstad uitgestal, waarna dit op 'n landwye toer geneem is.

Special Miniature sheet to celebrate Bloemfontein 150

THE South African Post Office is issuing a miniature sheet to celebrate its participation in the Bloemfontein 150 National Stamp Show, from 9 to 11 October. On 11 October, the 58th Congress of the Philatelic Federation will also be held, commemorated by a datestamp.

The miniature sheet features a painting of the Safmarine vessel *SA Oranje* in Cape Town harbour by die artist Eric Wale. This stately ship boasts a proud career spanning 27 years, unmarred by breakdown or accident. During this time she completed 187 round voyages totalling nearly

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three million nautical miles.

Due to negative economic factors the operation of the *SA Oranje* became unprofitable, and she was scrapped in October 1975.

Other special cancellers will also be available at the show. They include Bloemfontein 150 Stamp Show, JUNASS '96 and Youth Day.

Philatelic postal stationery

IN a widely circulated memorandum of 24 July 1996 to all secretaries of societies, the Federation gave details of the restructuring of Philatelic Services.

It noted under "5.' that "Orders will be sent in a special stiff carton envelope, with an imprinted stamp to denote postage".

This postal stationery reached the Editor in two forms. It was insured, as illustrated here, dated on the reverse by Philatelic Services cachet 1996 08 27, but with no obliteration on the "Postage Paid" stamp imprint. This imprint is of the same design as the Standard Postage issue miniature sheet commemorating Unesco, illustrated and mentioned in *The SA Philatelist*, December 1995, p 181.

An earlier cover, with the imprinted "Postage Paid" franking machine-cancelled at Pretoria on 2 August 1996, was also received.

SA se eerste Kersseël – en Wêreldposdag

VIR die eerste maal sedert daar posseëls in Suid-Afrika uitgereik is, kry die land op 9 Oktober 'n posgeldige Kersseël.

Die tot dusver bekende "Kersseëls" was natuurlik plakkers met Kersgroete. wat ten bate van tuberkulosebestryding verkoop is.

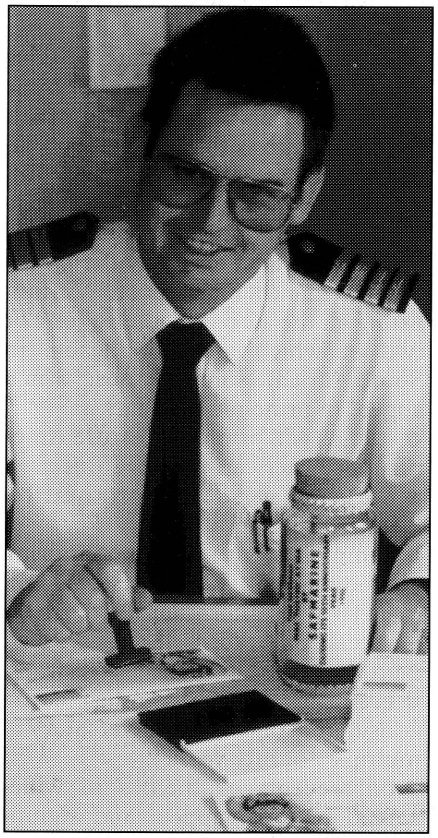
Die seël, met 'n sigwaarde van 70c vir die binnelandse standaardpostarief, toon drie kerse in die kleure van die landsvlag, en is ontwerp deur Alan Ainslie.

Hy het ook die Kerslugposbrief ontwerp (R1,00), wat terselfdertyd verskyn.

Die eerstedagtempel toon tradisionele Kersversierings, en verteenwordig die poskantoor van Bethlehem in die Vrystaat.

Ook op 9 Oktober word 'n seël uitgereik om Wêreldposdag te vier, wat die stigting van die Wêreldposunie gedenk. Dit toon 'n briewebesteller met 'n fiets, die sigwaarde is ook 70c, en die ontwerp is deur Johan van Niekerk.

Die eerstedagstempel is dié van Bloemfontein, waar vanjaar se nasionale seëluitstalling op daardie tydstip plaasvind.



Kapt Joseph Birtles, gesagvoerder van die SA Oranje, stempel die eerste een in die reeks van ses gedenkkoeverte waarna in die meegaande berig verwys word. Dit sal in 'n spesiale voublad aan versamelaars beskikbaar gestel word.

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■ Eques

Ruminations of a philatelist

THE South African Post Office and its Philatelic Services section seem to come in for so much criticism from the public these days that it was a pleasant surprise to receive a telefax from Philatelic Services asking interested persons to submit proposals for the Stamp Issuing Programme for 1997. (Would it be unduly captious to wonder why the invitation was sent by fax, and thus through Telkom, rather than the Post Office's own mail system?).

The procedure is a welcome departure from previous practice and one can only commend whoever decided to make the change.

Eques did not know at the time whether the Post Office had any criteria for determining the eligibility of subjects for our stamps, but there are now (see "Op die Velrand/In the Margin" in this issue, p 163).

It was interesting to study, in view of the Post Office request, the basic criteria used by the United States Postal Service and the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, which arrived (courtesy of *The American Philatelist*, January 1996, p66) on *Eques'* desk within 24 hours of the message from the SA Post Office.

The criteria adopted by the USPS seem to make a lot of sense. Without listing all the 12 basic criteria (one or two of which are inapplicable in South Africa), some of those which appeal in principle are that:

- stamps will primarily feature American or American-related subjects
- no living person is portrayed on US stamps
- commemorative stamps honouring individuals will not be issued less than 10 years after their death (there is an exception for a deceased President)
- events of historical significance are considered only on anniversaries in multiples of fifty years
- only events or themes of widespread national appeal and significance are considered
- no stamps are issued to honour fraternal, political, sectarian, religious or fund-raising organisations or persons whose principal achievements are associated with religious undertakings or beliefs.

One does not have to admire all that is American to realise that some criteria show a substantial similarity to ours.

To continue on the subject of the Post Office, that company recently adopted (with what might seem to the ordinary citizen to be the minimum of fanfare) a new method of calculating postage, by envelope size instead of by weight. In an effort to be user-friendly (one assumes) the Post Office issued a brochure, nicely printed and presented, setting out the new system.

Unfortunately for the ordinary citizen the description in the brochure relied heavily on arcane terminology of envelope sizes (B4, C5 etc) – most citizens have had to resort to measuring envelopes with a ruler to find out which size they were handling and the applicable postage; and it was by no means clear that the new sytem applied only to internal and not foreign mail.

The brochure included a coupon to be cut out and returned to *The Senior Manager: Letters* to obtain a kit which would simplify the use of the new system. Some considerable time and three coupons later *Eques* is still awaiting the arrival of his kit through the post – is anybody out there listening or was the whole idea simply to appear helpful without actually doing anything? Surely the Post Office can do better than this.

A copy of some recent minutes indicated that the provisions of the Exhibition Handbook prepared (over a long period) by Federation would be "mandatory"; this somewhat alarmed *Eques* – always allergic to anything savouring of applying too many rules. The matter was resolved when it became clear that (once again!) *Eques* had rushed in where angels feared to tread, but the incident spurred some thought.

In a paper presented in 1995 to the 77th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain (a summary appeared in *The American Philatelist*, March 1996, p261) that eminent philatelist Kenneth Rowe RDP, of Canada, made the point: "Philately is probably the most organised of all the collecting hobbies in the world and it is in real danger of becoming over-organised and rigid. What is the 'activity driver' that encourages the continuing increase in rules and regulations to control what should be a pleasurable, interesting and educational hobby?"

Mr Rowe said that during the last twenty years there have been a large number of rules introduced by FIP which have little, if anything, to do with exhibiting or judging and which more properly are the responsibility of the organising committee. He also pointed out that if this continued there would be a temptation for regional or continental federations to organise large exhibitions without FIP patronage, and that provided the same exhibiting and judging rules were used there would be significant advantages to this alternative.

Mr Rowe was speaking about international exhibitions, but the same principle applies at national level. If societies organising a national exhibition were told in detail how the organisation is to be done, not only would there be a stultification of new ideas and a difficulty in bringing about change, but there would in my judgement be an inevitable backlash against Federation; societies would be increasingly reluctant to organise national exhibitions and would in due course seek ways of organising exhibitions outside the mandatory organisational rules of Federation.

This is not to say that no rules are needed – clearly, as Mr Rowe remarked, we need rules for judging and exhibiting – but such rules should be kept as few as possible. There can be no doubt that the provision by Federation of a Handbook setting out how to organise a South African National exhibition will be invaluable, but it should be regarded as a guide and a collection of helpful hints. This is not to imply that organisers should neglect or ignore the handbook – indeed they would do so at their peril.

But ample scope should be left for experimentation, the trying-out of new ideas, of different ways of doing things and catering for specific local problems, for organisers to use their own initiative and, with luck, produce better exhibitions – the handbook should be there to help and enable an organising committee to avoid "reinventing the wheel".

Meanwhile one can only applaud, with large bouquets, those who spent their valuable time preparing such a work, which is now completed.

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Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Bloem 150 is under way

BY the time this appears, Bloem 150 will be in full swing. The exhibition catalogue was ready weeks before the opening on 9 October 1996 – a tribute to the ability of the organisers. It is available at R10,00 from PO Box 702, Bloemfontein 9300.

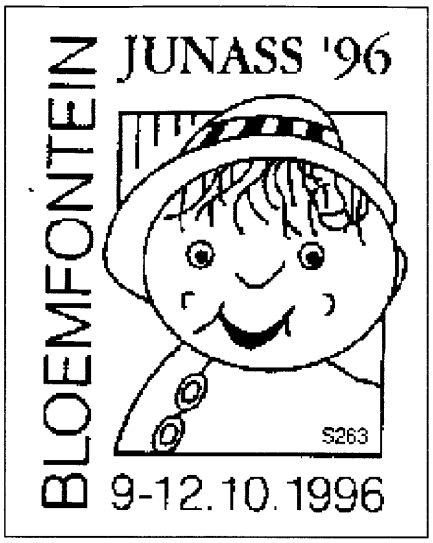
The opening of the exhibition is on 9 October 1996 at 11h00, by the Regional Manager Central Provinces of the SA Post Office, Eddie Kleynhans.

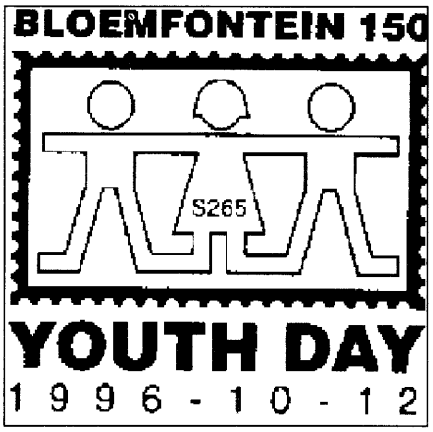
A special cover will be launched at the sundowner before the banquet to commemorate the opening of the Onze Rust post box. These 500 covers will be carried by dispatch rider from Colesberg along the mail route of 1846 to Onze Rust. It is to be date-stamped on 9 October 1996 at Colesberg, and after the opening of Onze Rust, and priced at R5,00.

At the exhibition there are 500 each of senior and junior exhibition covers, hand-cancelled with the relevant cancellers, available at R4,00 each, and blank BLOEM 150 covers at R2,00. Numbers are limited.

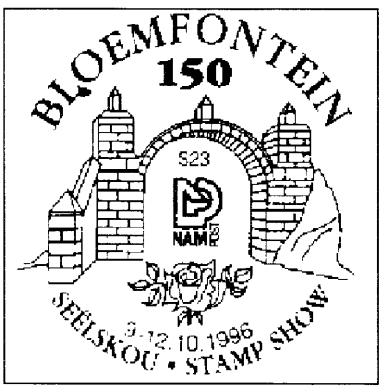
The World Post Day issue is to be released at Bloem 150, as well as a Foundation Miniature sheet, and there are furthermore the senior and junior cancellations (9-12 October), the World Post Day canceller on 9 October, and Namibia Day on 10 October. The Federation Congress commemorative canceller follows on 11 October and Youth Day on the 12th. These cancellers will be available on the specific dates only at the Post Office counter at the exhibition. (See ilustrations herewith.)

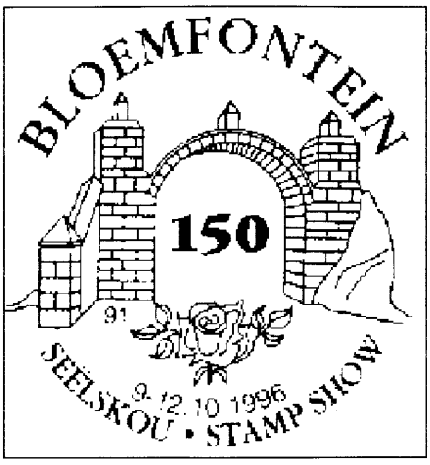
An interesting array of speakers will be in attendance, and at the banquet on the 12 October the well-known retired Judge MT Steyn will be the guest speaker. The visiting Dutch juror Leo Crandel, an international senior and junior juror, will hold a talk at Congress on philatelic matters in Europe, with the accent on Youth philately.

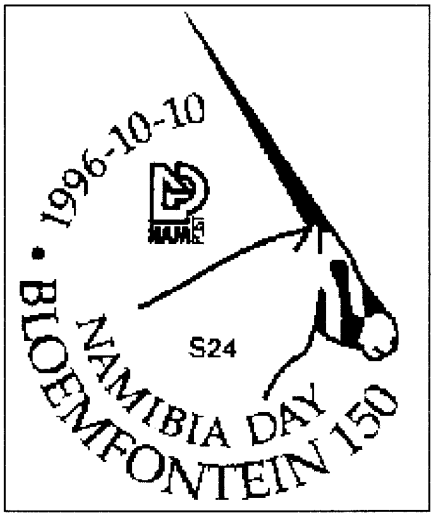












The societies which have booked times for their meetings during the Bloem 150 Show, all at the venue itself, are the Thematic Group, who wish to formulate a new movement or association. This is on Thursday, 10 October at 16h00, and the SWA Stamp Study Circle, the Postmark Society, The GB Society and the Aerophilatelic Society, all on the morning of the 13th, and lastly the Anglo Boer War Society on Sunday morning at 10h30 at the Museum of the Boer Republics.

Many special items are on sale at the information counter, including a unique "Post Runner" cast, covers, postcards, publications emanating from the Bloemfontein Museums, the OFS Society, etc.

Visitors interested in short tours through Bloemfontein or in the surrounding areas can be catered for at short notice, and a variety of tours are available. The person to contact is Johann Hatting at (051) 447-3447 during office hours.

Take note that the annual Bloemfontein Rose Festival will take place from 11 October, during the Bloem Show, and should be very popular with horticulturists. A detailed program of the Rose Festival will be available at Bloem 150.

Jan van Beukering

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Cape Stamp Show for 1997 gears up

THE organising committee of next year's national exhibition, the Cape Stamp Show 1997, has booked the large exhibition hall at the Civic Centre from 3 to 13 October 1997 to allow plenty of time for setting up, judging, attendance and dismantling.

Judging is to begin on 5 or 6 October, and the exhibition will open on the 8th, remaining open to the 11th.

As 10 October clashes with a Jewish Holiday, it is planned to have Congress on the 9th, and the Palmares dinner will be held either on the same date in the evening, or possibly the previous evening.

The organising committee envisages an exhibition of at least 600 frames, with 100 devoted to the Court of Honour. There could be up to 24 dealer stands available.

The draft prospectus, prepared by RC Knight RDPSA (also jury chairman), was accepted by the organising committee at its meeting of 30 July 1996. It was modified to include Revenues and "exhibits not catered for otherwise", but will be finalised only after Bloem 150. Frames are limited to four per exhibit, and two exhibits per exhibitor, except for exhibits which have previously been awarded Silver or higher, in which case six frames could be applied for.

It is planned to publish the prospectus in the first issue of *The SA Philatelist* in 1997. The final date for preliminary applications has provisionally been set at 31 May 1997.

The core organising committee for The Cape Town Stamp Show 1997 at present consists of Hugh Amoore (chairman), John Cheminais, David Dowie Dunn, Brian Franklin, Richard Knight, Alan MacGregor, Malcolm Murphy, David Sinclair and Jacob Zeller.

Committee minutes

FIP update

Peter van der Molen
Chairman, PFSA FIP Committee

BY October 1996, the acceptance of exhibits for Norwex '97 (16 to 21 April 1997, Commissioner W Grütter RDPSA) and Pacific '97 (29 May to 8 June, Commissioner Danny Swart RDPSA) should be known – both appear to be heavily over-subscribed so regretfully quite a few exhibitors will be disappointed.

They can then turn to Israel '98 (12 to 21 May, Commissioner David Stern FRPSL) or think of IBRA '99 to be held in Nuremberg, Germany, from 27 April toT 4 May 1999, where our National Commissioner will be John Groenewald RDPSA. We should of course not forget our own International Ilsapex '98 at Midrand.

Cedric Roché RDPSA has been accepted to serve as an apprentice juror at Pacific '97, which means that so far South Africa has had five apprentices accepted since joining FIP in 1992 – no mean feat!

At the 11th Federation of the Inter-Asian Philately Congress held on 24 May 1996 at Beijing, China, the PFSA was admitted as an Associate Member of FIAP, on the understanding that we would withdraw our membership "upon a formation of a Continental Federation in Africa", which is not too likely to happen in the near future.

FIAP appear to be a very vigorous promotor of philately, which is thriving in Asia, and we may yet learn quite a bit from them.

Being a regional Federation, FIAP also grants patronage, auspices and support per the FIP practice to regional internationals and also national exhibitions in Asia, and we may support some of the FIAP exhibitions in the future.

Please get in touch with the PFSA FIP committee chairman, PW van der Molen at (011) 914-3303 x205 for any information you may require on international aspects of philately and exhibiting.

Audio-Visual update

THE chairman of the Federation's Audio-Visual Committee, Emil Minnaar, reports that a further seven new shows on VHS have been obtained, bringing the total available in this medium to 11.

The shows are:

SWA/Namibia – A philatelic Journey (Philatelic Foundation of SA, 12 minutes)

Forgeries (A FIP production, 48 minutes)

Stamps of Iceland (45 minutes)

The Romance of Stamp Collecting (from the Philatelic Foundation in the USA, 35 minutes).

Lenny goes by Air (British PO Film Library, aimed at very youthful aerophilatelists, 9 minutes)

Picture to Post (British PO Film Library, about stamp designers, 23 minutes)

After the Arrow (British PO Film Library, a decade of British pictorial stamps, 21 minutes)

Stamp of Royalty (British PO Film Library, Royal commemoratives from 1935 – 1972, 12 minutes)

Men of Letters (British PO Film Library, the history of the British postal system, 21 minutes)

First in the World (British PO Film Library, Rowland Hill's postal reform, 14 minutes)

Post Office in the Thirties – Providing a Service (British PO Film Library, historical copy, 90 minutes)

A detailed catalogue is available from the Audio-Visual Committee, PO Box 1180, Kempton Park 1620.

Arie Bakker RDPSA vereer in Nederland

DIE bestuur van die Nederlandse Bond van Filatelisten-Verenigingen het die bond se herinneringsmedalje in goud toegeken aan Arie Bakker RDPSA vir sy vele filateliese verdienstes, luidens 'n berig in *Brepost* van Julie/Augustus 1996.

"De heer Bakker toonde zich aangenaam verrast", lui die berig, en die Filateliese Federasie wil hiermee ook sy gelukwense vir hierdie uitsonderlike verering aan oom Arie oordra.

Notes from the minutes of the Federation

THE next junior philatelic exhibition, to be known as Junass 97, is to be held at the Benoni Small Town Hall from 11 – 13 July 1997. The chairman of the jury will be Dr Ian Matheson, and the exhibition will be known as the Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair.

At the same meeting of the Federation's Management Committee held on 21 June 1996, it was reported that Michael Wigmore, a member of the Expert Committee, had undertaken to complete the project of providing a cumulative index to *The SA Philatelist*.

The General Committee of the Federation met on 16 August 1996, where it was reported the the Exhibition Organising Guidebook had been finalised. It is available, as a service and free of charge, to future exhibition organising committees, and to societies at R20,00 per copy.

On behalf of the Philatelic Foundation its chairman, Danny Swart RDP-

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SA reported that a budget and business plan for the next four years, projecting the promotion of philately at all levels, had been prepared. Any requests for funding would have to be properly motivated.

It was also reported that the current status of the State President's Trophy and the PMG Shield – the two top awards at national exhibitions – would continue unimpaired. This was approved by the current Minister of Posts.

Idees nou gevra vir seëls in 1998

DIE Filateliese Federasie se Skakelkomitee vir Nuwe Seëluitgawes nooi versamelaars, verenigings en lesers van *The SA Philatelist* om voorstelle vir Suid-Afrika se seëls vir 1998 voor te lê.

Die komitee bring voorstelle byeen, doen self navorsing of huiswerk soos nodig, en lê dan 'n goed gemotiveerde en gebalanseerde reeks voorstelle aan die Poskantoor voor.

In die afgelope jare is 50 tot 80 persent van elke jaar se nuwe seëls gebaseer op voorstelle van die Federasie. Die sameroeper van die skakelkomitee, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, sê dat die komitee nie sy voorstelle openbaar maak nie, "want ons tree nie as 'n drukgroep op nie."

Volgens hom is dit duidelik dat die Poskantoor waarde heg aan die Federasie se motiverings. In sommige gevalle in die verlede het die voorstelle gelei tot seëls wat eers jare later die lig gesien het: die Transkeise fossielseëls het eers begin verskyn agt jaar nadat die Federasie 'n grondige aanbeveling hieroor gedoen het.

Groenewald het die nuwe seëluitgawebeleid van die Poskantoor verwelkom. Die beleid gaan oor die inhoudelike of onderwerpe van seëls. Die Federasie het aanvanklik insette en voorstelle oor 'n beleid gedoen. Die finale, goedgekeurde beleid "is 'n goeie en verantwoordelike werkstuk en raamwerk, waarbinne ons sinvolle idees vir seëls kan voorlê."

Voorstelle vir 1998 meot die Skakelkomitee (sien onder) bereik *voor die einde van Oktober* vanjaar. Daarná sal die Federasie se voorstelle teen 15 November 1996 ingedien word.

Groenewald sê al die voorstelle, ook van die publiek en ander belanghebbers, sal vroeg in Desember dien voor die Poskantoor se Seëladvieskomitee (waarin die Federasie 'n verteenwoordiger het).

Hierdie komitee se aanbevelings gaan na die bestuursraad van die Poskantoor, en vandaar na die Poskantoor se direksie, wat die finale seggenskap oor die jaar se seëls het. Die 1998 program sal hopelik redelik vroeg in 1997 bekend gemaak word.

Die adres is: Skakelkomitee vir Nuwe Uitgawes, Posbus 4430, Pretoria 0001.

Onderonsies/Society news

FISH HOEK PS

THE society was saddened by the death recently of Bram Singels. He joined our society in 1956, two years after it was formed, and was twice elected president in 1967/69 and again in 1977/78.

He donated two trophies to the society, one for South African stamps and the other for the best item of postal stationery noted throughout the year.

Our society has seen many of his collections of Netherlands and Colonies, Windmills and "The Rhine", and he won several national awards for these.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

M Reynolds

EAST RAND PS

June: Jan Bakker's display of fakes and forgeries had us stunned. The general public must be unaware of the quantity of illegal material and of the accuracy obtainable in the forgery process.

In fact Jan said the first Illustrated Catalogue of Forgeries was published in 1846. Countries known to have many illegal issues are Japan, Old Switzerland, Early Transvaal, OFS and German States. The notorious Fournier forged a postmark to superimpose on a genuine stamp. This man was a dealer and judge in 1896, and not content with that, he printed his own issues!

It was Jan's evening and after tea he delighted us with "Lighter than Air" a display of envelopes and stamps depicting events from the Zeppelin to the Hot Air Balloon in Dutch Mail.

July: Jill Redmond's "King Edward VIII era" included the "poached eggs" – test strips produced by Messrs Harison for vending machines. Unfortunately the public were using these as normal stamps so they were overprinted "For testing purposes only". However the PO instructed them to be withdrawn within a short period. Besides flaws on the stamps, Jill exhibited booklets with nostalgic adverts for Bovril and Ford's Blotting Paper.

Ludwig Döhne diplayed a very comprehensive collection of material documenting "The History of Life", featuring from fossils to cycads, dinosaur dicoveries, Dr Robert Broome, and the Coelacanth. We had pages from Peter Howard's South African collection, and a series on stamps telling the story of The Creation from Nick Knoetze.

August: Dr Franco Frescura's visit drew a good audience. Removing his official Post Office hat, he showed his exhibit of Swaziland which described the development of the postal system alongside the political history of the growing country.

Commencing with postal items collected in his school and college days he enriched and expanded his presentation by including the Georgian issues with a variety of overprints and postal stationery.

September: Quite a lively discussion took place with the completion (democratically!) of the questionnaire sent to all societies regarding future stamp issues by the post office. There was criticism of the large size stamp format and of the large FDCs for some issues. Collectors find them difficult to accommodate in their albums. The authenticity of First Day Covers was another point of controversy.

With the brain-searching exercise behind us, we watched three British videos brought along by John Bleazard.

M K Lowe

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

June 1996: Winter takes its toll. Four members and one guest attended, and we looked at postmarks applied at post offices starting with the letters "On" up to and including "Oz". Dr I Yudaken, Mrs S Grobler and Dr HU Bantz had brought material along.

Several rare postmarks were studied, inter alia: Outjo negative seal used for cancelling stamps; Outjo (Putzel No. B3oc) in black ink, dated 6 May 1916 (the use of black ink is known from this day only); rubber stamps from Otue, Otivero and Otjosazu; cancellations from the now defunct post offices of Onjaanja, Ontananga, Oyoyu and Otjiwa. Putzel states for Otjiwa "Head Office unknown".

Our guest, Mrs Sutton from Pinetown, confirmed that this game farm lies close to Otjiwarongo which was also the head office for the agency.

July: Eight members – four from Pretoria and four from Johannesburg attended this meeting which paid tribute to Dick Findlay who died on 28 March 1996 at the age of 70. Mr K Kornacker showed Dick Findlay's "roughs", which are water colours for the 1979 Water Birds issue (SACC No' 339–342). These were executed in 1978 and showed the country's name not as SWA but as Namibia.

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Election for a representative parliament took place during 1978 and it was anticipated at this stage that SWA's name would change to Namibia.

Mrs M Viljoen followed with her Silver Medal collection of the 2nd Decimal Definitive issue (Succulents: SACC No's 250 – 265). This comprehensive collection is neatly written-up and annotated.

Dr HU Bantz displayed full sets, plate blocks and strips, complete sheets, and FDCs and the brochures produced by Philatelic Services for the various special stamps designed by Dick Findlay.

HU Bantz

AFRIKAANSE FV PRETORIA

Junie: Ons maandvergadering het 'n nuutjie opgelewer, toe lede vir die eerste keer rondom 'n "groot" tafel gesels het, en daardeur 'n jarelange tradisie van 'n formele byeenkoms verbreek het. 'n Geselliger atmosfeer is hierdeur geskep en dit was of lede met groter vrymoedigheid aan besprekings deelgeneem het.

Dit was kompetisie-aand en ons beoordelaars was John Barry, Glen Carpendale en Robbie Harm. Geoff Harrison het in die lande afdeling uitgestal (75 bladsye) met Rhodesië. Die beoordelaars het gunstige kommentaar gelewer en 'n silwer toekenning gemaak. Mnr. Mellet Moll het soos altyd deelgeneem. Sy vaste reeks uitstalling van die Unie van Suid-Afrika het 'n silwer-brons en Transkei 'n brons toekenning ontvang.

Die verrassing van die aand was die uitstalling van Arnold Küppen, wat nog maar twee maande aan ons vereniging behoort. Sy onderwerp versameling – Ordes, Dekorasies en Medaljes – is gunstig met 'n silwer toekenning ontvang.

Tydens bespreking is probleemgebiede rondom die versameling van nuwe RSA uitgiftes geopper en is bestuur gevra om daarop in te gaan. Bestuur is ook versoek om die Federasie se amptelike beleid te bepaal betreffende die toelaatbaarheid om poskaarte, maksikaarte en soewenieruitgiftes veral op tematiese uitstallings te gebruik, en die uitstalwaarde daarvan.

Cassie Carstens, ons Jeugleier, besoek binnekort weer skole in ons kontrei om filatelie aan die jongspan bekend te stel. Op 'n donkerder nooit, het Theo Brunzlaff, ons rondsenddiensbeampte, gerapporteer dat hoë postariewe 'n dempende invloed op die diens het. Dit veroorsaak natuurlik kopsere vir alle verenigings met buitelede.

Hein Friebus

MASHONALAND PS

May 1996: The one page competition on the letter "F" was won by one of the male members of the society, Mr Adrian de Bourbon for his page of Film Stars. There was an Audio Visual Slide show on the history of telegraphy which was fascinating and well presented. The exhibit for the evening was "British Antarctic Territory" by R Shurmer.

June 1996: The one page competition on the letter "E" was won by Mrs M Johnson for her entry on "Endless English". The first exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr Ken Blake of Bulawayo and was a series of envelopes with imprinted stamps depicting "Birds of the World", produced by Russia. The second exhibit was "First Day Covers" by Mr Derrick Byrom.

July 1996: The 34 members and 3 visitors were treated to a display from R Shurmer on "Flowers of the World". In the absence of Mr Shurmer, the display was introduced by Mr D Byrom. It proved to be an interesting display and thought provoking for those first time exhibitors, which are ever evasive within the society.

There was an Audio Visual on Amsterdam – captivating, and amazing that a city could provide sufficient philatelic material to sustain an entire slide show.

The one page exhibit attracted four entries, the winner being an entry by Mr D Rosser entitled "Dinosaurs".

S A Weaver

MARITZBURG PS

May: Francis Eustace showed artwork of the Comrades issue due out on 8 June, and he also showed an "exclusive" folder specially for tour operators at INDABA in Durban of which only 370 were produced, and displayed all the new "Big Five" versions, two booklets, the miniature sheet of 10, and the new black rhino stamps. He also reported that a missing perf has been spotted on the Rhinos.

Items of Interest and the Letter "G".

Roger Porter showed a postcard: Cape of Good Hope mail delivery donkey cart marked Natal. Robin Castle showed a letter card with Cape of Good Hope stamps, written in German and sent to Germany, also early German stamps, then more modern, plus some pre-War Germany.

Susan Bowes-Taylor showed six sets of Great Britain. Douglas Cook showed five cards of the Mariann Hill Monastery in Pinetown, which no-one has been able to identify – all unrecorded!

Peter showed Rugby, and Cricket Postcards, plus some early Durban of Albert Park. Anne had a black album of postcards which were much admired by our two visiting experts!

Barbara Maude-Stone, a great exhibitor then gave us the accepted word for postcard collector – Deltiologist! We saw a marvellous collection of "Dear Old Durban" as well as her Alberton '95 "Zulu" exhibit which received a Silver + felicitations award, a remarkable record of Zulu culture.

She spoke generally about postcard colleting and said the USA goes for "Black" History, even black humourous cards. Red Indian cards are also highly popular.

Douglas Cook was another guest, and is an acknowledged expert on old Durban and well-known collector of the history of Durban on picture postcards. He showed two cards per sheet showing Durban as it was, and a modern picture from virtually the same spot.

June: Francis Eustace reported on the Comrades issue, and how everything possible that could have gone wrong – did! The 7 000 sheets and 5 000 covers arrived a mere 36 hours before the event, resulting in huge pressure to package and prepare for the two Comrades Expos in Durban and PMB. Despite the "handicap", just under 2 000 covers were sold.

He then showed the new Airmail stickers from the Tourism booklets in the colours of the South African flag, which had been "pulled" by the State President's Office as denigrating the National flag.

Francis also explained the sudden appearance of a child in a wheelchair on the Youth Day stamps (missing from the earlier publicity material) and commented on the apparent *ad hoc* interference in issues – right up to the printing stage.

Items of Interest: Peter Southwood showed his Comrades covers, and particularly drew attention to his Mandela signature alongside Wally Hayward's, and Shaun Meicklejohn's.

Francis then showed a GB self-adhesive booklet which had quickly been withdrawn, because of the ease with which a postmark could be removed – and because of the public's speedy realisation!

He then produced two full sheets of the Rhino bought from the same counter at the Post Office, from the same batch of printing but with different gum! Amongst the covers he displayed was one with a drawn stamp that passed through the sytem unscathed and untaxed.

Robin Castle showed a *Natal Witness* 150th sticker combined with a Bloemfontein 150 stamp.

The Alphabet Competition produced three from Robin Castle – Heligoland, and postmarks of towns starting with "H", plus "Overheard at the Bus-stop", a collection of Humour on stamps.

Mike Dyer showed two pages of Headgear – fancy, ½-pints, and ethnic.

July: Francis Eustace showed two FDCs for the Games, with discrepancies in the numbering by the Bureau. Dr Pringle of Howick had phoned about the Coastal Shells issue, and pointed out that the shell found and named by him had been wrongly spelt on the stamp!

Jan Korrûbel also drew attention to another spelling mistake on the same issue under the Cowrie. Francis spoke about the Natal embossed stamps which he put up for viewing, and also some 1967 free mail for Members of Parliament – even one OHMS after the Republic.

Kees de Jong showed a 1912 postcard with fine cancellation ex Germany, together with three university envelopes from Germany with lovely strikes.

Anne Southwood showed two envelopes, one with a perfect cancellation to show it can be done, and another with a "Yes" sticker for a competition that had been accepted as a stamp by the PO.

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Kees de Jong also showed an unusual oval cancellation from a Maritzburg machine canceller. Peter Southwood showed a commemorative envelope received from a Rugby fanatic in Milwaukee USA, who had had a stamp printed of the Milwaukee RFC Rugby teams, first in the Second league, and second in the First League, with the correspondent kneeling in the front row.

Mike then handed over to Anne for the annual brain-teaser – "Annie's Famous Quiz". The members were divided into two teams, with Mike Dyer leading the "A" Team, and Francis Eustace leading the "B" Team. Kit-Kats were eventually handed out to the "B"s.

Peter Southwood

ROYAL PS OF CAPE TOWN

13 May: Asia.

David Wengrowe – *Holy Land.* This interesting pot-pourri comprised stamps, Cinderellas, postal history and numerous postcards (mostly of Jerusalem or Jaffa). The stamps included examples on and off cover, postmarked in the various foreign post offices in the Levant.

Henry Berneaud – (i) *Hong Kong.* An attractive array commencing with the simply designed Queen Victoria stamps first issued in 1862, through to the Queen Elizabeth II (Annigoni portrait) definitive issue. (ii) *Cochin.* 14 pages of stamps of this Indian Feudatory State.

Hugh Amoore – *India.* 11 pages of the issues from 1856 to 1911, all typographed by De la Rue and Co. Only used copies were shown, some with rather useful postmarks.

Harry Schiff – *A Tour of Jerusalem.* (In the absence of Mr Schiff, Aubrey Katzef spoke to his exhibit.) Stamps featuring a variety of places and buildings, such as the Citadel of David, the Knesset, and the Eight Gates of Jerusalem.

Jacob Zeller – *The Indian Durbars.* A splendid display embracing covers, postmarks, postcards (many illustrative of the relevant buildings), and stamps. The first Durbar marked the coronation of King Edward VII (as Emperor of India), and was held in 1903.

Brian Franklin showed definitive issues of British possessions in Asia, such as Aden, Bahrain, Brunei, North Borneo, Ceylon and Sarawak.

27 May: Great Britain.

Sam Kaganson – *Machins* (pre-decimal issues, 1967 to 1969). Yet again Sam averred that the Machin design is the most beautiful since that of the 1d black! His fine display included booklets, sundry varieties and printing errors (e.g. an imperf. block of 4 of the 5d value), and 4 plate blocks of the £5 value.

Prof. A.T. Sayers – *Machins* (decimal issues). Here we were treated to a comprehensive and specialised showing of the decimal booklets, complete from 1970 tot 1995.

Mrs Nora Fillary showed GB postal history and postal stationery, starting with pre-adhesive material. Of note were a very fine Dockwra-type Government penny post paid handstamp on entire letter and an attractive printed Whitaker's Almanack envelope postally used in 1881 with a 1d lilac stamp affixed.

W.K. Rosenberg – *GB postmarks.* All sorts were shown – numerals, London types, "F.S." (Foreign Section), parcel, skeletal, paquebot, military, etc, whether on loose stamps, covers or postal stationary. Also many perfinned stamps and some W.H. Smith covers.

10 June: Germany

H.W. Lang – *Berlin/West Berlin.* The wealth of postal history in this exhibit provided a fascinating insight into the post-World War II period when the city was under Allied military occupation.

David Wengrowe – *German Colonies.* This wide-ranging exhibit (largely viewed before) consisted of postal history, postcards, stamps (mostly featuring the Kaiser's yacht, *Hohenzollern*), postal stationery (many postally used), and Cinderella material.

Jacob Zeller – *Berlin* (to 1948). Following the fall of the Third Reich in 1945, the American, British and Russian sectors of Berlin originally used the same stamps; the French sector had its own issues. Among areas covered by the exhibit were military censorship of civilian mail, the Displaced Persons' Camp, the effects of the 1948 currency reform and the handling of mail destined for abroad.

24 June: The Anglo-Boer War.

Flip Olivier – An exhibit which gave an overall picture of the various facets of the War, e.g. the Boer incursions into Natal and the Cape, the gradual occupation of the OFS and Transvaal Republics, prisoner-of-war and refugee camps (Portugal) and inter-camp mail.

John Cheminais' display similarly covered various aspects of the war, but with an emphasis on the stamps rather than the postal history of the OFS/ORC. The different occupational overprints were shown as well as the relevant ORC issues and a complete sheet of the "Commando Brief" labels.

Wikus van Heerden spoke to a display of postal history kindly lent by the War Museum in Bloemfontein. The majority of the material related to the Green Point and Indian prisoner-of-war camps.

Roy Farquharson-Eskell presented 10 choice pages of postcards relating to the War. (Roy let the British side down rather, by marrying a lady whose forebears fought for the Boers!)

Richard Knight – 50 pages of postal history which reflected the Rhodesian involvement in the SA War. The Rhodesian Field Force landed at Beira, skirted Tuli, want down for the relief of Mafeking, and than passed into the Transvaal.

8 July: Thematic Competition.

Des Hyland – *The Pheasants and the Sunbirds of the World.* A surprising but colourful display of 45 pages from this exhibitor! One stamp depicted the recently discovered Congo peacock.

Dr. Siv Borgin – *The Development of the Automobile and its Influence on our Society.* The earliest stamp shown was the 4c value featuring an "electric automobile", from the USA Pan-American Exposition issue of 1901. Areas covered in this thoroughly competent display included the horse and carriage, postbuses, ambulances, motorways, road safety and its propaganda, motor-racing cars, rallies and motor shows.

David Dowie Dunn – *Shells of the World.* An amazing multitude of shells, many of them highly attractive, was shown on stamps, accompanied by an erudite and handsomely presented text.

22 July: Pre-Union SA.

Alan MacGregor – *The Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal.* Commencing with plate proofs, the exhibit continued with different values of the First Republic issues (1875), some being on documents, followed by the very scarce embossed issue (1876). Some of the various later emissions were shown, for example the 1878 issue bearing Queen Victoria's head, almost complete to the £20 value.

David Wengrowe – *Natal.* Various unused QV Chalon Head stamps, including provisionals, were shown, also two small and attractive essays; a trading licence bearing a QV £10 revenue stamp; a set of the King Edward VII Officials; and a booklet pane incorporating the "NOT FOR USE" label.

Norman du Toit – Early picture postcards of Wynberg (among them Victoria Cottage Hospital, the Military Camp and old views of the Main Road) and of Claremont (Grove Road, St Saviour's Church).

Flip Olivier – An amazing selection of postal history dating from 1836, inter alia a Velddienst cover from Bremersdorp (the then capital of Swaziland) to Pretoria; an 1884 envelope from Lydenburg to Pietermaritzburg where a very scarce censor label was affixed, with a notation that the letter had been opened "to detect intrigues and plots" against Queen Victoria; and some combination covers.

Bill Ross – *Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope.* This fine exhibit started with the Dutch East India Company period, displaying inter alia a 1693 wrapper addressed to Governor Simon van der Stel and a "briefstok" letter to the Koue Bokkeveld. It continued through the first British occupation and Batavian Republic into the second British occupation period (1806 onwards) when the oval medallion handstamp was introduced.

Malcolm Murphy displayed some old postcards depicting Cape Town and its Suburbs.

Malcolm Murphy

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The heroes, and heroines of mythology pose within my borders and I frame the horrors of war, the blessings of peace, the plight of indigence, the blight of famine, the hardships of emigration and the beauty of male and female nudity. I illustrate the adventures of Don Quixote, the fairy tales of childhood, the legends, the symbols of art, commerce, peace, agriculture, industry, and the coats of arms and flags of all nations.

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ERNEST W. BRADY

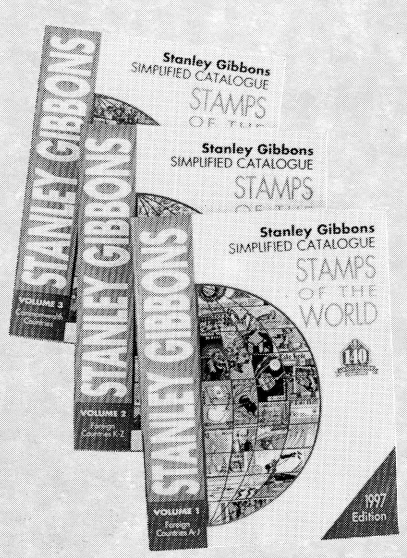
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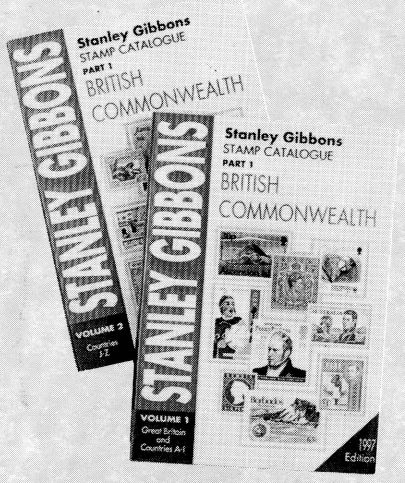
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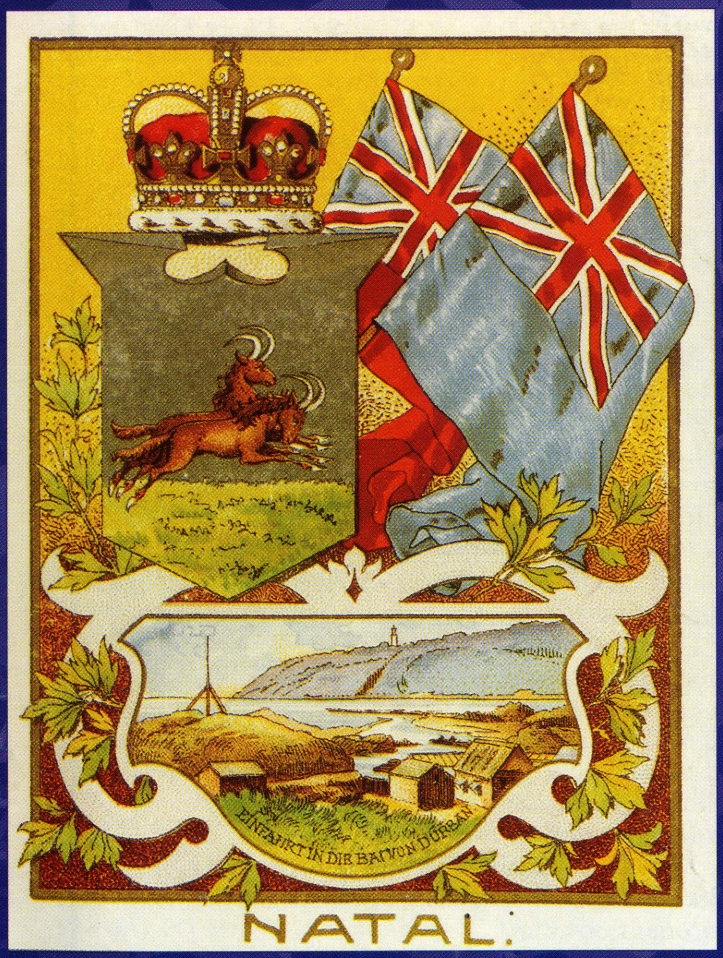
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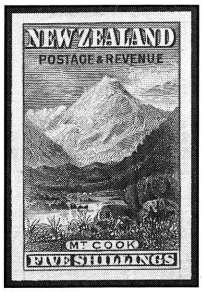
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Soos ek dit sien/In my view — The Editor/Die Redakteur

NEDERIGHEID behoort een van die filatelis se grootste deugde te wees. Die oomblik wanneer jy een honderd persent seker is dat jy doodreg is, staan jy op die afgrond van 'n ontnugtering. Vra maar enige versamelaar wat al 'n onderwerp deeglik nagevors het – al was daardie onderwerp in die verlede ook al hoe deeglik snuifgetrap.

Onlangs het die Redakteur self deurgeloop. Op 'n bladsy van een van sy versamelings word die paraaf van 'n amptenaar op 'n Kaapse snyblokproef as "JAG" ontsyfer. Dit is absoluut waarna dit lyk, en uit 'n ander bron is die van verkry – dit is Green. Maar in 'n totaal nie-filateliese bron, die sogenaamde *Civil Service List* van daardie tydperk, staan die naam twee maal, en dit is T vir Thomas A Green.

Wat 'n mens bring by die tweede deug wat by 'n filatelis hoort. Dit is mededeelsaamheid. Dit help nie om sulke regstellende ontdekkings te maak as dit nie ook iewers in die filateliese joernalistiek reggestel word nie.

Dit gebeur talle male meer as wat dit behoort dat 'n fout oor lange jare voortgepropageer word, hoewel die een of ander spesialis dit lankal raakgesien het. Pleks dat hy dadelik 'n artikeltjie daaroor skryf, of net 'n brief, word dit versuim, en ons almal deel naderhand in die skade.

THE tone was set by the president, André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, in his opening address, and confirmed by André du Pisani, Senior Manager, Business Units of the SA Post Office, making the 58th Congress of the Philatelic Federation one of the most constructive in recent years. Full reports appear from page 194 onwards, but probably the most important aspect was the eager willingness of the Federation and our stamp issuing authority to enter into a new co-operative phase.

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Uit die possak/From the mailbag

A view of current issues

Dr P Mavros of Harare writes: I do not wish to join in the main battle at present raging in the philatelic world, but simply to skirmish on the periphery of the war zone on another issue (no pun intended) which I believe is far more important – and which boils down to the basics of our hobby – the simple "stamp" and the vast number of new issues now appearing. An old enough theme, I know, but we are increasingly being suffocated by an avalanche of meaningless and useless trinkets that have only passing, if any, interest.

A noticeable recent development has been a subtle and insidious shift in terminology away from "stamps" which are now supplanted by "products". Where a single stamp might previously have sufficed, "products" now ensure that in addition to the stamp, we WILL have se-tenant strips, miniature sheets, booklets, sheetlets, cards and the like, with even crazier concoctions yet to be dreamed up, and as with all products everywhere in our consumer world, the volume of production is the measure of success; the more we produce, the more successful and happier we are. And there is no limit to whatever idiotic notions can be conceived – if they can be translated into "stamps" they will be, and further success recorded.

I see now that we have a £5 stamp for Jersey, a Pitcairns stamp showing the Queen in Cyprus and on a jetty at Bounty Bay – the connection between all these being quite plain, of course, while BIOT will show the Queen at the Guildhall – a big thrill, I'm sure for the man in the street in BIOT, as it will be for the citizens of BAT with their new £1 miniature sheet. Are these productions relevant, even distantly, to postal needs, or are they simply supermarket merchandise?

And even dizzier delights are sure to come. One envisages, for instance, the annual outpouring of fruit and flower issues – propably incorporated from desert countries – with the ACTUAL flavour of each fruit in the gum of the stamp. Flower fragrance would be similarly handled. Pity the poor Expert Committees of the future – deciding whether a missing flavour is a genuine error or a fake – or whether this is an example of transposed flavours: naartjie on guava/guava on naartjie. No, I'm not joking.

Not all that long ago, a hard-won, say 30-volume, collection would command respect, even awe, but now one can easily knock up a volume a month (in one of those fat, greasy, plastic binders with a badge on the spine) and in five or six years or so, one could boast a 100-volume collection of rubbish.

One observes also that it is always "other countries" who are to blame for this outpouring of trashy curios, never one's own – always a model of moderation.

Churchill once said, of superfluous, pompous, wordy and affected speech – "we must spit this rubbish from our lips". It should not be difficult to compose an analogous epithet for today's torrent of superfluous "products".

Concern has often been expressed in your columns about the poor state of philately's health. Well, when philately finally dies there will no suspicions of foul play as to the cause of death: it will quite simply have committed suicide.

Pot hunters and exhibitors

Rex Osborne of Durban writes: I congratulate you on your last issue (September 1996), among others on Kamffer's Customs Stamps article.

Your piece by Mary Bromfield was pure delight. Just what is needed. I hope aspiring exhibitors all read it and took note.

I cannot agree with the mention in the editorial of Pot Hunters at National and International exhibitions.

I have attended national (and two international) exhibitions in this country in the last 30 years and have had the pleasure and honour of seeing stamps and postal history etc., which I would never normally have seen.

Cedric Roché's SWA Revenues spring to mind, as does the TPO exhibit at Alberton last year. I had the great pleasure of seeing Mr Kanai's Mauritius in Amsterdam in 1974... probably the greatest collection ever assembled.

I even saw the only £20 Natal used in private hands (I think) in the late Bennie Illman's collection, in Durban.

Not all collections appeal to everyone. That is natural. I could see little interest in Polish postal history, or South American air mails. But certainly someone would.

There is an immense amount to be learned from national exhibits. Collectors are obviously experts in their own field. As the great Robson Lowe said when asked how much he knew about stamps: "About 5 per cent", he joked!!

As I have often told prospective members, look at the high scoring exhibitors and follow there arrangements. (And follow Mary's advice).

You need not be particularly wealthy to win Gold. Durban's Anne East won a Gold at Durban with her "The Way of the Post", it contained some pricey items, but was very well put together. Follow her example.

Why interest dwindles II

"Jayalby" writes: It would appear that our stamp issuing authority is intent not only in letting its sales outlet operate in complete chaos, but is now also permitting the stamp issuing policy to follow suit. I refer to the restricted issue of the Safmarine issue. The local Philatelic Counter in Durban was totally unaware of this "promotional" issue, and had no stocks what so ever. This can only be regarded as a restricted issue, since of course Durban is not exactly a small dorp in the platteland.

The inference of a restricted issue places all kinds of consequences upon our stamp issuing authority which I believe were not considered when planning the "promotional" issue.

1) No collection containing a restricted issue will be judged at an international exhibition controlled by FIP, if I recall correctly.

2) Catalogue publishers will fail to recognise the issue and at best will relegate it to an addendum.

3) The stamp issuing authority will loose credibility with the stamp industry (yes, it is an industry) and its issues could be treated with the same disdain as those of the Arab States. This could result in smaller sales internationally. Remembering that we are constantly being reminded that we are part of a "Global Village".

4) Local collectors appear to already be highly irritated by our stamp issuing authority's sales department.

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These latest events will no doubt add to that irritation and may cause collectors to give up stamps in favour of jam labels.

It is my considered opinion that the intention was to restrict this issue as outlined in an article in *Setempe* the issuing aurhority's own magazine. The question that is no doubt being asked by many collectors is "Has he finally gone and done what many have feared he would do?" Only time will tell how much damage has been done.

Collect the cover, not only the stamp

Jan Korrûbel of Pietermaritzburg writes: I am always fascinated to read about the "weird and wonderfuls" that seem to slip through the daily mail, and are brought to our attention by eagle-eyed collectors.

As is probably the case with most other collectors, I have a string of relatives whom I have cajoled into helping my collection along – they are asked that whenever they receive mail with stamps, to save the stamps for me. Usually this is accomplished by tearing off the corner of the envelope with the stamp, which I would later soak off.

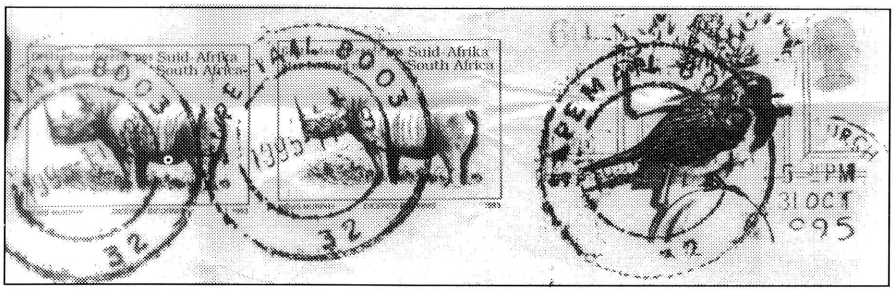
The enclosed photocopy shows that perhaps I should change my request and ask for the entire cover. . . these stamps apparently came on the envelope of a greeting card, the incomplete postmark on the far right indicates that it was sent from Edinburgh, Scotland and is dated 31/10/95. There are also subsequent transit postmarks dated CAPEMAIL 9/11/95. Nothing too peculiar about that, except for the presence of the two South African standardised mail rhino stamps alongside the UK issue!

Two possibilities exist. The card was underpaid in Scotland, and then the SA stamps were affixed later as tax – however, the neat way in which they were affixed suggests otherwise.

From what information I have been able to ferret out of the relative who gave me the stamps (my intended mother-in-law), they were on a greeting card from her mother – a grand old soul of some 79 years and a frequest visitor to South Africa.

The suggestion here is that when back home in Scotland, she mixed up her stamps and mistakenly affixed both the SA and UK stamps (perhaps she wasn't wearing her glasses?).

Are there any other suggestions anyone else cares to make as to how this mixing of stamps could have arisen? I consider it a real pity that I don't have the complete cover.



Dubious issues

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes: An extract from the society magazine of the PS of Johannesburg recently set me thinking. It was the reproduction of a reprint, in *World Stamp Digest* of January 1939 (p 301), of an article in *The SA Philatelist* of July 1938 (p 108), which our magazine had in turn lifted from "a recent report" in *The American Philatelist*.

The heading was "Questionable Stamp Issues". The original article made the point: "We do not propose to tell collectors what to collect. They are their own arbiters as to what stamps should be barred from their albums."



Transkei and Bophuthatswana "mixed franking" on a letter to the Editor, obliterated 1996 07 14, Cape Mail inkjet, and untaxed.

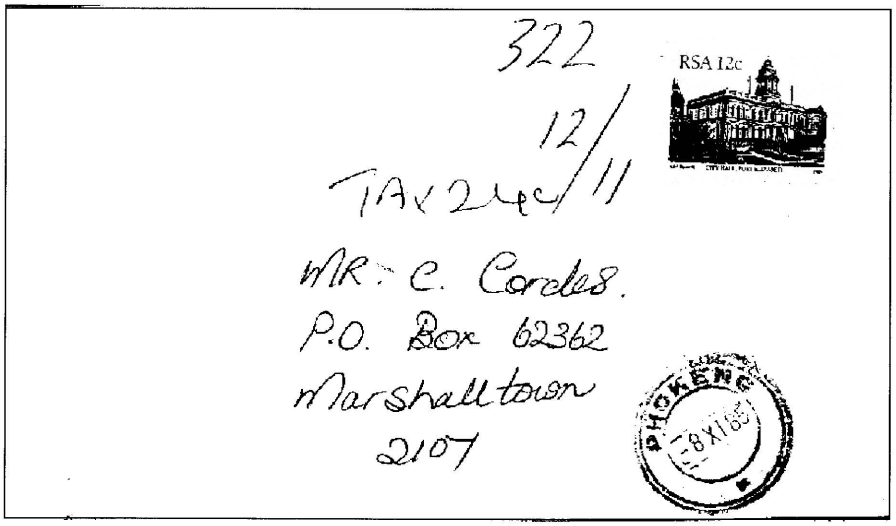
It then named eight countries which had been "specially prolific in issuing unnecessary and speculative stamps", detailing further such practices as selling only against foreign currency, producing miniature sheets, limiting numbers printed and circulation, and selling older issues at premiums above face value.

At the time, the various states were condemned, but some of the "doubtful" practices then recorded are now commonplace amongst many issuing authorities.

However, the contents lead me to think about position of the issues of the TBVC states, recently demonetised.

The stamps were issued by "governments" which were not recognised outside the territory of South Africa. Although the issues passed freely through the international postal system, should they not be considered as "local issues", as they were not theoretically valid outside the individual territories.

But if one takes the above argument to its logical conslusion, one must question all the South African issues during the TBVC period. I make this point because, although in

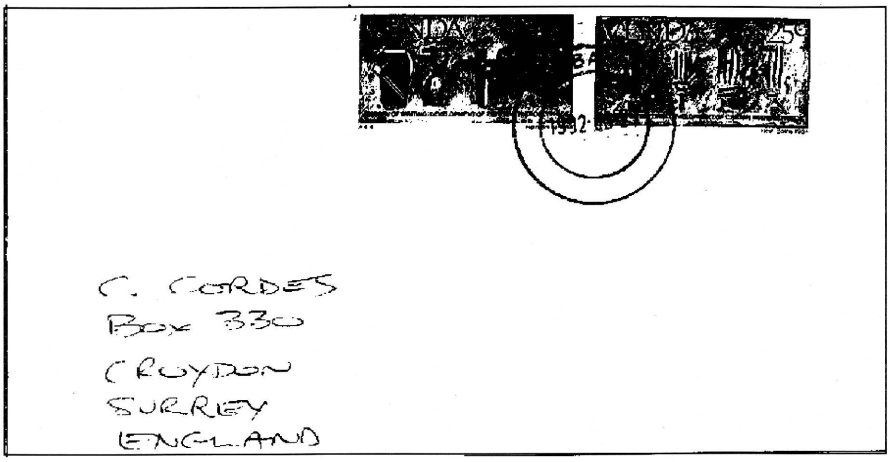


Standard rate letter, posted at Phokeng, Bophuthatswana, 8 XI 85, and taxed at Marshalltown.

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terms of international law the TBVC states were part of South Africa, they were not treated as such by our postal authorities, and therefore theoretically our stamps were not (or should not have been) valid in those states. Given therefore that in terms of international law, South African stamps were excluded from validity within certain parts of South Africa, should those issues not be black listed?

Perhaps I have based my arguments on an incorrect premise, and would therefore be glad to hear an expert's thoughts.



Letter posted from Sibasa, Venda, to UK, 1992 03 27, standard airmail rate, untaxed.

The Onze Rust post box

Brian Bredenkamp of Stellenbosch writes: Jan van Beukering and his colleagues did such a fantastic job with the organization of the recent national philatelic exhibition and congress that they all deserve our heartiest congratulations.

Without wanting to belittle their efforts, there was one item which did not go according to plan, or perhaps the organizers had merely run out of steam. However, the lapse may have resulted in what should have been rather ordinary covers being potentially quite scarce.

On the evening of the last day of the exhibition (12 October 1996) the banquet and prize-giving were held at Onze Rust, the estate of President M T Steyn. In conjuction with the event there was a ceremonial unveiling of a new post box on the estate by Mr Eddie Kleinhans and the arrival of a post rider from Colesberg. After the required speech the key to the post box was handed over to the granddaughter of President Steyn, but not the Onze Rust canceller, which was merely shown to the audience, and it was announced this was to be retained in the main post office in Bloemfontein. (It also transpired that the key would not open the lock of the post box!)

Every person present had received the programme and menu for the evening in an unserviced commemorative envelope for the event, and with a brand new post box and a host of philatelists on hand, first-day covers just had to be posted. However, nobody had arranged for stamps to be available for sale! I happened to have two of the Jan van Beukering "Bloemfontein 150" stamps in my wallet, and used one as shown in the accompanying Fig 1 and gave the other to Danie Scheepers.

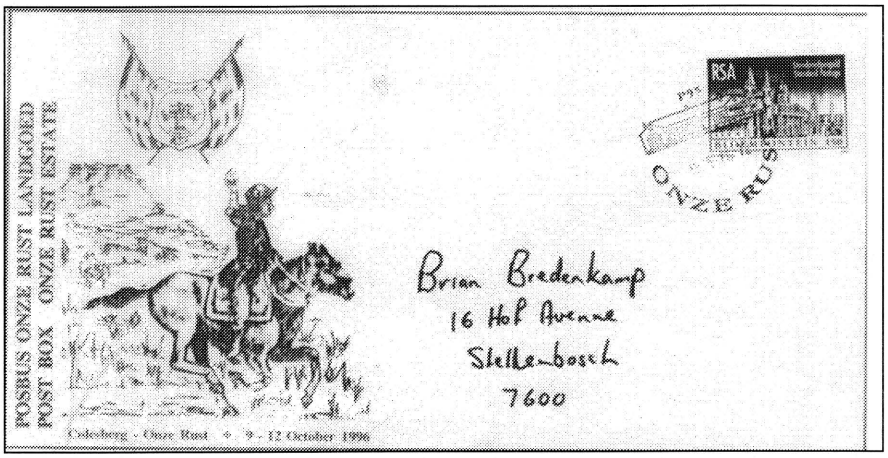


Fig 1. A scarce item? Stamps were not available at Onze Rust when the post box was inaugurated.

Many of the others present merely posted their covers without stamps, and should have been charged R1,40 for postage due, as shown in Fig 2.

The Onze Rust canceller had been available for use by visitors to the stamp exhibition all day on 12 October, but the Onze Rust covers were, as far as I am aware, not available at the same time. It is thus probable that there may be very few fully prepaid postally used covers commemorating the opening of the Onze Rust post box.

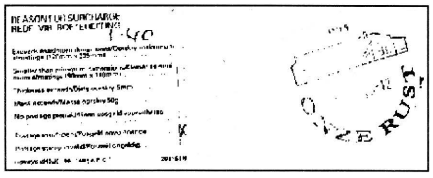


Fig. 2 The Onze Rust cover with penalty for insufficient postage should be the more common one.

Listing of research projects

The Editor writes: It was recently brought to my attention that *The SA Philatelist* plays a vital role in assisting readers' research projects by publication of queries or requests for information in specific areas.

Anyone who has a project going, or who has a specific query, is invited to make it known through these columns.

The most recent requests for information were on p 140 of the journal, October 1996.

Possible light on the mystery SAR cachet

Bill Brummer of East London writes: Concerning the query from Ken Joseph in *The SA Philatelist* of October 1996, p140, may I put forward the theory that:

It would seem to be a post card used by a shipping tourist either from Las Palmas or Teneriffe – going by the words "Carte Postale".

I suggest the SAR could stand for "South Atlantic Route".

The date (1917) indicates a war-time mailing, hence the lack of other cancellers.

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■ **PAUW STEYL** *OVS Filatelievereniging*

Die Transvaalse gebruik van Kaapse seëls in 1859

Van Transvaalse filatelie is ek geen student nie, dus is my kennis daarvan maar skraps. Terwyl ek onlangs in die Kaapse Argiefbewaarplek navorsing oor die posgeskiedenis van George gedoen het, het ek op 'n onverwagse gelukkie, met betrekking tot Transvaalse posgeskiedenis, afgekom.

So met die blaai deur volume 1/60 (1859) van *Incoming letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster-general 1814-1880* het daar skielik dié uiters insiggewende brief voor my gelê.

Wanneer 'n mens so jóú wêreld se posgeskiedenis navors dan blaai 'n mens maar vinnig by dokumente verby wat nie van toepassing is nie. Ek het net besef dat hierdie brief, geskryf deur die posmeester H. Jeppe van Potchefstroom en vasgeheg aan 'n vergeelde toegevoude uitgawe van die *Staats Courant* van Transvaal, dalk vir studente van Transvaalse posgeskiedenis van waarde kan wees.

Miskien, so het ek gereken, bevat die inhoud van die brief inligting waarna iemand al gesoek het. Dit het in elk geval my nuuskierigheid geprikkel om weer 'n slag die vroeë ontstaangeskiedenis van die poswese in Transvaal na te lees.

Met die 150-jarige feesvieringe van die dorp Potchefstroom in September 1988 het bekende Transvaalse filateliste soos Gerhard Kamffer, Gawie van der Walt, Kobus Esterhuysen, Albert Sorgdrager en Paul van Zeyl vyf pragtige artikels geskryf oor die rol wat Potchefstroom in die vestiging van 'n posdiens in Transvaal gespeel het. (Sien *The SA Philatelist*, September 1988, p230.) Dit was veral die artikels van Gerhard Kamffer en Kobus Esterhuysen wat my vonds in die Argiefbewaarplek betekenis gegee het.

Miskien sal dit hier gepas wees om enkele geskiedkundige feite uit die twee here se artikels aan te haal sodat dit dan met die inhoud van Jeppe se brief vergelyk kan word.

Gerhard Kamffer skryf in "Potchefstroom was die groot beginpunt 1850-1870":

"Potchefstroom was ook met die buiteland verbind deur 'n posdiens wat die Transvaalse Volksraad, in oorleg met die Britse regering, in 1852 tussen Potchefstroom en Winburg ingestel het. Hierdeur is Potchefstroom ook verbind met die Kaapkolonie en Natal deurdat die posroete vanaf Winburg na Bloemfontein en daarvandaan verder suid gegaan het." (Jeppe se brief bevat 'n duidelike verwysing na dié posroete deur die Vrystaat.)

HIERDIE is reeds die onvermoeide navorser Pauw Steyl se derde artikel vanjaar vir *The SA Philatelist*. Vir sy vorige twee, "Die ou posstal langs die N2" (Februarie 1996, p5), en "Die oktagonale stempel 44: Belvidere – nie Knysna!" (Augustus 1996, p109), is hy pas by die 58ste Kongres van die Filateliese Federasie van SA met toekennings vereer.

By die gepaardgaande nasionale tentoonstelling Bloem 150 is 'n goue medalje aan Pauw Steyl toegeken vir sy versameling "The Postal History of George", asook die DG Crocker Toekenning vir die beste uitstalling van posgeskiedenis. Oor George het hy uitvoerig geskryf in *The SA Philatelist* van Junie 1994, p73, en Augustus 1994, p98.

"Blykbaar was die reëlings van posdienste in die ZAR teen 1859 nie na wense nie, want in dié jaar word besluit: Dat sonder versuim een vaste brieven post moet opgerigt worden." (Dis duidelik dat Jeppe se brief direk voortspruit uit bogemelde besluit deur die Transvaalse Volksraad.)

"Herman Jeppe wat sedert 23 Julie 1859 as posmeester van Potchefstroom diens gedoen het en op 9 Augustus permanent in dié hoedanigheid aangestel is. . ." (Hierdie brief se skryf is baie beslis een van die eerste opdragte wat Jeppe as posmeester van Potchefstroom uitgevoer het.)

"Die 1859-wet het ook bepaal dat briewe voortaan van seëls voorsien moes word . . ." (Jeppe se brief verwys baie duidelik na die toekomstige gebruik van posseëls op briewe.)

Kobus Esterhuysen op sy beurt skryf in "Potchefstroomse stempels op Kaapse Driehokseëls":

"Met sekerheid kon egter vasgestel word dat Jeppe vanaf 1859 daarvoor verantwoordelik was en gesorg het dat poskantore in Transvaal Kaapse posseëls in voorraad hou en verkoop, sodat posversendings na die Kaap en oorsee vergemaklik kon word." (Vergelyk die besonderhede in Jeppe se brief. Trouens sy brief verteenwoordig die eerste bestelling van Kaapse posseëls vir gebruik in Transvaal.)

"Op 12 Augustus 1859 kondig die Volksraad by monde van Pres. M.W. Pretorius in die *Staatscourant* aan dat 'n volwaardige departement van poswese gevorm gaan word. . ." (Let op die inleidende paragraaf van Jeppe se



'n Pragtige voorbeeld van Kaapse driehoekseëls wat op 3 Oktober 1865 op Potchefstroom, Transvaal, gebruik is. Kaapse driehoekseëls is vir die eerste keer op 23 Augustus 1859 deur die posmeester Jeppe van Potchefstroom van die Posmeester-Generaal in Kaapstad bestel. (Foto met erkenning aan Kobus Esterhuysen en *The SA Philatelist*, September 1988.)

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brief. Die hele brief handel oor die kennisgewing in die *Staatscourant* wat as bylae tot die brief ingesluit was.)

Hier volg nou die brief van die Posmeester H. Jeppe van Potchefstroom aan die Posmeester-generaal van die Kaap, mnr. J.A. le Sueur, wat my aandag getrek het.

Weens die feit dat argivale materiaal nie gefotostateer kan word nie, was ek genoodsaak om die brief woordeliks oor te skryf. Ek het noukeurig sorg gedra dat dit korrek is. Indien grammatikale- of spelfoute voorkom, pleit ek onskuldig – dis vir die rekening van posmeester Jeppe!

Post Office Potchefstroom
S A Republick
23 August 1859

Sir,

Greatly to the instruction received from his honour the President of the South African Republick I have the honor to address you, for the purpose of consulting you, for the establishment of a better and safer post communication with the Colony. By the mutual interest of such a scheme his honour is convinced that the Government of her Majesty will assist the Republic, by every means in their power.

By the present arrangement our letters for the Colony and Europe and retour are sent mixed up with the Free State letters, and there is no doubt, that many have been lost and even opened by passing through the Free State. I send you enclosed a copy of the State Courant containing a new post regulation from which you will see, that we intend, to place ourselves in a direct communication with your office.

1. All letters for the Colony and Europe provided with the proper post stamps will be remitted to the respective colonial post offices in sealed packets and we wish to receive our letters in like manner.

2. Foreign & newspapers are forwarded to us from your office in Cape Town in like manner, for the postage of which (foreign) you can debit the Republic, which account will be settled by our Agent in Cape Town whenever required.

3. We shall provide ourselves with a sufficient quantity of colonial stamps, for the prepayment of our letters.

4. We shall make arrangements with the Free State Government for the transmission of our packets with their post.

5. We expect a copy of your post regulation with postage of colonial and foreign letters & papers for our guidance.

Hoping that you will be able to assist the Government of the SA Republic in this arrangement. I remain in expectation of a favourable and early answer.

Your very obedient servant
H Jeppe
Postmaster

P.S. I enclose herewith ten pounds sterling gold for postage stamps of different value, please to forward the same by return of post.

Ek vertrou dat hierdie meevallertjie, opgediep vanuit die stof van die Kaapse posgeskiedenis, vir my Transvaalse vriende net so veel plesier sal verskaf soos dit het vir my. U het darem nou ten minste die datum waarop Transvaal se eerste besending Kaapse Driehoekseëls bestel is – 23 Augustus 1859! ■

BRONNELYS

1. *Tydskrifte:*
Esterhuysen, Kobus : "Potchefstroomse stempels op Kaapse Driehoekseëls", *The SA Philatelist*, September 1988, p237-241
Kamffer, Gerhard : "Potchefstroom was die groot beginpunt 1850-1870", *The SA Philatelist*, September 1988, p230-234
2. *Argivale Bronne:*
Kaapse Argiefbewaarplek : GPO – *Incoming letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster-general 1814-1880*, Vol 1/60(1859)

■ **JOH GROENEWALD, RDPSA** *Afrikaanse Filaltelistevereniging*

This Zimbabwe revenue costs US dollars

IT is somewhat unusual for a country to issue a stamp in the denomination of another country. This is the case with Zimbabwe, which has a revenue stamp inscribed "US$20".

The stamp is used as receipt for the payment of an airport departure tax. This tax has to be paid, in United States dollar notes, at the entrance to an airport's departures lounge.

The stamp is inscribed "Zimbabwe Government" at the top, with at the bottom "Airport departure fee US $20". The design shows the Zimbabwe bird-statue emblem against the backdrop of a five-pointed star (Fig 1).

The stamp is stuck on the departing passenger's boarding pass and then cancelled with an office cachet.

When introduced some years ago, the airport tax was described as a mechanism to get dollars into government coffers. Initially, the tax was US $10 (Fig 2).

This tax applies only to foreigners who visit Zimbabwe for longer than 24 hours (not transit passengers), and the tax official inspects both the passport and boarding pass of the departing passenger.

Zimbabwe nationals and residents also pay an airport tax, but in Zimbabwe dollars. This, too, was Zim$10 (Fig 3) but was doubled to Zim$20 (Fig 4) in line with the figure of the US$ tax.

THE author is the previous editor of *The SA Philatelist*, whose philatelic interests range far and wide.



Fig 1

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Fig 2



Fig 3

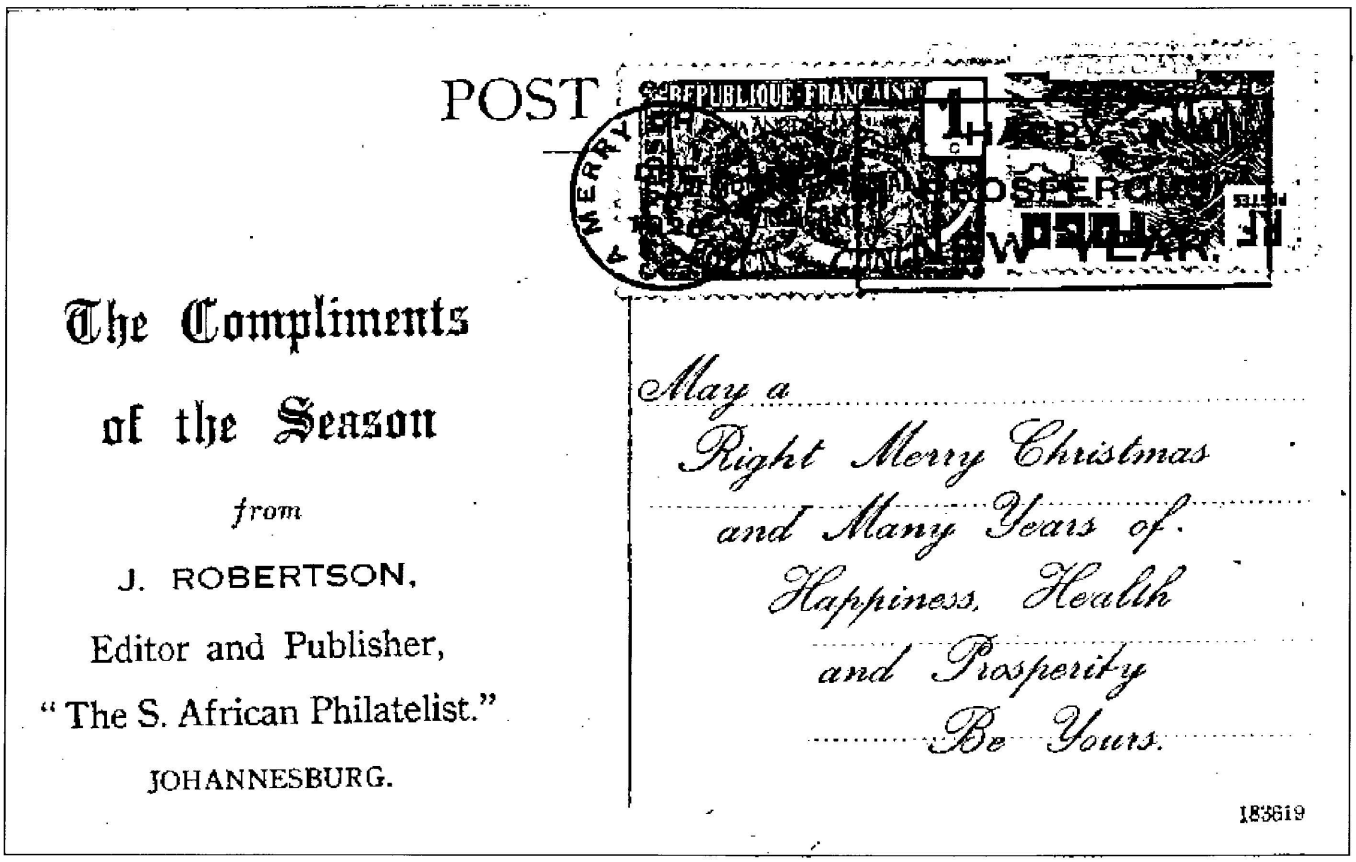
In the case of Zimbabweans, a normal Zim$20 revenue stamp is used. The corner of the stamp is first torn off by the tax-collecting official, and he then attaches the stamp to the air ticket (not boarding pass) with a staple (not gummed down).



Fig 4

Examples are illustrated. The Zimbabwe $20 revenue stamp's staple can be seen as a line at the top of the stamp, through "babwe" and the top of the value inscription.

(The old $10 examples are illustrated from the collection of Derrick Byrom, that tireless current postal history researcher of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society, Harare.) ■



FROM ONE PHILATELIST TO ALL THE OTHERS: Exactly seventy years ago, "postmarked" DEC. 25 1926, the then editor and publisher of *The SA Philatelist* John Robertson, made up this spurious post card bearing Christmas greetings, "franked" with French stamps overprinted Afrique Equatoriale Française. The "cancellation" bears the message "A Merry Christmas" in the datestamp, and the box says "A Happy and Prosperous New Year". The current editor cordially concurs, and wishes to thank Malcolm Murphy of Cape Town, who kindly brought this piece of philatelic memorabilia to his attention.

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■ **WILHELM GRÜTTTER, RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

Cape of Good Hope at auction

ONE of the most intriguing auction catalogues of 1995 was that of Christie's Robson Lowe for a sale of Fine and Rare Cape of Good Hope and Mafeking, described as The "Salisbury" Collection.

The sale was on 20 September 1995, and the catalogue went to a great deal of trouble to provide provenance, frequently by references to other well known auctions in the past. As the author has access to a fair number of these catalogues and the realisations, it became a question thought to be well worth asking: How have prices moved?

The answers are tabled below, where realisations for an item in the Christie's Robson Lowe sale could also be located at least twice elsewhere. Lot numbers in this "Salisbury" sale are given in brackets below the realisation.

Provenances consulted were:

CGH "Bonaventure" collection of triangular issues (Christie's Robson Lowe, 9 September 1993), coded O.

"Samos" Collection of British Commonwealth (Ivy, Shreve & Mader, 19, 2 0 June 1991) coded A.

Dale Lichtenstein CGH (Harmers of NY, 25,26 November 1989), coded D.

"Maximus" Grand Prix Collection (Sotheby's, 7 September 1989), coded M.

Collection formed by Sir Maxwell Joseph (Sotheby's 1982), coded J.

Maria de la Queillerie Collection of CGH (Harmers, 18,19 May 1970), coded Q.

Burrus Collection: CGH (Robson Lowe Ltd, 27 November 1962), coded B.

"Sir Henry Tucker" CGH (Harmers, 20 November 1979), coded T.

A J Stevens Cape Triangulars (HR Harmer Ltd, 23 November 1959) coded S.

Jack Shepherd Collection (HR Harmer Ltd, 20 February 1956) coded H.

Die Ferrary Auktionen (facsimile Joachim Erhardt, Stuttgart 1987) coded F.

Realisations are throughout given in £s – for the Dale Lichtenstein auction dollars were converted at the rate current between $ and £ in February 1996, and rounded off. (It was obviously invidious to attempt to convert to rand as well, as proved only too well by the South African currency's recent swan dive against the £ and the $.)

THE author is the editor of *The SA Philatelist*, who has developed a love-hate relationship with inflation.

For Ferrary realisations, see the note under Lot 1057.

From 1982 onwards, the realisations include the customary buyer's premium.

It must be admitted that the tabulation appears rather inconclusive to the author, except that generally the Maxwell Joseph auction in 1982 seemed to generate the highest prices. It was also apparent that items in the Queillerie auction often realised substantially more than the estimate.

But there may be readers with a more sophisticated statistical mind, appropriate computer programmes, and an economist's grasp of inflation over a lengthy period who could profitably take the matter further. ■

Item in Salisbury	**1995**			
1d Pale brick red, lovely colour, large margins, unused, SG1 See *A and *B below	2 070 (1004)	3 000* 1989 M	2 860 1982 J	
4d deep blue, B4, brilliant deep colour, large margins, unused, SG6	2 990 (1011)	270 1970 Q	260 1962 B	
6d slate-lilac, now a pair, at previous auctions B4, unused, SG7	4 600 (1013)	160 1970 Q	95 1959 S	
1s bright yellow-green, pair, refulgent colour, unused, SG8	29 900 (1018)	25 410 1991 A	16 250 1989 D	
1d vermilion Woodblock, wide to arge margins, bar-cancelled, SG13	3 220 (1023)	3 960 1982 J	270 1956 H	
1d vermilion Woodblock, B4, good to large margins, bar-cancelled, SG13	18 400 (1029)	14 950 1993 O	15 600 1989 D	
Pair SG13 with Perkins Bacon 4d blue on cover, bs. "Houwhock"	42 200 (1030)	18 700 1982 J	2 400 1970 Q	850 1959 S
1d carmine Woodblock, good to large margins, used, SG13a	1 495 (1033)	1 600 1979 T	440 1959 S	
1d carmine Woodblock, pair, large to huge margins, used, SG13a See *C below	5 175 (1037)	5 520 1993 O	4 550 1989 D	
4d pale grey-blue Woodblock, pair, "a great rarity", unused, SG14a	11 500 (1057)	7 700 1982 J	1 500 1970 Q	700 1962 B

This item, together with a similar pair, and also *C foot-noted, were sold at the second Ferrary sale (1921) for f9 600 and f4 200 (*C). To the then current rate of exchange given for the £, had still to be added a French surtax of 17,5 percent.

4d pale grey-blue Woodblock, pair, used, minor faults, SG14a	2 070 (1060)	2 420 1982 J	320 1970 Q	
4d pale grey-blue Woodblock, pair used, light cancel, SG14a See *D below	3 220 (1062)	440 1970 Q	625 1962 B	
4d deep bright blue Woodblock, on cover to George, re-directed, SG14c	17 250 (1082)	21 450 1991 A	13 650 1989 D	
4d blue Woodblock, light cancel, good to enormous margins, SG14d	2 500* (1083)	2 860 1982 J	2 900 1979 T	
4d carmine Woodblock, "the finest single example", used, SG14ea	82 900 (1087)	68 250 1989 D	36 1921 F	

*Estimate, item not sold

Harmer's of London had a sale of "Important Stamps and Covers of the World" on 15 May 1996, which added to the "Salisbury" statistics. The figures given for these lots are the auctioneer's estimates.

Item in Harmer's	**1996**		
*A			
1d pale brick red, B4 on cover, SG1	2 250 (13)	420 1970 Q	
*B			
1d deep brick red, B4 on cover, SG1a	2 000 (12)	1 650 1982 J	
*C			
4d pale milky blue, "Woodblock" on piece, SG14	2 500 (18)	79 1921 F	
*D			
4d pale bright blue, "Woodblock" pair on cover, SG14b	3 500 (17)	160 1970 Q	2 530 1982 J

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

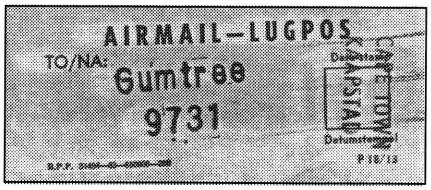
Postmark record/Stempelverslag

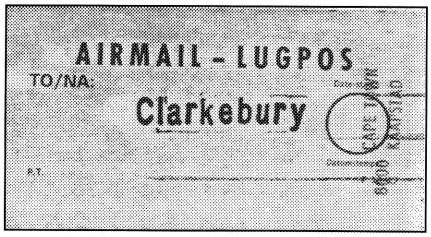


Mailbag labels

NOW that the Post Office has devised new methods of transporting its mail in containers, it appears that mailbag labels are a "dying breed".

The illustration shows a label sent with mail from the Witspos centre in Johannesburg to the Melville suburban post office in Johannesburg. The label was preprinted for use with mail destined for Vanderbijlpark. A white label was pasted over the name Vanderbijlpark and the words MELVILLE BOXES applied in red ink with a rubber stamp. The item was used in the first half of 1996, and it measures 130 by 48 millimetres.





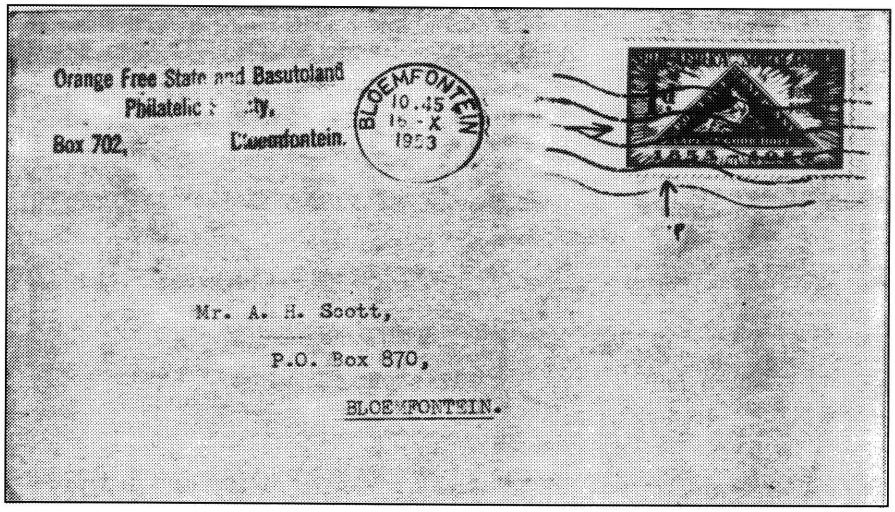
Poskantoor-papier

Daar is verskille in die drukwerk op die twee bondeletikette vir lugpos wat geïllustreer word. Die etikette is van ligblou papier met donkerblou drukwerk, en die besonderhede van die poskantore is met rubberstempels in rooi ink aangebring.

Die etikette is in 1995 bekom, maar die datum van gebruik is onbekend. **(Chris Opperman)**

Philatelic club memorabilia

The illustration shows an envelope that seems to have been preserved for an ink spot variety on the postage stamp from the printing process.



This item is, for me, more significant in that it reflects some historical details of the Orange Free State and Basutoland Phialtelic Society, which changed its name to the OFS Philatelic Society in 1961.

A H (Aubrey) Scott was, of course, a prominent member.

Another question that arises is how many clubs are building up a collection of philatelic items pertaining to their own history? If your club has such a collection, what are the chances of giving our Editor an article about it? **(David Allison)**



Versamel munisipaliteite

In die April 1996 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek (p 51) het besonderhede verskyn van 'n koevert van Carolina se munisipaliteit. Die illustrasie hierby wys 'n koevert van Riversdal se munisipaliteit. Wie kan nog besonderhede stuur, veral van die kleiner plaaslike regerings?

Riversdal is op 30 Augustus 1838 as dorp geproklameer, en op 6 Junie 1849 is munisipale status verkry. Daar is dus meer as 150 jaar se munisipale posgeskiedenis van Riversdal om filatelies te probeer uitbeeld. **(David Allison)**

Sedert ek die Carolina item in die rubriek ingesluit het, het ek besluit om as 'n afleidingsversameling met die bymekaarmaak van munisipale items te begin. Indien daar lesers is wat sulke items het wat hulle van ontslae wil raak, kan hulle aan my skryf by Posbus 91-114, Auckland Park, 2006. **(NG)**

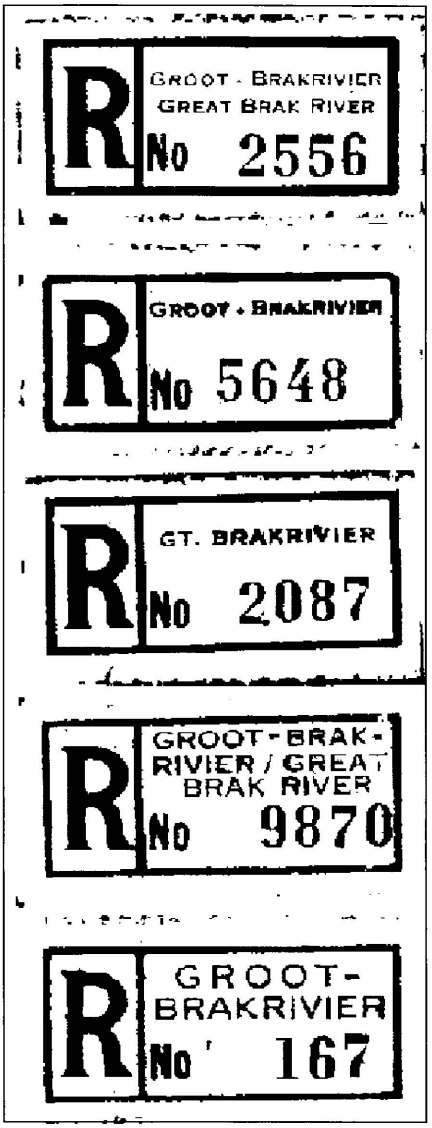
R label notes

A series of registered letters from Great Brak River near Mossel Bay shows the use of five differently printed R labels over a period of eleven years. No 2556 was used on 7 September 1965; No 5648 on 2 August 1967; No 2087 on 9 February 1972; No 9870 on 20 August 1976, and No 167 on 7 September 1976.

The Great Brak River post office was opened in 1877 (vide *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* by Ralph Putzel, RDPSA).

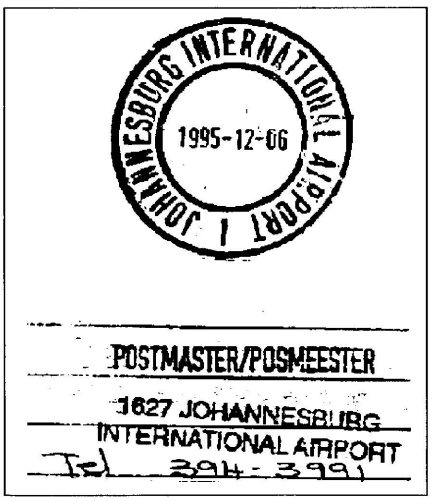
It would be interesting to see a complete set of R labels and other R marks used there through the years. **(Chris Opperman)**

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Johannesburg airport

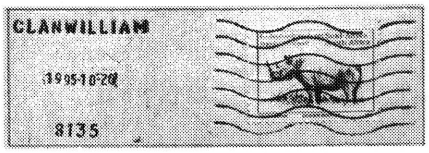
Now that Jan Smuts Airport has been renamed Johannesburg International Airport, there are new postmarks to be had for the collector of the postal history of South Africa's airports. The illustration shows an impression of the number 1 handstamp.



The office has datestamps numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 11 and all are of the same design. They were taken into use on 1 November 1995, which was a public holiday.

Johannesburg International Airport post office is open every day of the year.

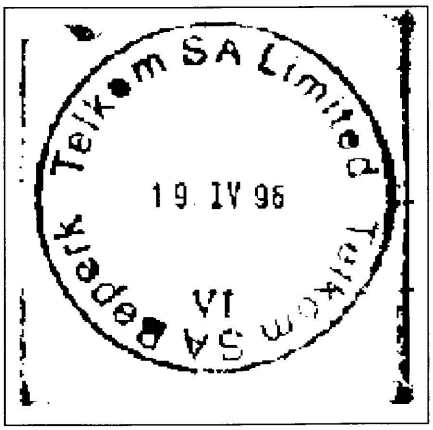
Also illustrated, are rubber stamp impressions of the postmaster and of the post office name with the postcode. **(Annatjie Bosch, Joh Groenewald, RDPSA).**



Masjien posmerke

Clanwilliam se masjien het in 1995 'n seldsame datumstempel gehad. Hierdie poskantoor het nie vroeër 'n masjien vir posrojering gehad nie.

Is daar 'n leser wat vir ons kan vasstel watter soort masjien Clanwilliam gebruik en op watter datum dit in gebruik geneem is? **(Teddy Whitlock, David Allison)**



Telkom se stempels

In die Junie 1995 uitgawe van hierdie rubriek (p 76) en weer in die April 1996 uitgawe (p 51) het daar besonderhede verskyn van die stempels wat op Telkom se telefoonrekeninge verskyn. In die eerste artikel was daar 'n illustrasie van die nommer III stempel. Die tweede artikel het illustrasies van die nommer I en nommver V stempels bevat. Nommer VI word hierby gëillustreer.

No more certified mail

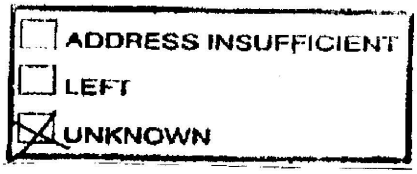
The July 1996 issue (Vol. 6 No. 1 p3) of the Post Office staff newspaper, *Express,* carried an article to say that the certified mail service had been stopped at the end of June 1996. There had been a big decrease in the volume of certified mail, and it was clear that the service had reached the end of its product life.

Now is therefore the time for those interested in certified mail to get stuck in and collect whatever material and information they can.



Amptelike pos se interessanthede

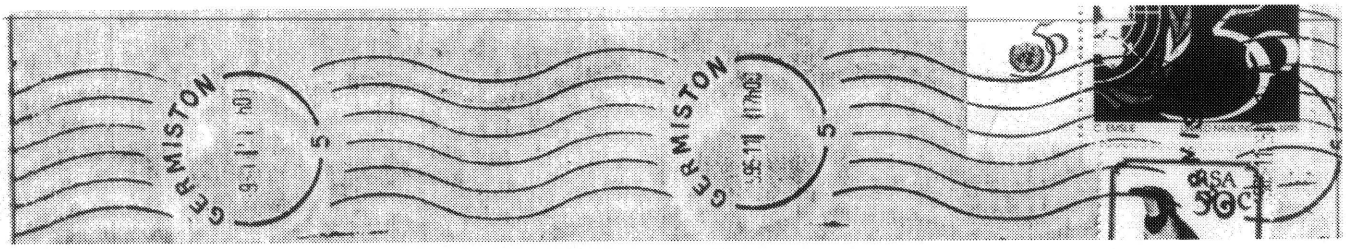
Hoewel die staat nie meer koeverte gebruik waarop die woorde AMPTELIK-OFFICIAL voorkom nie, is daar darem nog interessanthede wat hulle onderskei. Die illustrasie wys 'n simbool en slagspreuk wat op 'n koevert (81/72599 (E10)) verskyn wat op 7 Mei 1996 in Kimberley gepos is. Op die rugkant van die koevert is die Suid-Afrikaanse wapenskild en die letters D.I. gedruk. Daar is egter geen aanduiding van watter departement die koevert gebruik het nie. Die staat se koeverte is dus nog steeds onderskeibaar en versamelbaar. **(David Allison)**



Post Office rubber stamps

The illustration shows an impression of a rubber stamp used in Randburg in March 1996. Normally, a paper label is used to indicate the information concerned.

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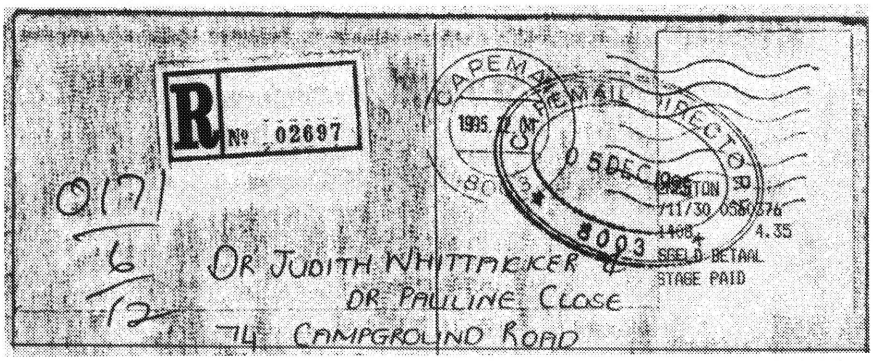
Hand roller rojeerders

Is daar iemand in die geledere van ons lesers wat dalk in die versameling van hand roller rojeerder afdrukke spesialiseer? Dit sou baie interessant wees om van so 'n versamelaar 'n artikel te kry vir publikasie in ons tydskrif. Ralph Putzel, RDPSA het so ver in sy reeks *The Postmarks of South Africa*, besonderhede van die roller rojeerders ingesluit, maar sy rekord is nie volledig nie. Waarskynlik sal hy dit op datum bring wanneer hy later aanvullings tot die reeks doen.

Dit is vir my opvallend hoe baie aspekte van die filatelie is waarin daar nie gespesialiseer word nie. En mense kla hulle weet nie wat om te versamel nie! **(Luke van Riet)**

CAPEMAIL DIRECTORY – what is it?

The illustration shows the marks appearing on the front of an envelope.



The reverse has no marks. Some questions arise. What is the CAPEMAIL DIRECTORY? Why was this rubber stamp impression applied to the item? Why was a blank R label used?

The counter register receipt was issued at Milnerton post office on 30 November 1995. The machine wavy line postmark was applied on 1 December 1995. The CAPEMAIL DIRECTORY mark was applied on 5 December 1995.

Could it be that the letter was intended for registration, but was incorrectly mailed in an ordinary posting box?

The fact that the letter was incorrectly mailed was picked up after postmarking at the Capemail mail handling centre, and it was then handled as a registered item from there on.

But how does the CAPEMAIL DIRECTORY fit into the picture? **(John Hodgson)** ■

■ **WILHELM GRüTTER RDPSA** *Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago
October 1936
PMG opens the 1936 Philatelic Congress

"When I was asked to open this Congress, I hesitated a good deal before agreeing to do so. We have had so much trouble with philatelists that when my clerk says that Mr. B. asks if he may come and see me, or D.P. wants to speak on the telephone, or Mr. R. has called and left me a cigar while I was out, I always wonder 'Now what infernal thing are these people wanting to involve me in this time?'

"So I thought that if I came along to this Congress and found that after having persuaded me against my will to have a special stamp to commemorate the opening of your Exhibition, you were now going to try and get another one to close it with, I might be able to put my foot down firmly before the matter went too far."
(H.J. Lenton, from minutes)

30 years ago
December 1966
Lesotho

BASUTOLAND achieved independence on 4 October 1966, and will in future be known as Lesotho.

Four attractive stamps of common design were released to mark the memorable occasion. They were designed and printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd, on unwatermarked paper by the photogravure process, in sheet format of 50 stamps of horizontal format, and measure 1,0277 x 1,5 inches each.

In addition to the commemorative issue the definitive issue was overprinted "Lesotho" by the Government Printer, Pretoria.

(News report)

60 years ago
January 1937
Tristan da Cunha

A mail will be despatched to the island by HMS *Carlisle* which purposes spending about three days there towards the end of February. Closing time for mails, 21 February in Cape Town. Imperial postage rates for letters, parcel post 3d per lb, foreign label to be used.
(J. Robertson, Johannesburg)

30 years ago
Januarie 1967
Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Posbus 413 – Roodepoort
Gereelde maandvergaderings,
uitstallings, veilings
en tweetalige nuusbrief.

DIE BESTE RONDSENDDIENS IN DIE LAND
★
Sterk ledetal deur die hele land
★
Belangstellendes verwelkom.
(Advertensie)

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News and notes/Aktualiteit

Melbourne – Johannesburg first time direct

IT is reported from Australia that Qantas opened the first direct airmail service between Melbourne and Johannesburg on 13 August 1996.

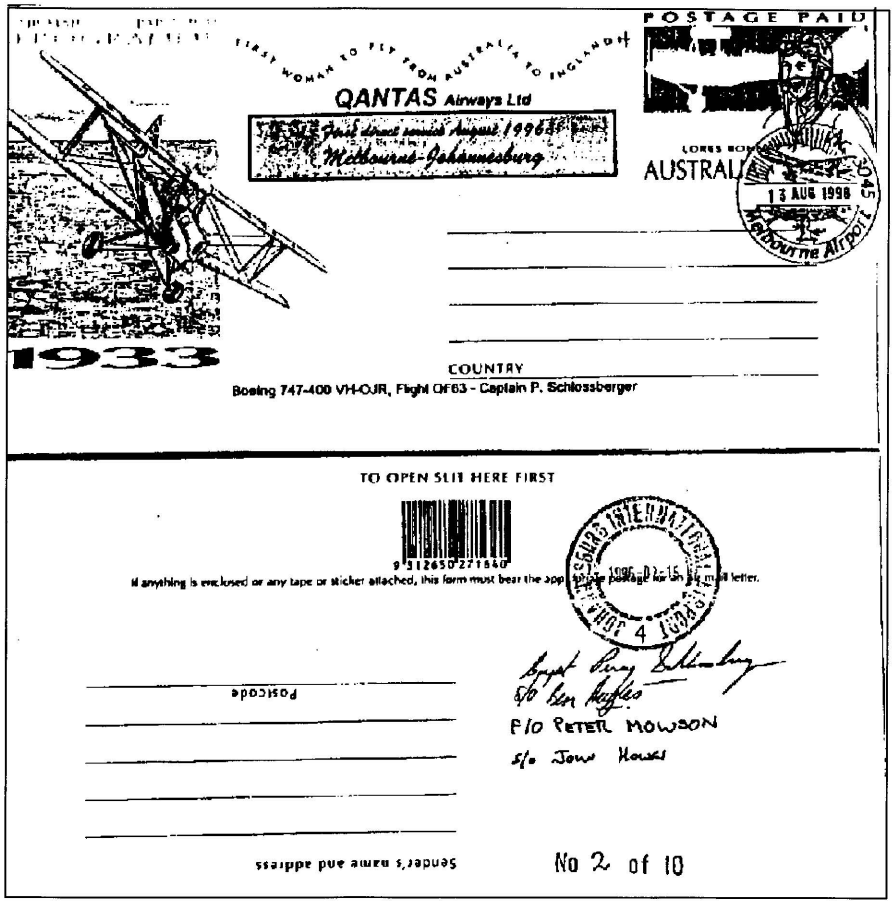
The inaugural flight QF63 was flown by the Boeing 747-438 VH-OJR City of Bathurst commanded by Captain Percy Schlossberger. The other members of the crew were First Officer Peter Mowson and Second Officers John Howes and Ben Hughes.

The service operates across the southern Indian Ocean on so-called flex-tracks, which means that the actual route may differ for each flight, depending primarily on the winds encountered. The inaugural route went as far as 55° South, close to Heard Island, roughly on a great circle track.

While it is presumed that normal airmail was carried, no philatelic material was advertised. However, a total of twenty numbered commemorative covers was flown. There are two types: ten Quantas air letters overprinted with a commemorative inscription, and ten aerogrammes, similarly marked.

The letters carry a 30c stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Qantas in 1970, whilst the aerogrammes depict Mrs Lores Bonney who, in 1937, became the first person to fly from Australia to South Africa. That flight was made in a single-engine Klemm, VH-UVE, and took four months, through Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Australian Aerophilatelist September 1996



The covers, like the aerogramme above, are postmarked Melbourne Airport 13 AUG 1996, and backstamped Johannesburg International Airport 1996-08-15. All four crew members signed on the reverse.

First stamp auction at sea

REPORTING in its issue of October 1996 under the heading "30 Years Ago", the newsletter of the Germiston Philatelic Society said the usual activities were "followed by a most interesting talk by Mr Suklje on his recent trip to the USA as South Africa's commissioner for the International Sipex Exhibition." (There is more about Hinko Suklje in *The SA Philatelist*, June 1994 p79, October 1994 p169 and December 1994 p204.)

"Travelling on the *Queen Mary* to New York, he was fascinated to witness the first ever stamp auction at sea, the ship being in radio contact with the cities of Basle, London, Milan, Paris and New York.

"One item valued at R24 000 fetched R40 000. So what, may we ask, is so terribly new about about our present electronic media – or high auction prices realised?"

A first for the RPS,L

BASTIONS are built to fall, and it has now happened in the Royal Philatelic Society of London. The society, over a century old, has elected its first lady president, Jane Moubray, who spoke to Peter Jennings, a fellow of the same society.

Jane Moubray began collecting around 1944 at the instigation of her grandfather, with a Gibbons packet of mixed stamps. Her current interests are Great Britain, specialising in the 2d, and Canada, with a bias towards postal history.

She belongs to four societies, and she and her husband Michael made their indelible mark in philatelic literature with the publication, earlier this decade, of *British Letter Mail to Overseas Destinations* – a typical rates and routes study, laced with social history, which took them 17 years to complete.



Jane Moubray

She thinks the pre-ponderance of

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male over female philatelists is slowly changing. "After all, many women have more time to follow their own pursuits than hitherto, especially in the older age groups, and some of them have more spending money at their disposal. . .

"The thematic approach certainly appeals to them, and this is not surprising. A thematic exhibit, correctly displayed, with the minimum of contrived material, is most instructive and attractive. The discipline itself requires intelligent and resourceful research, the hunt for the unusual appeals to the feminine instinct, and neat arrangement often comes naturally."

Peter Jennings asked her about the relationship between philately and an issuing authority such as Royal Mail. Jane Moubray's reply offers food for thought to issuing authorities eveyrwhere. She said:

"It is difficult to dissociate Royal Mail from new issues and their accompanying material and, whereas much is very attractive, it does not necessarily help the growth of philately.

"This is because philately is not only concerned with accumulation, but also with the intelligent study of the material itself and the reasons for its production. I feel care needs to be taken over both quantity and relevance, especially so far as that of a commemorative nature is concerned.

"The grounds for some of the most recent emissions have not always been readily apparent."

G.S.M. October 1996

Australian philatelists honoured

TWO philatelists of Australia who have visited South Africa and maintain their contacts here have been elected Members of the Australian Philatelic Order. Like the Roll of Honour in South Africa, the APO confers recognition of philatelic excellence, and it allows for Fellows and Members, the former being the senior honour.

They are David Collyer of New South Wales, who contributes to *The SA Philatelist* occasionally and also keeps your Editor in touch with organised philately in Australia, and David Ingle ("Dingle") Smith, of the Australian Capital Territory, who attended the Federation's congress at Durban in 1993 as an observer.

Philas News, September 1996

Another auction by Welz maintains the momentum

THE buoyant philatelic market in South Africa which has been evident in the past two years is still holding up, judging by the total realisation of R2,020 million (including buyer's premium) recorded by the Stephan Welz auction on 23 October 1996. It is the second time this year the firm has recorded over R2 million at a single auction. (A summary of the record is given at the end of this report.)

No less than 20 lots reached five figures, the single highest item being Lot 643, which realised a staggering R39 600. This was the 1944 quitrent receipt bearing a Southern Rhodesia 7/6 revenue stamp, illustrated in *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p165. And it had been estimated at R6 000 to R8 000!

Next highest was Lot 244, which was estimated at between R30 000 and R35 000, and fetched R36 200. It is a 1904 Bechuanaland cover from Kanye bearing a 3d vertically bisected, being one of two known.

Lot 432, a mint block of 4 of the steel-blue 1913/19 Sea Horses realised R23 100 against the pre-sale estimate of R25 000 to R30 000, and a collection of Saar (Germany), Lot 380, which was estimated at between R15 000 to R20 000, realised a fair R18 700.

Interesting among the Cape material was Lot 324, bearing a newspaper tax stamp (1d, first issue, Die II) on a portion of the Government Gazette of 26 April 1839. It is similar to the item illustrated by JE van Puyenbroek with his article "The Newspaper Tax Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope 1827-1844" in *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p143, in which he estimated the current price of the stamp alone at £30. The estimate was R600 to R800, and the realisation R880.

A modern RSA error also fetched a surprisingly good price. This was Lot 771, a mint control block of 12 of the 25c Protea definitive (1977) with black and red omitted. The estimate was R5 000 to R6 000, and the hammer price plus premium actually went to R7 700.

There was greater interest in the better literature than at the previous Welz sale. A fine copy of Parts I and II of the (London) Philatelic Society's *The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers. . . British Colonies. . . in Africa* went for R1 540 against a high estimate of R1 000.

A complete run of *The Transvaal Philatelist* up to November 1985 realised R935 against the high estimate of R600.

Obviously of great interest was the late Douglas Lamont Smith's complete run of *The SA Philatelist*, bound up to December 1994, estimated at R1 200 to R1 500. It realised R5 500 which, taking into account its intrinsic value as well as current binding costs, would seem to set about the right level.

The only other run the Editor can recall auctioned in recent years was that of the late Sam Legator, complete up to 1972. This was at the Gibbons' sale held at Johannesburg 100 in 1986, where it was knocked down for a paltry R680 (equivalent to about R2 000 today).

For the record: the first time a Welz sale topped R1 million was on 22 March 1995: R1,049m (see *The SA Philatelist*, June 1995, p77).

Thereafter the record runs: 14 June 1995, R1,075m (reported June 1995, p92); 20 September 1995, R1,280m (December 1995, p176); 21 February 1996, R1,777m (February 1996 p30, April 1996, p54); 15 May 1996, 2,130m – first time over R2 million (June 1996, p87).

Auction sales in the new year

THE British auctioneers Christie's, Manson Woods are planning to have their first two London sales in 1997 on 12 and 13 March (British Empire), and on 8 May (Great Britain and Rarities).

In Dublin Whyte's of 30 Marlborough Street are having Stamps and Postal History sales on 9 February and 17 May 1997.

News releases

More about free Kiwi postage

IN *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p165 there was a report about New Zealand's "Free Post Day" on 1 July 1996, believed to be a world first. The Journal of the Postal History Society of New Zealand (the issue date is unfortunatly not to hand) takes the story further.

Immediately after NZ Post announced its bonanza:

- Kiwis began accumulating their mail for posting on 1 July.
- Correspondence was caught up.

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● Bills not due until 20 July were mailed early.
● Firms balanced debtors' ledgers early to send out their bills on 1 July.
● Firms got staff to hand write addesses, and even hired temporary labour to do so. (Only hand addressed letters qualified for free postage.)

NZ Post hired extra labour to cope with the expected deluge. It was decided to cancel all mail, even though there was no stamp to cancel. This means that the facing and sorting machines would not work, and most mail had to be handled manually.

Pillar boxes were cleared several times on the day, and all records were broken – vaious reports put the number of letters handled at between 6 and 8 million.

Most post offices did not use special cancellers, but Auckland, Wellington and Manawatu were three which ran special ink jet messages.

Bloemfontein 150, 9-12 October 1969

Opening behoorlik ingelui

DAAR was allerhande oorspronklike idees om Bloem 150 te kenmerk, maar hierdie was seker een van die lewendigste openings ooit. Eddie Kleinhans, die Poskantoor Streekhoofbestuurder, Sentrale Provinsies, het die geleentheid behoorlik benut.

Die seël vir Wêreldposdag was op sy program vir daardie dag se uitreiking, en met die vrolike gelui van fietsklokkies het tien posbodes aangery gekom op die mooiste rooi fietse om EDKs tydens sy openingstoespraak aan al die aanwesiges te bestel. Party van hulle het sommer die bode hul EDK laat teken!

Wat Eddie Kleinhans ook ingebou het in die openingseremonie, was heel gepas 'n toekenning van die Wêreldposunie vir hul internasionale briefskryfwedstryd.

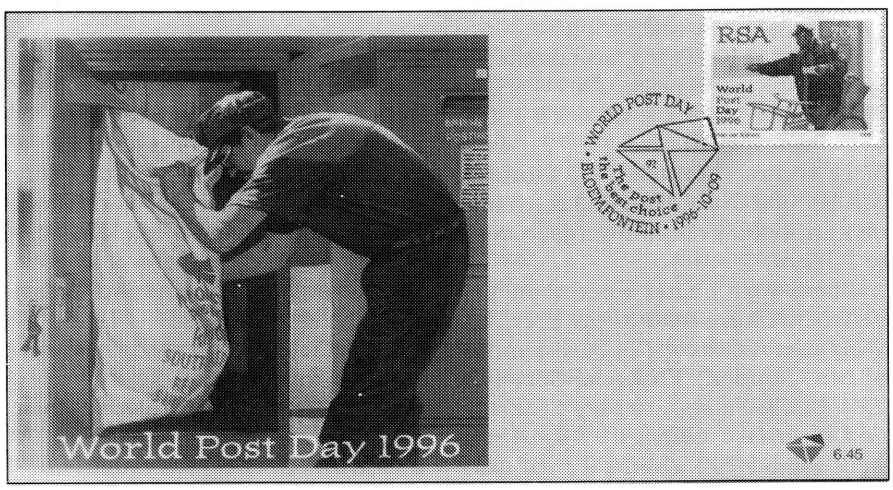
Dit vind nou sedert 1969 plaas, en Suid-Afrika het vir die eerste maal in 1995 deelgeneem.

Die SA Poskantoor ken 'n spaarbankrekening van R500 aan die skrywer van die beste plaaslike brief toe, en spesiale albums van plaaslike posseëls aan die naaswenners. Daar was die wenmannetjie toe sigselwers, die 12-jarige Hercules Botha van Krugersdorp, wat boonop nog in mededinging met inskrywings van 189 lande, 'n silwermedalje by die WPU losgeslaan het.



Die President van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika, André Bezuidenhout, tussen die briewebestellers tydens die opening van Bloem 150.

Die tema van die wedstryd was "Die plesier van brief skryf", en vir sy tweede plek het die Unesco jurie Hercules se brief aangeprys vir sy amusante, lewendige en volwasse inhoud. Die nuwe wedstryd se tema is om 'n brief te skryf aan die persoon wat jy die meeste bewonder, en besonderhede word in Januarie 1997 aan alle skole gepos.



The philatelic rookie

Margaret de Bruyn, Nampost

UITEINDELIK! Ek staan op die lughawe in Bloemfontein. Hoekom weet ek nie, ek is 'n klein bietjie teleurgesteld in die klein affêretjie rondom my. Ek het heel groter verwag want ek is mos nou in die "States". Gou is my verbasing verby want ek kry nie die vervoerband nie! Net nie dit ook nie! Moet ek self my koffer van die vliegtuig af gedra het?

"Is jy dalk Grietjie van Namibia" vra 'n man met groot bruin oë. "Ja, maar waar is die vervoerband?"

Dennis laai my op. My koffer los ek by die Herberg daar iewers in Bloem. In sy voertuig is ons op pad na die Groot Bestemming: Die Uitstalling. Die see van rame wat my stilswyend uit die saal begroet, het my dam onder my uitgeruk.

Kilometers en kilometers (so het dit toe gelyk) van ou koeverte, ou seëls, ou stempels, ou geskiedenis (en ou gesigte!). Iewers langs die pad loop ek vir Gunter raak. Selfs sy baard het oud gelyk!

"Grietjie, please meet Mr So-and-So from So-and-So. This is Dr So-and-So from So-and-So. And oh! Let

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me introduce you to Professor So-and-So from So-and-So"... and the So-and-So from the So-and-So's went on until my brain refused to remember any more of them.

I did not expect the red-hot sizzling welcome of André Bezuidenhout – the President of the Philatelic Federation. He kissed me until I kissed back and then he immediately stopped. What an overwhelming wave of philatelists!

During the exhibition I learned more about Philately. One philatelist after another made it his personal responsibility to lead me into the finer mysteries. (For which I am grateful – thank you.)

"No – look at this!", and "Please use the magnifying glass", and "You're looking at the wrong cancellation"... and gradually I expected that you need more qualifications, or papers or common sense or something else to be a true philatelist! This ingredient was exposed a bit later on.

Thursday, 10 October we visited Tabanchu Sun where the collectors of these precious postal items gambled away non precious coins of money. As softly as they handle the stamps with small tweezers and magnifying glasses, so hard do they hit the slot machines.

Friday 11 October was the beginning of another big event – the annual congress. We sat patiently waiting for all participants to arrive. That went quite smoothly. The Chairman gave me a chance to say something about Namibian Philately. At that stage they still all seemed quite normal to me...

Friday night was the educational night – the philatelists wore their real colours. We went to old museums and old president's houses. The tour was ended with a tasty meal at the old Boer War museum.

En dit was waar die ding begin het. Hierdie klomp rondom my begin 'n veiling hou van wyn – wat in elk geval die volgende dag verniet weggegee is – op die Amerikaanse of Hollandse of so 'n manier. Sommer net so samel hulle R2 400 in vir die Oorlogmuseum. "I will pay R50 if Robert sings a song"... and Robert sings a song! "I will pay R100 if David says the alphabet... and David says the alphabet... I could not believe my eyes and ears.

Michael Wigmore sitting next to me explained in the following very true words what the missing element was: "All philatelists are crazy!" Suddenly the sun shone in my confused mind!

Tog was dit die einde nie! Saterdag was die finale afsluiting en die hoogtepunt op die plaas Onze Rust net buite Bloemfontein. 'n Gebreekte bus verder was ons daar om te kyk na wapens uit die Boereoorlog – almal in 'n werkende toestand.

Oud-regter Steyn – ook 'n filatelis – onthul 'n boesem geheim: die eerste naakte vrou wat hy in sy lewe gesien het was een op 'n seël! Die aand is afgesluit met 'n heerlike ete en die prysuitdeling.

Aan die huidige Namibiërs – toe Suidwesters – al kwalifiseer ek nog nie as 'n filatelis nie (ek dink ek het nog al my varkies) baie geluk. Ek hoop uit my hart dat ons huidige seëls en posgeskiedenis oor 100 jaar van nou af vir iemand anders so baie pryse sal besorg.

Aan ieder en almal, elke "crazy" persoon wat daar was, baie dankie vir julle geduld met hierdie dom nuweling. Ek het nog nooit so baie hande geklap in so 'n kort tydjie nie. Dit was 'n belewenis.

Spesiale dankie aan Freddy Dennis en o aarde, die ander man se naam het ek vergeet – maar hy sal weet, die Engelsman wat met sy vergrootglas teen die raam staan – the one with the little hair that took me through deep discussions of postal history and broken eyebrows until his chicken was ice-cold!

Nota van die Redakteur: Dit was 'n plesier om met die nuwe hoof van

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Namibia se Filateliediens kennis te maak. Sy is reguit, het bewys dat sy uiters gewillig was om te leer, noem haarself Grietjie, en is bereikbaar by Privaatsak 13336, Windhoek, of ☎ +26461 201-3050, faks 25-9467.

The Jury report

Danny Swart, RDPSA

IT was a very satisfying judging experience for the whole jury team with an extremely high overall standard of exhibits for what might well be termed, a relatively small exhibition. I think the results speak for themselves in this respect producing as it was a total of five large golds and six golds.

We have realized more than ever at this particular exhibition the need for additional medal award notches to be introduced at the silver and vermeil levels. A recommendation has gone forward through the Judging Committee of Federation, and it was tabled at Congress on 11 October, for the introduction of a large silver and large vermeil medal for future exhibitions. This will of course also bring us more in line with international standards.

A further aspect which came to light during this exhibition was the tendency in postal history exhibits for a preponderance of social history being introduced into the write-up and reflected in the manner of presentation of historical covers. With two particular exhibits we were faced with the problem that the postal history element of the display was almost non-existent.

The recommendation is therefore that a new exhibition class be introduced namely "Social Philately", and it will be over to the exhibition organising committees to consider whether to include this as an exhibition category. Insofar as the two current exhibits noted above are concerned we moved these into this new class and judged accordingly.

It is my great pleasure to announce here this evening that we were very pleased with the input and level of expertise shown by the three learner jurors, and it is our recommendation that all three go forward for inclusion in the panel of accredited jurers; namely Emil Buhrmann, Ds Meyer de Kock and Des Hyland.

My hearty congratulations to all of the exhibitors and my personal thanks again to the organising committee under the able chairmanship of Jan van Beukering for such a wonderful show.

Awards: Bloem 150

Die Staatspresident Trofee
Beste algehele uitstalling: Frank Snyman
The Postmaster General's Shield
Best South or South West Africa Exhibit: John Sandilands
Die SA Posseël Studiegroep Toekenning
Beste na-1910 Suid-Afrikaanse uitstalling: Gerhard Kamffer
The Anglo-Boer War Society Award
Best Anglo Boer War exhibit: A & M Raath
Die Bob Goldblatt Tematiese Beker
Beste Tematiese of Onderwerpversameling: Gerrie Conradie
The DG Crocker Award
Best Postal History exhibit: Pauw Steyl
Die 'Potch 78' Toekenning
Beste na-2de Wêreldoorlog uitstalling: Henriëtte Botha
The FAK Trophy
Exhibit with best Afrikaans write-up: Carel Breedt
Die CED Enoch Trofee
Toegeken vir filateliese navorsing: Friedhelm Beck
The Vrijstaat Trophy
Best OFS exhibit: John Cheminais
Die Stampcor Toekenning
Beste Voor-Unie uitstalling: Roger Porter
The Jonas Michaelson Award
Best literature entry: Jonas Michelson
Die Rosemary Crocker Toekenning
Beste Suidwes-Afrika uitstalling: Fred Herzberg
The Terence Radue Award
Best non-Commonweath exhibit: Friedhelm Beck
Die Total Stampex Toekenning
Beste uitstalling vir area buite Suid- Afrika: Peter v d Molen
The East Rand Philatelic Society Trophy
Best first time exhibitor: Fred Herzberg
Die Archie Atkinson Trofee
Beste Prentposkaart-uitstalling: Richard Oliver
The Royal Medallion
Best British Commonwealth Exhibit: John Kilroe
DIE AFV Eretoekenning
Toegeken in die jurie se diskresie: Carl Raehs
The ZAR 100 Award
Best "Foreign" Exhibit: Emil Minnaar
Die Stanley Gibbons Toekenning
Beste Klassieke Uitstalling: Rolf Zinke
The Rand 77 Award
Awarded at the discretion of the Jury: Chris Cordes
Die Rhodesië Toekenning
Beste Rhodesiese Uitstalling: Bill Ross

LARGE GOLD
Gerhard Kamffer
Fred Herzberg
Friedhelm Beck
John Sandilands
Frank Snyman
GOUD
Peter van der Molen
John Cheminais
Roger Porter
Pauw Steyl
A & M Raath
Carl Raehs
VERMEIL (With felicitations)
Chris Cordes (for presentation)
John Kilroe (for presentation)
Gerrie Conradie (for presentation)
VERMEIL
Dawid de Villiers
Ralph Philipps
Danie Scheepers
Howard Cook
Franco Frescura
Brian Franklin
Nick Zerbst
William Ross
Helmuth Hartmann
Jill Redmond
SILVER (With felicitations)
Emil Minnaar (for presentation)
Carel Breedt (for research)
SILWER
Zouna Fonternel
Solly Gutman
John Woolford
John Wannerton
Willem Lubbe
Ralph Philipps
Henriëtte Botha
Marion Louw
Johnny Heimann
Rolf Zinke
Ronald Mephius
Moira Bleazard
SILVER-BRONZE
Alicia Wannerton
Andy Andersson
David Inkin
Kobus de Bruyn
David Dowie-Dunn
Delene Bester
William Scott
Strooi Sorour
BRONS
Dennis Green
Jack Napoli
Sam Lubbe
A Duigan
Marietjie du Toit
Aubrey Miller
Herbert Olinger
G Sulu
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Myra Briedenhann
NOT JUDGED
T Coleman
PICTURE POSTCARDS
VERMEIL (with felicitations)
Richard Oliver
VERMEIL
B Maude-Stone
SILVER
A A Bush
NOT JUDGED
M J Walker
LITERATUUR
VERMEIL
Jonas Michelson
SILVER
Youth Activities Committee
M J Walker

Junass at Bloem 150

SINCE Junass went its own separate way in 1989 – having been part of senior exihibitions when it began in 1984 – Bloem 150 was the first occasion when the senior and junior exhibitions were held together again.

In the past it had been felt that the senior awards commanded all the at-

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tention, leaving the juniors out in the cold.

True enough, the juniors were in a separate hall, but their prominence overshadowed even that of the Court of Honour, which shared the exhibition space with them. In addition, it was the same hall where liquid refreshments were dispensed, and no one can doubt that this ensured a constant stream of visitors.

A useful exercise was the jury swapping when senior and junior judging had ended. The chairmen of the respective juries remained in place, so the junior jury was expertly led through the senior exhibits, and vice versa.

It was in particular the complexities of judging junior exhibits in various age groups which were an eye-opener to senior judges, who none the less managed to "get things right" more or less most of the time.

They were also pleasantly surprised at the high standard of junior thematics.

The Junass jury report

Dr Neil Cronjé

THE jury consisted of myself, David Stern (vice-chairman), Richard Johnson, Danie Scheepers, and as learners Henriëtte Botha (secretary), Capt Robert Harm and Stephen Baker.

There were 34 exhibitors, and the standard was high this year, with two Gold medals, five Vermeil (two with felicitations), five Silver (two with felicitations), eight Silver-Bronze, twelve Bronze and two Certificates of Merit being awarded.

Traditional exhibits are coming into their own now, with five entries in this class, and the standard was particularly high in this section.

A new, non-competitive class was created for club exhibits, with David Stern (subsequently to be elected by the congress to sign the Federation's Roll of Honour) donating a trophy and three cash prizes for this section. There were three entries, with the De Kuilen Club being the first winner of the Club Trophy.

Awards: Junass 96

Sam Legator Grand Prix
Best exhibit in 16-18 year age group
Dewald König
Fanie Vermaak Junior Grand Prix Silver
Beste uitstalling in 13-15 jaar ouderdomsgroep
Dawie Conradie
Fanie Vermaak Junior Grand Prix Bronze
Best exhibit in 10-12 year age group
Dori Kawalsky
Herman Steyn Toekenning
Aan uitstalling wat die meeste navorsing aantoon
Sean Cameron
East London Philatelic Society Award
Best South Africa exhibit
Graham Bleazard
Bloem 150 Spesiale Toekenning
In jurie se diskresie
Geo de Kock
Ratcliffe Toekenning
Beste eerste uitstaller
Melita Weideman
Betty Sandilands Award
Awarded at the discretion of the Jury
Leon Beukes
David Stern Toekenning
Beste Klubuitstalling
De Kuilen

GOLD
Dawie Conradie
Dewald König
VERMEIL (Met felisitasies)
Dori Kawalsky (Filateliese kennis)
Leon Beukes (Tematiese ontwikkeling)
VERMEIL
Graham Bleazard
Sean Cameron
Geo de Kock
SILWER (Met felisitasies)
M C Conradie (Aanbieding)
Frikkie Conradie (Filateliese kennis)
SILVER
Melita Weideman
Evan Blecher
Quintus Borgstein
SILWERBRONS
Gustav Groenewald
Shane Raubenheimer
Juanita Seconds
Paul Theron
Cheryll Fredericks
André Ramsay
Jessica Groom
Johan Meyer
BRONZE
Geo de Kock
Jade Rabie
David Barton
Mlungisi Nosikane
Sirion Haylett
Madeleine Venter
Reinhardt Botha
David Rae
Heinrich v d Linde
Warren Turner
Jacques v d Linde
Johann Meyer
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Rogier Couran
Adriaan Badenhorst

The Federation's 58th Congress

A rousing start to proceedings

ONE of the Free State's most popular politicians, the Rev M "Ma" Chabaka, Speaker of the Free State Legislature, provided an unusually humorous and rousing philatelic opening address, as she was so fully aware of the interests of her audience.

Of course she had also been a collector, she said, but it was while she was in exile in America that she exploited to the full the significance of messages that stamps could carry. Writing seemingly innocuous cards and letters to friends in South Africa, she always took care to frank them with stamps from a civil liberties series, knowing full well that the recipients would recognise the solidarity thus expressed.

(This was in all likelihood the Americana issue, made from 1975 to 1979, which carried messages such as "Freedom to speak out", "To cast a free ballot", "Liberty depends on freedom of the press" and "Right of people peaceably to assemble". The Editor).

In his presidential address, André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, referred to the problems which had been experienced with Philatelic Services and the detrimental effect this had had on the hobby. He was optimistic, however, that through initiatives of the Management Comittee and liaison with the SA Post Office at panel discussions, a much healthier relationship had been established at top level.

Motions and proposals: FDC class envisaged

ARTICLE 13.3 of the Federation's constitution was changed so that office bearers of the Federation could exercise proxies on behalf of other office bearers, and in addition hold proxies for no more than two societies.

An exhibition category for First Day Covers was proposed by Howard Green RDPSA, which was adopted and referred back to the Management Committee for further action. It was noted that the institution of such a category was a recommendation to organising committees of exhibitions, and not an instruction.

This will in effect lead to a specialist class much the same as that for pictorial post cards, which were first exhibited competitively at Durban in 1993, and an amendment to the Federation's byelaw 14 to this effect has already been drafted.

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In the light of the jury's experience at Bloem 150 and also at previous exhibitions, the chairman of the Judging Committee, Richard Knight RDPSA, under "General" made a plea that Vermeil and Silver medal levels henceforth should mandatorily include a "Large", as was the case with Gold. (A suitable amendment to bye-law 12.7 to give effect to the proposal has been drafted.)

Joh Groenewald RDPSA tabled four policy proposals to go forward to the SA Post Office regarding Special Datestamps, Joint Stamp Issues, Stamps for Public Holidays and the Anglo-Boer War Commemoration, all of which were approved by the congress.

(A proposal by Jan Bakker for an RDPSA Honours Board at every national exhibition, which was accepted under "General", will be dealt with elsewhere.)

'A new era for philately'

IN concluding his address to the congress, André du Pisani, Senior Manager Business Units of the SA Post Office said: "We would like to use this congress as a starting point for a new era in philately, and for the launch of Philatelic Services as a business unit capable of taking our services well into the next century."

After outlining several general operational changes and improvements in post office services, Du Pisani specifically addressed numerous points "committed to the future of philately in this country". Among them are:

The establishment of a Post Office-Federation consultative committee.

The restructuring of the Philatelic Foundation to hand over its control entirely to organised philately.

The substantial funding of Ilsapex 98.

The restructuring of Philatelic Services leading to the appointment of four new managers.

The appointment of a Youth Activities Officer as a prelude to increased involvement in philatelic development at novice level.

The appointment of a full-time editor for the bi-monthly *Setempe*, the post office's general interest philatelic journal sent free to 26 000 subscribers.

The appointment of a network of ten agents at national level to increase distribution to specialised philatelists, and the eventual increase to 150 from the current 42 philatelic counters at post offices.

The housing of the Post Office's records and library (previously kept at the old Post Office Museum) with Philatelic Services, as an ideal venue for philatelic research.

Salient points from the major congress reports

Financial matters

THE Federation's operating profit for 1995 stands at the highest figure yet achieved – R29 044 – since it turned in a similar profit of R28 166 in 1990 when, for the first time, it came out of a loss situation.

In presenting his report, the Honorary Treasurer Howard Green, RDPSA also said that the total reserves of the Federation now stood at R314 000, so that interest income alone was playing a major role in its finances.

He recommended that there be no change in society subscriptions (R30 per home member and R5 for non-home members), and pointed out once again that *The SA Philatelist* was not being "subsidised" by society members. Advertising income and interest paid 65 per cent of its cost, while its production costs had been reduced by 2,5 percent.

The magazine in addition received an income of R14 000 from direct subscriptions, said Danny Swart, RDPSA, in his report as chairman of the Federation's standing committee on finance.

He said that to date there would seem to have been about a 10 per cent fall-off in total society membership, while two societies had ceased operations.

Bestuurskomitee

VERAL is die verhouding tussen die Federasie in die bestuur van die SA Poskantoor vanjaar op 'n vrugbare grondslag geplaas, het die voorsitter van die bestuurskomitee, Joh Groenewald, RDPSA, gesê. Die ander goeie nuus is onder meer dat die sekretariaat onder die leiding van George van den Hurk, RDPSA, pragtig vlot.

Vir die eerste maal in die loop van die jaar het die Federasie aan 'n internasionale Jeugfilatelie tentoonstelling deelgeneem, het die oudio-visuele komitee hom verbind tot die nuwe medium van video en ondersoek hy die gebruik van CD-ROM, en is die gids tot nasionale tentoonstellings voltooi.

Groenewald het betreur dat Andries van der Walt hom genoodsaak gevoel het om sy taak as voorsitter van die Promosiekomitee neer te lê – die pos is nog steeds nie gevul nie – en ook om na 15 jaar sy seëlrubriek in *Beeld* te staak.

Onder die suksesvolle onderhandelings wat gevoer is, was onder meer die behoud van die status van die Staatspresident Trofee sowel as die Posmeester-Generaal Skild. Daar is ook morele ondersteuning gekry vir die hou van 'n gespesialiseerde uitstalling van Voëls op Seëls om saam te val met die Wêreld Ornitologiese Kongres wat in 1998 in Durban plaasvind.

As voorsitter van die komitee vir *The SA Philatelist* het hy die bedanking betreur – in April 1996 – van die Pretoriase assistent-redakteur, Alewyn Burger.

Keurkomitee

SOOS in vorige jare het die Federasie se Keurkomitee, onder Voorsitterskap van David Crocker, RDPSA, weer eens 'n skenking van R3 000 aan die Federasie oorhandig.

Terwyl die versending van items ter keuring sekuriteitsprobleme geskep het, het Crocker gesê, word die situasie verbeter deur gebruik te maak van versekerde voorkeurpos.

Die keurkomitee se inkomste vir 1995 het met R1 241,55 gestyg, en uit beleggings met R731,04. Uitgawes is tot 'n nominale R689,54 beperk.

Audio-Visual committee

AS distribution of shows was down to 88 (from 126) for the year under review, the chairman of the Audio-Visual Committee, Emil Minnaar, said that individuals could now book shows for private viewing, providing this was done through their societies.

A total of 11 shows on VHS was now available, he said. (Titles were listed in *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p172.)

Utilising a grant of R22 600 received from the Philatelic Foundation, the committee is now embarking on the production of VHS shows with new equipment and computer programmes.

Beoordelaarskomitee

DAT die werk van hierdie komitee tweerigtingverkeer behels, is beklem-

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toon met die voorsitter, Richard Knight, RDPSA se verslag van die voorneme om 'n eenvoudige handleiding uit gee: *Preparing Stamp Collections for Exhibition*. Dit is 'n Australiese publikasie, en toestemming is verkry om dit vir plaaslike gebruik aan te pas.

Die doel is dus om leiding te verskaf aan uitstallers sowel as juries, soos reeds gedoen is met die tentoonstelling op Bloem 150 van die FIP se voorbeeld van 'n "goeie" en 'n "swak" uitstalling.

Knight het sy kommer uitgespreek oor die gehalte van tematiese uitstallings, en daaroor dat nasionale juries nie genoegsaam aangevul word uit die geledere van die leerling jurielede nie.

Hy is egter tevrede dat internasionale toekennings aan Suid-Afrikaners bewys dat plaaslike beoordeling op peil is, en het weer eens sy komitee se bereidwilligheid uitgespreek om slypskole vir potensiële beoordelaars te hou.

Youth Committee (Stampmates)

THE indications from South African junior philately's first international participation at Indonesia 96 were that the local standard was well above average. This was reported by Jill Redmond, the commissioner for the exhibition and chairman of this Federation committee.

Junior philately was promoted on television, and guidelines to running Junass had seen a second edition.

Stampmates currently had 26 registered clubs, Redmond reported.

FIP Komitee

DIE welslae van Suid-Afrikaners by die twee internasionale tentoonstellings wat vanjaar ondersteun is deur die Federasie, is deur die voorsitter van die komitee, Peter van der Molen, uitgelig. Dit was Indonesië 96 (sien *The SA Philatelist*, Junie 1996, p96) en Capex 96 (Augustus, p131).

Intussen het dit bekend geword dat Howard Green, RDPSA ná Capex 96 as internasionale beoordelaar vir tradisionele filatelie deur FIP bevestig is. (Richard Knight, RDPSA, vir posgeskiedenis, en Harry Birkhead, RDPSA, vir tradisionele filatelie, is ook reeds toegelaat.)

Op 24 Mei 1996 is Suid-Afrika as geassosieerde lid toegelaat tot die Federasie van Inter-Asiatiese Filatelie (FIAP), en is deur FIAP kragtens volmag by die FIP Kongres op 6 en 7 Oktober 1996 in Istanboel verteenwoordig.

In 1997 ondersteun die Federasie weer twee internasionale tentoonstellings. Die eerste een is Norwex 97 (Oslo, 16 tot 21 April), waar Wilhelm Grütter, RDPSA die kommissaris is, sowel as leerling jurielied.

Hy neem vier aanvaarde uitstallings saam: Dave Deighton, "Buckinghamshire Postal History"; Roger Porter, "Postal History of Natal"; Bill Ross, "Cape of Good Hope from 1690-1901"; en Chris Wollbrandt, "German East Africa, the World War I Postal Emergency".

Danny Swart, RDPSA is die kommissaris vir Pacific 97 (San Francisco, 29 Mei tot 8 Junie), en nie minder nie as sewe Suid-Afrikaners is gekeur. Hulle is:

Wilhelm Grütter, RDPSA, "Cape of Good Hope Postal Stationery"; Richard Knight, RDPSA, "Rhodesia to 1924"; Ian Matheson, "British Honduras 1767-1902"; Neville Polakow, "Northern Rhodesia"; David Stern, RDPSA, "GB QEII Errors"; Danny Swart, RDPSA, "Belgian Congo"; JL Visser, "The Bechuanalands 1884-1932"; en Michael Wigmore, "The Second Anglo-Boer War in Natal";

In 1998 ondersteun die Federasie Israel 98 (Tel Aviv, 12 tot 21 Mei, kommissaris David Stern, RDPSA) en in 1999 is die kommissaris vir Ibra 99 in Neurenberg (27 April tot 4 Mei) Joh Groenewald, RDPSA.

Exhibitions Committee

THE funds accummulated by the committee over the past ten years for the hire and sale of frames would be used towards the manufacture of new frames required by Ilsapex 98, the chairman, Harry Birkhead, RDPSA, reported, and storage costs of the remaining 350 frames of the old type which are still in stock.

Birkhead thanked the SA Post Office for its contribution of R250 000 towards the material cost of the new frames required, and its promise to see the project through to completion.

He also said: "The proto-type frame to date is almost philatelist-proof in the loosening of nuts and bolts, as all are welded into fixed positions. The assembly still has four split pins which, as in the past, seem to have mobile legs. These are interchangeable with the existing units, just in case the philatelists involved in assembly and breakdown get their perfs all mixed up."

Nuwe seëluitgawes

DIE twee vorige kommitees vir posseëls van die SA Poskantoor, waarop die Federasie op albei Joh Groenewald, RDPSA benoem het, is op 1 Augustus 1996 tot een saamgesmelt, waarop hy steeds dien.

As voorsitter van die Federasie se Skakelkomitee vir nuwe seëluitgawes het Groenewald se komitee ook vier beleidsvoorstelle aan die poskantoor se komitee geformuleer en voorgelê (sien hierbo). Die komitee sal teen die spertyd van 15 November 1996 voorstelle vir seëls vir 1998 doen.

Daar is ook 'n voorlopige opname by die kongres gesirkuleer van die resultate van 'n navraag aan verenigings oor die uitreikingsbeleid wat die SA Poskantoor behoort te volg.

Miniature sheets and FDCs in aid of philately

IN his comprehensive report on the Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa its president, Danny Swart, RDPSA, stressed the importance of support for the miniature sheets and FDCs issued currently and in the past by Philatelic Services in aid of organised philately.

All stocks – for which a price list was available – have now been transferred to the Foundation. Individuals and societies were urged to purchase the material, particularly the Alberton and Bloemfontein miniature sheets inscribed "Sold in aid of organised philately". (Details are available from PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000. The Bloemfontein miniature sheet, at R2,00, was illustrated in full colour on the cover of *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996.)

The Foundation's non-distributable reserves at 31 March 1996 stood at R2,7 million, and its income for the financial year – chiefly from interest – was R438 777. The expenditure was close on R100 000, of which almost R80 000 was utilised for the direct promotion of philately. Of this, R32 000 went towards South Africa's participation at three FIP international exhibitions: Finlandia 95, Singapore 96 and Indonesia 96.

A projected budget and business plan toward the year 2000 has been formulated, providing for funding at all levels of philatelic endeavour, ranging from society and study circle projects to funds for philatelic publications. "We are therefore receptive to requests for financial assistance,"

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Swart said, "as long as proper motivation and details of projected budget needs are presented."

Projects supported in the current financial year include the publication of the monograph *The Branch Post Offices of Natal* (Dickson), issued with *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996; support for the Audio-Visual Committee (noted above); and funding for the Federation's presence at Capex 96 in Toronto in June 1996.

Nederland het wegwyser vir versamelaars

'n GEWAARDEERDE lid van vanjaar se jurie vir Bloem 150 was die genooide Nederlander LMA (Leo) Crandel, wat ook op die kongres 'n spreekbeurt gekry het. Hy het die agtergrond geskets van die Nederlandse Bond van Filatelisten-Verenigen, wat in 1908 tot stand gekom het, en hom toegespits spesifiek op die bond se ervaring met jeugfilatelie.

Die afgelope agt of nege jaar, het hy gesê, is opgemerk dat goeie uitstallings ontvang is, behalwe dat daar een ding tekort geskiet het: filatelie. Die kinders het basies mooi prentjies versamel.

Die Stigting vir Jeugfilatelie in Nederland het toe werk daarvan gemaak om 'n eenvoudige wegwyser op te stel tot die soort filateliese elemente wat 'n versameling kan verbeter. Die twaalf elemente (met voorbeelde) is nie 'n versameldoel in sigself nie, maar aansporings tot groter filateliese aantreklikheid. Dit word hier opgesom:

1. Seëls: Vaste en gedenkuitgawes, tydelike en rolseëls, lugpos-, boete-en spoorweg-seëls, blokke, stroke, seëls met strokies, met inagneming van tandings en watermerk. (Hier sou 'n mens inagneming van papier kan byvoeg.)

2. Seëlboekies: Oor die toonbank, outomaatboekies, boekie-omslae en -velletjies.

3. Frankeermasjienstroke: Volgens tipe masjien, verskillende groeperings, byvoorbeeld volgens nommering of tema.

4. Vooruitbetaling: Kasregister, posgeld betaal stempel, amptelike pos.

5. Postariewe: Heersend, soos binnelands, buitelands, lugpos, afslagtariewe, massapos, onvoldoende frankering, gewig.

6. Posvry: Veldpos, toeslagvrye pos, prisoniers- en koninklike briewe.

7. Posstukke: Omslae, voor-filateliese pos, spoor-, lug- en stadspos, telegramme, EDKs, eerste vlug omslae, koerierpos.

8. Pospapier: Briefkaarte, lugposvelle, poskaarte, antwoordkoepons.

9. Stempels: Voorrojerings, kassiestempels, handstempels, masjienrojering, nommerstempels.

10. Etikette: Aangeteken, spoed, voorkeur, geopen deur sensor, kontant by aflewering, breekbaar.

11. Poskantooraanwysings: Stempels, handgeskrewe, aankomsmerke, staafkodes, plakkers soos "Terug aan afsender", "Adres onbekend".

12. Velrande: Slagspreuke en dies meer, velnommers, telnommers, drukkersinskripsies.

Dit is ook 'n struktuur van filateliese elemente wat senior versamelaars by baat, het Crandel gesê, en dit het byna onmiddellik 'n heilsame uitwerking by juniors gehad. Hy het ook die noodsaaklikheid daarvan beklemtoon daarvan dat elke vereniging 'n jeugadviseur behoort te hê.

Federasietoekennings by die 58ste Kongres

DIE trotse nuwe houer van die Skinner Beker vanjaar is Jan van Beukering. Die toekenningskomitee se sitaat, waaroor daar ná nominasie 'n geheime stemming deur die kongres gehou moet word, lees soos volg:

Toe die Skinner Beker ruim 60 jaar gelede ingestel is, is die tradisie begin van hierdie hoogste toekenning vir dienste gelewer, en werk gedoen, ter bevordering van seëlversameling en filatelie. Dit is 'n erkenning vir buitengewone dienste.

Vanjaar beveel ons die erkenning aan vir die man wat aan die spits staan van die reëlings vir Bloemfontein 150, hierso in Bloemfontein: Jan van Beukering.

Vyftien jaar gelede is Jan ingetrek by die reëlings vir Vrijstaat 81, daardie hoogtepunt-geleentheid van die jaar 1981. Voor die jaareinde was Jan ingespan as redakteur van die *OVS Filatelietydskrif*, die maandelikse publikasie van die Oranje-Vrystaatse Filatelistevereniging.

In September 1990 het hy die 400ste uitgawe van hierdie maandblad as 'n pragboek gepubliseer, en steeds is hy die redakteur. Intussen was hy 'n paar keer voorsitter van die vereniging ook.

Ons wil egter sy werksaamhede noem wat die georganiseerde filatelie in breër verband bedien. Veral met die bevordering van jeugfilatelie het Jan die afgelope dekade uitgeblink, met diens as lid van die Federasie se Jeugkomitee, en as onvermoeide organiseerder, helper, werker en beoordelaar by Junass, die junior nasionale seëlskou.

Netso het Jan ingeklim as bekwame helper by nasionale uitstallings, waar hy soos verlede jaar op Alberton gehelp het om rame uit te lê, op te rig, versamelings te monteer en te bevestig, en wat nog alles. Jan is die soort vrywillige werker vir wie niemand iets hoef te vra nie, hy doen net. Boonop doen hy dan sy verdere deel as juriesekretaris of nasionale beoordelaar.

As lid van die Federasie se Promosiekomitee het Jan oorgeneem toe Andries van der Walt uitgetree het, en 'n paar jaar lank hierdie leisels ook gehanteer. Tussenin was hy verskeie kere die Federasie se vise-president vir die Vrystaat en Noord-Kaapland.

Vanjaar is Jan van Beukering die voorsitter van die reëlingskomitee vir Bloemfontein 150, 'n enorme heeldag-taak wat hy ondanks professionale verpligtinge gewilliglik, knap en geesdriftig doen. Dit verteenwoordig onbaatsugtige dienslewering aan ons almal. (Tot so ver die sitaat.)

Die WE Lea Beker is toegeken aan die Oorlogmuseum, Bloemfontein, vir sy ondersteuning en bevordering van filatelie, en die Federasie Plaket – vir uitmuntende diens oor 'n lang tydperk – aan Michael Wigmore vir sy bestendige en onvermoeide werk as die spilpunt van navorsing oor materiaal wat die Keurkomitee ontvang.

Aan Martin East is 'n Spesiale Kongrestoekenning in die vorm van 'n sertifikaat gedoen vir sy bevordering van tematiese tentoonstelling.

Die JH Pirie Gedenktoekenning (literatuur), die Manfred Weinstein Gedenkmedaljon (filateliese uitnemendheid), en die Geoff Joseph Trofee (oudio-visueel) is nie toegeken nie.

Congress Awards for articles in *The SA Philatelist*, October 1995 to August 1996.

J E van Puyenbroek: "Embossed revenue stamps of the VOC 1678-1791" – December 1995

Dick Klein: "More about the slogans of Rugby World Cup" – December 1995

Pauw Steyl: "Die ou posstal langs die N2" – Februarie 1996

Martin East: "How to tackle thematic

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exhibits" – Februarie 1996
Frank van Rensburg: "Stralende pret met slagspreuke" – April 1996
Anton de Klerk: "Seëls tydens die 1995 Wêreldbeker Rugbytoernooi" – April 1996
J E van Puyenbroek: "British embossed colourless revenue stamps at the Cape 1828" – Junie 1996
N Gomm: "The C-crown-C and other early SA postal slogans" – June 1996
Pauw Steyl: "Die oktagonale stempel 44: Belvidere nie Knysna!" – Augustus 1996
John Cheminais: "Setting analysis of the stamped OFS postcards" – 1889-1900 – Augustus 1996
Joh Groenewald, RDPSA: "'Stopped by censor' – hoe party briewe teruggekom het" – Junie 1996

AFV-toekenning, beste artikel in Afrikaans
Frank van Rensburg

Regular contibutors
Neville Gomm

Gawie van der Walt, South African representative of the Transvaal Study Circle, announced that the study circle would henceforth sponsor two further awards, namely for the best article about Transvaal, published anywhere, and the best article by a South African, published anywhere.

(NB: The Editor has foolishly mislaid the address of Dick Klein. Would he please write to the Secretary of the Federation, George van den Hurk, RDPSA, PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000, who will mail his certificate to him.)

All well that ends well

AT the beginning of the Congress, the president extended a special welcome to the Honorary Life President, Jonas Michelson, RDPSA, who was attending congress for the 45th time. In the course of proceedings, a special welcome was also extended to Margaret de Bruyn, the new head of Namibia's Philatelic Services, who was given a brief opportunity to introduce herself and talk about future plans.

As customary, proceedings ended with "General", some of the points being dealt with elsewhere.

Dr Franco Frescura, Head of Philatelic Services, briefly discussed the despatch of orders to standing account holders, and appealed to them to provide detailed information for follow-up where they were dissatisfied.

He also tabled several papers as the basis for discussion and consultation at a future point:

Draft Guidelines for the SA Post Office corporate product programme.

First Day Covers, commemorative covers and philatelic collectabilia.

Provisional proposals for *Reader's Digest* first issue sale of returned stock to standing order clients of Philatelic Services.

Some trends in international philately.

Dr Frescura indicated that anyone interested in these subjects could obtain copies of the papers from him.

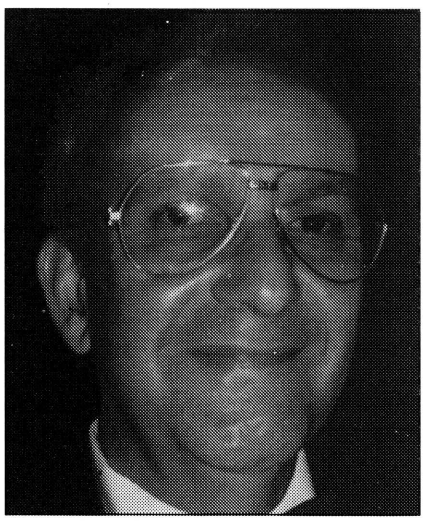
Verkiesing van amspdraers

DIE nuut-verkose president van die Federasie is Des Hyland van Kaapstad, en die vise-president is Joh Gronewald, RDPSA van Pretoria. Die ere-tesourier (met akklamasie herkies) is Howard Green, RDPSA.

Die volgende vise-presidente vir streke is aangewys:

Wes-Kaapland: Alan MacGregor; *Oos-Kaapland*: Arthur Bush; *KwaZulu-Natal*: Martin East; *Vrystaat en Noord-Kaap*: Richard Oliver; *Gauteng en Noord-Wes*: Danie Scheepers; *Mpumalanga en Noordelike Provinsie*: dr Alan Rose; *Namibia*: dr Uli Bantz; en *Buitegebiede*: Gawie van der Walt.

The RDPSA of 1996



David Stern

A senior philatelist and researcher of international stature, who is equally at home in chatting to 10 year-old aspiring stamp collectors at Junass – that is David Stern, F,RPSL.

His home society is the Society of Israel Philately, where he has won every major club award and been its chairman many times, going out of his way to make this society the success it is. In 1994 the society recognised his work and achievements with a singular honour, by presenting him with an illuminated scroll.

David Stern has been a staunch supporter of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, where he has often made his fine collections available for viewing at club level.

His role in organised philately is versatile. In the organising committee of the Johannesburg 100 philatelic exhibition in 1986, he was chairman of fundraising, and the marketing and financial success of this exhibition can be largely credited to David Stern.

In 1990 he accpeted the chairmanship of Ilsapex 98, the major international philatelic exhibition scheduled for 1998, the most significant international philatelic show to be staged in South Africa for sixty years. Once again, he leads the efforts of the fundraising committee.

But David's participation in organised philately is not limited to organising. He is a senior judge, who has been a member of national exhibition juries and Junass juries, also as chairman and vice-chairman. He is an enthusiatic supporter of youth philately, and many youngsters have benefitted from the advice of "Uncle David".

He was a member of the Federation's Judging Committee since its establishment, and is currently its secretary.

His major collections are of the first issue of the State of Israel, the Doar Ivri issue of 1948, and Queen Elizabeth errors 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

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prix, the State President's Trophy, while the Queen Elizabeth Errors also received the Potch 78 award for modern philately.

At the London 1990 exhibition David was an invited guest to exhibit to the Great Britain Error Society. Few collectors have either the knowledge, or the material, to be invited to London on such an occasion to speak on the complexities of this subject or to exhibit his material.

David Stern was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London in 1993, and at the philatelic congress in the same year he was awarded the Skinner Cup in recognition of his previous efforts towards philately. His philatelic achievements and inputs to South African philately eminently qualify him as a signatory to the Roll of Honour.

The Roll of Honour
Die Ererol

SEVERAL notes to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa have appeared in *The SA Philatelist* in more recent years. The references are:

August 1987, p 153; May 1989, p212; March/April 1990, p65; January/February 1991, p15; December 1992/January 1993, p183.

In the listing below, which is published annually, the names of deceased RDPSAs are marked with an asterisk, thus*.

1932: GJ Allis*, G Blockey*, AJ Cohen*, Sir HL Gorges*, C Hand*, GJ Houbert*, SA Klagsbrun*, J Ritchie*, L Simenhoff*, E Tamsen*
1933: JH Curle*
1934: WJ Harrington*
1938: GN Gilbert*
1939: CH Thornton*
1948 (Jan):WL Ashmead*, AE Basden*, PC Bishop*, AA Jurgens*, JH Harvey Pirie*, WM Redford*; (Oct): A Hylton Sydow*, J Wellsford*
1949: A Kaplan*, K Freund*
1951: GK Forbes*, S Legator*
1952: E Hunt*, A Watson*
1953: BLR Fox*
1954: WN Sheffield*
1955: JHH Chamberlain*
1956: TB Davie*, W Newlands*
1957: SJ Hagger
1958: LBuchen*
1959: TB Berry*, CED Encoh*
1960: MF Stern*
1963: IHC Godfrey*
1965: JM Michelson
1966: MPeisach
1967: HE Creewel*
1968: WG Combrink*, JM Weinstein*
1969: AL Leon*
1970: G Bülbring*, KEW Lydall*
1971: VF Ellenberger*, AL Meyburgh
1972: JT Burrell*, SJ Vermaak*
1973: HJ Raubenheimer*
1974: R Jeidel*
1976: H Jeidel*
1977: HO Reisener*
1979: IR Goldblatt
1980: AJ Bakker, J Groenewald
1981: AGM Batten*
1982: N Becker*, H Birkhead
1985: SP Naylor
1986: HM Criddle*, DG Crocker
1987: MJ Rall*, DT Swart
1988: NC Combrink*, HR Holmes*, RC Knight, CE Wright*
1989: A Bezuidenhout, MJ Nethersole
1990: Robson Lowe, C Slagt
1991: George van den Hurk, Ralph F Putzel
1992: Cedric Roché, Gunter von Schumann
1993: Howard Green, Dr Gerrit H Jonkers
1994: Dr JR Frank, Wilhelm Grütter
1995: Dr Alan Dysdall

Recognition proposed for the Roll of Honour

JAN BAKKER of the East Rand Philatelic Society put forward a novel proposal about the Federation's Roll of Honour under the heading "General" at the 1996 Federation Congress held in Bloemfontein. It is to be considered at the Management Committee meeting on 22 November 1996, and reads as follows:

Clubs and schools all have permanent venues. They all have boards to display the names of those who have received their highest honour. The Federation has no permanent venue, but it does have a Roll of Honour. It cannot inform the public about this roll except once a year in *The SA Philatelist.*

I propose that all future national exhibitions reserve the first frame of the Court of Honour section for this purpose on a permanent basis to remind all who visit the exhibition of our distinguished philatelists.

This frame has to (a) contain the complete list of all RDPSAs, (b) indicate which RDPSAs are still alive and which have passed on, (c) contain an "In Memoriam", highlighting any recipient of this honour who has passed away since the previous Congress, and (d) be amended on the afternoon of the congress to include the name(s) of the new recipient(s) if any.

It may contain in the remaining space: covers addressed to – and photos of – past recipients still alive. Additionally it may contain any other material that may be of interest and applicable.

It is not to be a "dead" frame that is carted around from exhibition to exhibition, but should be a "live" frame, individually arranged by each exhibition committee, based on the above guidelines.

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Haal uit en wys in Afrikaans

DIE Afrikaanse seëlklubs se jaarlikse kompetisie om die Veka en Rembrandt Trofees vind op 26 Februarie 1997 plaas, en vanjaar is daar 'n bykomende beker op die spel, naamlik die APBCO Trofee, in die kategorie posgeskiedenis. Die ander twee is onderskeidelik vir land- en tematiese versamelings. Die gasheer is weer die Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria, en die AFP se ere-sekretaris, ds Cassie Carstens, laat weet dat dat inskrywing doodeenvoudig is.

In elkeen van die kategorieë kan van een tot vier rame ingeskryf word (15, 30, 45 of 60 bladsye), die byskryf moet verskieslik in Afrikaans wees, daar is geen koste aan verbonde nie, en die risiko en/of versekering is vir die uitstaller se eie rekening.

Uitstallings kan self saamgebring word vir die kompetisie, wat om 19:00 in die teekamer van die Patologie Gebou naby die HF Verwoerd Hositaal plaasvind. Dit is op die hoek van Soutpansberg Weg en Beatrix Straat/Voortrekker Weg in Pretoria (ingang uit Dr Savage Weg).

Deelnemers kan hul materiaal ook saamstuur met 'n vriend, of dit pos om die AFP voor 21 Februarie 1997 te bereik. Inskrywingsvorms is beskikbaar van die vereniging, Posbus 706, Pretoria 0001, of mense kan in aanraking kom met ds Cassie by tel/faks (012) 660-2720.

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Cape philately struck by a sad loss

AT its regular bi-monthly meeting on 28 October 1996, members of the Royal Cape Philatelic Society were shocked to hear that Jacob ("Jack") Zeller had died suddenly that morning in Vienna.

He was a member of the society's committee, and the treasurer for next year's national exhibition, the Cape Stamp Show 1997.

He was also the immediate past president and the current treasurer of the Cape Society for Palestine-Israel Philately (Caspip).

"He will always be remembered as a philatelist" said the Caspip Newsletter of November 1996 (Vol 34 No 7), "and a friend who quietly did his job on a committee and was always ready to help out at a meeting when required. . . He was a mensch."

Sincere condolences are extended to his family and many friends.

Planning for Cape national progresses

THE organising committee of the national exhibition for next year, the Cape Stamp Show 1997 (8 to 11 October), is still exploring possibilities of sponsorship. The show will be in the large exhibition hall at the Civic Centre.

A recent decision was that exhibitors who had been awarded a large vermeil or higher at an international exhibition, or a large gold nationally, could compete for the grand prix award.

As 1997 is the 500th anniversary of Vasco da Gama's circumnavigation of the Cape, Portuguese authorities are being approached to find out whether the country wishes to be involved.

Committee minutes

FIP update

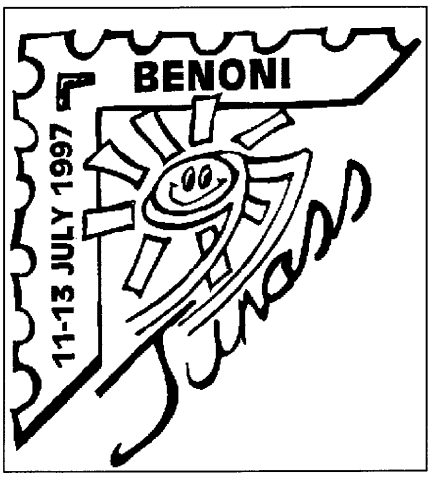
Peter van der Molen
Chairman, FIP Committee

THE next FIP exhibition supported by the PFSA will be Israel 98, to be held at Tel Aviv from 12 to 21 May 1998, for which our commissioner will be David Stern, RDPSA, FRPS, L. The prospectus and entry forms are now available from David at tel (011) 784-8312; entries must be submitted by 1 January 1997.

Following Israel 98, the next opportunities for exhibiting internationally will be at Ilsapex 98 (20 to 25 Oct 1998) and Ibra 99 in Germany from 27 April to 4 May 1999.

The Bloem 150 organisers kindly provided four frames to show the FIP Guide to Exhibiting and Judging Traditional Philately and Postal History Exhibits. That guide is, of course, also available to societies who wish to show it at a meeting.

For further information, also on other aspects of international philately and exhibiting, please contact PW van der Molen at tel (011) 914-3303, x205.



News of Junass 97

THE 1997 Junior National Exhibition will be hosted by the East Rand Philatelic Society. Called the Benoni Junass 97 Stamp Fair, the exhibition is planned to comprise of approximately 100 frames of exhibits, featuring a Court of Honour of high standard, strong attendance by dealers and various other attractions.

The official opening of the fair, to be held in the Small City Hall, is planned for the evening of 10 July 1997 (a Thursday) and the fair will remain open until mid afternoon on Sunday 13 July.

The organising committee is chaired by Jill Redmond, with Dave Wigston as secretary, Rowland Redmond as treasurer, and Dave Hunt with Peter van der Molen as members. The jury will be headed by Dr Ian Matheson.

The prospectus is planned to be published with the *Stamping Around* newsletter in December 1996. Further details will be announced, and Jill Redmond can be contacted on tel (011) 896-2845.

Novel idea for 1999

PLANNING is well advanced for the specialised "centennial" Anglo-Boer War national exhibition in Bloemfontein in October 1999, but the chairman of the steering committee of ABW100, Jan van Beukering, has seen a snag which he is proposing to pre-empt with a novel idea he has put forward to the Management Committee of the Federation.

He points out that as ABW100 is specialised, and that as the preceding year's Ilsapex 98 is international, there will be two years in which South African exhibitors will not be able to enter full nationals with a view to gaining the gold required for international competition.

Van Beukering is thus proposing for 1999 what he calls a "multiple venue exhibition" of national status, staged at various times and in various places, all adding up to what would otherwise be contained in a full competitive national exhibition.

Thus, he suggests, while ABW100 would provide for the Boer War, Cape Town could for example accommodate thematics and post cards, Windhoek SWA material, Sasolburg might deal with traditional material, and SAPDA with postal history.

The vital point, which is what the Federation must decide, is what criteria would have to be applied to ensure national status for such a series of sectional exhibitions, and it must ensure that the status is recognised by FIP.

Federasie se nuus

SOOS aangeteken tydens die Federasie se jongste kongres te Bloemfontein is die huidige kalender van tentoonstellings:

Sasolburg Mini:
11-16 November 1996.
Benoni Junass 97:
11-13 Junie 1997.
Cape Town Stamp Show:
8-11 Oktober 1997.
Voorgestelde Kimberley/Welkom Mini: 1997.
Junass 98:
Julie 1998 (Highway?).
Ilsapex 1998:
20-25 Oktober 1998).
ABW100:
11 Oktober 1999.
Junass 99: Centurion.
Nasionale tentoonstelling:
Paarl, 2000.

Verder het daar die volgende veranderings ingetree:

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Die Federasie se sekretariaat is bereikbaar by tel/faks (011) 453-2673.

Die voorsitter van die Oudio-Visuele Komitee se adres het verander na Posbus 1180, Kempton Park 1620.

New society for Natal

THERE are now sufficient prospective members to justify the formation of a Natal & Zululand Study Circle, says John Dickson, who first proposed such a specialist group in *The SA Philatelist*, June 1996, p89.

It was established at a meeting on 21 October 1996 in London, and the committee members are Brian Cartwright, Tony Chilton (Hon. Treasurer), John Dickson (Hon. Secretary), Dr Alan Drysdall, RDPSA (Hon. Editor), Martin Eichele, Roger Porter and Ian Shapiro (Hon. Chairman). Michael Wigmore was appointed the representative for South Africa, and Morgan T Farrell for North America.

This committee will remain in office until the end of 1998 to ensure continuity in the establishment phase of the study circle. It envisages a quarterly journal during 1997, and invites contributions to the Hon. Editor.

The society concerns itself with all aspects of the philately of Natal and Zululand during the colonial period, including the inter-provincial aftermath. It recognises, however, that the Anglo-Boer War Society and the Transvaal Study Circle remain preeminent in their fields concerning Natal campaigns of the Boer War and the New Republic respectively.

Subscription in South Africa is R70,00 per year, and payment before 1 January 1997 classes the subscriber as a founder member. Full details are available from Michael Wigmore, PO Box 294, Montagu 6720, tel (0234) 4-1424.

News release

Thematics club member scores in London

THE secretary of the Thematic Stamp Club of Cape Town, Clem Baker, recently found himself hugely surprised when he attended the annual convention of the Philatelic Music Circle in the course of Thematica 96 in London on 21 Septemeber 1996.

He is one of only six South African members of the circle, and had brought with him his exhibit "The Music and related Cultures of tribal Africa". He hesitantly asked whether he might display this, and was immediately encouraged to enter it for the Malin Cup.

There were five exhibits for this competition. Clem says "I was truly stunned when my exhibit was announced the winner. I was presented with the cup by Mrs Malin, the wife of the donor, who is 90 years old."

There was another competition, for overseas members who send only photocopies of their exhibits, for the Gwynneth Williams Trophy. This was won by Margaret Lowe of Benoni, a recently joined member of the Thematic Stamp Club.

TSC Newsletter, October 1996

Reports: National Stamp Day 1996

Bellville Philatelic Society: Reanie van Vuuren

DUE to incorrect information, our exhibition in the foyer of the library had to be moved to Saturday, 5 October and not the subsequent Saturday, as planned. The result was that only the members who attended our meeting two days beforehand knew about the new arrangement. We had to contact schools to advise them of the exhibition and put up posters, everything in two days. Luckily, the foyer was available.

Because of the rush to get everything ready, we only had one exhibit available; the winning exhibit of Melita Weideman at Junass 96. The secretary quickly improvised a competition in which children had to identify the stamps of ten countries. This was won by Brenna Moore, the daughter of one of our new members, and she will soon be receiving a packet of 50 stamps.

We made about R90 with the scratch box and R10 commission from other sales.

More could have been made of the day, if time hadn't been against us, but we are grateful for everyone who participated, and made the day the success it was.

Just a note of interest: to date, no information of flyers were received from Philatelic Service to help us organise the day!

East London Philatelic Society: Arthur Bush

AS Bloem 150 was held during the same week as World Stamp Week (silly idea) the East London Philatelic Society was forced to celebrate Stamp Day a week earlier, on 5 October 1996.

Once again we were able to secure our usual good position at the Vincent Park Centre thanks to the PRO at this establishment. The society's hard working committee were up bright and early with frames being offloaded at 07:00. The setting up of the frames and exhibits was completed by 08:30, just in time for the first early morning shoppers.



Interested onlookers at the East London Philatelic Society's exhibition for National Stamp Day.

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Twelve frames of eighteen pages each were shown and these consisted of "Astronomy" by John Morris, "Famous People (Music)" by Gloria Goetsch, "Medical" by Mark Finnigan, "Isle of Man" by Cyril Berndt, "Covers from around the World" and "Ciskei's last 10 years" by Arthur Bush, "Farm Family", "Fun" and "Churchill" by Veronica Neuper, plus one frame with Junior quiz questions.

A reasonable amount of interest was shown by the public, with of course the usual number wanting Granny's stamps valued, "which are very old you know, they date back to the last world war".

The society gained one new member (fishing was not too good) but the disappointment was the lack of young people seen. There must have been something more intersesting on in East London on this day.

However all the society members involved enjoyed themselves, and are looking forward to next year with the idea of perhaps holding this type of show on a more regular basis.

Pretoria Philatelic Society: David Young

FOR the last fifteen years or more the Pretoria Philatelic Society has been active with annual stamp exhibitions at local shopping centres. With the advent of a National Stamp Day some years ago, the society co-ordinates this annual exhibition with National Stamp Day.

We have experimented with many different formats over the years, varying from multi-frame exhibits over two or three days, reduced quantity frame exhibits on single days (usually a Saturday) and in 1994 attempted a week long stand together with the Post Office. Each year the exhibits have been accompanied by a small bourse for the sale of stamps and philatelic items such as stock books and the occasional catalogues.

The success has always been difficult to measure – public interest is somewhat limited to those interested in stamps in any event, and we therefore tended to measure success by the number of new people who joined the society as a result of the exhibitions.

This yardstick, if we are truthful to ourselves, was a failure based on the single yearly event. Taken over the year, as a result of the voluntary monthly bourse organised by our stalwart Wim Hardijzer – at the same Menlyn Centre venue – we have been able to encourage a number of new people into joining the society and therefore the monthly bourse is useful in creating public awareness of the society.

The committee of the society therefore came to a number of conclusions about Stamp Day two years ago and these views are passed on, through the benefit of our experience, to other societies:

High class philatelic exhibits are not appreciated by the general public.

Thematic exhibits are, marginally, of more interest.

People walking through shopping malls do not always have the time (or inclination) to spend more than a couple of minutes at an exhibit.

Security aspects of an exhibit are always a concern.

So what did we do to change the paradigm? Based on the above facts the Committee decided that:

We should not create an overkill by having too many frames – two or a maximum of three frames with 15 pages per side, 30 pages per frame.

Keep the subject matter on display simple.

It should be eye-catching, preferably with some "lead in" posters.

The bourse formula should be retained.

Keep the exhibition to a limited period for one day only. We chose a Saturday and targeted 08:00-14:00.

Above all the committee decided our target market would be our youth population.

With the focus redefined it was agreed that a stamp colouring in competition would be held. The competition and design would need to be of interest to both girls and boys. The first event in 1995 consisted of an A4 sized design based on a group of giraffe. It attracted some 42 entrants and was an eminent success. The age groups were split up at the end of the day and the winners chosen by a panel of two artists who are also members of the society.

Prizes consisting of stamps were given to each entrant on the day and stock books were handed out as prizes to the winners at our first general meeting after the 1995 Stamp Day event.

As a result of the success of the 1995 format we continued this with a kingfisher design. The 1996 event was once more an outstanding success with some 50 entrants ranging in age from 3 to 15 years old. Each child was kept busy for up to 30 minutes and more in some instances; this in turn attracts parents to maintain a longer presence than they would have otherwise.

Once more stamps, catalogues and stamp books from the Philatelic Services were handed out as prizes on the day. The winners of each category were given R50 CNA gift vouchers, presented at our November meeting.

The enthusiasm of each child was a sight to be seen and gave pleasure to all those who assisted during the event. This may not be the ultimate solution, but it certainly kept the organising committee on its feet. We believe that by encouraging philately at the various younger age group levels, seeds may be planted which will germinate in later years.

In conclusion therefore the Pretoria Philatelic Society has changed its National Stamp Day Focus for the better. It is apparent that our overall adult membership remains constant around 200. Each year we have an influx of some 15 new people, this however is balanced by the same number of people who depart the society for the usual reasons.

(Attendance at meetings this year has gone from strength to strength, (25-40 people on average) largely, we believe, through quality meetings, more social interaction between attendees, coupled with an extremely positive newsletter and editorial style by our correspondent Alewyn Burger).

More postmarks: Just in time for Christmas, Vol 5 of Ralph Putzel's mammoth *The Postmarks of South Africa* has appeared, covering the letters KE (Kearsney) to L (Lyttelton Rail). The 312 pages also contain an addendum on Johannesburg, and the volume can be ordered from the author (Ralph Putzel, RDPSA, PO Box 30085, Tokai 7966) at R345 for the hard-cover edition, and R245 for the paperback version. Local postage is R15, and overseas costs are R49 for the soft- and R65 for the hardcover versions.

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Op die velrand/In the margin

Seëls vir 1997

ONDER die nuwe posseëls wat vir 1997 op die SA Poskantoor se uitreikingsprogram staan is vier teen die standaardtarief wat aan inheemse beesrasse gewy word om op 10 Augustus onder meer die eeufees van die runderpes te gedenk.

Die volledige program is:

- Eeufees van die binnebrandmotor in Suid-Afrika (een seël, standaardtarief, die datum van 4 Januarie is nog nie bevestig nie)
- Blou Trein (einde Maart, vyf seëls, lugpostarief vir poskaarte)
- 75 ste verjaardag van die SA Vloot (1 April, vier seëls, standaardtarief)
- Vryheidsdag (26 April, een seël, standaardtarief)
- Jaar van die Kulturele Ervaring, wat kunswerk uit Mapungubwe insluit (17 Mei, vyf seëls, standaardtarief)
- Wêreldomgewingsdag, wat Nasionale Waterbewaring insluit (5 Junie, vyf seëls standaardtarief, een seël oorsese lugpos)
- Suid-Afrikaanse beesrasse
- Eeufees van "Nkosi sikelel i'Afrika" (24 September, een seël, standaardtarief)
- Wêreldposdag (9 Oktober, vyf seëls, standaardtarief)
- 50 ste verjaardag van Santa (11 Oktober, vyf seëls, standaardtarief).

Daarbenewens word miniatuurvelle uitgereik om saam te val met drie internasionale filateliese tentoonstellings: in Hong Kong (12 Februarie), San Francisco (17 Mei), Moskou (30 Augustus). Daar is nog 'n vel in die eerste week van Oktober om saam te val met Kaapstad se nasionale seëlskou.

Daar is ook kennis gegee dat 'n nuwe vaste reeks vir 1998 beplan word. Die tema sal wees "My plek, my mense, my land".

Recent issues

THE stamp which appeared on 9 October 1996 to celebrate World Post Day, depicting a postman delivering mail on his bicycle, is illustrated on its FDC, with cancellation, on p190 of this issue.

On the same day a Christmas stamp at the standard rate was issued (see *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p169). This is also available in miniature sheet format, sold in aid of Santa and the SA Christmas Stamp Fund at R2,00.



On 4 November 1996 ten stamps at the standardised rate, depicting eight South African Nobel Laureates from 1951 to 1993, Alfred Nobel himself and an allegory symbolising the categories for which the prize is awarded, appeared in sheetlet format, with a decorative border.

Two FDCs with strips of five stamps each, numbered 6.46 and 6.47, also appeared.

The stamps were designed by Alan Ainslie, and the issue commemorates the centenary of the death of Nobel.

In the 95 years since the first Nobel Prizes were awarded, the South African recipients have been: Max Theiler (Medicine, 1951); Albert Luthuli (Peace, 1961); Allan Cormack (Medicine, 1979); Aaron Klug (Chemistry, 1982); Desmond Tutu (Peace, 1984); Nadine Gordimer (Literature 1991); Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk (Peace, 1993).

Although three of the laureates, namely Theiler, Cormack and Klug, settled abroad, they grew up in South Africa and studied at local universities.

Alfred Noble, a 19th century industrialist and creator of the prizes that bear his name, was the inventor of dynamite, patented in 1867. This explosive has played and continues to play a leading role in the industrial development of the world, including South Africa.

Developed a little more than a decade before the discovery of diamonds at Kimberley, its timing was beneficial for the development of the mining there. This set the country on the path to industrial prosperity, for it was the wealth earned first in Kimberley that provided the capital for the development of the rich Witwatersrand goldfiels.

The Noble Prizes are widely recognised as the world's highest civic honours. Besides spurring recipients on to new efforts, they serve to make scientific and literary achievements much more widely known than would otherwise have been the case.

On 22 November 1996 there was an event in Johannesburg to launch special philatelic products celebrating the centenary of South African picture post cards.

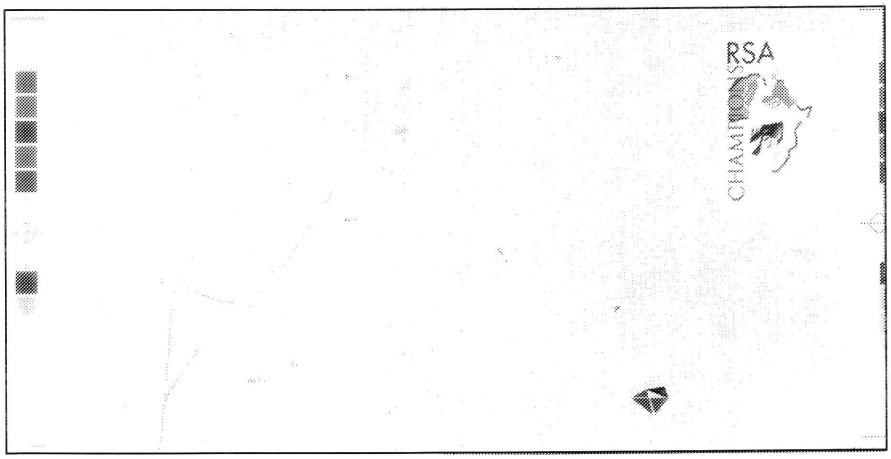
No details were made available before *The SA Philatelist* went to press.

An unrecorded proof

At the Federation's congress in the course of Bloem 150, delegates were presented with a pack of philatelic products, containing among other material an incomplete (black missing) printer's colour proof of a post card.

The front is shown here. The reverse, printed in black only, carries the address side in a panel on the

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right, with the left area blank to accommodate a message.

Commercial philatelic products in the mail

A further Reader's Digest strip in coil format, no 8, saw the light of day on 1 August 1996, and the illustration has been culled from a commercially received cover.

The Pegasus emblem is in olive green, and the names of the depicted animals are in English, and not in Latin.

The newsletter of the Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika, *Bartolomeu Dias* (Vol 9, no 37, September 1996), lists the emblem colours of the three preceding issues as black (no 5), blue (no 6) and red (no 7).

One of the two standard rate stamps issued on 5 August 1996 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Safmarine (see *The SA Philatelist*, October 1996, p167) has also made its appearance as a miniature sheet.

It is the one depicting the container vessel *SA Winterberg*, with the company name and commemorative emblem, surrounded by a decorative border, filling the rest of the sheet.

It would seem to have been first reported from Port Elizabeth – where the item illustrated was postmarked on 25 September 1996.

Namibia issues

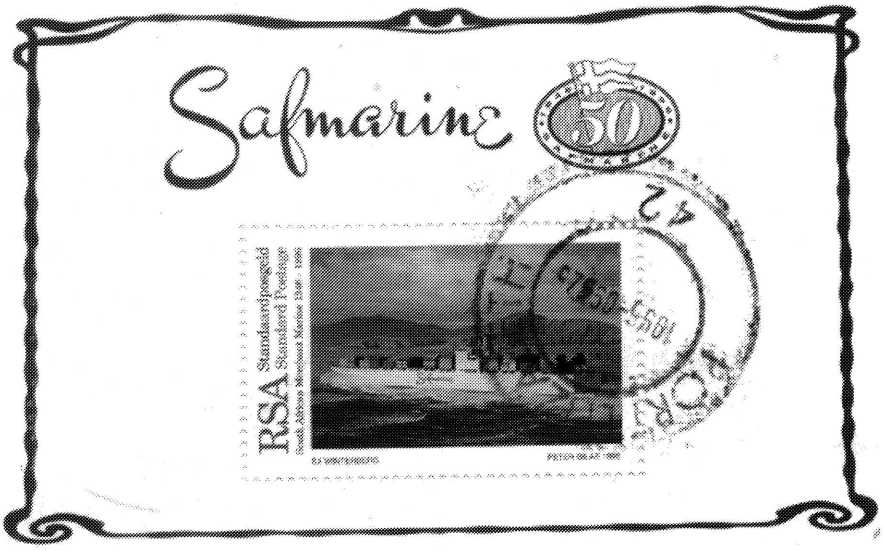
TWO sets of four stamps each were received from Namibia Post Office. In both cases the values are standard postage, 90c, N$1,00 and N$1,30.

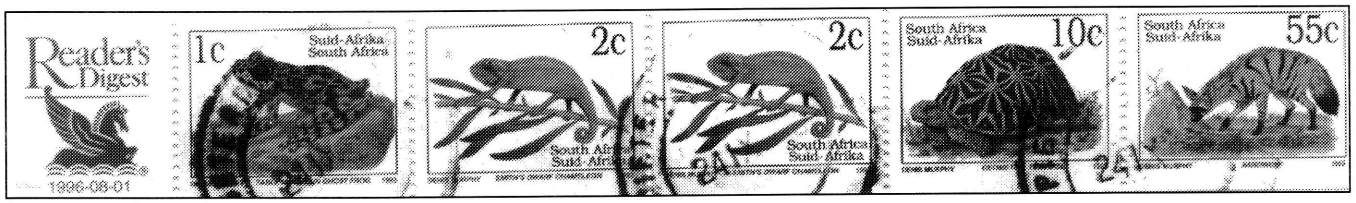
The pottery stamps, designed by Sheila Nowers, carry no further description.

The "Stars in the southern Sky" set also has a miniature sheet of the N$1, 00 value, which depicts the Southern Cross. The standard rate stamp shows the constellation of Scorpio, followed by Saggitarius (90c) and Orion (N$1,30).









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Some recent publications

Feathered friends: *Collect Birds on Stamps* is the fourth edition devoted to this popular theme. It contains a listing of more than 12 500 stamps, and now shows about 2 500 species. This is an addition of 270 species since the last edition appeared, and 2 500 stamps have been added. There are 288 pages listed by country, beginning with Abbot's Booby and ending with the Zenaida Dove, and containing SG catalogue numbers. (**Stanley Gibbons, £19,95**).

Valuable reprints: The American Topical Association (ATA) has reprinted, as Handbook 131, 26 articles of lasting interest from its journal *Topical Time*. Of permanent reference value, topics range from archeology to women. (**ATA, $8,00**)

Vade mecum: Hard to find information is available in one handy volume, the *Philatelic Almanac*. Its 163 pages contain such listings as stamp issuing countries, Antarctic bases, the major philatelic libraries and museums in the world and specialist philatelic societies and their publications. A 24-page glossary of philatelic terms is included, and an illustrated listing of about 30 languages and their alphabets – an invaluable guide to identification. (**George Saqqal, PO Box 150793, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0793, USA, $35,95**).

Onderonsies/Society news

MARITZBURG PS

August 1996: President Michael Dyer gave a special welcome to our two visitors from Highway, president Angus Pringle and Howard Lenton the Youth Club leader.

Items of interest: Kees de Jong showed a 1940 On His Majesty's Service plus two others from the University Mailbag – one with two 40c Revenue stamps and the other with only 1c that got through the post via Witspos.

Francis Eustace commented that most items do get through the post without checking, but to his knowledge, Krugersdorp do still collect on taxed items! Alex Duigan commented that the young articled clerks of legal firms congregate at the Revenue Office to get their Revenue stamps for the Deeds Office Transfers etc, and that one day one of them swallowed a R50 revenue stamp as he prepared to affix it to a document, and had to retreat to his office with his story.

Robin Castle showed a selection of his meter franks from around the world, one "dead letter" that had been returned from the US in 1942, also some slogans and machine cancels. Peter Southwood showed Framas and ATMs received from Joyce Hulse, and pointed out the variety in use, including a colourful new one from Portugal. He also showed a very nice collection of Scouts and Ciskei Tribal Lore, lent to us by neighbour Philip Brown for the evening.

Anne Southwood showed an unusual envelope made from braille notes addressed to Tape Aids, and a "Yes" stamp for a reply-paid promotion accepted as postage by the Post Office.

Francis spoke about the recent issue of the Constitution stamps and showed examples of their "early" use, together with special registrations and cancellations confirming early release.

September 1996: Francis Eustace showed recent Namibia items, and the fact that they were printed by Bradbury Wilkinson, and that the postage rate was still 45c! He also spoke about the proposed TV interview with Jack Hagger, and showed the World Stamp Day stamp due out on 9 October.

Roger Porter then showed pages of the Boer War correspondence of someone in Swaziland who was a commander. It was about a journey into Natal at a point above Colenso, describing the retreat, writing back to Holland, then from Komatipoort writing about the escape from the British Army. Roger commented that there was no censor, as all overseas mail was sent out separately and it would have affected the morale of the troops if they were not able to report of other activities.

Jan Korrûbel showed odd items used on envelopes arriving at the University, and one from Philatheme International looking for a "Bird" collector to strike up a correspondence. Robin Castle showed pages of Durban postal cancellers. Peter Southwood showed his Brian Lara autographs as well as a selection of strange amounts used to make up 50c postage on a number of envelopes.

Anne Southwood showed a World Post Day stamp machine cancelled in Springbok on 27 September 1996 – 12 days before issue date! Howard Lenton then showed a letter to his father in Zimbabwe with postage dues on the back – in all Z$1 plus 70c was paid, yet 85c was the correct postage needed. So he wrote to the Rusapi Post Office and received a nicely worded apology – but the "TO PAY" was applied RSA side!! The ball is now firmly in the hands of the SA Post Office who have acknowledged the error, but have not made any offer of compensation!

The meeting was then handed over to Angus Pringle who showed the First Pictorial Definitives of South West Africa. A variety was shown of "Perf up" with two holes at the top, four different overprints, the Bradbury Wilkinson Revenues, Penalty "Hut Tax" and tribal tax stamps. He spoke about the long imprint and short imprint. He needs short imprint "perf down", if anyone has a spare in their collection.

Francis asked if there was any way of distinguishing the perforation variance from a single stamp. Angus replied – "Not so far".

Peter Southwood

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

August 1996: The president welcomed seven members and extended a special welcome to Mr B Simpkins who is slowly recovering from a prolonged illness, and to Mr C Hattingh who had travelled all the way from Brits to be with us tonight.

The themes for this evening were: postmarks starting with the letter "P", paquetbot strikes; postmaster cachets and prisoner of war and interment camp mail. Unusual was a Pretorius postmark from 1944 with a block in front of the year slugs.

Mr Simpkins showed us the four Walvisbay "Paquetbot" strikes on various foreign covers. Ships lying in harbour were visited by the Walvisbay Shipping Postmaster, who sold postage stamps and accepted mail for onward transmission. Covers bearing non-SWA stamps received a paquetbot hand stamp.

Dr Bantz showed various postmaster cachets on official mail, which give plenty of study possibilities as far as shape, size, lettering etc. is concerned. Cachets of South West Africa's and Namibia's Government Departments on official mail are definitely worth preserving and recording.

The evening was closed by Drs Yudaken and Bantz who showed prisoner-of-war and internment camp mail from Aus and Fort Napier (World War I) and Andalusia (World War II).

September 1996: The evening, which was attended by five members, started off with discussions on a letter by Dr Biedzynski (USA) who wanted to know whether Africans had made use of the postal services in German South West Africa or whether the postal system was almost exclusively used by European residents of the area?

This raised a lively discussion and those

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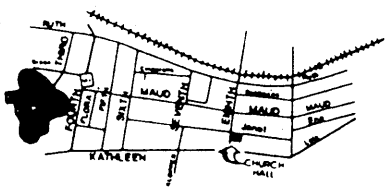
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1996 DATES/DATUM
Every Second Saturday of the Month

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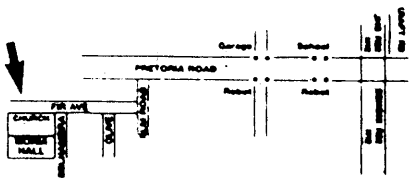
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1996 DATES/DATUMS
Every Last Saturday of the Month

27 & 28 December/Desember



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LIGHT REFRESHMENTS/LIGTE VERVERSINGS

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present were of the opinion that literacy levels were low among the native population at the turn of the century. Postal services hardly extended into the major native areas like Ovamboland, Kaokoveld etc. Black people who could write might have used the post offices for conveyance of their correspondence. Has any reader seen a German South West Africa postal item mailed by a black person?

The members were asked to bring items of interest along for this evening. Mr H. Thompson showed the two Vedder stamps (SACC 229-230) in the unissued colours "black and lilac pink" (3 cent) and "deep sepia and pale green" (15 cent). These stamps are listed as colour trials in the latest Colour Catalogue. He showed further the 1931 Definitives (SACC 103-109) in gutter blocks which originate from the Bradbury, Wilkinson & Company archives.

Dr I. Yudaken showed a Transvaal postal stationery card cancelled on 25 June 1915 at Karibib, and covers with impressions of the Chamis and Damara rubber canceller, dated Dec. 8 1916 and 26 Dec. 22, respectively. Both cancellers are very rare.

Mr K. Kornacker showed covers franked with South African coil stamps, mailed between 1916 and 1923 from South West Africa; covers sent from the prisoner of war camps Swakopmund, Kanus and Albrechts, and a selection of covers with postage due stamps covering the decimal period from 1961 onwards.

Mr B. Simpkins showed the postmaster cachet from Narraville, and Dr. H.U. Bantz closed the evening by showing publicity photographs of 1960s stamps issued to the Press by Philatelic Services to publicise new issues, and censored covers from the World War One period.

October 1996: The date of the October meeting coincided with a stamp auction by Stephan Welz & Co which the majority of our regular participants in our meetings wanted to attend. The President welcomed seven members to a short meeting at the end of the auction. A report back on Bloem 150 and the magnificent results achieved by our members from Windhoek and by the South West Africa stamp and postal history exhibits was given.

H.U. Bantz

AFRIKAANSE FV PRETORIA

Julie 1996: 'n Interessante en gesellige byeenkoms ten spyte van die koue. Ons het besoek van twee verenigings ontvang. Vanaf Centurion was daar Derek Brown, John van Eijk en Martin Wolff. John het die vaste reekse van die Unie van Suid-Afrika vertoon. Die Witbank besoekers was Peter Martin, Lionel Lewis en John Bird. Lionel het onder andere Transvaal (Eerste Republiek) uitgestal en John poskaarte van Witbank en ander verwante poskaarte oor die steenkoolbedryf.

Joh Groenewald, RDPSA het ook besoek kom aflê om me. Dineo Poo van Filateliedienste aan ons bekend te stel. Sy behartig Jeug Bevordering en is alle voorspoed met haar belangrike taak toegewens. Me. Poo sal genooi word om Centurion Seëlmaats te kom besoek, wat deur die AFP bedryf word.

Joh Groenewald het besonderhede oor nuwe aanstellings by Filateliedienste gegee, wat op verhoogde doeltreffendheid in Verkope en Produksie gemik is.

Die aand is op gesellige wyse met sop en sjerrie afgesluit – of was dit "sjop" en sjerrie?

Augustus 1996: Tydens ons maandvergadering het Cedric Roché, RDPSA en Alewyn Burger van die Pretoria Philatelic Society 'n werkwinkel oor posseëlpapier aangebied. Mnr. Roché het oor die vervaardiging en gebruik van posseëlpapier gesels, terwyl Alewyn Burger skyfies vertoon het om die praatjie te illustreer.

Die doel van watermerke is bespreek, en metodes om dit te identifiseer is met behulp van die nodige apparaat verduidelik. Filateliese publikasies is onder lede se aandag gebring, met spesiale verwysing na die gesaghebbende *Fundamentals of Philately* van L N en M Williams.

Tydens die vergadering is twee versamelings deur lede vertoon en is hulle deur opbouende kommentaar beloon. Hans Hermanides het "Die Kongo vanaf 1895-1960" uitgestal, en Arnold Küppen tien blaaie oor "Vuurtorings".

Lede het die aand besonder geniet, en die AFP dra ook hiermee sy dank oor aan mnre. Roché en Burger vir die positiewe wyse waarop hulle filatelie by verenigings bevorder.

September 1996: Die jaarlikse kampioenskappe van die Centurion Seëlmaats het op 7 September plaasgevind. (Dié klub word deur die AFP bestuur). Kapt. Robbie Harm het die beoordeling behartig. Me. Dineo Poo, Filateliedienste se Jeugontwikkelingsbeampte het ook die byeenkoms bygewoon.

Van die inskrywings is tydens die AFP se maandvergadering uitgestal. Kapt. Harm het hom gunstig oor die versamelings uitgespreek en oor die potensiaal van sommige daarvan. Ds. Carstens, Jeugleier, het 'n beroep op senior lede van die vereniging gedoen om hulself as voogde beskikbaar te stel om juniors behulpsaam te wees.

'n Oudio-visuele skyfieprogram oor Bosbou is aangebied. Die gevoel bestaan dat daar 'n beter aanwending van sulke programme moet wees, en dat dit nie in nog 'n skyfievertoning ontaard nie.

Theo Brunzlaff, wat reeds in ons September nuusbrief vir ons 'n kykie gegee het op die gebruik van die rekenaar in filatelie deur inskakeling op Internet, het dit met 'n praatjie opgevolg. Voorbeelde van skermuitdrukke is getoon. Soos alle nuwe dinge sal hierdie ontwikkeling in filatelie tyd neem om pos te vat.

Hein Friebus

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

June 1996: "Israel Thematic and Post cards" was the theme, and we had four exibitors.

Frank Friedman showed us nine pages of Holocaust/Judaica, and John Bleazard showed postcards of 19th century Palestine, coloured and extremely beautiful.

Rabbi Shalom Zaiden showed 18 pages on the Portuguese synagogue in Amsterdam. Two stamps depicting this synagogue have been issued, Israel 1970 (the New Year issue) and Holland in 1975. The post cards show different views of the interior and exterior. The exhibitor also read a paper on the history of the synagogue.

Willie Mann showed 34 pages of stationery issued by the Israeli Philatelic Bureau.

July 1996: Two distinguished guests, Danny Swart and Harry Birkhead, both RDPSAs, gave a workshop evening.

Danny told us what was required of an introductory page to an exhibit, which has to give the complete story of its contents. He showed examples of how to write up and make the first page attractive and informative, enabling judges to see what the exhibitor knew.

Harry showed a number of pages of fakes, and imparted some of his vast knowledge of rates and routes. He emphasised how important it was to show judges one's knowledge in this respect. He showed examples from the Boer War, including forgeries, and stamps that were issued only after the "date" on which they had been "post-marked".

August 1996: Our "Foreign Evening" was attended by 20 members, one of them being our founder member Aubrey Miller, F,RPSL, from Durban. Jonas Michelson, RDPSA, Honorary Life President of the Federation, also attended. It was most unusual to have all our living honorary life members present – apart from the two mentioned above, there were also David Stern and Willie Mann.

The guest of honour was Mr Stephen Adler, vice-chairman of the Chevra-Kadiska, who was presented with a cheque for R3 600 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of our society.

Aubrey Miller showed 44 pages of what he called "The Remains of the Isle of Man". It was well put together, on a topic which is seldom seen at the society.

George Cafetzoglou (who is really a Greek master) showed an outstanding collection of the GB Penny Black – all the plates, most on cover, as well as mint and used stamps, one or two world rarities, with some unique pieces thrown in. He gave a most constructive talk on the material.

David Stern showed 45 pages of GB Definitive Errors, now completely rewritten on new international size pages – a most interesting world class exhibit.

Willie Mann

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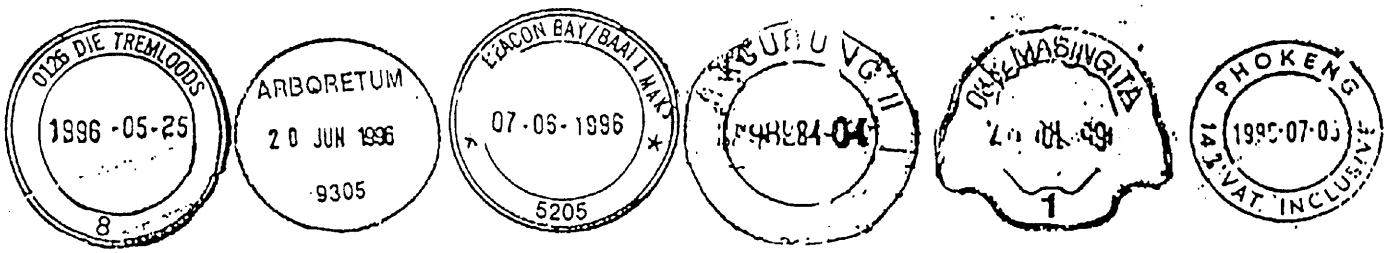
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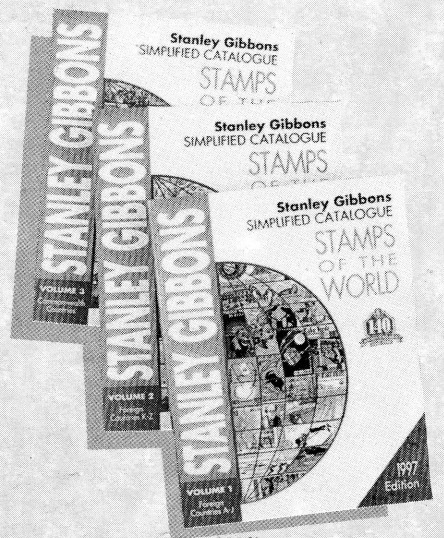
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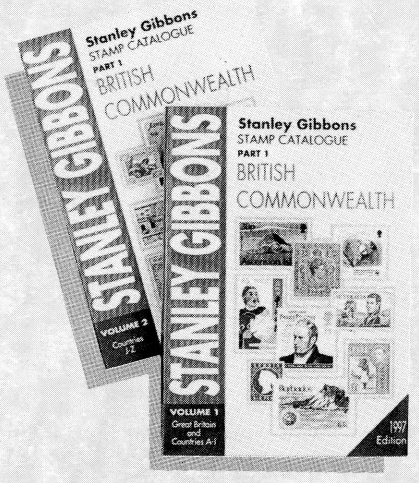
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