FEBRUARY 2018

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 94:1. 946

www.stamps.org.za



Registered Letter Markings of the OFS



The Mulready Caricature and Pictorial Envelope of Thomas White



Phun with Vredenburg!



The overprinted native tax revenue stamp of the Union of SA

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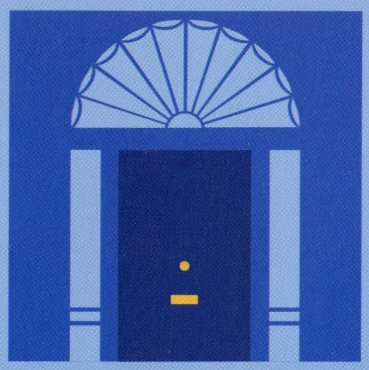
The Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2019.
For this occasion an international exhibition will be held in Stockholm.
H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be the Patron.



STOCKHOLMIA2019

29 MAY - 2 JUNE

THE INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

The exhibition will comprise philatelic dealers and auction houses from all over the world.
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Only Fellows and Members of the RPSL will be allowed to exhibit.
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For more information: visit the website **stockholmia2019.se** or contact Jonas Hällström: **jonas@stockholmia2019.se**

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FEBRUARY 2018 Vol 94 Number 1 Whole No 946

The South African Philatelist

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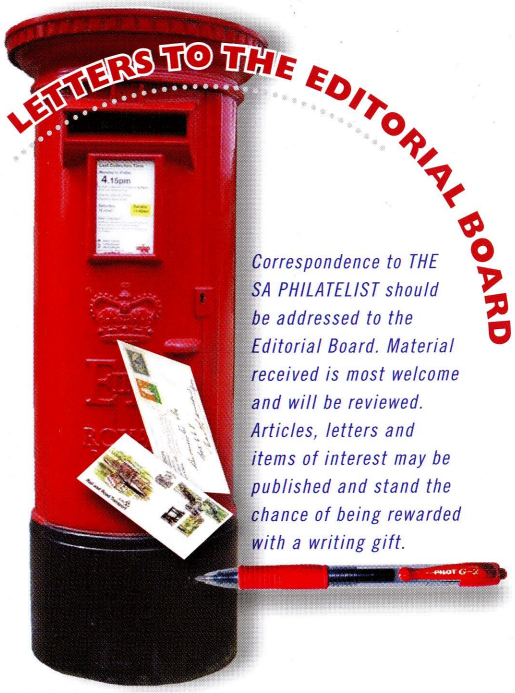


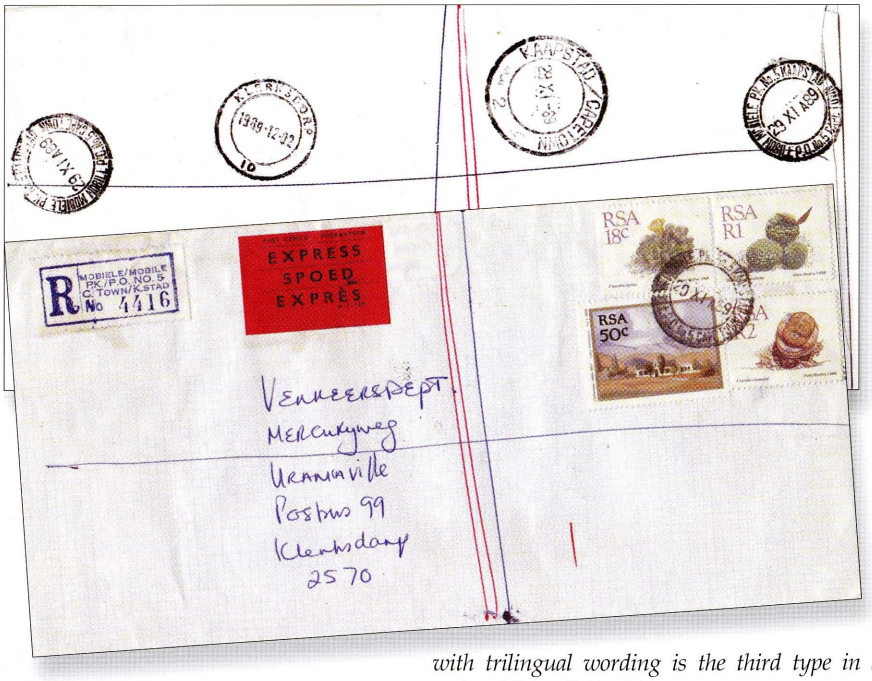
Correspondence to THE SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed. Articles, letters and items of interest may be published and stand the chance of being rewarded with a writing gift.

Cape Town Mobile Post Office No. 5

Dave Young writes:

My research on Express Label varieties is reaching finality after many years of collecting covers with these labels attached. Reading Alex Visser's 'Phun with Postmarks' *in the December 2017 issue regarding Mobile Post Offices I thought I would share the attached example being the Mobile P.O. No. 5 of Cape Town dated 29 November 1989 complete with an Express Label. The item has also been registered so it is interesting to see that these Mobile P.Os also utilised their own Registered Labels. The reverse of the envelope shows four sets of postmarks namely two of the Mobile P.O., one of the Cape Town Head Office and the last one the postmark of the receiving office in Klerksdorp on 2 December 1989.*

For those unfamiliar with covers featuring Express Labels together with affixed Registered Labels, the vertical red lines indicate it is an Express item (in addition to the label) whilst the blue vertical and horizontal lines indicate it is a registered item (in addition to the registered label). This type of Express Label



with trilingual wording is the third type in a series of three distinct types.

The postage fee of R 3-68 is made up three levels of fees, namely;

Standard Postal rate = 18c
Express Fee = R 2-50c
Registration Fee = R 1-00c

In general the Post Offices applied stamps to the specific value of these fees as indicated on the cover.

Dave Young <davsue@telkomsa.net

Comment from Alex Visser

Yes, the MPO had either a registration cachet or preprinted labels as you indicated. I read somewhere that if the turnover for registered items was less than 500 per month then the cachet was used, else the labels would be printed and used. If you look at the Putzel vol 6 as well as in the addendum there are a number of cachets illustrated. Since Putzel only does postmarks, there are no labels.

DAVID MORRISON

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The SA Philatelist

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- ***April*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018
- ***June*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018
- ***August*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018
- ***October*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 5. 950 : 10/09/2018
- ***December*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 6. 951 : 08/11/2018

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Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn 1504. email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

Subscription & circulation: The annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R324.00. For SADC countries, the subscription is R600.00 per year. For international overseas, the subscription is R800.00. These rates all include postage by airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager: email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463.

Publication: This journal is published by **The Philatelic Federation of South Africa.** The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304.

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MISSING "C" IN WATERMARK



WATERMARK INVERTED



WATERMARK INVERTED & REVERSED



OVERPRINT DOUBLE - ONE ALBINO



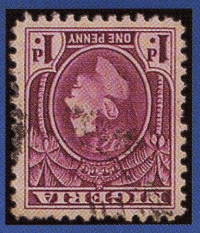
WATERMARK REVERSED



WATERMARK INVERTED



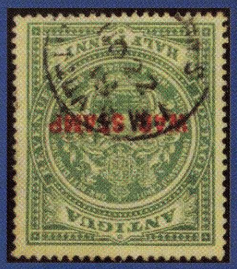
WATERMARK REVERSED



WATERMARK INVERTED



"A" OF "CA" MISSING FROM WATERMARK



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New book published 7 November, 2017

The Transvaal 'Spread Wings' 6d Stamps 1870-1878

by Lars Jørgensen

This new book, published by the Transvaal Study Circle, is devoted to the first 6d stamp of the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) and the subsequent printings made for the ZAR and during the First British Occupation (Transvaal).

The book covers 216 pages in A4 format and is richly illustrated in colour throughout.

The early ZAR/Transvaal issues are complicated to deal with and the 'Spread Wings' 6d stamp is no exception. This book is intended to help philatelists by providing tools to understand how the stamps were produced and how to distinguish different printings of the 1870s.

The book provides new insights and an important chapter offers well illustrated guidance on the correct identification of the different printings, papers and shades. A substantial part of the book is dedicated to the description of each position in the two printing plates used. For the first time all 80 positions are identified and described. For each position stamps from different printings are illustrated and it is discussed how identification features (varieties) develop over time.

The author is evidently fascinated by the traditional philatelic discipline of plating stamps. But as it is argued in the book: identifying the position of a stamp is a very valuable tool for correctly attributing a given stamp to the right printer/paper/issue and it is the ultimate method to distinguish genuine from forged examples.

This is a book not only for the specialist, but for anybody with interest in the stamps of the ZAR/Transvaal. Furthermore, it provides a model for setting out the full philatelic story of just one stamp and can as such appeal to everybody with an interest in classic stamps.



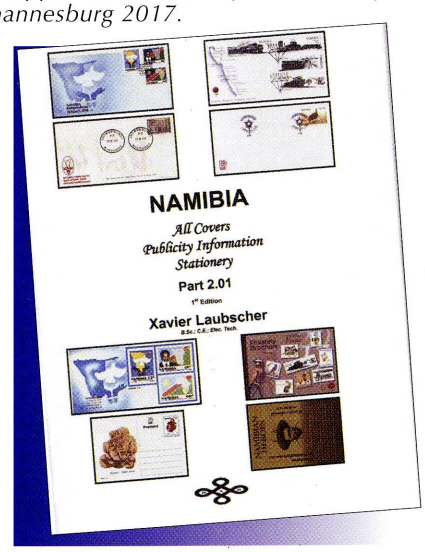
The Transvaal 'Spread Wings' 6d Stamps 1870-1878 (ISBN 978-1-9997203-0-8) is obtainable from Dr Chris Board at c.board@macace.net or from the author Lars Jørgensen at lars.jorgensen.fs@gmail.com

The price is £35 + postage and packaging (for South Africa £16)

Book Review by Dr H. U. Bantz
South West Africa Stamp Study Group

Laubscher, Xavier: NAMIBIA

All Covers - Publicity Information - Stationery. 1st Edition - Hardcover; 224 pp - Published by RXR Stamps. Johannesburg 2017.



It is usual for sophisticated philatelists to sniff at Official First Day Covers (FDC) produced or approved by the stamp issuing authority. The FDC's shortcomings are well known: official FDCs have rarely seen the inside of a post office, the affixed stamps were cancelled long before the official day of issue and, as they were on the whole produced in large numbers, the covers are considered money-making creations. However, FDCs provide another dimension to our hobby that brings joy and increases our general knowledge; especially if the envelopes are well designed and depict beautiful stamps as do most of the FDCs of NamPost, the company responsible for Namibia's postal services.

This book, Part 2 of a three-part series, features Namibia's Official First Day Covers, stamp cards, privately made 'Silk Covers', official Maxi-Cards and information material issued by NamPost, such as press releases, philatelic brochures and publications. It also includes international aerogrammes, postal stationery envelopes, postcards with imprinted stamps and pre-printed registration envelopes. The author covers the period from Namibia's Independence on 21 March 1990 to 18 July 2017, the day when the four Diamond Trains stamps were issued.

This hardbound coffee-table size book is well made, profusely illustrated in colour and a pleasure to handle.

However, as with all catalogues, the introduction has to be read, to understand how the author tried to simplify the complexity of philatelic material issued by NamPost. The author's and reviewer's hopes are that this publication will form the basis for ongoing study, as well as highlighting the natural beauty of Namibia, its history and the personalities featured on the FDCs, aerogrammes and postal stationery cards. It can also be a 'roadmap' and an aid to organise one's material, as received from NamPost, that still waits sorting.

It is an important work as it provides a comprehensive compilation of the early years of the philatelic history since Namibia's Independence and thus continues the story told by W. J. Quik & J. Stolk (2003) in their book *The Postal Stationery of South West Africa / Namibia 1888-1990* and by W. J. Quik (2005) in *The postage stamps of South West Africa / Namibia 1884-1990.*

Contact Mr X. Laubscher via SMS: Tel. +27 (0) 79 718 2696. The price is ZAR 975.00 (packaging and postage excluded).

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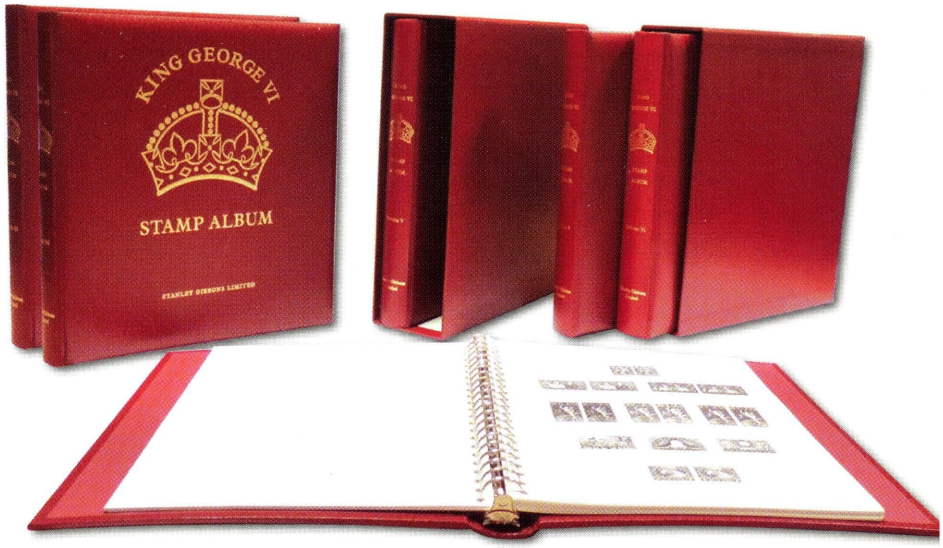
King George VI Album (1936-1952)



The King George VI set has now been completely updated. The cream leaves are pre-printed with spaces for all King George VI stamps including watermark and colour changes and for the first time, Postage Dues, Officials sideway watermarks, different Types and Dies and changes of perforation are now included. The six volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in three slipcases. Blank leaves and additional binders are available for you to expand your collection.

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King George VI Loose Leaf 6-Volume Album Hingeless	R3417HL	R16250
Additional King George VI Binders (titled Volume 7 & 8)	R3417B	R2750
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King George VI Indian States (1936-1952)	R3417IS	R2250
King George VI Indian States Complete Album Hingeless	R3417IS-HL	R4500

	CODE	PRICE
NEW King George VI Japanese Occupation Only Stamp Album	R3417JO	R1750
NEW King George VI Japanese Occupation Only Stamp Album Hingeless	R3417JO-HL	R3375

King George V Album (1910-1936)

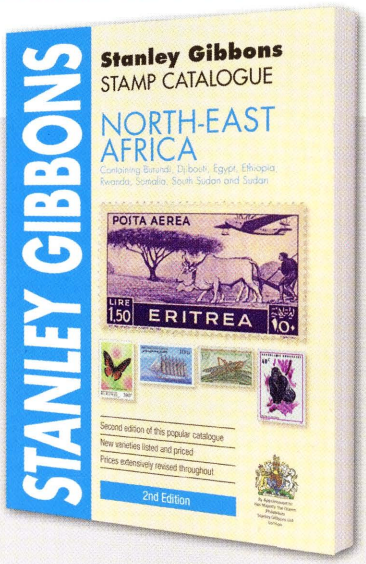


The King George V set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue for all Postage, Air, Due, Postal Fiscal and Official Stamps there are spaces for all perforation and watermark changes (including sideways but not inverted or reversed), different plate Types and Dies. Shades and varieties are not included. **In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers have been included.** There are information pages before page 1 and many illustrations of Types and Dies to aid in identifying the correct space for a stamp. The eight volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in four slipcases.

The KGV Indian States album now available as a separate two volume set.
Blank leaves and additional binders are available for you to expand your collection.

	CODE	PRICE
King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album	R3413	R13375
King George V Loose Leaf 8-Volume Album Hingeless	R3413-HL	R18750

	CODE	PRICE
KGV Indian States	R34131S	R3000
KGV Indian States Hingeless	R34131S-HL	R5250



North East Africa

- *2nd Edition 2018*

The 2nd edition of this catalogue from Stanley Gibbons bringing together the stamp issuing regions of North-East Africa (excluding Commonwealth countries).

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The Mulready Caricature and Pictorial Envelope of Thomas White

by Rob McLennan-Smith, Highway Philatelic Society

Thomas White was a small printing and publishing firm in the Victorian era. The business premises were at 59 Wych Street off the Strand, London. This street was demolished in 1901 and the firm's location was approximately where Australia House now stands. The area was also home to a number of the larger printing houses such as Spooner, Southgate and Ackermann, all of which produced a number of Mulready Caricature designs.

They produced two envelope designs, the first being a Mulready Caricature published in May 1840 which is known in a large broadsheet (Fig.1) and in a smaller envelope format (Fig.3). A variation of this design is known and was produced by J. Henderson of Belfast (Fig.5).

The second is a pictorial envelope probably designed in 1843, as only one example is known and was used on 7 April 1843. It is known as *'The Evils of Monopoly'* (Fig.7).

The broadsheets were produced by a number of the printing companies which were probably used to advertise their smaller similar envelopes and some as collectors' prints as these did not have smaller versions.

The Thomas White Broadsheet (Fig.1)

Some of these broadsheets have been known to be used postally, including a few of those by Thomas White. Approximately twenty of Thomas White's have survived, many more than any of the other broadsheet designs.

The design is a satire of the Mulready Envelope, with Britannia balancing a pineapple on her head and the British Lion wearing a headscarf and looking the worse for wear, with the caption *"THE BRITISH LION ASLEEP. If you want to wake him you must kick him very hard."*

On the top right is a group of nudists, with the seated one sporting a Penny Black on his derrière. They are about to be arrested by the police who are telling them *"You are not to walk about in a state of nudity"*.

To the left of them are two flying postmen with the top one saying *"Joe you have the advantage of me 'cos I've only got one leg"*. This refers to the original Mulready design where it went unnoticed until after publication that the Angel in the same position was missing a leg!

The artist's initials 'C.J.G' appear on the bottom left. The identity of the artist was not known until the discovery in 1979 of the *'Evils of Monopoly'* envelope, designed by the same artist, but signed 'C.J. Grant' (Fig.2).

The Thomas White Small Caricature Envelope (Fig.3)

This envelope measures 130 x 84mm and is much rarer than the broadsheet with both unused and used known to have survived, with one of each in my collection.

The design is essentially the same as the broadsheet but with a few alterations, including the absence of text



Fig 1: A reduced example of the White broadsheet, the original being 19 x 13.7 cms

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in the address panel and the 'One Penny' at the top moved to the bottom, plus a number of changes in the sketches. The rear of the envelope is blank.

The Henderson Variety of the Thomas White Envelope (Fig.4)

An article appeared in *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,* June 1977 in which a previously unknown caricature is described with the inscription *"THE NEW COMIC ENVELOPE J. Henderson, Publisher 21 Castle Place, Belfast"*. This was found in the collection of the late John Houston of Dublin.

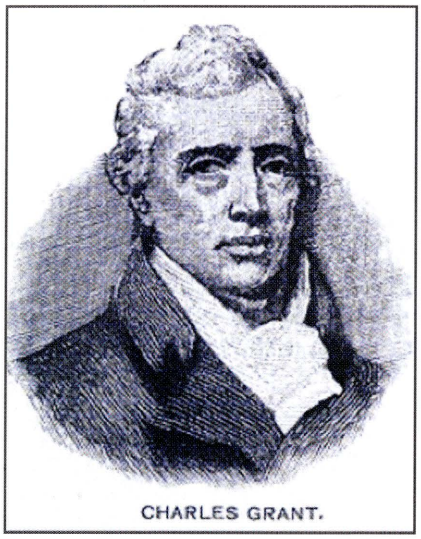


Fig.2: Charles Jameson 'C. J. G.' Grant was a British artist and illustrator, chiefly remembered for his work as an engraver of political caricatures during the mid-1830s.

His most remarkable work was a series of caricatures published under the title The Political Drama *(1833–1835).*

Although he stopped self-publishing, he still submitted wood engravings to contemporary radical magazines before eventually disappearing into obscurity.

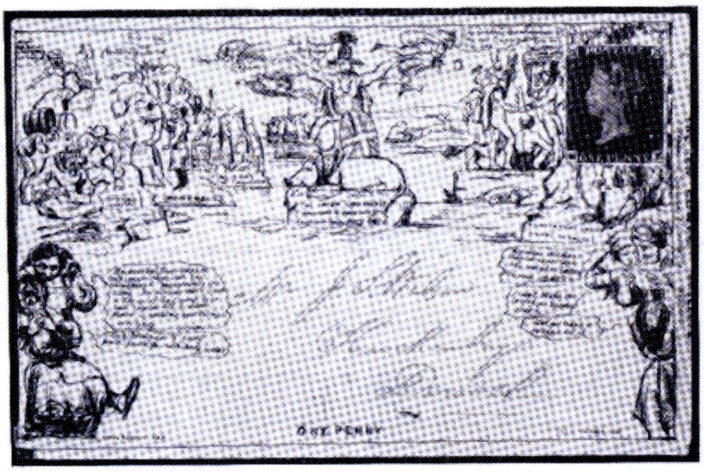
A Belfast Caricature

In the collection of the late John Houston of Dublin we saw a caricature with the imprint *"THE NEW COMIC ENVELOPE J. Henderson Publisher 21, Castle Place, Belfast"*, used from Belfast on 4 July 1840 and passing through Ballymoney on 5 July en route for Deroock. This is the first example of this caricature that we have seen and its claim to fame rests in the fact that it is a copy of another rare caricature *"THE NEW POST OFFICE ENVELOPE White Publisher, 59, Wych St. Strand, London"*, the smaller size of which are known used from early June 1840.

The Henderson caricature is a transfer of White's larger production but the *lion* has been replaced by a *pig*. The wording has been altered below the lion from THE BRITISH LION ASLEEP TO THE IRISH LION ASLEEP. The artists initials C.J.G. do not appear in the Henderson production.

I have always presumed that the larger of the two caricatures by White was an advertisement for the smaller but the difference in the characters on the left — churchmen in the smaller, old women in the larger (and Henderson's copy) and in the wording suggests that if the buyer had any religious bent he/she could choose the Catholic or the Protestant version.

Would you classify the Henderson caricature as a forgery of White's work, or did the former pay the latter a fee for the use of his design? Alas, the original penny black has been removed and replaced by another.



The Irish Lion! A contented Sow.

Fig.4: The article as it appeared in THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL of GREAT BRITAIN, June 1977 showing the replaced Penny Black.

The design is a close copy of the Thomas White design but the Lion is replaced with a Pig and the wording 'THE BRITISH LION ASLEEP' changed to 'THE IRISH LION ASLEEP'.

The envelope bears a Penny Black adhesive but the article describes it as having been removed and replaced by another. This stamp has subsequently also fallen off in its current state. The original gum used on the Penny Black in 1840 was potato starch and proved to be a poor adhesive, thus many stamps have become detached from covers - decreasing the value considerably, even if they have been replaced.



Fig.3: (at right) A used envelope with a double strike of a red circular datestamp (CDS), which is only partially legible, for ? July 1840 and a black linear '1pyPP' and a town stamp, which is also unclear. Addressed to Stoke near Devonport (now Plymouth), it also has manuscript 'p.p.' (post paid) indicating it probably did not have an adhesive stamp.

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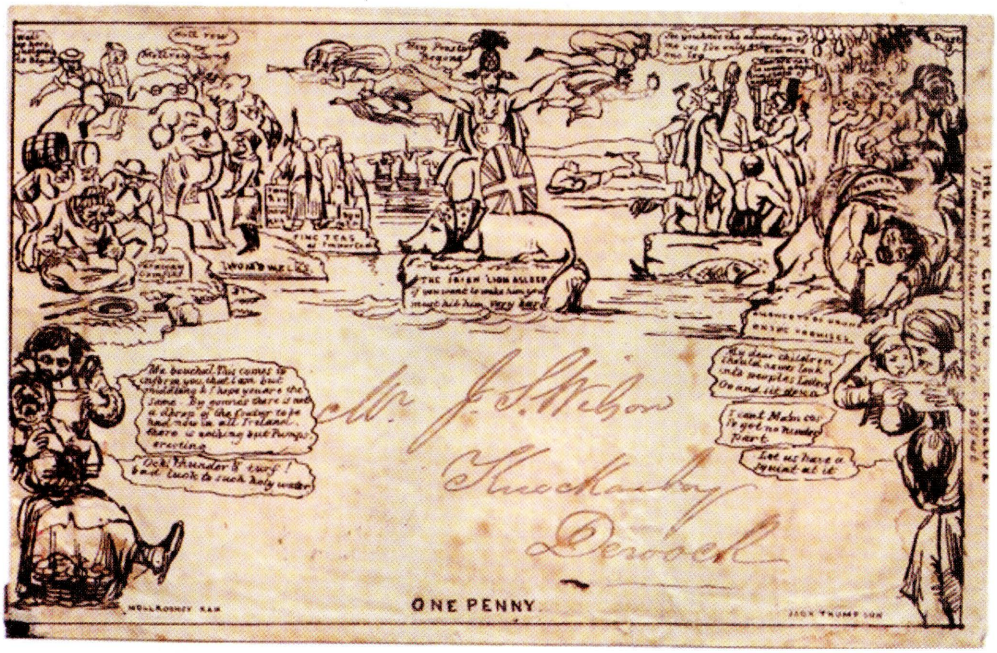

Fig.5: The unique Henderson envelope sent to Dervock, a small town in Northern Ireland, and with CDSs of Belfast and Ballymoney of 4 and 5 July 1840 on the rear (Fig.6).



Fig.6: A part of the rear of the envelope showing a wax seal and two CDs

The 'Evils of Monopoly' Envelope

This is the second design by Thomas White and is the only example known to exist. It was used within London on 7 April 1843 and has an 1841 1d Red-Brown, Die 1, Alphabet 1 imperforate adhesive stamp cancelled with a black London number '9' Maltese Cross.

The numbered cancellations, 1 to 12, with the addition of a cross on the top (missing on number 3) were used by the London Inland Office from March 1843 until the change to the 'horizontal diamond' numeral obliterators in May 1844. It is thought that the numbers were used to identify the clerk doing the cancelling in order to prevent fraud.

The design shows, on the left side, the Evils of Monopoly. The Demon of Monopoly is throwing people into a grinding mill being turned by the Devil with a river of blood flowing out labelled 'rents'. Above this are empty factories and lines of people queuing for the poorhouse.

In the centre is a gentleman who appears to be Sir Robert Peel saying *"Look at this Picture"* with Liberty blindfolded on the right and the Goddess of Plenty on the left being glared at by Medusa with a snake.

On the right are the 'Free Trade' images with people dancing, ships sailing and workers ploughing and harvesting bountiful fields.

Also on the right a worker with a pitchfork is chasing the upper class 'bread taxers'. This has reference to the Anti-Corn Law Movement which was in progress in the 1840s. The unpopular Corn Laws imposed taxes on imported grain and were designed to keep prices high for the cereal producers in Great Britain, who were usually the wealthy landowners. The Corn Laws were repealed in 1846 largely due to the effort of Sir Robert Peel, the Prime Minister, who went against his own Conservative Party during the Irish Potato Famine where the effect of high corn prices was particularly devastating. Approximately a million people died and a further million emigrated, causing the Irish population to fall by 25%.

(All items shown are from the McLennan-Smith Philatelic Collection)





Receiving strikes for 7 April

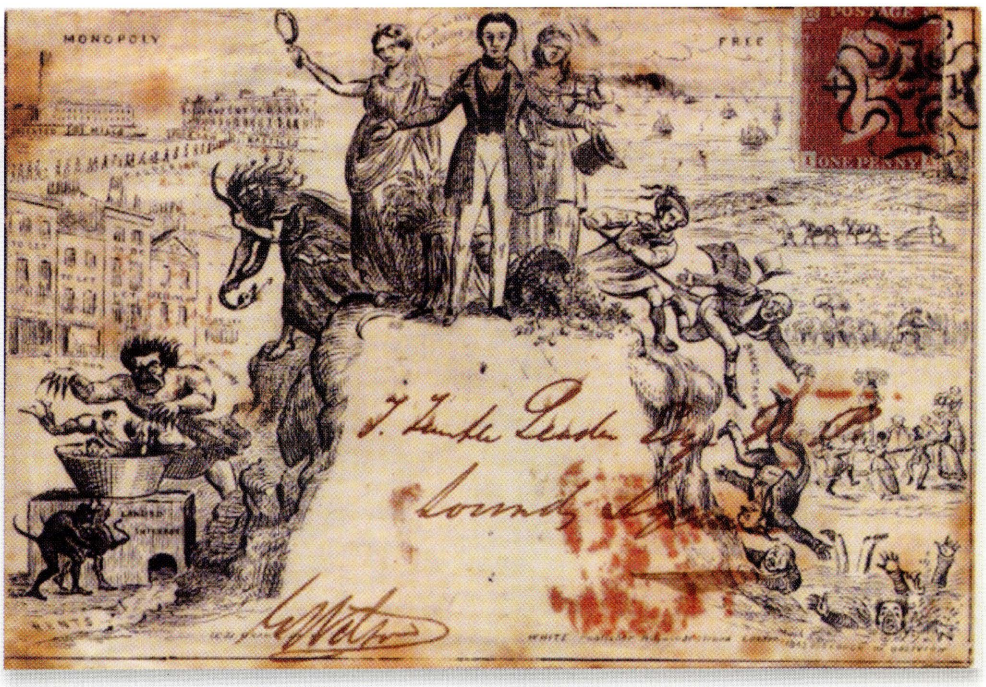

Fig.7: The unique 'Evils of Monopoly' envelope with the London Chief Office datestamp of 8NT (8pm) 7 April 1843 and the Charing Cross receiving stamp of the same date on the rear.

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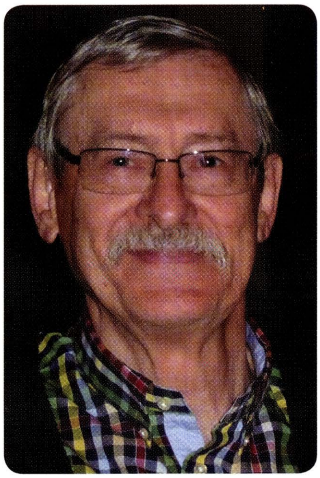
OBITUARY

Wobbe Vegter (1945 –2017)



Wobbe was born in the Netherlands and immigrated with his wife and children to South Africa in 1976. His career focus was computer programming and this became his thematic interest too. As standard-bearer of thematic collecting in South Africa, he has, in the past decade, held the flag high. His collection *From Abacus to Internet* gained four international Large Vermeil awards at Malacca (2006), Seoul (2009), Johannesburg (2010) and Taipei (2016). He also scored Gold at two national exhibitions - Johannesburg (2003) and Cape Town (2011). The exhibit traces the history and development of the modern computer. Wobbe received the Australian Philatelic Federation's 'Best Open Class Exhibit' award for his exhibit on *IBM – The History of International Business Machines* at Capex 2015, after being awarded a Large Vermeil. In the same year, the RDTPSA (Roll of Distinguished Thematic Philatelists of Southern Africa) was awarded to him by Thematics Southern Africa, where he was Vice-President since 2010. His leading role in Thematics South Africa and its periodical is well known, and he is the author of over thirty articles published locally and internationally. Wobbe Vegter's major contribution to the hobby is his well-illustrated 63-page book *Thematic Exhibiting*, which is a step by step guide for collectors and which outlines and interprets the FIP rules for the evaluation of competitive thematic exhibits. The book, privately published, is available from the South African Philatelic Federation. Wobbe was recognised for his contribution to philately in South Africa as recently as October 2017, when he received the Skinner Cup at SAPDAPEX 2017.

Wobbe's service to philately was not limited to thematics. He was active in everyday collecting and was chairman of the Bellville Philatelic Society for 14 years, until his retirement in 2016. As a society member he was always willing to share his knowledge. Unfortunately, illness prevented Wobbe from attending meetings during the last year, but he was always just an email or a phone call way. He will be dearly missed by everyone and our condolences go to his wife and family.

Reanie de Villiers, Honorary Secretary,
Bellville Philatelic Society

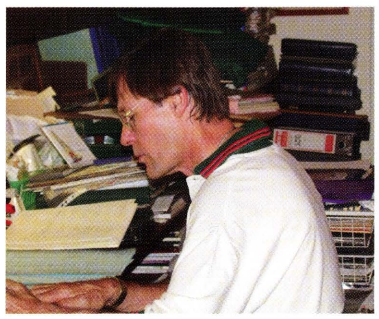
Do you want to get your spirit in touch with the history of your country or adopted country? Do you want to retain your sense of wonder about the world you live in? ... even when you're retired?!

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the stamps which would assist you in doing this and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value. But don't you want to go further ...want to link yourself to a process which offers you the ability to spell out to your offspring the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt?

Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately can do this for you. Further, it's the only segment which attracts non-collectors of stamps to have a close-up look. That makes your exhibit special. Half of your 'Open Class' exhibit could include key family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which turned your life around, even letters and documents from persons who similarly shared your losses and victories.

There are but a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness in your life, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.





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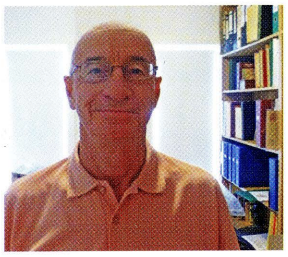
Registered Letter Markings of the OFS

by Kevin Price, Orange Free State Study Circle



Little has been written about the (undated) Registered Letter Markings of the Orange Free State. This article will attempt to add to this meagre knowledge while showing an example of each marking. From the time that registered postage was first introduced in the Republic on 1 January 1855 this accountable type of mail was only identified by the word 'Registered' or a capital 'R' hand-written on the front of the envelope together with the associated registered number of the item.



Fig.1

From some time around 1875, cover evidence shows that an official mark made up of a rectangular box containing the word GEREGISTREERD began to be used occasionally to mark these items of mail (Fig.1). This mark was also applied to revenue stamps at the time and as the local magistrate and his clerk often undertook the postmaster's position, they likely used this mark interchangeably between those duties. Tim Bartshe in the USA has a cover from Smithfield in his collection which actually shows this mark also cancelling the stamps instead of the normal postmark.

The registered cover in Fig.2 was posted from DEPUT 6 MEI 96 O.V.S. where it received the boxed GEREGISTREERD marking placed on a length of stamp sheet selvedge which was then applied to the cover. It passed through BETHANIE 11 MY 96 and GEREGISTREERD MEI 11 96 BLOEMFONTEIN. It then travelled south through REGISTERED LETTER OFFICE MY 13 96 CAPE TOWN before finally arriving at ROSTOCK 2.6.96 MECKLENBURG in Germany. Note that this is also a proving cover for the 11-bar 'M' canceller of Deput which cancels the stamps. The postage rate of 18d shows that it was made up of the European rate of 4d per half ounce times three (12d) plus 6d registration. This marking has so far been recorded as being used from mid 1875 to mid 1898 at Bloemfontein, Bethany, Boshof, Deput, Edenburg, Oliphantsfontein, Reddersburg, Smithfield and Ventersburg.

The next type of marking seen was again in a rectangular box but a larger one, which contained the words *Geregistreerd No'.*__ in a script typeface with provision for the registered number to be written within the box (Fig.3).



Fig.2 (reduced)



Fig.3

Figure 4 shows a cover addressed to Holland that was posted from VENTERSBURG MR 28 95 O.V.S where it received the boxed *Geregistreerd No'.* ___ placed at the base of the



Fig.4

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envelope. It passed through GEREGISTREERD MAR 29 BLOEMFONTEIN and REGISTERED LETTER OFFICE AP 3 95 CAPE TOWN before arriving at AMSTERDAM 21 APR 95. This is also a proving cover for the 11-bar '21' canceller of Ventersburg shown on the stamps. The postage rate of 10d was made up from the European rate of 4d plus 6d registration.

Boshof, Harrismith, Ventersburg, Vrede, Wepener and Winburg are recorded as the only offices where this marking has been seen used, from early 1885 to late 1898. Note there is no evidence so far that it was used at Bloemfontein.

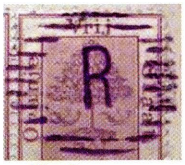

Fig.5

The last type of marking in Fig.5 was that of an 11-bar tall and narrow 'R' canceller that was used only at Bloemfontein from early 1885 to early 1887.

Figure 6 shows a cover from a local stamp collector posted from GEREGISTREERD 31 JUL 86 BLOEMFONTEIN which passed through REGISTERED LETTER OFFICE AU 4 CAPE TOWN and REGISTERED 25 AU 86 LONDON before arriving at MARIAHILF-WIEN 27.8.86 in Austria. There is no proof that the large oval with an R (on the left) was ever used at Bloemfontein and it was probably applied in transit at London as it is of the same size as registered marks used by the British Post Office. A smaller mark, though, was used at various offices in the Colony from 1901 and this will be discussed in a further article on the Registered Letter Markings of the ORC.



Fig.6: Front and reverse

The postage rate of 28½d was made up of the European rate of 7½d times three (22½d) plus 6d registration. A block of twelve ½d stamps seals the rear flap to complete the postage, as shown above.

The Cape accountancy rate of 5d is shown written beside the London postmark. Again, this is a proving cover as it shows the 11-bar 'R' device which was used at Bloemfontein.

At this point in time only three types of markings have been recorded as identifying registered mail emanating from the Orange Free State. If any reader can add to this information please contact the writer at kevinwprice@bigpond.com

References:

- Batten, A.G.M., RDPSA FRPSL, 1973 *More About the Postmarks of the Orange Free State and Orange River Colony, 1868-1910,* published privately.
- Bartshe, T., 2017. *Registration System of the Orange Free State 1856-1899,* stamp exhibit described in the *Orange Free State Bulletins* 247 (June) and 248 (September).

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Private Telegraph Companies

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The telegraph was developed in the 1840s by Samuel Morse and other inventors. It works by transmitting electrical signals over a wire laid between stations. In a very short period of time it revolutionised long-distance communication. In 1844, Morse sent his first telegraph message, from Washington, D.C., to Baltimore, Maryland.

In Britain, by the mid-1850s, several private companies were providing telegraphic services, but demand far exceeded supply. There also were shortcomings that frustrated and hampered the business community. For logistical reasons, telegraph lines were laid alongside railway lines, and most telegraph stations were located in railway stations rather than in the business districts of the towns and cities they served. Rates charged to customers were very high. For example, it cost eight or nine shillings to send a twenty word message from London to Manchester or Liverpool, at a time when the postal charge for the same destination was one penny, irrespective of the number of words contained in the letter. Pressure gradually mounted on government to improve the service and ensure that the charges were significantly reduced. Radical change came in 1869 when an Act of Parliament gave the Postmaster-General the exclusive privilege of transmitting telegrams within the United Kingdom. A Post Office monopoly was thus created.

The Cape of Good Hope Telegraph Company

In South Africa, the first telegraph line became operational in May 1860. This line connected Cape Town and Simonstown, and was built by the Cape of Good Hope Telegraph Company. The line was constructed primarily to accommodate the needs of the naval establishment. In 1861, the Cape Parliament passed a statute to assist the construction of a line by the Company between Cape Town and Grahamstown. The Act authorised payment to the Company of an annual subsidy of £1,500 for 15 years, on condition that government messages were transmitted free of charge. This line was completed in January, 1864.

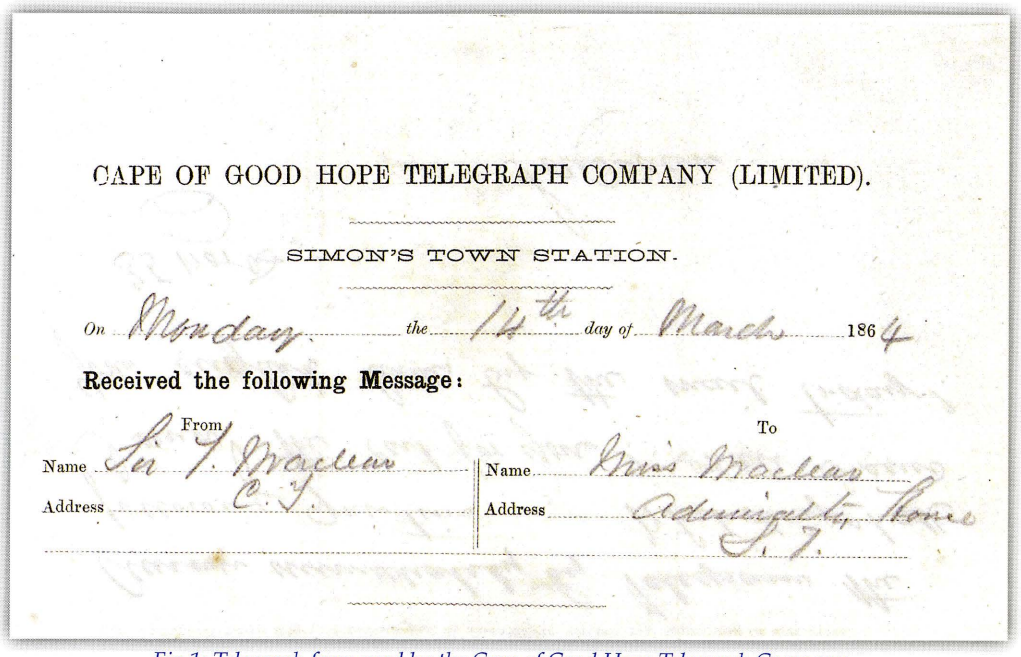
The telegraph illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 was sent in March 1894 from Simonstown by Sir Thomas Maclear, the Government Astrologer, to his daughter at Admiralty House in Cape Town. The message reads: *"Answer immediately by Telegram the following question: What day shall I send the cart for you? Shall I send your English letters by the Mail today?"* The message is endorsed '35 words', and envelope is marked 'Nil to pay.'

The regulations applicable to the transmission of messages by telegraph were approved by the Governor and did not specify the charge which the Company should apply, except to provide that all messages should be prepaid, and a single message was limited to twenty words. In 1873, the Company's private lines were purchased by Government for £40,750, and responsibility for their administration and expansion was given to the Postmaster General.

The Eastern and South African Telegraph Company

In the 1870s, submarine telegraph cables were laid to connect Europe with Africa, Asia, Australia and South America. Most of these cables were laid by a handful of British companies controlled by the Scottish entrepreneur John Pender. Pender's major goal was to connect Britain with its principal trading partner, India, by submarine cable. In order to limit the risks of this venture, Pender established different companies to lay and link cables across the various stages of the journey. In 1872, following the successful completion of the project, the various companies were merged to form the Eastern Telegraph Company. As further international submarine cables were completed, they were duly absorbed into the Eastern Telegraph Company, which became the largest multinational corporation in the world, owning approximately half of the total global length of submarine cable installed.

In 1879, Pender in partnership with the governments of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal and Portugal founded the Eastern & South African Telegraph Company. This company laid a cable in the Indian Ocean up the east coast of Africa which connected Cape Town with Mozambique, Zanzibar and Aden where it connected with the submarine cable between Britain and India. Figure 3 illustrates a telegram envelope of 1905 addressed at the



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TELEGRAPH COMPANY (LIMITED).

SIMON'S TOWN STATION.

On Monday the 14th day of March 1864

Received the following Message:

From	To
Name Sir T. Maclear C.J.	Name Miss Maclear
Address	Address Admiralty House S.T.

Fig.1: Telegraph form used by the Cape of Good Hope Telegraph Company

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company's Cape Town station for delivery of a message from overseas to a guest of the Mount Nelson Hotel which was redirected free of charge to the Observatory House near the railway station.

The British South Africa Company

Following the development of the Griqualand diamond fields in the early 1870s, an unprecedented demand for fast and reliable communication with London and the major European commercial centres was created.



Fig.3: Telegraph envelope of the Eastern Telegraph Company used by the Cape Town Station of the Eastern & South African Telegraph Company

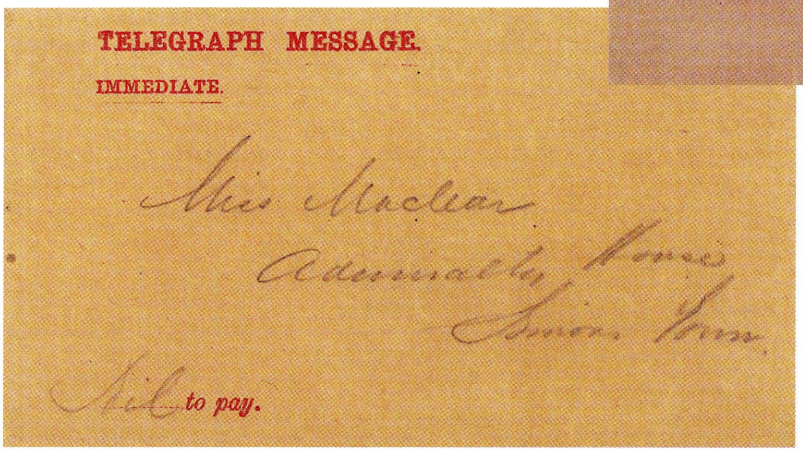

Fig.2: Telegraph envelope used by the Cape of Good Hope Telegraph Company

The telegraph line from Cape Town, via Colesburg, to Kimberley was completed in 1876. Before this, in 1873, the entire Cape telegraph network had been purchased and effectively nationalised by the Cape Government. The impetus to extend the system further north was driven primarily by the mining magnate cum politician Cecil Rhodes.

The Rhodes-sponsored Warren Expedition of 1885 laid down a telegraph line from Barkly West to Kanye which was operated by the Imperial Government. In October 1889, Rhodes' British South Africa Company was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Victoria which empowered the company to build roads, railways and telegraphs as well as to award land grants, negotiate treaties and promulgate laws.



Fig.4 Telegraph form of the British South Africa Company used in 1891

The construction of a telegraph line northwards from Mafeking, in order to support his military 'Pioneer Column', was one of Rhodes' greatest priorities. He paid for construction of the line from his personal funds, and the line reached Palapye in the Bechuanaland Protectorate in October 1890, and onwards to Macloutsie, close to the north east border with Matabeleland, in May 1891. The line was then extended through Tuli to reach Salisbury in early 1892.

Figure 4 illustrates a Company telegraph form regarding a message from Vryburg to the Officer-in-Charge of the Bechuanaland Border Police at Macloutsie 2 October 1891.

Transmission of a telegram such as this was charged in 1891 at 6d per word, with a minimum fee of 5 shillings. There was however an agreement between the Company and the Cape Government that certain official telegrams would be transmitted free of charge. If this had been a private message, the recipient would have been obliged to pay £2 1s 6d in order to read its content; in 1891, the telegraph at Macloutsie was operated by a member of the Bechuanaland Border Police who received from the Company an allowance of £4 per month for this work.

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1995 RUGBY WORLD CUP INK-JET CANCELS

PART ONE – USED IN PRETORIA

by John Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society



INTRODUCTION

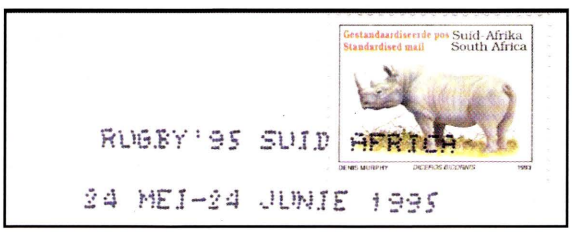
In August 1995, *The SA Philatelist* printed my article covering a general overview of the South African ink-jet postmarks relating to the 1995 Rugby World Cup. In December that same year, Dick Klein also had an article published, but since then I have not come across any further information on the subject, so herewith is a long overdue update.

The changes to the ink-jet slogans and the errors that occurred created a large number of different postmarks, which may interest rugby thematic collectors and those who study postal slogans and ink-jet slogans. All the variations that I have found are listed here, but there could be others and I would be keen to see a copy thereof. A number of differences exist caused by incorrect feeding or overlapping of the envelopes – these have not been listed.

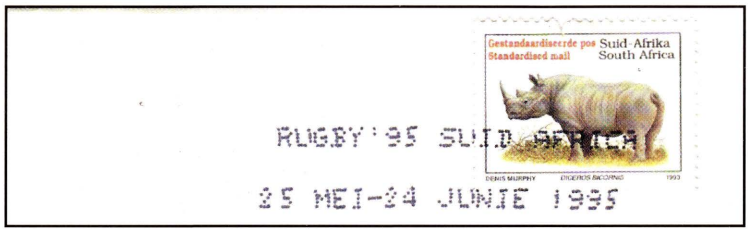
The slogans were acquired from various competition entries and other bulk mail items between May and July 1995. I was fortunate to obtain over twenty bulging post bags for sorting, which I stored for some months at home along the length of our passage way – much to the chagrin of my wife. I used our three children as 'slave' labour during their August school holidays to sort the envelopes – a task they undertook with much enthusiasm, regarding the whole process as an exciting treasure hunt! We were fascinated to find the endless variations of the slogans produced in such a short time by the Post Office.

The first slogans appeared in Pretoria on 22 May 1995. They evolved in a number of stages, from a slogan with no town name and no date, to the complete Pretoria postmark. Presumably, the slogan was set-up whilst using postal items and amended as the post was processed. As errors were noticed by the post clerks, they were corrected during the run. The variations are listed in the sequence in which, I believe, they evolved.

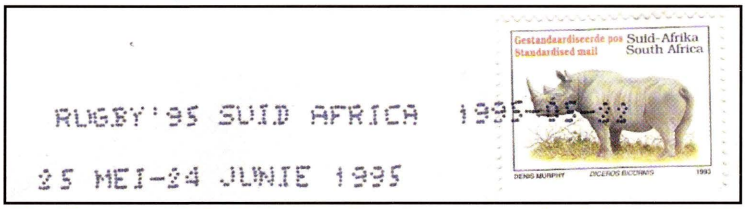
1. PRETORIA - AFRIKAANS SLOGAN



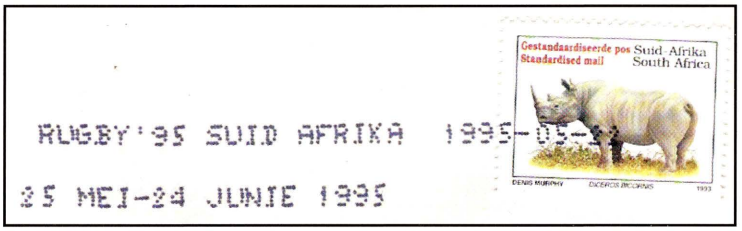
1.01: The first slogan had no town name or date and a spelling error SUID AFRICA. The starting date of the tournament shown as 24 MEI was also incorrect.



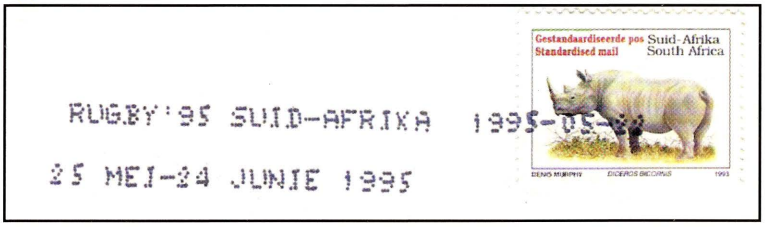
1.02: The starting date was amended to 25 MEI.



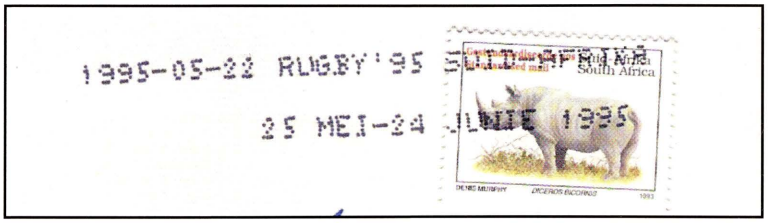
1.03: The date 1995-05-22 was then inserted on the right but SUID AFRICA remained.



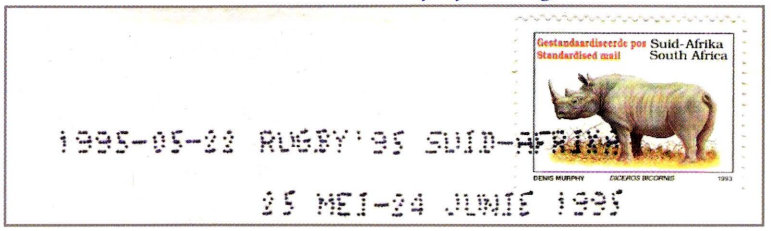
1.04: SUID AFRICA was corrected to SUID AFRIKA but without the hyphen.



1.05: The hyphen was then included in SUID-AFRIKA.



1.06: The date was then moved to the left of the slogan.



1.07: Finally, the bottom row of the slogan 25 MEI – 24 JUNIE 1995 was moved one space to the right, so that the '2' is under the 'R' of Rugby. All these variations occurred on 22 May 1995 but the town name was still missing.

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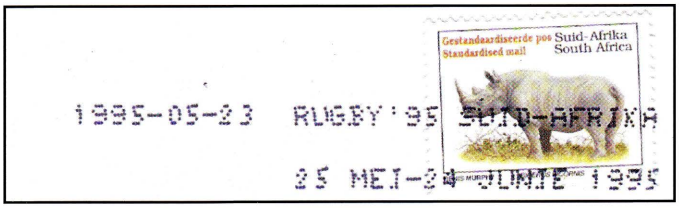
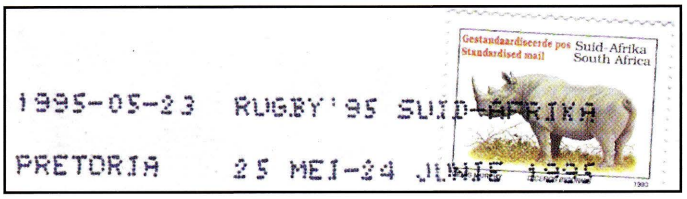
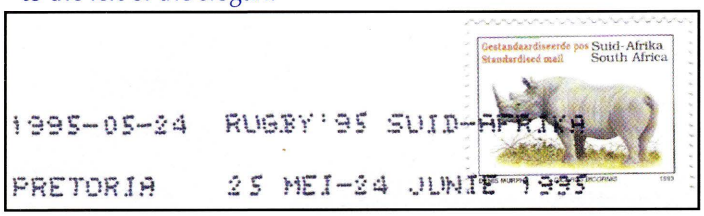


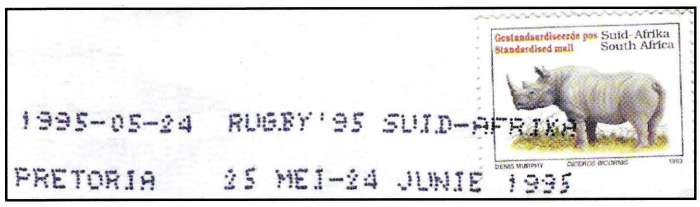
1.08: 23 May 1995 started with no town name. The date was moved further to the left, making the top line of the slogan 77mm compared with 74mm on 22 May.



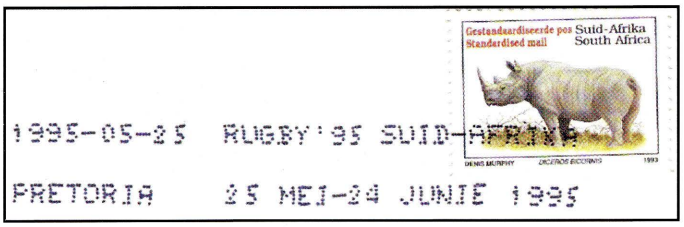
1.09: 23 May 1995 – PRETORIA was added below the date to the left of the slogan.



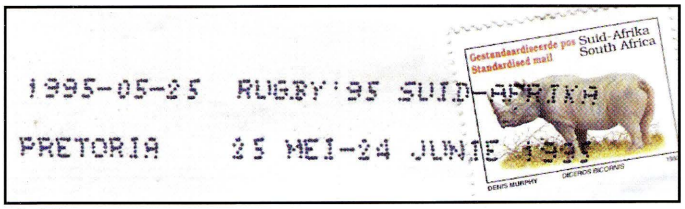
1.10: 24 May 1995 – two variations of the slogan appeared – the normal one as shown (the same as 23 May, which continued after the 25th)



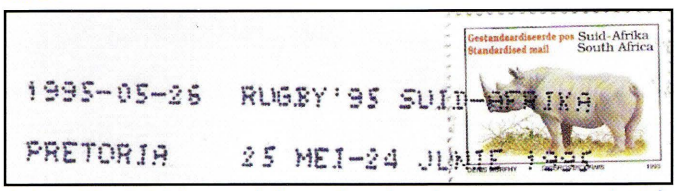
1.11: and 24 May 1995 – Type 2 – Top row of the slogan shifted slightly to the right.



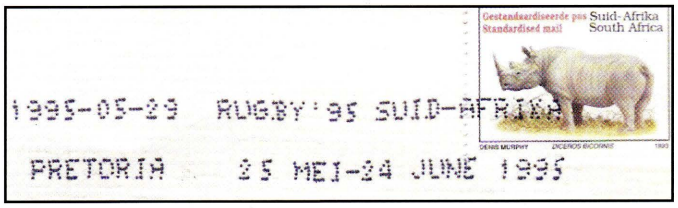
1.12: On 25 May, the two different types again appeared (1.12 and 1.13)



1.13:

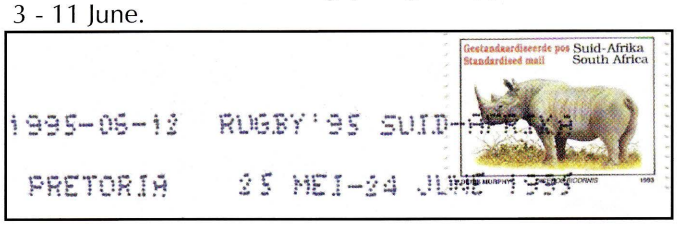


1.14: On 26 May and thereafter the slogans appeared with the top row to the left. I have not seen the type 2 slogan after the 25th.



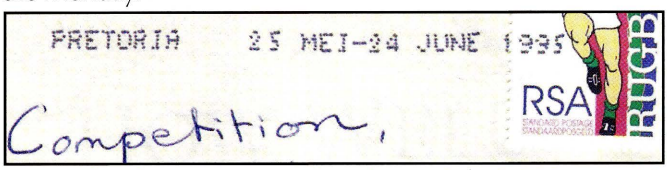
1.15: 29 May to 2 June. On 29 May, the 'I' in JUNIE was dropped and as a result, the bottom row was one character shorter. The 'P' in PRETORIA was now under the '9' in 1995. This situation remained until 2 June.

On 2 June, the slogan: DIVERSITY IS LIFE. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5 JUNE 1995 was used. This slogan ran until the 10th and no rugby slogans appeared between 3 - 11 June.



1.16: On 12 June, the rugby slogans re-appeared in the same format as they had closed on 2 June. The error JUNE for JUNIE was not corrected.

I have seen no slogans in either English or Afrikaans dated 19 June (a Monday). However, they do appear with the date 18 June (Sunday). As until then no slogans appeared on a Sunday from Pretoria, perhaps the wrong date was used on the Monday.



1.17: The slogan continued unchanged until 25 June, with the JUNIE error.

The 25th was a Sunday, so this might have been processed on Monday 26, before changing to the WERELDRUGBYKAMPIOENE slogans.

2. PRETORIA - ENGLISH SLOGAN



2.01: An ink-jet exists with no town and no date, with the bottom row placed directly under the top row.

This could be a later error when the date or town was added (see 2.05 below).



2.02: The bottom row was one space to the right compared to 2.01.

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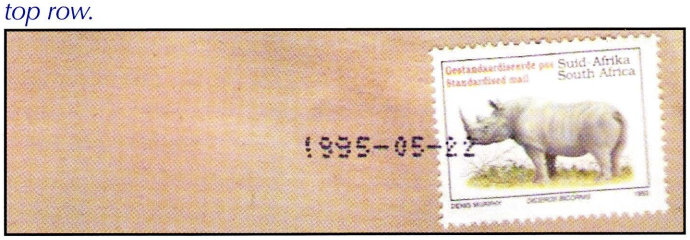
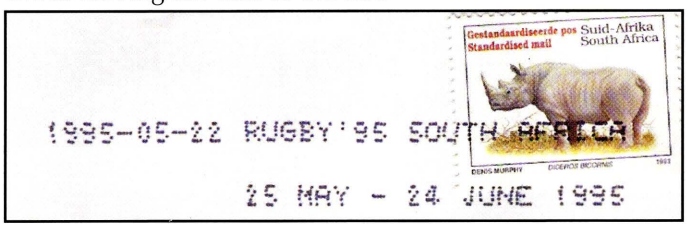
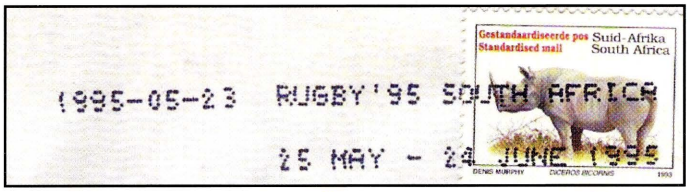
2.03: The date 1995.05.22 was now added on the right of the slogan with the bottom row still one space to the right of the top row.



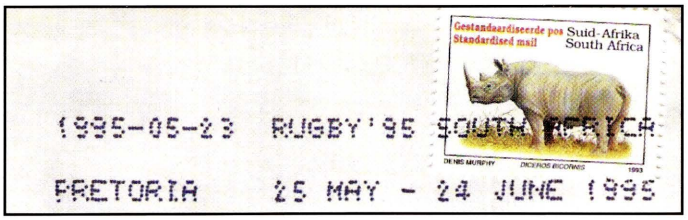
2.04: The date 1995.05.22 appeared on its own with no slogan and no town. The date matched that of the Pretoria Afrikaans slogan used on the same day. I surmise that this happened whilst moving the date to the left.



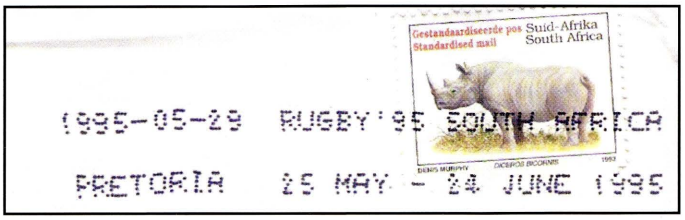
2.05: The date moved to the left of the slogan and the bottom row was now in line with the top row. This remained so until 20 June, when the slogan was re-set.



2.06: The town name was still missing on 23 May and the gap between the slogan and the date had increased by one space.

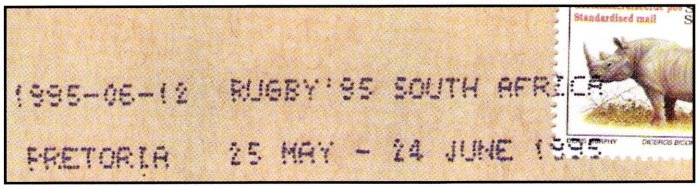


2.07: PRETORIA was now added below the date and slightly to the left of it.



2.08: On the 29th, PRETORIA shifted to the right under 1995. The bottom row was reduced to 76mm from 79mm. 30 May to 2 June. The slogan remained unchanged.

On 2 June, the slogan: DIVERSITY IS LIFE. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5 JUNE 1995 was used. This slogan ran until 10 June and no rugby slogans appeared between 3 - 11 June.

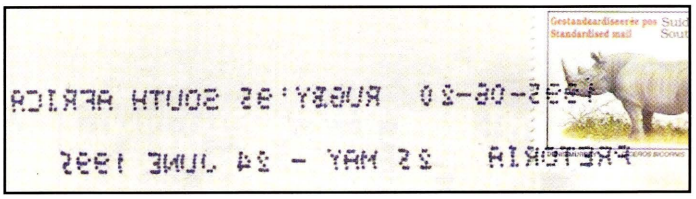


2.09: From 12 to 18 June, the rugby slogan continued in the same format as 2 June.

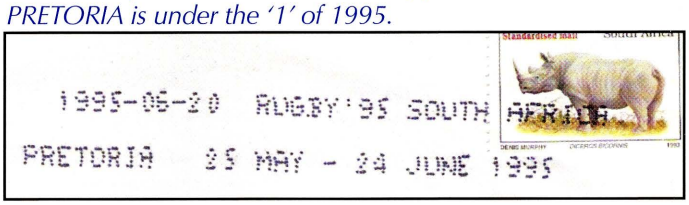
A NUMBER OF VARIATIONS OCCURRED



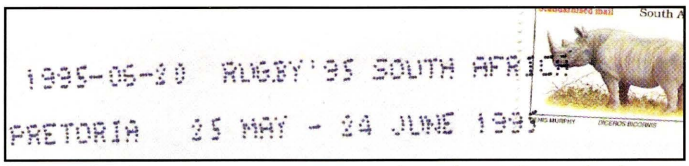
2.10: On 18 June, the slogan started to show problems with misprinted numbers and letters. This might be why no slogans appeared on 19 June and the 20th yielded so many different variations.



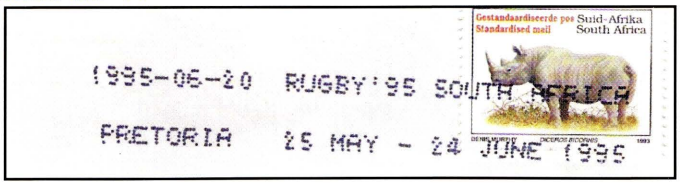
2.11: On the 20th a mirror reverse print appeared. I have not seen an explanation of how this happened. Note the 'E' of PRETORIA is under the '1' of 1995.



2.12: The slogan was no longer in reverse print, but the 'E' of PRETORIA was still under the '1' of 1995.



2.13: The bottom row was moved to the right with the 'R' under the '1'.



2.14: The bottom row was further to the right with the 'P' of PRETORIA between the '1' and '9' of 1995.



2.15: The 21 June slogan had two different variations. It started with the 'P' of PRETORIA between the '1' and '9' of 1995.

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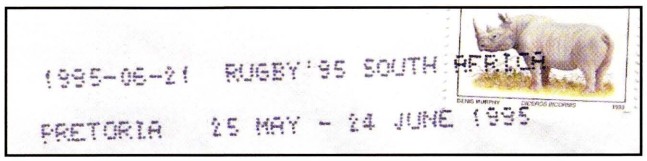
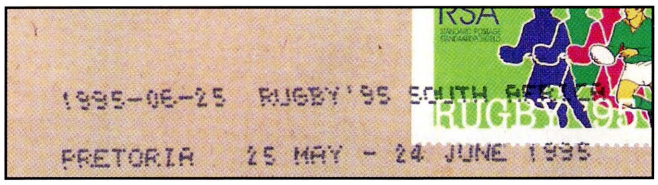


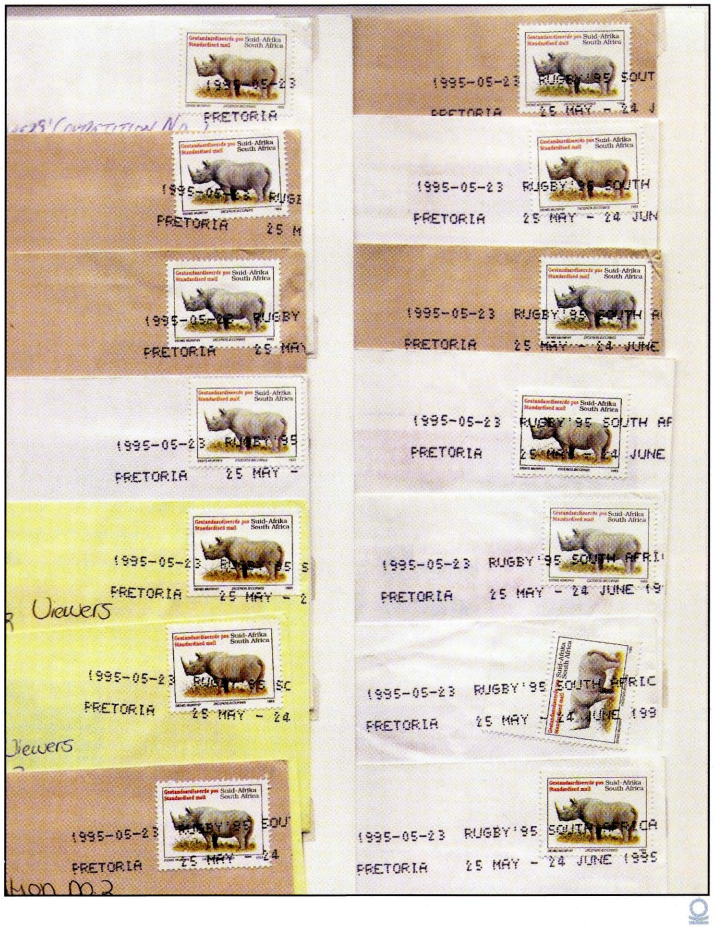
2.16: The bottom row then moved one space to the left.



2.17: The slogan remained the same until 25 June when, on 26 June, it was replaced by the RUGBY WORLD CHAMPIONS slogans **(to feature in a future issue)**.

An interesting aspect of the Pretoria English ink-jet slogan was the way it started far to the right of the envelope with one character added at a time. This seemed to happen when something was changed in the slogan. Examples of this were seen on 23 May when PRETORIA was added (see Appendix 1) and on 24 and 26 May.

Appendix 1.



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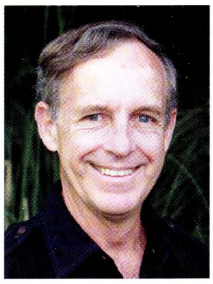
Phun with postmarks

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



The difference between an E and U in a name

An innocent looking request from John Carter about whether the Vredenberg postmark, shown in Figure 1, has been recorded, led to an interesting detective story. The postmark is a 23 mm single circle and it is not clear if there is nothing or a large dot at the base; most likely bare-at-base as the office opened during the period when this type was issued. In the *Putzel Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices* there are two Vredenberg offices, one near Stellenbosch and the other near Malmesbury.



Fig.1: Postmark of Vredenberg.

I sent this query to Prof Franco Frescura as I could not solve the riddle with the information in the *Revised listing of the Post Offices and the Postal Markings of the Cape of Good Hope 1792 – 1910*. He specially prepared the following description for 'Have Phun':

"Vredenberg Station was established in the division of Stellenbosch on 1 May 1862 by the Cape Town, Wellington & Docks Railway Co Ltd as part of the railway line to Stellenbosch. It thus was the first to use the name, and was clearly defined as a station and not a village.

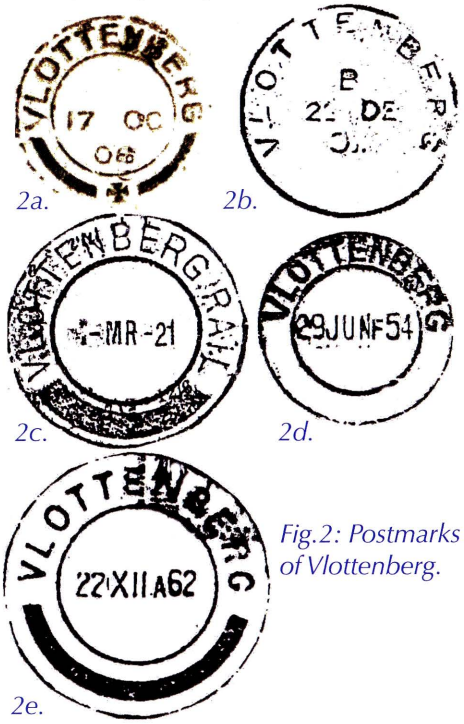
"In February 1882 the Cape GPO opened postal agencies at Vredenberg Station and Vredenburg simultaneously, evidently relying on the literacy of its clients to tell the difference between the two names. However when the Telegraph Department, then a separate section of the GPO, opened a TO at Vredenberg Station it realised that the current situation could not be sustained, and chose to name it Vlottenberg. We thus have the ridiculous situation of a post office called Vredenberg Station having on its premises a telegraph office called Vlottenberg. The situation was remedied in September 1899 when the name of the station was changed to Vlottenberg." In the meantime it was discovered that the station was on the farm Vredenberg which, about 20 years ago, was sold by the Neethling family who had owned it for generations. It was then renamed 'Vredenheim'.

Meantime the establishment of Vredenburg was beset by travails in its own right. A village known as *Procesfontein* was established in 1875 as a kerkplaats of the NGK on a piece of land known locally as Procesfontein, or *'lawsuit spring'*, indicating that the ownership of the property was still the subject of a legal dispute. Apparently this took sometime to resolve for although the village was laid out in 1883, by the census of 1891 it only had a population of 82. On 1 April 1890 Mr JH De Smidt was appointed its postmaster.

According to official church history the first NGK pastor for the village of Vredenburg, Ds U. Joubert was only appointed in 1902, at which stage, in 1904 the population had risen to 407. An in-depth study of the church history will provide interesting facts regarding the social structure and thus postal services. Any volunteers?

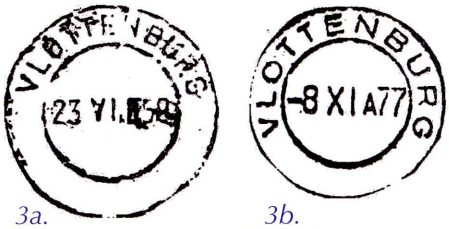
It is now evident that the single circle date stamp in Figure 1 was the only one with BERG for Vredenberg. According to Putzel the name was Vlottenberg Station from 1899 to 1953, when the E was changed to U. In 1962 the office was transferred from the station and the name became Vlottenburg until it was closed in the mid-1990s.

In Vol. 10 of the Putzel Postmarks there is a note under Vlottenberg Rail/Sta that the date stamps and name changes do not match. However, with the current information it appears as if the name station/rail was only used on one canceller. The sequence of date stamps shown in Figures 2a to 2e now makes sense. A 1921 skeleton relief canceller with name Vlottenburg is not shown at it is too poor to copy. Two date stamps with U are shown in Figs.3a and b, but the earlier one appears to have been used in 1958. Was this in anticipation of the name change or was the name spelling used interchangeably?



2a. 2b. 2c. 2d. 2e.

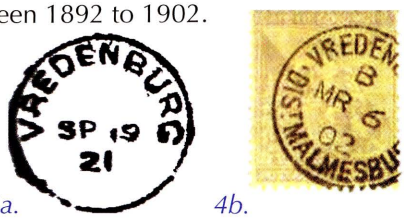
Fig.2: Postmarks of Vlottenberg.



3a. 3b.

Fig.3: Postmarks of Vlottenburg.

Vredenburg had two early Cape cancellers, shown in Figs.4a and b. The first one has been seen 1884 to 1921, whereas the second one was seen 1892 to 1902.



4a. 4b.

Fig.4: Postmarks of Vredenburg.

After this extensive presentation of the evidence, the answer to the question in the first paragraph is that the Vredenberg date stamp had not been reported, and it belongs to the office located near Stellenbosch.

Confirmation of Mobile 8 use at Sun City

I recently discovered that the PAT labels used at Mobile 8, Sun City, have the

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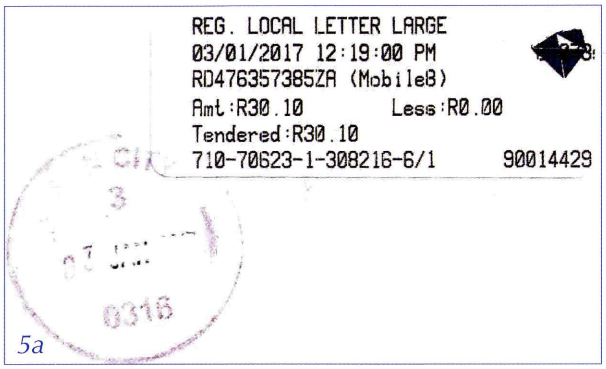
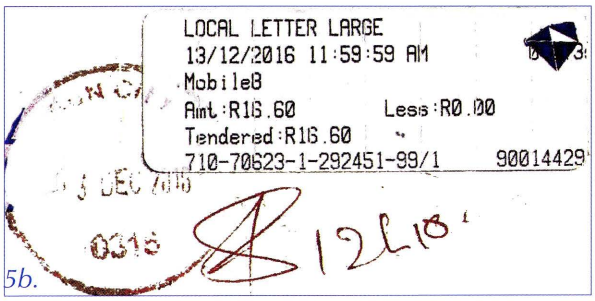
inscription Mobile8, as shown in Figs 5a & 5b. Figure 5a shows the label with a track and trace number for a B4 registered envelope, whereas Figure 5b shows a Fastmail B4 envelope rate without track and trace.



5a



5b.

Figs.5 a & b: Date stamps and PAT labels used at Sun City MPO.

Dit was nogal pret om die raaisel oor die gebruik van die Vredenberg Kaapse stempel te ontrafel. Dit was gebruik by die stasie-poskantoor net buite Stellenbosch. Alhoewel die kantoor in die Malmesbury distrik aanvanklik ook met 'n E gespel is, is daar geen stempel met die naam gebruik nie, want die stempel met U is vanaf opening gebruik.

Dit is nou moontlik om die moderne mobiele poskantoor ook deur middel van die PAT etikette te identifiseer, soos met die Sun City gebruik van MOBILE 8.



The Ottoshoop Post Office near Mahikeng in North West was torched on 8.1.18. The last canceller we have recorded was presumably used up to the end of 1999.

Can anyone help please?



new!

The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston
East Rand PS

Collecting stamps can be very confusing, particularly if you do not understand the terminology. In this issue we are starting a new feature to make sense of some of the terms used in philately which will help you sound like an expert! The terms discussed in this series are, by no means, comprehensive or complete.

AIRMAIL LABEL

An airmail label, or etiquette, is added to a letter to indicate that it needs to be sent, for at least one section of the route, by air. The usual design is a plain blue oblong with the phrase 'AIR MAIL' and 'PAR AVION' (French).

They have no value for paying postage.

- Fig.1 is a self-adhesive
- Fig.2 is printed on the envelope
- Fig.3 resembles a stamp, with gum that needs to be moistened



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3

ARROWS

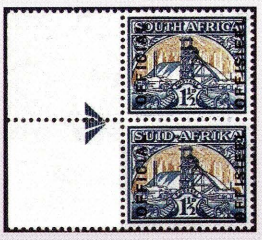


Fig.4

This is a mark in the margin (or selvage) of a large sheet of stamps, in the form of a W or V-shaped arrow head. It acts as a quick guide for post office clerks when they want to fold, or divide, the sheet in half. The mark also helps the collector to indicate the position of the stamps in the sheet.

ADHESIVE/POSTAL STATIONERY

An adhesive is a general term for a stamp, but more specifically the word refers to one with some form of gum on the back of the stamp. This is distinct from the image of a stamp that has been printed directly onto an envelope or post card, as shown in Fig.5, which is known as postal stationery.



Fig.5

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Voices from the past:

Correspondence from a son to his mother



by Lieb Venter, OFS Philatelic Society Bloemfontein

It is a known fact that the Cape Colony had a well-established and functional postal service by the late 1800s. Significant quantities of mail were circulated throughout the colony through this service. A number of these early postal pieces recently came into my possession and one in particular proved to tell a fascinating story through philatelic tell-tales of a famous son and his writings to his mother.

THE LETTER

An unassuming white cover, measuring 138 x 81mm, is addressed to Mrs A. Murray, Parsonage, Graaff Reinet (Fig.1). This address is redirected in a different handwriting to c/o Rev Hofmeyr, Somerset East. The later address is most probably to Rev Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr, the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) minister in Somerset East at the time, and the husband of Bella Hofmeyr (née Murray), younger sister of Dr Murray Jr. The letter was almost certainly intended for Mrs Maria Murray (née Stegmann), as it was the practice in those days to use her husband's initials in addressing any married / widowed woman in correspondence. She was the wife of the late Reverend Andrew Murray Sr (progenitor of the Murray family in SA) and mother to Dr Andrew Murray, the well-known DRC minister, prolific writer, educationist and South African evangelist.

Rev Murray Sr was known to have worked in this area of the Eastern Cape earlier until his passing in 1866. His son Andrew was born in Graaff Reinet in 1826 (Fig.2).

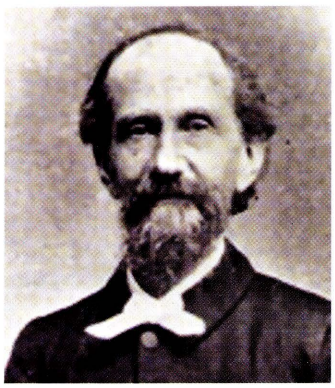

Fig.2: Dr Andrew Murray, Jr.



Fig.1: Front and reverse.



THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE CAPE COLONY

The letter was dispatched from Wellington in the Cape on 23 October 1874, as per the circular date stamp (CDS) found on the front of the envelope and illustrated at right. Interestingly, the CDS appears to be one of the second batch received by the Cape Postal Authorities in 1865 and used until 1882 as described by Goldblatt (1984: 96). As Dr Murray Jr was resident in Wellington from 1871 to 1906, the letter was most probably from him to his mother.

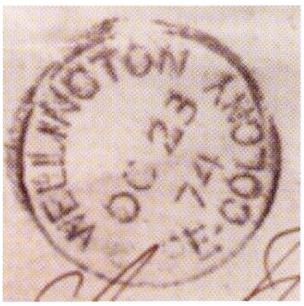

Fig.3:

As is evident from the illustrated CDS and dated town oval (DTO) handstamps (Figs.1&4), the letter passed via Murraysburg on 26 October 1874 and reached Graaff Reinet on 27 October 1874. It was then re-routed to Somerset East and reached this destination, according to the DTO handstamp, on 1 November, 1874.

According to Goldblatt (1984: 83) the DTO handstamps were in use from 1853 and the last recorded usage for Graaff Reinet and Somerset East were on 19-08-78 and 20-12-1879 respectively, making usage thereof on this cover reasonably late. (Goldblatt, 1984: 255-256). Delivery

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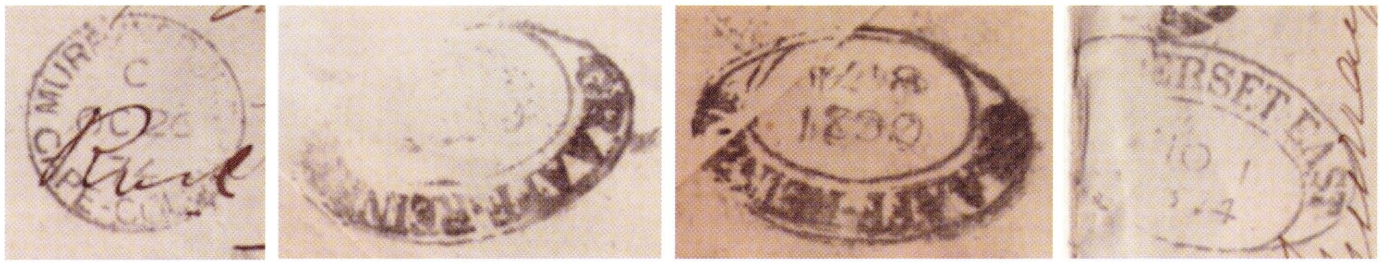


Fig.4: Handstamps from cover in Fig.1.

from Wellington to Somerset East via Murraysburg and Graaff Reinet, was therefore effected within 9 days (quite a feat especially considering modern delivery times).



Fig.5a



Fig.5b

PAYING DUES

Postage is covered by a blue COGH 4d stamp (Fig.5a Hope standing type – presumably SACC 19).

The stamp is cancelled by a so-called thick bar oval numeral canceller (BONC), nine bar type probably issued in 1864/5 as described by Goldblatt (1984: 89). Of greater interest is the second 4d stamp pasted partially over the first (Fig.5b). As can be seen at left, the second stamp is of the winged type and has taken up much of the other stamp's front image in the form of a reversed offset on its gummed side.

It too has been cancelled with a BONC. Unfortunately in neither instance can the number on the BONC be identified. Postage is in accordance with the rates of the time of 4d for all letters not exceeding 1oz (period 01-03-1846 to 1879). The second 4d stamp covers the postage due for the re-routing of the letter from Graaff Reinet to Somerset East, as per the requirements at the time.

PERSONAL NOTES

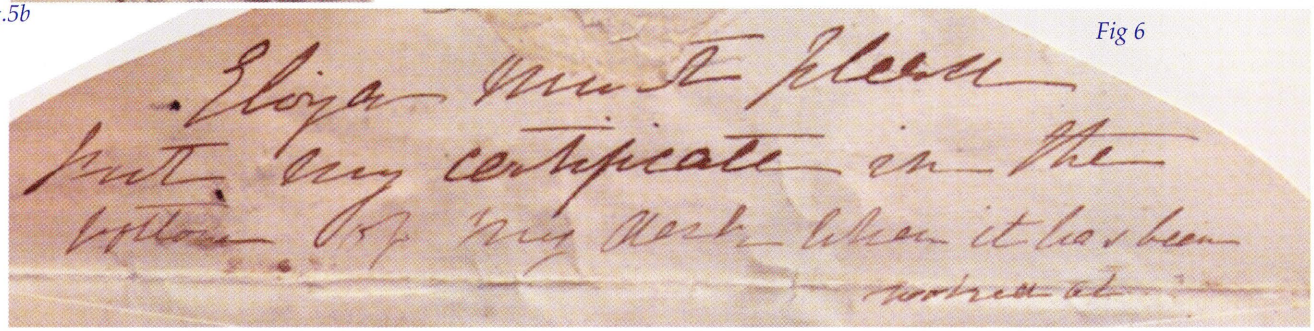
On the back flap of the envelope is a message that reads as follows: *"Eliza must please put my certificate in the bottom of my desk when it has been looked at" (Fig. 6).* The reference to Eliza is most probably to Dr Murray's youngest (of sixteen children) Elizabeth 'Eliza' Neethling (née Murray), who was born in 1855 and was therefore 19 at the time. Unfortunately, the contents of the envelope did not survive with the cover - who knows what interesting information it would have contained!

Yet, with a little perseverance and curiosity, at the same time philately never fails to provide fascinating and previously unknown facts!

References

- Goldblatt, R. 1984. *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*. Cape Town: Reiger Publishers.
- www.geni.com, 2017. *Master profile of Rev Andrew Murray SV/Prog*. Burbank, Calif.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Murray_(minister)

Fig 6



THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

by MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

2018 - the Year of the Earth Dog kicks off on 16 February 2018. The Chinese zodiac is lunar-based and moves in a 12-year cycle. According to Asian astrology, one's year of birth, and the animal this represents, determines a lot about your personality traits.

Although each of the 12 animals gets an outing every dozen years, there are different varieties - and 2018 will be the first year of the earth dog since 1958.

Anyone born in an earth dog year will be communicative, serious, and responsible in the workplace. Many countries issue stamps to celebrate this event.

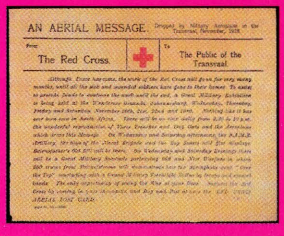


The 2018 Lunar New Year stamp from the USA Postal Service celebrates the Year of the Dog. Kam Mak's painting shows the three growing bamboo plants; archived artwork of a dog by Clarence Lee in upper left. (Image from Linn's Stamp News site).

erratum

In the December 2017 *SAP* there is a significant gremlin in Dr Frank's contribution:

The caption on page 189 should read "... **An aerial message from The Red Cross to the public of Transvaal**....", not "Republic of Transvaal".



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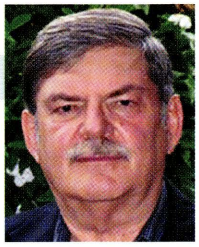
THE SECOND (1931-1937) AND THIRD (1938 – 1942) SERIES OF REVENUE STAMPS AND THE OVERPRINTED NATIVE TAX REVENUE STAMP OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Introduction

Since 1931 every revenue stamp has borne, somewhere in its design, its date of printing, a feature which was retained into the 21st Century. The date can be clearly seen below the head (Fig.1). The building of a complete collection of stamps bearing these dates is both a challenging and rewarding experience. In 1931 the Government Printing Works in Pretoria took over the printing of revenue stamps using a reduced size version of the same King George V design De La Rue had used for Series 1.



Fig.1: Date '1937' below the King's neck.

The Second Union Revenue Stamp Series (1931-1937): The Reduced Format of the King George V Head

Government Notice No. 552 dated 2 April 1931 announced that a new series of adhesive Revenue and Penalty stamps consisting of the following denominations had been issued on 1 April 1931:

- Revenue stamps: 3d, 6d, 1s, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, 5s, 10s, £1, £2, £5, £10 and £25.
- Penalty revenue stamps: 3d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 2s 6d, 5s, 10s, £1 and £5.

It further indicated in the same document that: *"The stamps of this new series are appreciably smaller than the stamps of the old series…and bear the words 'INKOMSTE' and 'SUIDAFRIKA' in place of the words 'INKOMST' and 'ZUID AFRIKA' of the previous issue* (Fig.2).



Fig.2: Selection of stamps with different dates: £2 - 1934, £10 - 1933 and £25 - 1931.

The second series of stamps were printed in Pretoria by the Government Printing Works using the rotogravure process. All denominations, from 3d to £25, arrived from the Government Printer in sheets of 120 before being cut into sheets of 60. The first issues of the 3d to £25 revenue stamps were made available by the Controller of Stores on 9 March 1931 with strict instructions that they were not to be placed on sale before 1 April 1931. In 1937 the 15/- value was added (Fig.3). These stamps were used on a variety of documents (Fig.4).



Fig.3: The 15/- value was added in 1937.

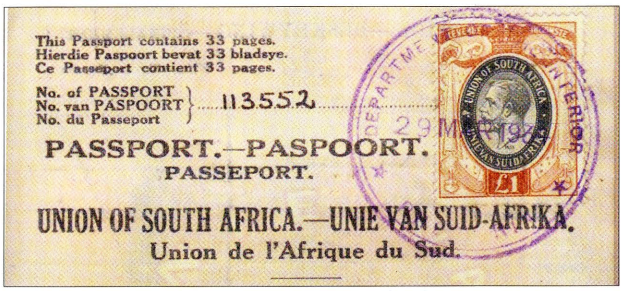


Fig.4: The £1 stamp used to pay the fee for Passport on 29 March 1934. (image reduced)

A Revenue Department Circular authorised the issue of the new overprinted 'PENALTY' stamps with the '1931' numerals as well as for the other years (Fig.5).

The old series of revenue stamps issued in 1913 were demonetised as from 1 July 1931 but exchanges were still permitted.

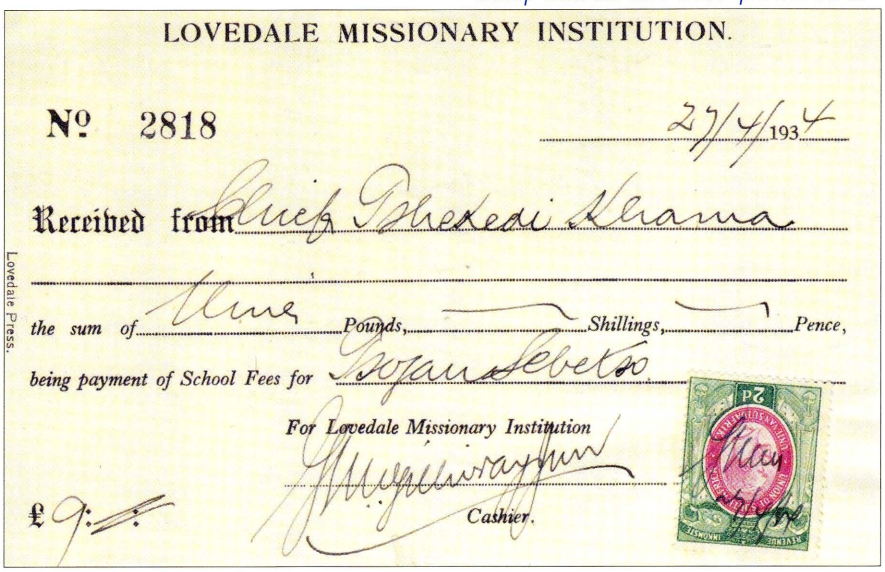


Fig.5: 5/- stamp overprinted 'PENALTY/ BOETE'.

A 2d revenue stamp was not printed in the initial issue but was introduced specifically to meet the increased duty from 1d to 2d for receipts, cheques etc. which had come into force on 1 July 1931 (Fig.6). The 2d. duty was reduced back to 1d on 1 July 1934 thus making the 2d revenue stamp obsolete.

All values went on sale to the public on 1 April 1931 with the exception of the 2d value which only went on sale on 1 July 1931. Owing to the poor quality of the gum and paper used for the '1931' issue, a reprint of a series of stamps with the date '1933' was authorised with pure gum arabic. The badly gummed '1931' issue was withdrawn from circulation on 7

Fig.6: (below - image reduced) Receipt dated 27 April 1934 showing a 2d revenue stamp with the date '1933' printed on it.



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January 1933 and, as authorised by the Controller of Stores, destroyed in June 1933.

It is interesting to note that some of the values for the years 1935 and 1936 were only available for sale very late in the year (see table 1). As a consequence, these stamps are only to be found on documents dated after July 1935 and July 1936 respectively. It is not clear why they were issued so late in the year.

These stamps were printed using the rotogravure process with Multiple Springbok head watermark sideways and Perforated 14. The first three issues, 1931, 1933 and 1934 have the sideways watermark facing right, whereas stamps printed in 1935, 1936 and 1937 have the watermark facing left.

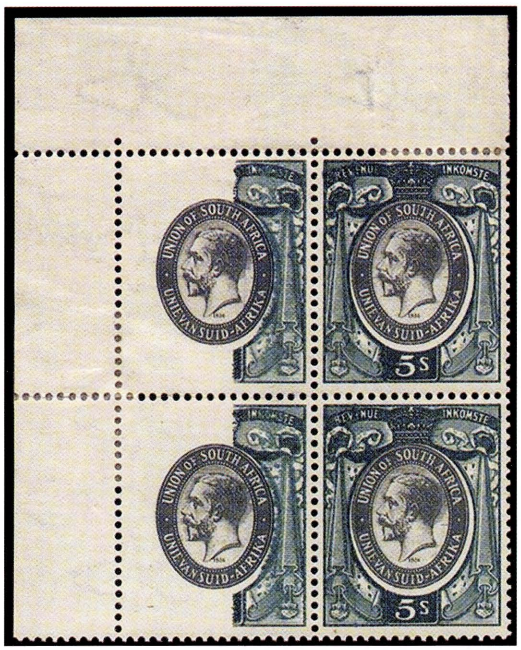

Fig.7: Upper left corner marginal block dated '1938' with a major printing error. (Source: Alan Macgregor)

By 1935 the headplate was badly worn and the lines in the background for the stamps dated 1936 had to be 'retouched.' In 1937 a new headplate was brought into use with the main difference being that the background now had 43 lines instead of 60. Just as in the case of postage stamps some printing errors also occurred (Fig.7).

1935		1936	
Value	Date available	Value	Date available
3d	2 October 1935	6d	8 August 1936
2s	6 July 1935	2s	13 October 1936
3s	November 1935	3s	6 November 1936
5s	4 September 1935	10s	22 August 1936
10s	15 July 1935	£2	2 September 1936
£1	November 1935	£10	2 September 1936
		£25	31 October 1936

Table 1: Dates that certain values of the 1935 and 1936 revenue stamps were available

Certain values of the '1931' and later issues were overprinted as required: 'PENALTY', 'CONSULAR', 'ASSIZE', 'FEE FOR ADDITIONAL STOCK', 'S.W.A' and for the three Protectorates (Figs.8,9&10).

In Table 2 the observed dates for Series 2 was compiled based on examples in the author's collection, and catalogue by J. Barefoot Ltd and article by Tony Howgrave-Graham.

Howgrave-Graham also reported that a £10 stamp with a 1935 date has been seen. However, the records of the Post Office Archives in Pretoria state that: *"There was no print of '1935' for (the) £10 value"*. In the course of collecting these stamps for over three decades the author has yet to see a single copy of such a stamp. Furthermore, despite the archives also stating that *"There was no print of the '1935' for the £25 value"* Leonard Dodd reported in 1959 (in the *SAP*) : *"I mention the £25 stamp of 1935, this is the only copy I have seen or heard of"*. Both these intriguing observations indicate why the collecting of Union Revenue Stamps is ripe for further study.

	1931	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
2d	O	O				
3d	O	O	+	O	O	O
6d	O	O		O	O	O
1/-	O	O	O	O	O	O
1/6	O	O	O	O	O	O
2/-	O	O	O	O	O	O
2/6	O	O	O	O	O	O
3/-	O	O	O	O	O	O
5/-	O	O	O	O	O	O
10/-	O	O	O	O	O	O
15/-						O
£1	O	O	O	O	O	O
£2	O	O	O	O	O	O
£5	O	O		O	O	O
£10	O	O	O	+	O	O
£25	O	O	O	+	O	O
O - Stamp usage recorded						
+ - Not printed according to archival records						

Table 2: Observed dates for Series 2

Fig.8: (below - image reduced) Front page of a Passport issued in Athens at the Legation of the Union of South Africa on 5 October 1947 to Mary Pericles Anetos who became a naturalised Union British subject in 1935. The £1 fee was paid by a 'Consular stamp' of Series 2 cancelled in Athens on 5 October 1947.

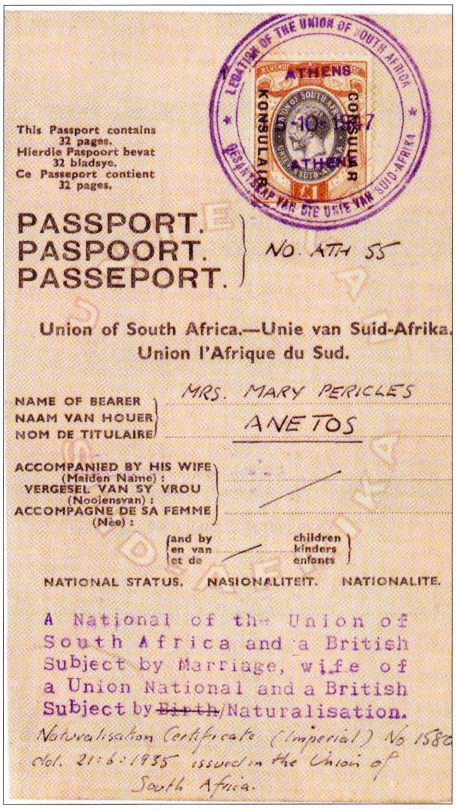



Fig.9



Fig.10a



Fig.10b

Fig.9: Assize/Yk overprint on a £5 stamp dated 1937 (Collection: Werner Barnard).

Fig.10 a & b: Two different fonts used for the Fee for Additional Stock overprints.

The Third Union Revenue Series (1938-1942): The first King George VI issue

Arrangements were made as early as February 1936 in preparation for the issuing of a contemplated new issue of revenue stamps. The Commissioner for Inland Revenue wrote a letter to the Secretary for Finance in Pretoria on 17 February 1936 requesting that

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arrangements be made through the Department of External Affairs for the supply of an authorised design of the head of His Majesty the King for use by the Government Printer in the printing of the new series of revenue stamps.

On 6 March 1936 the Secretary to the Prime Minister wrote a letter to the Governor General to get permission for the use of the head of King Edward VIII for the new series of revenue stamps. However, King Edward VIII abdicated in December 1936 and he was succeeded by his younger brother George VI.

On 8 September 1937 the Commissioner for Inland Revenue indicated that the Minister had approved the designs for the new stamp series bearing the portrait of King George VI.

This series, called Series 3, was issued in an horizontal format, the same size as their pictorial postage counterparts with the head of King George VI. The stamps up to the 9/- value had the value in both bottom corners and the 10/- to £10 were of a different design with the value appearing only once (Fig.11). The watermark was the multiple Springbok head (upright) and perforated 14. Fifteen values were produced and for the first time a 9/- value was included. Dodd indicated that the issue of the 9/- stamp was for use in the office of the Surveyor General to cover the fee for certification of a diagram on title deeds.

The year was inscribed under the King's neck. In 1938 this was done in full and thereafter only the last two figures were used but in a larger size (Fig.12).



Fig.11: The 9/- and £5 stamps illustrating the different designs.



Fig.12: 6d stamp illustrating the year (19)'42' under the King's neck.

According to the records of the Commissioner for Inland Revenue the 3d, 6d, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/- and 5/- stamps were issued on 1 June 1938, the 9/- on 17 May 1938, the 10/- on 1 September 1938, the 15/- on 6 April 1938, the £1, £2, £5 and £10 on the 16 June 1938 (Fig.13). Although a £25 stamp had been designed it was never issued (Fig.14).

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
3d	O	O	O		O
6d	O	O	O		O
1/-	O	O	O		O
1/6	O				
2/-	O	O	O		O
2/6	O	O	O	O	O
3/-	O				
5/-	O				O
9/-	O				
10/-	O				O
15/-		O		O	O
£1	O		O		O
£2	O		O		O
£5	O		O		O
£10	O		O	O	
O – Stamp usage recorded					

Table 3: Observed dates for Series 3. This list was compiled based on the same basis as for Table 2.

During the term of Series 3 these stamps of Series 2 were still valid (Fig.15). The stamps for Series 3 were also overprinted 'PENALTY/ BOETE', 'CONSULAR/KONSULAIR' (Fig.16) and 'ASSIZE/YK'. Although these stamps were printed as revenue stamps for the years 1938 - 1942 this design also occurs with the year '1945' printed on the stamp. These prints were probably done for Assize purposes because the Bantam issues were too small to be overprinted 'ASSIZE/YK' (Fig.17).

The 2/6d Native Tax Stamp overprinted for Revenue purposes: Series 3A

The 2/6d 'Native Tax stamp/ Naturellebelasting seël' was originally printed for Native Tax purposes to be used on Native Tax Cards (Fig.18). After the abolition of the card system in 1946 it was indicated that there was no longer a requirement for Post Offices to retain a stock of Native Tax Stamps. The remainder of the stock of Native Tax Stamps was forwarded from Post Offices, Magistrates Offices and other offices linked to native taxation to the Inland Revenue Department in Pretoria.

The complete story explaining the conversion of this stamp into a revenue stamp, not only for the Union but also for Basutoland and Bechuanaland, can be found in an article



Fig.13: Revenue stamps applied on a Deed of Transfer (partly illustrated) for a farm sold in the Wepener district in the Orange Free State and lodged on 5 December 1941.

written by the author in *The South African Philatelist* of April 2015. The following was reported in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1942: *"REVENUE STAMPS: Collectors of revenues will be interested to learn that a shortage of the 2s 6d denomination has been met by issuing 'Native Tax' stamps of that denomination overprinted 'REVENUE' or 'INKOMSTE'"* (Fig.19). What is also interesting is that a 2/6d revenue stamp was also issued as part of Series 3 despite the fact



Fig.14: Stamp-size photographic essay of the 3d and the unissued £25 duty.

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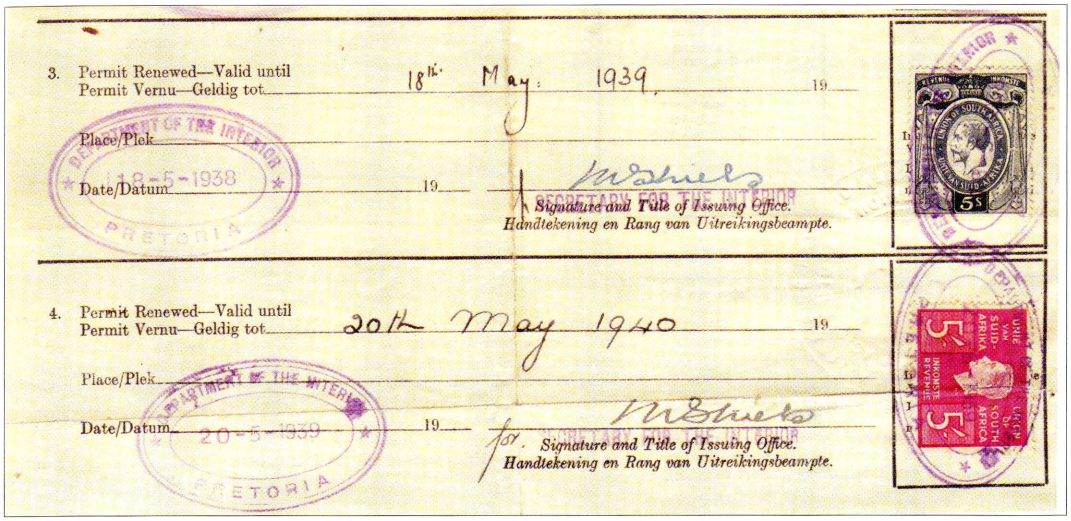

Fig.15: Part of the reverse side of a Permit issued to "a National of the Union of South Africa and a British Subject" "to travel to Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, Basutoland, Swaziland and Portuguese East Africa and return to the Union of South Africa". The permit was issued for the first time on 9 May, 1935. In this case the permit was renewed annually from 1937 to 1940. Revenue stamps of Series 2 were affixed to the document for the year 1939 and a 5s stamp of Series 3 for the year 1940.



Fig.16: Visa issued on 3 July 1951 at the Office of the Consulate-general in Leopoldville with the fee being paid with revenue stamps overprinted 'Consular/Konsulair' to the value of 16s 8d. Note the use of the 5/- transposed plate stamp of Series 5.

that the Native Tax Stamp for 2/6d overprinted 'REVENUE/INKOMSTE' was available.

In an article by L.J. Dodd published in *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956, he indicated a *"Series 3a Provisional Stamp"* and described this issue as follows: *"During the period 1938 to 1942, a 2/6d unilingual stamp used for Native Tax, was overprinted 'INKOMSTE' or 'REVENUE' and used for general purposes. The earliest cancellation seen is January 1942"*. He linked this to Series 3



Fig.17: Stamps of Series 3 printed in 1945 with Assize/Yk overprints of 2/-, 5/- and 10/- (Collection: Werner Barnard).

which was issued for the years 1938 to 1942 with the head of King George VI.

In another article published in *The SA Philatelist* in December 1959, Dodd indicated that: *"An indication that the shortage of paper was causing concern to the Government Printer is the fact that a Provincial (sic provisional) stamp came into use about 1942, made by overprinting the 2/6d Native*



Fig.18: Pair of 'un-overprinted' Native Tax/ Naturellebelasting stamps cancelled in the Port Elizabeth Post Office circa 1945.



Fig.19: Pair of stamps overprinted 'Revenue/ Inkomste'.

Tax stamp with the words REVENUE or INKOMSTE".

The Department of Inland Revenue must have realised early on, before the Card System was abolished in 1946, that they were sitting with a surplus of these stamps because stamps overprinted for revenue purposes in the Union of South Africa were recorded as being used on documents as early as 1942. These stamps were also overprinted for 'ASSIZE/YK' purposes.

Sources:

- Dodd L.J., The Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa, *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956 and December 1959.
- Howgrave-Graham Tony, The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1946 in *The Springbok*, Vol. 64/4 November 2016.
- J. Barefoot Ltd, *British Commonwealth Revenues*, Ninth Edition, London, 2012.
- State Archives, Pretoria: Union of South Africa, National Treasury, NTS 2548, File 622/293.
- Post Office Archives, Pretoria: Inventory Records of the Government Printer from 1949.
- *Union of South Africa, Stamp Duties Handbook, Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911 as amended,* Government Printer, Pretoria, 1940.

The author is indebted to Werner Barnard and Alan Macgregor from Cape Town for assistance with this article.

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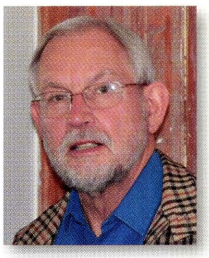
New South African Stamp Issues 2017 - Part VI

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle



Firstly: additional information missing from the December 2017 edition of *The SA Philatelist*.



26 September 2017 – WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA

Printing sheet size: 610 x 470mm comprising 18 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of three, the three lower rows being of the Helen Suzman issue (see below).

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela issue.

First Day Cover: No. 8.113 of standard size (189 x 101mm) of which 1000 were printed by Enschedé.

Canceller: No. 8.101 – 'GERMISTON' / '7 November 2017'



image reduced 65%

• 7 November 2017 - HELEN SUZMAN (1917-2009)

Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.90)
Design: Rachel-Mari Ackermann from a photograph by Davis Goldlblatt
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps, the Netherlands
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 30 x 48mm, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 115 x 80mm
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: Phosphor coated paper
Quantity: 30,000 miniature sheets
Cylinder numbers: None
Perforation: Gauge 13.4, extending to bottom margin of miniature sheet
Printing sheet size: Combined with the

Acknowledgement: This information was collated from the electronic edition of SETEMPE Sep-Dec 2017, Newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group, produced by Jan de Jong and personal observations.

The image of the FDC is from original artwork supplied by Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services.

• 1 December 2017 - 50 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST HEART TRANSPLANT

Denomination: B4 (R9.55)
Designer: Thea Clemons
Printer: La Poste t/a Philaposte, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 38mm square
Gum: Self adhesive
Sheetlet size: 121 x 253mm comprising ten stamps arranged in five rows of two
Quantity: 100,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8529 (blue), 8530 (red), 8531 (yellow) and 8532 (black)
Perforation: Die-cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 5mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the sheetlet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: Phosphor coated paper
Printing sheet size: not yet seen
First Day Cover: No. 8.112 of standard size of which 1,000 were printed by La Poste
Canceller: No. 8.100 – '2017.12.01' / 'CAPE TOWN'

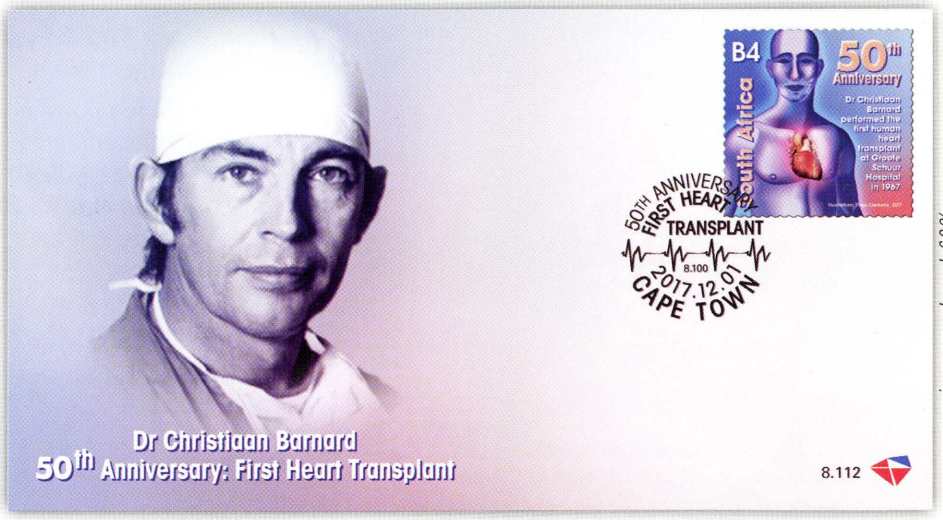


image reduced 60%

NOTE: *DELIVERY OF THIS ISSUE TO PHILATELIC SERVICES HAS BEEN DELAYED.*

The South African Philatelist
www.stamps.org
All about stamps

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in The South African Philatelist, subject to the discretion of the Editorial Committee. Articles to be submitted, should adhere to the following guidelines:

- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'text' document either on compact disk or emailed directly to the production editor, Janice Botes: janice@gdb.co.za*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items for the submitted material, scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi emailed to the production editor or on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg.*

International Exhibitions

PRAGA 2018
Venue: PRAGUE, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
Commissioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

FIP World Stamp Exhibition
3 to 7 Aug - Bandung
Indonesia, FIP Consultant TBA
35th Asian International Stamp Exhibition

MACAO 2018
south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
Commissioner: TBA
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.

THAILAND 2018
28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018 - Bangkok
General World All Classes
Commissioner: TBA

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *Website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.*

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. *Contacts:* Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662 *(President)*; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary)*; Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

Website: https://www.rpsct.org/

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

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

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Francois Friend. Cell: 082 554 8900 email: francois@softchem.co.za

- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. P O Box 15558, Emerald Hill 6011

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. ***MEETINGS*** *always on* ***Monday*** *evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

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

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

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

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time. Visitors are always welcome! *Contact* Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

Back Issues: *of The South African Philatelist can be obtained by writing to: The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: <Emil@Minnaar.org>*

Smalls

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

FOR SALE: *Contact* Emil Minnaar 061 983 2942

Trinidad & Tobago QE2 SG339a-354b u/m mint 100.00
Trinidad & Tobago QE2 SG339b-352b u/m mint 100.00
Tristan da Cunha QE2 SG 28-41 lightly mounted mint 350.00
Tristan da Cunha QE2 SG 28-41 Fine used 235.00
Tristan da Cunha QE2 SG 55-67 Fine used 40.00
Tristan da Cunha QE2 SG 55-67 u/m mint 120.00
Tristan da Cunha QE2 SG 349-360 u/m mint 70.00

DURBAN AREA AEROPHILATELISTS - If you are interested in starting an association please contact me. Norman Prince at norman@pitlochry.co.za

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

WANTED: I am looking for specific year issues of SA revenues (both Union and Republic period). Please send an email to ronald.paul.rong@gmail.com for a copy of my wants list.

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

14 February	Invited Exhibitor
14 March	One-to-Five Page Exhibits
11 April	1st Competitive Evening
9 May	Open Class Exhibit Evening
13 June	One Frame Evening
11 July	Grand Challenge Match
8 August	Second Competitive Evening
12 Sept	Annual Auction
10 Oct	Favourite Cover/s
14 Nov	Third Competitive Evening
5 Dec	President's Evening

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*

Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join.

Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr,
Tel: 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30,
Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.

Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

Feb 21:	AGM & invited exhibits
Mar 21:	Open; all categories & postal stationery
Apr 18:	Anything relating to the letters 'K &/or L'.
May 16:	British Commonwealth.
May 30:	5th Wed – to be decided
Jun 20:	Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
Jul 18:	Foreign, the art of philately and philately as art
Aug 15:	Southern Africa
Aug 29:	5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 19:	Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 17:	My favourite (Maximum of one frame) and thematic exhibits
Oct 31:	5th Wed – to be decided

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking.
Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking.
President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com
Treasurer: Tom Dooley; dickens@global.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet at 7:30pm - first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen. Monthly newsletter. Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

- *Andre du Plessis (President) 083 399 1755*
- *Alex Visser* (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

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

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday of the month, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthoff
email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos
082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts:
Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
email zeptepi@3i.co.za
Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors.
Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & "Show-and-tell" Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville
The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg.
The Thematics Group meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. VENUE: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville. ***The Executive Committee*** meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283.
burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles. Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager, Janet Kimmince - Membership,Graham Bruce - Librarian, Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, Val de Jager - Catering Officer

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018

to be held in Pretoria
17 to 20 October 2018

Deadline Dates 2018:

Provisional entry: 15 May
Literature entry: 30 June
Delivering of exhibit: 14 October

The show is on the road with the venue secured, first entries received and the Chairman of the Jury appointed.

Emil Minnaar is putting together the jury members who will be announced in the April 2018 issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

Invitation letters to participate in our event were sent out to dealers and positive feedback from their side has been received.

Congress will be on Friday 19 October 2018 on the premises, as well as the Palmares on 20 October. We will also accommodate and welcome meetings of specialist groups during the duration of the show.

SAPDA will be holding an auction on Saturday 20 October from 12:00 which will offer bidders that special item for their collections. Updates will be made available closer to the time.

The organising committee is set to give you a wonderful stamp show and an experience to remember. We are looking forward to seeing you at ***Stampshow 2018***.

The Prospectus, Entry Forms and Exhibition Guidelines may be obtained from: Stampshow 2018, PO Box 36473, Menlo Park, 0102 or email **Andre du Plessis, andredupfs@gmail.com cell +27 83 399 1755.**

The preferred way of communication is via e-mail.

See our venue at:
www.kleinkaap.co.za



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6 MARCH 2018 | LONDON



Specimen set, all the double plates being matched [25] "Lines by King's cheek"

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For more information contact David Parsons or Ian Shapiro:
David Parsons: Tel: +44 020 7563 4072 | Email: dparsons@spink.com
Ian Shapiro: Tel: +44 020 7563 4000 | Email: ishapiro@spink.com

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APRIL 2018

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 94:2. 947

www.stamps.org.za



UPU International Reply Coupons South African Issues, 1907 to 2017



Details of the 5/- Ox-Wagon Stamp



The Bantams - Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa



A closer look at modern stamps and an important message

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ISSN 0038-2566

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APRIL 2018 Vol 94 Number 2 Whole No 947

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www.stamps.org.za

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD

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



FRUSTRATED with the Post Office

Dear Post Office,

In this age where the use of stamps is dwindling fast, it's an anathema for a collector to receive an item through the mail, only to find that a great big sticky label has been plonked over the stamps; particularly when the item has travelled thousands of kilometers from a foreign land! Is it really so difficult to train those in your employ not to cover up the stamps, or to scrawl something over them? It is possible to remove the label by means of daubing it with a cotton bud dipped in benzene or methylated spirits. Or one can try and tease off the sticker with a finger nail. But, more often than not, the stamp is damaged in the process. You just can't win.

One also needs to mention the 46 days taken to deliver the item; so much for 'air mail' being a faster service. But at least this beats the three month wait for items from the UK.

By-the-by, credit is due to the Indian Post Office for taping the customs declaration at the side and top so as not to damage the stamps. The question now arises, if the Indian Post Office can get it right, what's wrong with our Post Office? Come on now SAPO, are your employees up to the challenge to improve your handling of our mail? But then we need to query if those working for the Post Office actually know what a stamp is?

Given the dearth of stamps in many of our post offices, it would come as no surprise. Just asking.

David Wigston.
<speedbird.imperial@gmail.com>



The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material to avoid late delivery. Articles should be submitted in the month prior:

- ***June*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018
- ***August*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018
- ***October*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 5. 950 : 10/09/2018
- ***December*** 2018
  Vol. 94: 6. 951 : 08/11/2018
- ***February*** 2019
  Vol. 95: 1. 952 : 08/01/2019

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

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

Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

Subscription & circulation: The annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R324.00. SADC countries, the subscription is R600.00 per year. International overseas, the subscription is R800.00. These prices all include postage via airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager: email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463.

Publication: This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

Production & layout: Janice Botes
email: janice@gdb.co.za

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EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

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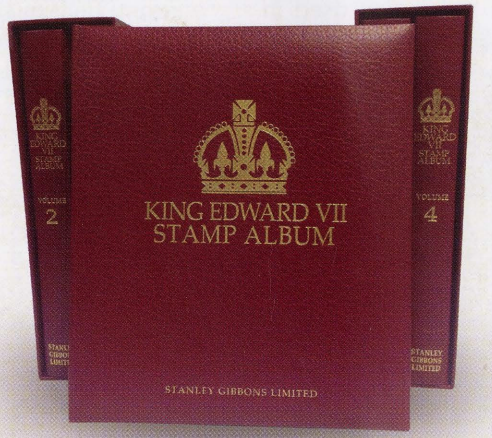
ORANGE FREE STATE - A FASCINATING PLATE VARIETY



SG F15a

Postal Fiscal. 1882-86 £5 green, showing the remarkable plate variety "VRY-STAAT" (with hyphen) which is believed to occur only once on the two-pane sheet of 120, at R1/5 on one pane, large part o.g. with fresh colour. One creased corner perf mentioned for accuracy, still very fine. A fascinating variety, excessively rare in unused condition, with no other example yet recorded, and unpriced in Part 1 2018. Ex Allison.

KING EDWARD VII ALBUM (1901-1910)



The King Edward VII set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue.

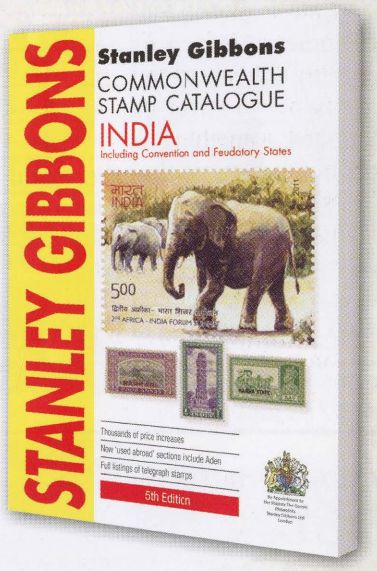
There are spaces for all postage, postage due, postal fiscal and official stamps, with changes of watermark, paper and perforation, as well as catalogue-listed type and die changes. Watermark errors, shades, varieties and printing errors are outside the scope of the printed album, but may be accommodated on matching blank leaves. In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers are shown. There are information pages and many illustrations of Types and Dies to aid in identifying the correct space for a stamp. The four volume set of 22-ring albums are housed in two slipcases.

King Edward VII Loose Leaf 4-Volume Album (1901 - 1910)	R3414	R6250
King Edward VII Loose Leaf 4-Volume Album Hingeless (1901 - 1910)	R3414HL	R11875
King Edward VII Indian States Loose Leaf Album*	R3414IS	R1750
King Edward VII Indian States Loose Leaf Album Hingeless*	R3414ISHL	R3375

**Available April/May*

INDIA

(Including Convention and Feudatory States)



- *5th Edition 2018*

Based on the current 2018 'Part 1', the India Catalogue includes all the information you would expect, with watermark varieties, perforation changes, major shades, plate flaws, errors, official stamps and booklets, together with a helpful guide to the prices of stamps on cover to 1945.

New for this edition:

- Prices have been carefully reviewed and revised to reflect the current strength of the market for all Indian stamps.
- The India used abroad listings now include Muscat, Guadur and the main post offices in Aden for the first time.
- The listing of Telegraph stamps, commenced in the previous edition, has now been completed with the addition of Jammu and Kashmir telegraphs and Patiala telephone service stamps.

R2873-18 **R750**

Our representative is our Southern African distributor Peter Bale of Peter Bale Philatelics (cell: 082 330 3925) to contact for all of your requirements.

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POSTAL RATES
VALID FROM 1 APRIL 2018

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

Domestic Letter	New Rate R c	Old Rate R c	Increase %
Small DL	4.20	3.90	7.69
Medium B5	8.40	7.80	7.69
Large B4	10.30	9.55	7.85
Domestic Postcards: Same rates as letters.			
Registered letters, with insurance option.			

Compensation up to R100.00 at no additional fee. Insurance for higher amounts is available for an additional fee based on a sliding scale. The maximum insured value is R2,000.00 for which the fee is now R168.05 (previously R156.05, an increase of 7.69 %).

Small DL	(4.20 + 25.20)	29.40	27.30	7.69
Medium B5	(8.40 + 25.20)	33.60	31.20	7.69
Large B4	(10.30 + 25.10)	35.40	32.90	7.60
International				
Registration fee		39.80	36.95	7.71

There is no insurance option for international letter post.

Aerograms	6.30	5.85	7.69
Postcards – Airmail	8.50	7.90	7.59
Postcards – Surface	5.15	4.80	7.29
Airmail letters – Southern Africa			
Small DL	7.65	7.10	7.75
Medium B5	27.80	25.80	7.75
Large B4	43.20	40.10	7.73
Small packets *(per 100 g)*	24.45	22.70	7.71
Airmail letters – Rest of the world			
Small DL	9.85	9.15	7.65
Medium B5	33.60	31.20	7.69
Large B4	56.95	52.90	7.66
Small packets *(per 100 g)*	43.05	40.00	7.63

New rates taken from Government Gazette, No. 41377 (12 January 2018).

Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

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



Episode 46
Errors on Stamps...
The wrong year

In 1988 the Republic of Gambia issued a commemorative series of famous international movie stars. The D3 value showed portraits of the British-American actor Cary Grant together with Deborah Kerr.

Grant was the star in numerous Hollywood movies of the 1950s and 1960s and received a special Oscar for his contribution to the American film industry.

He was also the first independent actor who did not work for one of the big Hollywood Studios.

He became a living legend as the perfect gentleman and a sophisticated comedian. In his later years he supported many young actors and directors.

Cary Grant was born in 1904 and died in 1986. The error on this stamp is the wrong year of his death 1987, although he deserved to live an extra year...

COLLECTING BASICS





The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

AEROGRAMME/AIR LETTER

An aerogramme or air letter, (Fig.1) is a lightweight sheet of paper which is both envelope and letter. The sheet has gummed edges to seal the aerogramme when folded. Aerogrammes usually have an imprinted stamp to indicate prepayment of postage, which makes them items of postal stationery. The aerogramme became popular during WWII as its light-weight paper allowed more items to be carried by air. It was first used in Iraq in 1933.

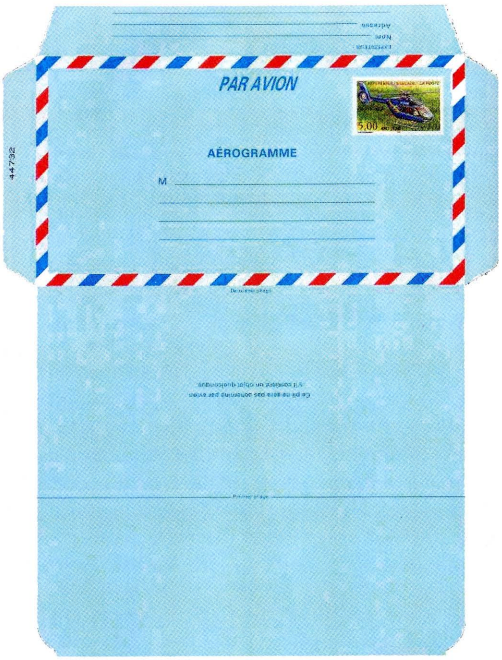

Fig.1: Aerogramme or air letter

BISECT



Fig.2: Bisected stamp. The cachet on the cover is in Sweden as the town of Hango, on the southernmost tip of Finland, where nearly half the population is Swedish speaking. It translates as 'LAST POST FROM HANGO'.

A bisect, (Fig.2) refers to a stamp that has been cut, usually in half, and then postally used for the proportional value of the whole stamp. So, a two cent cut in half would be used as a one cent stamp. This is usually done when there are no stocks of a particular value.

A bisected stamp must always be left on the cover, as that is the only way to prove that the bisect has been postally used. Otherwise, anyone can cut a stamp in half and call it a bisect.

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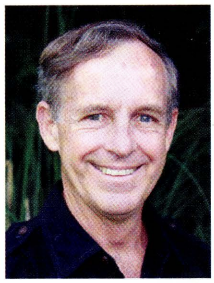
Phun with postmarks



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

We deliver whatever it takes!!

This must be in the genes of the South African Post Office, and one which was only resurrected fairly recently. The cover shown in Fig.1 is interesting as it was undeliverable with the associated 'UNKNOWN' cachet. It was mailed from Bloemfontein on 28 July 1912, to Mr Heifrish Jnr, Grahamstown, C.P.

From the reverse shown in Fig.2 it is evident that the letter was sent by Holm & Kannemeyer, Solicitors, whose address is given on the front as P.O. Box 373.

The interesting part is that on the reverse there is a note in red ink 'Not known to Postmen in GrahamsTown'. There are numerals 1 to 9 in the same red ink, and alongside each are the initials of the postmen in pencil, confirming that they do not know the addressee. On the front there are initials JP in the same red ink, possibly the Postmaster. There is also a signature which appears to be CB Stone, but it is not known who this was. All searching took less than 2 weeks as the letter was returned to sender on 14 AU 1912 as per the Grahamstown date stamp.

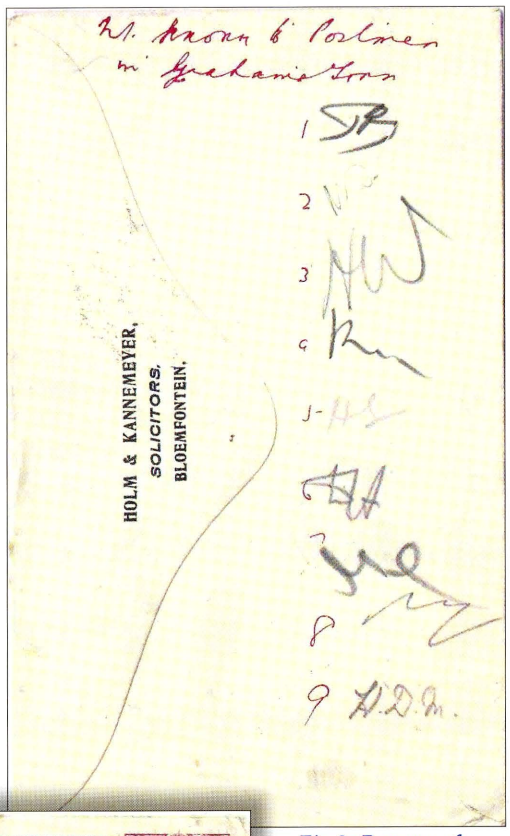


Fig.2: Reverse of undeliverable letter.

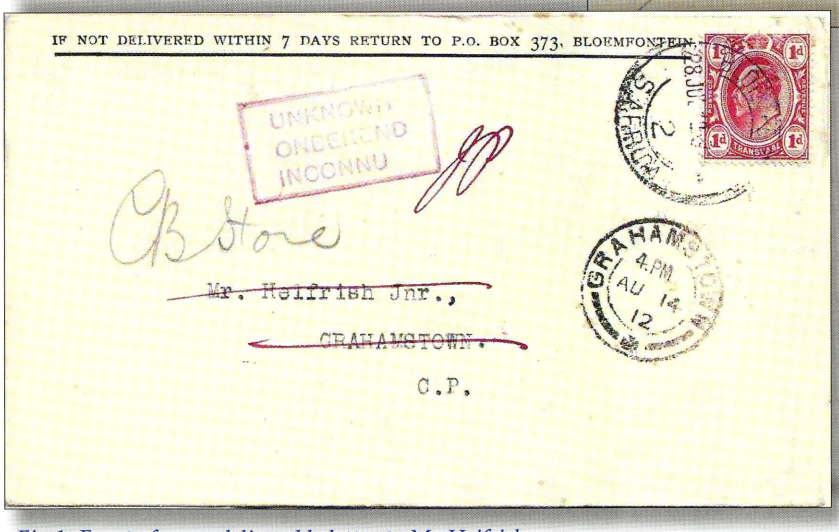


Fig.1: Front of an undeliverable letter to Mr Heifrish.

The ultimate phun with postmarks!!

Roger Fresburg has made an interesting study of how postmarks embellish a stamp design, and I thank him for sharing this information. This is a highly innovative approach which may even give open class exhibitors some ideas. He has prepared an 8-page exhibit and I have extracted four items which are illustrated as Figs. 3a to d.

Figure 3a shows flying whooper swans and the postmark shows a ballerina, so this represents the ballet 'Swan Lake'.

When was the first helicopter designed?

The Monaco stamp in Figure 3b celebrates the 350th anniversary of the Notre Dame in Paris.

The view is from 1646, which leads to the conclusion that the first helicopter was flying in 1646.

German lighthouses, shown in Figure 3c, can hear, as they have ears!!

Not only cats drink milk, but bees are also milk lovers, as shown in Fig.3d.



Fig.3a



Fig.3b



Fig.3d



Fig.3c

Fig.3 a-d: Postal marking enhances interest of the stamp.

Soms mor ons oor die swak diens van die poskantoor, maar daar is uitsonderlike gevalle waar die pospersoneel ekstra moeite doen om 'n geaddresseerde op te spoor, soos bewys deur die koevert van Bloemfontein na Grahamstad. Die posbestellers het in 1912 die inwoners goed geken, maar die heer Heifrish Jr was onbekend, soos almal geattesteer het. 'n Pretversameling oor hoe posmerke 'n seël interessanter maak is iets om na uit te kyk.

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by Moira Bleazard, East Rand Philatelic Society



DAY ZERO!

As I write this snippet in February, with lovely Gauteng rain falling outside, it seems hard to imagine that by the time this edition of the journal reaches you (if you live in Cape Town that is) the arrival of Day Zero may be fast approaching. Initially the date for turning off the taps was sometime in May, but now, due to decreased water consumption by the citizens, the date has been pushed out to July/August. Perhaps by then good winter rains will have arrived and Day Z may never happen – we can only hope and pray.

Of course, if you are a philatelist you would know that campaigns to save water have been 'stamping around' for ages – if only a few of the politicians had been collectors and taken note (Fig.1). Arid countries like Israel take water conservation very seriously and with South Africa now being euphemistically labelled as 'water challenged', it would be wise to start thinking about how we use water sparingly in all regions of the country, not just in the Cape, where they do not enjoy summer rainfall. It seems as though all the Mediterranean climate zones are experiencing hotter temperatures and fewer months of rain.



Fig.1: Slogan from 1967 and ironically posted in Cape Town

Drought and resultant fires have affected Spain, Portugal and Greece, California and Australia – and water conservation is now an urgent priority (Fig.2).



Fig.2: Australia - another 'water challenged' country

Thirty years ago, Israel issued a stamp showing a dripping tap (Fig.3) and how often does one see the waste of water on a grand scale; burst pipes pouring forth for days, before the Council responds to a complaint and repairs them. Communal taps never switched off, a golf course pumping water on to their greens during the hottest part of the day, schools and sports centres watering their Astro-turf hockey fields with potable water – the list is endless. Botswana shows how it should be done - save every drop (Fig.4).



Fig.3: Close dripping taps!

Agriculture and mining use huge amounts of water and the practice of strict economy in these sectors



Fig 4. Run communal taps into a bucket

is vital. In Israel, the Agricultural Ministry sets quotas for farming, thus encouraging farmers to find the best ways of using available water. The planting of orchards and the sowing of crops have to conform to this framework. One of the most important aspects of water saving is the development of more efficient methods of watering different crops according to their specific needs. The invention of a tap that automatically shuts off the water when the correct quantity has flowed through was revolutionary and today this tap is used both in Israel and elsewhere (Fig.5). The drip method has also led to a significant saving in water and to the production of bigger crops because of this intensive system.



Fig.5: New methods of irrigation are essential for saving water

As the saying goes "When heaven weeps, the earth lives – save pure water". Not only is the saving of all water a priority, but the preservation of clean potable water is essential and that is where we fail countrywide; the filth that pours into our streams and rivers and the degradation of our oceans by sewage and industrial pollution is disgraceful. No wonder fish-farming is fast becoming the norm – I'm surprised there are any fish still swimming 'free-range' in the ocean (Fig.6).



Fig 6. Keep the oceans clean.

Twenty years ago the South African postal service issued a strip of five stamps encouraging the saving of water for 'farming, gardening, health, housing and for all' (Fig.7), but little has been done to implement this. Compounding the problem of contaminated water is the severe risk to health that faces Cape Town if the taps are switched off. Waterless toilets and water tanks are being installed by the few who can afford

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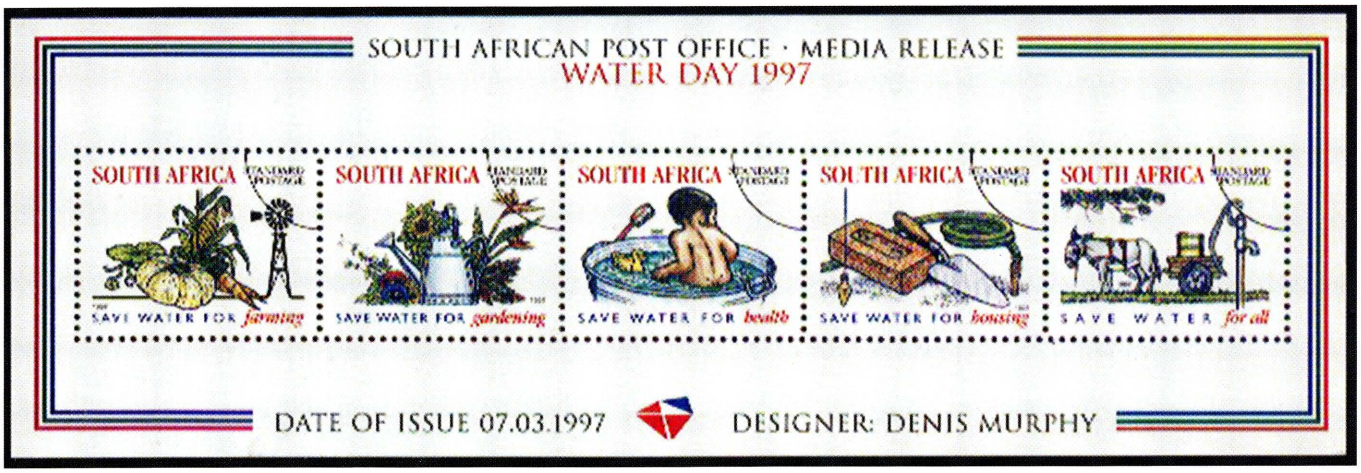

Fig.7: Water for all.

them, but what will the majority of the population do? An absence of clean running water may lead to outbreaks of Rotavirus in places like schools, and even worse is the risk of Cholera and Typhoid. Bathing is already out of the question, (hotels have confiscated bath plugs), ninety second showers are the norm and a quick wash in a small tub of water is recommended by the Premier of the Western Cape – but will that be enough to prevent the arrival of Day Zero? As the slogan says: **"Save Water - Save Life" -** every drop counts ! (Fig.8).

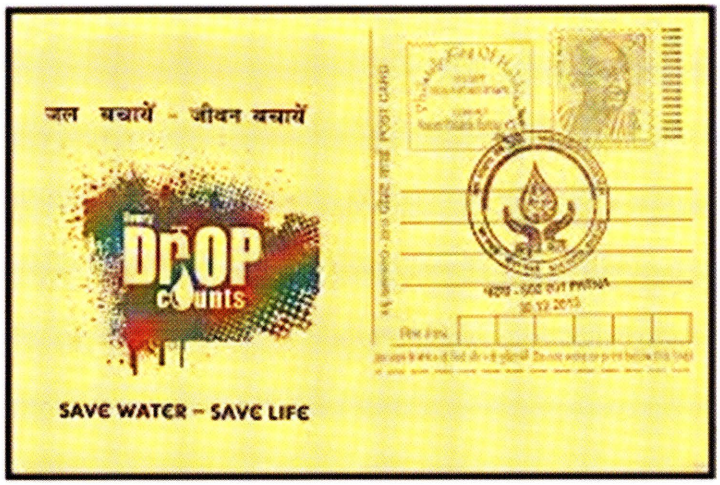

Fig.8: Postal Stationery item from India

Let your spirit be touched by the history of our country.
Retain your sense of wonder at the world you live in ... **Retiring?**



NOW is an ideal time to explore:

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the items that would assist you in discovering a new look at the world through stamps and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value.

Go even further... link to a process that offers an ability to illustrate the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt. Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately and see what it can do for you; it's the only segment that attracts 'non-collectors' of stamps.

Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the 'Open Class' exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
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RAND STAMPS

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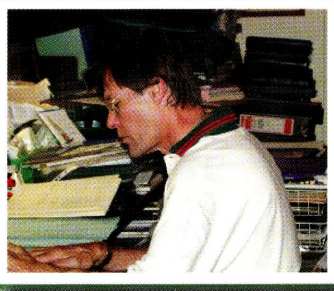

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

A PROUD MEMBER OF SAPDA

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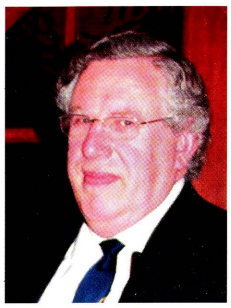
UPU International Reply Coupons South African Issues, 1907 to 2017

by Hugh Amoore, RDPSA, FRPSL - Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town



Please note: all images are reduced

The sixth Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was held in Rome in 1906. The Postal Administration of the Cape of Good Hope was represented by Sir Somerset French, then Postmaster-General of the Colony. In his lengthy Congress Report[1] he outined the scheme, adopted by the Congress after much debate, for the issue of *Coupons* having a value of 25 Latin Monetary Union (LMU) centimes[2], exchangeable at any post office in the UPU for postage stamps of corresponding value. French commented: *"There is no doubt, however, that once the new agreement is in operation it will be made use of by Union [i.e, UPU] Countries generally"*. He was right. And in 1907 the UPU countries started to issue these coupons. They became popular across the world and most post offices sold (and exchanged) them. But in 2017, 110 years later, it was nigh impossible to find a post office in South Africa sellling International Reply Coupons[3] and before the year-end South Africa had withdrawn from the list of UPU member countries that issue these coupons[4]; in withdrawing it was in good company, and the UK[5] and the USA[6] were among many UPU member countries that had withdrawn before. The need for, and the usefulness of these coupons, had fallen away.

What were they and how did they relate to the postal service?

The Rome Treaty provided for International Reply Coupons or IRCs[7]. It stipulated that the IRCs should be sold for not less than 28 LMU centimes or equivalent, and be exchangeable for postage stamps of a face value of LMU 25 centimes, this being the international letter rate for letters up to 15g or ½ oz. Postal administrations were free to choose whether to participate in the issue and/or the exchange of IRCs.



Fig.1: Rome design/model coupon: type IV, issued between 1911 and 1922, in French, English and Dutch/Afrikaans ('Antwoordbewijs').

The Cape Colony introduced the service immediately. Initial demand was small, and only 509 coupons were sold in 1907[8]. The selling price in the Colony was 3d and a person exchanging an IRC in the Cape received stamps with a face value of 2½d[9]. The Transvaal and Natal also joined the scheme at inception, but the Orange River Colony did not[10]. Coupons were put on sale in Orange Free State Post Offices[11] from 1 August 1910[12], these were



Fig.2: A block of 4 of the ORC version referred to in superscript 14.

1. Report of the Postmaster General of the Cape of Good Hope for 1906, published 1907, pp 22-23.

2. The franc/centime of the Latin Monetary Union (which included Switzerland, France, Italy, Belgium, Spain & Portugal) was the currency, stable at the time, which the UPU used to set prices & rates from its inception as the GPU (General Postal Union) in 1874 until the first UPU Congress after WW I.

3. Early in 2018 a very small number of Post Offices in South Africa had small stocks of out-of-date Coupons and would sell these to anyone wishing to buy them. The writer bought 20 Beijing Model 2 coupons (expiry date 31 December 2009) at the Edenvale PO on 16 January 2018 at the prevailing (i.e., 2017/2018) price!

4. At year-end of 2017 there were very few Post Offices that sold the International Reply Coupons with expiry date of 31.12.2017. The SA PO website www.postoffice.co.za/products/International/internationalreplycoupons.html (accessed 13 January 2018) nonetheless still advertised: *"The international reply coupon service enables customers to prepay the postage on a reply from a correspondent abroad. Coupons sent abroad may be exchanged for one or more postage stamps representing the minimum postage to be pre-paid on an airmail letter. The coupons are available at Post Office branches.*

5. The UK's Royal Mail stopped selling IRCs on 31 December 2011. (*'Reply to sender'* Retrieved 13 January 2018).

6. The US PO stopped selling IRCs on 27 January 2013.

7. Article ii of the Rome Convention.

8. Report of the Postmaster General of the Cape of Good Hope for 1907, p7.

9. This was the international first step weight letter rate, equivalent to 25 centimes.

10. Natal PMG report for 1907, quoted in *Putzel, Encyclopedia Vol 1*, p68.

11. Though the four colonies became the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910, the postal services of each continued under the pre-Union laws until 1 September 1911. Where possible rates and services were harmonized in the period up to September 1911, and the decision to allow IRCs to be sold in the Orange Free State (the former Orange

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probably inscribed *Orange River Colony*. The Union Post office took over the issue of IRCs from the four Colonial Post Offices on 1 September 1911. Coupons inscribed *Union of South Africa* were thus first issued some time after September 1911[13] (Fig.1) possibly as late as 1914. IRCs (presumably those of Natal, Transvaal and/or the Cape) were available in the Cape, Natal and Transvaal from the date of Union (31 May 1910) and in the OFS from 1 August 1910. Shown in Fig.2 are IRCs inscribed *Orange River Colony*[14]; it is possible that these were never issued but more likely that the coupons sold in the OFS from August 1910 (i.e., after Union) were inscribed *Orange River Colony*.

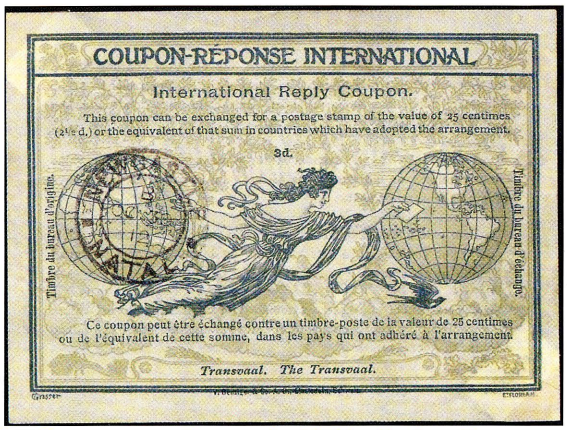

Fig.3: Rome type Transvaal UPU Reply Coupon used interprovincially in Natal, the only recorded example of an interprovincial usage of a reply coupon (Collection of Jannie Hofmeyr).

Cape, Natal and Transvaal IRCs isssued before Union in 1910 are known but are rare or scarce; they are also known used in the interprovincial period from 31 May 1910. Figure 3 shows a Transvaal IRC (type IV) used interprovincially in Newcastle, Natal on 30 October 1912[15].

The next UPU Congress (Madrid 1920) made the ***exchange*** of IRCs obligatory for all member postal administrations from 1 January 1922, but the ***sale*** remained optional. The minimum selling price was increased to 50 [UPU] centimes[16] and the exchange value was now defined as the postage on a single rate international letter[17]. The original 25 LMU centimes IRCs were still in circulation. They had no expiry date. Until 1 July 1930 the period of validty of an IRC was six months from the date of issue (i.e., the date of sale as indicated by the date-stamp on the coupon[18], but from 1 July 1930 the period in which a coupon had to be presented for exchange was unlimited[19]; this remained the position until 2002. But the UPU decided (at Stockholm in 1924) to devalue those IRCs with a redeemable value of 25 LMU centimes; in South Africa the orignial IRCs, with a redeemeable value of 25 LMU centimes, were exchangeable for stamps worth 1½d (when the new letter rate was 3d)[20].

The UPU's minimum selling price saw frequent changes.

Date	UPU Minimum Selling Price	Selling price in South Africa	Exchange value of a coupon in SA
1 October 1907	28 centimes	3d	2 ½ d
1 January 1922	28 centimes	3d	1½ d
	50 centimes	4d (see note1)	3d
1 January (?) 1923	50 centimes	6d	3d
1 October 1925	40 centimes	5d	3d
1 July 1930	37.5 centimes	5d	3d
1934	35 centimes	5d	3d
1939	28 centimes	5d	3d
1 May 1949	28 centimes	6d	3d
1 March 1950	28 centimes	9d	4½ d
1952	32 centimes	9d	4½ d
1957	40 centimes	9d	4½ d
1 April 1959	40 centimes	1/- (see note 2)	6d
14 February 1961	40 centimes	10c	5c
1969	60 centimes	10c	5c
1 July 1971	60 centimes	15c	9c
1 January 1976	60 centimes	30c	10c
1 April 1979	1 franc 50c	30c	15c
1980	1 franc 50c	S/Suspended	See note 3
1 October 1981	1 franc 50c	55c	15c
1 April 1984	1 franc 50c	55c	20c
20 October 1984		S/Suspended	See note 4
1 December 1995	0.74 SDR	R5.00	R1.65
1 April 1999	0.74 SDR	R5.85	R2.10
1 April 2000	0.74 SDR	R6.20	R2.30
16 May 2001	0.74 SDR	R7.00	R3.00
1 April 2002	0.74 SDR	R11.00	R3.30
1 April2003	0.74 SDR	R12.50	R3.80
1 April2004	0.74 SDR	R13.15	R4.00
1 April 2005	0.74 SDR	R14.05	R4.25
1 April 2006	0.74 SDR	R14.45	R4.40
1 April 2007	0.74 SDR	R15.40	R4.64
1 April 2008	0.74 SDR	R16.25	R4.90
1 April 2009	0.74 SDR	R17.85	R5.40
1 April 2010	0.74 SDR	R19.00	R5.75
1 April 2011	0.74 SDR	R19.90	R6.00
1 April 2012	0.74 SDR	R21.00	R6.30
1 April 2013	0.74 SDR	R22.10	R6.60
1 April 2014	0.74 SDR	R23.40	R7.00
1 April 2015	0.74 SDR	R5.75	R7.70
1 April 2016	0.74 SDR	R28.05	R8.40
1 April 2017	0.74 SDR	R30.65	R9.15

Table 1: Selling price[22] and exchange values of UPU coupons in South Africa, 1907-2017

River Colony) was part of this harmonisation process.

12. GN 271 of 29 July 1910 published in the Gazette of 2 August 1910.

13. This date may have been as late as 1914. Wolfgang Leimenstoll's earliest recorded date for the South African type IV is 15 December 1914.

14. ORC illustration courtesy of Wolfgang Leimenstoll. These copies are not postmarked. It is possible that they were prepared for the ORC by the UPU but never issued. Until dated copies are reported - and none has yet been reported - we will not know (a) if these were ever issued or (b) were issued before, or only after, Union.

15. Collection of Jannie Hofmeyr, ex John Cheminais.

16. Post WW I currency chaos had meant that the use of the LMU Centime was no longer feasible and the UPU, therefore, adopted its own *franc and centime* defined with reference to the price of gold.

17. The Madrid Convention was published in the Gazette of 17 March 1922 under GN 494.

18. The Rome Convention (1906: Article 11.2) gave no suggestion of a time limit for coupon validity. The Madrid Convention (1920: Article 13.2) provided that: "The coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Union… . The exchange must, however, be made before the end of the second month following the month of issue; this period is increased by four months in relation with oversea countries." The Stockholm Convention replaced this by the simple provision: *"The exchange must, however, be made before the end of the sixth month following the month of issue."* The 1928 London Convention, effective 1 July 1930, dropped the provision.

19. Wawrukiewicz Anthony S and Henry W Beecher *US International Postal Rates 1872 – 1996* (Cama, Portland Oregon 1996) pp 59-60. The authors record that in the USA the US Postal Service authorised the affixing of postage stamps to revalue/uprate an IRC and thus allowed the US Post Office to 'revalue' the coupon rather than destroy; this was an alternative to making a manuscript change to the printed selling price.

20. Tokyo Convention records that "There shall

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Fig.4a: London design/model: type XIV, 5d. overprinted 6d, for price increase and then surcharged 9d manually, ('Antwoordbewys' in Afrikaans).



Fig.4b: London design/model: type XV, 5d. cancelled by horizontal bars and surcharged 9d. issued 24 July 1957 ('Antwoordbewys' in Afrikaans).



Fig.4c: London design/model: type XVIn 9d obliterated and surcharge 1s, issued 13 August 1960 ('Antwoordkoepon' in Afrikaans).

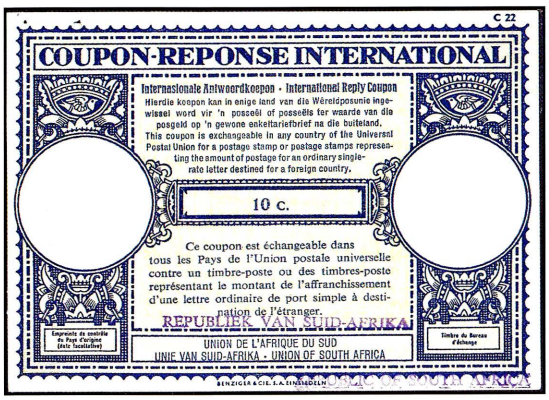

Fig.4d: London design/model: type XVII, 10c, issued for the Union of South Africa but hand-stamped REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA/REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA .

The Stockholm Congress (1924) set it at 40 [gold UPU] centimes, London (1929) fixed this at *"not less than 37½ centimes"*, Cairo (1932) at 34 centimes and Buenos Aires (1939) at 28 centimes. After WWII successive Congresses raised the minimum selling price: Brussels (1952) set it at 32 centimes; Ottawa (1957) increased this to 40 centimes; Tokyo (1969) to 60 centimes and Rio de Janerio (1979) to 1 franc 50 centimes. When the UPU franc/centime defined by reference to gold fell away the UPU resorted to defining the minium in terms of the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs or XDRs).

Table 1 gives the minimum set by the UPU and the selling price and exchange values in South Africa from inception in 1907 to 2017.

Despite these minimum charges, currency differentials meant that the exchange value in country B, with a strong currrency and relatively high international letter rates, could be worth more that the purchase price in country A with a weak currency. This led to the possibility that the unscrupulous would profit from arbitrage. (See postscript). In order to give member countries a tool with which to combat this possibility, the Stockholm Congress decided that with effect fom 1 October 1925 a member country would have the option of restricting the number of IRCs that an individual could buy or exchange on the same day[21].

Notes to Table 1:

Note 1: This selling price was noted in Post Office Circular 229 of 13 November 1922, but no 4d coupon has been reported.

Note 2: The 1/- price was listed in the Gazette under GN 303 of 27 February 1959, with the new rates that came into effect on 1 April 1959, but may have come into effect earlier than this following the UPU increase in the minimum selling price in 1957. Leimenstoll has reported a 1/- coupon dated January 1959.

Note 3: South Africa was expelled from the UPU at the 1979 Congress of the UPU. However, South Africa regained membership soon after through a provision in the UPU Constitution that provided that "any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union [i.e., the UPU]" During the short period in 1980[23] between expulsion and subsequent accession South Africa suspended the sale of IRCs[24].

Note 4: South Africa suspended the sale of IRCs on 20 October 1984, following its expulsion from the UPU at the 1984 Congress. Some offices may have sold coupons after this date. South Africa was readmitted to the UPU on 22 August 1994 at the Seoul Congress and resumed the sale of IRCs on 1 December 1995[25].

Though South Africa ceased to obtain IRCs from the UPU in 2017 (or earlier) the ICASA-approved schedule of fees and charges for postal services effective 1 April 2018, gazetted on 12 January 2018 (GN 6 of 20-18 published in Gazette 41377) gave a new selling price in SA (R33.05) and stated that IRCs would be 'available from post offices'.

The selling price in South Africa has been determined annually in recent years by ICASA and published in the Gazette. The redemption price in South Africa has been the rate for small airmail letters abroad.

An important change took place at the Hamburg Congress (1984); whereas up until then the IRC was exchangeable for stamps representing the redeeming country's international surface-mail single-step letter rate, after Hamburg this was changed to the minimum postage for "an unregistered priority airmail letter of up to 20g sent to another UPU member country" or as it was later defined "the minimum postage for an unregistered priority item or an unregistered letter sent by air to a foreign country".

The actual coupons are printed

be no limit to the period of exchange for reply coupons".

21. 1924 Convention of Stockholm, effective 1 October 1925.

22. The centime was originally the centime of the Latin Monetary Union, but after WW I the UPU devised a notional UPU currency, based on gold. However, as gold ceased to have a fixed (dollar) price, the Washington 1989 UPU Congress abolished the UPU gold franc as the monetary unit of the UPU and replaced this by prices defined in SDRs (special drawing rights), a reserve 'currency' created by the IMF in 1969 as an alternative to the dollar or gold, and based on a basket of four currencies (to which the Renminbi was added as a fifth in 2016).

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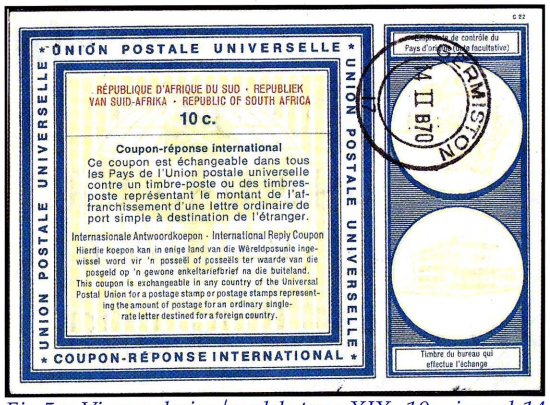

Fig.5a: Vienna design/model: type XIX, 10c, issued 14 February 1970.

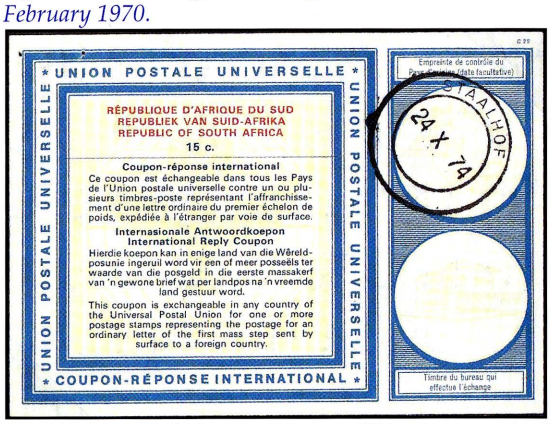

Fig.5b: Vienna design/model: type XX, 15c issued 24 August 1974.

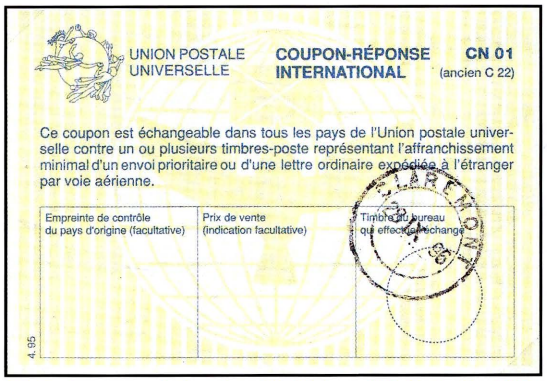

Fig.6a: Lausanne design : type 23, 30c issued 22 September 1977.



Fig.6b: Lausanne design: type 22, 30c coupon uprated to 55c and issued 13 April 1984.

and distributed through the UPU's International Bureau in Bern. They are watermarked and since 2002 have included a security hologram. There have been many different designs, beginning with that developed for and approved at the Rome Congress (1906). The front of each coupon (originally in French and the language(s) of the issuing country) is now printed in French (which remains the official language of the UPU, though at the Seoul Congress English was adopted as a second working language for the UPU). The reverse side of the coupon (originally in German, English, Spanish and Italian), has since the 1960s had text relating to its use in German, English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, and Russian.

The designs of coupons have come to be known by the UPU Congress at which the design was determined. Thus, we have

- The Rome Model (1906 Congress, first issued 1 October 1907) (Types I to VIII have been identified[26])
- The London Model (1929 Congress first issued 1 July 1930 (Fig.4a - d) (Types IX to XVIIa - including XVa, VXIn, and XVIu)
- The Vienna Model (1964 Congress, (Fig.5a&b) types issued from 1 January 1966) (types XVIII to XXI[27])

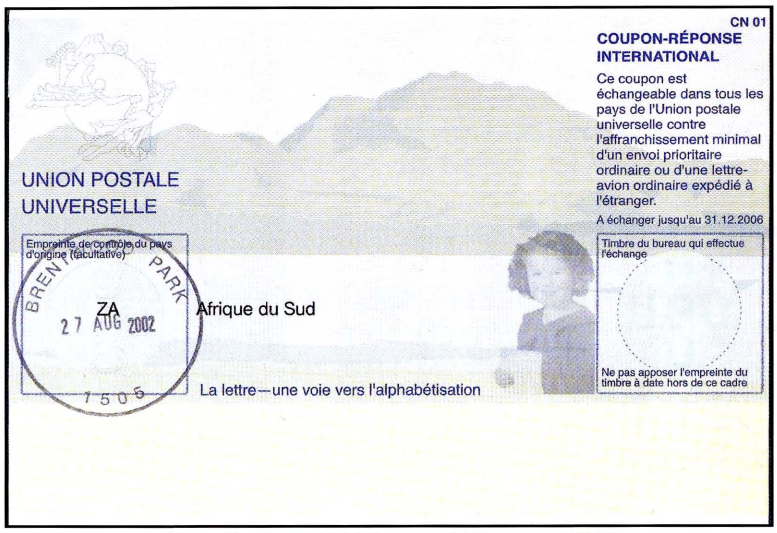

Fig.7: Beijing Model 1: issued 27 August 2002.

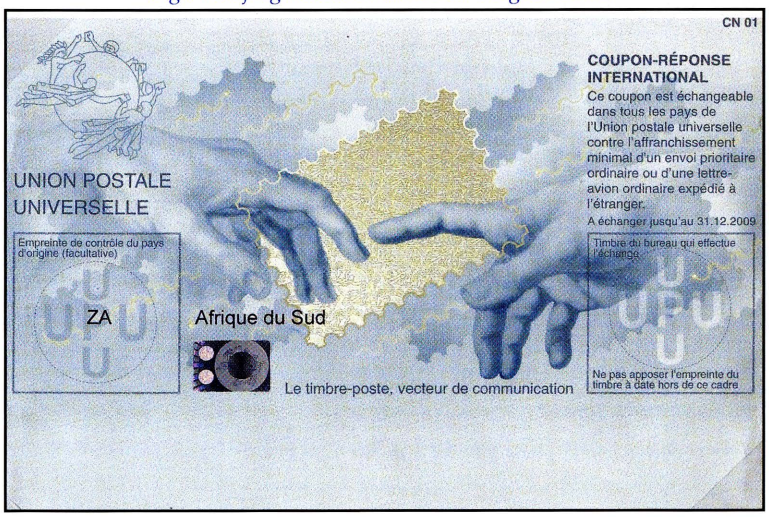

Fig.8: Beijing Model 2: no issue date but valid to 31 12 2009.

23. Post Office Bulletin No 95 of July 1980

24. *Political Handbook of the World*, Arthur S Banks, Alan J Day & Thomas C Muller, ISBN 1349149519 p 1217 on the web accessed 14 January 2018.

25. Post Office Postal update'96, No 54 of 18 January 1996.

26. The typology is that used by the German FIAS (Forschungsgemeinschaft Internationale Anwortscheine or Research Association for International Reply Coupons) and set out in Peter Robin's (2009) *International Reply Coupons and Illustrated Guide to their Types.*

27. There may in fact be more sub-types than this listing suggests. FIAS has a preliminary listing with more sub-types).

28. Thttp://www.upu.int/en/activities/international-reply-coupons accessed 13 January 2017.

29. Taken and abridged from http://luxphilately.blogspot.co.za/2007/12/centenary-of-international-reply-coupon.html accessed 15 January 2018.

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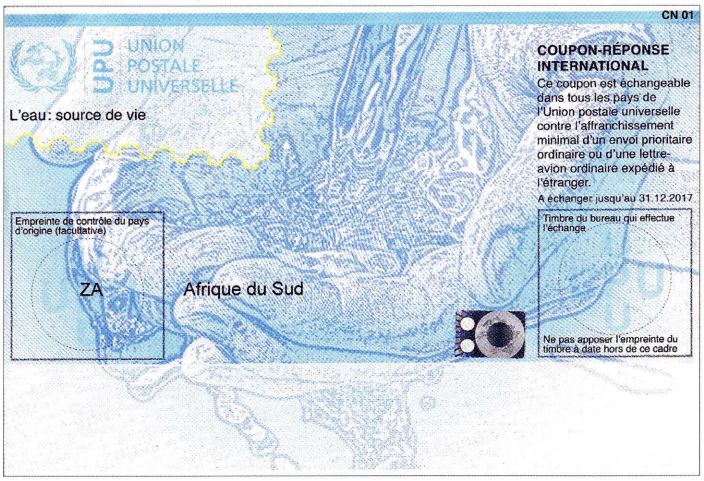

Fig.9: Doha model: valid to 31 12 2017.

- The Lausanne Model (1974 Congress, (Fig.6a-b) types issued from 1 Jan.1975) (types 22 to 30b)
- The Beijing Model 1 (1999 Congress, Fig.7) first issued 1 January 2002, valid until 31 December 2006).
- The Beijing Model 2 (Fig.8 first issued 1 July 2006, valid until 31 December 2009).
- The Centenary Beijing Model 2 (first issued 1 February 2007 valid until 31 December 2009).
- The Nairobi Model (2008 Congress, valid until 31 December 2013).
- The Doha Model (2012 Congress, (Fig.9) first issued in 2013, valid until 31 Dec. 2017).
- The Istanbul Model (2016 Congress (Fig.10), first issued in 2017, valid until 31 Dec. 2021).

Since Nairobi the policy of the UPU's International Bureau (IB) has been to issue a new design for the IRC at the start of each four-year work cycle. The IB sets a theme for a new IRC illustration and launches an international design competition. Member countries that wish to participate are invited to promote the competition among artists in their country and organise it nationally. The overall winner is selected by a jury comprising the heads of delegations of all countries attending Congress. Since the Nairobi Congress new designs for the new IRC have been named in honour of the city that hosts the UPU Congress that decides the design.

The Beijing Model 2, (Fig.8) valid until 31.12 2009 appeared in two forms: first in 2006 and then a special IRC centenary form in 2007 marking 100 years of IRCs. UPU records show South Africa as having ordered these centenary coupons, but none has been recorded to date. Enquiries made to SAPO have yielded no information.

The Nairobi Model, valid until 31 December 2013 was designed by Rob Van Goor, of Luxembourg Post. Van Goor depicted the world being cradled by a hand and the perforated outline of a postage stamp.

The Doha Model (Fig.5) (named for the 25th UPU congress held in Doha, Qatar, in 2012) was designed by Czech artist and graphic designer Michal Sindelar, and expired on 31 December 2017, and shows cupped hands catching a stream of water, to celebrate the theme of Water for Life.

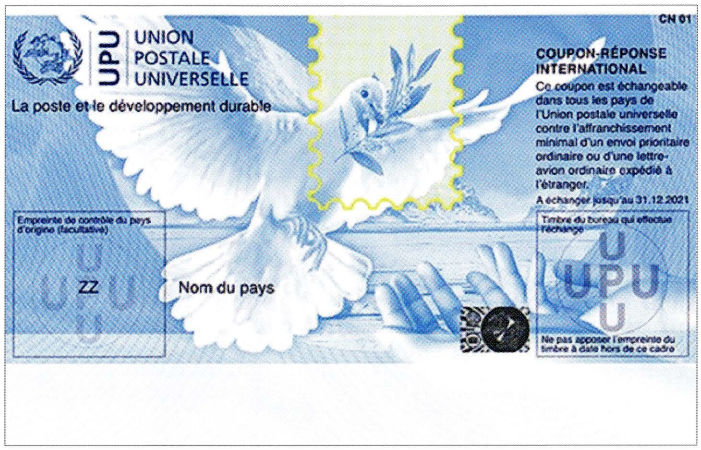

Fig.10: The Istanbul model designed by Vietnamese artist Nguyen Du for 2017-2021, so-named as it was adopted by the UPU in Istanbul in 2016.

The Istanbul Model (Fig.10, named for the 26th UPU Congress held in Istanbul in 2016) is valid until 31 December 2021[28]. It seems that South Africa did not order or get Istanbul Model IRCs.

Acknowledgment: I thank Wolfgang Leimenstoll for comments that contributed significantly to this article.

A postscript:

The first instance of pyramid selling and the term, "a Ponzi scheme" involved UPU IRCs [29].

In 1919/1920 Charles Ponzi (1882-1949) touted IRCs as the basis for the original 'Ponzi scheme,' - an investment scheme in which the investor's returns are paid not from profitable investments but rather from the inflow of cash from new investors.

On seeing an IRC for the first time Ponzi, an American, realised that based on post WWI exchange rates, IRCs bought in much of Europe were worth more when redeemed in the United States than what they cost in Europe. Ponzi offered to enrich investors by buying IRCs in Europe and selling them at a profit in the United States. He convinced investors to give him money in exchange for a promissory note, promising them a 50% profit in 45 days based on his (supposed) transatlantic trading in IRCs. In fact, Ponzi never used his investors' money to engage in IRC arbitrage, as he learned that the IRCs could only be exchanged for stamps, not cash. But by July 1920, Ponzi was taking in $250,000 a day in investments, and his 'success' continued until *Post* magazine revealed that to cover the investments made with his company, 160,000,000 IRCs would have had to be in circulation - in fact, at that time only about 27,000 were circulating.

US federal agents shut down Ponzi's company on 10 August,1920. Ponzi was arrested, tried and jailed for fraud. He left his name to 'Ponzi' schemes, which continue to beguile the get-rich gullible.

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The Erica photo-postcard series of RSA
- *Additional Discovery*

by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

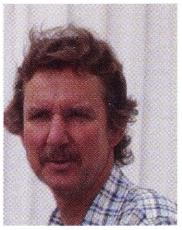



Fig.1 Post card EPC 3.1

Fig.2 Post card EPC 3.1 under UV light

Fig.3 Post card EPC 4

In the April 2012 *SAP* issue (pp 52-54) the different paper types of the 3c, 5c and 8c issues of the Erica photo-postcards were described.

Of the 3c issues, only two types of card were described: dull matt or shiny gloss. Both fluoresced brilliant white under 366nm UV light. I recently obtained a 3c card with a PT emblem which had a cream colour on front and back sides (Fig.1). This already seemed odd.

Upon inspection under UV light, a coarse grainy brown fluorescence was observed on both sides (Fig.2). This was unlike the uniform fluorescence observed for all other cards of the series. Note that the blue UV-reflection recorded by camera and shown here is not the same colour as perceived by the human eye. Being a mint card, makes it impossible to place it in the numbering sequence that was used in 2012. While the dull matt card texture resembles EPC 1 & 2, the sharp photo image with light/bright colours resembles EPC 2. However, the PT emblem indicates a later date of issue, and the brown fluorescence a different type of card. I therefore assigned it number EPC 3.1. It was previously described that the change of cards bearing the PT emblem was made during the use of shiny gloss paper. EPC 3.1 shows that the change to the addition of the PT emblem is not so clear.

A second card that I obtained had a shiny gloss front and cream smooth back, resembling EPC 4. However, the card has a faint greenish tint. UV reflection showed a grey front (Fig.3 bottom) and brilliant white back, which is the opposite of EP4 (Fig.3 top). I numbered it EPC 4.1.

It was mentioned in the 2012 article that post cards were printed on whatever card was available. A comparative study of all postcards of RSA, SWA and the Homelands that were printed during 1977 – 1980 would make an interesting research field to sort out the chronological order in which the card types were used.

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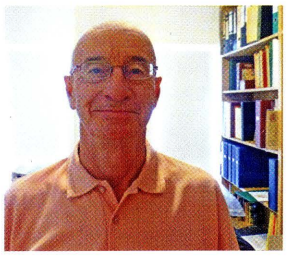
Registered Letter Markings of the ORC

by Kevin Price, Orange Free State Study Circle



This story is the continuation of a previous article that I wrote which appeared in the February 2018 issue of *The SAP* - the *Registered Letter Markings of the OFS*. In endeavouring to add to our understanding of these Registered Letter Markings of the ORC, the following markings will be described in their recorded chronological order of use.



Fig.1

During the Anglo-Boer War, the first registered marker the occupying forces used was a 26mm x 22mm vertical oval containing the letter 'R' (Fig.1), which was in the same style of mark that had been used in Britain for many previous decades. It is recorded as being used at Bethulie, Bloemfontein, Fauresmith, Harrismith, Heilbron, Jagersfontein, Kroonstad, Ladybrand, Ventersburg Road and Winburg from 1901 until 1903.

One clear example is shown in Fig.2 which was placed on a cover posted from P.O. WINBURG 28 SEP 03 O.R.C which passed through REGISTERED LONDON 17 OCT 03 before arriving at BATLEY OC 18 03 in England.

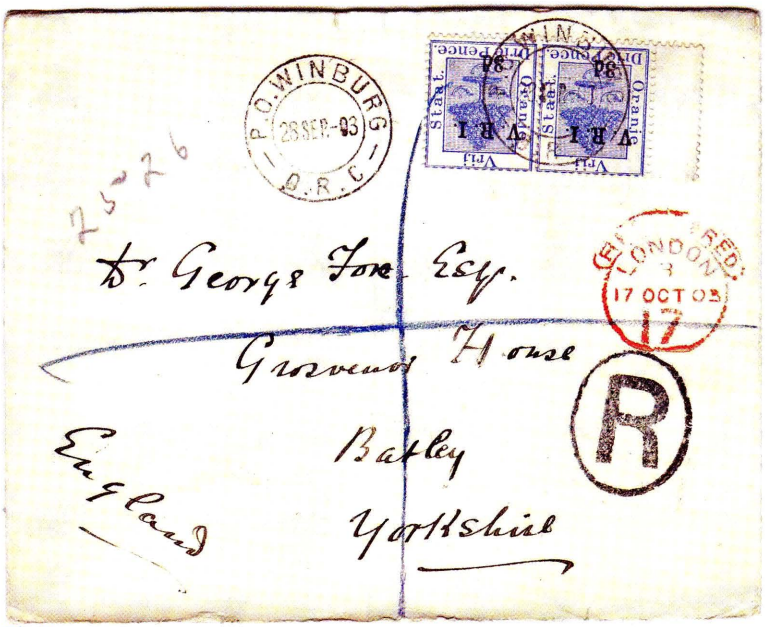


Fig.2

An identical mark, but of a taller size of 28mm x 20mm, has been seen used at Boshof, Bothaville, Frankfort and Reitz in a much later period of 1907 to 1910 (Fig.3). Perhaps these offices had run out of stock of their registered envelopes (described below) or mislaid their registered markers, so they used this marking as a backup to officially identify their registered mail rather than writing the word 'Registered'.

Meanwhile some offices allowed their registered mail to be identified by using large crude markers made from cork or wood. It is not known if these markings were applied by the sender or the post office staff, suffice to say that they were accepted by the postal authorities. In 1904 a Bultfontein cover has been sighted with the large negative 'R' applied (Fig.4) and Senekal has been identified as using the coarse large 'R' (Fig.5). In late 1902 Springfontein mail had a large R in a circle applied, as seen in Fig. 6. This item was posted from SPRINGFONTEIN OC 24 02 O.R.C and arrived at its destination of PRETORIA 25 OCT 02.

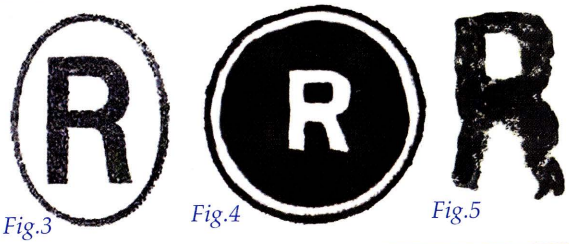


Fig.3 *Fig.4* *Fig.5*

The prepaid registered envelopes were first issued in five different sizes, ranging from a normal sized envelope (up to 292mm x 152mm) from September 1902 and, although the rate of consumption was fairly small, they are known used right through into Union. One example is shown in Fig.7 which was posted from VREDE 6 JA 07 O.R.C and passed through STANDERTON 7 JAN 07 before arriving at REGISTERED 2 27 JA 07 GLASGOW. As mentioned before, not every person used these envelopes, though, as much of the registered mail was still made up of normal envelopes of 134mm x 83mm where an additional 4d worth of stamps was added to pay for registration.

The status quo remained unchanged until January 1908 when the Post Office issued numbered adhesive registration labels (Fig.8) which exhibited pre-printed cyclometer numbers above the town name and were perforated on their left edge so as to be torn off and stuck on the registered item. These uncommon labels have only been reported used at Bloemfontein, Boshof, Edenburg, Harrismith,



Fig.6

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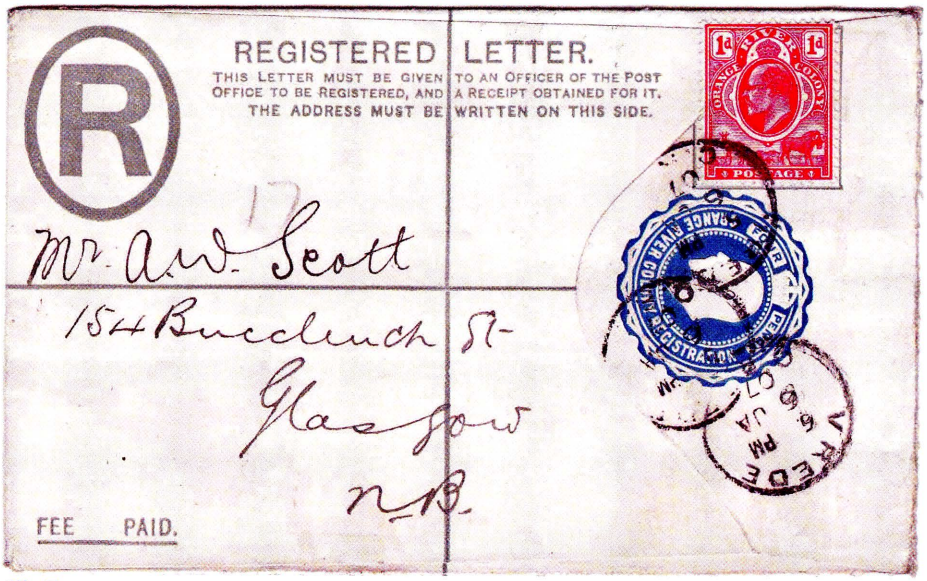

Fig.7

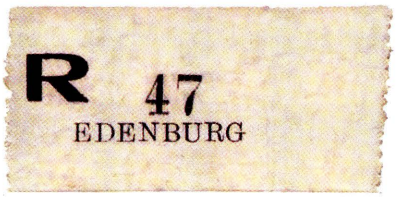

Fig.8

to Tasmania. It was posted from KROONSTAD 7 MAR 09 O.R.C and passed through REGISTERED LETTER SECTION 10 MR 09 CAPE-TOWN and REGISTERED AP 1 09 HOBART before arriving at ULVERSTONE AP 2 09 TASMANIA. Cover evidence shows that this flexible type of marker deteriorated with constant use resulting in the ORC Postal Service introducing a new style of marking.

This new type of marking was comprised of only the town name (Fig.12) but it was made as a more durable steel handstamp. Archives of the British Post Office in London show that this type of marker was issued to the ORC from August 1907. This marker appears to have been distributed to a much wider extent than the previous types as it has been seen used at Bethulie, Bloemfontein, Boshof, Bothaville, Dewetsdorp, Frankfort, Harrismith, Heilbron, Kroonstad Station, Smithfield, Springfontein, Tempe, Voorspoed, Wepener and Winburg from November 1908 to decades into Union.

The cover featured in Fig.13 is a clear example of this marking. It was posted from BOSHOF 3 DEC 08 O.R.C and arrived at REGISTERED LETTER SECTION 6 DEC 08 CAPETOWN.

Some offices such as Bloemfontein, Harrismith and Heilbron have been recorded as using all three of the previous types of registered marker. Perhaps there are still many undiscovered markings out there reposing quietly in collections. It appears, though, that the authorities in

the item. This was likely to aid in tracking any errant mail. The next marking introduced was that of a large capital 'R' followed by the town name (Fig.10) that was made using a rubber handstamp. The registered number of the item was to be written below the town name. This



Fig.9



Fig.10

Heilbron, Hoopstad, Jacobsdal, Ladybrand, Petrusburg, Philippolis, Rouxville, Smithfield, Springfontein and Tempe.

The cover in Fig.9 shows such a label applied at LADYBRAND 7 FEB 08 O.R.C. which travelled through REGISTERED BLOEMFONTEIN O-R-C 8 FEB 08 -2- and then REGISTERED LONDON E10 29 FE 08 before arriving at WAGENINGEN 2.3.08 in Holland. These labels appear to have been a failed experiment as their last known use was in November 1908.

At this time it can be seen that each post office now had to identify its registered mail by having the town name added to



Fig.11

marking has only been recorded used at Bloemfontein, Harrismith, Heilbron, Jagersfontein and Kroonstad from September 1908 to November 1910.

A very clear example is seen on the cover in Fig.11 which was addressed

the Bloemfontein GPO were not satisfied with these markings at all as they began to use a bigger style of marker, which comprised a large 'R' followed by Bloemfontein above the word No., that has become synonymous with use at the

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Fig.12



GPO. This has been seen used from May 1909 right into Union.

The cover in Fig.14 shows this distinct marking that was posted from REGISTERED BLOEMFONTEIN -1- 20 OCT 10 to PRETORIA 21 OCT 10. Note that the O.R.C has been removed from the canceller after Union.

To conclude this subject Fig.15 shows what penalty occurred when an unrecorded registered article was posted with the ordinary mail. It is likely that this 4d prepaid envelope had the 1d stamp added and was dropped in the post box to be delivered with the other normal mail. When spotted by a post office employee, postal service regulations dictated that it be formally registered and forwarded with all other registered mail, except that in this particular case a surcharge had to be paid, which amounted to double the registration fee. If an additional 4d worth of stamps had been added to the envelope before posting there would have been no surcharge.

The cover then had the little-seen instructional marks of POSTED OUT OF COURSE and T/4d (to signify the tax of 4d) applied. It was formally registered with the unique Bloemfontein GPOw registration marking applied along the top, then given the registration number 1666 and posted REGISTERED BLOEMFONTEIN -1- 24 NOV 10. After arrival at REGISTERED LETTER SECTION 25 NO 10 CAPE TOWN the 4d penalty had to be collected before delivery to the Imperial German Consul-General.

If a reader has any additional information to add to our knowledge of these registration markings would they please advise the writer at kevinwprice@bigpond.com .

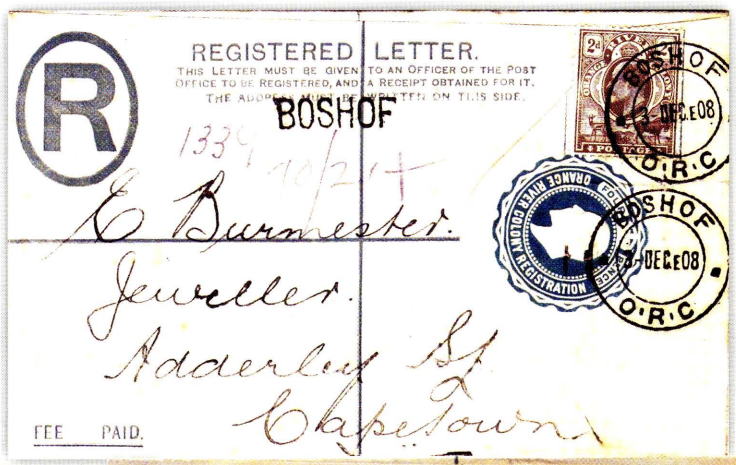

Fig.13

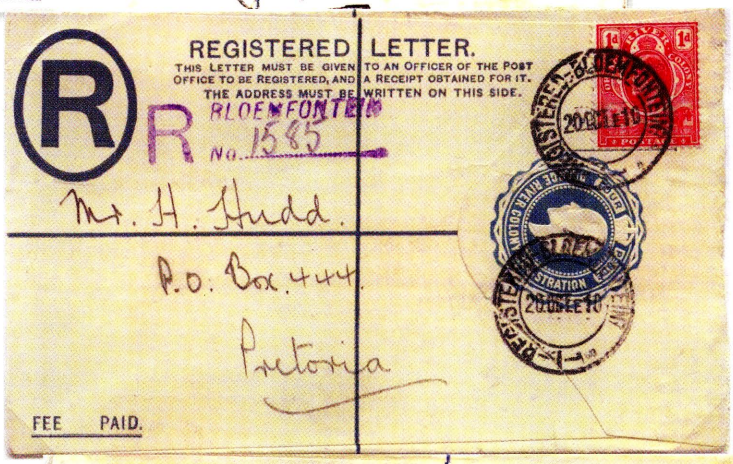

Fig.14

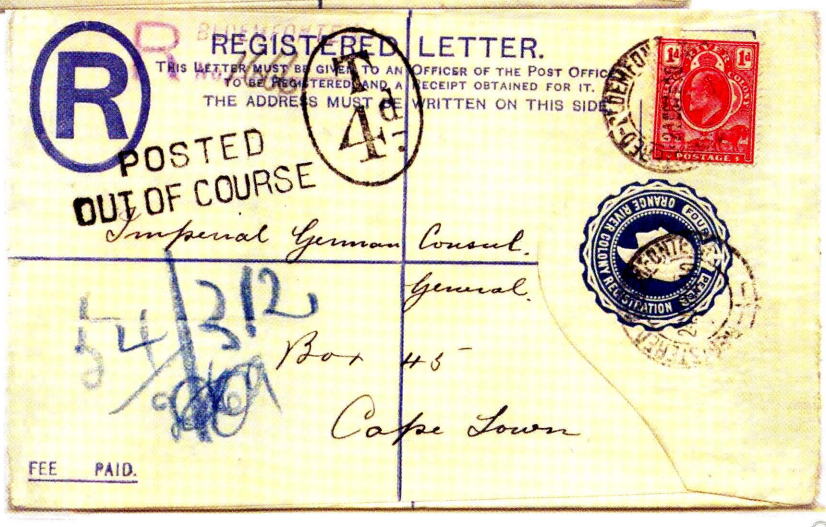

Fig.15

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- Buckley, G.D. FRPSL and Marriott, W.B., *Stamps of the Orange Free State, Part III Orange River Colony, 1900 -1913*, published by the Orange Free State Study Circle, 1977.



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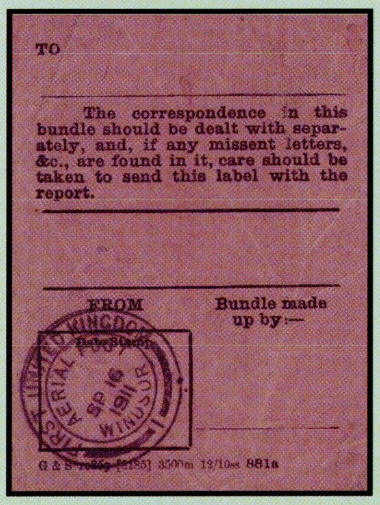
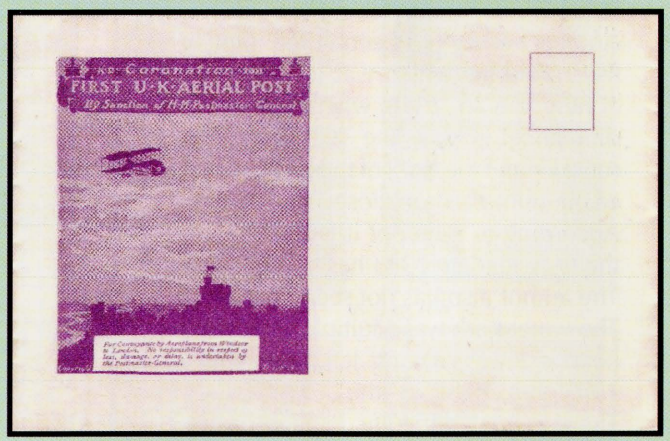


"Missent letter etc" bundle label cancelled SP 16 1911. A very rare survivor used "to bag" missent and other miscellaneous Aerial post mail. £450.00



Superb privilege envelope, Windsor to Kent SP 16 1911. Within letter ex Windsor Castle. Stunning. £1250.00



Superb unused privilege envelope, circa 12 believed to exist. £950.00

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Series 4 (1943 - 1946) The Bantam issues and Series 5 (1946-1952) the last King George VI issue of the REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

SERIES 4 BANTAM WAR ISSUES (1943-1946)

The overprinting of the Native Tax 2/6 revenue stamp with the words REVENUE and INKOMSTE as a provisional stamp issue was an indication that the shortage of paper was causing concern to the Government Printer in Pretoria. By 1943 the paper shortage had become so acute that Series 4, the so called 'Bantams' were printed (Fig.1). These stamps were similar to the ones issued for postage, postage due, railway parcel and savings bank stamps (Fig.2).

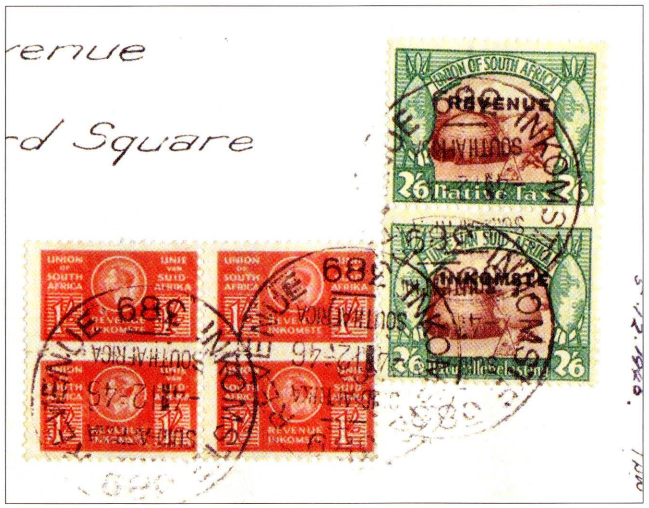

Fig.1: Native Tax Stamps overprinted REVENUE and INKOMSTE used with four Bantam 1/- revenue stamps on a document in 1946.

A total of sixteen values from 3d up to £25 were issued. The stamps were perforated 14 divided by rouletting (6½) on the one side (Fig.3). The design for this series was similar to the third series and the language setting was the same on each stamp but switched with each rise in value. However, an error ocurred with the first printing of the 5/- of 1943 where the language setting appeared in the wrong order with the English inscription top left and the Afrikaans top right instead of vice versa (Fig.4).

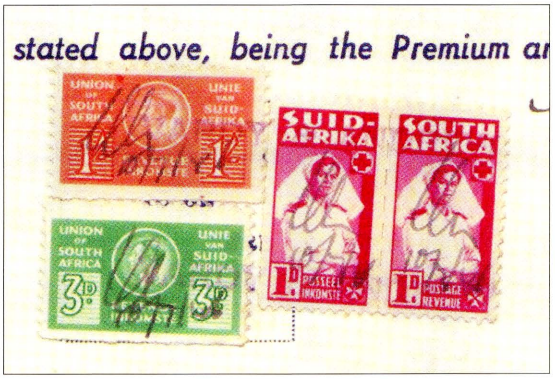

Fig.2: A 3d and 1/- Bantam revenue stamps used with two 1d Bantam postage/revenue stamps on a document.

Another variety has been noted namely the 10/- value which was printed from a new die in 1946 where the main difference is that the '0' of '10' is rounder and the lines of the background of the numerals are closer and thinner. According to *Barefoot* it is uncertain if the 9/- with date 1943 has been issued. The author also has not seen this issue. The watermark was Multiple Springbok head sideways facing left from 1943-1945 but right in the 1946 issues. There is real difficulty in reading the date printed on these small stamps which were issued up to 1946. This raises an interesting challenge to the seasoned philatelist in identifying the different dates on the stamps based on the watermarks and the screening. Tony Howgrave-Graham published a table in *The Springbok* journal of November 2016 to assist with the identification of some values by classifying the three types of screening used: coarse cross-hatch screen, fine cross-hatch screen and fine irregular screen. The screening affects the appearance of the stamps and the type of screening is indicated in the table below after the x.



Fig.3: A trio of 10/- stamps illustrating the perforation & rouletting.



Fig.4: 5/- stamp with the wrong language setting.

The Bantam stamps were used on a variety of documents (Figs.5, 6 & 7) and also over-printed for Consular (Fig.8) and Assize (Fig.9) purposes.

SERIES 5 THE LAST KING GEORGE VI ISSUE (1946-1952)

Due to the easing of paper supplies after the 'bantam' issue, a different type of revenue stamp was considered. The stamps were printed in two colours up to and including

	3d	6d	1/-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	5/-	9/-	10/-	15/-	£1	£2	£5	£10	£25
1943		xb	xc	xb	xc	xb	xc	xb		xa	?	xb	xb	xb	?	xa
1944	xa	xa		xc					(?)	xa	xa	xa	xb	xb	xa	?
1945	xc	xc	xc	?	xc	xc		xb		xb	xa	xc	xc	?	?	xb
1946	xc		?	?				xc	xb	xb	xc	xc	xc	?	xc	

a - Coarse cross-hatch screen. b - Fine cross-hatch screen. c - Fine irregular screen. ? - Type of screening not identified



Type 'a'
Coarse cross-hatch screen
3d with date 1944



Type 'b'
Fine cross-hatch screen
9/- with date 1946



Type 'c'
Fine irregular screen
1/- with date 1943

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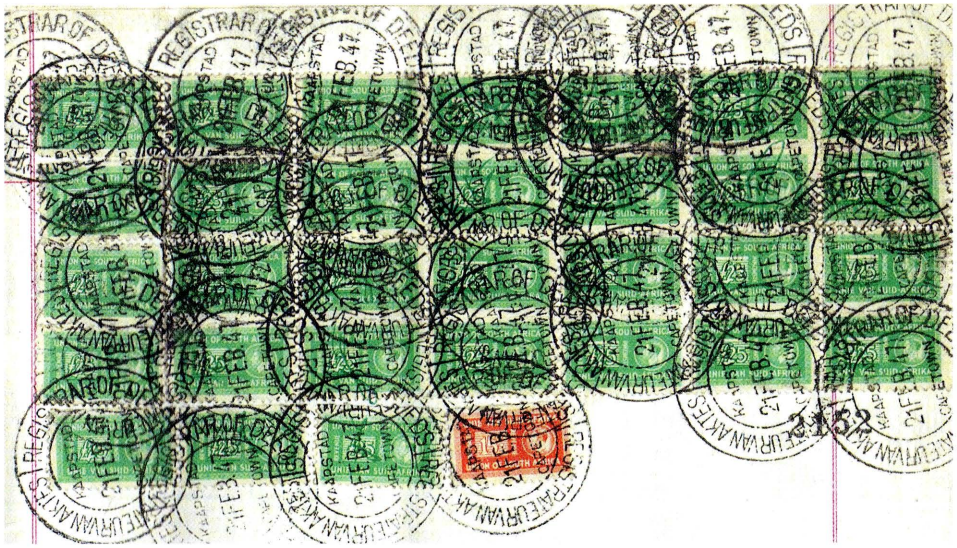

Fig.5: Mortage Bond for £310,000 lodged on the 21 February 1947 and stamped with 31 x £25 and 1 x 15/- (£775/15/0) Bantam revenues to pay the required stamp duty. Extremely rare usage of a block of 28 x £25 Bantam revenue stamps (Image reduced).



Fig.6: Bantam 5/- stamp used on a marriage certificate (partly illustrated) in 1948.



Fig.7: A variety of Bantams used on the cover page of a mortage bond (partly illustrated).

the 5/- denomination, but from the 10/- upwards the stamps are in one colour. The stamps were printed unilingual, alternate stamps in the sheets being Afrikaans or English. This was done in the interests of linguistic equality. The top left hand stamp in the sheet was English or Afrikaans for the different values.

A new feature introduced with this series was that the head plate carried the inscription 'Union of South Africa' or 'Unie van Suid-Afrika'; whereas the frameplate had the words 'Inkomste' or 'Revenue'. Incorrect language combination of plates produced 'transposed plate' printings detailed later on.

There were fifteen values from 3d to £25 and they should be collected in pairs for the reasons mentioned earlier (Fig.10). The perforation was 14 and the size of the stamps 27,5mm wide 21,5mm high, printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria with the Multiple Springbok head watermark. The stamps were unscreened in 1946 and 1947 and all screened from 1948 onwards. The date is indicated below the vignette (Fig.11). The stamps of 1952 were printed from a redrawn die, slightly smaller, measuring 26,75mm wide and 21mm high. A finer type of



Fig.8: Bantam stamps overprinted Consular/Konsulair.



Fig.9: Example of a Bantam 1/- overprinted for Assize purposes (Collection: Werner Barnard).



Fig.10a.



Fig.10b.

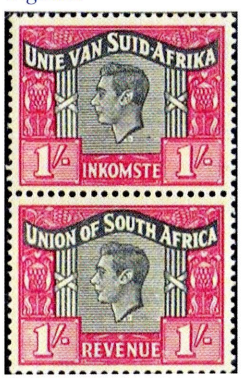

Fig.10c.



Fig.10d.

Fig.10: (a to f) A selection of values illustrated in pairs.

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Fig.10e.



Fig.10f.

screening was also employed (Fig.12).

In the *J. Barefoot British Commonwealth Revenue* catalogue of 2012 the following 'transposed plate' printings were recorded:

6d - 1950	1/6 - 1947	3/- 1949, 1950
6d - 1952	2/- 1951	5/- 1948

The 6d of 1952 had the error again in redrawn state where the new die was slightly smaller. Based on research done in the Post Office Museum archives in Pretoria, a number of the so-called 'transposed plates' or 'language errors' and the dates of printing can be traced. The details of the various printings were found in the inventory record details of loose pages received from the Government Printer in Pretoria. The consignment from the Government Printer can easily be handled and referred to by researchers.



Fig.11: Date '52' printed below the vignette.

Assize/Yk:

Revenue stamps and postage/revenue stamps have been overprinted bilingually in English and Afrikaans ASSIZE/YK for use by the Assize Division of the Department of Commerce and Industries. In addition to the overprint the stamps are divided into two parts, marked 'A' and 'B'. Traders who use containers for liquids, measures of length or scales, were obliged by law to have these examined for accuracy every year. The 'A' portion of the half of the stamp or stamps for the amount due for checking was attached to the receipt issued. The 'B' portions were attached to the duplicate which was sent to the Assize Head Office for audit purposes. The make-up of the receipt book required the left half of the receipt to carry the 'B' and the right half the 'A' portion of each stamp. These stamps were in use from 7 May 1923 to 31 August 1956.

SELECTION OF 'TRANSPOSED PLATE' PRINTS AND OVERPRINTS FROM THE POST OFFICE ARCHIVES RECORDS

Stamp value	Date on stamp	Job no	Imprint no	Date printed by Government Printer	Figure
6d	1950	5617	1200	March 1950	
3/-	1950	5620	8725	March 1950	See fig.13
2/-	1951	9602	6755	April 1951	
6d	1951	9596	3784	April 1951	
ASSIZE/YK OVERPRINT					
6d	1952	5304	8459	June 1953	See fig.14
5/-	1948	2212	1650	July 1949	See fig.15

TABLE (BELOW) INDICATING ALL THE REPORTED DATES FOR THE VARIOUS VALUES OF SERIES 5:

	3d	6d	1/-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	5/-	10/-	15/-	£1	£2	£5	£10	£25
1946	O	O	O		O	O		O	O			O	O		
1947		O		O	O	O		O	O						O
1948	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	
1949	O	O	O	O		O	O			O		O			
1950	O	O	O		O		O								
1951	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O				O		O
1952	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O			O			



Fig.12: 6d stamp dated '52'.



Fig.13: Block of four 3/- revenue stamps, with the date '50' printed below the vignette, of Series 5. This block of the so called 'transposed printing' is part of a sheet of 60 stamps printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria in March 1950. (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria) (Image enlarged).



Fig.14: Assize/Yk overprint on a 1952 6d stamp (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).



Fig.15: Block of four 5/- stamps dated 1948 and overprinted Assize/Yk by the Government Printer in Pretoria during July 1949 (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

Figs. 12, 13, 14 and 15 are all 'transposed plate' printings.

The stamps of Series 5 were used on a variety of documents (Fig.16) and were overprinted for Penalty, Consular (Fig.17) and Assize purposes.

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*Fig. 16: A Mortgage Bond (partly illustrated) drawn up during 1954 with 35 x £25 and 1 x 15s revenue stamps (£875 15s) affixed to the document. The Mortgage Bond was for the amount of £350 000. According to the Stamp Duties and Fees Act the rate for Mortgage Bonds was as follows: "*Where the total amount of the debt secured exceeds £2,000 – for every £100 or part thereof is …5/-*". Date printed on the stamps: 15/-, 1948 and the £25 stamps – 1951.*



Fig.17: Part sheet of 60 x £1 Revenue stamps of Series 5 overprinted 'Consular/Konsulair' in June 1949. Note the sheet no. 2253 (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

Sources:

- Dodd, L.J., The Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa, *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956 and December 1959.
- Howgrave-Graham, Tony, *The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa* 1910 – 1946 in *The Springbok*, Vol 64/4 November 2016.
- J. Barefoot Ltd, *British Commonwealth Revenues*, Ninth Edition, London, 2012.
- State Archives, Pretoria: Union of South Africa, National Treasury, NTS 2548, File 622/293.
- Post Office Archives, Pretoria: Inventory Records of the Government Printer from 1949.
- Union of South Africa, *Stamp Duties Handbook*, Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911 as amended, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1940.

The author would like to thank Tony Howgrave-Graham for permission to use the table regarding the identification of the Bantam-issues.

The author would also like to thank Dr Louwrence Erasmus from Pretoria for his assistance to identify the various types of screening as illustrated.

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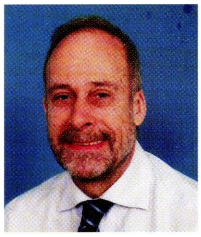
Botswana's Night Sky

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



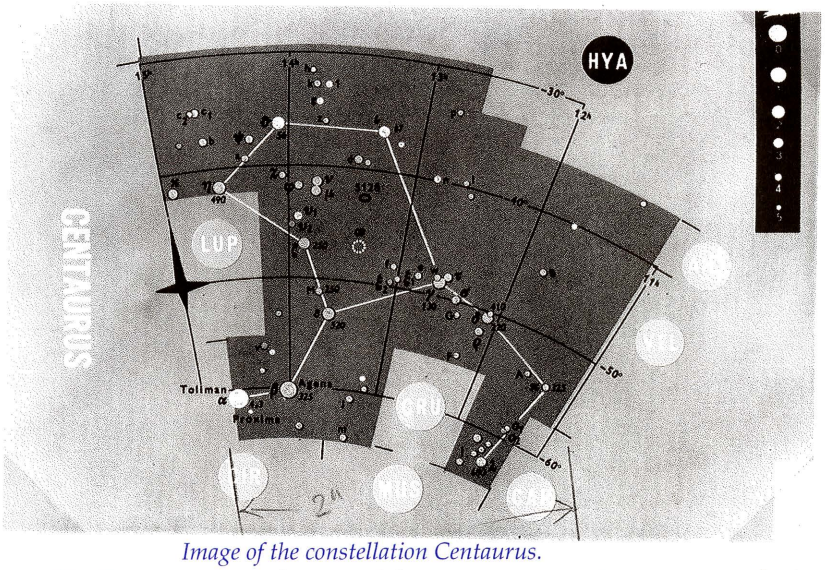


Image of the constellation Centaurus.

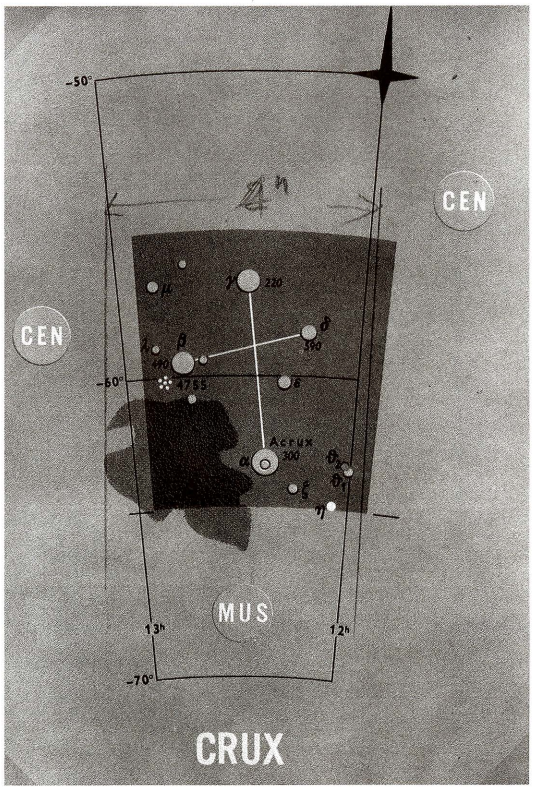


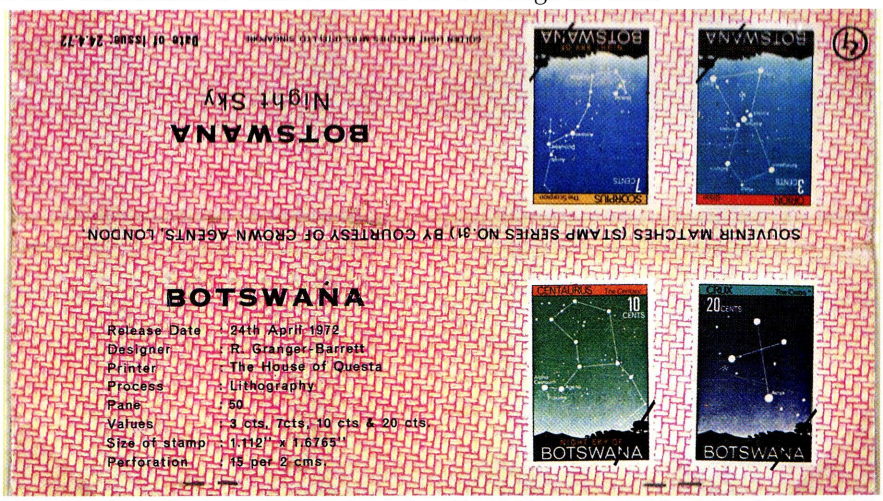
Photo of the Crux constellation aka 'Southern Cross'.

In 1972, Botswana issued a set of four commemorative stamps with the theme of the Night Sky, showing four constellations: Orion (on the 3 cents stamp), Scorpius (7 cents), Centaurus (10 cents) and Crux (20 cents). The stamps were designed by the American artist and stamp designer R. Granger Barrett, and printed by Questa Colour Security Printers.

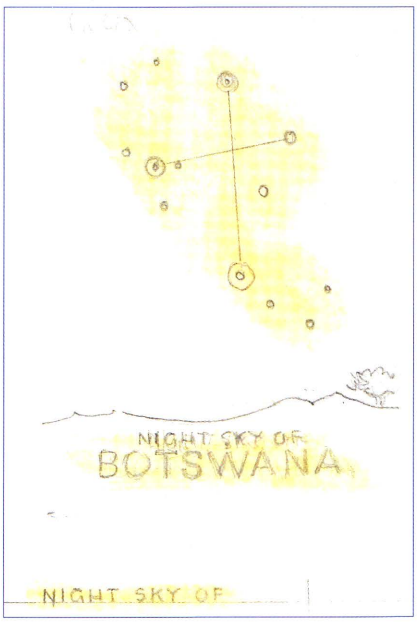
Barrett designed stamps for several countries including Anguilla, the Bahamas, Grenada, Guernsey, and the New Hebrides. The purpose of this feature is to illustrate the progression of Barrett's art and graphic work, focusing primarily upon the designs for the Centaurus and Crux stamps. To this end, little text is needed: the illustrations tell the story, which begins with photographs of the relevant constellations taken from Paul Hamlyn's book '*Constellations*' that were used for the rough sketches.

CENTAURUS The Centaur
ORION Orion CRUX The Cross
SCORPIUS The Scorpion

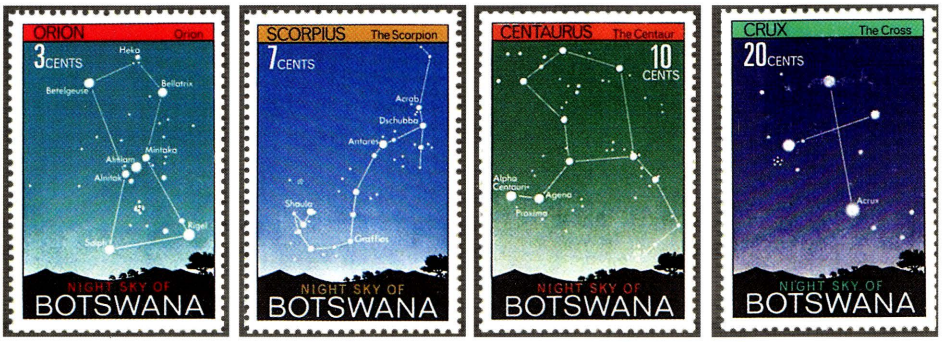
Photo prints of pieces of wording used for the finished artwork.



A book of matches illustrating the stamps, produced by Golden Light Matches Manufacturers of Singapore.



A rough sketch of Crux headed 'First Day Cover', on tracing paper



The issued commemorative stamps.

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018

to be held in Pretoria
17 to 20 October 2018

Deadline Dates 2018:

Provisional entry: 15 May
Literature entry: 30 June
Delivering of exhibit: 14 October

MEDALS

For the first time in many years medals will be awarded in Pretoria. In the competitive class, each accepted exhibit will receive a medal, a certificate, one copy of the exhibition catalogue together with a copy of the award listing. It will be a generic participant medal, engraved STAMPSHOW 2018 with the exhibitor's name at the back.

DEALERS in ATTENDANCE

A big thanks to dealers who responded to the invitation to attend **Stampshow 2018**. Positive response was received and there are still a few stands available. Any interested dealers should please respond to the invitation.

Interest from the Numismatic field was also received and a stand has been allocated.

ACCOMMODATION

The Organising Committee hopes to arrange accommodation on the premises and are negotiating the cost thereof. Arrangements will be circulated as soon as available.

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

Specialist societies interested in meeting during the duration of the Stampshow are invited to send their particulars to André du Plessis. The earlier the better as it will assist in arranging venues and time for the meetings. Except for the Saturday, meetings can be held up to 20:00 if desired.

THE PALMARES

The Palmares will be held in the Rust & Vrede Hall at Kleinkaap on Saturday 20 October 2018. Bookings for this event are open.

THE PROSPECTUS

The Prospectus, Entry Forms and Exhibition Guidelines may be obtained from: **Stampshow 2018**, PO Box 36473, Menlo Park, 0102 or email **André du Plessis, andredupfs@gmail.com** cell +27 83 399 1755. *The preferred way of communication is via e-mail.*

Our venue: www.kleinkaap.co.za

Last but most important Remember to enter! We are looking forward to receiving your entries.

JURY MEMBERS

This is the provisional list and may change depending on all the final entries submitted:

- Emil Minnaar RDPSA, Chairman
- Michael Wigmore RDPSA, Vice Chairman and Expert Committee Consultant
- Jan van Beukering, Secretary
- Davis Parsons, Consultant - UK
- Gerald Bodily, Consultant - UK
- Ian Matheson, RDPSA
- Neil Cronje, RDPSA
- Howard Green, RDPSA
- Frank Li Zhifei, Exchange Juror - China
- Tim Bartshe, Exchange Juror - USA
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JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

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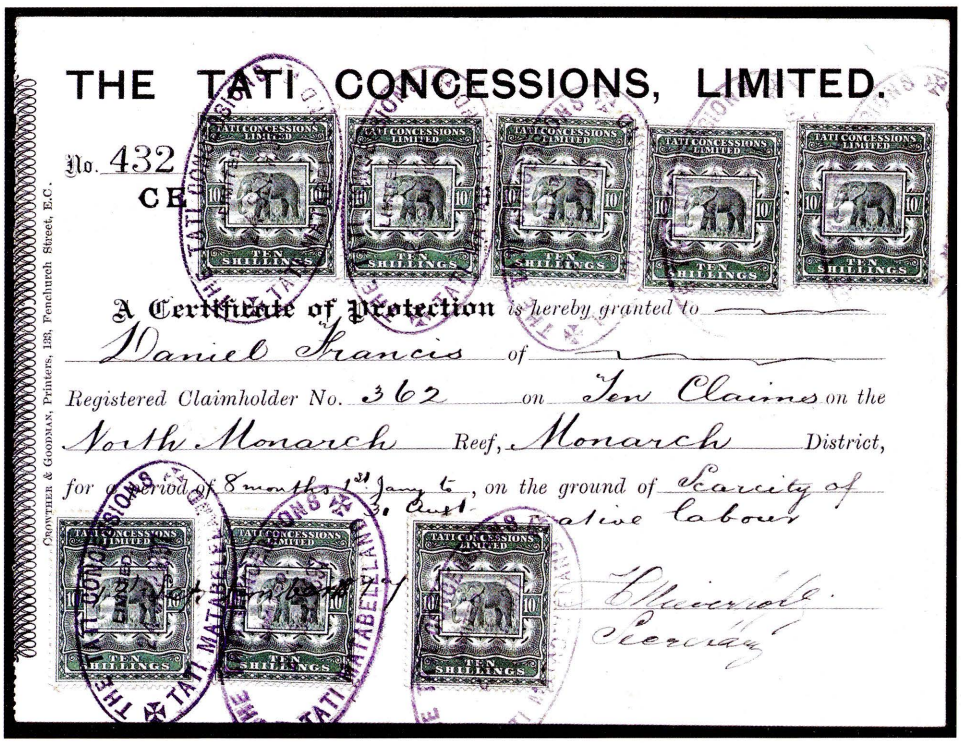

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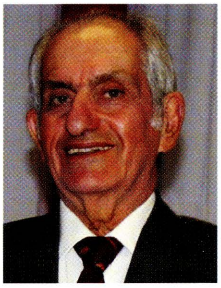
The 5/- Ox-Wagon Stamp

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



INTRODUCTION

The 5/- stamp, with the design of an ox-wagon outspanned, was first issued in March 1927 as part of the Union of South Africa's second definitive series, 15 months after the first stamps in the series were issued on 1 January 1926. They were printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. of London, and produced by the recess process. The only other Union stamp produced by this process was the 1910 Commemorative.

Subsequent printings in similar designs by the Government Printing Works in Pretoria, using the rotogravure process were first issued in 1930. However the first rotogravure printing of the 5/- value only appeared in October 1933, by which time 'SUID-AFRIKA' was hyphenated. This stamp design had an extremely long life and was replaced by the second issue in September 1949. The third and final issue occurred in January 1954, being finally replaced in October 1954 by the Giraffe stamp.

Because the design was modified on each occasion, the stamps fall into two groups.

Group	Printing	Place	Date	Issue
1	Recess	London	Mar 1927	
2	Rotogravure	Pretoria	Oct 1933	1
			Sep 1949	2
			Jan 1954	3

Table 1. Summary of the 5/- Ox-Wagon printings.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE GROUPS

Step 1 **Is the Afrikaans stamp hyphenated?**

- No = Group 1, Recess Printing
- Yes = Group 2, Rotogravure Printing

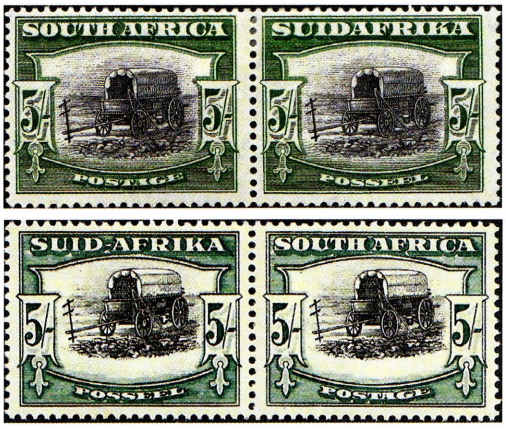


Fig.1: London pictorial above. Rotogravure below.

There should be no difficulty in distinguishing between these groups.

The London Pictorials are of a very high quality with finely etched lines, free of the blobs of the rotogravure issues. The colour in the London stamps is a more intense green compared with the blue-green in the rotogravure stamps. However the main difference between the two groups is the hyphen in the country name on the Afrikaans inscribed rotogravure stamps.



Fig.2: At right the hyphen in 'SUID-AFRIKA' in the rotogravure stamps.

A single English copy can be identified by the presence of a pattern of tiny squares between 'SOUTH AFRICA' and the top of the frame.

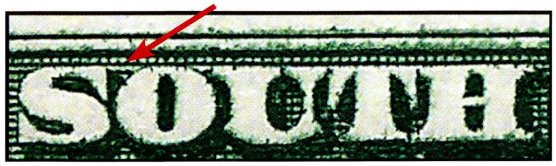


Fig.3: Pattern of tiny squares between the country name and the top of the frame in the London stamps.

Step 2 **The Afrikaans stamp is hyphenated = Rotogravure**
Is the stamp screened?

- No = Issue 1
- Yes = Issues 2 or 3. Go to step 3

Issue 1 is unscreened. Issues 2 and 3 are screened. This can best be seen by looking to the left of the wagon. In the unscreened, a series of unbroken lines is visible, in the screened stamps the lines are replaced by dots.

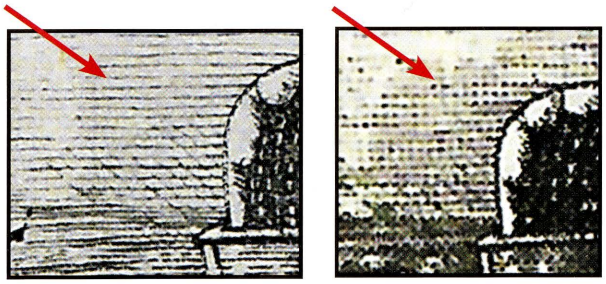


Fig.4: Unscreened image on the left Screened on the right.

Step 3 **The stamp is screened = Issue 2 or 3**



Fig.5: Blue-green frames of Issue 2 (left). Issue 3 with yellow-green frames (right).

- **Colour** In Issue 2, the frames are a blue-green colour. In Issue 3, the frames are yellow-green.
- **Cylinder Numbers** The cylinder numbers are printed on the right margin opposite the last two rows of stamps. In Issue 2 the cylinder numbers are 6925 (exterior) and 36

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(interior). In Issue 3, the numbers are 72 (exterior) and 8 (interior).

• **Side Arrows** In Issue 2, the sheets were divided into two prior to distribution to the post offices, resulting in half arrows. Issue 3 did not have side arrows.



Fig. 6: Half side arrows are found in Issue 2. There are no side arrows in Issue 3.

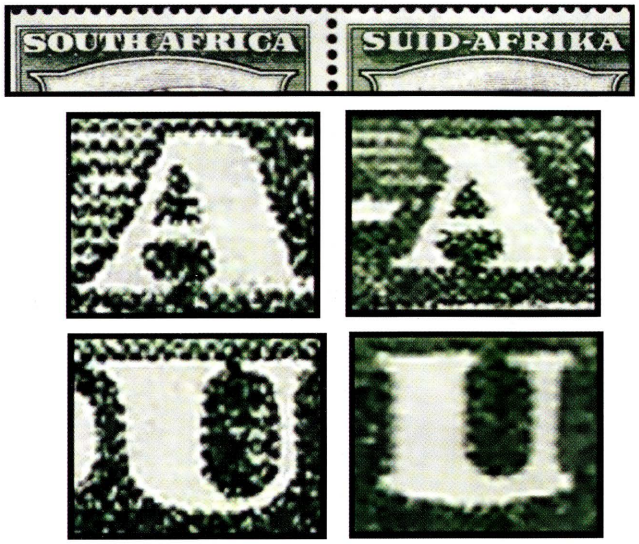

Fig. 7: The different styles of letters in Issue 3

• **The letters 'U' and 'A' in the English inscribed stamps**.

For some unknown reason the letters 'U' and 'A' in 'SOUTH AFRICA' were changed in Issue 3. As there was no change in the Afrikaans lettering, this led to result that the 'A' and the 'U' in the country name are different on adjacent stamps - Fig.7.

GROUP 1. THE LONDON PICTORIALS, RECESS PRINTING

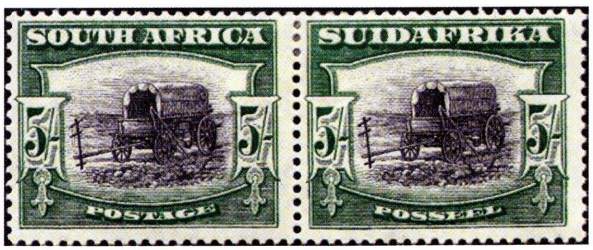

Fig. 8: Ox-Wagon. Group 1. London Pictorial.

Date: March 1927
Printer: Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
Recess printing
Plates: (1) and (1x).
Sheets: 120 stamps.
Two panes separated by a vertical gutter.
Each pane consisted of 60 stamps
(10 rows of 6 stamps).
No arrows.
No cylinder numbers printed on the sheet margins.
No sheet numbers.
The printer's inscription appeared on the bottom margin of each pane below the centre two stamps.



Fig.9: Ox-Wagon, London Pictorial, Inscriptional Pair.

Perforations: A single row comb was used for perforating the sheets, but the gauge and manner of operating were not always the same. Three groups can be recognised:

• **Perforation Group I** The perforation gauge was 14.0 and the sheets were fed in from the right margin which was thus imperforate and the left margin perforated. The top and bottom margins were imperforate except for a single hole at the end of each vertical row. As the centre gutter (16 mm wide) was always perforated through, it followed that the stamps on the left side of the gutter were perforated twice for about 14mm of their length, away from the gutter. When the perforations did not exactly coincide, 'oval perforations' occurred. The perforation holes at the corners of the stamps are always equidistant from one another (Fig.10).

• **Perforation Group II** The perforation gauge was 14 x 13.6 and the sheets were fed in at their upper margin, leaving it imperforate and the bottom margin perforated. The side margins and the centre gutter were imperforate except for the single perforation at the end of each horizontal row of perforations. When there are two perforations close to each near the bottom corner, the stamps belong to Group II (Fig.10).

• **Perforation Group III** The perforation gauge was the same, but the sheets were fed in from the bottom margin, resulting in this margin being imperforate and the upper margin perforated. The side margins and the centre gutter were imperforate except for the single perforation at the end of each horizontal row of perforations. This group can be recognised by two perforations close together near the top corner of the stamp.

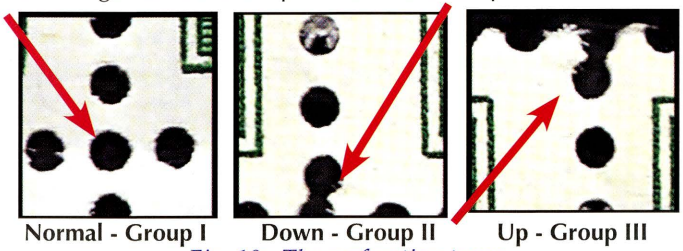

Fig. 10: The perforation types.

Watermark: Multiple Springbok heads.
Colour: Black and green.
Frame Size: 27 x 21.75 mm

GROUP 2. ISSUE 1, ROTOGRAVURE PRINTING



Fig.11: Rotogravure. Issue 1.

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Issue 1 can be identified by the hyphen in 'SUID-AFRIKA' and the unscreened cylinders. A single English stamp can be identified by the absence of the pattern of tiny squares between the country name and the frame (Fig.3).

Date: October 1933

Printer: Government Printing Works, Pretoria. Rotogravure

Cylinders: 6929 (interior) and 41 (exterior).

Sheets: 120 stamps (20 rows of six stamps). The sheets were divided into two prior to distribution to the post offices. First stamp inscribed in Afrikaans.
No arrows.
No cylinder numbers on the sheet margins.
Four figure sheet numbers on the right margin; these were initially black then blue and finally red in colour.

Perforations: The perforation gauge was 14.0.
The top and bottom margins are perforated through and there is a single perforation in the side margin at the end of each horizontal row of perforations.

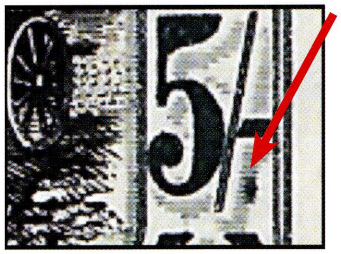
Watermark: Multiple Springbok heads.
The first printings had the watermark inverted, but in the later printings it was upright.

Colour: The first printings had a grey-black centre and myrtle-green frames, but in the later printings the frames were green, bluish-green and lastly grey-green. The myrtle-green stamps with inverted watermark are not as common as the later stamps.

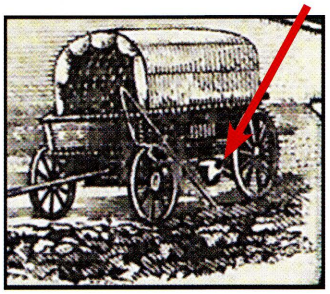
Size: 27 x 21.75 mm

Varieties Group 2, Issue 1 - Listed Varieties

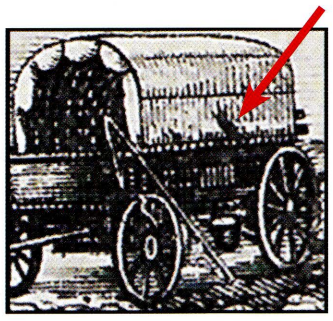
V1 R1/4 Green blob in the right value tablet.



V2 R9/1 'Broken bucket' on wagon.

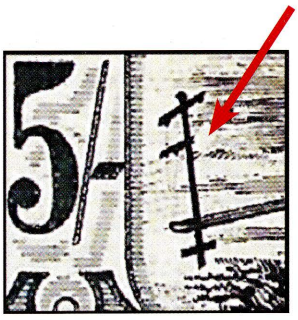


V3 R12/2 'Window' in tent.



V4 ?? 'Broken Yoke' See notes below

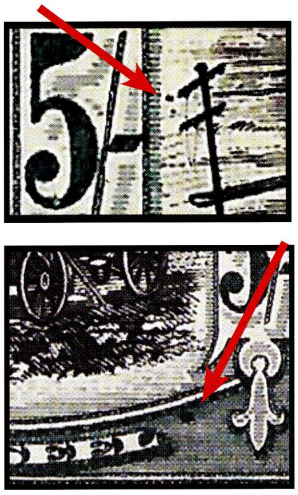
V5 R18/5 'Broken yoke-pin. See notes below.



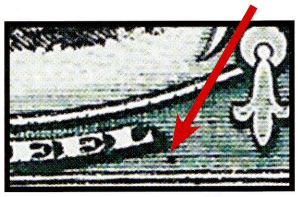
V6 R18/6 'Black dot' left of top yoke-pin (M-P).

and ...

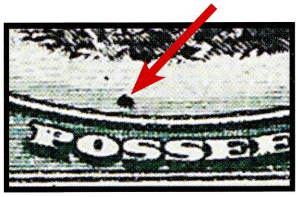
Green spot right of 'POSSEEL'.



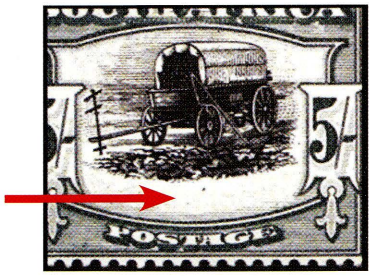
V7 R19/5 Green spot below 'L' of 'POSSEEL'.



V8 R20/6 Green blob above 'OS' of 'POSSEEL'.



V9 ? Error of vignettes misplaced.



Unlisted Varieties



Fig.12. R19/1. The three constant flaws.

Row 19/1. This stamp shows three constant flaws:
i. A green blob below the last 'A' of 'AFRIKA'
ii. A small green curl to the right of the canopy.

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iii. Fine curved lines, reminiscent of the 'barbed wire' flaw on the 1d Victory issue to the left of the ox-wagon.

Robin Messenger (4) reported that David Crocker had noted two examples of this flaw, but was unable to determine the sheet position. These flaws should now be considered as constant, as I have identified this flaw in a positional block from my own collection.

Offset

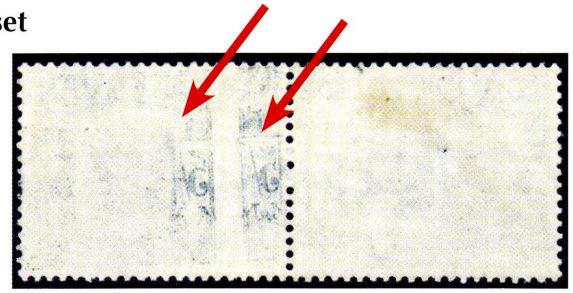


Fig.13: Offset error on reverse. Row 12/1 + 2.

NOTES

The Broken Yoke Flaw

This flaw is listed as V4 in the *Union Handbook*, but no position is given.

Many collectors confuse this flaw with the 'Broken Yoke-Pin' flaw which is listed as V5, but the two are very different.

The 'Broken Yoke' flaw is probably a non-constant flaw. Jack Hagger (2) showed a photostat of his copy in the *Springbok* and stated that he had not seen another copy. Robin Messenger posed the question at a meeting of the SA Stamp Study Circle and in *The SA Philatelist* (3), and invited comment from the readers. Mike Tonking responded with a scan of a used copy. Peter Pannall (5) reported an example of the flaw at R19/5, but this is not constant (Fig.14)

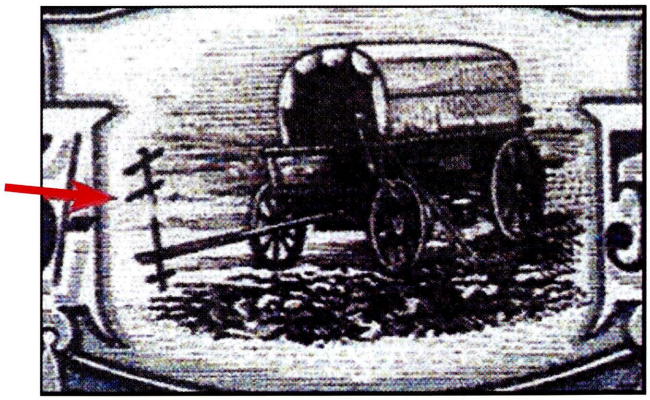
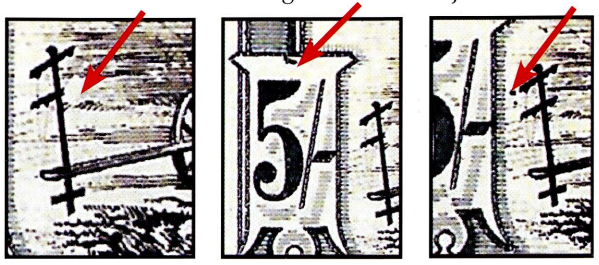


Fig.14: The 'Broken Yoke' shown by Peter Pannall.

The 'Broken Yoke-Pin' - V5

A well-known flaw and many copies of the flaw have survived. It is almost as difficult to find a 'normal' copy of the Ox-Wagon Issue 1 stamp as it is to find the 'Broken' Yoke-Pin. However, what makes this flaw interesting are the two adjacent flaws.



Broken Yoke-Pin. Row 18/5 | Black mark above '5'. Row 18/5 | Dot to left of yoke. Row 18/6

Fig.15: The 'Broken' Yoke-Pin and the two adjacent flaws.

Two cylinders were used to print this stamp. If there was any slight misalignment of the cylinders, one or both the adjacent flaws were no longer visible. It is thus possible to find three variations of the flaw. Jack Hagger felt that the black mark in the top of the left value tablet above the '5' was a gelatine shift.

GROUP 2. ISSUE 2, ROTOGRAVURE PRINTING



Fig. 16. Rotogravure. Issue 2

Issue 2 stamps can be identified by the hyphen in 'SUID-AFRIKA', the screened cylinders and the bluish–green colour.

Date: September 1949.
Printer: Government Printing Works, Pretoria. Rotogravure.
Cylinders: 36 and 6925
Sheets: 120 stamps (20 rows of six stamps). The sheets were divided into two prior to distribution to the post offices. The first stamp was inscribed in Afrikaans.

There were four arrows, one in the centre of each margin, but because the sheets were divided prior to distribution, only half side arrows exist.

Four figure, red sheet numbers were printed on the right margin.

Cylinder numbers: 6925 and 36, were printed on the right margin opposite rows 19 and 20.
Perforations: The perforation gauge was 14.0

The top and bottom margins were perforated through and there was a single perforation in the side margin at the end of each horizontal row of perforations.

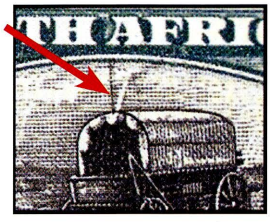
Watermark: Multiple Springbok heads. Only upright watermarks have been recorded.
Colour: Black and blue-green.
Frame Size: 27 x 21.5 mm

Varieties Group 2, Issue 2

V1 R1/3
R2/4 Line through 'R' of 'AFRICA'.



V2 R8/3 'Thunderbolt' above tent.



V3 R /6 ? 'Bush' on horizon, left of wagon. This is included for the sake of completness, as it was listed by Hagger (1), we ask readers for further information as no one has yet to see an example.

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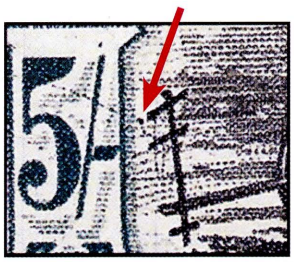
V4 R18/6 Black dot left of yoke-pin



V5 R20/6 'Rain' at upper right of wagon



GROUP 2. ISSUE 3 - ROTOGRAVURE PRINTING



Fig. 17. Rotogravure. Issue 3.

Issue 3 stamps can be identified by the hyphen in 'SUID-AFRIKA', the different style of 'U' and 'A' in 'SOUTH AFRICA', the screened cylinders and the yellow-green colour.

Date: January 1954

Printer: Government Printing Works, Pretoria. Rotogravure.

Cylinders: 8 and 72

Sheets: 120 stamps, in two panes of sixty each (10 rows of six stamps), separated by a horizontal gutter the depth of a stamp. The panes were separated prior to distribution.

The first stamp in the two panes differed. In one, the stamp was inscribed in Afrikaans, in the other, in English. The one commencing with the English stamp has been called Pane A and the other Pane B. In Pane A, all the key pieces (if they are in blocks of four) will have the top left stamp inscribed in English, and the same principle applies to Pane B, where all the key pieces in blocks of four will have an Afrikaans stamp at the top left of the block.

There were four arrows, one in the centre of each horizontal margin. There were no side arrows.

Four-figure red sheet numbers were printed on the right margin.

The cylinder numbers, 8 and 32, appear on the right margin opposite rows 9 and 10 of each pane.

Perforations: The perforation gauge was 14.0.

The top and bottom margins were perforated through and there was a single perforation in the side margin at the end of each horizontal row of perforations.

Watermark: Multiple Springbok Heads.

Only upright watermarks have been recorded.

Colour: Black and yellow-green.

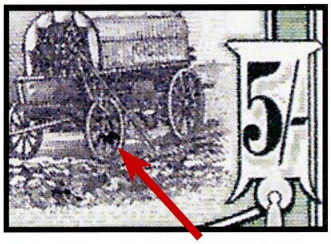
Frame Size: 26.75 x 21.5mm

Varieties Issue 3 Pane B

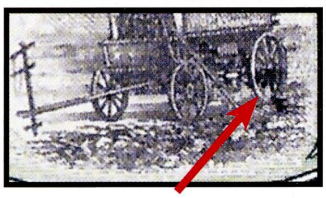
V1 R4/3 Extended first limb of 'A' of 'AFRICA'



V2 R10/1 Black smudges on left front wheel of wagon. Only in the later printings.



V2 R10/2 Black smudges on left rear wheel of wagon. Only in the later printings.



I would like to thank Robin Messenger for his encouragement and helpful suggestions in the preparation of this article.

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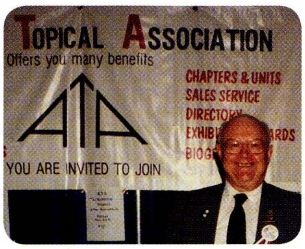
1. Hagger S J. *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 – 1961*. (1986 edition.)
2. Hagger S J. *The Springbok*. Jul 1995. p64
3. Messenger R. *The SA Philatelist*. Aug 2011. p135
4. Messenger R. *The SA Philatelist*. Apr 2012. p55
5. Pannall P. *The SA Philatelist*. Feb 2013. p10

ATA News Release

JERRY HUSAK (1932-2018)

Jerome D. Husak, visionary founder of the American Topical Association (ATA), the second largest philatelic organization in the US, died on February 22. He was 86.

As a teenager in Milwaukee in 1949, he envisioned a society for topical collectors. He later wrote, "There must be others like myself. Why don't we get together and share our information through a united body of topical collectors?" The ATA was born. "Who knows," Jerry thought, "perhaps as many as 200 topical collectors might come together."



In its 68 years, the ATA has had close to 60,000 members from more than 100 countries.

It is the largest topical/thematic association in the world.

When the ATA affiliated with the American Philatelic Society in 1987, it became its largest affiliate. The Thematic Award at *APS StampShow* is named for Jerry. Jerry was ATA member #1 and the first recipient of the ATA's Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award. He worked full time for the ATA, as editor of its journal, *Topical Time*, until 1977, and as executive secretary until 1984. He retired from the association's Board of Directors in 2008. Jerry died in Arizona, where he lived since moving there from Milwaukee in 1984. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sally, who was a tremendous support in his ATA endeavors. Contributions in memory of Jerry Husak may be made to the ATA.

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GUERNICA ~ The Story of a Stamp

by Chris Mobsby RDPSA FRPSL RNCP, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Guernica is a small provincial town in Northern Spain some 17 kilometres east of the port of Bilbao on the Bay of Biscay and is referred to by the local Basque people as the 'holy city'.

The town was one of the provincial strongholds of the Republican Government at the time of the Spanish Civil War that broke out in July, 1936 and lasted until April, 1939. The revolt was instigated by a junta of army commanders who were opposed to the policies of the so-called 'Popular Front' that had governed the country since 1931. In the course of the conflict, both sides issued postage stamps for the areas under their control. However, conditions in the country were in such a state of turmoil that the distribution of stamps to the numerous provincial towns was frequently impossible. As a result, both of the opposing factions permitted the use of 'local' stamps in the areas under their control. While many of these were issued deliberately as postage stamps, a large number were in fact fiscal or charity stamps that were adopted for use on the mail. In all, stamps of various origins have been identified for more than eight hundred towns and villages across the country.

Guernica, however, was not destined to have stamps of its' own because, on 26 April 1937, the town was virtually obliterated in the course of an aerial bombardment by planes of the German Condor Legion, under the command of Colonel Wolfram von Richthofen, that was stationed in Spain in support of the Nationalists under Generalissimo Francisco Franco. It was at a later date that the infamous Minister for Aviation under the Nazi regime, Field Marshall Hermann Göring, claimed that he had urged Hitler to support Franco in order, on the one hand, to check the spread of communism and, on the other, to assess the efficiency of the newly-formed Luftwaffe. It has, in fact, been suggested that Hitler saw the exercise as a practice run in anticipation of similar raids on London during World War II, the outbreak of which was, by then, only two years away. Additionally, it was thought not to be a coincidence that the date chosen for the bombing was, in fact, Market Day, when some ten thousand or more visitors would have been in the town. It should also be mentioned that it was not only German forces that were involved on the Nationalist side during the Civil War. Three divisions comprising 50 000 fully-equipped troops were supplied by Italy and even Ireland joined the anti-communist cause. Some 600 troops constituted General O'Duffy's Irish Battalion. However, the only 'action' that they saw was a brief skirmish near the town of Ciempozuelos with a unit that turned out to be on their own side!

The world at large was, naturally, appalled when news of the tragedy of Guernica became public. (Franco himself blamed the attack on Republican forces!). Incidentally, one of the first reports came from Captain George Lowther Steer (1909-1945) who was a war correspondent for the '*Times*' of London and had been born in East London in South Africa. He was educated in Grahamstown and at Oxford. With the World's Fair of 1937 due to be held in Paris in May, the Spanish Government hit upon the idea of commissioning none other than Pablo Picasso, the celebrated artist, to create a mural exposing the atrocities of General Franco.

Using oil paints and, it is said, inspired by George Steer's reports, Picasso created a mural in oils measuring 3,5 metres by 7,8 metres, no less than 27,3 square metres! It has been described as *"A Portrait of the Pain and Horror of War"*. Personally, I find it quite amazing that a painting of that magnitude can be accurately reduced to the size of a postage stamp. The 60-haleru Czech stamp of 1966 illustrated here (SG 1592) was issued to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the International Brigade's War Service in Spain where they lent support to the Republican Government. Czechoslovakians were among the troops who formed that International Brigade, so-called because it included significant numbers of French, German, Austrian, Italian, American, British, Yugoslavian, Canadian, Hungarian and Belgian volunteers, many of whom supported Communism. The stamp was printed in sheets of fifteen together with five labels as shown, the label bearing a reproduction of Picasso's signature and a hand grasping a broken sword. Many attempts have been made to interpret the symbolism embodied in the painting. Picasso himself always appeared loath to do so.



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FREE FRAMES

These exhibition frames are designed to display 15 x A4 sized pages in 3 rows of 5 pages, positioned in clear strips on each side of the frame, and mounted behind perspex for protection. These frames have been replaced by 16 page frames which conform to the international standard of 4 rows of 4 pages.

The now surplus but perfectly useable 15 page frames, complete with legs, are offered for free to societies and individuals, including schools, institutions and anyone who can make use of them, on a first come basis, provided the frames are collected from our store located on the Great North Road, Brentwood Park, Benoni.

There are 231 frames available, with outside dimensions of 1300mm wide by 930mm high and weighing approx 17kgs each. A small number of wooden pallets can be provided for larger quantity collections but please bring strapping.



These frames need to be disposed of by about May 2018.

Contact Peter van der Molen at 011 849 4822 or molens@pixie.co.za to arrange for collection or for further information.

International *Exhibitions*

PRAGA 2018

Venue: PRAGUE, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
Commisioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

MACAO 2018



south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
Commisioner: Ian Matheson
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti,
FIAP Patronage.

THAILAND 2018

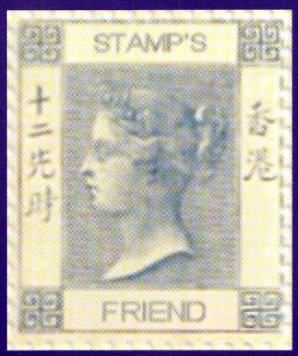
Date: 28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018 - Bangkok
General World All Classes
Commisioner: Vernon Mitchell.
vjm@telkomsa.net

• **World Stamp Championship Israel.** Les Glassman advised that this would be held in May 2018. The contact address is https://youtu.be/FsWq0APSsfU Scanning the website at this address is well worth the effort.

stamps and other collectables

still looking for *that* stamp?





1987 "Bible" stamp

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BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za *Secretary*: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za *Website*: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com *Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.*

Sat. 21 APRIL *EXHIBITION SEMINAR* - Full-day exhibition seminar at the Bellville Library, to assist exhibitors on the interpretation of FIP rules.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome. *Contacts:* Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662 *President*; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary)*; Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

Website: https://www.rpsct.org/

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

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

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. ***MEETINGS*** *always on a* ***Monday*** *evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East. *President:* David Preston: email: prestee@telkomsa.net *Secretary*: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603. *Librarian*: David Preston. 082 774 2090

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

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

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm. Contact:Jan de Jong 011 839 2031, djhome@iburst.co.za

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on upcoming meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact Us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member' 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time. Visitors are always welcome! *Contact* Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

Back Issues: *of The South African Philatelist can be obtained by writing to: The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: <Emil@Minnaar.org>*

Smalls

JUNIOR PHILATELIST: Alexander is an aspiring philatelist looking for local stamps and FDCs. Naberegnaya28/4, Krasnaya Polyana, Vyatsko-Polyanski region, Kirovskaya oblast, 612950, Russia. Aleksandr Bolschakov

DURBAN AREA AEROPHILATELISTS If you are interested in starting an association please contact me - Norman Prince at norman@pitlochry.co.za

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

WANTED: I am looking for specific year issues of South African revenues (both Union and Republic period). Please send an email to ronald.paul.rong@gmail.com for a copy of my wants list.

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

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

11 April	1st Competitive Evening
9 May	Invited Exhibitor
13 June	One Frame Evening
11 July	Grand Challenge Match
8 August	Second Competitive Evening
12 Sept	Annual Auction
10 Oct	Favourite Cover/s
14 Nov	Third Competitive Evening
5 Dec	President's Evening

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*

Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join.

Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357.

Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. *Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.*

Apr 18:	Anything relating to letters 'K &/or L'.
May 16:	British Commonwealth.
May 30:	5th Wed - to be decided
Jun 20:	Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
Jul 18:	Foreign, the art of philately & philately as art
Aug 15:	Southern Africa
Aug 29:	5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 19:	Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 17:	My favourite - (Maximum of one frame) and thematic exhibits
Oct 31:	5th Wed - to be decided
Nov 21:	Intersociety quiz and invited exhibits

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

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

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel/Woburn Ave, Benoni, 14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking.

President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

Secretary: Paul Hammerton. hampaul@ananzi.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday **evening** of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. **Day** meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale's shop, Kilner Park Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising.

President: André du Plessis. andredupfs@gmail.com 083 399 1755.

Vice-President: Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday of the month, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthof email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos 082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705 epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za

Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie 082 952 6700 Tel / Faks 044 698 1074. epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts: Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888 Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554 Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465 email zeptepi@3i.co.za Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162

'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...

'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings.

President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: 'Burncree' 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville

The Club meets on the third Monday of every month at 16h00. The venue is St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, PMB.

The Thematics Group meets on the third Saturday of every month at 09h00. VENUE: 8a Sanders Rd, Scottsville.

The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.

President: Dave Wyllie - *Club President plus Competitions and Speaker.* ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie. ***Secretary:*** Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. burncree45@telkomsa.net

Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles. Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer, Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Manager, Janet Kimmince - Membership, Graham Bruce - Librarian, Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian, Val de Jager - Catering Officer

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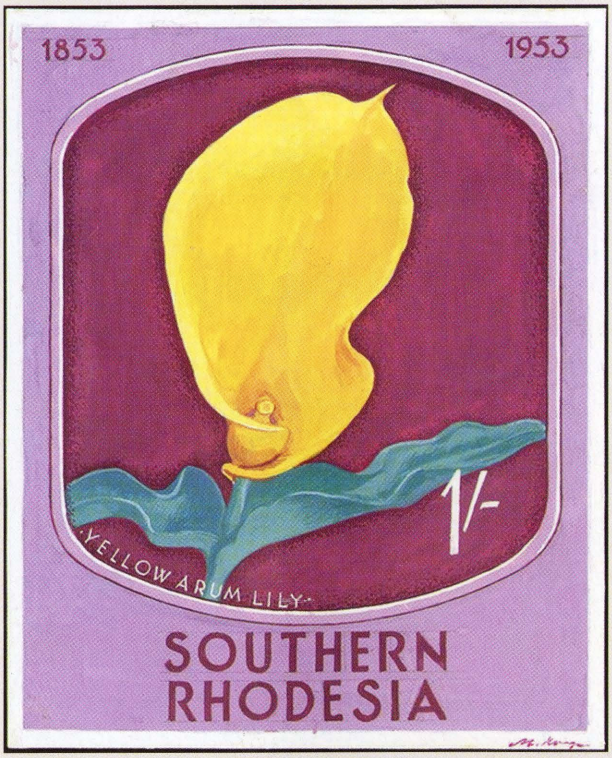

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JUNE 2018

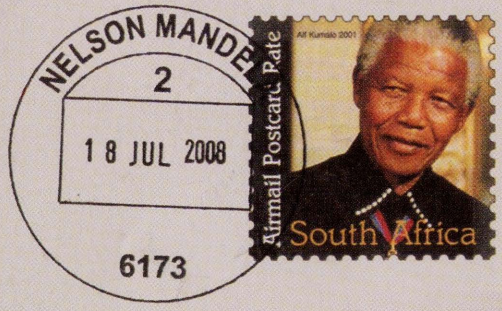
The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

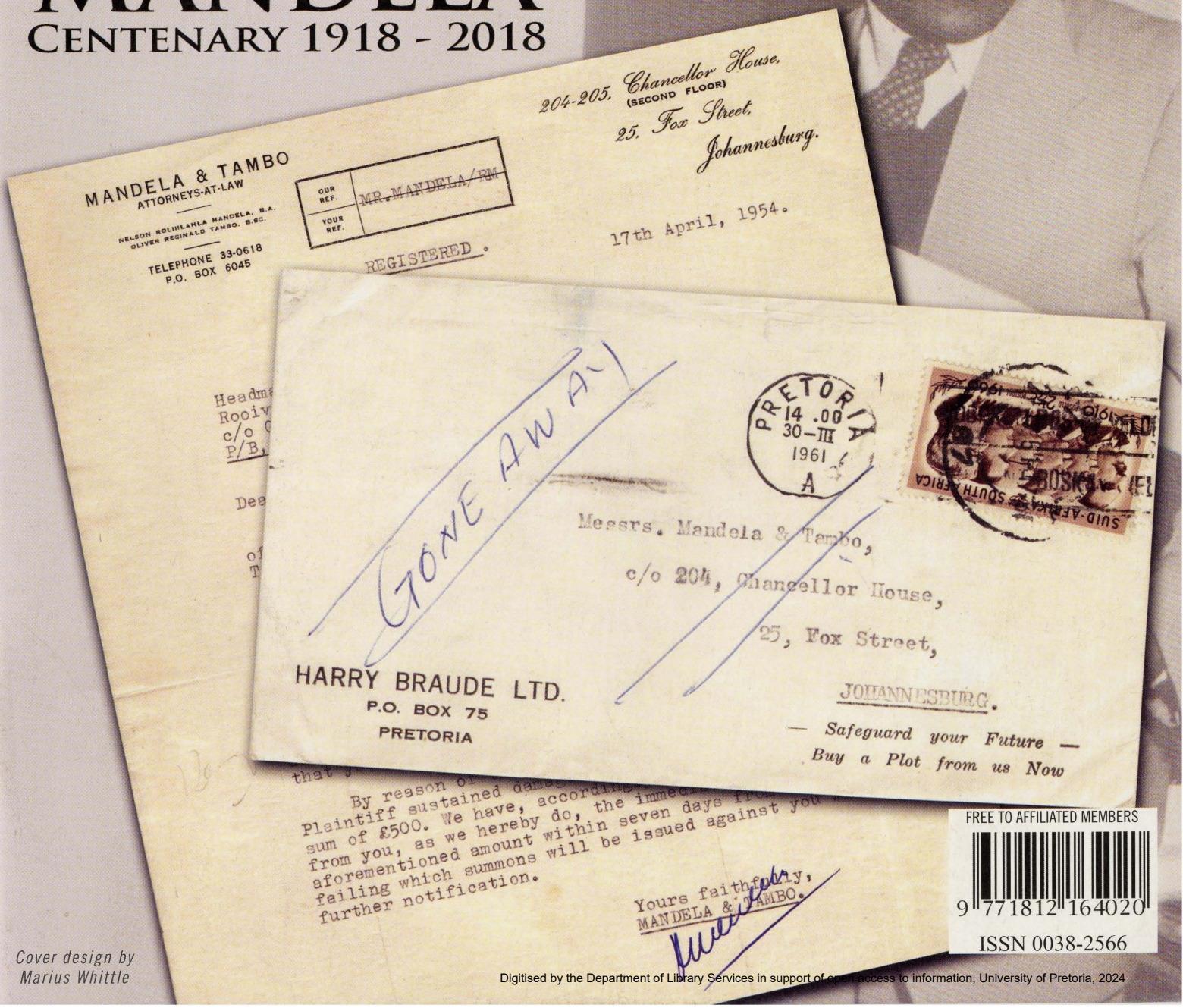
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 94:3. 948

www.stamps.org.za



MANDELA
CENTENARY 1918 - 2018



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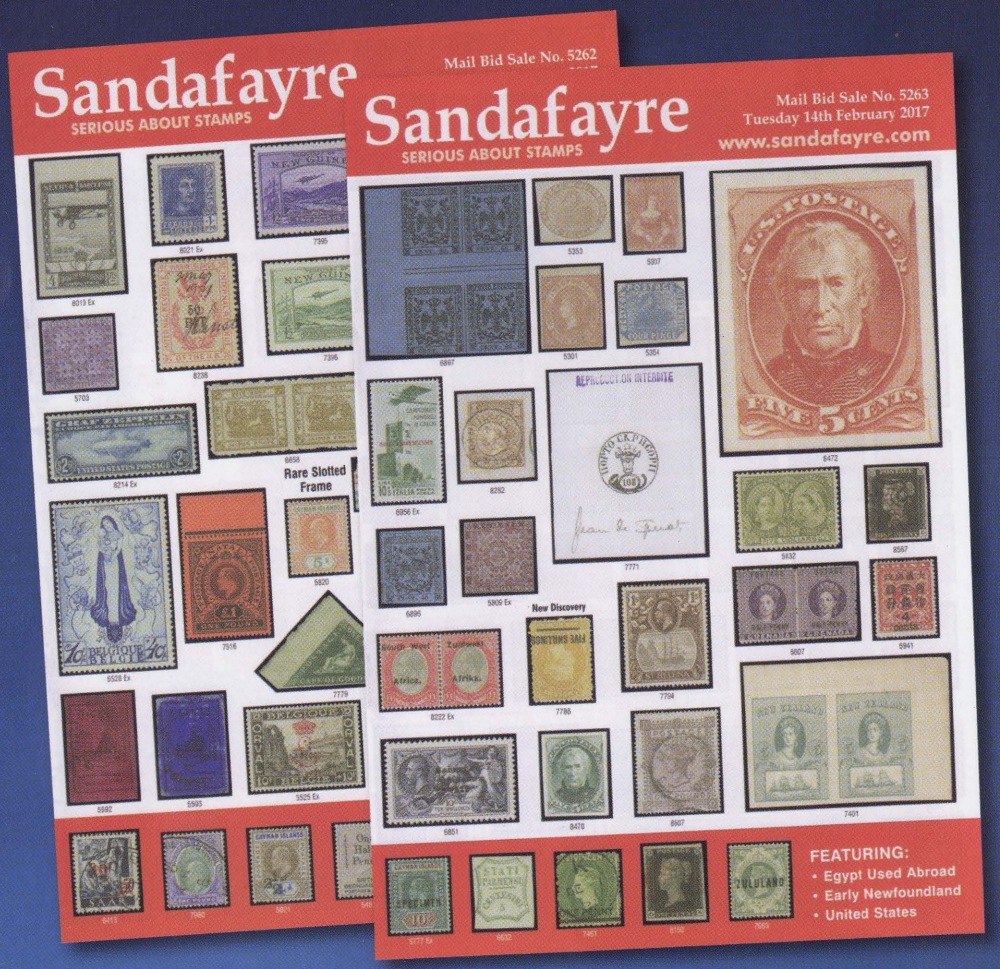

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JUNE 2018 Vol 94 Number 3 Whole No 948

The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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with thanks to Gerhard Kamffer.

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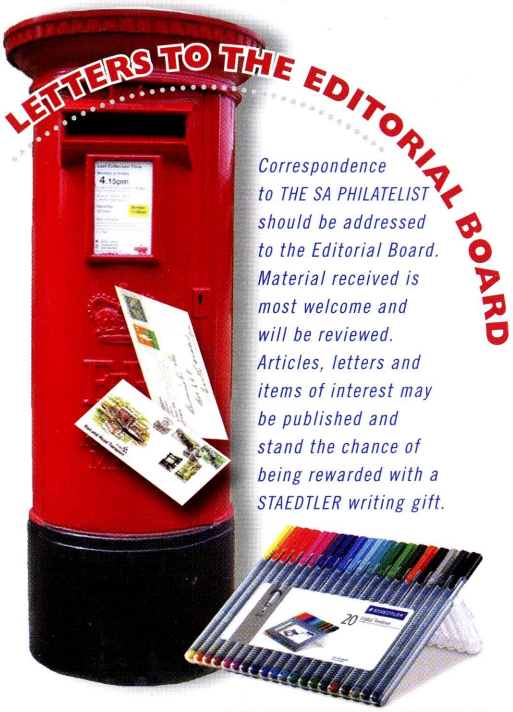

Correspondence to THE SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed. Articles, letters and items of interest may be published and stand the chance of being rewarded with a STAEDTLER writing gift.

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NEW SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP ISSUES – 2018

by Robin Messenger,
South African Stamp Study Circle

Readers may be wondering what is happening regarding South African new stamp issues as there was no column in the April 2018 issue of *The South African Philatelist*.

The issue celebrating the *50th Anniversary of the First Heart Transplant* (due on 1 December 2017) has still not appeared.

However news from Philatelic Services received on 11.5.2018...

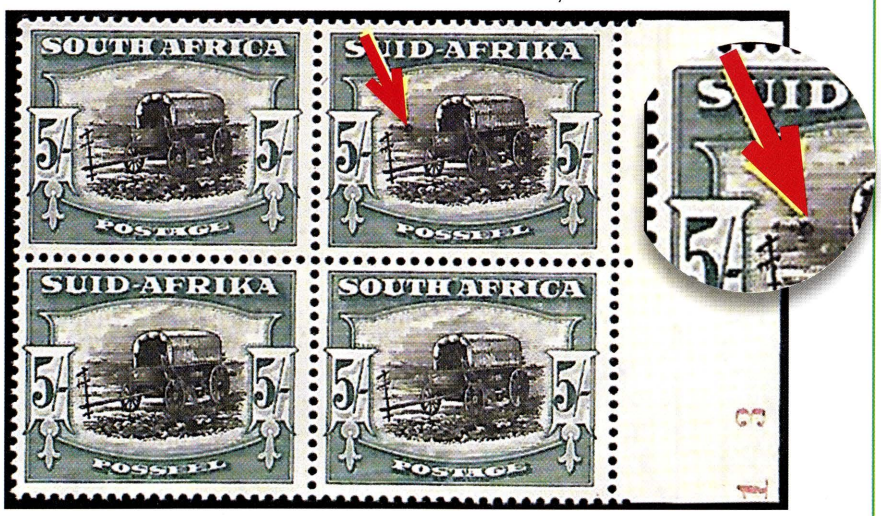
STOP PRESS: *information just received, featured on page 88, has details from 'Whats-Up' on the new issue program for 2018, but is subject to change.*

5/- OX-WAGON ARTICLE IN THE LAST ISSUE

Following the publication of the Ox-Wagon article in the April 2018 edition of *The SA Philatelist*, Mike Tonkin sent more information to fill a gap in our knowledge of the 5/- ox-wagon stamp: The Issue 2 flaw V3, Bush on the horizon is listed in the handbook as being at R?/6.

I have never seen an example of it, but Mike has a right marginal block of four with this variety.

Mike says the flaw is on R4/6.



This is Mike Tonkin's scan of the block.
Vic Sorour <vsorour@wol.co.za>

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material to avoid late delivery.

Articles should be submitted in the month **prior**:

- ***August*** 2018 - Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018
- ***October*** 2018 - Vol. 94: 5. 950 : 10/09/2018
- ***December*** '18 - Vol. 94: 6. 951 : 08/11/2018
- ***February*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 1. 952 : 08/01/2019
- ***April*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 2. 953 : 06/03/2019
- ***June*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 3. 954 : 07/05/2019

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

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

Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

Subscription & circulation: The annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R324.00. SADC countries, the subscription is R600.00 per year. International overseas, the subscription is R800.00. These prices all include postage via airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager:
email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za
PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463.

Publication: This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

Production & layout: Janice Botes
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EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

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5th June 2018	***BANKNOTES Worldwide & collections*** *scarce banknotes of nearly all countries especially outstanding offer French Colonies in Africa*
6th June 2018	***BANKNOTES Germany*** ***NUMISMATICS | COINS*** *many gold coins, big offer German Empire and collections*
11th June 2018	***MALAYAN STATES*** *offer stamps and mainly postal history, total 2,800 lots*
12th June 2018	***ASIA single lots*** *including many errors and proofs Arabian Countries* ***THEMATICS single lots*** *many varieties & proofs* ***OVERSEAS single lots*** *e.g. postal stationeries, stamps, specialties & varieties of all areas* ***AIR MAIL, ZEPPELIN MAIL Worldwide single lots*** ***EUROPE single lots*** *e.g. collection Otto Jung – postal stationeries Ireland*
13th June 2018	***GERMAN STATES single lots*** *e.g. huge offer stamps and covers* ***GERMANY 1871 - 1945 single lots*** *e.g. German Reich stamps and varieties* ***GERMANY 1900 - 2000*** *e.g. covers single & multiple frankings* ***PICTURE POSTCARDS*** *special political postcards*
14th June 2018	***OVERSEAS collections*** ***THEMATICS collections*** *– huge offer* ***EUROPE collections all countries***
15th June 2018	***ESTATES and MULTIPLE BOX LOTS*** ***GERMANY collections before 1945*** ***GERMANY collections after 1945***



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C.G.

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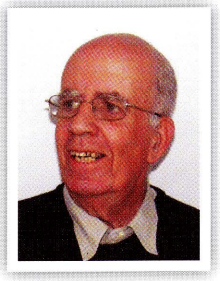
IN MEMORIAM....



LAPPE LAUBSCHER
1945 – 2017

Submitted by Marge Viljoen, Pretoria PS

Lappe passed away on 23 September 2017 at his home in Silverlakes, Pretoria. A walking encyclopaedia, Lappe was a great historian, an outspoken sports journalist and book-lover. A friendly person and not shy to impart his knowledge, he had for several years up until his death witten a regular Wednesday column on early history for the *Metro-Beeld-Noord*.

Lappe joined the Pretoria Philatelic Society in August 1966 and served as President for 1998/1999. He also served as a Vice–President of the Philatelic Federation as representative for the Northern Region. He joined the Postmark and Postal History Society in January 1997 and served as President for 2008. He was also a member of the Postcard Society of South Africa, the Afrikaans Filatelievereniging van Pretoria and the Thematic Society.

Lappe's philatelic interests were sports, the world wars and the SA Nederduitse Gereformeerde Church. He assembled a comprehensive collection of the Olympic Games and put together an exhibit entitled *Adolf Hitler and the Olympic Movement,* while another exhibit *South Africa's Involvement in WWII* received a Gold medal at Pezapex 2007. His other sporting exhibits included *The Springbok as a Symbol, Rugby's Gift to the Nation* and *Toe Suid-Afrika die Sportwêrld se Gasheer Was*. Lappe will be sorely missed and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Liana and their family.

EXHIBITION NEWS

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018
to be held in Centurion
17 to 20 October 2018
Venue address: 87 Jim Van der Merwe Street, Clubview Centurian 0140

Deadline Dates 2018:

Provisional entry: 15 May
Literature entry: 30 June
Delivering of exhibit: 14 October

We are four months away from **Stampshow 2018 -** a reminder to exhibitors to forward their final entry forms, 100-word descriptions as well as the frame fee.

Something new to look forward will be a workshop on Open class philately by Dr Gerhard Kamffer.

Pretoria Philatelic Society hosted its first Stampshow in 1903 and this year's one will be the 20th. All these shows were held in Pretoria and the names of the shows were linked with the city. This year's show is the first to be held outside the city, in one of its former suburbs. It was decided to name it STAMPSHOW 2018, without reference to a specific city.

In 2000, the Centurion local government became part of the newly created City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality that also includes Pretoria.

In everyday language and very broad terms, Centurion is still generally referred to and seen as part of Pretoria. I referred to Pretoria in previous snippets and apologise for any misunderstanding it might have caused.

The year 2018 celebrates what would have been Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday. The Organising Committee has decided to honour his centenary and the legacy he left by showing a few frames of his life and time as well as an article in the Catalogue.

I would also like to bring the following developments to your attention:

- The Stampshow 2018 Prospectus inter alia states that one frame exhibits will not form part of this exhibition and that potential exhibitors will be encouraged to participate at SAVPEX in Bloemfontein.
  - The Organising Committee reviewed this decision and decided that **one frame exhibits will be** accepted and judged at Stampshow 2018; applicable awards will be made.
- To promote and encourage first timers to exhibit, Federation, in conjunction with Foundation, will sponsor the entry fee and up to three frames for the **first** five first time entrants (one entry per exhibitor). I therefore request that first time exhibitors enter as soon as possible.
  - All level of entries are welcome. Paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5 of the Prospectus remain applicable.

We look forward to welcoing you to **Stampshow 2018**. Obtaine exhibition guidelines from: Stampshow 2018, PO Box 36473, Menlo Park, 0102 or email Andre du Plessis, andredupfs@gmail.com
cell +27(0)83 399 1755
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W.P. VENTER
1954 – 2018

deur Riaan Crafford, Sekretaris, Paarlse Filateliste

Willem Petrus (Buks) Venter is in 1954 in Roodepoort gebore en sy belangstelling in posseëls het reeds in 1963 begin. Hy was bevoorreg om deur sy loopbaan baie van die lande te kon besoek waarvan hy die seëls versamel het. As student gaan die meeste van sy sakgeld daarin om 'n *Unie Koningskopversameling* op te bou en tydens sy diensplig op Mahanene, naby Ruacana en Oshakati in Namibië, bou hy ook 'n mooi grensposversameling op.

Gedurende 2007 begin hy in Mauritius werk en besoek die Blue Penny Museum in Port Louis. Toe hy van aangesig tot aangesig kom met daardie gesogte eerste 1 en 2 pennie Mauritius seëls, was die gort gaar. In Augustus 2008 sluit hy by die Paarlse Filateliste aan en help die Vereniging se lede hom in sy poging om 'n mooi Kaapse driehoek- asook Unie Koningskopversameling op te bou.

So tussen alles deur het lugposgeskiedenis ook sy verbeelding aangegryp. Hy het die lugposgeskiedenis van die Belgiese Kongo van 1920 tot 1960 baie volledig bestudeer en 'n bekroonde uitstalling daaroor opgestel. Hy het ook gewerk aan Reunion en Mauritius se eerste lugposgeskiedenis. Hy het na aanleiding daarvan dat Standard Bank gedurende Oktober 2012 150 jaar oud geword het, 'n indrukwekkende versameling en uitstalling oor die posgeskiedenis van die bank gemaak. As filatelis het Buks nasionale erkenning vir sy uitstallings oor Kaapse Driehoeke en Belgiese Kongo ontvang. Hy het die Paarlse Filateliste gereeld met sy besonderse versamelings en uitstallings trakteer. Buks was nie net 'n filatelis nie, maar was ook 'n kranige skrywer. Twee van sy bekendste boeke is *Terror of the Outeniquas* en *The Philatelist*.

Buks het die stryd teen kanker op 16 Maart verloor, maar sy nalatenskap van goeie vriendskappe en 'n passie vir filatelie leef voort.

Buks word oorleef deur sy vrou, Amanda.

Savpex 2018 - The South African Virtual Philatelic Exhibition 2018, hosted by the Free State Philatelic Society under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, is to be held later this year in terms of its IREX rules *(Individual Regulations for the Exhibition)*. The closing date for entries was extended to the end of May, then selected exhibits must be uploaded by mid June, with results released first week July 2018. The OFSPS will participate in the Bloemfontein HOBBY show in September, where all participating exhibits of the Savpex 2018 exhibits will be shown on TVs for the duration of the Hobby show.

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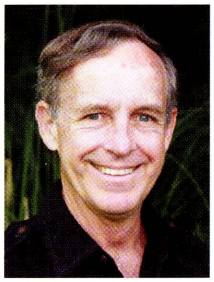
Phun with postmarks



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

Post Office Training Schools

These were training centres where candidate clerks and postal personnel were trained in the intricacies of operating a post office. Amongst others the training included use of a steel date stamp, as special techniques were required to avoid what is commonly known as 'tennis elbow'. Little is known about these 'schools', also known as 'posskool' in Afrikaans.

I had been alerted to such training facilities when the Postmaster in Welkom discovered a box with 10 old training cancellers in the safe. Furthermore, amongst impressions of Pretoria cancellers, I found several items inscribed 'Training'. But the most complete information I received recently was from Joh Groenewald RDPSA, who sent me an extract from the sesquicentennial book '*Riversdal 1838 – 1988*'. It was written by Boet van Wyk, although his name does not appear as he passed away before the book was published privately.

Let me start with the more complete information of Riversdale. Training commenced at a regional centre in 1959 after the Postmaster-General, A.J.Botes, had inaugurated the new post office building. In the sesquicentennial book it was stated that the 'posskool' was closed in 1986. Two 30mm date stamps inscribed 'L1' and 'L2' at the base were used for training and are shown in Fig.1. The 'L' signified 'Leerling' or 'Learner'. Although the training school operated from 1959 to 1986, these date stamps saw service on mail. L1 was seen from 24.9.1965 to 11.12.1998 and L2 was seen from 9.12.1961 to 30.9.1963, although L2 was seen on piece without stamps until 20.9.1978. Both date stamps were also recorded with the 1977/8 reversed date style shown in Fig.1b, and L1 was seen with date inverted.

This now begs the question:

"Did the trainees do service at the counters, or was L1 in particular only used occasionally for training and the rest of the time used at a counter?".

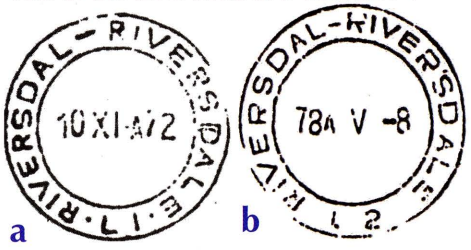


Fig.1: Two date stamps used for training at Riversdale.

A total of 10 date stamps were in the safe in Welkom. Three styles were used, as shown in Figures 2a to c. The dates were as found in the box. Only one canceller with the style in Figure 2a with counter code '1' at base was found. This one appears to have been used in the 1980s. The style of Figure 2b with small lettering was found with counter codes 2, 3, 4 5 and 6. The style of Fig.2c with larger lettering was found with counter codes 2, 4 and 5. It is not clear whether the dates in 1998 were ever used.

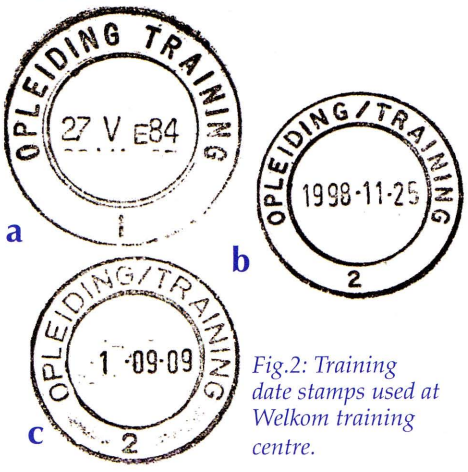


Fig.2: Training date stamps used at Welkom training centre.

The Pretoria training school was evidently operational in 1978, as the training canceller and Training School cachet suggest which is shown in Fig.3. At least two identical cancellers shown in Fig.3a existed identifiable from the time code letter A or B on the same date.



Fig.3: Training date stamp and cachet used at Pretoria.

It appears as if the training schools were closed during the 1980s and 1990s. Unfortunately there is little information available. The purpose of this article is to solicit any information about the training schools. After 1994 the SA Post Office created a Learning Institute in Olifantsfontein whose function was to train staff in the softer skills such as interpersonal relations. Training of candidate postal staff took place at post offices under the guidance of the Postmaster / Branch Manager. The Learning Institute was advertised over a number of years as shown on the ink jet slogan in Fig.4.

Filateliste het omtrent niks gehoor van die posskole wat 'n belangrike opleidingsfunksie vervul het nie. Toevallig het stempels te voorskyn gekom en die soektog het begin. Drie sentra het posskole gehad, maar dit is waarskynlik dat daar meer was, soos bv die groter kantore soos Kaapstad, Johannesburg, Durban en miskien selfs kleiner kantore soos Port Elizabeth en Oos-Londen. Kan iemand help met enige inligtingsbrokkies?

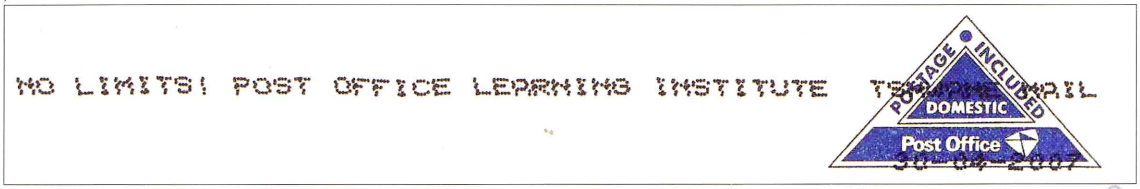


Fig.4: Ink jet slogan propagating the Post Office Learning Institute

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The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

BLIND PERF

Perforations are the tiny holes on the sides of a stamp, created by metal pins, to enable one to separate stamps easily. A blind perforation, (Fig.1), occurs when there appears to be a missing perf.

On closer inspection, there is a spot where the perforation is missing (see Fig.2). This is a result of the metal pin becoming worn so it just indents the paper rather than punching right through. To prove the existence of a blind perf it's necessary to keep the two stamps together. Once separated, the blind perf will disappear.



Fig.1

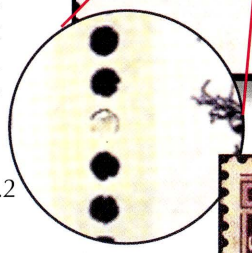

Fig.2

BARS

This term refers to a way of obliterating part of the stamp design by means of a straight line or a set of parallel lines. There are a number of reasons why parts of a stamp are defaced in this way. In the case of Fig.3, an Egyptian stamp, originally issued in 1945, was barred in 1953 to cover the portrait of King Farouk I (1920-1965). He was overthrown in the revolution of 1952, forced to abdicate and went into exile in Italy. In the case of Fig.4 the bars are used to obliterate the original value of the stamp. The Niger Coast Protectorate existed along the coast of what is now Nigeria, an area known for palm oil. In 1894 there was a shortage of ½d stamps. In August 1894 a provisional ½d stamp was created by covering the 2½d value and overprinting the stamp with the new half-penny value in words.

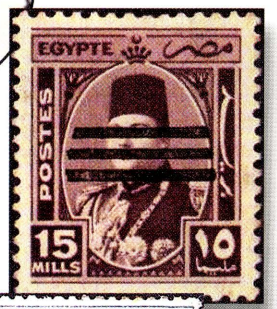

Fig.3



Fig.4



Moenie Spoeg Nie!

Mrs Anthea Ring, now 81, and living in Bradford-on-Avon, Wilt-shire, England, became Britain's most famous baby when she was discovered in August 1937 abandoned in a blackberry bush near Worthing, Sussex. Her hands were bound with a strip of material torn from her dress and she was covered in scratches but otherwise healthy and well cared for.

An attempted murder investigation at the time by the Police revealed nothing and she was later adopted by a family in Surrey.

Since 1994, Mrs Ring has been trying to trace her biological parents. Family history detective Julia Bell established that her father was most likely one of six brothers from the Coyne family in County Galway, in the west of Ireland. The question was, which one? It was stalemate until a 30 year-old letter from one of them, Patrick, came to light. DNA analysis of a speck of saliva from the stamp confirmed a match.

In 2016, experts traced her late mother's roots to County Mayo, using global DNA bases which identified distant cousins.



Records of illegitimate births suggested her mother was Ellen O'Donnell, born 1911, and that her birth name was Mary Veronica, born 20 November 1936. Strangely, this was only five days after the date her adoptive parent had chosen for her birthday. Mrs Ring has since been able to establish contact with her father's family.

(By Jemma Buckley, *Daily Mail*)

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Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

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

Episode 47 Errors on Stamps...ONE 'MONK' MISSING!

The Emirate of Fujeira issued a number of stamps for the 1972 Olympic Games held in Munich. The 16 Dirham stamp from a large set of 30, shows a rowing boat and flag of Australia to acknowledge that Australian rowers are amongst the best in the world, although they were not very successful in the previous Olympics.

The first error on this stamp is the monk-like outfit of the rowers, which must be most inconvenient for hard working sportsmen in an Olympic competition.

The second error is the fact that there is no rowing boat competition with three rowers, except for the



one with two rowers and a cox, but he only does the call and never rows. For the common four-man boat the team is one rower short.

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LETTER FROM LONDON



by Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The trip to Monte Carlo for *Monacophil 2017* was the final event on my philatelic calendar for 2017. While Monaco was no warmer than London in December, my wife and I enjoyed the exhibition. The exhibition theme for 2017 was the *Centenary of the Death of P. De La Renotiere de Ferrari,* the most renowned philatelist of all time.

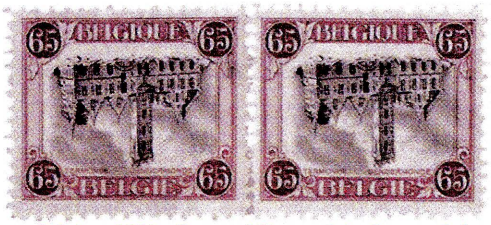
Items from Ferrari's incomparable collection, sold by the French in 1920s as war reparations, and now in contemporary collections, were on display. These invited exhibits included items from the British Royal Collection, the British Library, the Smithsonian in Washington and from private collections; wonderful material in surprisingly good condition for its age.

An adjoining hall was host to a large number of dealer's stands. The majority of the dealers were Continental and concentrated on the high end of the market. This 'trade fair' was well patronized, but once again the clients were almost exclusively senior philatelists. A number of receptions enabled participants to socialize. A new approach was that a group of 'serious' young philatelists from various countries had been sponsored to come to Monte Carlo and attend the social events at no charge.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London has purchased a new home, as the present one is no longer suitable. It is being refurbished and the move to the new premises at 15 Abchurch Lane, EC4 is expected to take place by June 2019. The building, conveniently situated across the road from Bank tube station, has a splendid façade and five stories above ground and a lift!

Exhibits at the RPSL meetings have been varied and impressive. Maurice Hadida's *Morocco Postal History* display in January 2018 covered the scarce local post issues in great detail. A combined display by the Russian Academy included many aspects of Russian philately, but not the major rarities. Zemstvo issues were of particular interest though.

February brought an exhibit of Belgium by the RPS President, Patrick Maselis. Iconic items such as an unused block of eight of 1849 20 cents value and a full pane of fifty of 1869 5 francs were of note. The unique mint pair of the 1920 Termonde 65c with inverted centre was the highlight of an amazing display. There are only twelve examples of this variety recorded.

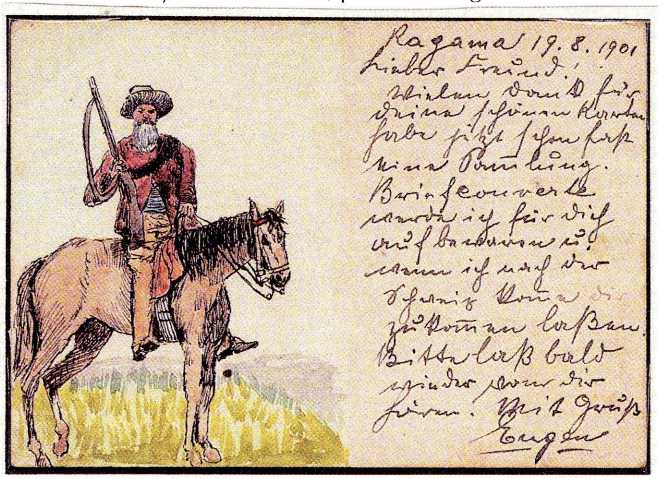


Belgium 1920 - 'Inverted Termonde' only recorded pair. Courtesy of P. Maselis.

The East Africa Study Circle also presented a fascinating combined display, with an exhibit of the Uganda Missionary issue being eye-catching. Fine Zanzibar exhibits were displayed. In all, there was a strong postal history bias.

Bryan Kearsley's *Discovering Seahorses* was memorable. As the author of the definitive handbook on the subject, the display and lecture drew an audience of 217. Plate varieties, special usages, diplomatic mail and airmails were included.

In a group display by the South-West Region, member Mike Tanner mounted two frames of *South West Africa Native Revenues* . This unusual display commenced with a 1913 German SWA card carrying a strip of four *Windhoek Native Tax* stamps. He has made an extensive survey of the later Mandate *Tribal Trust Funds* issues and showed a number of the rare cards to which they were applied. Indian Boer War POW camp mail was shown by Peter Webb, but the highlight for me was Rodney Frost's one-frame *Watercolour Drawings by Boer Prisoners in Ceylon*. A number of artists produced a variety of local scenes, patriotic designs and designs from their own experience. These illustrated covers were sold at the camps by licensed businesses.



1901 - Illustrated Postcard from Ragama Camp, Ceylon, written by Eugene Kaegi. (Courtesy of R. Frost).

Spring Stampex 2018 featured displays by the Channel Islands Philatelic Society. Thematic, postal history and traditional exhibits covered the field, and included the French Channel Island of Mont St Michel.

This was the first time exhibits of Ephemera, defined as "a transient document of everyday life", were part of Stampex. It apparently includes bus and stage coach tickets, as well as invoices and dinner menus etc. Not really my cup of tea, but it did appeal to others.

The National Class featured important exhibits, such as Alan Holyoake's *The British Post Office from its inception to 1840*, Simon Richard's *Dominica Postage Stamps 1874-1933* and *The Double Head Issue of the B.S.A. Company-Rhodesia* by Patrick Flanagan.

Where the auction scene is concerned, rare and outstanding material continues to attract record prices and strong competition, while ordinary and second rate material does not do well.

Spink's January sale featured some choice classic Indian material. The 1856-64 2a dull pink in an unused imperforate block of four realised its full SG catalogue price of £14,000, against an upper estimate of £10,000. The 4a black of this issue in an o.g. block of four made £8,000. The ex-Ferrari 1866 6a *Tall Postage* o.g. strip of five sold for £12,000.

Argyll Etkin's March sale had some scarce Cape of Good Hope postal history material offerings. Three items from the 1819 Fifth Frontier War fetched £1,700, three times upper estimate. A lot of five 1822-33 items related to the slave trade, with one addressed to the *Chief Guardian of Slaves Cape Town* (!!), realised £2,500, against an upper estimate of £800. The auction houses all add ± 20% commission.

In spite of a long winter, things have not been dull here and we look forward to the events being planned for the sesquicentenary of the RPSL in 2019. An application has been made to the postal authorities to issue a commemorative stamp for the occasion.

Best Wishes
JRF

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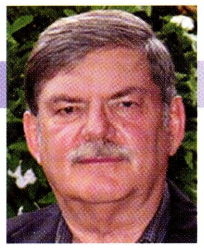

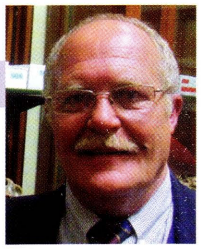

THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE BIRTH OF NELSON MANDELA: 18 JULY 1918 TO 18 JULY 2018

A POSTAL HISTORY AND PHILATELIC PERSPECTIVE

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

No other statesman in the history of South Africa has been honoured on so many postage stamps as has Nelson Mandela. It is therefore appropriate for us, as philatelists, to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela in 1918.

Celebrations started when Mandela was inaugurated as President of the Republic of South Africa in 1994 and his face appeared on the 45c value of the inaugural set of four stamps. Thereafter he appeared on one of the stamps issued in 1996 honouring South African Nobel Laureates. In 1999 he appeared on a miniature sheet issued for the 900th Anniversary of The Order of St John. In 2001 a souvenir booklet was issued with ten stamps and two post cards honouring Nelson Mandela. In 2008 two miniature sheets were issued for his 90th birthday. A post office called Nelson Mandela was named after him in Port Alfred in the Eastern Cape. His Robben Island prison number, 46664, is used for the global HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention campaign. He then appeared on a stamp for the Rivonia Trialists in a booklet with miniature sheets. In February 2014 a set of stamps was issued for the World Design Capital Cape Town, with a quote from Nelson Mandela. Finally, to honour his legacy to the world, the South African Post Office issued a special commemorative miniature sheet and souvenir folder on 11 February 2014 (Figs.1 to 4).



Fig.1: Most of the many postage stamps that Nelson Mandela has appeared on since 1994 cancelled at the Nelson Mandela post office in the Eastern Cape on 18 July 2008.

Fig.2: (below) The Order of St. John miniature sheet issued on 23 June 1999 and cancelled by the Nelson Mandela postmark.



In his State of the Nation Address (SONA) on 16 February 2018 President Cyril Ramaphosa stated the following: *"In just over 150 days from now, the peoples of the world will unite in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. It is a day on which we, as South Africans,will remember the life of one of the most remarkable leaders this country and this continent - and indeed, the world, has known. We will have an opportunity to recount Madiba's long walk to freedom, his wisdom, his unfailing humility, his abiding compassion and his essential integrity. We have dedicated this year 2018 to his memory and we will devote our every action, every effort, and every utterance to the realisation of his vision of a democratic, just and equitable society. Guided by his example, we will use this year to reinforce our commitment to ethical behaviour and ethical leadership. In celebrating the centenary of Nelson Mandela we are not merely honouring the past, we are building the future and particularly the future that Mandela envisaged.*



Fig.3: Two miniature sheets issued on 18 July 2008 to commemorate the 90th birthday of Nelson Mandela.



Fig.4: Cover illustrating three stamps issued from 2013 onwards: Rivonia stamp issued as part of a booklet, stamp with a quote of Mandela: "My wish is that South Africans never give up on the belief in goodness" *and the special commemorative sheet featuring a portrait of Madiba in duotone.*

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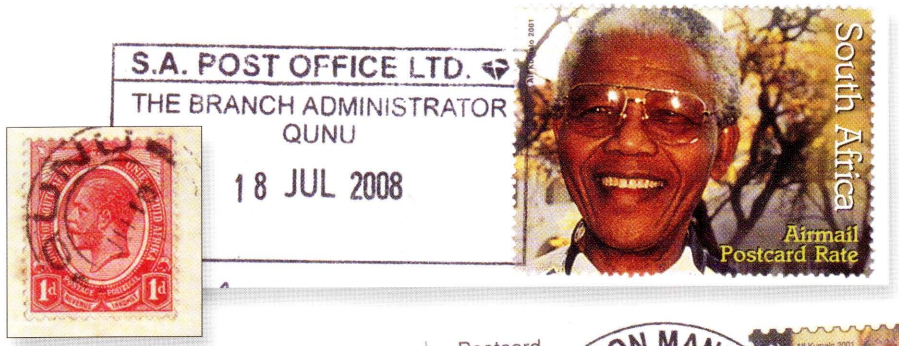


Fig.5: Qunu postmark dated 10 June 1914 with a modern Qunu postal agency canceller dated 18 July 2008 on Mandela's 90th birthday.



Fig.6: The Nelson Mandela post office canceller dated 18 July 2008 applied on a post card with a Nelson Mandela image. This post office is located in Port Alfred in the Eastern Cape.

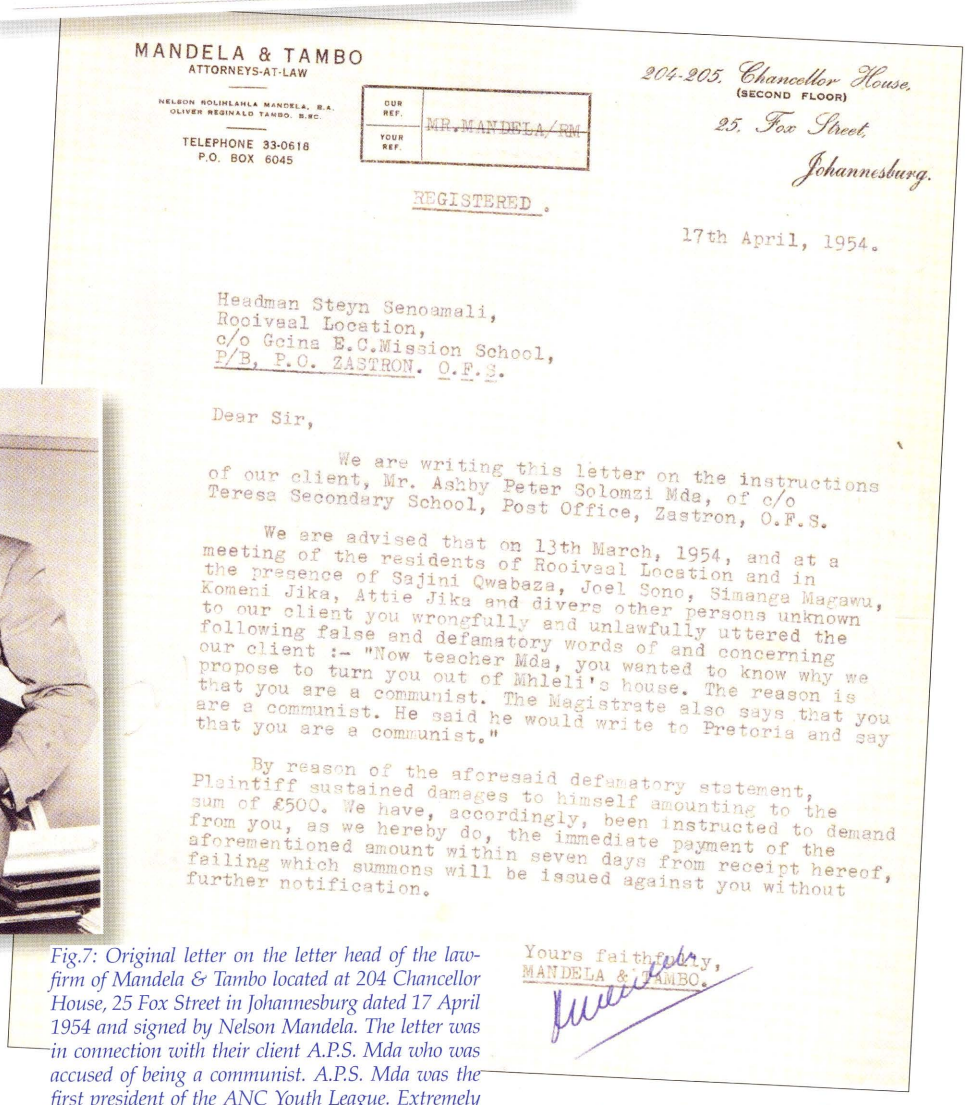
We are continuing the long walk he began, to build a society in which all may be free, in which all may be equal before the law and in which all may share in the wealth of our land and have a better life.

We are building a country where a person's prospects are determined by their own initiative and hard work, and not by the colour of their skin, place of birth, gender, language or income of their parents."

Nelson Mandela was born on 18 July 1918 in a place called Mvezo deep in the heartland of the Transkei, a vast land between the Cape and Natal and home of the Xhosa nation. He spent the first ten years of his childhood in Qunu (Figs.5&6) His ancestral roots are in the Thembu people and the Madiba clan. When Mandela turned sixteen, the Regent decided it was time for him to undergo the traditional rite of passage and circumcision ritual. After this ceremony he had a new name too: *Dalibunga*, meaning Founder of the Council, the *bunga* being the traditional ruling body of the Xhosa. According to Fikile Bam: *"Mandela has always been Xhosa. More than other politicians, more than Sisulu and a lot more than Govan Mbeki. He really was an Eastern Cape person with a very heavy Xhosa accent and a tremendous respect for Xhosa history and traditions".*



Fig. 8: Picture postcard - Nelson Mandela taken inside his office in Chancellor House.



MANDELA & TAMBO
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
NELSON ROLIHLAHLA MANDELA, B.A.
OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO, B.Sc.
TELEPHONE 33-0618
P.O. BOX 6045
OUR REF. MR.MANDELA/RM
YOUR REF.

204-205, Chancellor House,
(SECOND FLOOR)
25, Fox Street,
Johannesburg.

REGISTERED.

17th April, 1954.

Headman Steyn Senoamali,
Rooivaal Location,
c/o Gcina E.C.Mission School,
P/B, P.O. ZASTRON. O.F.S.

Dear Sir,

We are writing this letter on the instructions of our client, Mr. Ashby Peter Solomzi Mda, of c/o Teresa Secondary School, Post Office, Zastron, O.F.S.

We are advised that on 13th March, 1954, and at a meeting of the residents of Rooivaal Location and in the presence of Sajini Qwabaza, Joel Sono, Simanga Magawu, Komeni Jika, Attie Jika and divers other persons unknown to our client you wrongfully and unlawfully uttered the following false and defamatory words of and concerning our client :- "Now teacher Mda, you wanted to know why we propose to turn you out of Mhleli's house. The reason is that you are a communist. The Magistrate also says that you are a communist. He said he would write to Pretoria and say that you are a communist."

By reason of the aforesaid defamatory statement, Plaintiff sustained damages to himself amounting to the sum of £500. We have, accordingly, been instructed to demand from you, as we hereby do, the immediate payment of the aforementioned amount within seven days from receipt hereof, failing which summons will be issued against you without further notification.

Yours faithfully,
MANDELA & TAMBO.

Fig.7: Original letter on the letter head of the law-firm of Mandela & Tambo located at 204 Chancellor House, 25 Fox Street in Johannesburg dated 17 April 1954 and signed by Nelson Mandela. The letter was in connection with their client A.P.S. Mda who was accused of being a communist. A.P.S. Mda was the first president of the ANC Youth League. Extremely rare document with the original signature of Nelson Mandela.

The Transkei *(meaning the area beyond the Kei River)*, officially the 'Republic of Transkei' was a Bantustan or Homeland - an area set aside for members of a specific ethnicity group in accordance with the National Party policy at that time. This would later cause tension between Nelson Mandela and his nephew K.D. Matanzima, homeland leader of the Transkei.

Not long after his initiation, Mandela was admitted to a highly regarded school, Clarkebury, the oldest Wesleyan mission and the biggest educational centre in Thembuland.

After Clarkebury, he enrolled at Healdtown, a Wesleyan College in Fort Beaufort and after graduation in 1938, went on to Fort Hare, the only black university in South Africa and the Alma Mater of the revolution to come.

Mandela and Tambo Law Firm

Mandela and Tambo was the name of the law firm run by Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo in South Africa. At the time of its founding in 1952, it was the only all black African law firm in the country. The firm ceased to exist after politics and the anti-Apartheid struggle began to consume most of both men's time. These offices

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were destroyed and burned down in 1960.

In August 1952, the law firm opened in Chancellor House, situated in the same building as the ANC headquarters (Fig.7). It was a move that proved to be decisive as during that time most lawyers were white and against the idea of an all-African law firm. Mandela and Tambo had two small rooms on the second floor of the building, with the words *'Mandela & Tambo Attorneys'* sandblasted on the window (Fig.8). Chancellor House was designed by architect Frank Jarett and built around 1948.

Oliver Tambo would do much of the paperwork in the office whilst Mandela would represent the clients in the court room. Soon, news of the two lawyers spread fast to Transkei and both lawyers would have so many clients that they would be moved to corridors. Mandela and Tambo's office operated for eight years, from 1952 to 1960 (Figs.9 & 10). Both were arrested in 1956 and tried for treason. The Treason Trial ran for four years before the charge was dismissed against the remaining trialists in 1961.

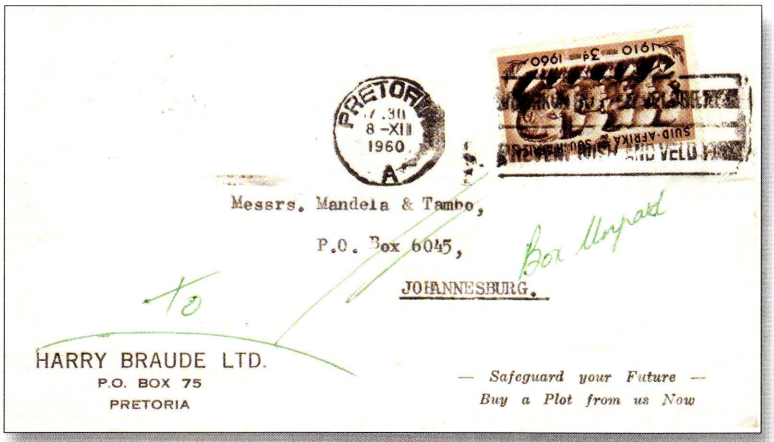

Fig.9 Cover posted from Pretoria on 8 December 1960 from the law firm Harry Braude to 'Messrs. Mandela & Tambo P.O. Box 6045, Johannesburg' with annotation in green 'Box Unpaid'. At that stage the office was already closed. During the trial their legal obligations were curtailed.

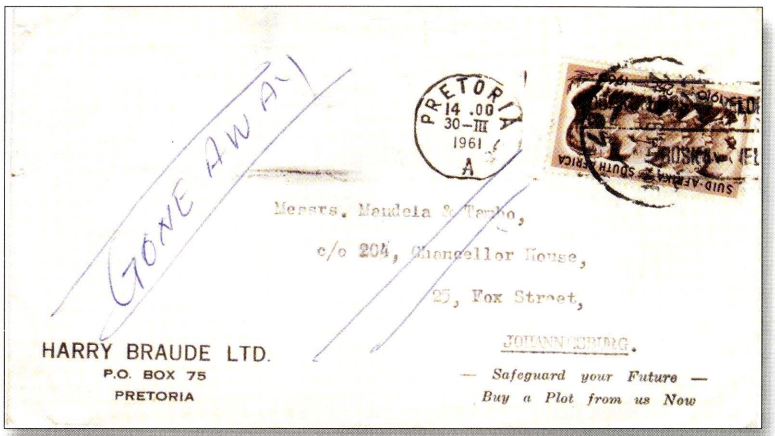

Fig.10: Cover posted from Pretoria on 30 March 1961 to 'Messrs. Mandela & Tambo, c/o 204 Chancellor House, 25 Fox Street Johannesburg' with the letter returned to the sender in Pretoria with annotation: 'Gone Away'.

Nelson Mandela and Kaiser Matanzima

Among the first people Mandela befriended at Fort Hare was Kaiser (K.D.) Matanzima. Matanzima was his nephew from the Thembu family although K.D. was four years older than him. Unlike Mandela, his lineage descended through the 'Right Hand House' and he was destined to be a king or paramount chief. Mandela hero-worshipped Matanzima and the two became inseparable. K.D. even shared his allowance with Mandela as the Regent did not believe in sending pocket money to his ward. Despite their friendship, politics would drive them apart as Matanzima's later alliance with the apartheid government drew him into the Bantustan policy of separate development and homelands for blacks. Resistance against the apartheid policies of the National Party government continued and in 1962 an attempt to assassinate Kaiser Matanzima was foiled. When Transkei was declared self-governing in 1963, K.D. Matanzima became the Chief Minister.

Also in 1963 ten accused, including Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki, appeared in what subsequently became to be known as the Rivonia Trial on charges of sabotage, attempting to start a guerrilla war and the promotion of communism. At the trial Mandela chose to make a statement from the dock as opposed to the witness stand and ended his statement with an exposition of his personal point of view:



Fig.11: Post card issued in 1985 with graffiti on a wall in Cape Town calling for the release of Nelson Mandela. This photo was taken by Ruth Pierce and the post card printed and issued in London as part of the world wide campaign calling for his release.

"During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to the struggle of the African people…It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die".

This statement would remain for decades as the definitive expression of liberal African nationalism, cementing Mandela's iconic status both in South Africa and internationally.

In the same year that Matanzima became the Chief Minister of the Transkei, the court sentenced Mandela and seven others to life imprisonment on Robben Island. A world campaign was launched for the release of Nelson Mandela which lasted for years (Figs.11& 12).

The Transkei represented a significant precedent and historic turning point in South Africa's policy of apartheid and 'separate development' in that it was the first of four territories to be declared independent. Furthermore the fact that Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela, as the two most prominent leaders in the struggle against apartheid came from this region, contributed to the prominence of the Transkei. Walter Sisulu, six years older than Nelson Mandela, was also born in Thembuland in the Transkei. Sisulu was Mandela's closest ally in the turbulent years before their imprisonment and for more than 25 years on Robben Island as well. The scene was set for the Transkei region to play a pivotal role in the politics in South Africa.

Years later in 1984, after he was moved from Robben Island to Pollsmoor Prison in Tokai, the two nephews were involved in correspondence whereby Matanzima tried to convince Mandela to be released to the Transkei (Figs.13,14 & 15).

Nelson Mandela defied any attempt to release him and restrict him to the

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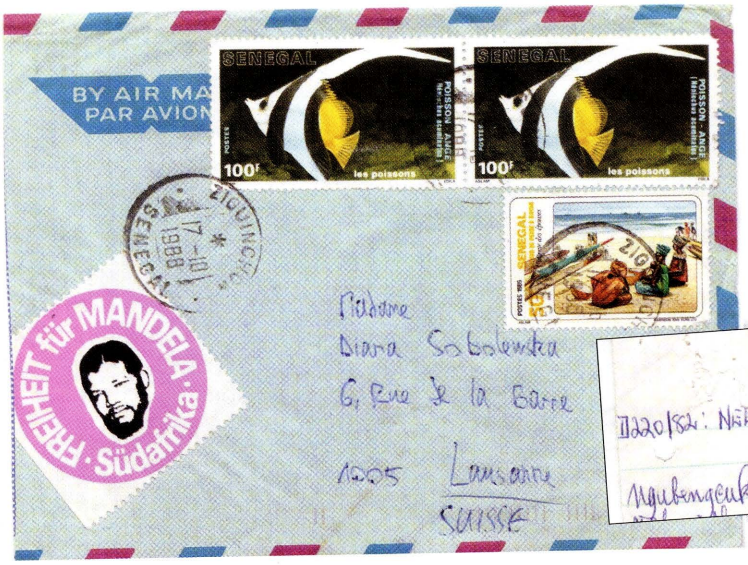

Fig. 12: Letter posted from Senegal to Switzerland on 17 October 1988 with a label affixed campaigning for the release of Nelson Mandela.

Throughout its existence, the Transkei as an independent homeland remained an internationally unrecognised, diplomatically isolated, politically unstable de facto one-party state, and at one point even broke relations with South Africa, the only country that acknowledged it as a legal entity.

Mandela was not released in the Transkei but walked out the front gate of the Victor Verster Prison in Cape Town

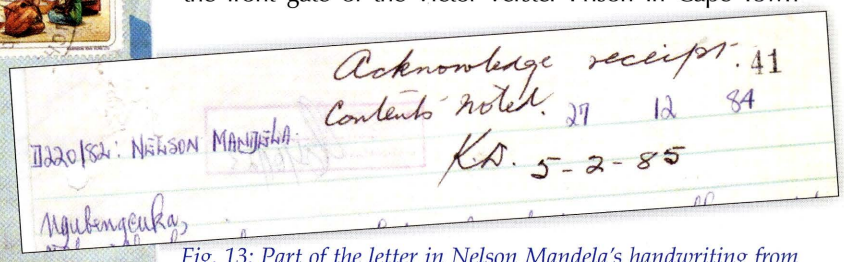

Fig. 13: Part of the letter in Nelson Mandela's handwriting from Pollsmoor prison to Matanzima addressing him as 'Ngubengcuka' which was his traditional Xhosa name. Note the manuscript at the top in Matanzima's handwriting to his secretary: "Acknowledge receipt. Contents noted. K.D. 5-2-85". Mandela probably deliberately addressed his nephew on his traditional name to remind him of his Xhosa roots and traditions and in the meantime he (Matanzima) was endorsing the 'bantustan policies' of the National Party government.

Transkei. He also stated that he rejected the homelands policy and was committed to the Freedom Charter and the then banned African National Congress.

Kaizer Matanzima also attempted to meet two other jailed ANC leaders, Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki. Both refused to meet him. The South African Government denied any knowledge of a freedom offer to Mandela by the Transkei leadership in 1984.

Mandela's position was clear from the contents of a letter he wrote: *"We will under no circumstances, accept being released to the Transkei or any other Bantustan. You know fully well that we have spent the better part of our lives in prison exactly because we are opposed to the very idea of separate development which makes us foreigners in our own country and which makes the Government perpetuate our oppression up to this day".*

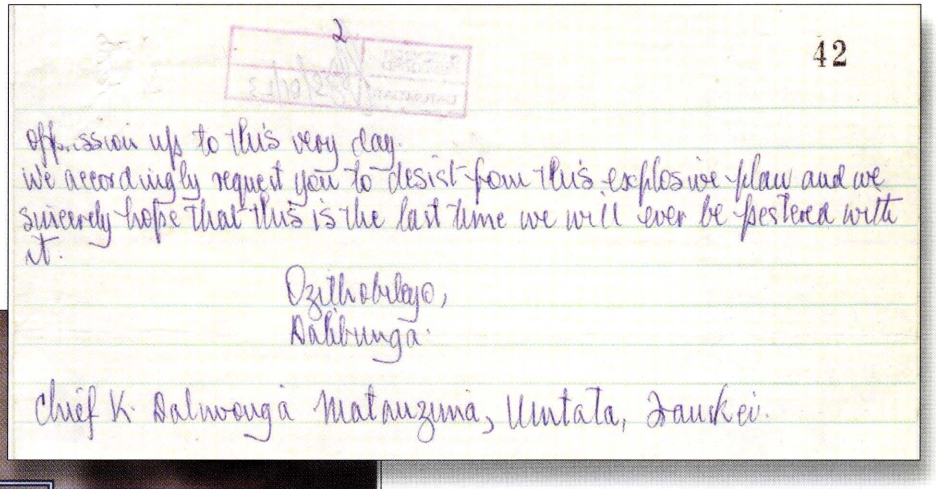

Fig.14: Last part of the letter where Mandela is indicating to Matanzima: "We accordingly request you to desist from this explosive plan and we sincerely hope that this is the last time we will ever be pestered with it". Mandela signed the letter as: 'Dalibunga' which was the name he acquired after initiation.

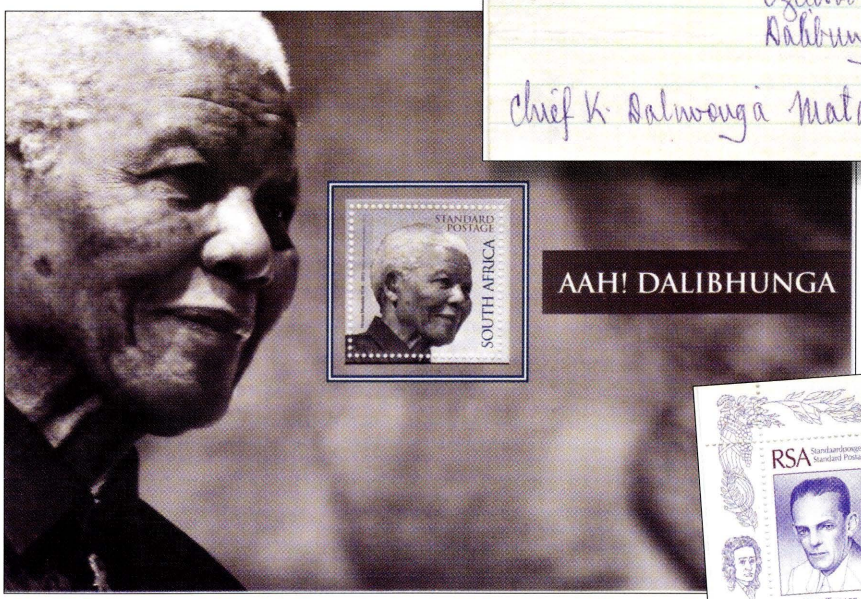

Fig.15: In honour of this global icon the South African Post Office issued a special commemorative miniature sheet and souvenir folder on 11 February 2014. It is printed in silver to reflect the richness of Mandela's wisdom, his legacy and his stature with the phrase "Aah Dalibhunga" printed on the outside. (Editorial note: this issue retailed at R50.00)



Fig. 16: Sheet of 10 stamps commemorating South Africa's Nobel Laureates including Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk.

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on the sun-splashed afternoon of the 11 February 1990, arm-in-arm with his then-wife, Winnie. Each raised a fist in triumph. Several hours after his release from prison, he made his first speech on the balcony of Cape Town's City Hall.

Here he uttered the first words most South Africans had ever heard him speak: *"Comrades and fellow South Africans, I greet you all in the name of peace, democracy and freedom. I stand here before you not as a prophet, but as a humble servant of you the people. ...Today, the majority of South Africans, black and white, recognise that apartheid has no future. It has to be ended by our decisive mass action."* He said in a speech frequently drowned out by roars from the crowd *"We have waited too long for our freedom."*

On that summer's day in 1990, South Africa entered a new era, and Nelson Mandela was the man who led the way. In 1993 the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk *"for their work for the peaceful termination of the apartheid regime, and for laying the foundations for a new democratic South Africa"* (Fig.16). In 1994, the Transkei was reintegrated into its larger neighbour and became part of the Eastern Cape Province within South Africa. Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as the President of the Republic of South Africa on 27 April 1994. He later retired to Qunu in May 2012. In his autobiography *Long Walk to Freedom*, Mandela describes Qunu as where he spent the happiest moments of his childhood.



Fig.17

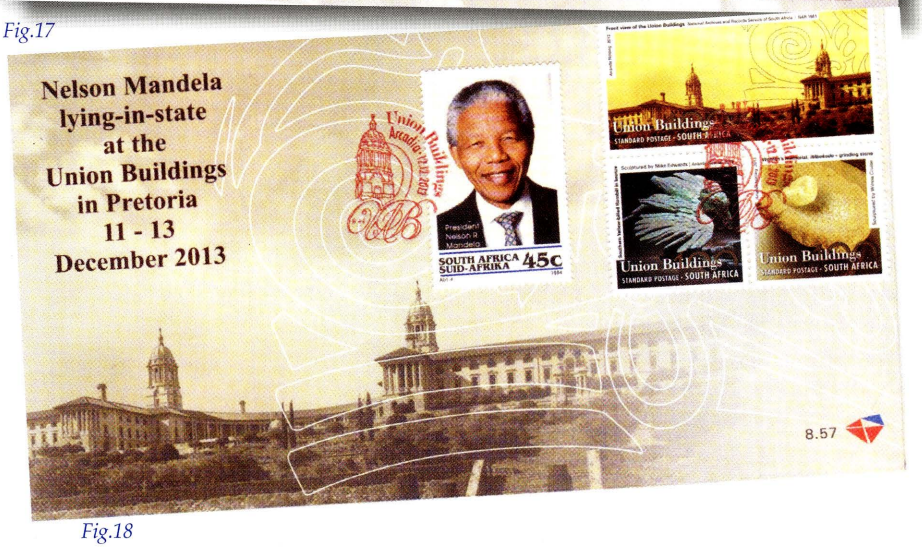

Fig.18

Captions for above covers :

- *Fig.17: Cover issued for Nelson Mandela's global HIV/AIDS awareness program launched through the Nelson Mandela Foundation in 2002.*
- *Fig.18: The same week that the body of Nelson Mandela was lying-in-state at the Union Buildings two sheets of stamps were issued on 12 December 2013 in celebrating the Union Buildings' centenary. This provided an opportunity to link the stamps with the event of lying-in-state at this venue.*

Nelson Mandela's global HIV/AIDS awareness program

The Nelson Mandela HIV/AIDS awareness campaign called '46664' takes its name from the prison number (prisoner number 466 of 1964) given to Nelson Mandela when he was incarcerated for life on Robben Island. He gave his prison number to the organisation as a permanent reminder of the sacrifices he was prepared to make for a humanitarian and social justice cause in which he passionately believed (Fig.17).

In creating 46664 initially as a global HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention campaign, Mr Mandela realised that to reach the youth all over the world specifically, he needed to engage the support of the people who most appealed to them.

Nelson Mandela died on 5 December 2013 at his home in Houghton in Johannesburg at the age of 95, leaving a rich and unique legacy not only to South Africa, but also Africa and the rest of the world (Fig.18).

His body lay-in-state at the Union Buildings in Pretoria from 11-13 December 2013. The Union Buildings hold extreme significance for South Africa as the official seat of the Government and houses the Presidency as well as the Department of Foreign Affairs. It was also the place where Madiba was sworn in as the first democractically elected President of South Africa nearly two decades earlier. On the 16 December 2013 a Mandela-statue was unveiled at the Union Buildings by President Jacob Zuma.

After a State Memorial Service was held on 10 December 2013 at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg, Mandela's body was moved to his home town Qunu for his official State funeral on Sunday 15 December 2013. On this day following a period of mourning the world said its final goodbyes to South Africa's global icon. Watched by millions of viewers on television screens throughout the world, Madiba was laid to rest in the small village of Qunu.

Sources:

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- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/46664. 46664 Campaign - Nelson Mandela Foundation.
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Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the 'Open Class' exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
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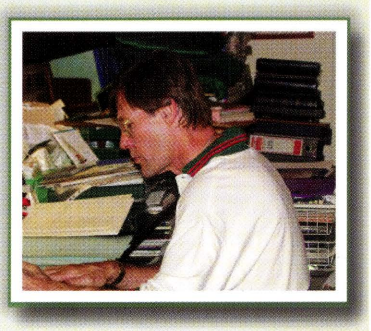


A PROUD MEMBER OF SAPDA

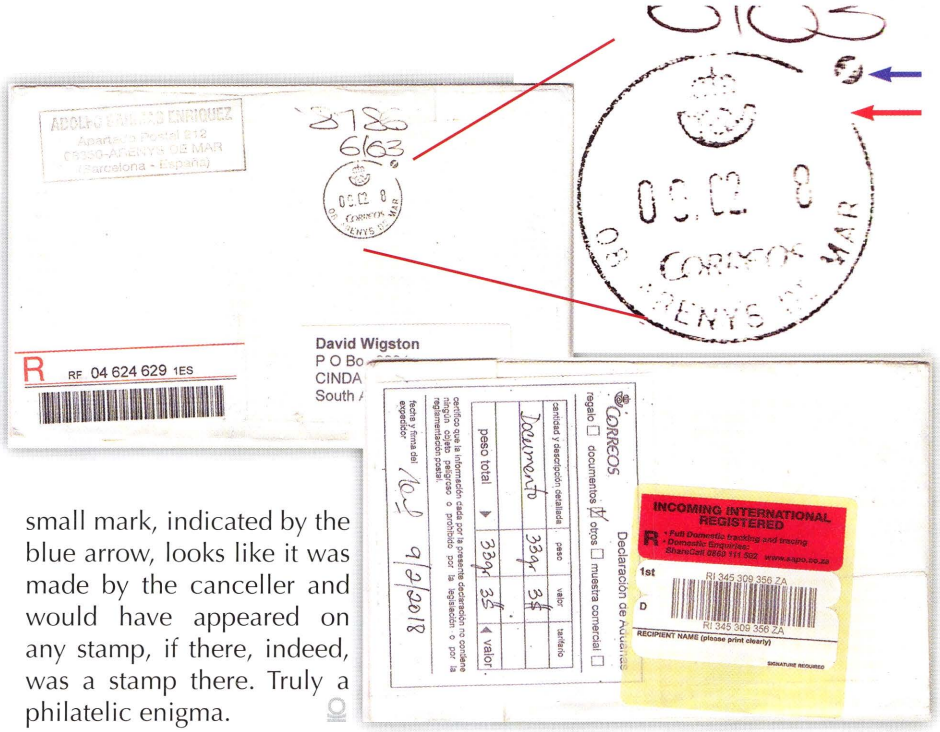
ITEM OF INTEREST

A PHILATELIC ENIGMA

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



There was something about this item, (Fig.1) that puzzled me - where are the stamps? How was the postage paid? There's not even a computer-generated label. The reverse (Fig.2) only contains the customs declaration and the South African incoming international registration barcode. As the item was registered, it must have been handed over at a post office counter in Arenys de Mar, a small town some 40 kilometres northeast of Barcelona. It's highly unlikely that the post office clerk forgot to apply the stamps as the cover has been cancelled (Fig.3).Would a post office employee cancel an item sans stamps? Highly unlikely. It is possible that stamps were stuck on, but fell off, as suggested by the missing gap in the cancellation, indicated by the red arrow. Except that the cover shows no sign of any gum residue. Besides, the small mark, indicated by the blue arrow, looks like it was made by the canceller and would have appeared on any stamp, if there, indeed, was a stamp there. Truly a philatelic enigma.



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DEVELOPMENT OF POSTAL SERVICES ALONG THE FOOTHILLS OF TOWERKOP

by ds Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Philatelic Society

PART I:

THE POST OFFICE AT LADISMITH

The Swartberg mountain range, spanning 230km from west to east, is the longest and highest mountain range in the Western Cape.

Towerkop, 2198m, famous for its split peak and seemingly unclimbable summit, is well-known in the Klein Swartberg range and is situated near the town of Ladismith. In 1885, an 18-year old local, Gustaf Nefdt, became the first person to climb the split peak. He had no experience of rock climbing but completed his mission successfully, with pure determination, in bare feet and without a rope.



The Swartberg Mountain Range

PIONEER DAYS

Geographical circumstances in this mountainous area made exploration difficult. Trek farmers would have had to penetrate their way into the later named Ladismith area, through Kogmanskloof near Montagu. It is difficult to determine when the first farmers obtained grazing rights in the area, but by 1743 the Great Brak River had been established as the eastern border of the Cape Province.

Dr Robertson, a Dutch Reformed clergyman at Swellendam visited congregations at Langeberg, Rooiberg and Swartberg during 1835, but could only do so on horseback, as the passage through the Langeberg Mountains was at Sparrebos by way of the *Bruidegomsvoetpad* (Bridegroom's Footpath). Church services were held on the Elandsvlei farm of B.J. Kloppers. It was always Robertson's vision to have a travelling missionary teacher in this vast area and on 1 April 1848 the Church Council of Swellendam asked the Church's 'Kommissie voor het Zendingwezen' to place someone at Swartberg. A young German missionary, the Rev Johan Kretzen, was appointed to Groot Swartberg to look after the spiritual needs of the people living between the Lange- and Swartberg mountains.

In 1845, the Drostdy district of Swellendam was proclaimed. At first, the field-cornetcy of Groot Zwartberg (later Ladismith) fell under the jurisdiction of Swellendam. The establishment of the small town and congregation at the foot of Towerkop occurred at the same time. A village Board and Church Council were appointed on 10 February 1851. The Board's members were J. Kretzen, A.J. van Tonder, J.W. van Tonder, J.A.B. van Zyl, D.J.A.G Crafford, A.C. de Wet, J.F. Ziervogel, and D. Vrey. More than 700 morgen of land from the farm *Elandsfontein* of B.J. Kloppers were purchased for £1,000. Municipal regulations were accepted on 27 December 1861 and through a Government proclamation on 29 January 1862 by Governor Wodehouse, the town became a municipality with J.F. Ziervogel as the first Mayor.



Gustav Nefdt in his later years



Johann Kretzen

From old correspondence it seems that the new congregation's name was Lady Smith in honour of the wife of Sir Harry Smith, Governor of the Cape. Soon it was spelled 'Ladysmith'. To distinguish it from Ladysmith in Natal, the spelling was changed to Ladismith on 10 March 1857 in the deed of transfer of the congregation. In the Civil Establishment List of 1 August 1861 the post office was listed as Ladismith and for the purpose of this article I am going to stick with the spelling Ladismith.

THE START OF POSTAL SERVICES

It is difficult to ascertain when official postal services started along the foothills of Towerkop. The first letter I could find in the Cape Archives regarding postal activities was written by Mr Ziervogel, presumably the village board member, J.F. Ziervogel.

Swarteberg, 28 January 1852
The Postmaster, Cape Town
Sir,

I am at a loss how to act with regards the duty of Postmaster at Lady Smith, up to this moment there is no one appointed yet and it is impossible for me

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to attend the duty as Postmaster as I am one hour of Lady Smith, and there is no one fit for the purpose than Mr Van As but he won't have anything to do with it until he is appointed by you. Therefore I beg to request you will please appoint him so that we can prepay our letters here. – Ziervogel.

Another archival letter gives some very interesting information. J. Kretzen wrote to Civil Commissioner R. Southey at Swellendam on 11 February 1852.

Dear Sir,

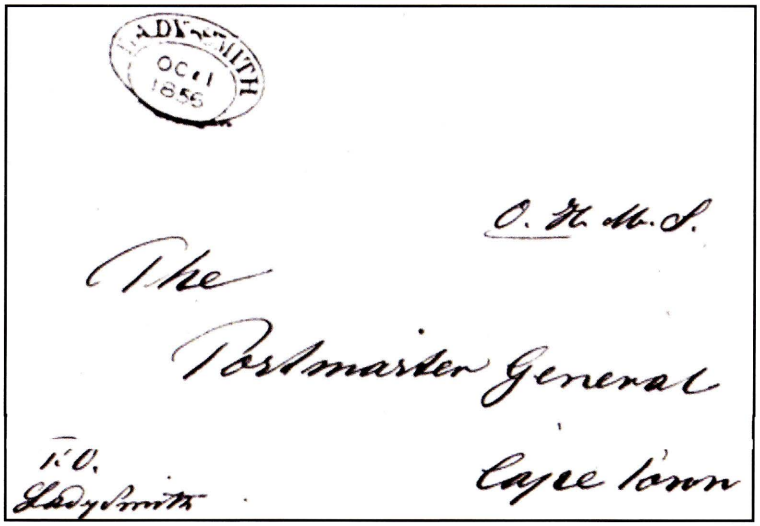
Last Saturday, the 7th instant I received from the PMG (Postmaster General) the appointment of temporary postmaster. However, it would have been better if Mr Christian van As, whom I Sir put before you, received the appointment immediately…

I asked Mr Christian van As if he would be interested in the work of postmaster he answered "Yes you can let the civil commissioner know that he may introduce me to the PMG but the salary must not be too small in case there is not much to do."

… Meanwhile I will carry on to perform the office until Mr C van As is appointed. According to the 'Instructions' I see that the postmaster has to contact the civil commissioner in connection with any shortcomings. What is falling short in this office are: 1.Postal stamp, 2.Scale and weights, 3.Paper and writing books, sealing wax and thick paper or as the 'Instructions' requires. Kindly send me the first post the most necessary, this is as I see it, a postal stamp and scale with weights. Here is also only one post-bag. The letters from here to Prince Albert and back are carried loose in his saddle bag by the post rider because the mail at both ends are laying over for one week… J.Kretzen

On 2 March 1852, Kretzen wrote another letter, this time to the PMG in Cape Town telling him that he quite recently handed the office of postmaster over to Mr C. van As. Kretzen was the first official, but temporary, postmaster at Lady Smith.

By 27 May 1852 van As was in charge of the postal affairs at Ladismith. He wrote to the PMG that if he did not receive a better remuneration he would resign at the end of June 1852. He had also not received the stationery, paper, sealing wax, etc. that he ordered on 21 May. His next letter to the PMG was on 18 June 1852:



Letter from Postmaster Koenig to the Postmaster General

...Lady Smith's postal station becomes week by week a more central and busy office. Seeing that there is a route through Seven Weeks Poort to the interior the importance of the post office would always grow. The interest of the public must always be served at best.

Not only is the amount of stationery put to my disposal altogether insufficient but also the remuneration.

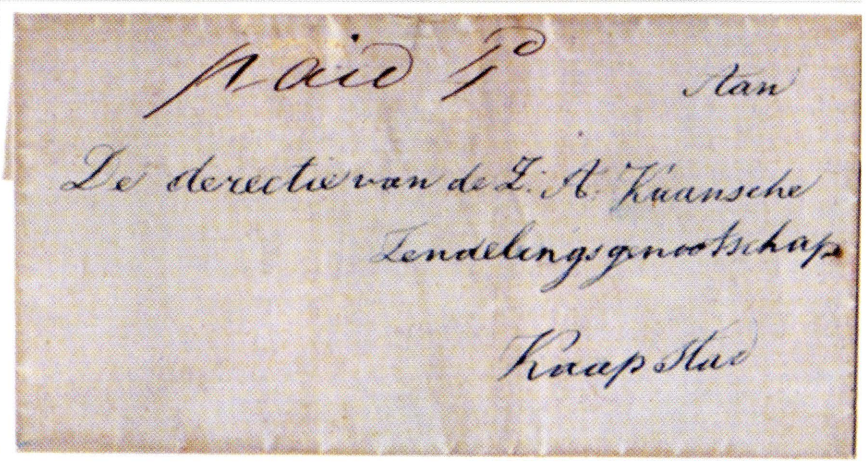
So with all respect I want to say that if an allowance of £15 per annum is granted to me for the handling of the mails as well as an additional £3 per annum for stationery I will accept the instruction of the mail at Lady Smith until the end of the year. However after the end of the year I reserve myself the right to reconsider the matter.

On 30 July 1852 Van As requested a handstamp for Lady Smith from the PMG. As he was leaving Ladismith, Postmaster van As resigned in writing on 19 November 1852 but only left office three months after 1 December 1852, that is, on 1 March 1853. On 4 February 1853, he notified the PMG that he could find no one else except perhaps for a Mr Koenig.

F.W. Koenig was appointed in place of Van As. He informed the PMG on 7 June 1853 that he had only just received the paperwork and would send his answer shortly. He was appointed postmaster from 1 March 1853 and ran the post office from his house for almost four years and resigned on 2 January 1857. During this time the Ladismith Post Office received its first postmark. It was the Dated Town Oval (DTO) issued in 1853. (Goldblatt's earliest recorded use for Ladismith is 28 April 1855. However, an earlier letter dated 11 January 1854 was found during the author's personal research in the Cape Archives.)

During Koenig's term, a second post office was opened in the area at Zoar on 3 November 1853 with a Mr January as the first postmaster. In 1858, the *Cape of Good Hope Statistical Registers* (Blue Books), listed the Post Office Zoar (Amalienstein) to indicate the transfer of the office to the neighbouring mission station. (*The SA Philatelist* June 2000, pp 55-59).

Koenig's successor was Jan Nefdt who recognised his appointment in a letter to the PMG on 22 January 1857. When a postmaster was appointed he was required to provide a guarantee of £20, duly signed by himself and two witnesses, to the PMG in Cape Town. Postmaster Nefdt did not do this and was requested by the PMG in a letter of 13 August 1957, to do so without further delay. Nefdt responded to the PMG that he did not know he had to give a guarantee of £20 for his salary of £15 p.a., and asked that another postmaster rather be appointed


10 February 1857, letter addressed to the South African Missionary Society in Cape Town. Uniform 4d postal rate. Lady Smith DTO back stamp FE 19 1857.

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for Ladismith because he had to travel 1½ hours on horseback to the nearest Justice of the Peace to sign all the documents.

Nefdt was followed by Josef Bobbert on 29 August 1857. It seems there was little love lost between Messrs. Nefdt and Bobbert, as on 24 September 1857 Bobbert faced charges of irregularities laid by Nefdt before the PMG. Nefdt was dissatisfied with the fact that the post office was being run from Bobbert's business. Bobbert informed the PMG that he ran the post office from a room connected to his house by a passage, and that he had already ordered a post box from the town's cabinet maker, for posting letters.

According to Bobbert, when he took over the post office he discovered a major irregularity. When mails arrived at Ladismith, many residents were present and as soon as the bag was opened everyone started sorting mail instead of the postmaster doing this. The habit was immediately stopped with the following notice. *'Notice is hereby given that according to regulations, the mails will in future be sorted behind closed doors and delivered half an hour after its arrival'*. According to Bobbert, a few respected residents like Rev van Velden from the Dutch Reformed Church and the Justice of the Peace were all willing to testify that the post office was in good hands.

On 25 October 1859 Bobbert was succeeded by Frederick Brink, but initially only for about a month. On 20 April 1861 he wrote to the PMG telling him that Bobbert was going to resign and that in his place he was quite possibly going to recommend a young German. Brink then presented himself as Bobbert's successor. He said: *"…that he who has a big family to care for, is convinced that the PMG would be more inclined to help on a member of a dignified Afrikaans family than to favour a foreigner."*

Bobbert finally resigned on 15 May 1861 as he had been elected to the Divisional Council. He recommended Heinrich Wilhelm Becker as his successor. Becker applied in writing, mentioning that he was already connected for one year to Bobbert's business and was thus familiar with the handling of mails. Testimonials were available from Mr Bobbert and a Mr J.D.K.Reitz from Swellendam. The office of postmaster, however, was not given to Mr Becker.

The aforementioned J.F. Brink acknowledged receipt of his appointment as postmaster on 10 June 1861. He commenced service on 1 August 1861 with a salary of £15 p.a. His appointment was most contentious. Bobbert wrote a letter to the PMG on behalf of the community on 10 June. He said that the community of Ladismith was shocked over the appointment of Mr Brink. He (Bobbert) had done his best to recommend a respected and trustworthy person, but against that the PMG thought it proper to appoint Brink with such a reputation. No respectable man would come near his house.



Ladismith Post Office at Brink's house (annexe – red arrow)

A written statement by 34 residents declared that Brink had been an uncertified insolvent for the past eight years and the undersigned believed that the Governor was unaware of his bankruptcy. By no means did Mr Brink enjoy the trust of the community, and an earnest appeal was made for the PMG to reconsider the appointment.

It seemed that Brink was in dire straits but there was a lone voice in his favour. Mr J. Ziervogel gave his support to Brink in a letter of the same date as that of Brink who also wrote for support to Dr Robertson at Swellendam asking him to recommend him to the PMG. In reply, Robertson wrote back on 13 June 1861 stating that Brink and the local clergyman, Rev van Velden, had not been on good terms for some time. Brink's wife, however, was an ambitious and respectable woman who did everything to bring up her children in a respectable way. On 14 June Dr Robertson forwarded a letter from the Swellendam Bank stating that Brink was about to be rehabilitated. Thus, despite the protests, the Blue Books indicate that Brink was permanently appointed on 1 August 1861.



A new single circle date-stamp (24 mm) with triangular CGH canceller

Postmaster Brink

A comment from Alex Visser regarding the datestamp above:

"During Brink's time of office a new single circle datestamp (24mm) with triangular CGH canceller was put into use. The name is still spelt with a 'Y'. The letter went through the mail in 1883, and it appears as if the post office clerk in Ladismith did not change the year for the New Year"

On 22 May 1869, Civil Commissioner Garcia investigated Frederick Brink's handling of the post office at Ladismith. Brink was again in trouble as his children frequently tampered with the mail and had been caught reading letters. The PMG, Mr Charles Piers, stated in his findings of 27

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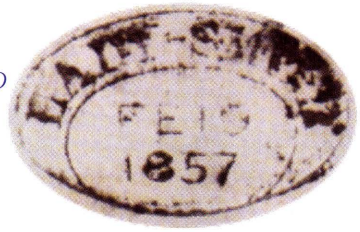
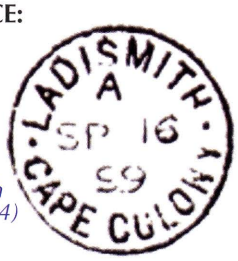
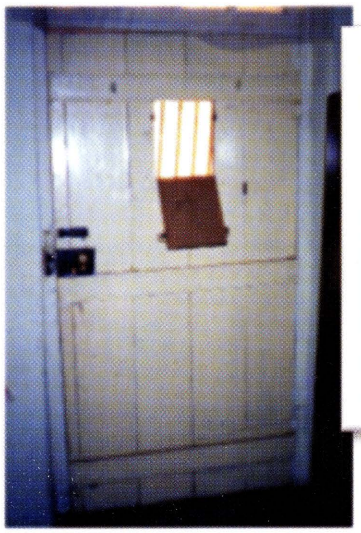
EARLY POSTMARKS USED AT THE LADISMITH POST OFFICE:
May 1869 that,



LADY-SMITH DTO FE 19 1857



Ladismith (22mm, used with BONC 594)



Business was done through a scuttle in the post office door



Brink's Post Office

'…as regards Frederick Brink I find that he must be acquitted of having either opened or read the letter in question but there can be no doubt from the evidence…that Johanna Brink, who was instructed to do his work, was guilty on that occasion of a grave offence against the Post Office Regulations. If there was any truth in the statement made by Johanna and her father in regard to bags, packages and letters arriving at the office broken or loose I consider that the Postmaster has been grossly neglectful in not reporting the matter.

Brink was ordered to handle the incoming and outgoing mail himself, and his daughter prohibited to be in the post office on the occasion of the arrival or dispatch of mails. Brink's post office was in a small annexe to his home. The first deed of transfer of this house dated from the year 1854 was in favour of Cornelis Vrey. In 1860 J.S.F. Brink bought the property for £11 2s and sold it on 15.12.1874 to Postmaster Brink for £65. By 1964, the building became dilapidated but has since been restored by Mr and Mrs. Kallie van der Berg and is today known as *Eerstpos*.

What about some humour from the post office?

On 10 May 1873 H.W. Becker wrote a letter to the PMG in Cape Town questioning why several letters written to him from Victoria West had been forwarded to Bloemfontein. To illustrate his frustration he provided the PMG with an envelope on 19 May 1873, which was forwarded on 26 April 1873 from Victoria West via Colesberg (29 April), arriving in Bloemfontein on 1 May 1873. On 3 May 1873 the letter was received back at Colesberg! Another letter by Becker of 22 May 1873 was referred to postmaster Hogan at Murraysburg who delivered the following commentary on 26 May 1873: *My acting postmaster thought that Lady Smith was in the Freestate, thus the mistake in both cases.*

Seeing that he had received only £15 p.a. for the past 13 years, Postmaster Brink applied on 2 November 1874 for a salary increase. With his return for the 1875 postal articles to the PMG on 27 December 1875 he again asked for a raise. As motivation he writes in his letter that a salary of £15 p.a. is nothing for a postmaster who runs a post office that handles £10,000 p.a.

From a letter by a certain Herman Henoch on 18 May 1880, in which he made application for the situation as postmaster at Ladismith, it appeared that Brink had died.

By 29 June 1880 F.E. Almond was named as Postmaster. At this time there were only two post offices in the Ladismith district: Ladismith and Amalienstein. (Unfortunately the Archival records of postmasters' activities are not listed after 1879.)

Part 2 - Conveyance of the Mail
to be published in a future issue

STAMPS of SOUTH AFRICA
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NEW STAMP ISSUES PROGRAMME - 2018

Information extracted from the 'WHAT'S NEWS ' 02/2018

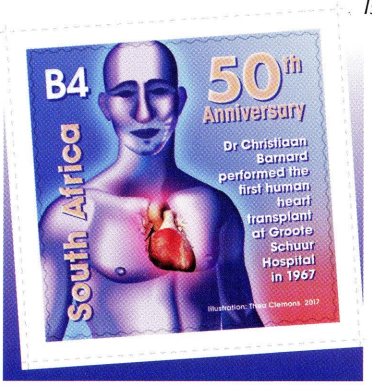
* DTPS: Department of Telecommunication and Postal Services

** RASN: Requested at short notice *** PAPU: Pan African Postal Union

50 Years since the First Heart Transplant

The stamps commemorating *50 Years since the First Heart Transplant* have finally been delivered to the Post Office after a long delay.

Orders can be placed with SAPO and should also be available at selected post office branches with effect from 21 May 2018.



The 2017 stamps Year Pack

The *2017 stamps Year Pack* is not available due to the delay in the delivery of the *50 Years since the First Heart Transplant* issue but should also be available from 21 May 2018.

2018 Stamp Programme

The 2018 stamp issuing programme has been released. The provisional stamp programme listed here may still be subject to change by the SAPO.

- **1. Joint issue with India**
  - 20 Years of Strategic Partnership, featuring Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and Oliver Tambo

  Issue date: RASN** for 6 June 2018 (Ad-hoc stamp requested by DTPS*)
- **2. National Parks Part 4**
  Issue date: 31 May 2018
- **3. Joint issue with Germany – Nelson Mandela 100**
  Issue date: 18 July 2018 (Ad-hoc stamp requested by DTPS*)
- **4. Joint issue with India** – Nelson Mandela 100 and 125th Anniversary of the Mohandas 'Mahatma' Gandhi Pietermaritzburg incident.
  Issue date: RASN** for 18 July 2018 (Ad-hoc stamp requested by DTPS*)
- **5. Joint issue PAPU*** - Nelson Mandela 100**
  Issue date: RASN** for 18 July 2018 (Ad-hoc stamp requested by DTPS*)
- **6. Innovative Bridge Design**
  Issue date: 6 September 2018
- **7. President Cyril Ramaphosa**
  Issue date: 28 September 2018 (Ad-hoc stamp according to Stamp Issuing Policy)
- **8. World Post Day:** Digital Revolution
  Issue date: 9 October 2018
- **9. The Big 5** *Issue date*: 26 November 2018

SETEMPE: It is noted that the last copy of *SETEMPE* issued was electronic and it was for September to December 2017.
There will be no new issue of *SETEMPE* for the 1st trimester of 2018 as there have been no new issues available.
Details of the *50 Years since the First Heart Transplant issue* appeared in the last copy of *SETEMPE*.

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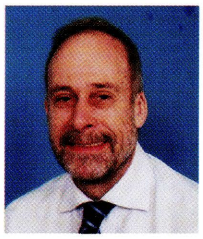

By Mail Cart in Bechuanaland

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

In the Cape of Good Hope, carriage of the post by mail carts started circa 1838. As the carts gradually became more sophisticated, their owners began to advertise their availability to carry passengers in addition to the mail. By 1856, this means of transportation was recognised in the government's *Cape of Good Hope Almanac and Annual Register*, but with the following proviso: *"This species of conveyance is only resorted to by travellers in cases of emergency, the rapidity with which they are driven rendering them neither very convenient nor very safe. They are much made use of, however, for the transmission of parcels ....."*

The cover illustrated in Fig.1 was carried by a passenger cart from Port Elizabeth to Grahamstown in 1865.

In the Bechuanalands, following the disbanding of the Warren Expeditionary Force in August 1885, the mail was collected at Barclay West in the northern Cape by the newly established Bechuanaland Border Police and transported to Vryburg.

From there, the Border Police transported the mail to Mafeking and northwards into the Protectorate. Following persistent complaints that the Police were opening the mail bags and removing items such as registered mail, the Postmaster-General decided in early 1887 that they should cease to carry the mails between Vryburg and Mafeking, and tenders were invited to operate this service. Mr Geeringh, the proprietor of the Passenger Cart Service, was awarded the tender for conveyance of the mails from Kimberley to Mafeking with effect from 1 March 1887. Little is known about the service offered by Geeringh, except that he abandoned the contract in July 1888, and the Border Police were instructed to resume their postal duties by carrying the Protectorate mail by post cart from Mafeking to Tati in the far north Trans-Protectorate.

The conditions under which the Police operated their service were bleak and arduous. In March 1889, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Vaughan-Williams, on a journey to Gubulawayo to meet with Lobengula, Chief of the Amandebele, described conditions on the road near Palapye:

"We passed numbers of old dilapidated wagons trekking along the road to Palapye. Many of their oxen were very poor and I saw more cruelty to animals in those few miles than I have ever seen, the drivers beating their oxen most unmercifully until the poor things could pull no more. If an ox lay down, the driver would pull its tail around, and if that did not help he would bite it. I actually saw one driver make a hole in the sand under a fallen ox and light a small fire to make the exhausted beast get up ....

The road [up north to Macloutsie] had been badly worn by so many wagons, and trekking to the first river we came to, the Lotsani, was a regular nightmare. Two or three miles of it were like going down huge rocky stairs; great slippery slabs of stone and then a drop of a couple of feet or so. It was very hard on the wagons and oxen. Some of our animals were showing signs of sickness, and on this trek one died ...."

By 1889, it became clear that the Border Police had little appetite for carrying the mail, and in September, the Post Master General despatched the following report by telegram to the Colonial Secretary:

"Postmaster Mafeking reports that Protectorate mail arrived there this morning Wednesday at 8 am. Trooper in charge reports cart broke down at Crocodile River. O.C. has informed P.M. that they cannot take mails to Protectorate this week as mules are unfit to travel and they cannot supply fresh ones – mail will consequently be delayed at Mafeking as Police cart has broken down - we must revert to native runners between Mafeking and Shoshong to avoid collapse to the Shoshong to Gubulawayo service. Kindly communicate with His Honour on this subject."

The last police postcart to carry the mail reached Mafeking on 22 October 1889.

The Bechuanaland Exploration Co

The mail contract was awarded at short notice to the Bechuanaland Exploration Company and provided for conveyance of the mails from Kimberley to Shoshong, the main settlement in Chief Khama's country, a distance of 450 miles. The prospect of this contract was favourably greeted by the main newspaper of the day, the *Bechuanaland News* and *Vryburg, Mafeking and Malmani Chronicle*. Under the heading 'New Post-Carts', the edition dated 7 November, 1889, it announced:

"The Bechuanaland Exploration Company have put admirable energy into all their undertakings so far, and their contract to carry Her Majesty's mails from Kimberley to the Protectorate is evidently to be no exception. Their first new cart went up last week, and its sound, comfortable appearance drew forth expressions of approval. It was brand new, with 'Bechuanaland Exploration Ltd' added to the usual mail-cart declarations, and the covers and fittings are a credit to the maker, Mr W C Cooper of Capetown. Passengers now enjoy as much comfort as a post-cart can possibly afford."



Fig.1: 1865 cover 'By passenger cart' from Port Elizabeth to Grahamstown

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In 1890, a formal tender for the mail contract was announced by a Notice dated 16 October 1890 from the Postmaster-General in Vryburg:

Tender for the Protectorate Mails:

"Tenders, marked and addressed as above, are invited for and will be received until noon on Tuesday 9 December, for the Conveyance of Mails between Mafeking and the Camp of the Bechuanaland Border Police at Macloutsie River, along the telegraph line via Ramathlabama, Ramoutsa, Mochudi, Palla Camp (near Notwani Junction) and Palachwe (Khama's Town) in covered carts with not less than four horses or mules, once a week each way, in 115 hours.

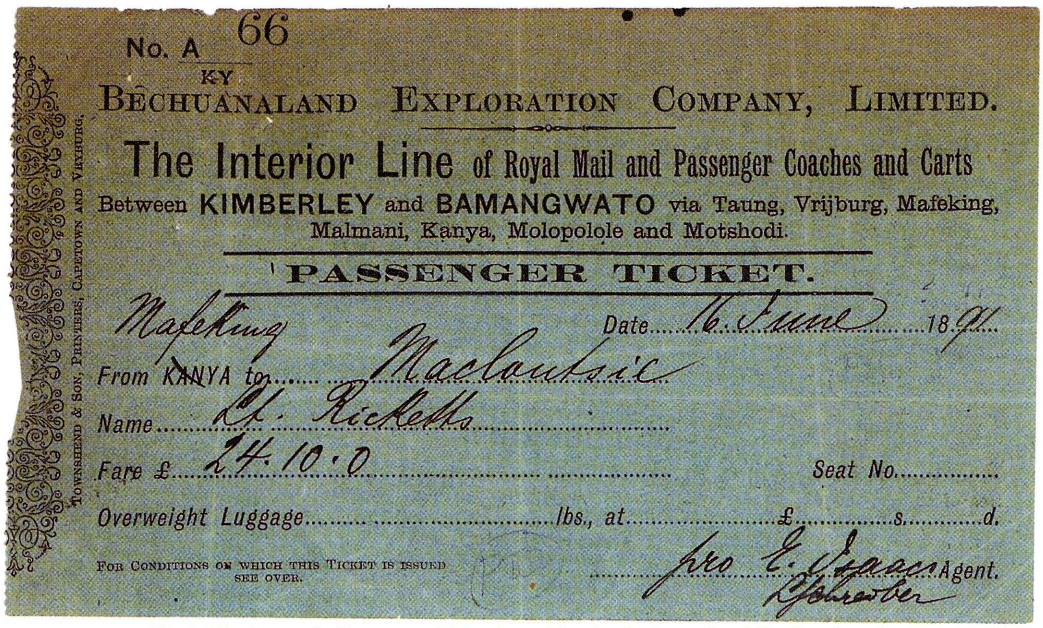
The weight of mails to be limited to 1,500 lbs. Tenders to state at what rate per lb excess Mails will be conveyed.

Persons tendering for this service must also state at what rate per annum they will be prepared to carry a light mail on horseback, once a week each way, between the Main Route and the Post Office at Kanye, distance about 30 miles, and also between the Main Route and the Post Office at Molepolole, distance about 35 miles.

The contract to commence at Mafeking on Wednesday 11 February 1891 for the up journey and at Macloutsi on 11 February 1891 for the down journey, and to terminate on 28 February 1894, but either of the contracting parties will be at liberty to terminate the same upon giving four months notice in writing to that effect. The names of two good and sufficient sureties to be furnished …".

This tender, for a much more elaborate service than had previously been required, was won by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, which employed different types of mail carts for the various stages of the journey, as described in December 1891 by J.D. Symons who had been appointed as Postmaster at Macloutsie.

The first coach, operating from Vryburg to Mafeking was *"the American coach with eight spanking horses,"* which was replaced at Mafeking by *"a square box on wheels with a couple of springs and eight mules. This box, dignified by the name of coach, is a very emphatic concern; it has not the lazy, easy roll of a well-made coach, but a sharp sudden jerk that almost dislocates one's limbs, and throws one against the roof and then back again in a heap among portmanteaus, parcels, rugs, broken pipes, and burning ends of cigars."* At Palla, *"we changed again, and took on a two-wheeled cart on springs, drawn by oxen, as the horse-sickness is too bad for horses or mules to go further. The two-wheeler turned out to be easier and more comfortable than the small four-wheeled coach we left behind; the oxen were put into a trot, at which they were kept by the application of a long wagon whip, and a leader ran in front to keep them in the road. "*Symons summarised the journey as *"one of the worst I have ever had, travelling as we were night and day for nearly a week, over roads that were by no means light, and there being but few houses of accommodation, our meals were very unsatisfactory and irregular".*


No. A 66

KY

BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Interior Line of Royal Mail and Passenger Coaches and Carts

Between KIMBERLEY and BAMANGWATO via Taung, Vrijburg, Mafeking, Malmani, Kanya, Molopolole and Motshodi.

PASSENGER TICKET.

Mafeking Date 16 June 18 91

From KANYA to Macloutsie

Name Lt. Ricketts

Fare £ 24.10.0 Seat No.

Overweight Luggage lbs., at £ s. d.

FOR CONDITIONS ON WHICH THIS TICKET IS ISSUED SEE OVER.

Jno E. Isaacs Agent.

TOWNSHEND & SON, PRINTERS, CAPETOWN AND VRYBURG.

Fig.2: The front of a Passenger Ticket issued by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.

Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the front and reverse of a Passenger Ticket issued by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company for a journey from Mafeking to Macloutsie, close to the north eastern boundary of the Protectorate.

Contracts for the carriage of mail contained provisions for the contractor to be fined in the event that the agreed timetable for the delivery of the mails was not achieved. A letter to the Receiver General in Vryburg from the Bechuanaland Exploration Company dated 9 March 1893 regarding a fine imposed on the Company for delays in the conveyance of the mails for February complained that the delay had been caused by *"exceptionally heavy floods … which are entirely due to an act of God, and beyond our power and control …..* [letter] *refers to the special clause in our contract which states that such fines can only be imposed on us in cases where negligence can be proved against our company …".* In support of its appeal, the Company attached a confirmatory report that there had been heavy floods in the Protectorate *"when the Notwane was at times in certain places half a mile wide."* This appeal was successful and testifies to the challenges faced by the mail cart contractor.

Wirsing Bros

The Wirsing Brothers were awarded the tender to carry the mails from Mafeking through the Protectorate to Bulawayo with effect from 15 July 1894, at total cost of £8,300 per annum. The section from Mafeking to Macloutsie was to be completed in 150 hours with a weight limit of 1,500 lbs, at a cost of £6,000 per annum. On the Palapye to Macloutsie section, the weight limit reduced to 500lbs.

The contract also permitted the Post Office to terminate the service from Palapye northwards and award it to the British South Africa Company, in which event the contracted sum would be diminished by £1,000 per annum. Provision was further made for a reduction to be made in proportion to the lesser distance over which the contractor conveyed the mails by cart as the railway from Mafeking was

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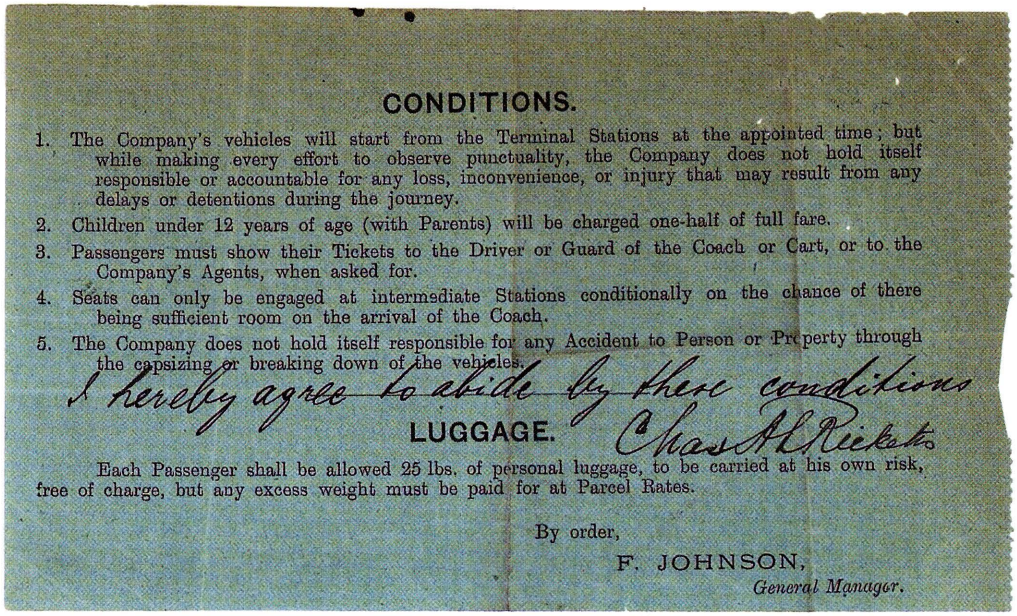

CONDITIONS.

1. The Company's vehicles will start from the Terminal Stations at the appointed time; but while making every effort to observe punctuality, the Company does not hold itself responsible or accountable for any loss, inconvenience, or injury that may result from any delays or detentions during the journey.
2. Children under 12 years of age (with Parents) will be charged one-half of full fare.
3. Passengers must show their Tickets to the Driver or Guard of the Coach or Cart, or to the Company's Agents, when asked for.
4. Seats can only be engaged at intermediate Stations conditionally on the chance of there being sufficient room on the arrival of the Coach.
5. The Company does not hold itself responsible for any Accident to Person or Property through the capsizing or breaking down of the vehicles.

I hereby agree to abide by these conditions
Chas A Ricketts

LUGGAGE.

Each Passenger shall be allowed 25 lbs. of personal luggage, to be carried at his own risk, free of charge, but any excess weight must be paid for at Parcel Rates.

By order,
F. JOHNSON,
General Manager.

Fig.3: The reverse of the Passenger Ticket issued by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.

extended north towards Palapye.

By October 1894, the Wirsing Bothers were under severe pressure from the Post Office to abide by the contracted times of arrival and departure, and wrote the following letter to the Officer Commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police in Gaborones:

"Dear Sir,

We as postal contractors wish to bring to your notice the difficulty we have in running Her Majesty's Mails up to time along the Protectorate roads when they are (as now) filled with transport wagons, many of which will not turn out or in any way give way for the mail coaches, when the bugle is blown giving them warning of its approach.

We now beg of your assistance in this matter, & should suggest that the Police, acting as custom house officers & examining Way Bills etc should be instructed to inform carriers to turn out on hearing the bugle to allow the mail coach to pass."

In January 1895, the PMG gave the Wirsing Brothers three months notice of termination of their contract, and Messrs J. J. and C.J. Zeederberg were awarded the contract. Figure 4 illustrates an advertising cover for Wirsing Brothers, Proprietors of the North East line of Royal Mail coaches, Vryburg to Macloutsie.

Zeederberg Company

The Zeederberg Company took up the service from 1 May 1895. The Zeederberg contract introduced the carriage of mails by mule coaches in place of ox wagons. Mules were changed every 10 miles or so. This accelerated means of carriage obliged the company to operate the mail service from Mafeking to Bulawayo via Ramoutsa, Gaberones, Mochuli, Palla, Palapye and Tati in 144 hours (6 days) twice per week instead 183 hours once a week as previous. The mail coaches now left Makeking on Sunday and Wednesday mornings, shortly after the arrival of the train from Cape Town and Port Elizabeth carrying the European mails. The weight of mail to be carried on each coach under the new contract was 2,000 lbs as compared with 1,500 lbs weekly (with any excess above that weight charged at 1s 6d per lb) under the previous contract.

On 18 May, 1895, the *Bechuanaland News* and *Vryburg, Mafeking and Protectorate Chronicle* published a letter from an 'onlooker' dated 11 May at Gaborones:

"To anyone who has heard of the reputation which the Zeederberg Co have as post cart contractors, it was rather a surprise to see their first mail cart on the way to Bulawayo coming in here. Many of the inhabitants had been watching the event with great interest, but were kept waiting about six hours longer than usual. At last the driver's bugle sounded from the post office and everybody looked forward to seeing a fine car and a lively team of mules coming down the rise, as one was used to seeing from the old contractors' teams, but it was rather a disappointment for the onlookers when a big vehicle approached, heavily loaded with mail bags and parcels and sometimes a weary passenger's head appearing in the window to wonder how much it should take to reach that place Gaborones. The mules were perspiring all over and fairly knocked up and could only keep up a slow pace down hill, which they slackened in such a way that the driver and his assistants had all their work cut out by shouting and lashing them up, to make the poor animals drag the cart the few hundred paces to the stores.

Considering that the Zeederberg Company had a new stable erected between this and Ramoutsa, so that their teams had only nine miles to go, it was rather striking that the arrival of this first coach proved to be such a poor show.

How they were progressing on their journey, and when they reached Bulawayo, we have not heard yet, but we know since that their cart from Bulawayo

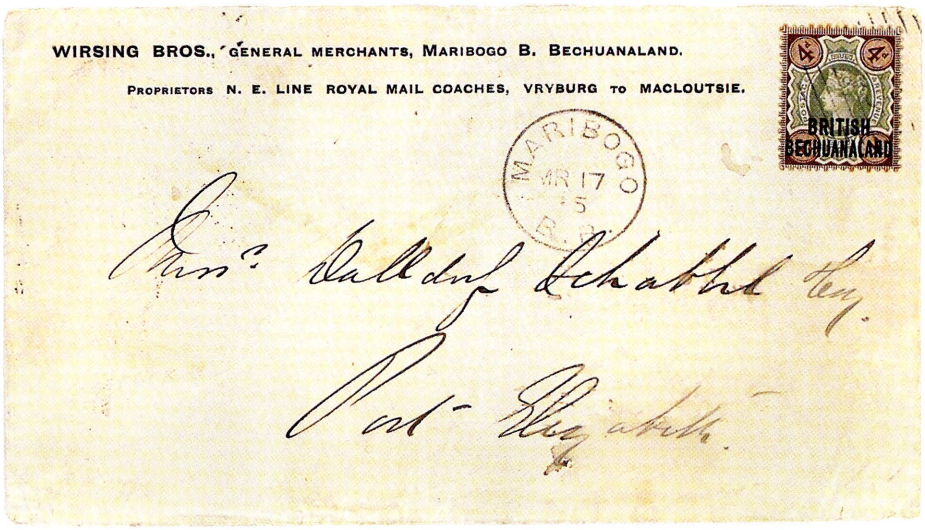

Fig.4: An advertising cover for Wirsing Brothers.

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with the down mail, which was due here last Wednesday, has not arrived yet to date (Saturday), and it is feared that some accident has happened."

In the early months of 1896, the mail coach service between Mafeking and Bulawayo was considerably affected for several months by the ravages of rinderpest and the disturbances associated with the Matabeleland revolt. It also became necessary on several occasions to utilise the mail coaches for the conveyance of arms and ammunition, food supplies, and medicine, to Bulawayo. The full contracted mail service between Mafeking and Bulawayo was resumed on 17 May 1896.

In 1896, a journey through Bechuanaland by mail coach was described as follows: *"Our road from Mafeking ... lay along the old coach road .... On this road ... coaches, with their spans of twelve mules apiece, used to travel with passengers and mails. Such coaches were huge 'Buffalo Bill' affairs, swinging on enormous leather springs and carrying twelve passengers, the driver, and a Cape boy to assist him. Teams were changed every seven or ten miles A journey in one of these conveyances meant days of trial and tribulation. Passengers were of all sorts and conditions. Ladies of doubtful reputation, commercial travellers, prospectors, business men, and parsons were packed like herrings for days on end. Inside there were no room to move or stretch one's legs; one was also choked with dust. Outside one was surrounded by mail bags, and exposed either to glaring sun or torrents of tropical rain."*

The Zeederberg contract was terminated in 1897 following the opening of the railway line which brought the days of the mail and passenger cart to an end.

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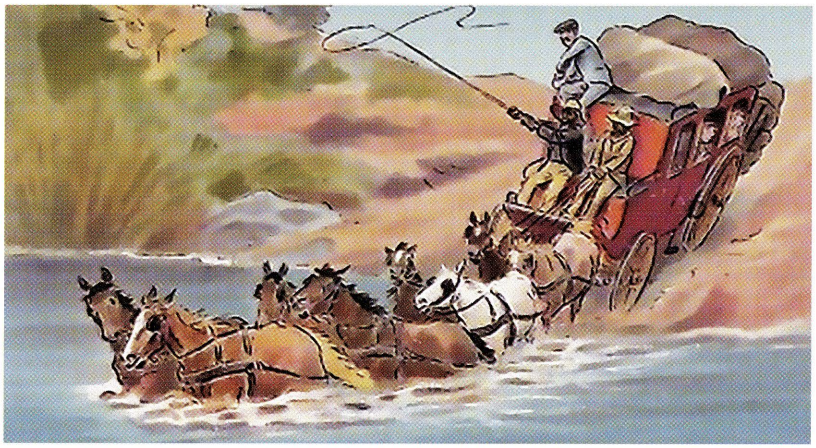
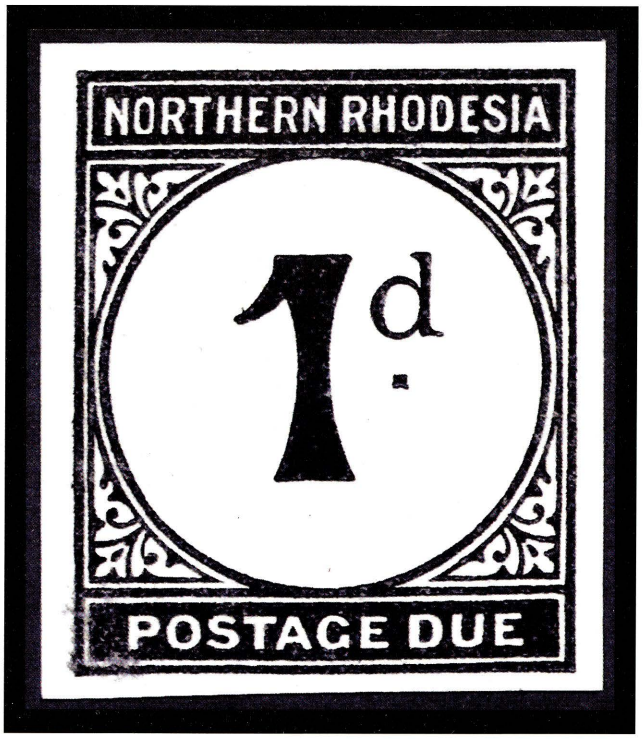


Sketches of South African Life, Series III. In the days of the Mail Coach, No. 6 Forging a River

JOHN & MARK TAYLOR



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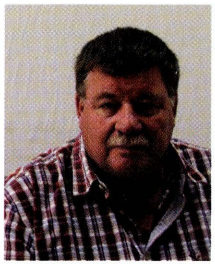

JOHANNESBURG EMPIRE EXHIBITION (JIPEX) 1936
Part 1

by André du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society

INTRODUCTION

Johannesburg hosted the South Africa Empire Exhibition from 15 September 1936 to 15 January 1937, staged at the Milner Park showground. This was the first Empire Exhibition to be held outside the United Kingdom and it coincided with the city's Jubilee year; it had been 50 years since gold was discovered on the farm Langlaagte, which later became part of Johannesburg. Over two million people visited the Exhibition during the four months that it was open and as a result of the huge success, it was referred to as South Africa's Wembley (Fig.1) recalling the famous Empire Exhibition held at Wembley, UK in 1924.

In conjunction with the Empire Exhibition, the Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition (JIPEX), organised by the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, took place from 2 to 14 November, 1936 (Fig.2). It was envisaged that holding a philatelic show concurrently with a general exhibition would secure a large audience, especially amongst non-stamp collectors. This was the second International Exhibition hosted in the Union of South Africa, following the one held in Durban from 2 to 12 July 1928. The stamp show took place in two adjoining halls and was the largest exhibition at the time ever hosted by South Africa, with an attendance of over 25,000 visitors.

The stamp exhibition drew worldwide interest and was held in two parts; a Non-Competitive and a Competitive Class with 29 sections. In the former, 48 invited exhibits were shown, of which eight were official. The scope of the Competitive Class was limited to that part of Africa, which was more or less in direct contact with South Africa. It was called 'Africa South of the Equator' by the Organising Committee. In only one section was the scope widened to 'The World'.

The Competitive Class attracted 82 entries, of which ten were also entered into the Research section. Five junior exhibits were on display, as well as five literature entries. Exhibitors in the Non-Competitive Class were presented with a paperweight made from gold-bearing rock, while the Championship Cup was sponsored by the City Council of Johannesburg (Figs.3 & 4).

Several philatelic societies in the Union had raised the question of having special stamps issued to commemorate the

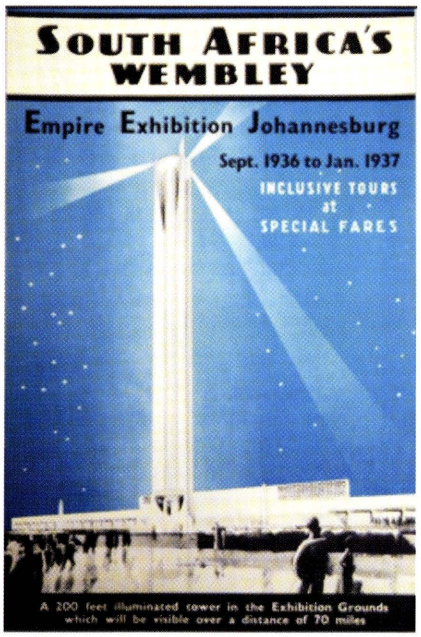

Fig.1: The centerpiece of the gardens, buildings and pathways was the 200 feet tall 'Tower of Light', which could be seen at night from anywhere on the Rand.

exhibition. This was communicated to the relevant authorities, but their initial response was non-committal. However, it was later decided that specially overprinted stamps could be supplied, and although not ideal, the decision was taken to accept this offer, rather than have nothing at all.

The then current form of booklets (B10) was to be discontinued and a quantity of complete sheets of the ½d and 1d denominations was still on hand (Fig.5).



Fig.2: JIPEX catalogue signed by members of the Organising Committee

These sheets consisted of 21 panes, each with an arrangement of six advertisements appearing on the top and bottom margins. Besides adverts for the telephone and telegraph, there were also some for tobacco and pipes and one for a Union stamp dealer.

Rather than wasting the stamps, it was decided to overprint them for the Exhibition. The overprinted stamps were issued on 2 November 1936 and were on sale at the special Exhibition Post Office only for the duration of the stamp show. They could also be obtained on written application to the Postmaster of the Johannesburg Post Office. The stamps were distributed by the printer in packets of 100 sheetlets; the sheetlets in each packet being identical.

A pair of sheetlets was given to each purchaser of a JIPEX entrance ticket. Numbers provided for the ½d value were 105,189 of which 60,108 sheetlets had a first English inscribed stamp and 45,081 a first Afrikaans stamp. A total of 127,554



Figs.3 & 4: Awards for the philatelic exhibition



Fig.5: A quantity of the ½d and 1d denominations were still available for subsequent overprinting.

sheetlets of the 1d were supplied with 72,888 English and 54,666 Afrikaans inscribed first stamps.

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SPECIAL DATE STAMPS

In total, five special date stamps were produced for the exhibition. Two double-circle handstamp cancellers reading: EMPIRE EXHIBITION / RYKSTENTOONSTELLING at the top with JOHANNESBURG at the bottom. The date appears in one line using Roman numerals for the month. The sizes of the two are different from each other and for ease of reference will be described as Type 1 and Type 2 (Fig.6).

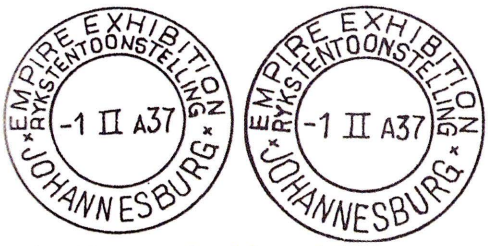

Fig.6: Types 1 and 2 of the special date stamps

Type 1: Diameter is 30.5mm and in both cases the internal rings are 17.5mm. The letters of RYKSTENTOONSTELLING are 2mm high. The letter 'I' of RYKSTENTOONSTELLING lies under 'IO' of EXHIBITION.

Type 2: Diameter is 31mm. RYKSTENTOONSTELLING is 2.5mm high. The letter 'I' of RYKSTENTOONSTELLING lies under 'O' of EXHIBITION. The ornament (x) in the double circle is also further away from the 'E' than in Type 1.

A special machine canceller operated from 15 September 1936 until 16 January 1937, to publicise and handle the expected large quantities of mail for the Empire Exhibition (Fig.7).

Two cancellation date stamps of the same size were designed for the stamp show, Jipex. One in English and the other in Afrikaans. Date stamps are of the double

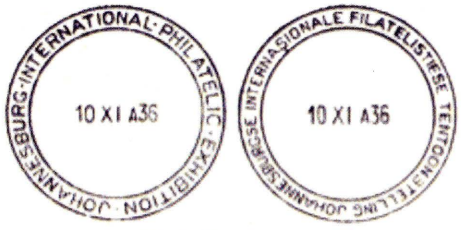

Fig 8: Date stamps

circle type, with the outer circle measuring 40.5 mm in diameter and the inner circle 32.5 mm. The lettering was placed between the two circles – English 2.5 mm high and Afrikaans 2 mm due to the extra letters. The date slug across the centre shows the date in figures and varied between 2 XI A36 and 14 XI A36 (Fig.8).

THE STAMPS

Sheets of stamps printed for the B10 booklets (Fig.9) were used for the overprinting. These sheets consisted of 7 rows of 3 columns, producing 21 different panes for each denomination.

1d CHARACTERISTIC

A characteristic appears on all even numbered English inscribed stamps. It takes the form of a small white 'protrusion' on the top left hand outer edge of the 'O' in SOUTH (Fig.10).

PRODUCTION

A Goebel 830 printing machine was used for the printing in rotogravure.

In rotogravure printing, the stamp design is drawn larger than the required image and is then photographed. The negative is placed in a step-and-repeat camera that reduces the photographed design to the exact size of



Fig 9: B10 booklet containing 2 x ½d and 4 x 1d sheetlets



Fig 7: Special machine canceller

the required stamp. It is then duplicated as many times as required to make a complete sheet on a glass plate.

In the next part of the process the glass plate is used as a 'negative,' when a print is taken from it on photographic paper coated with colour pigment and gelatin called 'carbon' tissue. The carbon tissue, being printed by exposure to strong light, is then transferred to a copper plate or cylinder, which is used in the printing machine.

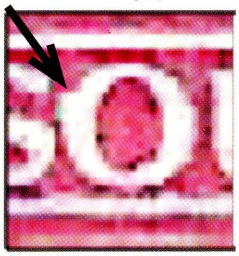

Fig 10: 'Protrusion' on the 'O'

Rolls of paper, gummed, are fed through the printing machine first passing over the frame plate, then over the head plate on to the numbering and perforation sections. Next it goes to the trimmer to trim the margins and finally the cutter that cuts it into sheets.

PERFORATION

The Goebel Printing machine, with its eleven-row perforation comb, perforates the whole width of the printing paper and approximately half the length of the final length of the cut sheet with each stroke.

A figure '8' perforation is produced at the perforation join for both values as follows (Fig.11):

- Either on the first perforation row or between stamps on row 1 and 2 – Panes 1, 2 and 3.
- Another figure '8' (or a slight perforation shift) is found 11 perforation rows down, below the first figure '8' perforation – Panes 10, 11 and 12.



OVERPRINT

Stamps were overprinted JIPEX placed above 1936 and in the side margins Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition, 1936 reading upwards in two lines in the left-hand margin. In the right margin, reading downwards in two lines:

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Johannesburg Internasionale Filatelistiese Tentoonstelling, 1936 (Fig.12).

The JIPEX / 1936 overprint is 2mm high and 10mm wide. '1936' is 2mm x 6mm and the vertical spacing between JIPEX and 1936 is 4.5mm. The ½d stamps were prepared from the same multi-positive used for Issue 4. The 1d stamps were printed from the multi-positives that printed Issues 10 and 11.

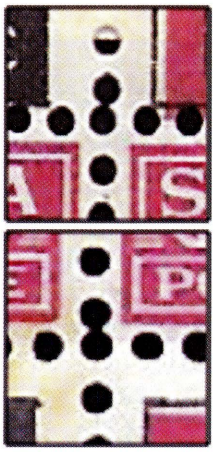

Fig.11: Perforation images

ADVERTISEMENTS

The next step was to print the advertisements on the top and bottom margins. This was done by ordinary letterpress printing, after which it was cut into booklet panes and bound into booklets. In typograph printing, also known as letterpress, the stamp design is transferred onto a metal plate using a greasy ink, with the rest of the plate being etched away, leaving just the raised design from which to print (think of a rubber stamp method).

Older typograph stamps can best be identified from the reverse side because the design often feels raised to the touch, due to the metal plates and heavy pressure applied. Nowadays, plastic plates are used for this process and these tend not to leave the raised reverse.

BOOKLET PANE LAYOUT (Fig.13)

The 1st, 5th and 9th columns were masked to provide for the binding margins. Rows 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 were also masked for the printing of the advertisements, each half the size of a stamp.

SHEETLET PANE LAYOUT (Fig.14)

For the JIPEX sheetlets, the sheets went back to the letterpress to print the words JIPEX placed above the date 1936 horizontally on each stamp. The following was printed in the side margins: 'Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition 1936' reading upwards in two lines in the left-hand margin and in the right-hand margin, reading downwards in two lines: 'Johannesburg Internasionale Filatelistiese Tentoonstelling 1936'.

When comparing the Booklet and JIPEX panes, the difference is that with the JIPEX issue, the panes (sheetlets) have margins all round, whereas the booklet sheets had the right margin removed. The seven JIPEX panes on the right retained the right margin and have it imperforated, whilst the remaining fourteen have all the margins perforated.

Four basic types of sheetlets were produced with an English or Afrikaans inscribed stamp as the first stamp on the sheetlet and with or without the right-hand margin perforated.

Row	M	Column 1	2	3	4	Column 5	6	7	8	Column 9	10	11	12	M
	Discarded		Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad	Johannesburg Internasionale Filatelistiese Tentoonstelling, 1936
1		Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition, 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	Johannesburg Internasionale Filatelistiese Tentoonstelling, 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	Johannesburg Internasionale Filatelistiese Tentoonstelling, 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	
			PANE 1				PANE 2				PANE 3			
2			JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936		JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936		JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	JIPEX 1936	
3			Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad	

Fig 14: JIPEX sheetlet

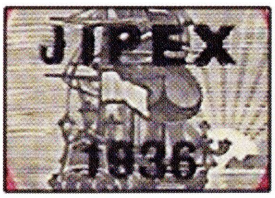





Fig 12: JIPEX sheetlets cancelled with an Afrikaans and English exhibition date stamp and posted at the Exhibition Post Office

PLATE PROOF

Figure 15 shows a part plate proof on thin paper of the overprint for four settings of the sheetlet. These are positions 7, 8 and 10, 11 taken from the proof form of 21.

½d SHEET LAYOUT

When the printing was done, some of the columns and rows were masked to print 21 panes – 7 rows of 2 x 3 columns. Twelve panes have an English inscribed stamp as the first stamp with nine an Afrikaans stamp. Eight different advertisements were used to create the ten different advertising settings (Fig.16).

1d SHEET LAYOUT (Fig.17)

The 1d stamps were printed from the multi-positives that printed Issues 10 and 11. Twenty-one panes were printed in 7 rows of 3 columns. In contrast to the ½d, different advertisement settings were prepared for each pane, 21 settings in total. No individual stamp flaws/errors need to be identified because sheet positions can be determined by the different advertisement settings.

Twelve panes have an English inscribed stamp as the first stamp with nine an Afrikaans stamp. All 3 panes in a row have the same language-headed first stamp. Twenty advertisements were used to generate the 21 different advertisements settings. Of these, eight were regarding telephone and telegraph – four English ones translated to Afrikaans – were re-used (A1 to D2).

OVERPRINT ERRORS (Fig.18)

On three of the panes on the sheet for both values, the spacing between the upper and lower rows of overprint is wider than on the other 18 panes. The error occurred in the setting of the letterpress where in the forme a space filler was transposed. Thus

Row	M	Column 1	2	3	4	Column 5	6	7	8	Column 9	10	11	12	M
	Discarded		Ad	Ad	Ad	Discarded	Ad	Ad	Ad	Discarded	Ad	Ad	Ad	Discarded
1		BINDING MARGIN	PANE 1			BINDING MARGIN	PANE 2			BINDING MARGIN	PANE 3			
2														
3			Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad		Ad	Ad	Ad	

Fig 13: Booklet sheetlet

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the piece of lead was placed above, instead of below, the bottom overprint. Panes 5, 7 and 8 of both values are affected by this error; for the ½d, sheetlets 5, 3(a) and 7, and 5, 7 and 8 for the 1d.

FORTUITOUS TRANSFER – PANE 18, SHEETLET 6(b) (Fig.19)

A fortuitous transfer appears on Row 17/10 of pane 18, sheetlet 6(b).

OVERPRINT ON STAMP GUTTERS

The overprint may be found misplaced in any direction on both values JIPEX sloping downwards to the left; left and downward shift, left and upward shift, right and downward shift, right shift. In some instances, the marginal inscription is printed on the stamps (Fig.20).

½d SHADES

In the ½d stamps the vignette varies from grey to black and intense black. The frame varies from light green to green and a deep green.

1d SHADES

In the 1d stamps the vignette varies from grey to black and intense black, the same as with the ½d. The frame varies from pale carmine to carmine and deep carmine.

A complete list of all references will accompany Part Two of this article.

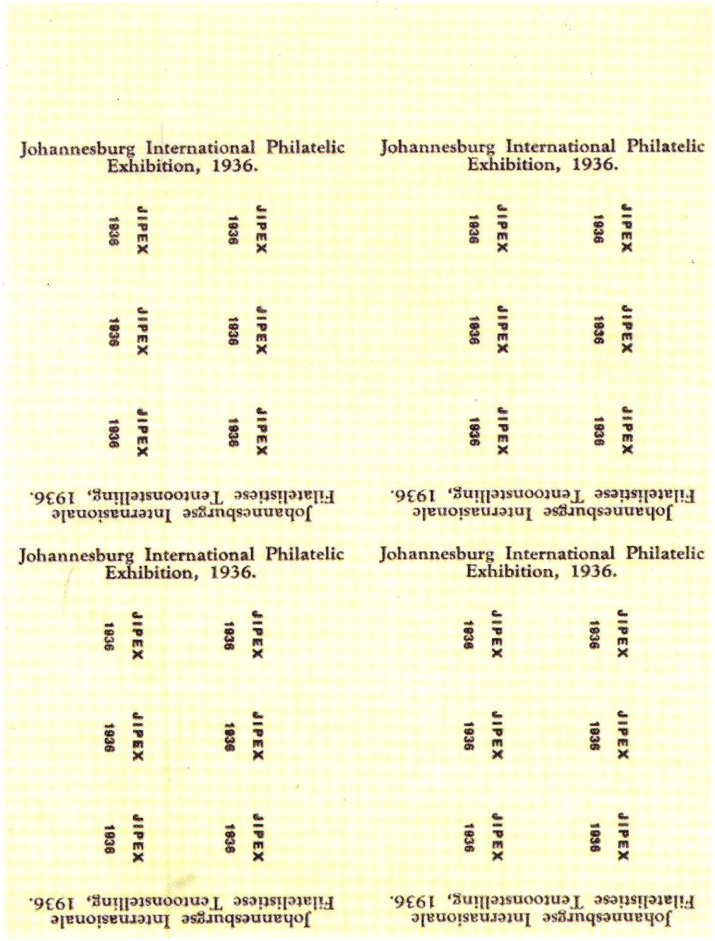

Fig 15: Plate Proof of four panes *Courtesy N. Zerbst*

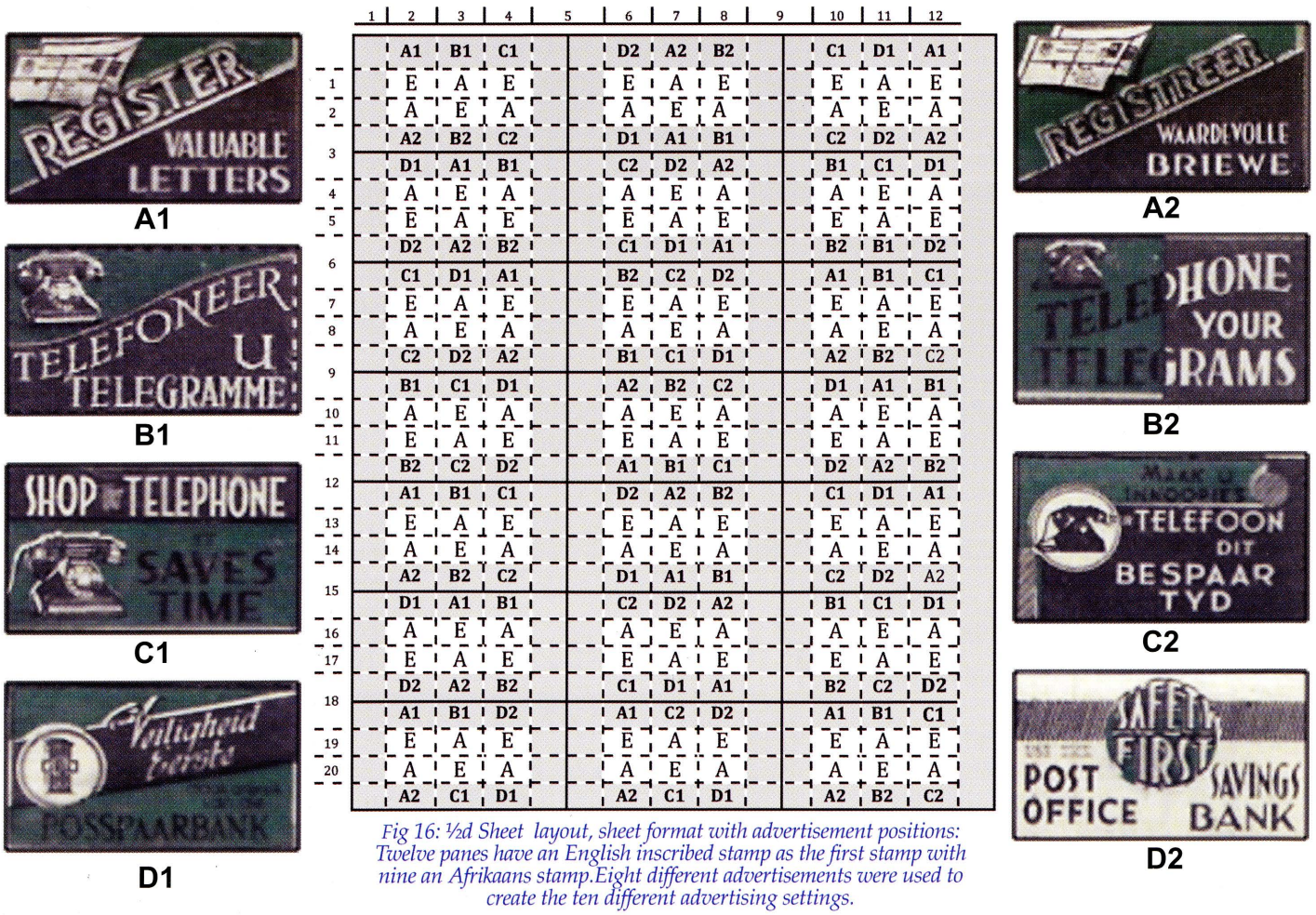

Fig 16: ½d Sheet layout, sheet format with advertisement positions: Twelve panes have an English inscribed stamp as the first stamp with nine an Afrikaans stamp.Eight different advertisements were used to create the ten different advertising settings.

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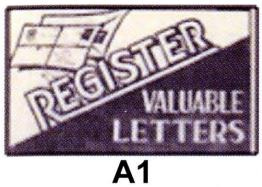


A1



B1



C1



D1



E1

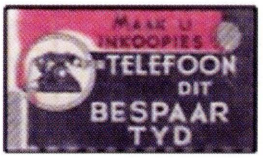
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		E1	C2	Y1		P1	A2	B2		M1	B1	C1
1		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
2		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
		D2	B2	D1		C2	A1	B1		D1	B2	C2
3		S1	C1	A2		K1	C1	D1		N1	D2	A2
4		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
5		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
		D1	C2	A1		B2	C2	D2		B2	D1	A1
6		H1	B1	D2		X1	A2	B2		V1	B1	C1
7		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
8		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
		A2	B2	D1		C2	A1	B1		D2	B2	C2
9		M1	C1	B1		G1	C1	D1		W1	A1	D1
10		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
11		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
		A1	C2	B2		B2	C2	D2		B2	A2	D2
12		N1	D1	C1		E1	D1	A1		P1	B1	C1
13		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
14		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
		B2	D2	C2		C2	D2	A2		A2	B2	C2
15		V1	A1	B1		S1	B2	C2		K1	D2	A2
16		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
17		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
		D2	A2	B2		D2	B1	C1		C1	D1	A1
18		W1	D1	C1		H1	D1	A1		G1	C2	B2
19		E	A	E		E	A	E		E	A	E
20		A	E	A		A	E	A		A	E	A
		B1	D2	C2		C2	D2	A2		D2	C1	B1



A2



B2



C2



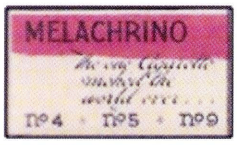
D2



E2

Fig 17: 1d Sheet layout format with advertisement positions:

H1



K1



M1



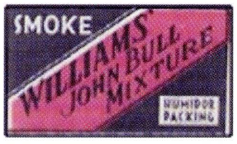
N1



P1



S1



V1



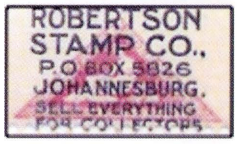
W1



X1



Y1



(The letters F, G, I, J, L, O, Q, R, T, U were not used)

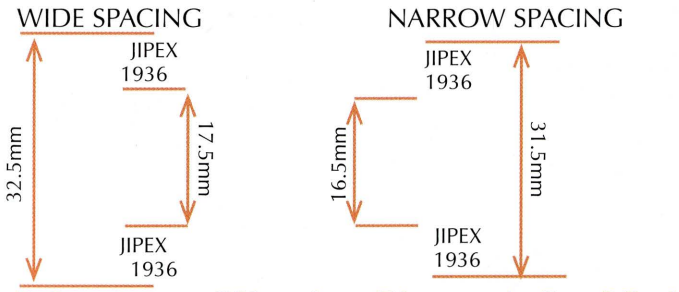


Fig 18: Overprint errors - Wide spacing and Narrow spacing Panes 5, 7 and 8 of both values are affected by this error. For the ½d, sheetlets 5, 3(a) and 7 and for the 1d 5, 7 and 8.



Fig 19: Fortuitous transfer. Row 17/10 – Left stamp on bottom row shows an accidental printing: 'X' on left of stamp and 'JIPE' on the right through right margin



Fig 20: Misplaced marginal overprint on stamps. The overprint may be found misplaced in any direction on both values; JIPEX sloping downwards to the left, Left and downward shift, Left and upward shift, Right and downward shift, Right shift.
In some instances, the marginal inscription is printed on the stamps.

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PIETERMARITZBURG
THE PHILATELIC HISTORY OF A CITY

by Aubrey Bowles, Secretary,
Pietermaritzburg Philatelic Society

In October 2016 the above titled exhibit won a Silver medal at the National SAPDAPEX 2016 Exhibition in Johannesburg and was displayed at the Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg from 14 to 25 February 2017. Our first version of *Pietermaritzburg - The History of a City* proved to be very popular especially the supporting talks given by one of our members, Dr Michael J. O'Connor, an expert on the red-brick buildings in the city. Media coverage was excellent, with articles in *The Daily News*, *The Mercury*, *The Witness* and *Maritzburg Sun*, as well as in the Gallery's own *Outline* magazine. We also enjoyed excellent post-exhibition coverage in *The SA Philatelist* journal.

The Directors at the Tatham Art Gallery knew that we intended expanding our exhibit to 128 pages (8 frames) for the SAPDAPEX 2017 National and again agreed to display it for 30 days at the beginning of 2018, providing we won a substantial award, preferably gold! Sadly we did not achieve Gold but a Large Vermeil was good enough for the Gallery and so the show was on! It was agreed that our award-winning story would be displayed from 13 February to 11 March 2018 with talks by Dr O'Connor on 17 February (Pietermaritzburg schools) and 10 March 2017 (Pietermaritzburg churches.)

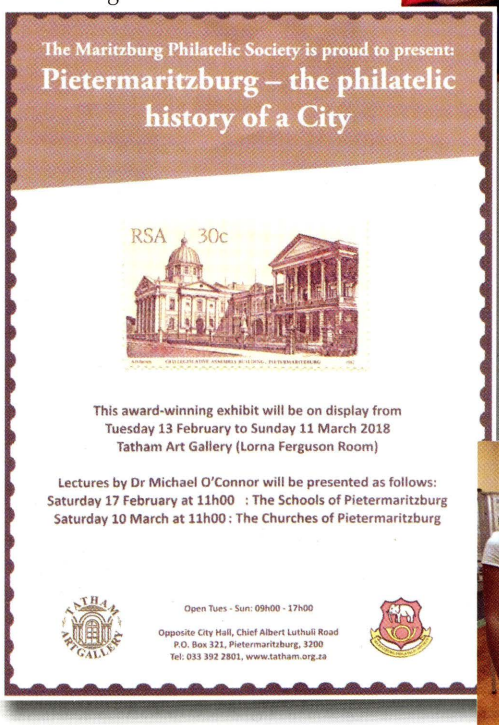

Fig.1: Poster advertising the exhibition.

We enjoyed MASSIVE publicity for this exhibition including a full page story in the *Natal Mercury* which is widely distributed in Durban and Pietermaritzburg, as well as a full page in *The Witness*, the oldest newspaper in KZN with a wide readership. This was followed by further coverage and eight inserts in their *'What's Happening in Pietermaritzburg'* section.

We again featured in the Gallery's own magazine as well as in their newsletter and our exhibit was supported by a PowerPoint presentation for children, accompanied by philatelic hand-outs kindly supplied by Joh Groenewald. The coverage brought in numerous visitors including Exchange students from Germany currently studying at the DUT University in Durban, a group of art teachers and their pupils and 22 learners from New Hannover Preparatory School, to name but a few. Incidentally, Pat Izaaks attended the same school during the late 1950s and he has been invited to address the learners at an assembly early next term. We are certain that Pat will find a way of introducing stamps into his talk!



Fig.2: Members of the MPS hard at work on the expanded version of the exhibit now known as 'PIETERMARITZBURG - The Philatelic History of a City', L-R: Heather Wyllie; Janet Kimmince; Joyce Hulse; Mike O'Connor; Aubrey Bowles, Val de Jagerand and Dave Wyllie President of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society and PFSA Vice-President, KwaZulu-Natal.

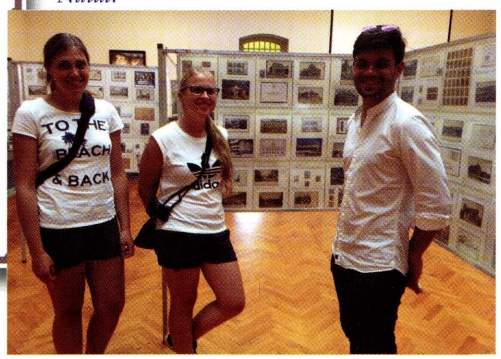

Fig.3: Exchange students from Germany visiting the exhibit.

Many visitors who viewed our exhibition said that it was 'marvellous' and worth visiting. Most could not believe the amount of information obtainable from a mere postage stamp and felt they had learnt a great deal about the history of their City. They were also impressed by the old postcards and envelopes some of which had been posted before the advent of postage stamps in Natal, and some folk were even inspired to dig-out their old stamp collections!

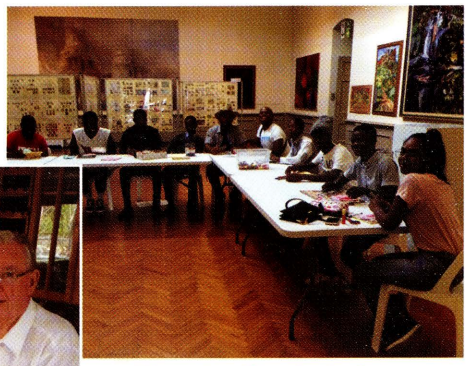

Fig.4: Art Class in the Lorna Ferguson Room where our exhibit was displayed.



Fig.5: Art students showing their competition entries. Simoso Shelembe (left) came first with Siyabonga Ngcobo being a close second.

The Tatham also serves as an educational centre for artists and, on three consecutive Fridays, the art class was transferred to the Lorna Ferguson Room where our exhibit served both as a back-drop and an inspiration for artists in training. The Art Students were invited to enter a competition organised by the Maritzburg Philatelic Society on the theme of a Baobab Tree. Competition was fierce and First Prize went to Simoso Shelembe with Siyabonga Ngcobo coming second. Judging was done by Janet Kimmince,

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Fig.6: Visitors to the exhibition

one of our Club Members, and the prizes were sponsored by Stuttaford Van Lines.

Stuttaford Van Lines also generously transported the frames donated to us by Federation, from Benoni to Pietermaritzburg, free of charge. Transporting frames is always a problem so we would also like to thank Richard Paine of Premium Pool Services in Pietermaritzburg for moving our frames to and from various exhibition sites i.e. for National Stamp Day; the Hobbies Fair and now to/from The Tatham Art Gallery.

Our main exhibit was complemented by various philatelic publications and ephemera as well as other Club and National exhibits such as *My Golden Horn* depicting rhinos by Tony Evans; *The Upside-down Tree* featuring Baobabs by Aubrey Bowles; *Nyasaland* by Fred Handman and *Olympic Sport* by Mike Hemmings.

It took 12 months of hard work to plan, collect and write-up the story but, mostly, it was good fun, which helped to strengthen friendships and camaraderie. For this reason we hope that our story will encourage other Clubs/ Societies to put together a Club Exhibit.

We consider our exhibition to have been a great success for the following reasons:

1. All members of the MPS contributed to the exhibit in one way or another - by donating stamps/philatelic material or helping to write the story. Some hosted meetings in their own homes; others visited schools to obtain information and material that we could use to enhance the exhibit. Most were on duty at the Tatham Art Gallery and all this has created a strong bond amongst the MPS members.

2. Publicity for our hobby. Many visitors have contacted us about their stamp collections and have been invited to attend a Club meeting.

3. We gained one new member (Ian Horrell) whose interest is Forestry. He has already enthusiastically attended two of our meetings. Membership Application Forms were handed out to visitors and a couple have expressed a keen interest in joining our Society.

4. We have created an awareness of our hobby in Kwa-Zulu Natal and hope that other Clubs throughout the RSA and Namibia might attempt a similar joint venture. Some of the material on display was quite rare and a few examples are illustrated here (Figs.8 - 11).



Fig.7: PowerPoint presentation by Pat Izaaks, a MPS member.



Fig.8: Envelope showing the first Natal Postage Stamps. 1d and 3d Chalon issue of 1859. Berri-type Crown canceller Pieter- Maritzburg Sep 22 1881 and Numeral 1 at the triple inland rate to D'Urban.



Fig.9: Used postcard showing the Victoria Club – 'The Grand Old Lady' – before it closed down. Cecil John Rhodes stayed here when visiting Pietermaritzburg from his brother Herbert's cotton farm. Rickshaws parked outside were the most common form of transport.

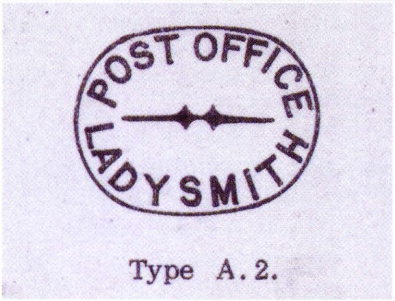

Fig.11: A copy of the rare cancellation



Fig.10: Tatham Art Gallery, formerly the Supreme Court with a back room serving as the Post Office. The postcard depicts a mail coach leaving for Richmond.

Naturally, an exhibition on this scale would not have been possible without the unstinting support of the Directors and Staff of the Tatham Art Gallery. Thank you to the following team:
Brendan Bell: *Director* and Bryony Clark: *Assistant Director,* Pinky Madlabane-Nkabinde: *Education Officer and Art Teacher,* Reena Bhoodram: *Education Officer,* Kobie Venter: *Education Officer,* Phumlani Ntshangase: *Technical Officer* and Ntuthuko Nkabane: *Assistant Technical Officer.*

The Gallery loaned us the use of the Lorna Ferguson Room for thirty days at no charge; they also supplied free posters and let us use their Lecture Room and projection equipment also at no cost. The Education Officers were always available to assist visitors and our members on duty. We are truly grateful to them.

What of the future?



This image might tell you that 'Happy Feet' is in the formation stage and we are looking forward to another fine Club Effort!

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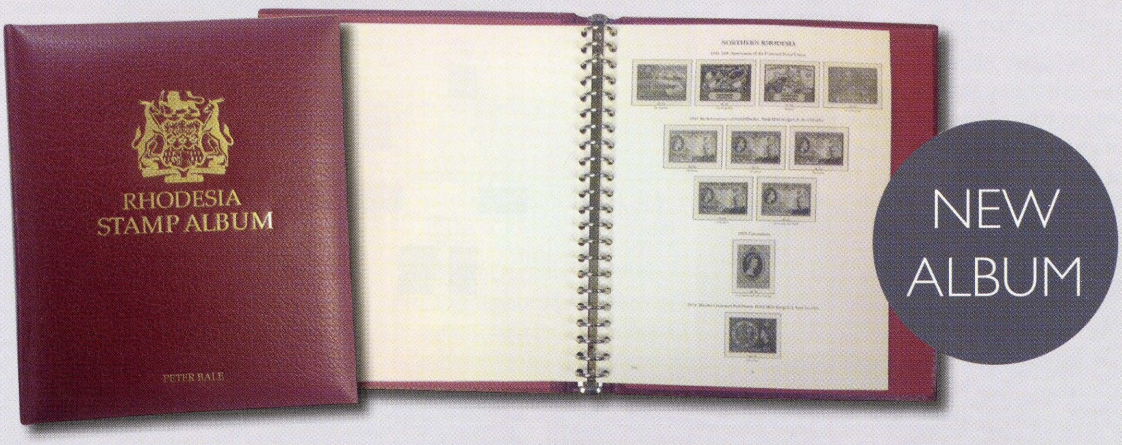
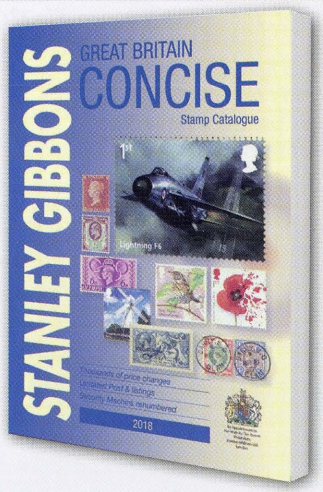


RHODESIA STAMP ALBUM (1891-1953)

- The Rhodesian Stamp Album, published by Peter Bale Philatelics of Johannesburg, South Africa, covers the remit of the Rhodesian Study Circle, from 1891 to 1953.
- It has spaces for all the stamps of British South Africa Company Territory, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, British Central Africa and Nyasaland Protectorate.
- All the catalogue-listed, main number, shades of the Rhodesia Admirals and Double Heads are included as are ordinary and chalk-surfaced papers.
- Spaces are included for changes of watermark, paper and, perforation, die and type changes but excluding inverted and/or reversed watermarks, errors and shades.
- Stanley Gibbons has kindly approved the use of their catalogue numbers and additional images have been provided by Tracinda publications.
- The publisher also provides a "custom page" service to customers who want to add their special items such as pairs, blocks, varieties, postal history and postal stationery on pages using the same type face, spacing etc. as the main album to produce a more professional presentation.
- There are 5 blank pages accompanying each album for a similar purpose and a sample custom page.
- Hingeless with clear mounts.

Rhodesia Stamp Album (1891-1953) R3501 **R4000**

2018 GREAT BRITAIN CONCISE STAMP CATALOGUE



- *33rd Edition 2018*

The ever-popular Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Catalogue continues to provide the perfect guide for the collector seeking more comprehensive information on Great Britain stamps than provided by the Collect British Stamps checklist, without the highly detailed coverage of the five-volume Specialised series.

R2887-18 **R625**

KING GEORGE VI



- *9th Edition 2018*

The King George VI Commonwealth colour stamp catalogue provides detailed listings and prices for all used and mint stamps issued by Great Britain and British Commonwealth countries between 1936 and 1952. In the nine years since publication of the 8th edition, prices have risen considerably in many areas and a number of new plate and watermark varieties have been added, the surcharges issued during the British Occupation of the Faroe Islands are also now included, as well as Telegraph Stamps and Telephone Stamps under Burma and the Indian States of Patiala and Jammu and Kashmir. Ideal for all collectors of Commonwealth stamps from this popular era.

R2996-18 **R1000**

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BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
Website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.
Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662
President; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary);*
Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

Website: https://www.rpsct.org/

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

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

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Society meets at Bible Society House 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
***MEETINGS** always on a **Monday** evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00*

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 19h30. Berea Gardens, The Heritage Hall, 70 Javis Rd. Berea East.
President: David Preston: email: prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603.
Librarian: David Preston. 082 774 2090

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com *Secretary* Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com
Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. *Kontak:* djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits.
The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time.
Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE **Back Issues** *of The South African Philatelist are limited. Requests for any issue should be made in writing to The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. An electronic PDF file may be requested should a printed copy of the journal not be available.*

International Exhibitions

PRAGA 2018

Venue: PRAGUE, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
South African Commisioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

MACAO 2018

south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
South African Commisioner: Ian Matheson RDPSA
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.
The South Africa exhibits comprise four 5 frames and four 1 frames.

THAILAND 2018

Bangkok
Date: 28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018
General World All Classes
South African Commisioner: Vernon Mitchell.
vjm@telkomsa.net

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

13 June	One Frame Evening
11 July	Grand Challenge Match
8 August	Second Competitive Evening
12 Sept	Annual Auction
10 Oct	Favourite Cover/s
14 Nov	Third Competitive Evening
5 Dec	President's Evening

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday of every month at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.*
Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society*. All welcome. *Contact:* Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr,
Tel: 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. *Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.*

Jun 20:	Invited talk by Gerhard Kamffer
Jul 18:	Foreign, the art of philately & philately as art
Aug 15:	Southern Africa
Aug 29:	5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 19:	Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 17:	My favourite - (Maximum of one frame) and thematic exhibits
Oct 31:	5th Wed - to be decided
Nov 21:	Intersociety quiz and invited exhibits

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturday of the month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking. *President*: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com *Secretary:* Paul Hammerton. hampaul@ananzi.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday **evening** of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. **Day** meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale's shop, Kilner Park Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. *President:* André du Plessis. andredupfs@gmail.com 083 399 1755 *Vice-President:* Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 10:00 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. *Group Leader:* Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthof email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (Except December) - 2:00pm for 2:30pm. at the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. E-mail: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos
082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts:
Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
email zeptepi@3i.co.za
Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings.
President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUES:
1. *Ordinary* ***Stamp Club*** *meeting every third Monday at 16h00 St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields Pietermaritzburg*
2. ***Thematics Group*** *meeting every third Saturday at 09h00 8a Sanders Road Scottsville 3201, Pietermaritzburg*

The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - Club President plus Competitions and Speaker. ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 316 3308.
burncree45@telkomsa.net aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com
Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

- Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer,
- Janet Kimmince - Membership Secretary,
- Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Officer,
- Graham Bruce - Librarian,
- Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian,
- Val de Jager - Catering Officer

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2018

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

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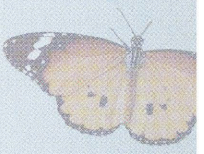




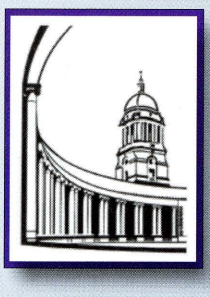
Aerogramme of South Africa 2000 with African Monarch butterfly.



"It is very easy to break and destroy, the heroes are those who make peace and who build"



Revenue Stamp with 'secret dot', top left corner, on the 1956 £2 stamp



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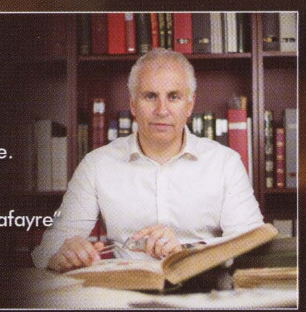

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Botswana's Night Sky makes me Smile

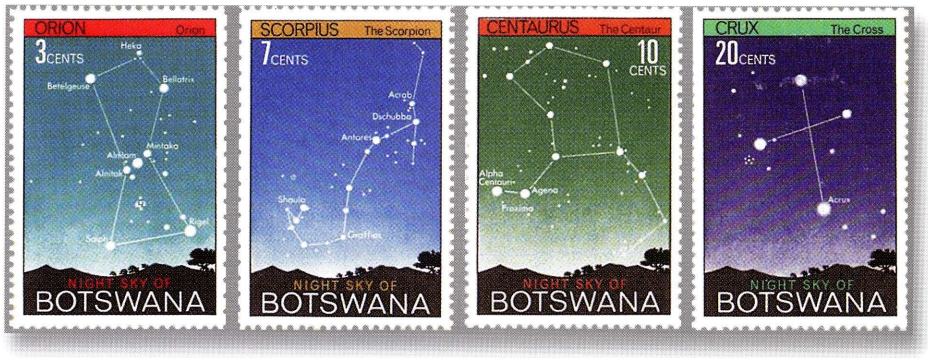
I enjoyed the article *Botswana's Night Sky* by Andrew Briscoe (*SAP* 94:2 April 2018, p 56).

The simplicity of the stamp designs that show four of the most conspicuous constellations visible from the Southern hemisphere adds to their beauty. I have seen the stamps several times, but the article allowed thorough inspection for the first time. I could not help but think that they could also fit Volker Janssen's column *Stamps that make you Smile*.

On the stamps, all four constellations are shown over the same horizon. That is not possible! The skyline obviously depicts dusk or dawn. Centaur and Crux, however, are visible towards the South between March evenings and August mornings, and when in an upright position, high above the horizon at an approximate angle of 50 degrees.

As shown, Orion and Scorpius are in an upright position - not seen from the Southern hemisphere. If the stamps are turned to stand on the left upper corner, the shown constellations would be as seen when rising in the East, and when turned on the right upper corner, when setting in the West. Orion may be seen during summer and Scorpius during winter. This implies that the foliage of the trees depicted on the stamps would also be different as affected by the changing seasons!

Prof G Osthoff,
OFS Philatelic Society.



The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material to avoid late delivery.

Articles should be submitted in the month **prior**:

- ***October*** 2018 - Vol. 94: 5. 950 : **10/09/2018**
- ***December*** '18 - Vol. 94: 6. 951 : **08/11/2018**
- ***February*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 1. 952 : **08/01/2019**
- ***April*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 2. 953 : **06/03/2019**
- ***June*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 3. 954 : **07/05/2019**
- ***August*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 4. 955 : **09/07/2019**

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018
See you in Centurion
17 to 20 October 2018
Venue address: 87 Jim Van der Merwe Street, Clubview Centurian 0140

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Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504.
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Subscription & circulation: Annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R324.00. SADC countries, the subscription is R600.00 per year. International overseas, the subscription is R800.00. These prices all include postage via airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager: email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za
PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463.

Publication: This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

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Fine perforation errors, others available.



1911 1d rose-red (SG272). Very fine misperf. £110.00



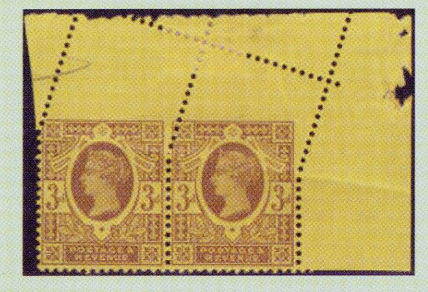
1911 1d rose-red (SG272). Fine misperf. £25.00



1911 KEDV11 2½d (SG284). Superb misperf. £175.00



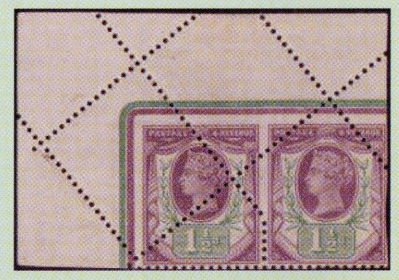
1911 1d rose-red (SG272). Fine misperf. 45.00



1887 3d Purple/Yellow (SG202). SUPERB MISPERF. £1250.00



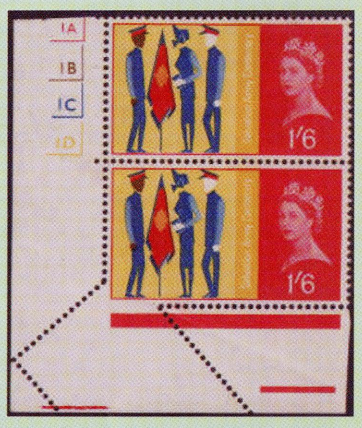
1966 4d World Cup (SG693) Superb error of perforation. £750.00



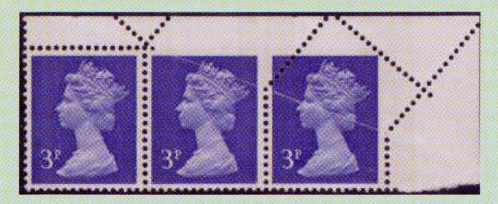
1887 1½d Jubilee (SG198). SUPERB MISPERF. £1250.00



1902 1d Scarlet (SG219) block of four misperforation. £35.00



1965 1/6d Salvation Army (SG666). Perforation error. £225.00



1971 3p machin (2 bands) (SGX855) Fine error of perforation. £225.00



1965 6d 700th Anniversary of Parliment. Superb error of perforation. (SG663) £375.00



1955 1½d wilding (SG542) excellent misperforation due to paper fold. £475.00

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018 - Centurion - 17 to 20 October 2018

Venue address: 87 Jim Van der Merwe Street, Clubview Centurian 0140

Our venue: www.kleinkaap.co.za in Centurion

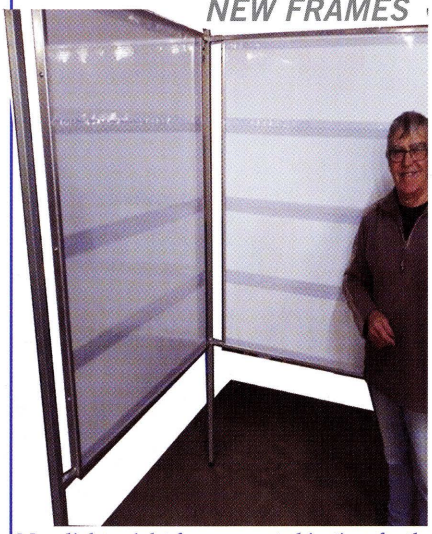
The Organising Committee look forward to welcoming all visitors, dealers and exhibitors to the annual National Stamp Show 2018.

The Palmares, the most prestigious event of our philatelic year, will also take place at the Kleinkaap venue on Saturday evening (secure your tickets now). This, together with the Awards ceremony, offers an event that gives us an opportunity to meet and greet friends and partners. The Exhibition promises to be as exciting with a chance to see the results of the newly developed frames, designed for the best possible viewing and enhanced with a new lighting technique.

International as well as local dealers will have a lot to entice even the most discerning collectors - don't miss this opportunity to see what's on offer. Guest speakers have been selected with care and the Kleinkaap restaurant meals on offer are mouthwatering.

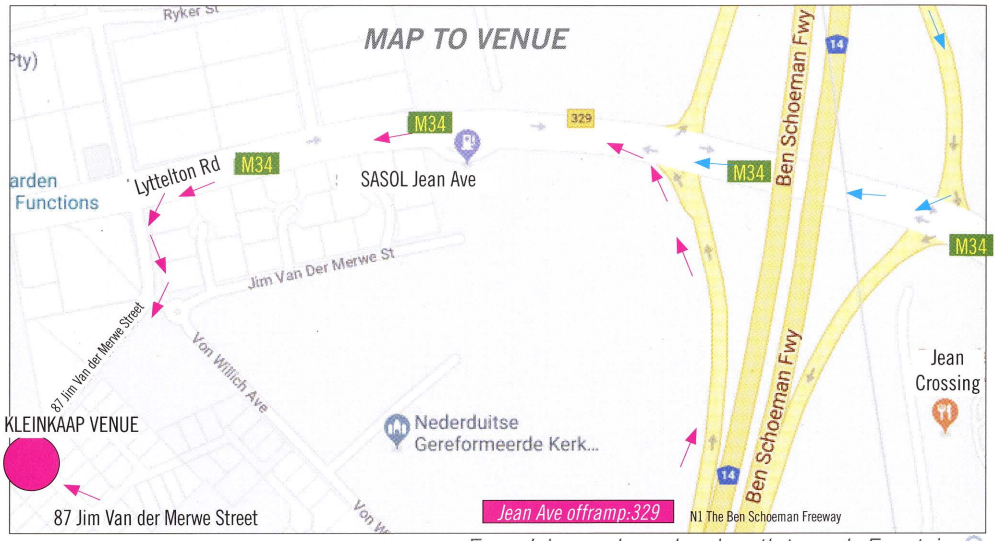
SEE YOU THERE... Andre du Plessis, email andredupfs@gmail.com cell +27(0)83 399 1755.

NEW FRAMES



New lightweight frames created in time for the exhibition.

MAP TO VENUE



From Pretoria / Fountains head south

From Johannesburg head north towards Fountains

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NOW is an ideal time to explore:

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the items that would assist you in discovering a new look at the world through stamps and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value.

Go even further... link to a process that offers an ability to illustrate the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt. Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately and see what it can do for you; it's the only segment that attracts 'non-collectors' of stamps.

Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the 'Open Class' exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment. If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

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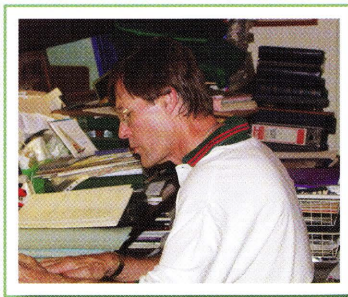

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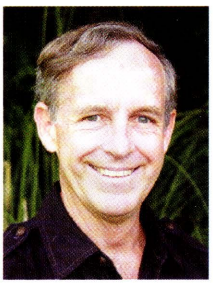
Phun with postmarks



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

The Dutch connection

Pioneers or settlers often related to place names where they were born, or which had a significant influence on their history to name new towns. This was true for the British, the Germans and also the Dutch. One often encounters these names, without appreciating how many place names corresponded with the fatherland. A comparison of place names in the Netherlands and South Africa spelt exactly the same was extracted from Putzel's *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, and is shown in Table 1. The mother post office name, where applicable, is also shown to assist with locating the office. Opening and closing dates are also given in case postmark collectors wish to visit these offices. The names are given by province.

Table 1. *Names of corresponding post offices in South Africa and the Netherlands*

Name	Mother post office	Opening date	Closing date
Cape Province			
Dordrecht	Aliwal North	1859	
Gouda	Wellington	12.9.1927	
Haarlem	Uniondale	1875	
Middelburg		17.11.1853	
Oosthuizen	Colesberg	1.1.1906	12.5.1958
Rustenburg	Pearston	1858	1881
Voorburg	Great Brak River	4.5.1925	17.3.1958
Zandberg	Eendekuil, Piketberg	1.11.1911	1.8.1913
Z.A.R. / Transvaal			
Alkmaar	Nelspruit	1.7.1903	
Amersfoort		1.6.1896	
Amsterdam		1881	
Assen	Brits	13.9.1926	1.5.1978
Bergen	Piet Reief	1.9.1894	11.3.1963
Ermelo		1885	
Kralingen	Nylstroom	14.12.1925	10.3.1969
Marken	Potgietersrus	28.6.1948	
Middelburg		1.12.1872	
Rustenburg		1.6.1852	
Schagen	Machadodorp	28.7.1924	
Vlaardingen	Middelburg	16.8.1926	25.8.1930

Interesting observations may be made from this Table.

1. The naming of Dutch place names only occurred in the Cape and Z.A.R./ Transvaal. This is surprising as the Orange Free State was also settled at about the same time as the Z.A.R., and the Voortrekkers were mainly of Dutch descent, but no towns were named. Many Dutch words were however used, for example Bloemfontein.
2. The offices were established at different times, and not only at the time when the Voortrekkers travelled to the interior. Some places were established in the mid- to late 1800s. Other places were named in the 1920s, and Marken was only opened in 1948.

The reasons for naming places makes interesting reading. For example, Dordrecht, initially a parish, was named after the historic synod of the Reformed Churches held in 1618/9 at Dordrecht. Amsterdam was named by the Z.A.R. Volksraad after the birthplace of State Secretary Edward Bok. In many instances there is no reason given in Putzel's encyclopaedia.

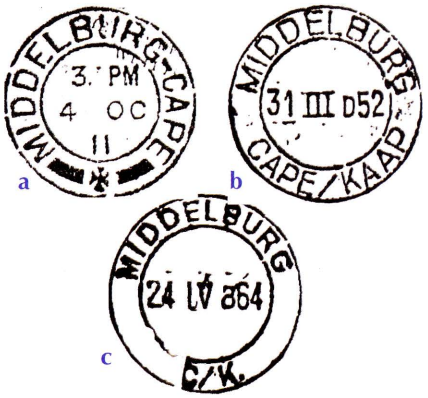
Some of the offices were short-lived, such as Vlaardingen and Zandberg. Date stamps from these offices are shown in Fig.1. Although Zandberg operated from 1911 to 1913, the office then moved to Station. From the evidence (usage dates 1913/27) the same date stamp was used until 1928, when Station office was closed.



a b

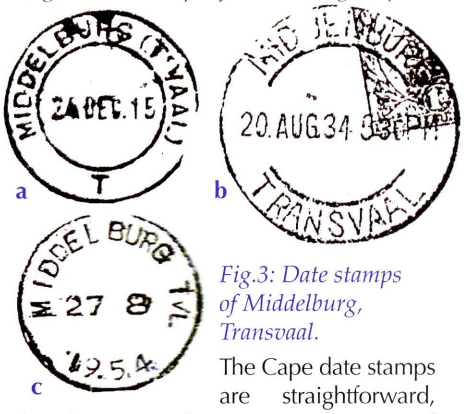
Fig.1: Date stamps of Vlaardingen and Zandberg, two short-lived offices.

Both the Middelburg towns were named when they were located in different provinces, so there was no confusion. The town in the Cape was named as it lay in the middle and almost equidistant from the main towns in the area, namely Graaff-Reinet, Cradock, Steynsburg, Colesberg and Richmond, so no direct Dutch connection. For the town in the Transvaal there are several explanations which included naming after the Dutch town, and being midway between Pretoria and Lydenburg. After the formation of the Union, these two towns were distinguished by the indication of Cape and Transvaal in various styles, as shown in Figs.2 and 3.



a b c

Fig.2: Date stamps of Middelburg, Cape.



a b c

Fig.3: Date stamps of Middelburg, Transvaal.

The Cape date stamps are straightforward, but the Transvaal ones are interesting and some will be discussed. No. 3a shows "(T'VAAL)" at the right, but 'T' at the base. The 'T' signifies a telegraph office. No. 3c is a skeleton relief canceller which has loose type and the clerk makes up the setting. Even so, the 'TVL' is correctly described.

Collectors love putting an exhibit together of the so-called 'Heimat' collection of a town or region, often an area or town where they had lived and where they are intimately familiar with the region. I have seen fascinating collections of Port Elizabeth and more recently Boksburg. This Dutch connection could form a similar heimat exhibit. As always, missing information or anecdotes are welcome.

Daar is verbasend baie dorpe en stede in Suid-Afrika wat verwantskappe met dorpe en stede in Nederland het. Dit het veral gebeur toe die trekkers nuwe dorpe gestig het. Dit is veral verbasend dat daar geen naamgenote in die Vrystaat is nie, alhoewel daar heelwat name in Nederlands is omdat dit destyds die voertaal was. Hierdie onderwerp het natuurlik die potensiaal om 'n interessante heimat versameling te word. Het ek iets oorgeslaan of onvolledige inligting? Stuur asseblief u kommentaar.

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The ABC of stamps



by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

BOGUS STAMPS

A bogus stamp is one that is fictitious or a fake from a real country. A bogus stamp has usually never been available in the country it purports to come from. It is not a forgery since the actual stamp does not exist. The term also includes stamps which have fake overprints and surcharges. An example of such trickery is shown in Fig.1. This stamp, originally issued by the Belgian Congo, has been partly obliterated by two bars (see the June *SA Philatelist*). The stamp has then been overprinted with *Etat Autonome Du Sud-Kasai* and surcharged 6.50 francs. South Kasai separated from the rest of the Congo in August 1960, but 16 months later re-joined the Congo. These stamps were sold exclusively by the Philatelic Agency of Sud Kasai Autonomous State, which was located in Brussels.



Fig.1.

In April 1950 Maluku Selatan broke away from Indonesia. This was followed by several years of bitter struggle ending the uprising. In that period Maluku Selatan never issued any stamps. Yet, New York stamp dealer, Henry Stolow sold the stamp (Fig.2) to eager collectors.

Stamps which the collector needs to be wary of are those from the Central African Republic. A significant number of stamps are produced carrying the name *Republique Centra Africaine,* but have never been available in the country – see Fig.3. How would you know if a stamp is bogus? It's not possible to tell just by looking at the stamp. Even experienced collectors are duped; however look out for an article by Dr Ian Mattheson in the next issue. A test would be to check if the stamp is listed in a catalogue. A listing would validate the stamp as being genuine.



Fig.2.



Fig.3.

BONC

BONC is an acronym for Barred Oval Numeral Canceller, a type of postmark that is encoded with a number as shown in Fig.4. This example was used at Avontuur in the Uniondale District. Some BONCs have vertical bars, while others are known with horizontal bars, each of differing thickness. If the BONC is used together with a circular date stamp then it is known as a Duplex Canceller (Fig.5). Cape Town has the honour of being allocated the number 1. BONCs were used in the Cape Colony, starting in 1863 and remained in use for nearly a hundred years. With some 1400 BONCs known, such coded cancellations are a collecting speciality on their own.



Fig.4.



Fig.5.

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Dumping what?

by Michael Wigmore RDPSA Expert Committee Chairman



I must have taken many glances at the Customs labels before I read them properly and sparked a couple of: *"say what?"* moments.

In front of me are two World War II South African postal history items. Dealt a few knocks over the years, they remain something a little out of the ordinary and (by the way they have been crudely stitched around card inserts) appear to have survived by being glued into a family scrap book. They are large (they overlap my scanner's platen on all sides) linen bags used, in 1943, by a South African soldier in North Africa to send gifts back home. Both are franked with Union 'Bantam' issues and each shows a censor's handstamp struck in violet.

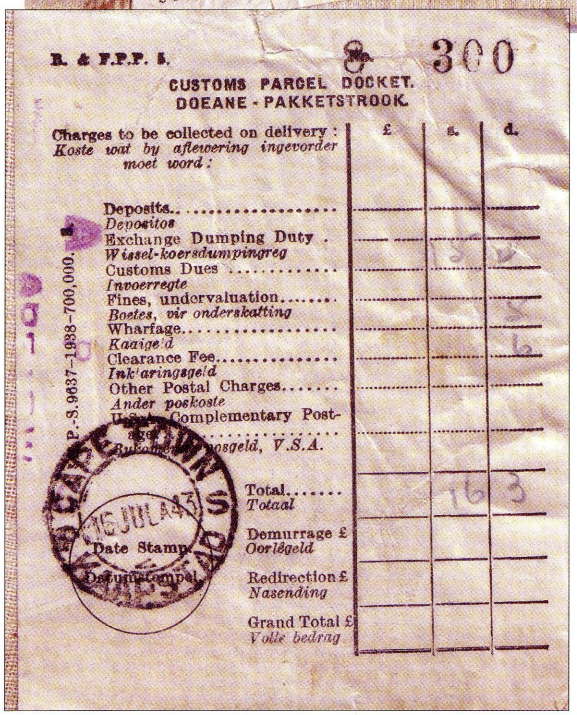
One, with two pairs of 3d stamps cancelled by an unreadable datestamp, states its contents as 'Leather Goods (NCV)' (no commercial value) but with an estimated worth of 10s (not illustrated). The second, (one orange stamp and four blues) is the one shown and has a total franking of 1s 6d, all tied by the datestamp of an Egypt Field Post Office (its number illegible) and declaring contents as a handbag, bracelet and brooch plus a fourth entry (partially deleted by violet crayon) that looks as if it could read 'Cigarettes (Local).' Declared value on this one was £2/10/-.

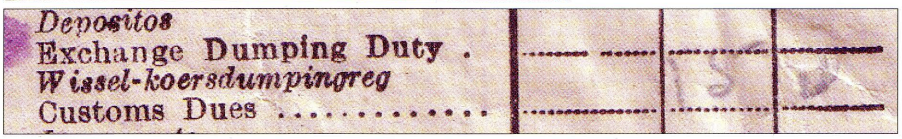
To the point of this article: when arriving in Cape Town, both bags had a Customs Parcel Docket attached - an official little form ('B. & F.P.P. 5') that details any monies still payable, such as customs dues, wharfage, clearance fee, other postal charges, etc. In amongst the mundane fees you might expect are provision for, rather more intriguingly: 'USA Complementary Postage' and 'Exchange Dumping Duty' (the latter shown in the Afrikaans alternate as: wissel-koersdumpingreg).

The lesser package was assessed free of additional charges; whilst the second (with the stated more valuable contents) was charged 15s 4d customs dues; plus 5d for wharfage; and 6d clearance fee, for a total due of 16s 3d.

So (albeit not relevant to these specific items) the *"say what?"* questions arising are: what exactly was 'exchange dumping duty' and what were the circumstances at that time re the 'USA complementary postage?'









I have already researched a couple of answers but it may also be interesting to throw the challenge out to readers to do their own hunting.

Anyone with any explanations or theories to contribute, please feel free to get back to the Editorial team.

We will collate responses and reply to you with some definitive answers.

Email dcrocker@lando.co.za

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JOHANNESBURG EMPIRE EXHIBITION (JIPEX) 1936 Part 2

by André du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society

In conjunction with the Empire Exhibition, the Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition (JIPEX), organised by the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, took place from 2 to 14 November, 1936. This part continues with a description of material that emanated from the exhibition.

DEFECTIVE PRINTING

The colours printing the advertisements were often poorly aligned and overlapping. Badly, overprinted figures and over/under inking are common in both values.

Vic Sorour from the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society in his article *JIPEX Commemorative Panes: The ½d Springbok* in *The SAP* of April 2016 described the different varieties of the ½d stamp in detail. An article by G.N. Gilbert on this value appeared in *The SAP* of March 1937.

There were only ten advertisement settings for the ½d; varieties on each pane help to identify their position on the orginal sheet.

Observations regarding recurring flaws of the advertisements are supplementary to identified and described varieties. The position mentioned, i.e. top left, indicates the position of the advertisement on the sheetlet Fig.1A&B).

ERRORS & VARIETIES

These constant varieties were also observed. Although the list is not exhaustive, the following feature was identified for the 1d by G. Ward (Fig.2 on page 115).

A new observation, one digit of the sheet number is printed in the right margin of pane 18. The other 3 digits are printed on pane 21.

EXHIBITION LABELS

Different exhibition labels were printed with gold and blue backgrounds and made available to the public free of charge.

Printing and perforation of the labels were not of the best quality and label images are found to be misplaced in any direction. Dr. Zerbst described two sizes of the blue label (45mm x 35mm and 43mm x 33mm) perforated 11 and three for the gold label.

The first two being the same size and perforation as the blue ones

HALF PENNY

PANE 1



'Ring' under 'RS' of LETTERS. (Top left)

PANE 9



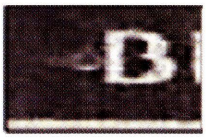
Broken 'L' of TELEFOON. (Bottom right).

PANE 14



Black stroke in 'A' of VALUABLE. (Bottom middle).

PANE 2



'Ring' in front of BRIEWE.(Top middle)

PANE 10



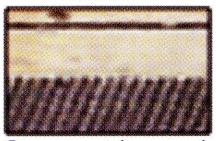
Spot between 'ST' of POST. (Bottom right)

PANE 17



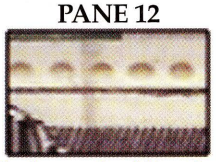
Broken first 'F' of OFFICE. (Top middle).

PANE 5



Green spot in margin above 'V' of SAVINGS. (Top middle)

PANE 12



Black smudged line from 'N' of REVENUE into POST OFFFCE SAVINGS BANK. (Bottom left)

PANE 18

White blotch on TELEPHONE. (Bottom left).



Broken 'T' of TYD. (Bottom middle).



PANE 8



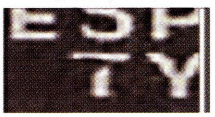
Spot between 'ST' of POST. (Top right)

PANE 13



Broken 'E' of TELEFOON. (Bottom right).

PANE 20



Broken 'T' of TYD. (Top middle).

PANE 21



'Rings' above 'S' of BESPAAR and after TYD. (Bottom right).

Fig.1A: Constant flaws of ½d stamps



Exhibition labels Fig.3a (a-e)

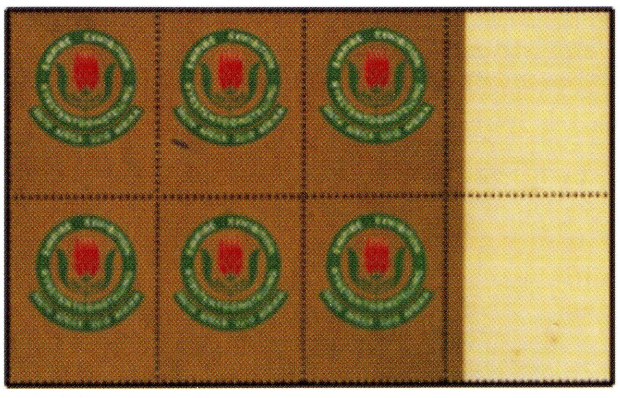


Fig. 3b.

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Fig. 3c
The small gold label measuring 28mm x 22mm, separated by rouletting.



Fig.3d: Rare example of an experimental proof of the Exhibition label, size 45mm x 35mm.

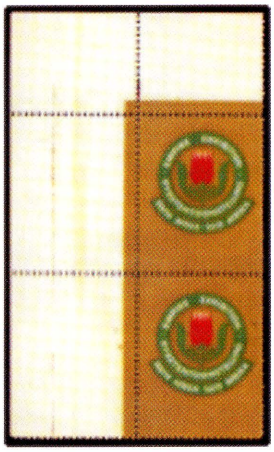


Fig.3e.

and another rouletted one of 28mm x 22mm.

It is not obvious if it was the intention to produce different sizes or rather whether it can be attributed to poorly aligned perforation.

The images show labels of different sizes in height and width.

Note the poor centering of the label images (Fig.3 a-e).

Illustrations of all the Exhibition Labels are courtesy of Dr Nic Zerbst and are usually easy to come. Shade of the colours exist.

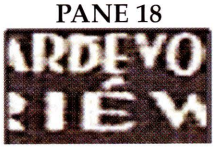
ONE PENNY

PANE 2



White spot under 'I' of BRIEWE. (Top middle).

PANE 18



White spot above 'E' of BRIEWE.(Top right).

PANE 7



Limb on 'C' of OFFICE. (Top right).

PANE 19



Oblique stroke through SAFETY FIRST. (Bottom middle)

PANE 9



Extended 'E' of TELEPHONE.

Extended left leg of 'H' of TELEPHONE. (Top right).

PANE 11



Two white spots after TELEFOON. (Bottom middle).

PANE 14



White spot in red under 'E' and 'S' of STATE EXPRESS. (Top left).

PANE 21



White smudge on 'R' of BESPAAR. (Top middle).



Extended right leg of 'H' in TELEPHONE and apostrophe YOUR. (Top right).



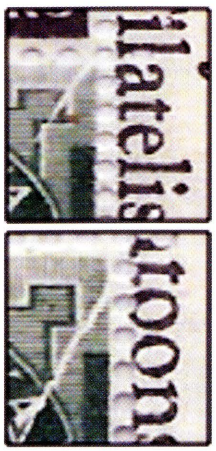
Misformed 'I' of OFFICE and broken frame line under 'C' of OFFICE. (Bottom left).

Fig.1B: *(ABOVE)* ***Recurring flaws of 1d stamps***

½d VARIETIES NOT MENTIONED

PANE 3

Rows 1/12 and 2/12 – White streaks in in the green caused by paper folds before overprinting



These white streaks will also be found on certain sheetlets of panes 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 21

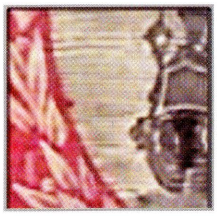
(Fig.2a)

Although the list is not exhaustive the following varieties were identified for the 1d from the work of G. Ward.

1d VARIETIES NOT MENTIONED

PANE 1

Row 1/2 – Red dot on inside edge of oval at 8 o'clock



Row 1/3 – Tiny dot in 'F' of AFRIKA



PANE 2

Rows 2/7 – Very faint projection on leaf next to frame line



PANE 7

Row 7/4 – Red mark in top of middle leaf



PANE 13

Row 13/4 – Red spot between 'P' and 'O: of POSTAGE



Row 14/3 – White spot before 'S' of SOUTH



PANE 19

Illustrated as Fig. 2c on the next page...

PANE 20

Row 20/6 – Red spot above 'K' and 'A' of AFRIKA



(Fig.2b)

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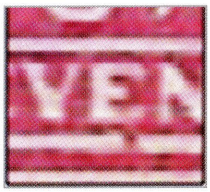
1d VARIETIES NOT MENTIONED

PANE 19

Row 19/2 – Red spot under 'E' of REVENUE



Row 19/4 – Black spot under mountain



Row 20/4 – Misformed 'K' of INKOMSTE



(Fig.2c)

JIPEX COVERS

Official JIPEX illustrated covers were printed and made available at 3d each at the exhibition. Variations are found in the cream colour of the paper used, with Type 1 typically being a darker shade.

Covers were designed to accommodate a full JIPEX sheetlet.They proved very popular and the demand was such that extra printings were made. Most of the postally used covers are of a philatelic nature with overrated postage. It is estimated that over 25,000 covers were sold and sent all over the world.

Four printings (types) can be distinguished by comparing the position of NOVEMBER in line 2 with the word INTERNATIONAL in the first line (Fig.4).

Type 1: Left limb of 'N' of NOVEMBER starting under 'G' of JOHANNESBURG. NOVEMBER printed the same size as the first line. JIPEX is 4mm high.

Type 2: Left limb of 'N' of NOVEMBER starting towards the left of 'I' of INTERNATIONAL. NOVEMBER printed the same size as the first line. JIPEX is 4mm high

Type 3: Left limb of 'N' of NOVEMBER starting under 'I' of INTERNATIONAL. NOVEMBER printed the same size as the first line. JIPEX is 4mm high.

Type 4: Left limb of 'N' of NOVEMBER starting towards the right under 'I' of

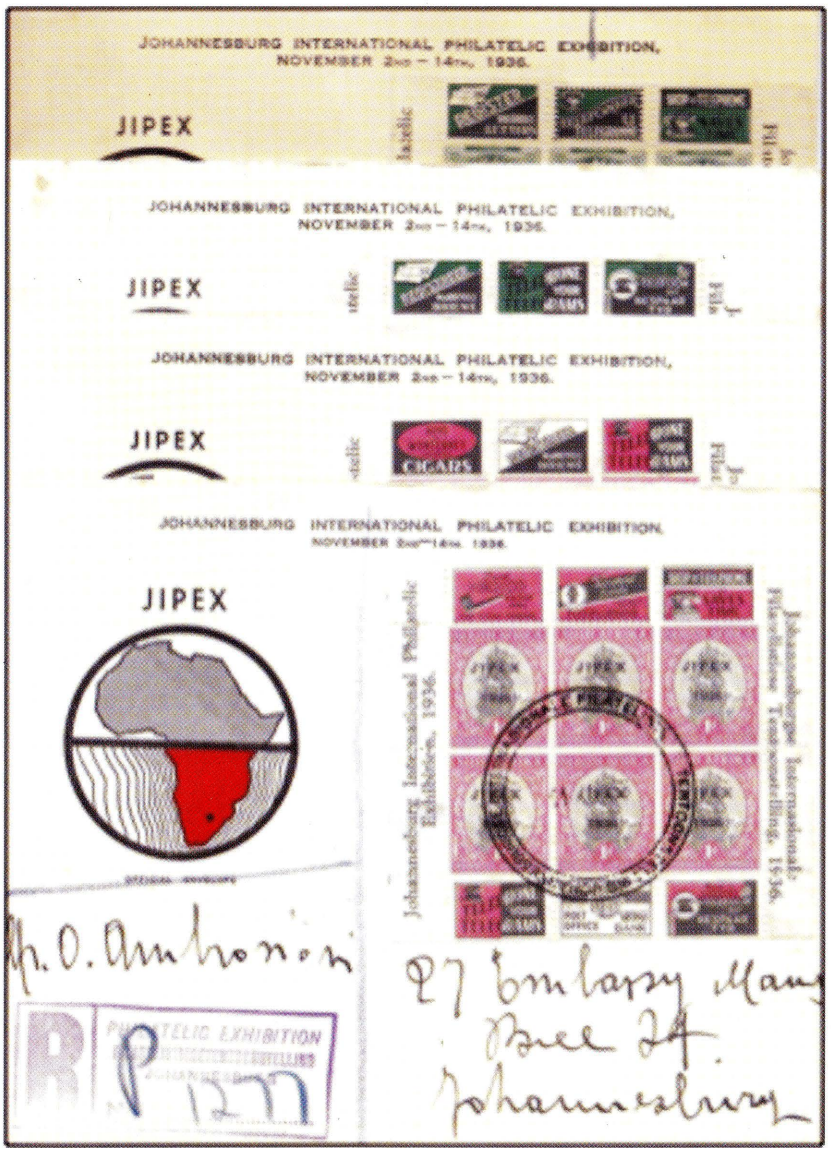


Fig.4: Printing types of JIPEX covers

INTERNATIONAL. NOVEMBER is printed smaller as the first line. JIPEX is 5mm high.

In the first printing (Type 1) several covers had the red colour in the lower half of Africa omitted (Fig.5). These are rare.

In all printings the red colour also differs in shade and is found misplaced in any direction.

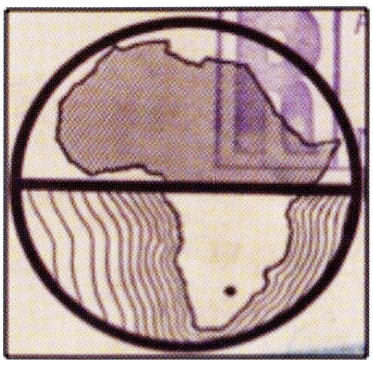


Fig.5: Red colour omitted

By the last day, all stocks were sold out and the organisers issued 'emergency' covers. This was necessitated by a frenzy to get a last day cancellation. These covers had JOHANNESBURG INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION. NOVEMBER 2nd - 14th, 1936 typed on plain envelopes.

THE 1½d STAMP

Under the Empire Airmail Scheme all first-class mail was conveyed over the Empire air routes at a rate of 1½d per half ounce. Consequent on the introduction of the Empire Flying Boat service in 1937, the postal authorities decided to prepare a 1½d stamp to meet the demand for such a denomination.

Stamps were prematurely released and placed on sale on 12 November 1936. They were also available at the Exhibition Post Office. The early release was justified by the increasing demand for a 1½d stamp to frank

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mail intended for transportation by air within the Union and South-West Africa.

It was found that several stamps on the first sheets sold at the Exhibition Post Office had the shading on the mine dump partly (Fig.6), and in some instances, completely missing (Fig.7). The variety appeared on various places on the sheets. Stamps with this variety are mostly found in used condition with the Exhibition First Day cancel of 12 November 1936. All stamps are from the first printing – Head plate 6933 and Frame plate 62

EXHIBITION AIR MAIL POST CARDS

Special exhibition Air Mail Post Cards, printed in blue, were issued on 19 October 1936. The design of the post card symbolises Johannesburg's 50 years of progress - from a mining camp to a modern city.

On the left is shown a wagon being drawn by a span of oxen and an Imperial Airways 'Atalanta' aircraft flying towards the Tower of Light against a silhouette of the Golden City in the background. The words: EMPIRE EXHIBITION JOHANNESBURG 1936 / RYKSTENTOONSTELLING JOHANNESBURG 1936 feature on the front of the card, reading upward and downwards.

If posted at the Exhibition Post Office, it could be sent by airmail to any part of the world at a ½d rate. Six different cards showing photographs of airmail being handled by the Post Office were sold for 3d per set at the Exhibition.



Fig.8: Exhibition airmail postcard with different images

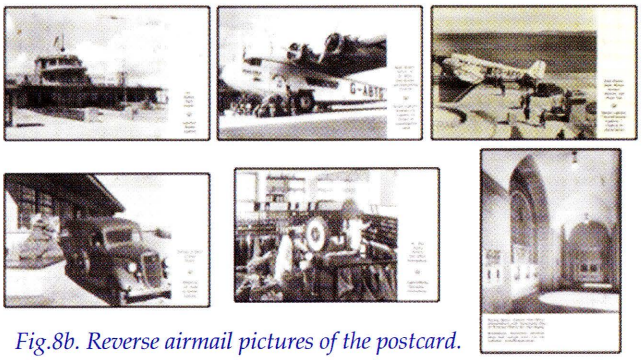

Fig.8b. Reverse airmail pictures of the postcard.

The following pictures appear at the back of a card (Fig.8**b** left to right):

1. Air Station, Rand Airport,
2. Rand Airport - Arrival of airmails from Europe and intermediate Countries,
3. Rand Airport - SA Airways' machine and postal van,
4. Delivery of mails at Rand Airport,
5. Airmail Section, General Post Office, Johannesburg,
6. Posting boxes General Post Office, Johannesburg, with illuminated map of principal world airmail routes .



Fig.7: *Completely missing shading on mine dump*



Fig.6: *First Day Cover featuring stamps with partly missing shading.*

EXHIBITION POST CARDS

A set of six Exhibition Post Cards for general use appeared simultaneously with the Airmail Post Cards. The Tower of Light with the wording: EMPIRE EXHIBITION JOHANNESBURG 1936 RYKSTENTOONSTELLING featured on the front of the card.

The following pictures were printed at the back (Top left to right):

1. Telephone Tower, Johannesburg 1907:
2. Interior, Telephone Tower, Johannesburg (1894 - 1907):
3. Post Office Stone:
4. First Post Office Telegraph Office, Johannesburg (1887):
5. General Post Office, Johannesburg (1904):

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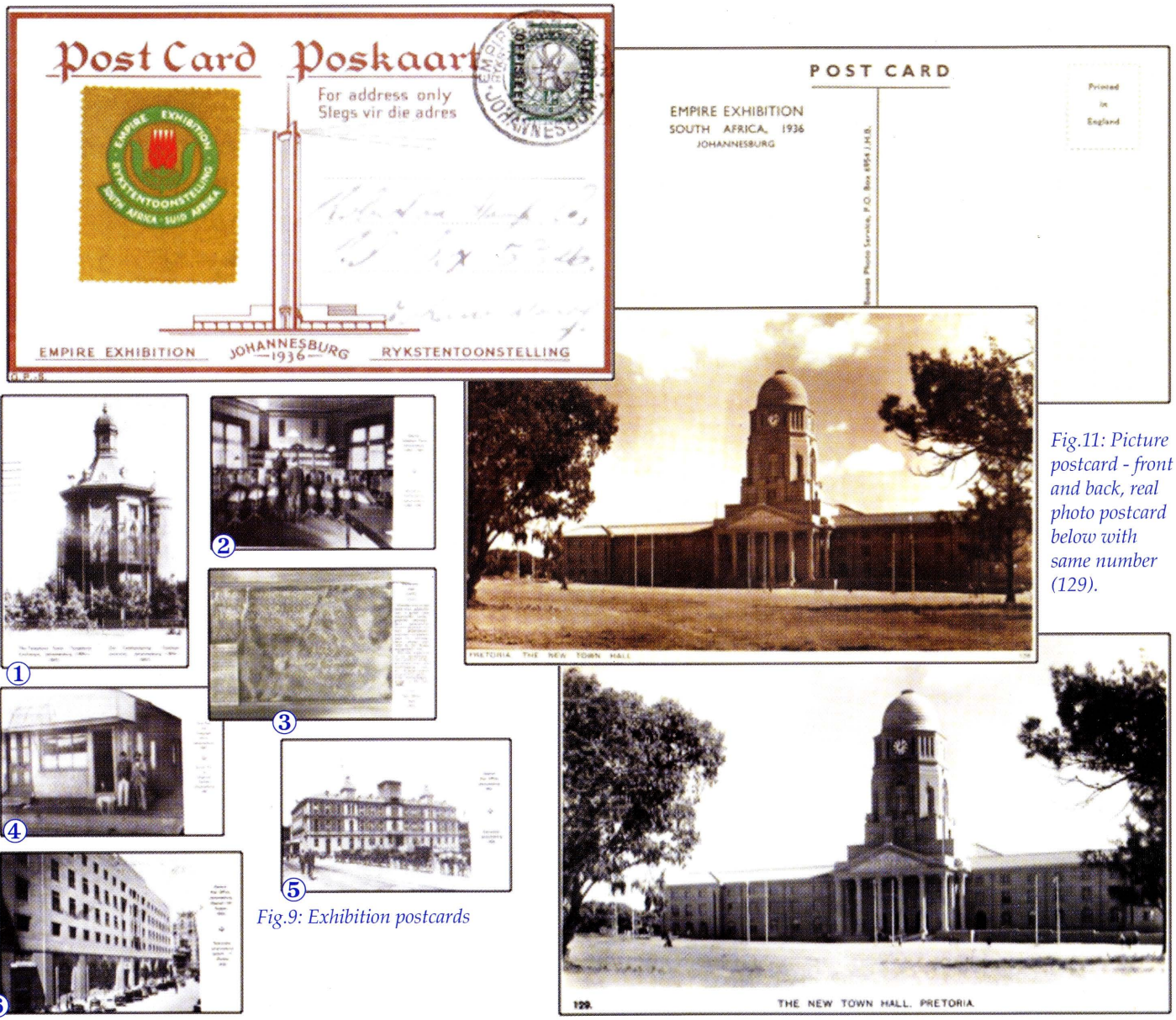

Fig.11: Picture postcard - front and back, real photo postcard below with same number (129).

Fig.9: Exhibition postcards



Fig.10: Exhibition telegram cover

6. General Post Office, Johannesburg, 1935 (Fig.9).

EXHIBITION SOUVENIR TELEGRAMS

Special souvenir telegram covers were printed. The Tower of Light with the wording: 'Souvenir telegram/Aandenkingstelegram' and 'EMPIRE EXHIBITION JOHANNESBURG 1936 RYKSTENTOONSTELLING' featured on the front of the cover (Fig.10). In some instances, the colour of the paper has faded appearing as a bluish/brown colour.

The inside telegram paper was on 60gsm with a bilingual simulated watermark. The wording is: 'POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS. This form should accompany any enquiry' and 'POSKANTOOR TELEGRAMME. Hierdie vorm moet navrae vergesel' The 'watermark' was printed in reverse on the back of the paper in purple ink. Viewed from the front, it appears as a true watermark.

PRIVATE POST CARDS (Fig.11)

During the 1924 Empire Exhibition held at Wembley, post cards were issued by Fleetway Press, London. Beanes Photo Services, PO Box 6954, Johannesburg followed this trend and ordered post cards from England with images of Johannesburg and other cities in the Union, Southern Rhodesia, flora and fauna. Two types were ordered, Picture Post Cards and Real Photo Cards.

However, it appears the original order arrived too late and none were sold during the Exhibition and as a result, no cards with any of the Exhibition cancellations exist. The assumption is that Beanes Photo Services printed a few cards locally

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because of the late delivery of the original order from London and it was these cards that were most likely sold at the exhibition.

FORGERIES

Stamps have been found showing 'trial overprints'. Examples exist with different fonts as well as the overprint in red and black ink, upright or inverted as well as JIPEX without the date (Figs.12 a-d).

The only reference found about 'trial overprints' appeared in an article in *The SAP* August 2005 by Danie Scheepers RDPSA, who wrote: "...There is no reference to these 'trials' and though it is conceivable that trials would have been done prior to deciding on an overprint which would be used on thousands of stamps, they might well be bogus".

This is the most acceptable description of these stamps as no mention is made of them in any of the *Union Handbooks* as well as by the early South African philatelists discussing the JIPEX issue.

MIDGET TOWN

Interesting to note is the existence of an unofficial 'postmark' associated with JIPEX. A midget town was erected in the Amusement Park of the Exhibition centre where souvenirs and other items were sold. The troupe came from the UK and were part of Fred Roper's Midgets accompanied by Dinny Duffy, an 8-foot (2,4m) tall Australian giant (Fig.13).

The midgets gave performances for the amusement of the spectators.

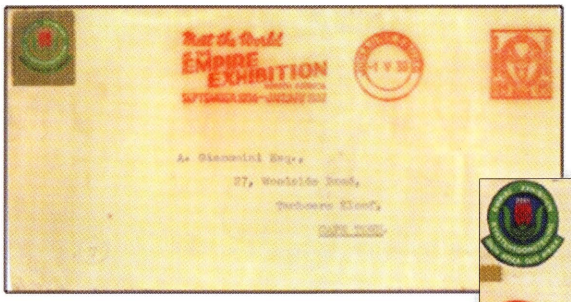
A 'Post Office' was erected where the midgets sold postcards and had their own 'special date stamp'. If franked, the item was postmarked with this date stamp and then handed back to the owner. It follows that some were sent through the post (Figs.14 & 15). The midgets made money from purchasing JIPEX sheets, especially on the opening day. As a ticket holder was entitled to only one pair of sheetlets, the midgets stood repeatedly in the queue, obtaining many sheets that they later sold at a premium.



Figs.12 (a-d): Examples of forgeries
Red without date *Red with date inverted* *Black with date inverted* *Black without date*

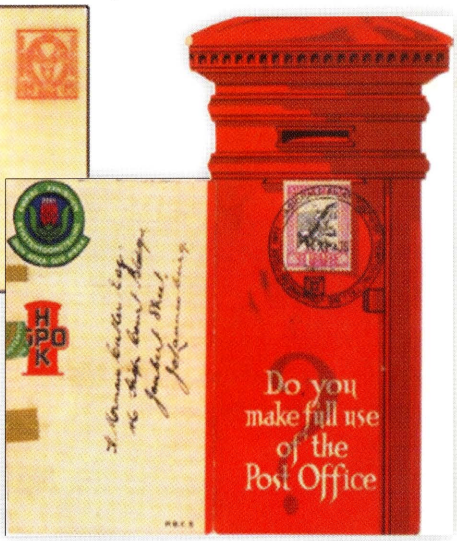
Images courtesy D Scheepers

The publicity folder was in the shape of a red post box with space for the address at the back. When franked with a 1d stamp, it could be posted at the Exhibition Post Office (Fig.17).



PUBLICITY

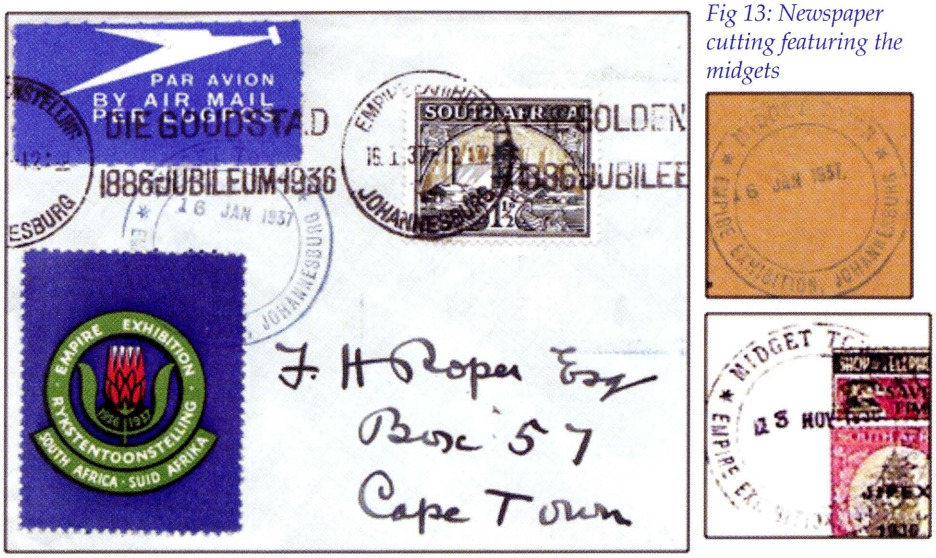
Apart for the Exhibition labels, the exhibition was widely advertised in the media as well as by the Post Office. An example is the Metered Cover with Empire Exhibition advertisement and small gold label (Fig.16). *Image courtesy of Dr Nic Zerbst*



Figs 16 & 17: Metered cover & publicity folder



Fig 13: Newspaper cutting featuring the midgets



Figs 14 & 15: Cover from Midget Town 'Post Office' and their own 'Date stamp'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Permission to publish appropriate images is acknowledged with thanks:

Dr N Zerbst, D Scheepers RDPSA, Flight Global, The Heritage Portal, WordPress.com and South African Medals, Wikipedia. ***Note: images are not original size.***

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- Ward G RDP, c.1956. *The Ship Penny*, published by C.E. Sherwood.

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Newcastle Stamp & Coin Expo 2018 in Australia

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Commissioner and Juror.

- **Ian Matheson. Large Gold award for Entertainment Tax in South Africa.**
- **Howard Green. Large Gold award for SWA Revenues. Also he was runner-up to the Grand Prix.**
- **Peter van der Molen. Large Silver for Picture Postcards of Swaziland.**

It has been a privilege to represent South Africa as Commissioner and Juror at the Newcastle Stamp and Coin Expo held in Newcastle in Australia from 25 to 27 May 2018.

The Newcastle Philatelic Society had their Centenary Exhibition in the form of a National Philatelic Exhibition at the Newcastle Showgrounds. This was a half National Exhibition with the following selected FIP plus APF classes: Postal History, Postal Stationery, Picture Postcards, Aerophilately, Polar Philately and Literature organised by the Society under the auspices of the Australian Philatelic Federation.



Fig.1: One of the limited number of special sheets issued for the exhibition.

The Newcastle Jury under the able Chairmanship of Geoff Kellow judged 66 competitive entries and the following results were achieved:

Large Gold -10, Gold - 10,
Large Vermeil - 17,
Vermeil - 10,
Large Silver - 9, Silver - 7,
Silver Bronze - 1 and Bronze - 1

The three South African Exhibits garnered two Large Gold medals and one Large Silver medal:

- Howard Green: *South West African Revenues and Allied Tax Stamps:* 92, Large Gold with a Special Prize as one of three runner-ups for the Best in Show - the Grand Prix prize.
- Ian Matheson: *Entertainment Tax in South Africa*: 91, Large Gold plus a Special Prize as Best from Aero/ Modern/Revenue/Frugal.

The jury of 16 included four accord judges: from New Zealand - Sue Vernall; South Africa - Gerhard Kamffer; UAE - Javaid Muhummad and USA - Robert Ziegler, together with three apprentices.

A total of 11 exhibits were entered into the Postal Stationery section focusing mostly on Australian Airletters and Aerogrammes. However, the Best in Show (Grand Prix) was won by Ian McMahon from North South Wales for his collection *Air Letters and Aerogrammes of Canada* with a Large Gold – 92 marks.

I also had the privilege to serve in a small group of three, judging non-Australian postal history under the able and experienced leadership of Geoffrey Lewis from Australia together with Sue Vernall from New Zealand. The standard in the non-Australian section was extremely high with amongst others the following interesting exhibits:

- *Sweden and Great Britain: Mail Connections till UPU* by Wayne Donaldson (NSW) – 91 Large Gold plus a Special Prize.
- *A Postal History of the Airmails from Iraq 1919 – 1945* by Armad Bin Eisa Alserkal (UAE) – 90 Large Gold plus Special Prize: Best in Postal History Class.
- *The Boer War 1899-1902. Prisoner of War Mail* by John Pugsley (NSW)- 90 Large Gold with a Special Prize: Best Postal History Runner Up.
- *Postal Routes for International Mail of China during the Sino Japanese War of 1937-1945* by Albert Cheung (NSW). – 86 Gold



Fig.2: More than 300 frames displayed at the exhibition.

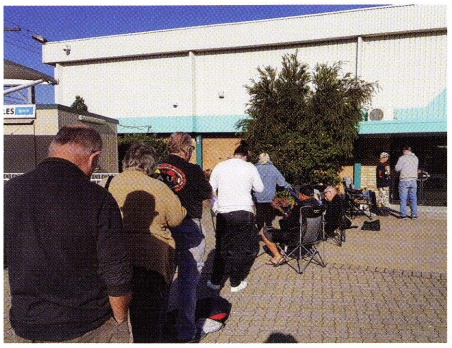

Fig.3: Keen philatelists and members of the public waited in queues to enter. About 500 people viewed the exhibits daily.



Fig.4: Judges of the non-Australian postal history section: Geoffrey Lewis (Australia) and Sue Vernall (New Zealand) with Gerhard Kamffer.

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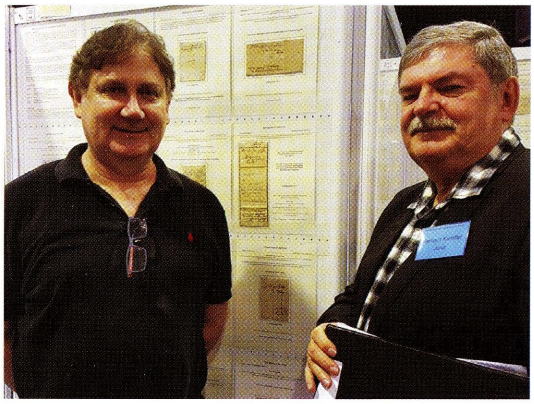


Fig.5: Stephen Browne from NSW in front of the frame with the Corsini-letter dated 1574 with Gerhard Kamffer.



There were 28 stamp, coin and banknote dealers in attendance.

- *Postal History of the British Isles to 1711* by Stephen Browne (NSW) – 85 Gold

In his exhibit *Postal History of the British Isles*, Stephen Browne displayed very rare and interesting Corsini-letters as part of his exhibit of which one of eleven Corsini-letters from Ireland is illustrated as part of this report. The Corsini family were Florentine merchants resident in London. Only 374 letters in the Corsini correspondence originated from towns and cities within the British Isles and of these only 49 internal letters show post rates.

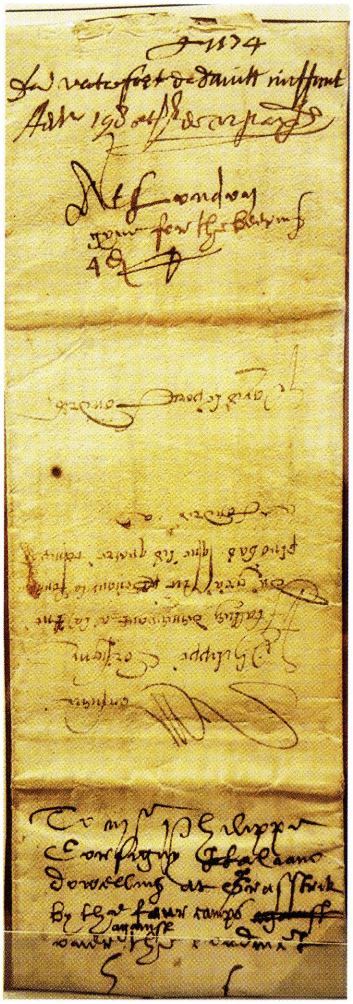


Fig.6: (At right) The only Corsini letter from Ireland showing a postal rate and believed to be the earliest letter from Ireland showing a postal marking dated 22 September 1574. Letter from Jamais Disistant in Waterford sent to Fillipo Corsini in London. Anotated on the front: 'Payd le port' (paid the post) and 'gyve for the Kerrying 4d' (give for the Carrying 4d) on the reverse . (Collection of Stephen Browne from NSW in Australia).

Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

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

Episode 48

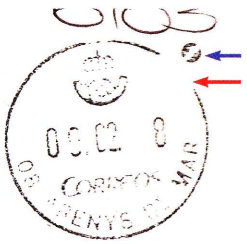
Errors on Stamps...

'WRONG CORONATION YEAR'

The Italian Europa stamp of 1982 shows a scene from the Coronation of the famous German Emperor Karl der Grosse (Charles the Great or lat.*Carolus Magnus*) by Pope Leo in Rome in the year 800. This is a well known date of an important event that all Italian children have to learn at school, so why has Italy changed the year to 799 on the 200 Lire stamp...?



A PHILATELIC ENIGMA



Die interessante seëllose koevert van David Wigston (*SAP* 948 p83) laat dink dat die Spaanse posdiens die registrasiestrokie beskou as bewys van betaling van posgeld, registrasiegeld en wat ook al.

Jy kry die registrasie plakker tog net as jy alles betaal het. Anders gestel die registrasie plakker DIEN as 'n (genommerde) posseël. [Vergelyk met ons spoedpakket seëls en onthou seëls word aldag nie ge-rojeer by ons registrasies nie.]

Is die stempel so geplaas dat daar ruimte gelaat is vir aanvullende posgeld? Die jaartal is sonder die 1 van 18. Die kolletjie se posisie wys dalk die uur van die dag.



Wat die kompetisie-georienteerde filateliste gaan doen om *'used stamps'* te erken, word al moeiliker.

Monus Flemming



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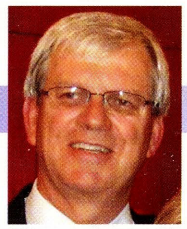

THE JUDGING OF CINDERELLAS

by Hugh Amoore RDPSA and Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA

Cinderella collecting is growing and is an unusual exhibiting area. Locally it falls in a special class: Cinderellas. In South Africa there is no Cinderella Society active to our knowledge.

These are proposed special PFSA regulations for the local judging of Cinderella exhibits.

This class is not, as yet, recognised by FIP.

1. These special regulations apply at PFSA sanctioned South African competitive exhibitions, at which the Cinderella Class is offered.
2. This class includes labels and other similar items that resemble postage stamps but are not postage stamps. These labels are not part of the system for the advance payment of carriage of mail or other postal items.
3. We do not provide an exhaustive definition of 'Cinderella material' and we do not believe it necessary to do so. However 'Cinderella material':-

3a) **includes** labels that resemble postage stamps (sometimes called 'poster stamps') produced

- to raise money [for a charity or institution] and/or;
- publicise/advertise an event or institution or geographic location; and/or
- advance a cause;

where any payment made does not pre-pay for the carriage of letters or postage or any postal related [official] charge.

3b) includes **airmail labels** but airmail labels that include the airmail fee are postage stamps and are thus excluded. The Cinderella airmail label is simply a directional label indicating that the sender intended the item to be carried by air.

3c) includes registration labels;

3d) may include 'locals' (but see regulation 5 below);

3e) may include Cinderella material that has been though the post in combination with postage stamps or similar material;

3f) It **excludes**

- postage stamps;
- railway stamps;
- postage due stamps;
- revenue (fiscal) stamps; and
- stamps or etiquettes of any kind that denote payment has been made for the conveyance of mail, or for postal service.

4. Cinderella exhibits typically include
   - Christmas stamps / seals,
   - TB stamps / seals
   - airmail labels
   - registration labels
   - poster stamps
   - labels associated with exhibitions (especially but not exclusively philatelic exhibitions; e.g. the labels produced for trade fairs, the Franco-British Exhibition of 1908)
   - bogus and phantom issues; and
   - advertising labels.
5. 'Local issues' represent a difficult area: for example Zemstvos are locals but there is no doubt that Zemstvos [pre- or post 1864] are not Cinderellas (they were adhesives used to prepay postage).
6. Other locals may also be seen differently: for example most philatelists would accept that the College stamps of Oxford and Cambridge are Cinderellas.
7. All philatelists would accept that the college stamps produced for training purposes by US and Canadian business colleges served no postal purpose and must be classified as Cinderellas.
8. [Postal] fakes and [postal] forgeries **of postal material** to avoid postage and defraud the Post Office of Revenue are not proper Cinderellas.
9. Fakes and forgeries made to defraud collectors, or to be used by collectors as facsimiles/space fillers are Cinderellas.
10. A study of perfin patterns could be entered under the Cinderella class while an exhibit of stamps with perfin patterns would not be accepted. Here the distinction lies in the intention, and the intention of the study of perfin patterns would place emphasis on the identification of patterns and the firms each represented, as opposed to a display of the postage stamps carrying the perfin patterns only for security reasons.

One must be sure that the Cinderella material shown would not be more appropriately displayed in the social philately class, but this will depend on the treatment of the exhibit.

Archival material dealing with Cinderellas is rare but has a place in a Cinderella exhibit.

Judging of Cinderella exhibits

Point breakdown will be as follow:

Treatment	15
Knowledge and research	35
Condition and rarity	30
Presentation	5
Importance	15
TOTAL	**100**

Comments and suggestions will be welcome.

CHRIS MOBSBY

provides comment to this article:

"To quote the Cinderella Stamp Club of London, surely the ultimate authority when it comes to defining that particular category of philately, it is stated in each of their bi-monthly journals that the term *'Cinderellas of Philately'* includes **"Local stamps; Telegraph stamps; Railway stamps; Revenues/Fiscals; Forgeries; Bogus and Phantom issues; Poster Stamps; Christmas, Red Cross, TB and Charity seals; Registration labels and Airmail etiquettes and Advertising and Exhibition labels"**.

Of particular note in this list are *'Railway'* and *'Revenue'* stamps, both of which are specifically excluded by Hugh and Neil. However, what is possibly a more contentious issue is the definition of *'Local stamps'*. Personally, I feel that the word 'Local' says it all. If the validity of a stamp is limited to a finite destination or range, then I would contend that it justifies the epithet 'local'. This would be regardless of the magnitude of the area involved so that even such issues as the Zemstvos of Russia and the Treaty Ports of China would still be classified as 'local'. Nor would their appearance in *Stanley Gibbons* stand in the way of any particular stamp earning the 'local' tag. To name but three, the 'Lady McLeod' of Trinidad of 1847, the Stockholm issue of Sweden (1856-62) and the lone stamp of Tierra del Fuego of 1891 all appear in the latest copy of *Gibbons* on my library shelves but each is undeniably of a local nature. Remember too that in the days when there was a Part 3 of *Gibbons*, it was dedicated to local posts. Other than certain towns that had their own stamp issues during the Anglo-Boer War, I cannot think of very many South African Local Posts but, for the sake of interest I will illustrate three from my collection, those of the Rijdende Dienst Macht as used by the mounted police in the OFS (1896-1900), Mount Currie Express of East Griqualand (1874-1877) and a used postage due stamp of F.H.Bakker's Express a post cart that ran between Pretoria and Marabastad via Nylstroom in 1887."



The Lady McLeod was a steamship that operated in the Caribbean in the 19th Century



The Rijdende Dienst Macht as used by the mounted police in the O.F.S.(1896-1900)



Mount Currie Express of East Griqualand (1874-1877)



Used postage due stamp of F.H.Bakker's Express

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FURTHER POINTS TO PONDER...

In response to Chris Mobsby; We suggest that what has been proposed should be seen as facilitating exhibitors to enter Cinderella exhibits, and as guidelines that need to be interpreted flexibly by juries, always having in mind two things:

a) the need to encourage exhibits and

b) the need to give an exhibit the best possible result.

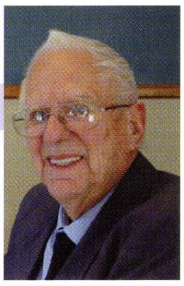
So, in that spirit we suggest that:

1. While a collector may wish to show revenues as Cinderellas, revenues are now generally accepted (by both FIP and FIAP) as belonging in a section of their own;

2. Many 'locals' do and should continue to find a home in traditional (and thematic) exhibits where other forms of Cinderellas do not (Zemstvos are a good example, and an exhibitor would not fall foul of FIP GRVs for including College stamps in a thematic, but would were he or she to include other forms of Cinderellas);

3. Railway stamps (for example the Belgian Railways parcel stamps) though issued by rail companies and not postal administrations are now generally shown in the class for 'traditional' entries (and are to be found in standard catalogues of postage stamps).

Our suggested guidelines are intended to encourage Cinderella collectors to exhibit by providing a new class. As there is already provision for collectors of revenues we propose that they not be included in the Cinderellas section. And, finally, the onus remains on each jury to move an exhibit to a different class if it believes that the exhibit would do better elsewhere.



TRADITIONAL PHILATELY

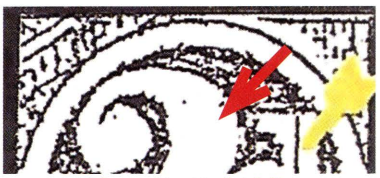
REVISITING THE 2d LONDON PRINTING 'SPLIT d' FLAW

by Mike Tonking RDPSA, SA Stamp Study Circle

One of the best known of the few flaws that occurred on the recess printed 2d London Printings is known as the 'Split d' of 2d, which is found on row 8/8 of the left pane and row 8/2 of the right pane. It only occurred on the two pane printings.

It is an acquired flaw which made its first appearance on the September 1929 printing of Issue 4 perforation Group 1, in the form of a vertical line through the 'd' of 2d.

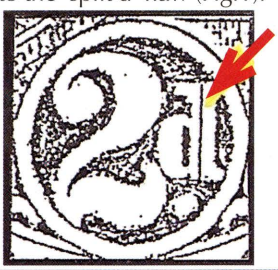
The second 'split d' flaw occurred in February 1930 on the second two pane printing which was now perforated Group 111. At the same time, an additional acquired flaw in the form of a 'split A' on rows 10/1 and 10/7 made its first appearance. The vertical line through the right leg of the last 'A' in AFRIKA is similar to the 'split d' flaw (Fig.1).



The 'split A' of Afrika.

The third and final 'split d' as well as the 'split A' occurred on the third Issue 4 printing in September 1930. In this case, the perforation was now Group 11 (Fig.2).

This was the last time these flaws were seen, as they do not occur on the final Issue 4 cleaned plate printing as they had, in some way, been corrected.



The 'split d' of 2d.



Fig.1: Issue 4 Perforation Group III. The second 'split d' flaw with 'split A' of Afrika.



Fig.2: Issue 4 Perforation Group II. See yellow arrow bottom left corner. The third 'split d' flaw with 'split A' of Afrika.

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- *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa* - S.J. Hagger RDPSA. 1986.

"It is very easy to break and destroy, the heroes are those who make peace and who build"

UNPA to issue Nelson Mandela definitive

by Denise McCarty



The United Nations Postal Administration issued a stamp on July 18 honoring Nelson Mandela. Born 100 years ago, on 18 July 1918; not only is it Mandela's birthday, it is also Nelson Mandela International Day. In 2009, the U.N. General Assembly established this day in recognition of his contributions to the culture of peace and freedom. And i n 2015, the U.N. General Assembly extend the scope of Nelson Mandela International Day *"to also be utilized in order to promote humane conditions of imprisonment, to raise awareness about prisoners being a continuous part of society and to value the work of prison staff as a social service of particular importance,"* according to the website www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay.

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The First Butterfly recorded in history

by Vladimir Kachan, Belarus

The Plain Tiger butterfly with scientific name *Danaus chrysippus*, also known as the African Monarch, (Fig.1) belongs to the same scientific genus as the American Monarch butterfly, considered to be the most famous butterfly in the world thanks to the tremendous distances it migrates.

The African Monarch is one of the most well-known species of butterfly in the world (Fig.2). Besides occurring across Africa it is found in southern Europe and most of southern Asia. Its bright colour protects it from predators because it is very unpalatable. The African Monarch butterfly feeds mainly on the milkweed plant (Fig.3, illustrated on the next page) and its body retains some of the milkweed's toxicity, which makes it smell and taste unpleasant to predators. It is therefore able to escape being eaten most of the time and as a result, it is able to fly more directly than other species that have to fly erratically to avoid predators. Thus our summer months are filled with the lazy and flaunting flight of the African Monarch butterfly. Flying slowly and near the ground, potential predators have ample opportunity to view the bright colours on their wings and seek food elsewhere (Fig.4). This colouration of the African Monarch is so effective that other butterflies have evolved similar colourations even though they are not poisonous.

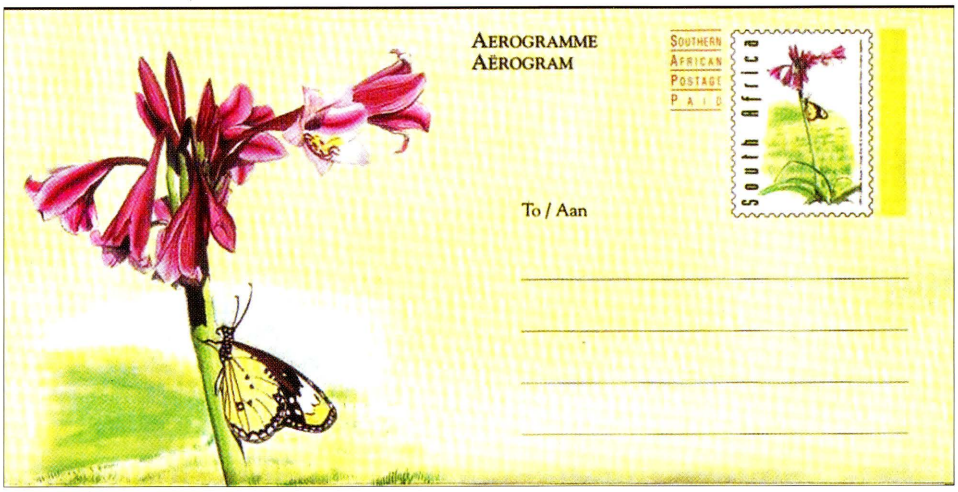

Fig.1 Aerogramme of South Africa 2000 with African Monarch butterfly.



Fig.2 African Monarch butterfly on a souvenir sheet of Uganda 2000.

These beautiful orange, black and white medium-sized butterflies start life as brightly coloured caterpillars, which mostly feed on toxic plants. Females lay one egg per leaf on a suitable plant (Fig.5), thus ensuring that the baby caterpillars do not have to compete for food. The unique ability of the larvae of the African Monarch to absorb the toxic compounds from their food plants makes them distasteful to predators. In addition, the bright colour contrasts in both larvae and adult insects, such as black, yellow, red, orange, and white, also serve as a warning, thus protecting the species. This type of colouration is known as Aposematic colouration.

Once the larva has pupated into a brightly coloured adult butterfly it absorbs bitter, poisonous alkaloids from certain plants, like some Senecio and Heliotrope species. The male Monarchs suck the alkaloids and create useful chemicals such as pheromones to attract female Monarchs, and bitter compounds that are distasteful to predators. The males then transfer some of these chemicals to the females when they mate, allowing them to create their own protective defense.

African Monarch Butterflies are located in many environments throughout southern Europe and Africa (Fig.6). They can be found in deserts or open countryside and in the mountains, up to altitudes of 9,000 feet.

From the deepest, darkest caves have emerged pictures of humanity from thousands of years ago. In an Egyptian tomb, that of Nebamun in Luxor, on a painting called *Fowling in the Marshes* (from around 1350 BCE) comes one of the oldest human depiction of butterflies; And it happens to be of the African Monarch, *Danaus chrysippus*, sometimes called the Plain Tiger, a close relative of our beloved North American Monarch butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*. This butterfly has the



Fig.4 Imperforated stamp of Iraq 1980 with African Monarch butterfly.

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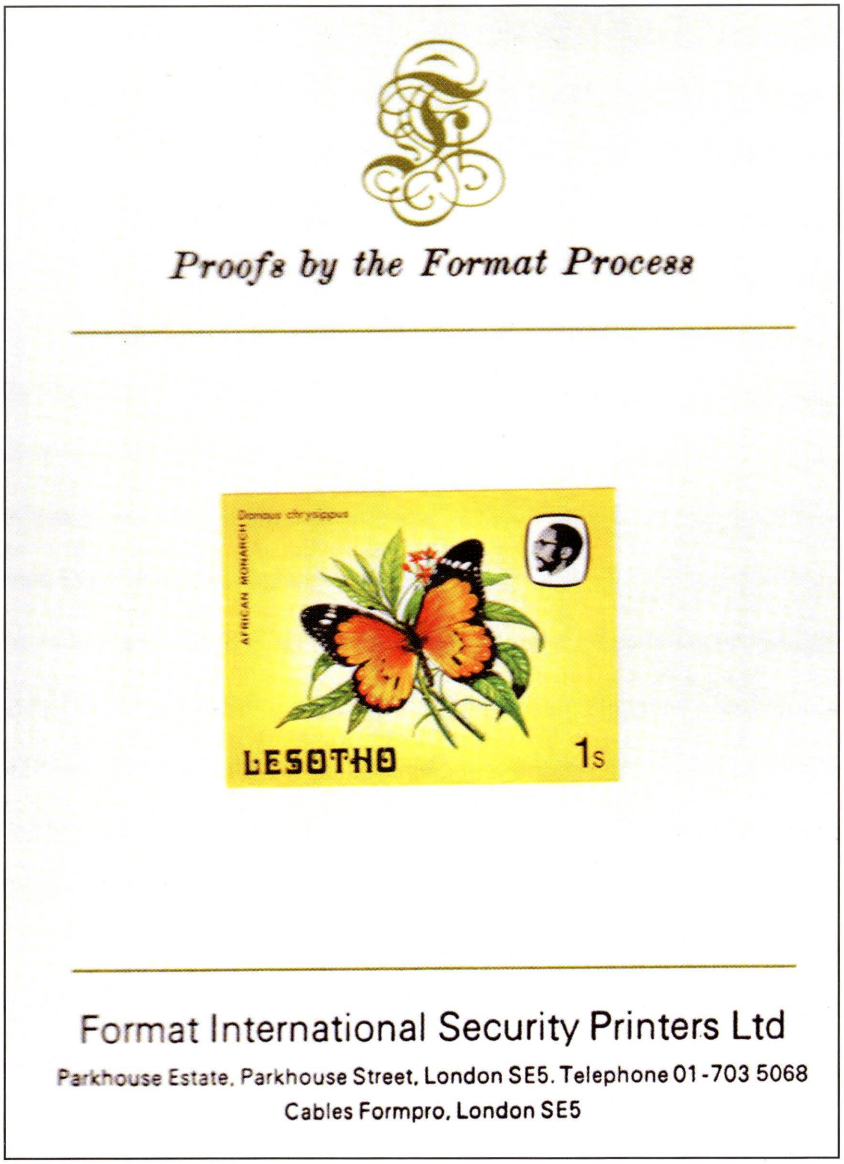

Fig.3 Lesotho 1984 Proof with African Monarch butterfly.

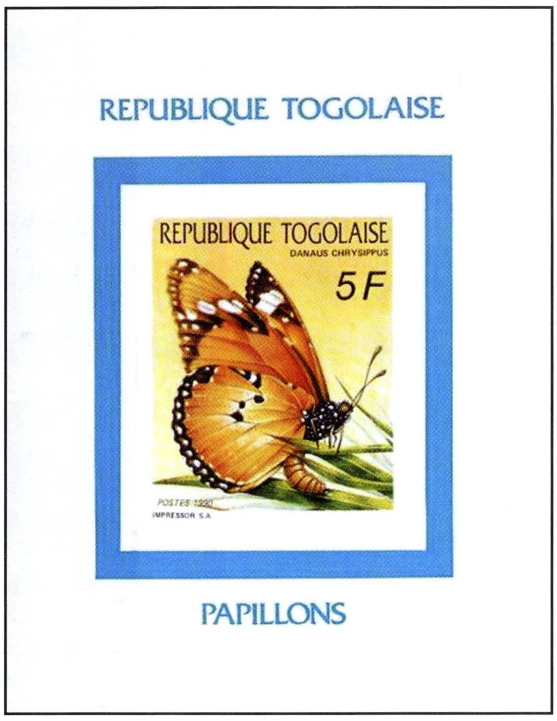

Fig.5 Deluxe Sheet of Togo 1990 - African Monarch butterfly lays one egg per leaf.



Fig.6 Artwork for stamp of Burundi 1968 with African Monarch butterfly.

distinction of being the oldest known to have been represented by man. Seven specimens of it (with typical white-dotted Danaus body) are shown flitting over the papyrus swamp (Fig.7). Of course, there is nothing special about being the oldest depiction of a butterfly by Homo sapiens. But suffice it to say, butterflies, metamorphosis, wing patterning, and the beauty of nature have been on our minds for a very long time.

The Author is ready to help philatelists in creating philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address: Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus, E-mail: vladimirkachan@mail.ru



Fig.7 Stamp of Central African Republic 2016 with fragment of the painting in an Egyptian tomb with illustration of the African Monarch butterfly.

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The Bechuanaland Border Police

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The Bechuanaland

In 1885 the British Government despatched an expeditionary force under the command of General Charles Warren to establish control of the strategic corridor of land north of the Cape Colony which was threatened by German expansion from the west and the settlement of Boer farmers to the east. Following the successful completion of Warren's mission, the territory south of the Molopo River became the colony of British Bechuanaland, and that north of the Molopo as far as latitude 22 degrees south was declared a Protectorate.

The next task was the establishment of a military force to patrol the borders of the new territory. The initial recruits of the Bechuanaland Border Police came mainly from the disbanded mounted units of Warren's Expeditionary Force.

The Border Police headquarters were in Mafeking, south of the Protectorate in British Bechuanaland. The first Police camp within the Protectorate was established in December 1885 at Shoshong, the capital of the lands ruled by Khama III, Chief of the BaNgwato. Additional, smaller camps were established at Kanye and Molepolole in early 1886 and later at Fort Elebe, Ramotswa, Macloutsie, Mochudi and Gabarones.

Gabarone (Gabarones) is today the capital of Botswana. According to Sir Henry Loch, the High Commissioner, "The Gabarones fort was built with the view of keeping in check the somewhat turbulent chiefs Linchwe and Sechele, who at one time threatened to interrupt the line of communication". Figure 1 illustrates an underpaid envelope mailed from East London in the Cape of Good Hope on Friday 3 March 1893, which arrived at Gabarones 12 days later. On the final stage of its journey, the envelope was carried in a coach that resembled 'a square box on wheels with a couple of springs'. The coach was pulled by four mules and also carried four passengers. The envelope arrived at Fort Gabarones on Wednesday 15 March, just after mid-day. The envelope was underpaid by 2d which required a surcharge of 4d to be paid by the addressee, representing double the 2d deficit.

Although the primary role of the BBP was to patrol the borders and villages of the new Protectorate, the carriage of the Administration's mail was an important additional responsibility.

In British Bechuanaland

The Border Police conveyed government and other official letters by horseback rider and wagons between Barkly West in the northern Cape and Vryburg in British Bechuanaland. For a few months in 1885, the Police also conveyed the civil post on behalf of the Post Office, but this task was not performed satisfactorily. Jurgens makes reference to 'numerous complaints... about registered letter going astray, also of other irregularities which were all credited to the opening of the mailbags by the Police at their camp instead of the bags being brought directly to the Post Office to be opened. To use the Postmaster-General's words, "such a state of affairs could not be tolerated". An attempt was again made to persuade the Police to deliver the mail bags to the post office. The Police had a contrary opinion and maintained 'that as the conveyance was entirely at the expense of their department, they were entitled to open the postbags and remove therefrom any letters addressed to members of the force.' In early 1886 the Post Office resolved this stand- off by employing contractors to convey the civil mails.



Fig.1: An underpaid envelope of 1893 from East London to an officer of the Border Police deployed at Fort Gaberones. Backstamps of Midland Up, Kimberley, Vryburg, Mafeking and Gaberones.

In the Bechuanaland Protectorate

Here the Police initially only conveyed government mail and despatches on an ad hoc basis, as the need arose and resources were available. Despatch riders journeyed between Shoshong and Mafeking in British Bechuanaland.

The Protectorate's first official postal service was introduced in 9 August 1888. The mails to and from Mafeking, Kanye Molepolole and Shoshung were served by native runners weekly. A fortnightly service was operated northwards to Tati and Gubulawayo.

In May 1889, the main body of the Border Police was moved up from Mafeking to Macloutsie in the far north-east, in anticipation of the invasion of Mashonaland by Rhodes' 'Pioneer Column'. This relocation led to a considerable increase in the weight of mail to be conveyed through the Protectorate, and although the service was restricted to letters and newspapers only, the native runners were unable to cope with the resulting demands. Colonel Carrington of the Border Police was accordingly asked to provide an estimate and proposal for the cost of providing the weekly service from Mafeking to Shoshung by Police carts. This proposal envisaged the deployment of two 'light carts', a total of 30 mules and five revictualling stations.

There being no immediate viable alternative, this arrangement was implemented. The Police cart service was initiated on 31 July 1889. Postal agents were also informed that the

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services of the native runners should be discontinued from this date.

In anticipation that the Border Police would be unable to provide an acceptable service, an interim contract was simultaneously negotiated with the Bechuanaland Exploration Company to transport the mail northwards from Shoshumg to Tati and Gubuluwayo together with a back-up runner post service from Molepolole to Shoshung , for utilisation if the Police cart failed to arrive; an event which immediately occurred.

The first Police cart was scheduled to arrive from the south at Shoshong on 6 August, but had not done so by 10 August. The resident Superintendent of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company expressed his frustration to the Company's General Manager in Cape Town: *'The post due on 6th inst has not yet arrived at Shoshong. Our native runners returned on the 7th without the mails, and reported that the Post cart had passed Molepolole en-route for either Shoshong or the Police Camp …. The delay is very annoying and it is likely that we shall have much more of the same sort of thing before the new system is in fair working order …'*

Compelling evidence that the Border Police had little ability and/or appetite for carrying the mail soon materialised.

WIRSING BROS.,
General Merchants.

PROPRIETORS N.E. LINE ROYAL MAIL COACHES,
VRYBURG TO MACLOUTSIE.

POSTAL ADDRESS:
"SETLAGOLI, BRITISH BECHUANALAND."
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"WIRSING, SETLAGOLI."

MARIBOGO,

BRITISH BECHUANALAND,

19th October 1894

To the
Officer Commanding
B.B. Police
Gabrones

Dear Sir

We as postal contractors wish to bring to your notice the difficulty we have in running her Majesty's mails up to time along the Protectorate roads when they are (as now) filled with transport wagons, many of which will not turn out or in any-way give way for the mail coaches, when the bugle is blown giving them warning of its approach.

We now beg of your assistance in this matter, & should suggest that the Police acting as customhouse officers, & examining WayBills etc. should be instructed to inform Carriers to turn out on hearing the bugle to allow the mail coach to pass.

Hoping you will assist us in this
We remain
Your obedient servants
Wirsing Bros.

Fig.2: A letter from the mail contractor complaining of the Police's disregard for the passage of the mail coaches.

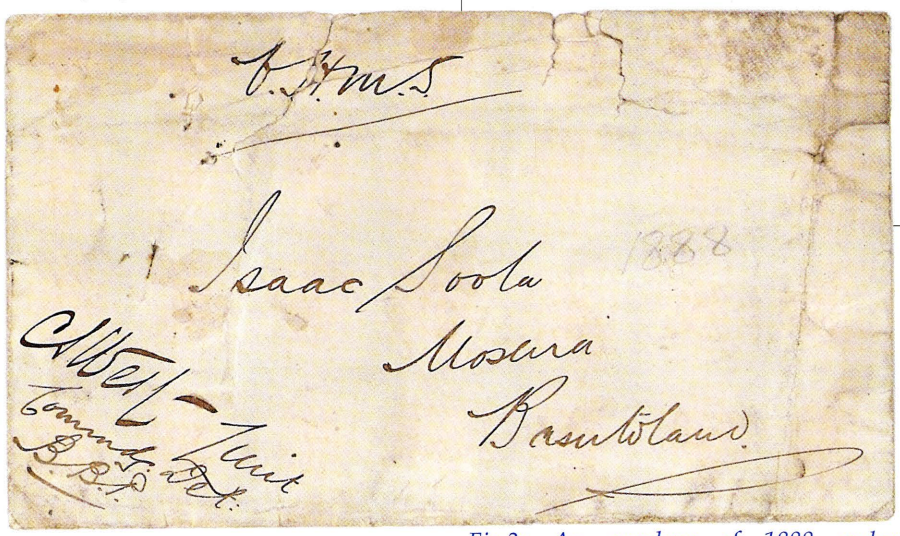

Fig.3: An envelope of 1888 endorsed 'O.H.M.S.' and countersigned by Lieutenant C.J. West commanding the Border Police detachment in Kanye to a Basotho resident in 'Mosara' (Maseru) in Basutoland. Backstamps of Vryburg, Kimberley and Aliwal North.

In the second month of the service, on 27 September 1889, J. E. Middleton, the Postmaster-General in Vryburg, reported to Sir Sidney Shippard, the Administrator of British Bechuanaland and Deputy Commissioner of the Protectorate:

'Postmaster Mafeking reports that Protectorate mail arrived there this morning Wednesday at 8 am. Trooper in charge reports cart broke down at Crocodile River. [Officer in Charge] has informed [postmaster] that they cannot take mails to Protectorate this week as mules are unfit to travel and they cannot supply fresh ones – mail will consequently be delayed at Mafeking as Police cart has broken down - we must revert to native runners between Mafeking and Shoshong to avoid collapse to the Shoshong to Gubulawayo service. Kindly communicate with His Honour on this subject.'

Two days later, Middleton amplified his report: *'The police cart did not go to Shoshong at all but merely dropped the Shoshong mail at the Police Camp, Crocodile Pools and proceeded direct to Head Quarters Camp. Mail was taken from there to Shoshong by a passing wagon and arrived four days late. I would also be glad if the Police Authorities could be advised that under no circumstances are the seals of mail bags to be broken or the bags opened by anyone except those to whom they are actually addressed…..*

In the Shoshong bag, several letters and newspapers were extracted. This is strictly forbidden by the Postal

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regulations.'

On the following day, Shippard sent his instructions to Middleton:

'I have shown your telegram to Sir F Carrington who has telegraphed to Capt McGregor to let PMG have available mules for the Protectorate Post so as to get off the two weeks' accumulations at least as far as Molepolole. Mr Johnson, on behalf of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, has written to Col Carrington to say that he will undertake the post between Kimberley and Mafeking from 3rd proximo as agreed with me but that his company will not be able to undertake the Protectorate Post for another six weeks at least. I authorise Post Master General to revert to native runners system for the Protectorate Post until the Bechuanaland Exploration Company can get their system into working order. Of course the mails must be carried via Kanya, Molopolole and Khamas Town to the Tati, the objective point for the govt being Bulawayo, everything else should be made to yield to the paramount necessity of speedy communication with Mr Moffat [Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate, who was then in Matabeleland, meeting with Chief LoBengula].

The Police, therefore, must make their own arrangements to fetch their letters from the most convenient point on our line of post. Of course letters and despatches should have priority over newspapers and all other postal matters, so long as the native runner system lasts. It will of course be necessary to have separate bags for the Police mails, so that these may be handed over without delay or difficulty to the Police post cart or post riders at the point agreed. As at present advised I think this point should be Khama's New Town in Chapong Hills East of Palachwe, where we ought to have a postmaster to whom all mails shall be delivered and who would hand over the Police bags to the Police postcart driver and forward to the Matabeleland mails at once ....'

The last Police post cart to carry civil mail reached Mafeking on 22 October 1889. Throughout this period, complaints about the Border Police and the indiscipline of its officers came from many quarters. Figure 2 is a letter to the Officer Commanding the BBP, Gabarones, from postal contractor Wirsing Brothers, complaining of the lack of co-operation and obstruction by police transport wagons on the roads preventing timely passage of the mail carts.

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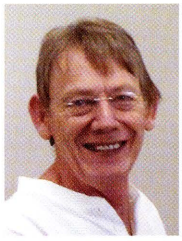

To cancel, or not to cancel …

With apologies to William Shakespeare's Hamlet

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

INCOME PROTECTION

To any collector, the cancelling of a stamp with a ballpoint pen is nothing short of sacrilege - the guilty party, none other than the servants of Royal Mail. Anyone receiving mail from the UK, particularly packages, will, at some or other time, encounter the scourge of the ballpoint pen.

The purpose of a stamp is to prove payment for a service - delivery of the letter. The cancellation of the stamp has two purposes. For the Post Office it's to ensure that the stamp is not used a second time to avoid payment for delivery. For the collector the cancellation provides evidence of when and where that stamp was used. However, given that in 2009, Royal Mail handled some 75 million items a day the chances are good that some items will miss being cancelled. There are a number of reason why this could happen.

- The letter is not processed through the correct machine configuration
- It was not detected by the machine, for example, due to a dirty scanner
- The printer may have run out of ink
- The printer may be faulty or not maintained

But stamps on parcels, packets, and large letters cannot be machine cancelled because of their size and have to be cancelled with a hand stamp. This is usually done at the receiving office and can be overlooked by the sheer pressure of work. It is then only during the manual handling of the item that an uncancelled stamp will be cancelled by means of a ballpoint pen.

This action led to such vociferous complaints from stamp collectors that in 2015 Royal Mail introduced a hand-stamping tool (Fig.2a&b) to postmen who are considered to be the last line in catching uncancelled stamps.

But, alas and alack, to no avail. As recently as November 2017, a vitriolic letter from a reader appeared in the *Stamp Magazine* expressing the contempt of Post Office workers for regulations. Then there were two more in the January 2018 issue. And so, it would seem, the ballpoint pen remains the tool of choice amongst postal workers.

As a postscript, Article RL117 of Article 8 in the Letter Post Manual issued by the Universal Postal Union in 2013 reads as follows.

4. Unless designated operators have prescribed cancellation by means of a special stamp impression, postage stamps left uncancelled through error or omission in the service of origin shall be cancelled by the office which detects the irregularity, using one of the following means:

4.1 with a thick line in ink or indelible pencil;



Fig.1: Rendered worthless to any collector.

4.2 using the edge of the date-stamp in such a way that the name of the post office is not identifiable.

So, it looks like the ubiquitous ballpoint has won the day. Any comments?

OPERATION GUM-GUM

A new generation of people are now unaware that the re-use of unfranked stamps is considered serious fraud. In 1989 the police, in association with Royal Mail, started an investigation under the name of 'Operation Gum Gum'. They built up evidence against a number of people who were buying kiloware, extracting unfranked stamps (and in some cases even cleaning off light postmarks), and selling them on to others. Those who were targeted found it a surprising and scary ordeal. Some individuals were arrested, some of these tried and convicted, and some ended up with prison sentences. For a while this had the predictable effect of stopping the re-use of used stamps without postmarks.



Fig. 3: One that got away! A package received from the UK by the author, with no cancellation.







a

b

Fig.2a&b: Handheld, self-inking, canceller used by Royal Mail.

The ballpoint pen was invented in 1938 by Ladislao José Biro, in Budapest, Hungary. He was frustrated with fountain pens blotting and smudging and got his idea from watching a printing press which used quick-drying ink. Initially he used fountain pen ink, then tried printing ink; neither worked successfully.



However, his brother, György Bíró, a chemist, created an ink with just the right viscosity. They gave their name, biro, to the invention and took out a patent on 15 July 1938.

With the outbreak of WWII Biro fled Hungary, eventually ending up in Argentina where he continued to develop the ballpoint. The pen gained popularity when the Royal Air Force placed an order for 30,000 for use by pilots. Unlike fountain pens which leaked at high altitudes, the ballpoint pen worked well. The ballpoint pen only entered commercial production after WWII. It is still known as a biro in the UK, Australia and Italy. The Bic Cristal ballpoint remains the world's most popular pen.

NOTE: When Biro left Hungary for Argentina, he changed his name from László József Bíró, to Ladislao José Biro.

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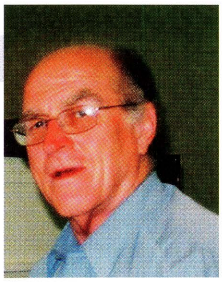

FIELD POST OFFICE 3 AT THE RAND SHOW, JOHANNESBURG, 2018

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and S.A. Military Mail Study Group

As in 2011 and each subsequent year, the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was a major exhibitor at the Johannesburg Rand Show from 30 March to 8 April 2018. This annual trade and industry show is held at the Exhibition Centre (Expo Centre) in the suburb of Nasrec over the Easter holiday period. Field Post Office 3 (FPO 3) has participated at the Rand Show since 2011. Details of the use of the FPO 3 datestamp remain unchanged from previous years apart from the date, which have been recorded in previous issues of *The South African Philatelist*.

In 2018 a privately produced cover (Fig.1) and a postcard (Fig.2) issued by the Field Post Office received the datestamp on the first day of the show – 30 March 2018 – 'Good Friday'.



Fig.1. A privately produced cover used on the first day of the Rand Show.

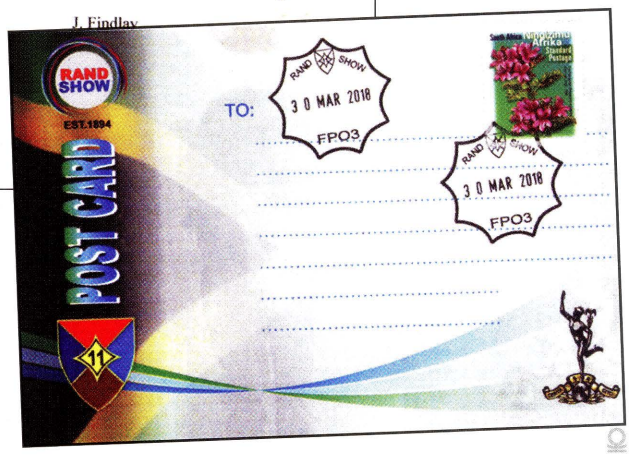

Fig. 2. A souvenir postcard issued by the Field Post Office for distribution at the show.

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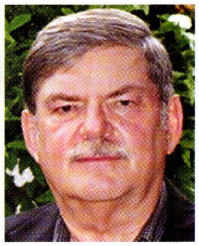

REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
Series Six (1954) - Queen Elizabeth II Head, and Series Seven (1954-1961) - Coat of Arms

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Introduction

The issue of the use of the effigy of the King in the design of the Union's Revenue Stamps was raised in parliament on 23 February 1943 by Dr P.J. van Nierop representing Mosselbaai for the Herenigde (Reunited) Nasionale Party when he asked the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs whether he intends changing the design of the revenue stamps so as to give them a more South African character. This tendency of a resurgent Afrikaner nationalism started during the Great Trek Centenary celebrations in 1938 and also had an impact on the postage and revenue stamp designs. The Queen's Heads issue of 1954 was the last Union revenue stamp issue where the monarch's head was used.

The Queen's Head issue was replaced by the Coat of Arms design for the Union revenue stamps from 1955 onwards. The National Party won the 1948 elections and after this date there was a new approach whereby they wanted to get of all symbols referring to royalty and South Africa being a "British Colony". In this regard Minister Tom Naude, the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, wrote to Minister Klasie Havenga,Havenga, the Minister of Finance on 17 April 1954 requesting that *"...ons nou hierdie seëls (the revenue stamps with the Queen's head) moet vervang en 'n Suid-Afrikaanse ontwerp moet gebruik, instede van die kop van die Koningin."* (He requested that the current revenue stamps in use with the head of the Queen as part of the design, must be replaced with a more 'South African' design). This was probably the reason why the Queen's Head issue had such a short life span.

The Sixth Union Revenue Series issued in 1954: The Queen's Heads

There were no revenue stamps issued in 1953 and the Queen's Heads were printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria (Fig.1). According to the Day - book records of the Government Printer the 2d and 3d values were printed during February 1954, the 6d, 1/-, 2/- and 5/- values during June 1954 and the £1 stamp during August 1954 (Fig.2) The 2d stamp was again introduced after 21 years to cater for the 2d cheque fee (Fig.3). Certain values were also overprinted for Assize/Yk and Consular/ Konsulair purposes (Figs.4 & 5).

This series of stamps was only available for one year. These stamps were printed by the Government Printing Works in Pretoria in two colours on paper with watermark multiple Springbok head. The head of Queen Elizabeth appears on this series with the date '54' appearing behind the Queen's neck. The date is very indistinct on many copies.



Fig.1: Block of four 2/- revenue stamps out of a sheet of 120 stamps printed in two panels of 60 stamps by the Government Printer in June 1954. The four figure red sheet number is an indication that these stamps were printed by the Goebel KM II printing press (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

The Seventh Union Series (1954-1960): Coat of Arms design

This series introduced an entirely different type of stamp. The stamp is bilingual and the center plate contains the Coat of Arms of the Union of South Africa. This series was printed in two colours by the Government Printer in Pretoria with perforation 14 and watermark the Multiple Springbok head sideways facing left. Printing started in October 1954 in sheets of 120 stamps (Fig.6).

Although the date was printed in the background just below the Coat of Arms a system was introduced whereby 'secret dots' were printed on the stamps referring to a certain date (Figs. 7 & 8).

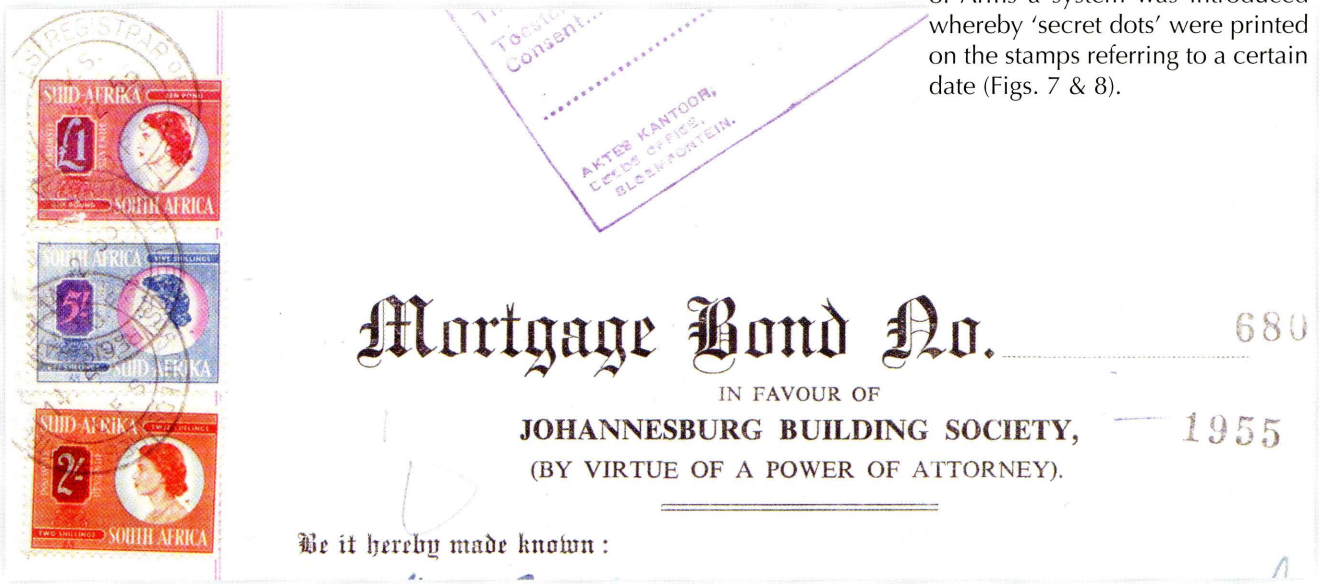

Fig.2 .

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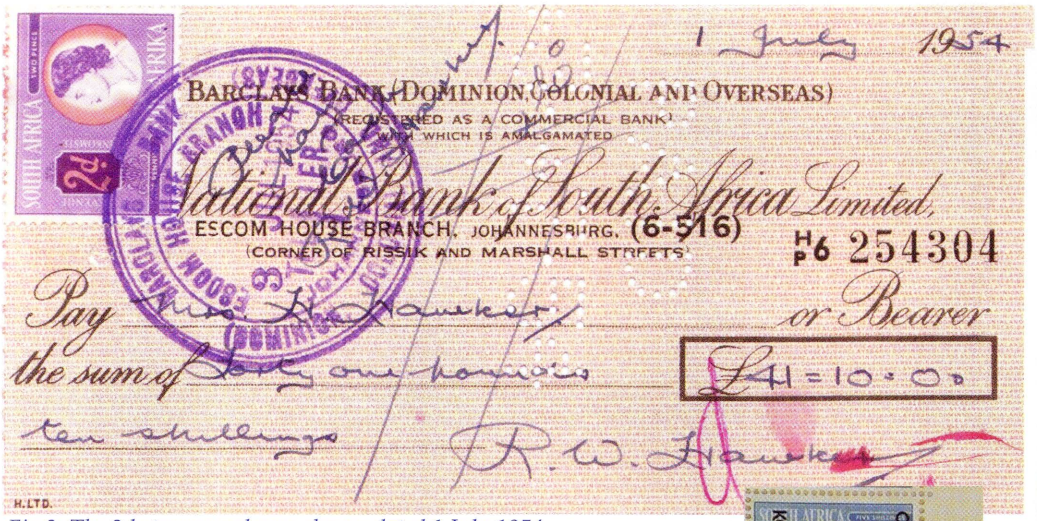

Fig.3: The 2d stamp used on a cheque dated 1 July 1954.

The position of these dots on the stamps was changed every year as a security measure. Stamps of 1954 and 1961 seem to have no 'secret' dots. The different positioning of the year-codes is illustrated below:

Stamps of this series were used on a variety of documents and were also overprinted for Penalty, Consular and Assize purposes and examples of these overprints should be included in any Union revenue collection (Figs.9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14).

The Seventh Union Series (1961): The Decimal Issues

The Union Government decided to move from Sterling to decimal coinage from 14 February 1961. This necessitated the production of a new series of revenue stamps with values expressed in the new currency. The same design was used as the Sterling issues and a total of 18 values from 1½c to R200 were issued (Fig.15).

Revenue stamps of decimal issue used between 14 February 1961 and 31 May 1961 when the Republic of South Africa was formed, can be regarded as the last revenue stamps used in the Union of South Africa.

The stamps used in this short period of 4½ months can only be identified by means of the date they were cancelled (Fig.16).



Fig.4: Revenue stamps of Series 6 overprinted 'Assize/Yk' in September 1954.



Fig.5: 5/- Stamp overprinted 'Consular/Konsulair' by the Government Printer in Pretoria.



Fig.6: Example of the £25 revenue stamps printed in two panes of 60 stamps divided by a gutter (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).



Fig.7: Example of the 'secret dot' in the bottom left corner indicating the year code 1958.



Fig.8: A 6d stamp with the year '55' printed below the Coat of Arms and the year code printed in the top left corner.

Stamps of Series 7: overprinted for the MAFUE and BASUBIA in the Eastern Caprivi Zipfel in South West Africa.

One of the most interesting overprints on Union revenues was done for the Mafue and Basubia tribes in South West Africa. In 1939 the administration responsible for the Caprivi Strip was officially split in two. The western Caprivi continued to be administered from Windhoek and the



Fig.9: Transfer Deed lodged on 2 August 1960 for a farm sold in the Britstown district for a purchase price of £25,496 and stamped with revenue stamps of Series 7 to the value of £174 10s. The duty to be paid was described as follows in the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911: "Relating to immovable property – for every £10 or part thereof of the consideration or value – 6d".

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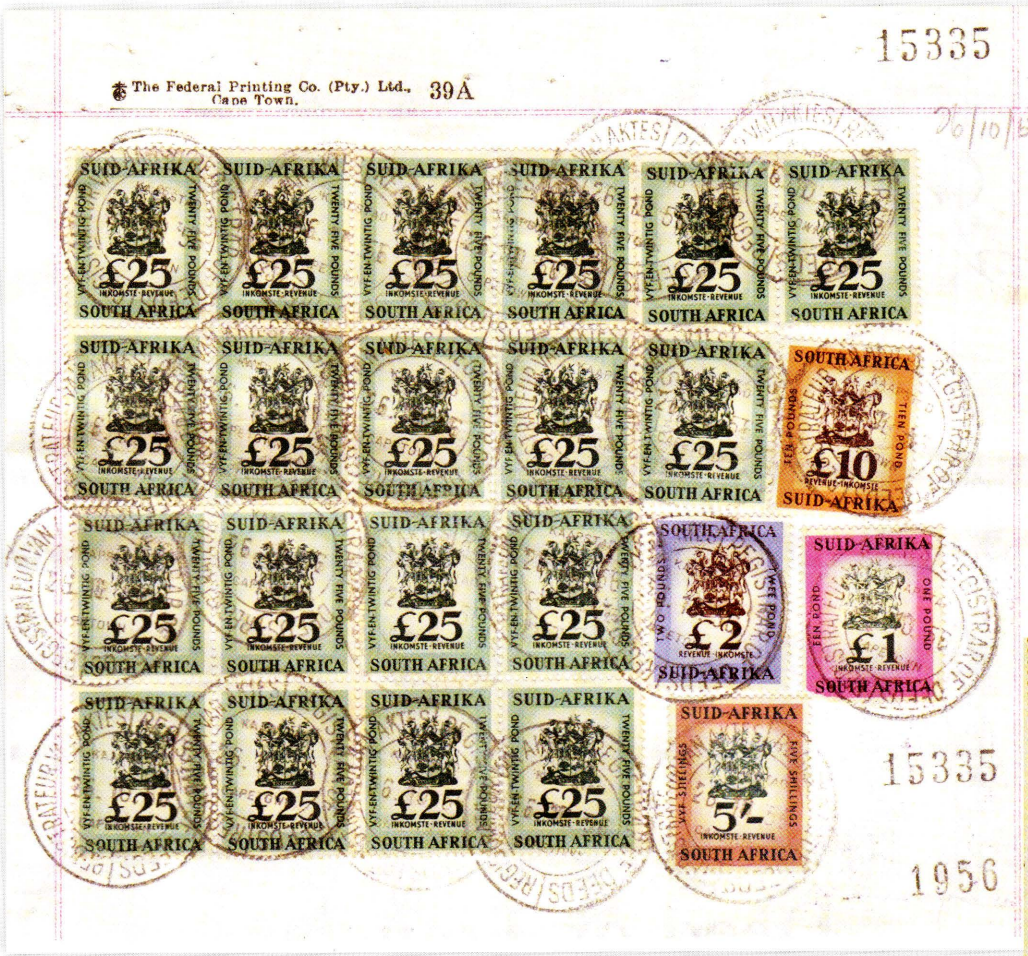

Fig.10: Deed of Transfer cancelled on 26 October 1956. Stamp duty of £488 5s was paid by means of the revenue stamps affixed to the document. The £25 and £10 revenue stamps have no 'secret dots' which is indicative of the 1954 issue whilst the 5/-, £1 and £2 stamps have a 'secret dot' in the top left corner which is indicative of the 1956 issue.

These interesting overprints can be included in both a Union or a South West African revenue stamp collection. The fact however remains that they are Union Revenue Stamps not overprinted 'S.W.A.' in the first place, but overprinted for two tribes on SWA soil.



eastern Caprivi was the sole responsibility of the South African Minister of Native Affairs based in the South African capital, Pretoria. Subsequent SA legislation in 1951 and 1968 continued to distinguish between laws applied to SWA and the eastern Caprivi Strip. This arrangement was based on the remoteness of the region and the fact that it was closer to Pretoria than to Windhoek.

Otto Reisener has pointed out that the Post Office in Katima Mulilo was run by local inhabitants and used South African postage stamps in the 1970s despite the fact that it was technically part of SWA soil.

The Caprivi Zipfel Affairs Proclamation of 1930 made provision for the establishment of trust funds for the tribes in the Eastern Caprivi Zipfel (ECZ), see *The SA Philatelist,* August 2011, for an explanation of Native Taxation in SWA.

Two tribes, the Basubia and the Mafue were recognised by the Union government as the main inhabitants of the ECZ and stamps were made available for payment of these Native Tribal Levies (Fig.17). In line with the administrative arrangements for the ECZ these stamps were not overprinted



Fig.11: 'PENALTY/BOETE' overprinted in red on the 10/- and 2/6 stamps.

'SWA' although the overprints 'MAFUE' and 'BASUBIA' referred to two tribes located on SWA territory. The following was indicated in one of the Government Printer's record books below examples of these stamps: *Eastern Caprivi Tribal Levies and issued only to the Magistrate Katimo Mulilo via Livingstone Northern Rhodesia.*



Fig.12: Examples of the two different types of overprints 'PENALTY/BOETE' on the 3d stamp: Horizontal and Vertical.

Sources:

- Dodd L.J., The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa, *The SA Philatelist,* September 1956 and December 1959.
- Howgrave-Graham Tony, The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 – 1946 in *The Springbok,* Vol 64/4 November 2016.
- Barefoot J., *British Commonwealth Revenues*, Ninth Edition, London, 2012.

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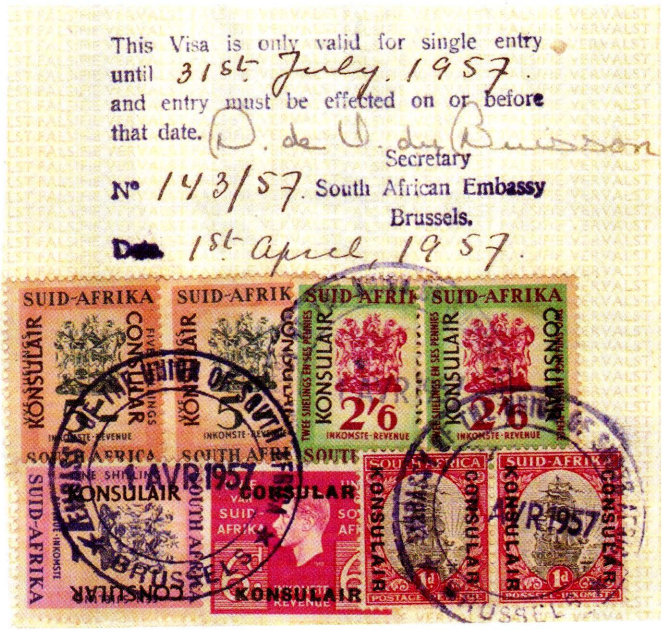

Fig.13: Visa issued on 1 April 1957 at the Office of the Embassy of the Union of South Africa in Brussels and the fee of 16s 8d paid with revenue stamps overprinted 'Consular/ Konsulair'.



Fig.14: (above) Example from the Day-book of the Government Printer with the 'ASSIZE/YK' overprint that was done in June 1955. (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

- State Archives, Pretoria: *Union of South Africa, National Treasury*, NTS 2548, File 622/293.
- Post Office Archives, Pretoria: Inventory Records of the Government Printer from 1949.
- Union of South Africa, *Debates of the House of Assembly, Second Session – Ninth Parliament, 23rd February 1943*, Government Printer, Pretoria.
- Union of South Africa, *Stamp Duties Handbook, Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911* as amended, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1940.



Fig.15: Part of a sheet of 100 R100 revenue stamps out of the Daybooks of the Government Printer that was already printed in September 1960 in preparation for decimalization on 14 February 1961. (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

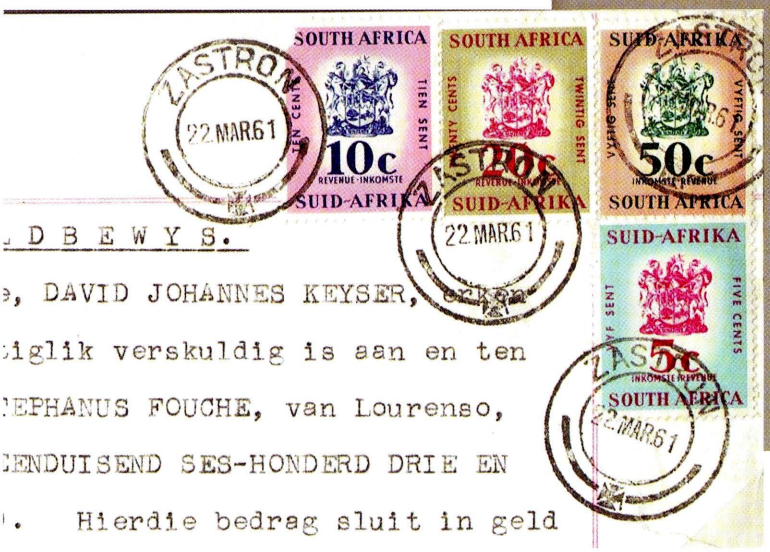

Fig.16: A Promissory Note (skuldbewys) for the sum of R1633.00 signed on 22 March 1961 in Zastron and stamped with the Series 7 Decimal Revenue stamps to the value of 85c. The Stamp Duties and Fees Act made specific provision for Promissory Notes to be defaced by a Postmaster: "Defacement by a postmaster will be effected by an impression of the postmasters' steel office and date stamp showing the date of such defacement on each stamp denoting the payment of duty".



Fig.17: The last revenue series of the Union overprinted in red for the MAFUE and BASUBIA tribes in SWA. The five figures in black are an indication that these stamps were originally printed by the Goebel 840 machine (Source: Post Office Archives, Pretoria).

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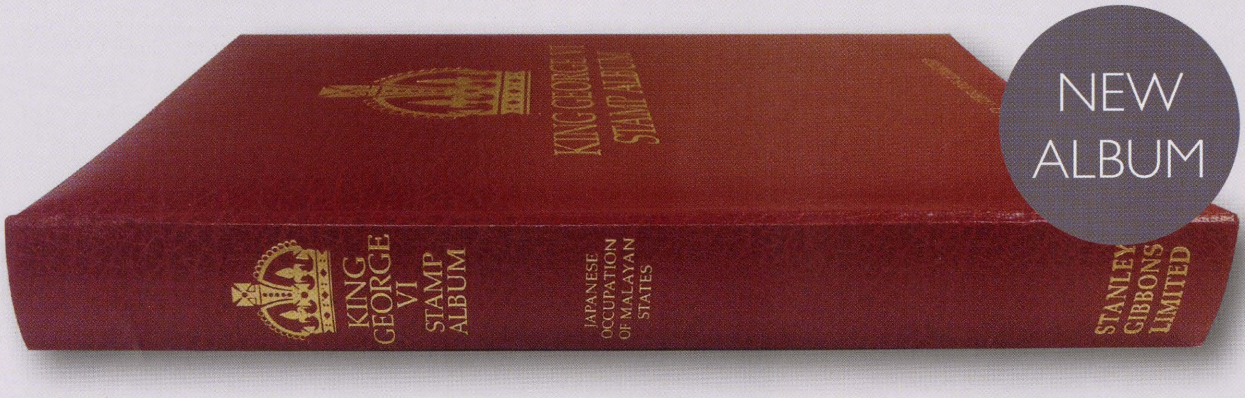

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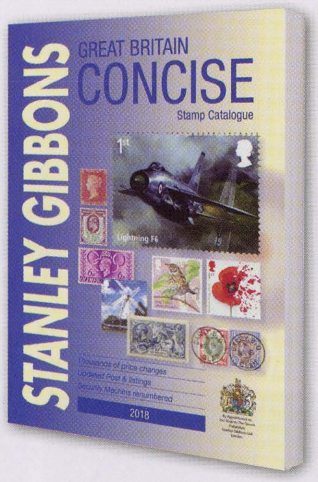

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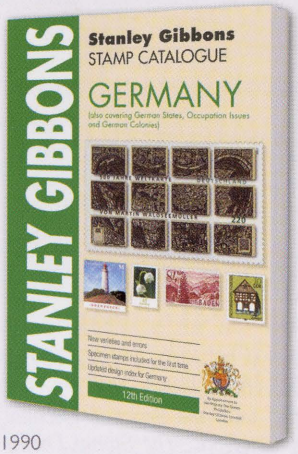

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
Website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.
Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662 *President*; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary)*;
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STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

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FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society meets monthly at 19:00 on first non-holiday Monday at the Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. President's night 5 Dec. 2018. For more information contact either Francois Friend (president, 082 554 8900, francois@softchem.co.za); David Brown (vice president, 041 360 4025) or Rodney Maclachlan (secretary/ treasurer, 072 619 5409).

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EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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President : David Preston 0827742090. Email:prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com *Secretary* Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com
Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. *Kontak:* djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits.
The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time.
Visitors are always welcome!
Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE **Back Issues** *of The South African Philatelist are limited. Requests for any issue should be made in writing to The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. An electronic PDF file may be requested should a printed copy of the journal not be available.*

International Exhibitions

PRAGA 2018

Venue: PRAGUE, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
South African Commisioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

MACAO 2018

south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
South African Commisioner: Ian Matheson RDPSA
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.
The South Africa exhibits comprise four 5 frames and four 1 frames.

THAILAND 2018

Bangkok
Date: 28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018
General World All Classes
South African Commisioner: Vernon Mitchell.
vjm@telkomsa.net

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

8 August	Second Competitive Evening
12 Sept	Annual Auction
10 Oct	Favourite Cover/s
14 Nov	Third Competitive Evening
5 Dec	President's Evening

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday monthly at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.* Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society*. All welcome. *Contact:* Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. *Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.*

Aug 15:	Southern Africa
Aug 29:	5th Wed - Society auction
Sep 19:	Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book
Oct 17:	My favourite - (Maximum of one frame) and thematic exhibits
Oct 31:	5th Wed - to be decided
Nov 21:	Intersociety quiz and invited exhibits

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturdayofthemonth.Exhibits,talksandworkshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking. *President*: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com *Secretary:* Paul Hammerton. hampaul@ananzi.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday monthly (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie.
Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet 3rd Wednesday monthly at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. *Chairman* or *Secretary* Ian Walker. Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday **evening** of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. **Day** meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale's shop, Kilner Park Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. *President:* André du Plessis. andredupfs@gmail.com 083 399 1755 *Vice-President:* Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 10:00 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. *Group Leader:* Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Dr Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthof email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (Except December) - 2:00pm for 2:30pm. at the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. E-mail: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.

President: Japie de Vos
082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts: Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
email zeptepi@3i.co.za
Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162

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HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/ coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings. *President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za*

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MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUES:
1. *Ordinary **Stamp Club** meeting every third Monday at 16h00 St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields Pietermaritzburg*
2. ***Thematics Group** meeting every third Saturday at 09h00 8a Sanders Road Scottsville 3201, Pietermaritzburg*

The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - Club President/ Competitions and Speaker. ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 316 3308.
burncree45@telkomsa.net aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com

- Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer,
- Janet Kimmince - Membership Secretary,
- Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Officer,
- Graham Bruce - Librarian,
- Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian,
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Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

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The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 94:5. 950

www.stamps.org.za

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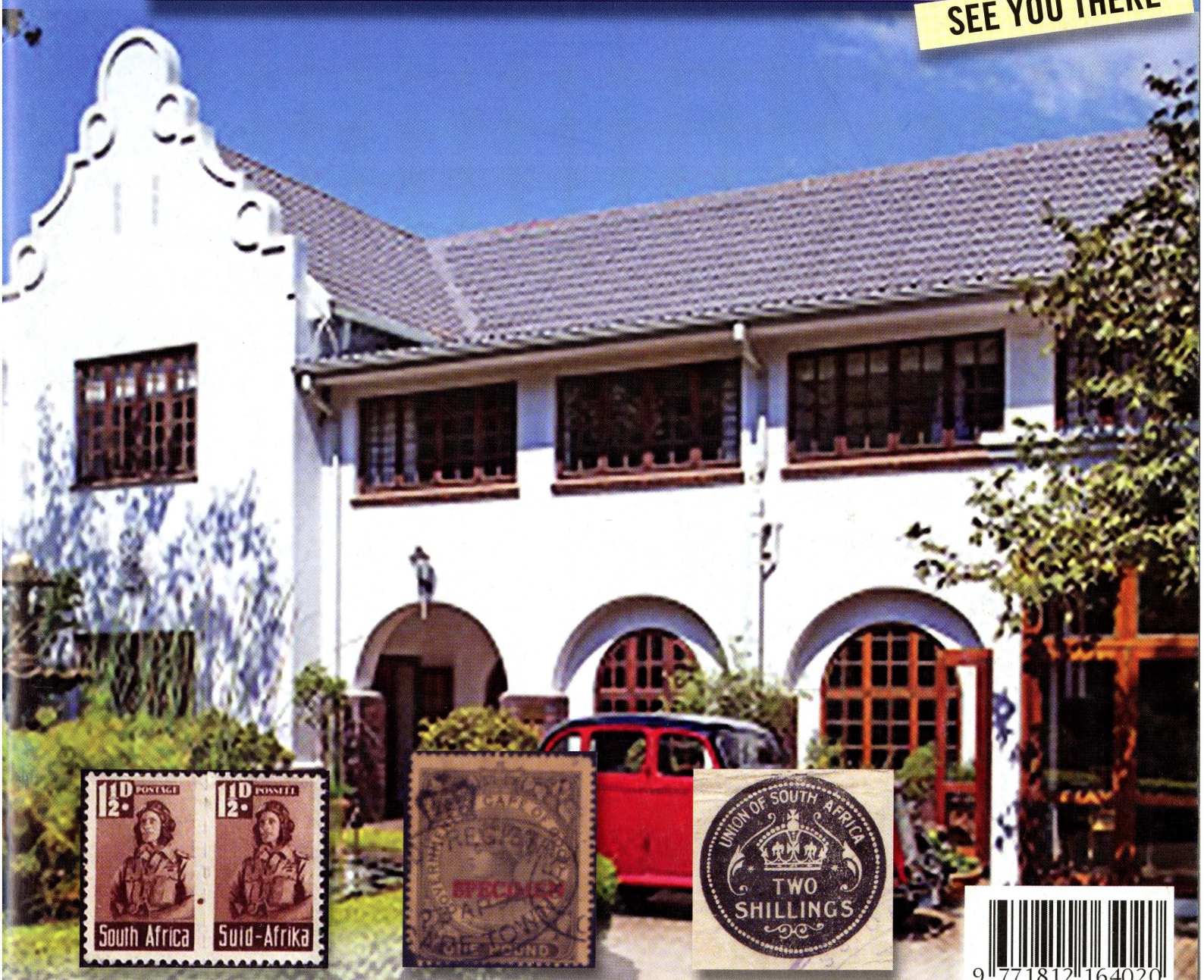

Bantam issue from WWII to conserve paper

Cape Revenue stamps showing the bogus 'SPECIMEN' overprint

Embossed and Impressed Revenue Stamps

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OCTOBER 2018 Vol 94 Number 5 Whole No 950

The South African Philatelist

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www.stamps.org.za

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ERRATUM

We apologise to Andrew Briscoe for our mistake in spelling 'Gaborone' incorrectly throughout his article on *The Bechuanaland Border Police*, which appeared in the August issue of the SAP. Sorry Andrew!

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

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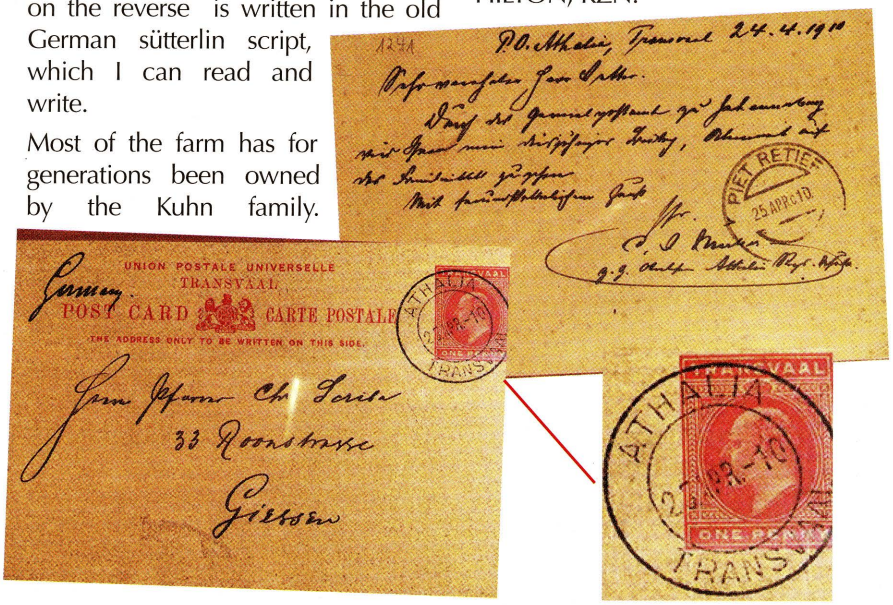
More on the ATHALIA Datestamp

(Article by Johan Bezuidenhout : *The SA Philatelist* dd. August, 2016)

With reference to the article by Johan Bezuidenhout in the *SAP*, August 2016, regarding his 2 postal cancellations of ATHALIA.

I append herewith 2 images of a post card, written by a C.J.Kuhn, then the owner of the farm *Athalia*, and addressed to Rev. Chr. Scriba in Germany. It bears the cancellation of the Athalia postal agency, dd 25.04.1910, with Piet Retief transit cancellation of the same date. The text on the reverse is written in the old German sütterlin script, which I can read and write.

Most of the farm has for generations been owned by the Kuhn family.



I contacted the present owner (84 years old), as well as three other old timers who lived in that area, with the hope of obtaining more information about the Athalia postal agency. All of them are aware that the agency was accommodated in a trading store on the farm (long before their time) and that it had been closed down before 1920. Interestingly, all of them deny that the postal agency continued on Athalia under the name *De Grens*. They all think that the agency was subsequently accommodated at or near the border post, east of the farm Athalia, and now called Bothashoop/ Gege border post. That place was, and still is, commonly called *Die Grens*. More research to be done!

Martin von Fintel
<vintlo@fintels.co.za>
HILTON, KZN.

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material to avoid late delivery.

Articles should be submitted in the month **prior**:

- ***December*** '18 - Vol. 94: 6. 951 **08/11/2018**
- ***February*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 1. 952 : **08/01/2019**
- ***April*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 2. 953 : **06/03/2019**
- ***June*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 3. 954 : **07/05/2019**
- ***August*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 4. 955 : **09/07/2019**
- ***October*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 5. 956 : **10/09/2019**
- ***December*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 6. 951 **08/11/2019**

PLEASE NOTE:

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za
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Contributions and **letters** for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist*, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. South Africa or
email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

Subscription & circulation: Annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R324.00. SADC countries, the subscription is R600.00 per year. International overseas, the subscription is R800.00 per year.

These prices all include postage via airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager: email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za

Publication: This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email

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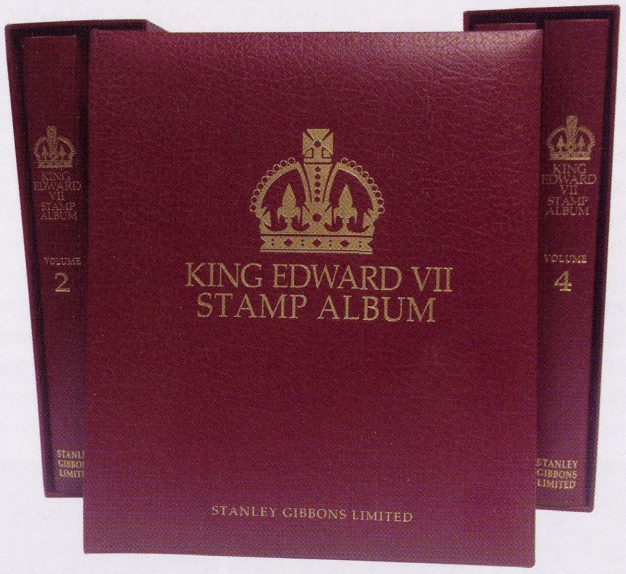
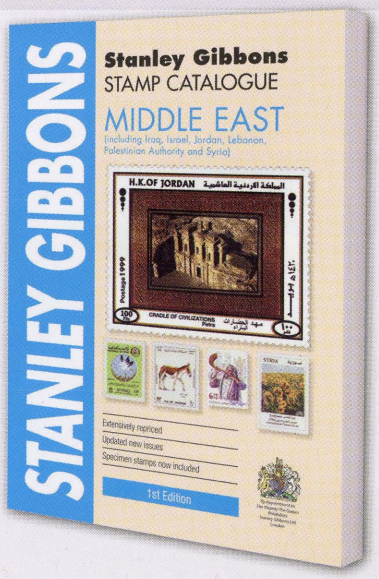


KING EDWARD VII ALBUM (1901-1910)

King Edward VII Indian States Loose Leaf Album R34141S **R1750**

King Edward VII Indian States Loose Leaf Album Hingeless R34141SHL **R3375**



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Forged SPECIMEN Overprints on Cape of Good Hope Revenues

Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Introduction

Regular messages have been disseminated recently by the Expert Committee of South Africa, and principally from Chairman Michael Wigmore RDPSA, warning collectors of the ever-increasing prevalence of fakes being offered in internet auction sales. Organisations such as eBay and Delcampe try to provide some security to the buyer, but there is a limit to what they can do. The old adage **'Caveat Emptor'** rings true.

The Scam

In 2010-2012 a fraudulent operation was conducted by overprinting many revenue stamps of the Cape of Good Hope with a red SPECIMEN overprint. As usual, hindsight proves to be an exact science. The earliest item I have heard of was a Bill of Lading of 1865, and the dates extend well into the interprovincial period - almost half a century with the same mark; most unlikely! Another example is a document with two stamps applied one above the other, yet only the top stamp was overprinted SPECIMEN. This was also a red light. Most of the examples are on single stamps, but a depressing number also occur on documents, several of them exceptional historical documents that have now been sullied. It also seems amazing that none of these overprints had been illustrated in the philatelic press prior to 2010, and yet dozens of examples flooded the market from this date onwards. This should have been reported on long ago!

The Evidence

Maybe the observations listed above should have been enough to bring this matter to a speedy conclusion, but the vendor was adept at spinning a long and detailed yarn of the provenance of these issues that allowed the case to draw out.

However, I was not comfortable with the whole scenario and made copies of all the items I had bought plus a few that were on sale at that moment. I then sent these copies to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation (via chairman Michael Wigmore RDPSA) for an opinion. Michael did a most comprehensive job scanning records and the internet and was able to find a number of old illustrations of the offending items without the overprint, thus proving comprehensively that the items were recent creations and definitely not genuine.

The Follow-up and the 'Story'

I contacted the vendor resulting in a lengthy and most unsatisfactory correspondence, but he did agree to refund me in full for my purchases.

I followed up with eBay and the vendor's two accounts were closed. Furthermore I received an assurance from the vendor that they had traced all the buyers and had ensured that each was given a full refund. I have never seen any such item on the market since and hoped that the problem had been nipped in the bid. I was asked (not by the vendor, I stress) to hold off on my story at the time because of matters concerning a very senior philatelist, which are now no longer relevant. I thought that the issue was consigned to history. However there have been a few unfortunate corollaries.

In discussions with another South African dealer I learned that he had also purchased a few of the duds, and he had certainly not been contacted and offered a refund. In 2012 the Revenue Society in UK published a splendid article by Cape specialist Oscar van der Vliet entitled *Aspects of Cape of Good Hope Revenue Stamps*. On pages 3 and 7 he illustrated examples of the SPECIMEN overprints with the story that I had been given. Oscar wrote *"I have a group of about twenty examples, including multiple values on piece"*. It was clear that all buyers had not been contacted and refunded. In December 2014 John Fletcher published volume 3 of his books on *Cape of Good Hope Revenues*. On page 102 we again see illustrations of the offending overprints with no indication that they were fakes.

It is important that this scam is stopped before further damage is done. We know that misunderstandings like this have an unfortunate habit of becoming *'facts'* when they are repeated often enough.

The 'story' given by the vendor, who was based in Israel, reads *"The Cape Budget Blue Book specifically states that all new series of revenue and postage stamps are to be handstamped* 'SPECIMEN' *for each denomination and a page of each kept"*. He further wrote that it was not surprising that a number of these found their way on to documents. He also quoted from Sherwood's more recent publication (later than my own copy) and from Putzel, indicating that the stamps had been around for a while. I have been unable to find either reference. He did not explain how they only appeared on the market in 2010 -2012. When I confronted him with the evidence of wrongdoing I received an elaboration of the story. He maintained that all stamps sold prior to 15 April 2012 were genuine, but that an assistant of his father had confessed to producing the forgeries after that date and putting them on sale. He claimed to have a *"sworn and notarized statement"* to that effect. This is patent rubbish as stamps sold in 2011 were also fakes.

Conclusion

The only conclusion that I can reach is that ALL of the red SPECIMEN overprints on CoGH revenues are fakes propagated from a single source and many collectors have been duped.



Examples of Cape Revenue stamps showing the bogus 'SPECIMEN' overprint.

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018
Centurion - 17 to 20 October 2018
Venue address: 87 Jim Van der Merwe Street, Clubview Centurion 0157

Our venue: www.kleinkaap.co.za in Centurion

by André du Plessis

It is the organising committee's sincere hope to see as many philatelic friends as possible and welcome you to STAMPSHOW 2018 at Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel in Centurion.

With so many readers not receiving their copies of the last issue of this magazine, we are relying on societies to spread the word and welcome friends and family to STAMPSHOW 2018 at a venue that makes the most of the glorious Pretoria weather. It offers luscious gardens and a warm, welcoming atmosphere - so take your time and make the most of your visit to this year's philatelic event.

The official catalogue for this years National will be found with this October issue and contains the information explaining how the Pretoria Philatelic Society, established in 1898, held its first Stampshow in 1903 and this year marks its 20th.

This year the exhibition is hosted outside of Pretoria city limits in Centurion, now part of the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality that included all of Pretoria.

The Union buildings continue to be the logo of choice to honour the long history of the Pretoria Philatelic Society and the Afrikaans Filatelievereniging van Pretoria.

Be sure to take up the offer to have your purchased exhibition envelopes cancelled by the two cancellers available for the duration of the show. One is the STAMPSHOW 2018 logo with dates 17 to 20 October 2018 and marked Pretoria. The other is a Centurion circular datestamp. Thea Clemons, Graphic Designer at Philatelic Services, was responsible for the design.

In addition, there are 10 dealers with SAPDA credentials that have much to offer and a plethora of philatelic material prepared for the auction on Saturday, 20 October.

The Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA) has supported three National Stamp Exhibitions this year; 'Stampshow 2018', the 'South African Virtual Philatelic Exhibition 2018' in Bloemfontein and the 'Junior National Stampshow' (JUNASS) in Cape Town.

This year is also the 90th anniversary of PFSA and its 80th Congress which is held on Friday 19 October 2018 at this Kleinkaap venue. In the early years, Congress was not held annually and in the 1940s it was disrupted by the second World War.

The beautiful shady gardens afford specialist societies the opportunity to hold their meetings outdoors, to make the most of our early Highveld summer weather. As always, the societies welcome visitors to attend and participate in their meetings.

Jury members, under chairmanship of Emil Minnaar, will also be happy to discuss aspects of the material on show.

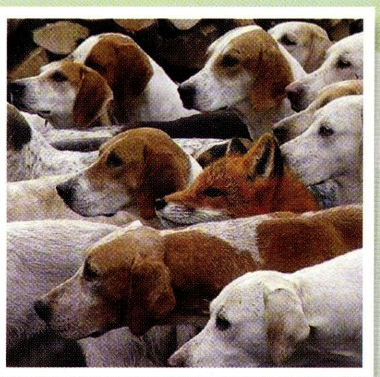
It would be remiss of me not to thank sponsors, societies and advertisers for the financial support received from them. A special thanks is extended to David Parsons from our main sponsor, Spink of London, Kleinkaap Hotel for the excellent venue and the efforts and dedication of the Organising Committee.

Without all this support, a successful exhibition is just not possible!



Paul van Zeyl RDPSA, André du Plessis and Steve Marsh

hidden in plain sight



Discover the gems...awaken your keen sense of perception and let your spirit be touched by the history around you. Retain your sense of wonder at the world you live in ...



Retiring?

NOW is an ideal time to explore:

There are traders all over the world who can help you buy the items that would assist you in discovering a new look at the world through stamps and at the same time offer you a thrilling store of value.

Go even further... link to a process that offers an ability to illustrate the world in which you have lived, loved and hurt. Exploring the exhibit segment 'Open Class' philately and see what it can do for you; it's the only segment that attracts 'non-collectors' of stamps.

Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the 'Open Class' exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment.

If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
trading as
RAND STAMPS

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

A PROUD MEMBER OF SAPDA

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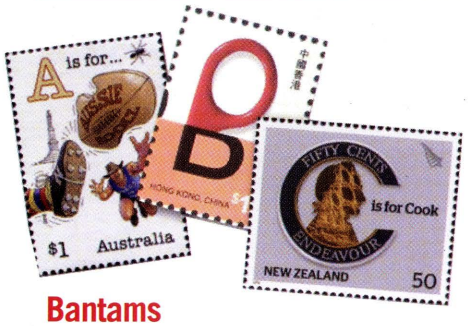

The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



Bantams

A nickname given to the smaller sized stamps issued by South Africa during WWII to conserve paper. Each value was issued on different dates over the period 1942 to 1944 which means that there cannot be a First Day Cover with all eight issues. The purpose of the stamps was to highlight the various branches of the Union Defence Force. The portraits used on the 1½d, 1d and 2d stamps were taken from portraits by Neville Lewis, the first South African to be appointed as a war artist. The designs are similar to those on the large war issue. Despite the fact that these stamps were demonetised when South Africa became a Republic in 1961, they were still seen in use in the 1970s. Bantams need to be collected either in pairs or triplets, as illustrated on the right. .



Booklets

A folder (Fig.1) or small book, issued by the post office, containing anywhere between four and 20 stamps. A complete page of stamps taken from a booklet is known as a pane (Fig.2). A booklet can contain a single pane or, in the case of a prestige booklet (Fig.3), several panes. The pane(s) are held in the cover by stitches (the holes made by the stitches) can be seen on the left in Fig.4, glue or staples or simply stuck to the cover by the edge of the pane. In the case of self-adhesive stamps, the backing paper often doubles as the booklet cover. The stamps are usually imperforate on one or more sides having been cut from a much larger sheet (Fig.2). Early booklets usually carried advertising to fill empty spaces in a pane. The late 1960s saw the introduction of pictorial covers which helped to increase the popularity of collecting stamp booklets (Fig.5a&b). The first booklet was issued by Luxembourg in 1895, followed by the US in 1902 and the UK in 1908.

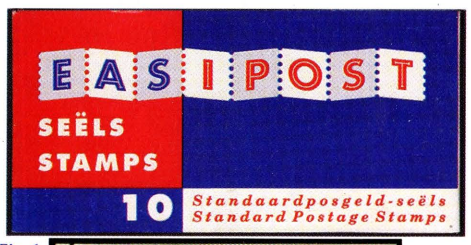

Fig.1.

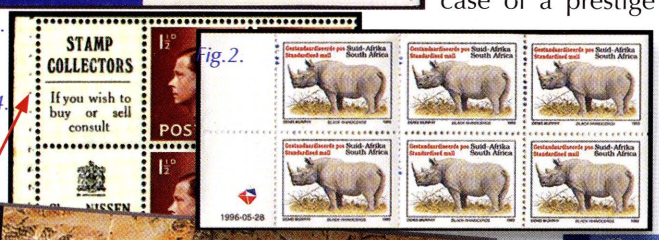

Fig.2.

Fig.4.

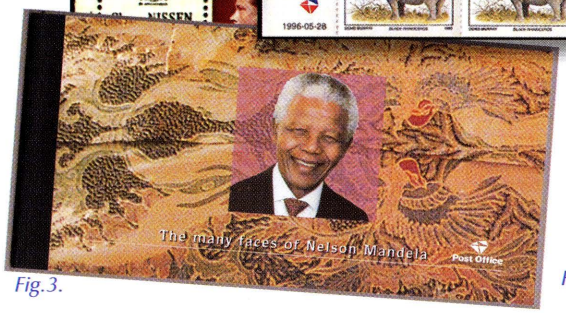

Fig.3.

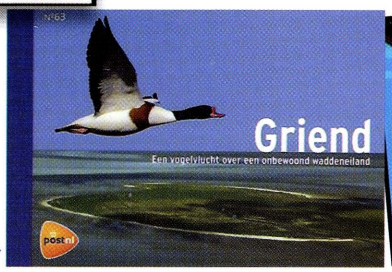

Fig.5a.

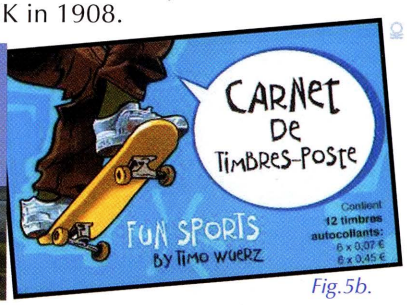

Fig.5b.

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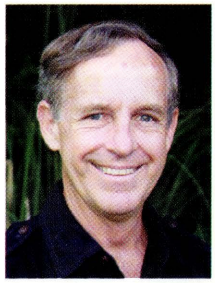
Phun with postmarks



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

Stamps on or off paper?

Many of us remember the days when single stamps or pairs were soaked off paper to mount in an album. Stamp collecting was at its heyday. How I pine to have the envelopes with stamps from that era intact and complete! There is so much interesting information on covers, as I shall discuss in this column.

Figure 1 shows a registered envelope posted on 13.3.1963 to an address in Nahoon, a suburb in East London. The mail service was efficient, as an annotation, probably by the postman, on 14/3/63 stated 'Gone / No address'. A three-line cachet 'GONE AWAY' in French, English and Afrikaans was applied and probably the same postman indicated that the letter had to be sent to the RLO Cape Town (Returned Letter Office), where it arrived on 30.3.1963 according to the date stamp on the reverse (Putzel 439x). This process was normal as there was no return address given.



Fig.1: Front of registered cover from East London to Nahoon, redirected to RLO Cape Town.

The cover in Fig.2 was mailed in East London on 10.11.1965 to an address in Discovery; Discovery is a suburb between Roodepoort and Florida, which explains its routing from East London to Roodepoort. In red manuscript the address is deleted with a note 'Gone' and there is a further illegible annotation dated '11/11'. It passed through Roodepoort on 12.11, and Florida and Florida Depot on 13.11. There is an unnamed date stamp of 15.11 and an annotation in blue of 16.11, which appears to be the advice issue date. Date stamps of 16.11 for Florida and Ansfrere are on the back, Ansfrere being a PO which has Florida as its head office. Probably the Ansfrere cachet was applied at Florida. The 'Counter delivery' may have been applied at the same time; did the PO require all addressees to collect registered mail at the PO (counter delivery) or had delivery by a postman failed because no one was at home? On 1.12 it was evidently resolved to send the letter from Ansfrere to the RLO in red manuscript as it had not been collected, and the Ansfrere cachet was deleted. On 2.12 the letter passed through Florida and arrived at the RLO in Cape Town on 8.12.1965. It is strange that the letter was sent to the RLO, as the return address is P.O.Box 15, East London.



Fig.2: Front and reverse of registered cover sent from East London to Discovery.

This cover has provided a lot of fun, and all the answers may not yet be available. It also showed how the postal system was functioning at that time.

Postal officials are only human. The covers in Figs.3 and 4 show that the dates were incorrect, and certified statements in this regard are shown. Fig.3a shows a date stamp of Richards Bay of 25VB92. This does not seem strange on a stamp that was issued in 1981. On the reverse, however, shown in Fig.3b there is an affidavit by a SA Police officer that the item was seen on 21.4.1985, confirmed by the Charge Office Police cachet at Wynberg.

Similarly, the cover in Fig.4 shows a date of 1-VI/1987, again nothing unusual, except that the tax indications were cancelled. In this case the Manager or Accountant at the Barclays National Bank in Victoria Road, Salt River, certified that this item was seen on 14.4.1987. Since the date slugs are inserted by hand, it is easy it confuse VI for IV when working with a mirror image. So the cover was evidently mailed on 1.4.1987, and although the new postage rate applied from this date, letters were given grace, as the letter could have been mailed in a street box the previous day. The postal official on duty was probably over-enthusiastic.

I trust that the covers shown in this column will whet the appetite to study covers as the markings are often more interesting than the stamps. Input by Hugh Amoore RDPSA sincerely acknowledged.

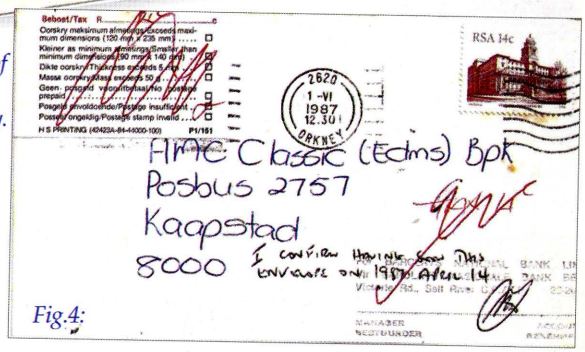
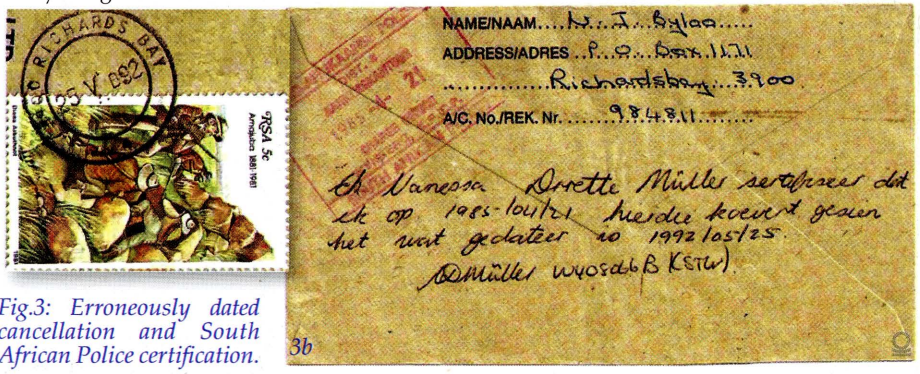


Fig.4:

Waar is die dae toe seëlversameling op los seëls gefokus het en ons in die proses interessante en nuttige inligting op die koeverte vernietig het. Die rubriek het verskeie voorbeelde getoon van sulke interessante inligting, maar daar bly ook onbeantwoorde vrae. Lesers wat kan help om die prentjie aan te vul kan gerus vir my laat weet.



3a 3b

Fig.3: Erroneously dated cancellation and South African Police certification.

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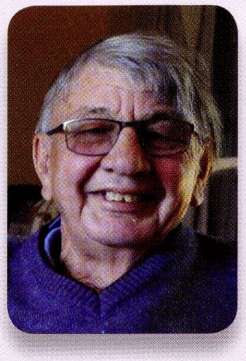
OBITUARY

JOHN HORNER



I got to know John when he and his family moved to Kimberley in the mid-1980s. It was not long before he joined the Kimberley Philatelic Society, serving on its committee for many years. He served as secretary but even assumed the Chairman's duties when this position was vacant for various reasons.

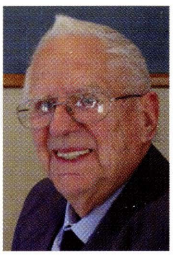
He was a keen collector of Botswana and the postmarks and postal slogans of South Africa. Even though his interests later changed to thematics he still kept up with postmark collecting and postal history. His interest in thematics began when he and his wife Judy, started collecting stamps featuring heraldry, African tribes and masks. He joined Thematics SA when this society was started and also served on their committee, especially when he retired to Cape Town.

Although he did not exhibit nationally, John played an integral role in Kimberley by helping to organise promotional exhibitions for the society at local venues such as the Public Library and the McGregor Museum. He was also involved in the organising of the ABO Phil Exhibition in 1999 which was held at the William Humphreys Art Gallery in Kimberley. He also made up small exhibits for a number of thematics at the Prethema shows in Pretoria.

When John retired from De Beers, he and Judy moved to Cape Town where he joined the Pinelands Stamp Circle, serving on the committee as Publicity Officer from 2005 until his passing. He also belonged to the Royal. John was an active member at Pinelands, participating in club exhibitions and competitions and, together with Judy, putting up a number of displays in the Pinelands Library during the October stamp month. John will be greatly missed by all his stamp collecting friends in the Kimberley Philatelic Society and Pinelands Stamp Circle.

Richard Oliver & Marilyn Crawford

TRADITIONAL PHILATELY



THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA 2d PICTORIAL DOUBLE OVERPRINT REVISITED

by M.J.H. Tonking RDPSA. SA Stamp Study Circle

ERRATUM:
A 'gremlin' occurred on p123 of Mike Tonking's last article in the August 2018 issue: *"Revisiting the 2d London printing 'split d' flaw"*. The illustration for the split 'A' of Africa also appears here as Fig.2 We regret any misunderstanding or inconvenience this may have caused.

In 1930 the 2d London Pictorial Issue 4 Perforation Group III (14 x 13.5 up) was overprinted with the letters SWA for use in South West Africa. This was the second use of this overprint on the 2d issue. The right pane of the two-pane issue may be identified by a number of discrete flaws:

1) There is a tiny black dot 3mm above the perforation guide line in the bottom of the central gutter (Fig.1).

2) The row 10/7 'split A' makes its first appearance (Fig.2).

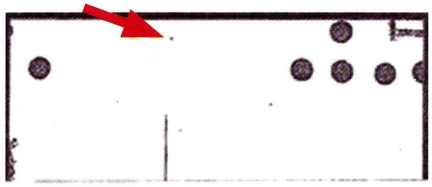


Fig.1: Tiny black dot 3mm above perforation guide line.

3) Row 8/8 shows the 'split d'which makes its second appearance (Fig.3)

In addition, the 5th perforation hole below row 10/9 is raised, which is almost always found on this issue.



Fig.2: Row 10/7 - 'Split A.'

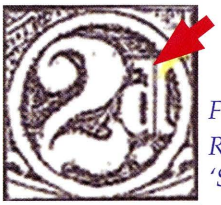


Fig.3: Row 8/8 – 'Split d.'

During the overprinting a major flaw occurred, in that a single sheet was placed the wrong way round in the pile of sheets being overprinted. This was spotted and the sheet turned the right way round and again overprinted, which resulted in the double overprint with one being inverted. In this case the overprint was spaced 6mm apart (Fig.4).

Late in 1930 the 2d London Pictorial Issue 4 Perforation Group II (14 x 13.5 down) was again overprinted SWA which was now used for the third time, being the last overprint of any type to be applied to the 2d London Pictorials.

A single sheet was again discovered to be the wrong way round and was, as in the previous case, turned the correct way round and again overprinted. The resulting double overprint was now 14mm apart, compared to 6mm in the previous issue (Fig.5). The example shows the 'horned A' with the right leg joined to the stop (Fig.6).It is quite coincidental that the double overprint flaw occurs on both issues, as the odds against making the same mistake twice, are high.



Fig.4: Perforation Group III - Overprint double and inverted 6mm spacing. Row 8/8 – 'Split d.' Row 10/7 – 'Split A' and stop almost missing. Row 10/9 - 5th bottom perforation is raised. Tiny black dot 3mm above perforation guide line. It is of interest that row 10/7 shows an almost missing stop after the 'A' whilst the overprint on row 9/4 has no missing stop, the reason for which is unknown.



Fig.5: Perforation Group II – Overprint double and inverted 14mm apart.



Fig.6: 'Horned A' – Protrusion at top left of 'A.' Bottom right leg of 'A' joined to full stop.

REFERENCES:

- Becker, N. 1990. *The Overprinted Stamps of South West Africa to 1930.*
- Hagger, S.J. & Tonking, M.J.H. 1989. *The Union 2d London Printing 'The Final Chapter'.*
- Tonking, M.J.H. 2007. *The 2d London Pictorial Issues 1927-1931.*

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Embossed and Impressed REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Introduction and background

The collecting of embossed or impressed revenue stamps of the Union is one of the neglected fields of revenue stamp collecting. This is a fascinating element that should be included in any revenue collection. This article is a first attempt to identify the various types of embossed or impressed revenue stamps.

The use of embossed or impressed revenue stamps was introduced long before postage stamps. As Clive Ackerman stated in his book *Collecting and Displaying Revenue Stamps* the first ever revenue stamp printed on a document was in Spain in 1637. The first revenue stamps used in the United Kingdom were impressed duty stamps after the introduction of the Stamp Duty Act in 1694. The use of embossed revenue stamps with the date indicated on the stamp was also introduced at a very early stage in the UK (Fig.1). These British embossed and printed stamps for cheques and other types of documents also had the feature where the date of embossing or printing was indicated on the stamp (Figs.2 and 3).



Fig.1: British type embossed revenue stamp with handstamp 'specimen' dated: 22.11. (18)86.

Embossed revenue stamps were also used in the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal and the Orange Free State. The first issue for the Cape, intended officially as adhesives, were the 1864 issues. Embossed revenue stamps were issued as adhesives in Natal from *circa* 1855. In the Orange Free State embossed revenue stamps were issued in 1856 (Fig.4). Alan Drysdall in his book *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph Stamps* indicated that a De La Rue essay for the One Penny revenue stamp of the upright design that was intended to be embossed on cheques, was designed in November 1900.



Fig.2: British type embossed stamp with date 5 June 1946 used on a document with Union Bantam revenue stamps cancelled on 22 July 1946.



Fig.3: British embossed 'Two Pence' revenue stamp used on a cheque dated 10 June 1958.

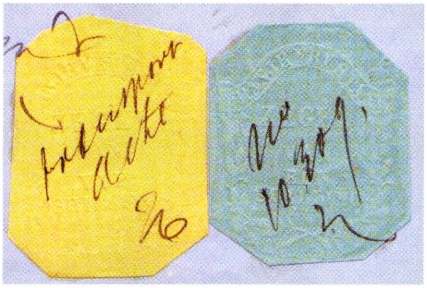

Fig.4: Orange Free State embossed stamps used in 1871.



Fig.5: Specimen Transvaal embossed stamp with date slugs indicating: 27 November 1909 (27.11.09) Image enlarged.

The use of embossed or impressed type revenue stamps in terms of the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911

In preparation for Unification in 1910 the Distributor of Stamps, L.S. Wilkinson, wrote a letter to the Secretary of Treasury on 26 November 1909 regarding the purchasing of a multiple stamping machine. He stated the following: *"One machine of the multiple type is sufficient to meet our requirements. On the subject of dies, I think that a new set should accompany the multiple machine. By omitting the word 'Transvaal' which appears in the dies we have at present, the new ones would serve our purpose now and be available under Union. A similar die to the one I suggest is used at Somerset House. The new die should bear a crown, the value of the impression and the usual scroll work and plug holes"* (Fig.5).

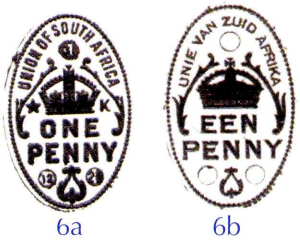

Fig.6: Selection of proof impressions of the 'One Penny/Een Penny' dies for mainly cheque stamps but also for use on receipts after Union in 1910. Note the indication of separate dies for the 'O.F.S.' and 'NATAL' (Figs.6d and 6e).

The Stamp Duties and Fees Act (Act No.30 of 1911) as amended made provision for the use of embossed or impressed type revenue stamps by stating the following under the heading *"Manner of Denoting Payment of Duty: The payment of any duty or fee payable by law shall be denoted by means of an adhesive revenue stamp or stamps of not less than the required value, affixed to the instrument chargeable and defaced as prescribed by*

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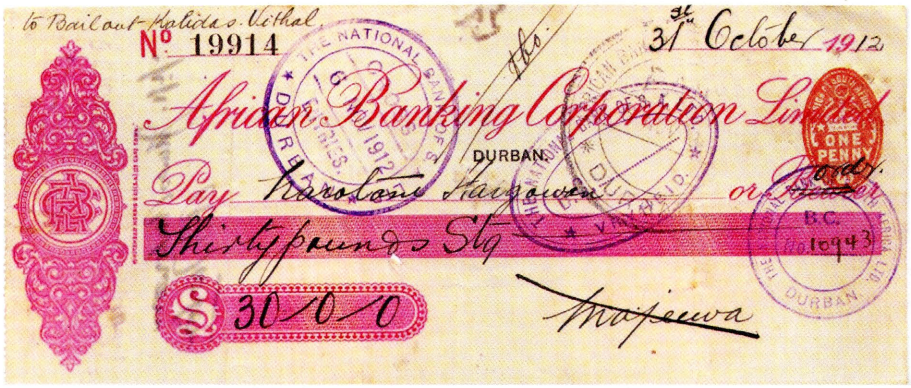

Fig.7: Very early usage of the first type 'One Penny' large oval (17,51 x 26,9 mm) impressed revenue stamp on a cheque dated 31st October 1912. The design comprises a framed vertical oval enclosing a crown.

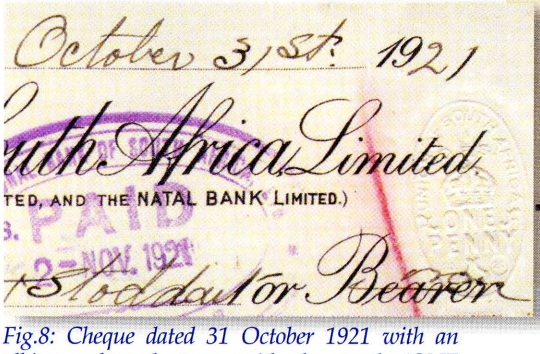

Fig.8: Cheque dated 31 October 1921 with an albino embossed stamp with the words 'ONE PENNY / O.F.S' impressed on the right. Date '20' encircled on the bottom right to indicate the year 1920 when the oval stamp was embossed.

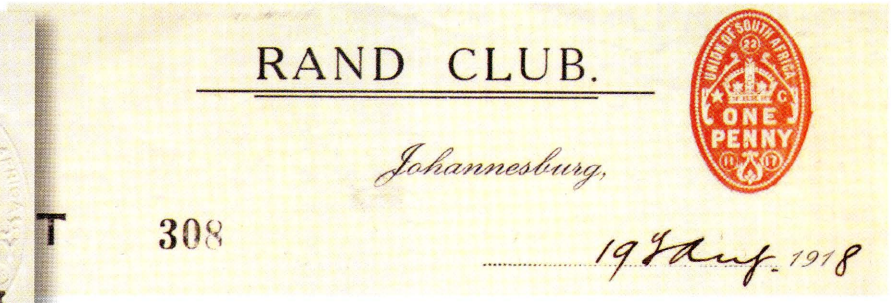

Fig. 9: Receipt of the Rand Club dated 19 August 1918 with the impressed revenue stamp with various codes indicated on the stamp. The orange revenue stamp was printed on the 22 November 1917 as indicated by the date slugs: 22 11 17.

this Act: Provided that: a) in the case of any instrument liable to a duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting of the duty; b) payment of duty may be denoted by means of impressed stamps in the following classes of instruments , that is to say,: cheques, bills of exchange liable to a fixed rate of duty, proxies, receipts, and any other instrument to which the Minister of Finance may from time to time by notice in the Gazette apply this proviso." (Figs.6, 7,8,9).

The machine that was embossing the cheque stamps was referred to by De La Rue as a '*power cameo machine*'.

Later on 23 June 1930, it was announced that the embossing of revenue stamps on cheque forms etc. in the various Provinces of the Union will be performed at the following places:

- Cape - Officer in charge, Government Printing and Stationery Department, Good Hope Hall, Cape Town.
- Natal - Receiver of Revenue, Durban.
- Orange Free State - Receiver of Revenue, Bloemfontein.
- Transvaal - Government Printer, Koch Street, Pretoria.

It was also stated that material for embossing should be forwarded to the embossing centre most accessible by rail or post regardless of provincial boundaries, provided that in the case of banking institutions with branches

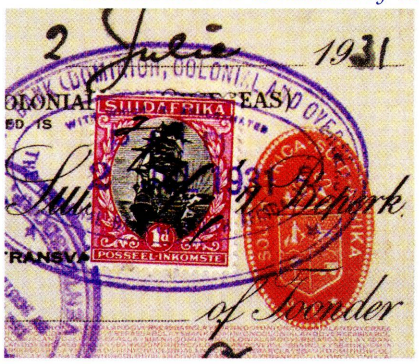

Fig.10: 1d orange large oval stamp (17,68 x 27,4mm) embossed on the cheque dated 2 July 1931. To make up the duty of 2d a postage/ revenue stamp was affixed to the cheque. The 2d duty applicable to cheques and receipts was introduced on 1 July 1931.



Fig.11: Blue 2d embossed cheque stamp used on a cheque dated 17 December 1931 (Size: 17,6 x 27,69mm).

at the embossing centres, the whole of the embossing requirements of such institutions in any Province shall be presented to and delivery taken from the local embossing office by such branches. (Figs.10 & 11).

Provision was also made for rail warrants to be obtained from the Receiver of Revenue by consignors covering transportation charges for the conveyance of forms by rail to the stamping centre, and parcels of forms not exceeding 11 lbs. in weight may be superscribed 'O.H.M.S.' and sent through the post free of charge.

Round and oval types of embossed and imprinted revenue stamps

Six types of embossed or imprinted round and oval designs were also used in the Union period on various types of documents. A selection of types are described and illustrated:

- Round design (30mm) where the Crown is flanked by an ornament. A round design was used for some of the Union embossed revenue stamps as was the case in the Transvaal Colony. Drysdall in his book: *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph stamps* described a similar design for some of the Transvaal designs where the Crown was flanked by an ornament (Fig.12).
- Round design (30mm) with an indication of the type of tax. This type was only used for 'Native Tax' purposes in the period *circa* 1919 (Fig.13).
- Round design (27mm) with only the value indicated. This type of design was used over the period 1919 to 1927 mainly on Certificates for the Publication of Banns (Fig.14).
- Round design (30mm) with the Crown above the shield. The following values have been observed printed in black, red or green colours: 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 4/-, 5/-, £1. This type of design was used on a variety of documents: Marriage Certificates, Birth Certificates, Tourist Passports, Certificates of Adoption, Permits and Monthly Fee Labels (Native Urban Areas Act, 1923) (Figs.15 and 16).
- Round design (26mm) with the

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Province indicated. This is an unique type of design with the province indicated. Only one document with 'TRANSVAAL' indicated has been observed used on a Native Labour Passport (Fig.17).

- Oval design (17mm x 27mm) with the value indicated. *Circa* 1919 - 1922. This type has only been observed used on Death Certificates. (Fig.18).

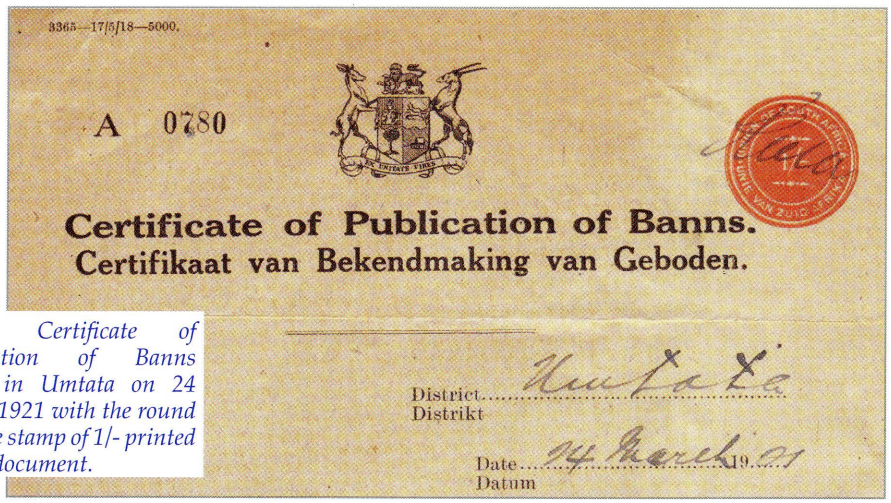

Fig.14: Certificate of Publication of Banns issued in Umtata on 24 March 1921 with the round revenue stamp of 1/- printed on the document.

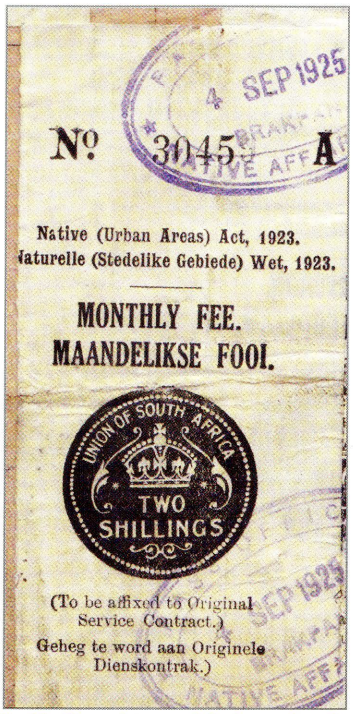

Fig.12: Round type of design printed on a label to be affixed to a Service Contract in terms of the Native (Urban) Areas Act of 1923. Label cancelled on 4 September 1925.

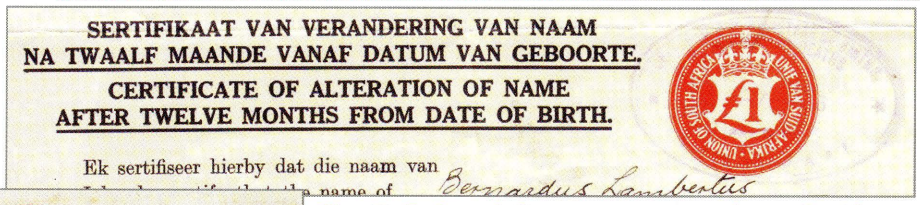

Fig. 15: Embossed £1 revenue stamp used on a Certificate of Alteration of Name after twelve months from date of birth on 15 July 1936 in Pretoria.



Fig.16: Embossed 5/- revenue stamp used on a Tourist Passport dated 15 May 1957 in Cape Town.

Collectors of Union revenue stamps are encouraged to include these embossed and imprinted revenue stamps in their collections and also to report new findings. Embossed revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa is still a virgin field and it will be worthwhile for collectors to explore this aspect of revenue stamp collecting.

Sources:

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- Alan Drysdall, *Transvaal Revenue and Telegraph Stamps*, Transvaal Study Circle Handbook Series, James Bendon, Cyprus, 1995.
- Barefoot, J, *British Commonwealth Revenues*, Ninth Edition, York, United Kingdom, 2012.
- Clive Akerman, *Collecting and Displaying Revenue Stamps*, The Revenue Society of Great Britain, London, 1995.
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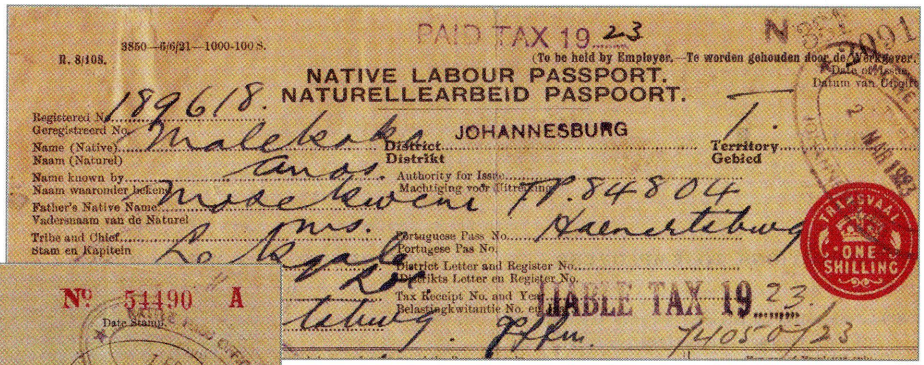

Fig.17: A 'Native Labour Passport' with an 'embossed' Transvaal "One Shilling revenue stamp paying for 'Liable Tax 1923' and cancelled in Johannesburg 2 March 1923.

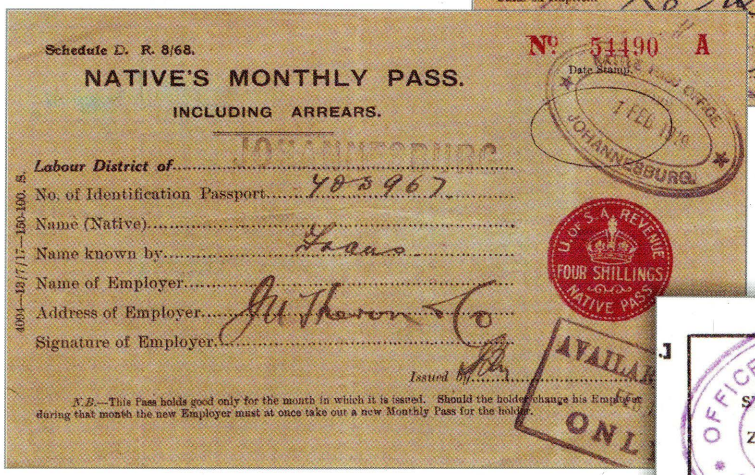

Fig.13: Embossed type of revenue stamp with the inscription 'Native Pass' in the lower segment used on a Native's Monthly Pass dated 1 February 1919.



Fig. 18: An example of an oval tax stamp used on a Death Certificate in Springbok on 8 June 1922.

To save space, most documents are only partly illustrated. Unless otherwise indicated all illustrated items are from the author's collection.

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REPORT

Praga 2018 Stamp Exhibition

by the SA Commissioner Emil Minnaar RDPSA



The Praga 2018 Stamp Exhibition was held from the 15 - 18 August 2018 and was a Specialised World Exhibition with the following classes on display:

- Traditional Philately,
- Postal History,
- Philatelic Literature,
- Revenues,
- One-Frame,
- Modern Philately and
- Open Philately.

South African exhibitors achieved the following results:

- Jan Hofmeyr: *Postal and experimental uses of the USA 3c denomination: 1861 –1869*. 95 points, Large Gold.
- Francois Friend: *King George V stamps of St. Helena*. 87 points, Large Vermeil;
- Jim Findlay: *World War 1: The War effort within the Union of South Africa*. 83 points, Vermeil.

Some statistics:

Traditional Exhibits: 86 of which there were 15 Large Golds and 23 Golds;

Postal History Exhibits: 110 of which there were 20 large Golds and 25 Golds;

Revenue Exhibits: 11 of which there were 11 Golds;

Open Class Exhibits: 14 of which there was one Large Gold and two Golds;

One Frame Exhibits: 40 of which there were 12 Exhibits of 90 points or more;

Literature Entries: 65 (Books & Research Papers) of which there were seven Golds;

Literature Entries: 19 (Magazines & Periodicals) of which there was one Gold;

Literature Entries: 27 (Catalogues) of which there were two Large Golds and two Golds.

The Grand Prix International was awarded to Joseph Hackmey of the UK for his exhibit *Classic Switzerland* which achieved 97 points.

In fact, there were six Exhibits among the various classes which achieved 97 points. Of note was the Open Class Exhibit *A Royal Ménage à Trois and its Historic Consequences* by Iva Mouritsen from Denmark which as a first-time international entry of five frames achieved a Large Gold plus Special Prize for Best in Class.

The Philatelic Federation of South Africa wishes to congratulate the Czechoslovakian Federation on an outstanding exhibition and to thank them for the hospitality shown to our Commissioner.



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THE OVERLAND POSTAL ROUTE BY RAIL FROM NATAL

by Roger Porter, Cape & Natal Study Circle



The impact of industrialisation in the late 1880s arising from the discovery of diamonds and gold in the interior of South Africa was far-reaching and spawned the need for the interior to be linked by rail to coastal ports. The subsequent development of a railway network was to have a significant influence on the people of the region, its economy, social circumstance, the growth and transformation of settlements, harbours, and agricultural regions. This development of the railways within the southern African colonies and states presented an opportunity to provide a faster and more efficient postal communication service for the public and government administrations both locally and beyond. For several decades, people in Natal were subject to slow postal services with local mail being transported regularly, at weekly or bi-weekly time intervals, by horse or mule carts or, in more remote areas, by native runners. Overseas mail took nearly three weeks or sometimes longer to reach its destination, being taken by steamships arriving at South African ports initially at two-week intervals and later at weekly intervals. For many years the Colony had unsuccessfully sought a faster mail route to Cape Town and Europe, as the mail ships would leave Port Natal sailing via Cape Town to England with stops at several intermediate ports en route.

The Natal railway to Harrismith, Orange Free State.

In January 1876, the Natal Government Railways (NGR) although seriously hampered by labour shortages, commenced construction of the railway from Durban to Pietermaritzburg, which was eventually completed on 2 December 1880. The efforts of the Natal government now concentrated on the extension of the line via Ladysmith in the hope of opening trade routes to the Transvaal and Orange Free State. The rail line opened for traffic to Ladysmith on 21 June 1886.

In May 1889 the Natal Colonial Government offered to build, equip, and work a railway line from Van Reenen's Pass to Harrismith. The Free State Volksraad accepted the offer and in February 1890 an agreement was reached. The convention granted Natal the sole right to build and work the railway line between Van Reenen and Harrismith, which was to be completed by 7 November 1892, three years after the first sod had been turned by the Natal Governor Sir Charles Mitchell on 7 November 1889 at a place 2.5 km outside Ladysmith. A salute of 19 salvos was fired on this prestigious occasion (Fig.1). During the next seven days the dignitaries from the Free State were lavishly fêted at official functions; at a dinner in Pietermaritzburg on the 8th, in Durban on the 11th, and Verulam on 13th November.

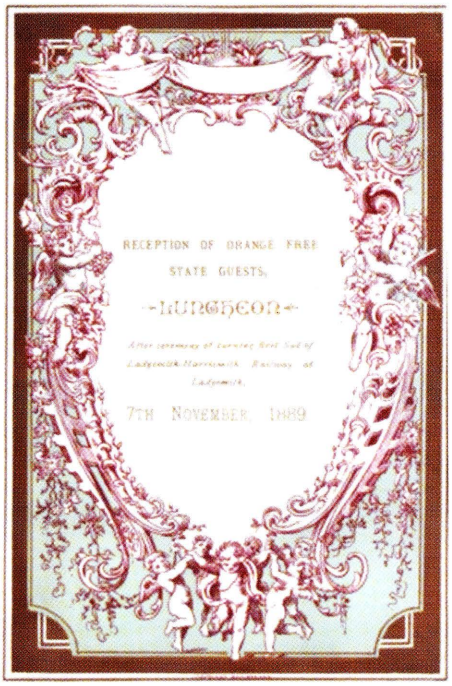

Fig.1: After the turning of the first sod of Ladysmith - Harrismith Railway on 7 November 1889 a reception luncheon for the Orange Free State guests was held at Ladysmith at which there were toasts to the Queen, President of the OFS, the guests from the OFS, and to the success of the Natal Government Railways.

There was a shortage of labourers for both railway construction and maintenance work, particularly African labourers, leaving the Colony with the only option to employ more and more Indian indentured labourers. By the 1890s the NGR was the largest employer of both Indians and Africans in Natal. The rail section to Van Reenen's Pass (Fig.2) presented particular engineering problems requiring three reversing stations (Heydenrych H & B Martin, 1992). The line was opened for passenger traffic on 19 November 1891 and finally to Harrismith by 13 July 1892 (Figs.3 & 4).

A railway through the Orange Free State to the Transvaal

The Cape Colonial Government had already entered into contract with the Free State Government for the construction of the railway from the Orange River (Noval's Pont) to Bloemfontein. The line was opened on 17 - 18 December 1890 at an extravagant three-day Official Opening ceremony. A programme of festivities commencing on 17 December with the arrival of special trains, was hosted by the President of the Free State. The ceremony was attended by the High Commissioner (Cape Colony), Governor of Natal, and State President of the South African Republic who were all dined at a lavish official luncheon.

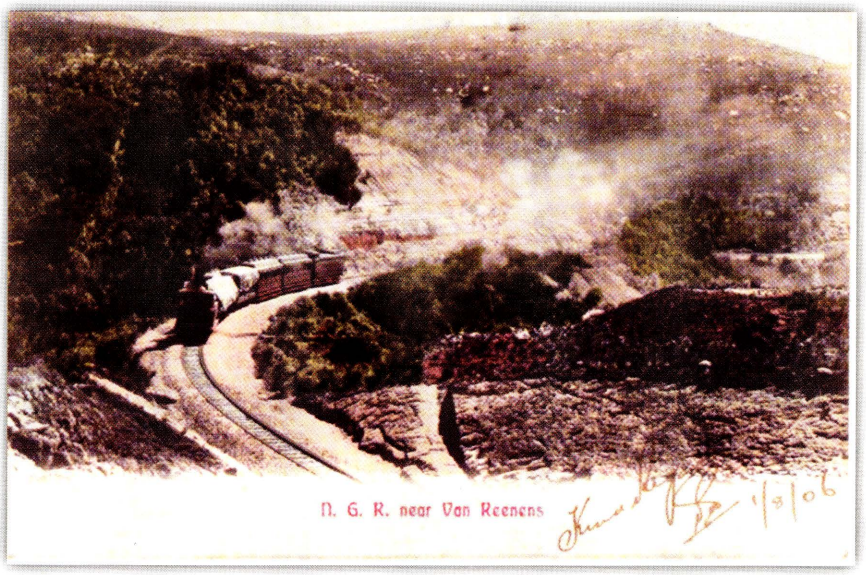

Fig.2: Postcard dated 1906 showing a NGR mail train on the reversing section of the railway at Van Reenen's Pass.

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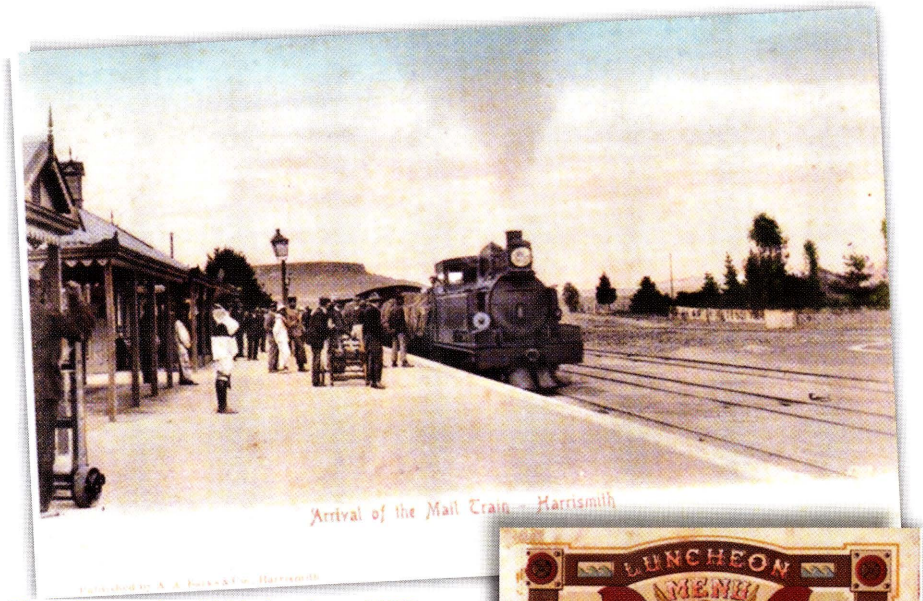

Fig.3: Postcard c. 1906 showing a NGR mail train on arrival at the Harrismith Station, Orange Free State.

In addition to other day and evening entertainments, including a ball, a polo scratch event was held at the race course and included a 'Menagerie Race' where any small animals except dogs (unless they were harnessed to a cart and carrying passengers) participated. This race was a handicap at which 'a frog or tortoise will have as good a chance to win as an ostrich. Animals suitable would include *goats, pigs, calves, sheep, cats, rabbits, fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys, frogs, tortoises, monkeys;* but these must be driven' (i.e. any competitor in front of his animal or bird at any time during the race would be disqualified).

Extension of the railway north from Bloemfontein

The railway line was extended north of Bloemfontein, first to Kroonstad and then over the Vaal River to Vereeniging in the Transvaal. On 23 May 1892 a train from the south crossed over into the Transvaal and arrived at Vereeniging. The line between the Vaal River and Elandsfontein (Germiston) was later opened for traffic (15 September 1892), a permanent bridge replacing the temporary bridge over the Vaal River on 5 November 1892. The final rail section from Pretoria to Elandsfontein was officially opened on 1 January 1893. Thus a rail link was established from the capital of the Transvaal and Witwatersrand gold fields to Cape Town (De Jong et al. 1988).

Natal mail routed 'Via Bloemfontein'

With rail links from Durban to Harrismith and from Cape Town north to the Transvaal through the Free State now being a reality, an overland mail route became possible and was soon



Fig.4: Official luncheon, on the occasion of the opening of the 'Ladysmith - Harrismith Spoorweg' at Harrismith 13 July 1892. Toasts were to the President of the OFS, the Queen, Governor of Natal, Administrator of Basutoland, the Natal - Free State Railway and guests.

established. In his annual report for the year ending February 1893 the Postmaster General stated *"I was enabled to take measures for direct mails between Bloemfontein and Durban (Natal) three times a week, and this was a great help, not only for the Free State but also for Natal and Cape Colony. The Free State receives a certain amount for every foreign letter via Bloemfontein and because letters can be sent along this route three full days after the departure of the mail steamer from Durban, the revenue from this source will be of considerable importance in the course of time"* (Stroud 1993).

Given that no postal agreement existed between Orange Free State and Natal at that time, the amount received by the Free State was deemed a 'Transit Fee' of 2d on ordinary mail (Fig.5), 4d on registered mail (Fig.6), and 1d on a postcard (Stroud 1993). Natal had become a member of the UPU on 1 July 1892 and the postage rate for ordinary letters addressed to overseas UPU countries was 2½d per half ounce.

The overland Natal mails destined for overseas or Cape Colony were taken by a Natal Government Railways mail train to Harrismith; this route was opened for traffic in September 1892 (Figs.5, 6 & 7). From Harrismith the mail was taken three times a week either by horse or mail-cart to Winburg Station, to be loaded onto a Cape Government Railways train travelling to Bloemfontein and onto Cape Town. At Cape Town the overseas mail was transferred and loaded onto a Union Line or Castle Line mail steamer sailing to England.

An 1893 cover (Fig.7) addressed to Port Elizabeth and sent at the 6d postage rate that is, double the Natal - Cape postage of 2d per half ounce plus the 2d Transit Fee payable to the Free State is of particular interest. It is back stamped by a 'MIDLAND DOWN' travelling post office canceller on September 29 [18] 93 confirming that it was being transported on the railway system.

On reaching Noupoort it was routed by rail to Port Elizabeth. This cover is the only recorded philatelic item to the Cape Colony sent during this time via



Fig.5: 1892 cover at 4½d postage endorsed 'via Bloemfontein' addressed to the U S A. Cancelled at Estcourt SP 30 92. Back stamped Durban OC 2 92, Ladysmith OC 3 92 and Chicago NOV 1892.

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Bloemfontein mail route.

In the 1993 article in *The Orange Free State Bulletin* written by Richard Stroud, only a single cover addressed to England was recorded and illustrated, that had been routed via Harrismith and Bloemfontein. The three covers illustrated in this article represent new finds and bring the total number now recorded to four.

Extension of the Natal railway to Charlestown

Natal, Cape Colony and Free State wanted to secure trade with the Witwatersrand and pursued this objective with the South African Republic. However the priority for the Republic was to construct a rail link to Delagoa Bay in Mozambique, which would therefore be outside of British influence. By 1888 – 89 Natal was absolutely committed to a railway connection with the Transvaal by conceptualising and initiating a plan for an extension of the line from Ladysmith via Newcastle to the gold fields of the Witwatersrand. However it was clear that President Kruger would not agree to this extension at that time. Nevertheless Natal continued with the construction of the rail line to Newcastle which was opened for traffic on 15 May 1890. A site three kilometres from the Transvaal border was then selected for the terminus. This place was named Charlestown after the governor Sir Charles Mitchell (Fig.8).The challenge the NGR faced was to build the railway through difficult steep mountainous terrain to Lang's Nek and over the Drakensberg escarpment. Given the steepness of the topography two reversing stations had to be provided.

The official opening of the railway to Charlestown took place on 7 April 1891 at a function attended by President Kruger as guest of honour. Sir Charles Mitchell performed the opening ceremony (Fig.9). President Kruger and his entourage were taken by rail to Pietermaritzburg and Durban so that they could view the achievements of the Natal railways. They were shown through the NGR workshops, transported by train to the harbour and coal shed, then conducted over the harbour works, taken by a yacht across the bay before having dinner and being entertained by a fireworks display. Following a survey it was decided to build a tunnel at Lang's Nek which would shorten the length of the line by five kilometres and reduce the very steep incline. It was a great engineering feat for the NGR and was opened on 14 October 1891.

With the railway completed from Pretoria to Delagoa Bay on 1 November 1895 (De Jong 1988), attention turned to the South-Eastern Line to Volksrust. Although the Transvaal Government eventually decided to go ahead with this project in January 1894 a complex set of protracted negations still had to be undertaken before agreements were in place and construction work could start. By June 1894 all contractors had commenced work on the railway, bridges, earthworks, culverts, and supply of ballast except for the last section from Heidelberg to Elsburg which agreements were accepted in September and October. The first section between Volksrust (Fig.10) and Standerton was opened for rail traffic on 27 August 1895. From 31 May 1895 the overland mail route via Harrismith and Winburg that had been used three times a week ceased.

On 1 June 1895 the overland mail route was changed; the Natal mails were forwarded daily by rail to Standerton, then by coach to Johannesburg, and from there by rail to the Cape Colony. This change of mail route allowed for the course of post to be more frequent and shortened by 12 hours in each direction (Stroud 1993 quoting the 1895 Cape Postmaster General Report). A through rail-road-rail route had therefore been established from November 1895. With the completion of the final section of the railway, the South-Eastern Line was opened for traffic on 2 January 1896 (De Jong et al 1988).



Fig.6: 1892 registered cover from Durban 1 SP 92 endorsed 'Via Bloemfontein' addressed to Germany. Postage 13d, being double the UPU postage rate of 2½d to Germany, 4d registration fee, and 4d OFS transfer fee for a registered item. Back stamped London 26 SP 92 and Spandau 26 9 92.

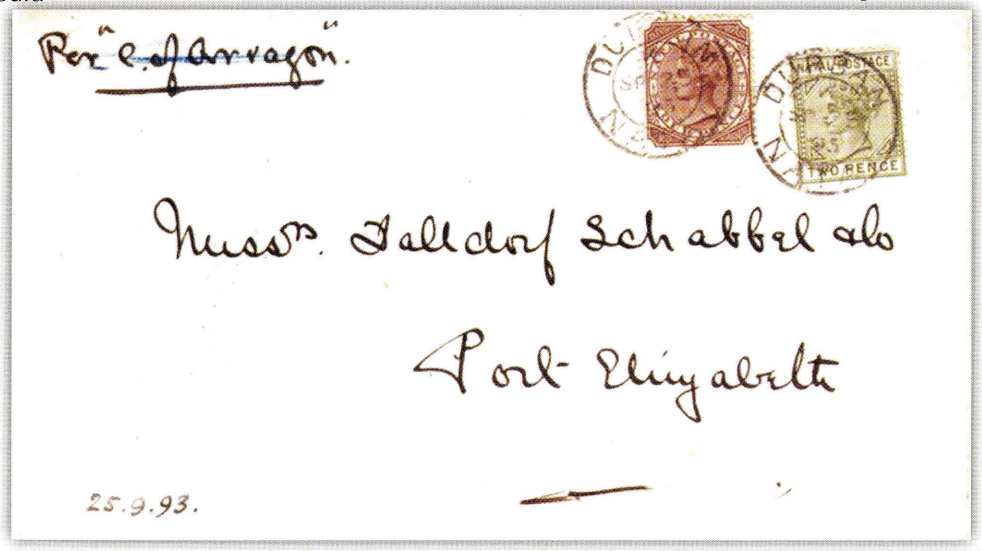

Fig.7: Cover from Durban SP 25 93 to Port Elizabeth at 6d postage rate, being double 2d postage to Cape Colony plus 2d OFS transit fee. Back stamped MIDLAND DOWN SP 29 93 and Port Elizabeth SP 29 93. Endorsed with ship's name but deleted in blue crayon and redirected by the postmaster because the mail ship had sailed from Port Natal.

The Natal public therefore had a choice of two postal routes for their Cape and overseas mail. Overseas mail could be sent on the 'Johannesburg to Bloemfontein' route at a postage cost of 4½d per ½ oz (Fig.11) or on the slower sea route from Durban via Port Elizabeth (then inland by rail to Cape Town) at a postage cost of 2½d per ½ oz operated by the Union Mail Steamship Co. and Castle Steam Ship Co. (Stroud 1993). Stroud illustrates five Natal covers

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Fig.8: Postcard of Charlestown station the terminus of the Natal Government Railways.

and one postcard that were sent on the 'Johannesburg to Bloemfontein' mail route. These together with the cover illustrated in Fig.11 and a second cover dated 16 MY 96 taken by the *Tartar* make up the eight recorded philatelic items that have been found thus far.

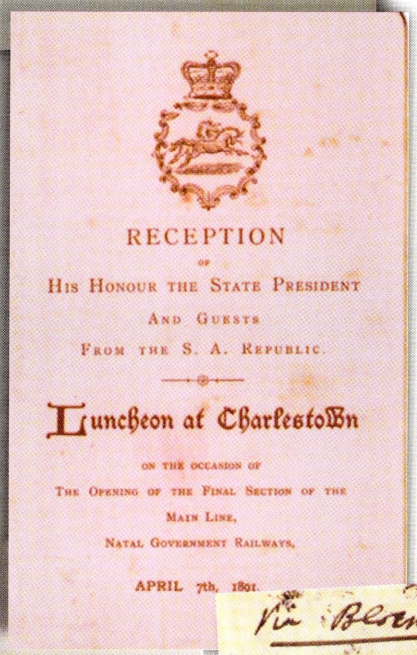

Fig.9: Official reception of the State President and guests from the South African Republic on the occasion of the opening of the final section of the rail line to the terminus at Charlestown held on 7 April 1891.

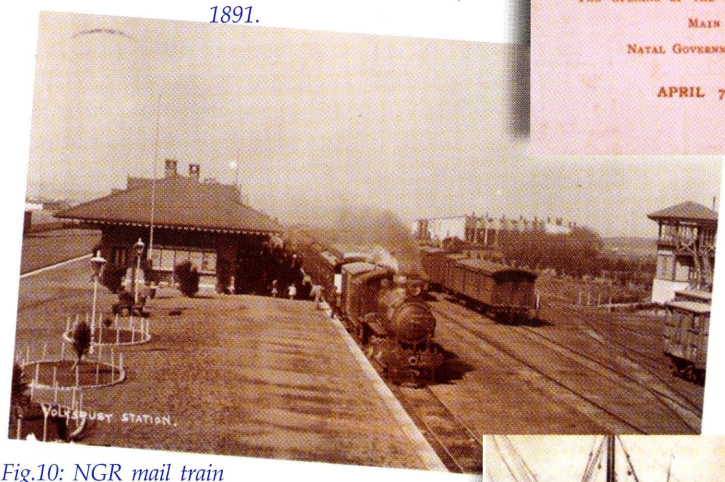

Fig.10: NGR mail train at Volksrust Station cancelled in 1911.

Following further negotiations with the Transvaal, Free State and Cape Colony postal authorities all the Natal – Europe mail correspondence was routed overland by rail through the Transvaal and OFS to Cape Town at no additional postage costs (Fig.12). This became possible from November 1895 because the Free State, although not a member of the UPU agreed to comply with the same conditions as if it were such a member (note that Natal, Transvaal, and Cape Colony had become members of the UPU on 1 July 1892, 1 January 1893, and 1 January 1895, respectively.The Free State joined later on 1 January 1898). This arrangement allowed Natal to terminate its ocean mail contracts with the Castle Mail Packets and Union Steam Ship Co. From 1 August 1896 the outward English mail was forwarded overland to Cape Town and thence by the Cape Colony ocean service to England (Stroud 1993).

References.

- De Jong RC, van der Waal GM, Heydenrych DH. 1988. NZASM 100. *The buildings, steam engines and structures of the Netherlands South African Railway Company.* Publ. Chris van Rensburg Publications, Pretoria.
- Heydenrych H & B Martin. 1992. *The Natal Main Line Story.* Publ. HSRC Publishers, Pretoria
- Stroud R 1993. *'Via Bloemfontein' The development of the overland routes from Natal 1891 to 1896.* The *Orange Free State Bulletin*, September 1993.

Fig.11: (Below) 1895 cover endorsed 'Via Bloemfontein' at the 4½d postage rate addressed to England. Cancelled POA 21 (used at West End, Pietermaritzburg post office agency) and manuscript 'X', G P O Natal 26 OC 95, London NO 15 95. Re-directed and cancelled Truro NO 16 95.Taken by the Tantallion Castle from Cape Town which sailed on 30 October 1895 to England.



Fig.12: Postcard showing mail train and Union Castle ship leaving Cape Town Harbour with the Natal and English mails.

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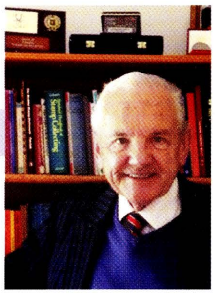
BEHIND THE STAMPS

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



Recently, I was invited by the *University of the Third Age or U3A*, that is to say the branch here in George, to deliver a lecture on the general topic of 'Philately'. I was happy to accept the invitation, but with the proviso that I should introduce myself, rather than leave it to the Chairman of the Society. To this he readily agreed and left me virtually to my own devices as regards the content of my talk. Obviously, with the majority of the anticipated audience being neither knowledgeable nor even interested in the finer points of the hobby, I realised that I would need to concentrate on the stories 'behind the stamps', much as I did in a series of articles that I contributed to *The SA Philatelist* over a period of ten years or so starting in June 2004.

I commenced my talk, which I gave the title: *Philately – an Investment in Life*, by explaining just what I meant by that description. Firstly, I emphasised that I wasn't referring to a financial 'investment' but rather to the adoption of a hobby which, in my own case, has already ruled out the threat of boredom in the first twenty-two years of my retirement. I then went on to explain how the word 'philately' had been adapted from the Greek and meant, literally, *the love of the avoidance of paying taxes*. This certainly grabbed the attention of my audience! They may, possibly, have been a little disappointed when they learnt that this referred to the requirement that, prior to 1840, it was the receivers of mail rather than the senders thereof who were required to pay the cost of postage and that this was likened, disapprovingly, to a tax.

I then projected my first image, that of a 'Penny Black' on cover, a stamp which, it transpired, most of my audience had heard about but never seen 'in the flesh' as it were (Fig.1). From there I went on to show South Africa's contribution to the early days of pre-paid post in the form of a 4d blue triangular of 1853 on a cover from Alice to Fort Beaufort (Fig.2). Then, quite deliberately, I transferred my attention to India where I showed an entire page from my collection, one devoted to that country and explained how I had arranged my collection of *Issuing Authorities of the World*, in this case from the days of the honourable East India Company until the emancipation of the Republic of India.



Fig.1:Penny Black

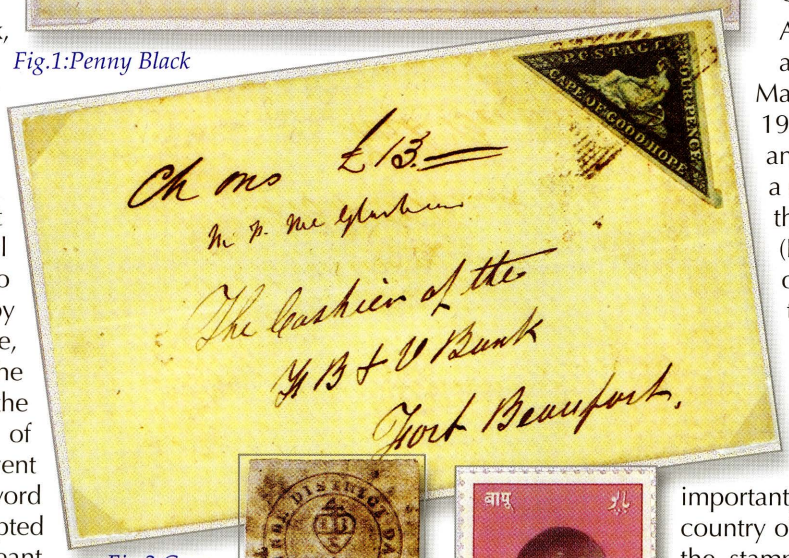


Fig.2:Cape Triangular

Fig.3: Scinde Dawk

This gave me the excuse to talk about the '*Scinde Dawk*', an embossed issue that was the first postage stamp in Asia and was in use from July1852 until October 1854 (Fig.3). It has been said that in 1843, Sir Charles Napier (1782-1853), Commander-in-Chief of the British forces, recaptured Scinde, or *Sindh* as it is pronounced and sometimes spelt, and cabled a telegram to their lordships in London bearing the single word - *PECCAVI*. Not having an Italian-speaking audience, I was obliged to explain that the word *peccavi* came from the Latin and would translate as *'I have sinned'*. Quite an outrageous pun!

Also on the same page was an issue of 1948 portraying Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) and celebrating the first anniversary of India's status as a dominion, albeit still within the British Commonwealth (Fig.4). This gave me the opportunity to introduce thematic or topical philately of which *The Life of Gandhi* is a popular example and is a branch of the hobby in which the theme of the collection is more important, not surprisingly, than the country of origin or the use to which the stamps in the collection might have been put.



Fig.4: Mahatma Gandhi

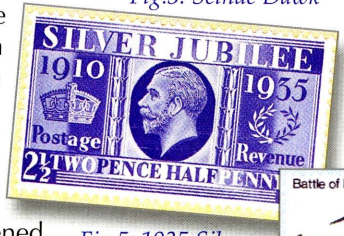


Fig.5: 1935 Silver Jubilee



Fig.6: RAF Sevice

This gave me, at last, the opportunity to introduce myself and this I did by means of a one-page, somewhat tongue-in-cheek thematic exhibit outlining my own life. I say 'tongue-in-cheek' because, for instance, while there have never been any stamps illustrating my birth unlike, say, Lady Diana or Nelson Mandela, I was able to commence the exhibit with an issue from Great Britain which celebrated the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935, the year

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in which I was born (Fig.5). Likewise, my national service in the Royal Air Force was acknowledged by a 1990 GB issue marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain (Fig.6), while the seven years that I spent as a surveyor on an open-cast mine were illustrated with one of the 1968 Independence issues of Swaziland, depicting the actual iron ore mine where I was working (Fig.7).

A circular gold-coloured local 'stamp' of 1968 from the Scottish island of Davaar (Fig.8) celebrated the gold medal that I received at the National Exhibition that was held in Benoni in 1994. Among the seventeen other stamps included in this introductory page were an 1894 issue from the Orange Free State, the home province of my wife (Fig.9), a GB commemorative of 1964 celebrating Shakespeare's (and my own) connection with the stage (Fig.10) and a 1938 issue of Switzerland showing Herman Pestalozzi, an 18th Century educationalist, whose statue included, at his feet, two small children who were required, for the sake of this thematic exhibit, to stand proxy for my own children (Fig.11).

Postage stamps may be small, insignificant pieces of paper, but the story they tell if one takes the trouble to dig deeper 'behind the stamp', opens a kaleidoscope of fascinating details – even on a personal level. *Article to be continued in next issue.*



Fig.7: 1968



Fig.8: Davaar



Fig.9: OFS



Fig.10: Shakespeare



Fig.11: Herman Pestalozzi



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A special request...
If you change your address, please let our Membership Secretary know.
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Kindly notify Jill Redmond of any changes by sending an email to pfsasec@mweb.co.za or call 011 917 5304.

JOHN & MARK TAYLOR



STELLALAND

6d. Lilac-mauve
IMPERF. BETWEEN.
S.G. 4b.
A very fine o.g. example

Address:
P.O. Box 37324,
Tel: 020 7226 1503
Fax: 020 7359 7456
London N1 - 2YQ

email address:
markjtaylor@btinternet.com

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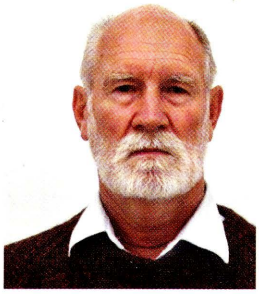
ADMINISTERING A SOCIETY'S EXCHANGE SECTION - A COMPUTERISED SOLUTION

by Steve Marsh, Pretoria Philatelic Society



Stamp collecting and philately are long lived and well established activities which, while extremely popular in the past, have received less interest in recent years. Despite this, the hobby will continue as we are by nature collectors at heart and especially in our more mature years seek activities to fill our time. Thus, there will always be a group in society interested in stamps and acquiring philatelic material.

Societies which run active exchange packet programmes are well placed to serve this group of collectors many of whom pursue their stamp collecting hobby outside formally organised societies. The challenge is to find innovative ways of encouraging these collectors to become part of organised philately and collecting. Exchange Sections of existing societies present such an opportunity.

Many societies have facilitated the exchange of material between members through an active exchange section where members place and price their unwanted and duplicate material in booklets, which are then circulated to all interested members. Pretoria Philatelic Society records show that the society has had an active Exchange Section going back over 90 years having commenced in at least 1928 and possibly earlier. The administration of the section was done manually up until the late 1980s when a Visual Basic computer programme running on a 286 processor was introduced and was used until 2017, when it was decided to develop a replacement programme as technological changes and the inability to access the source code made upgrading and maintenance of the programme challenging.

After considering possible options it was decided that the programme should be accessible from the Internet and written in the open source php language to obviate the problems experienced when trying to upgrade the earlier programme. Being Web based the programme would be universally accessible to the Exchange Sections administrators, Circuit/Route managers and members contributing books for circulation. It would also remove the necessity and risks associated with the programme and records being on a stand-alone dedicated or member owned computer. It also removed the risks associated with only one member really being au fait with the programme. Like all Web based programmes new risks are introduced of which hacking is probably the greatest.

Running a Society exchange programme comes with risks to both the society and the contributors. Risks to the contributor, centre largely around the loss of material or the fraudulent substitution of material. Contributors are largely aware of these risks and take steps to mitigate them. They are also exposed to the risk of not being paid for the material sold from their exchange books. Non-payment will largely result from a society not fully evaluating and anticipating the risks inherent in their Exchange Section's administration procedures. These centre on record keeping and banking. The original Pretoria Society programme established reliable record keeping and reporting procedures which have been incorporated into the new programme. The programme has also sought to include new features to communicate information and reports to contributors.

As the programme is Web based it can be accessed by a wider range of authorised members of the Society which reduces the risk of the collapse of the Exchange Section and loss of records, due to the failure of a stand-alone machine-based programme, or the incapacitation of its operator. The Pretoria Society programme also addresses the critical need to always be able to determine the Society's liability to its contributors for sales from their books and to ensure that sufficient funds are immediately available to meet these liabilities. It goes without saying that it is also desirable that the exchange section operates through a separate Society bank account with an adequate number of signatories.

The programme is centred around the database where all the data is stored and accessed through a series of modules with specific functions to make using it as intuitive as possible. These modules are termed Contributors, Books, Packs

Pretoria
Philatelic Society

PO BOX 36473
MENLO PARK
0102

28th January, 2018

J (JAMES) SMITH
P.O. BOX 11223
STAMPSIDE
0741

Dear Contributor

Please find below **8 book(s)**, with total sales of **R 1,403.80**

Book ID	Reference	Sales	Commission	Payout
400/13	233	R 157.30	R 15.73	R 141.57
1/14	235	R 94.40	R 9.44	R 84.96
215/14	243	R 60.60	R 6.06	R 54.54
216/14	244	R 428.00	R 42.80	R 385.20
234/14	247	R 42.30	R 4.23	R 38.07
235/14	248	R 35.70	R 3.57	R 32.13
238/14	251	R 40.50	R 4.05	R 36.45
239/14	252	R 545.00	R 54.50	R 490.50
		Total R 1,403.80	**R 140.38**	**R 1,263.42**

The total payout due will be paid directly into you bank account within the next seven (7) days.

Regards,
Exchange Superintendent

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Pretoria Philatelic Society Exchange
Members Statement

8th August, 2018

Contributor E(EDWARD) COLLECTOR
Address P O BOX 16 STAMPSIDE 1650
Telephone 123 456 7890

Book ID	Reference	Starting Value	Total Sales	Residual Value	% Sold	Book Started	Circuits Visited	Book Status
040/15	EC1	894.60	107.00	787.60	11.96	January 2015	7	Assigned
041/15	EC2	318.00	13.90	304.10	4.37	January 2015	8	Assigned
401/16	EC3	376.50	326.00	50.50	86.59	September 2016	9	Assigned
561/16	EC4	153.50	114.10	39.40	74.33	December 2016	9	Assigned
300/17	EC5	308.60	8.50	300.10	2.75	June 2017	6	Assigned
002/18	EC6	607.00	12.00	595.00	1.98	January 2018	5	Assigned

(Packets), Circuits (Routes), Sales, Payouts, Reports and Notes all of which are self-explanatory and will be familiar to administrators in other societies running an Exchange Packet service for their members. The database is automatically backed up each week with a copy being sent to both the Exchange Superintendent and/or his/her assistant for safekeeping off site.

- The **Contributors** module's function is to capture and edit the personal information of members contributing books for circulation. Also, in this module, the current status of the sales from each book contributed by a member can be displayed either in summary or by individual circuit. Individual status reports can be viewed, downloaded for printing or e-mailed directly to single or multiple contributors simultaneously.
- The **Books** module's function is to assign a unique number to each book received, capture the contributor and the book value. All books in circulation are displayed in this module which also provides the ability to view the sales from individual books and to edit incorrect sales data as identified or when reconciling sales prior to contributors' being paid out for books being returned to them.
- The **Packs** module's function is to create new packs and assign books to packets for circulation.

The programme provides for three types of Packs, default, payout and Z-Packs. The Pretoria Society uses numerically numbered default packets for general circulation, Z prefixed numerically numbered default packets for initial book circulation to Society Office Bearers and X prefixed numerically numbered packets to accumulate books ready for return to contributors and then to initiate the calculation of the proceeds of sales from their books. Within this module there is the ability to add books to a packet, transfer books between packets and to withdraw the books in a packet for payout.

- The **Circuits** module's function is to create Circuit or Route identifiers.
- The **Sales** module's function is to create a sales form for a specific packet and circuit and to capture the sales in the packet's books into the database.
- The **Payouts** module's function is to calculate the proceeds of sales by contributor for all books withdrawn or transferred into a designated payout X Pack. Confirming the payout produces Payout Letters for each contributor whose books are in the X packet, summarising their sales by book and the commission payable. These letters can either be viewed, downloaded for printing or e-mailed directly to the contributor. Activating a payout archives all the books in that Payout packet and removes them from the current list of books. Archived books can be viewed by activating the Archive function in each module.
- The **Reports** module's function is largely for administrative purposes. A Members' Summary Report summarises by contributor the number of his/her books currently in circulation and the Society's liability to the contributor for sales from their books. This is an important document for use in the audit process as well as ensuring that the Society is cognisant of its liability at any time. Multiple Contributors Statements and Receipt Letters for new books received can also be produced for downloading or direct e-mailing in this module.
- The **Notes** module's function is to record activities and problems experienced to be able to share these between users of the programme.

The Pretoria Society's Exchange Section continuously tested the programme as it was being developed using live data and once satisfied that the programme was working as planned, has now made three live payout runs all of which have proved successful and problem free. Like all programmes, improvements and upgrades in functionality will inevitably be needed and will be undertaken from time to time as shortcomings are identified through usage. The successful completion of the programme would not have been possible without the advice of John Barry and the valuable input and efforts of Gregg Berry, both of whose contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

The programme, while developed specifically for the Pretoria Society, is flexible enough to accommodate the procedures used by other societies, which should they be interested in computerising the administration of their exchange sections, are invited to contact Steve Marsh (swamp@mweb.co.za) or John Barry (john.barry.rsa@gmail.com) for further information.

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TRADITIONAL

TRANSKEI - an introduction

by the TBVC Study Group

The TBVC (The independent states of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) Study Group first started meeting in early 2009 under the leadership of the late Ds/Rev Cassie Carstens. Meetings were held monthly "on the stoep" at the Pretoria Stamp Fair and mini-auction. Initial meetings focussed on the commemorative stamps with studies directed towards the thematic aspects of these issues. The accumulation of material for an archive commenced. The scope of the study was widened to include amongst others, commemorative postmarks, postal stationery, maxi cards, miniature sheets and private issues as these became available. On completion of this preliminary survey and study more in-depth research commenced. This is directed at the graphic designs, the printing, perforating and cancelling processes and how these developed at the Government Printers to effectively meet the requirements of the Post Office. To fully understand how these developments took place the research on the issues will be in date chronological order irrespective of the independent state. A special TBVC Study Group meeting will be held at the forthcoming National Exhibition, Stampshow 2018, to present some of the initial results of the studies and to encourage greater interest and research co-operation amongst collectors of this neglected area of South African stamp collecting and philately.

In this article we wish to highlight, in a synopsis form, the exciting philatelic findings of our research as we start the in-depth philatelic study of the independent states commencing with the Transkei inauguration issue. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of retired government printer's personnel and the kind access to the South African Post Office museum to study, amongst others, the graphic and approved printer's sheets as we attempt to find answers to our research findings. The TBVC study group members are excited with our new in-depth research and appreciate how the unearthing of answers for the independent states applies equally to the stamp issues of South Africa and South West Africa, e.g. what is the reason for the thicker font of the '5c' in some of the third definitive protea series stamps? The answer is found in the study of the 15c Transkei inauguration stamp elucidated in this article. Moreover the availability of the independent state stamp issues makes the study of these items very possible and without exorbitant cost.

The graphic development from original item to approved water colour essay to final stamp is illustrated for the four stamps of the inauguration issue. The 4c stamp is used as an example to show the full printer's proof sheet and how to identify the four different panes by plating identification features. While all four stamp values have been studied in this fashion and other research findings documented, these have been precluded by space in this article but can be available in electronic format in the future.

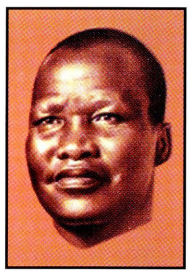
Transkei inauguration stamps

All the stamps have printed in gold: **uZimele waseTanskei** translated *Transkei independence*

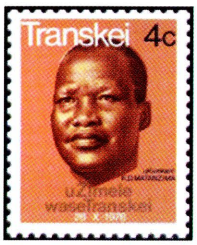
4c Stamp: uKumkani Kaiser D Matanzima



Original photo

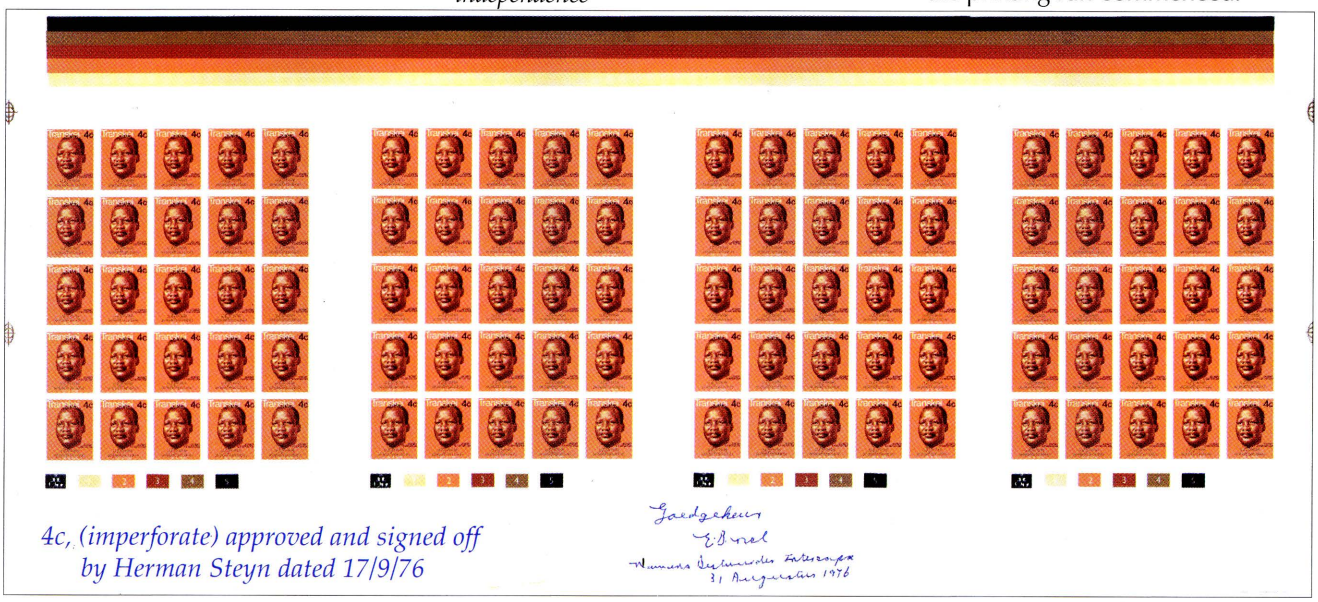


Final watercolour essay



The evolution of the 4c stamp

Portrait facing forward to his left. The English translation of **uKumkani** is *king* and an inappropriate title for the status of Kaiser Matanzima as Paramount Chief [1]. The depicted imperforate proof printer's sheet demonstrates the four panes in the next to each other format. The correct alignment of the five different printing colour plates is indicated by the perfect printed alignment of the colour bars seen on the top of the printer's sheet as well as the crossed circles at either side. The printers proof was approved and signed by EB Nel on behalf of INTERSAPA manager dated 31 August 1976 leaving the government printers just over one month for printing and delivery. A second on site final approval was required before the printing run commenced.



4c, (imperforate) approved and signed off by Herman Steyn dated 17/9/76

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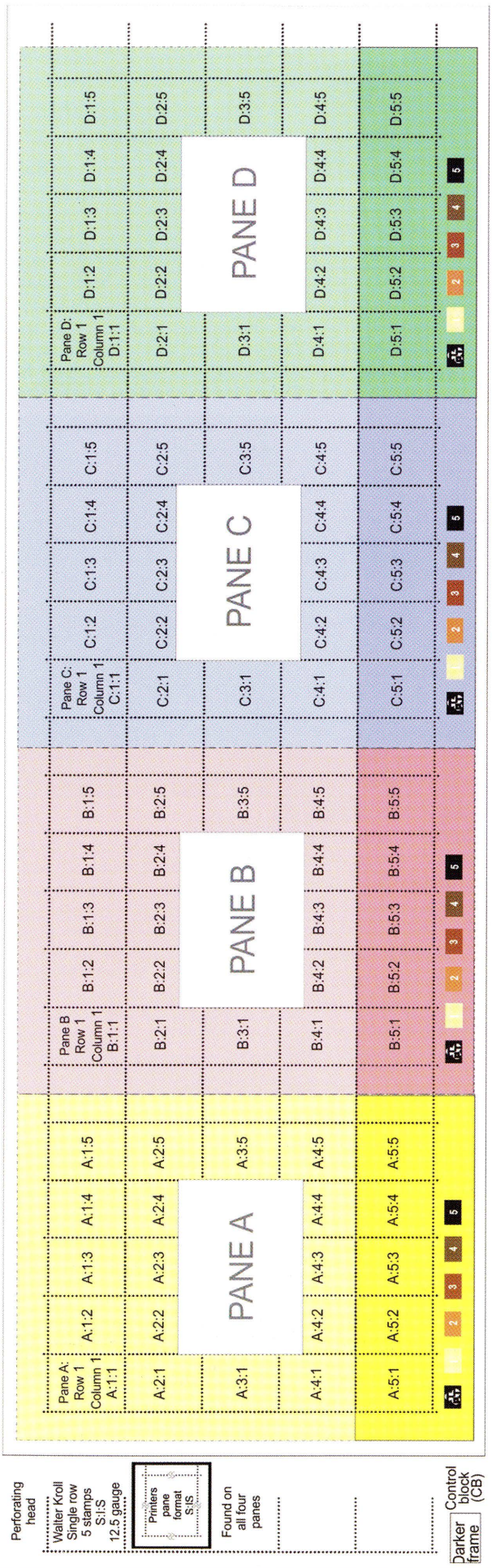
BELOW: 4c inauguration printer's sheet map



Theme: Head of State and national symbols
Date of issue: 26 October 1976
Artist/graphic designer: A.H. Barrett
Printing: Lithography from 5-7 multi-positive plates for each stamp value
Printing press: Roland 759
Paper: *Mill:* Harrisons, England
Surface: Matt obverse with PVA gum on the reverse side
Non-phosphorescent
No watermark
Paper sheet size: 295 x 630cm
Printer's sheet: Size: 292 x 609cm
Pane: Format - vertical
Size: 143 x 175-180mm
Four panes with 5 rows of 5 stamps each
Perforator: Walter Kroll
Perforating head: Single row, 5 stamp, S:I:S configuration.
A 4c and 10c printer's sheet only has been seen with a 8 stamp (+) P:I:S perforation
Gauge: 12½ 

Description: Pane A; I:S:P (grip end left-hand side)
Pane B-D; P:S:P
Stamp: *Format*: Vertical
Size: 24 x 30.5mm
Government printers advice: not available
Date of advice: not available
Job number: not available
Expected date of printing: not available

Comments: This is the only Transkei issue that does not have micro-printed at the bottom of the stamp neither the date nor the name of the artist/graphic designer.

Availability: Locally by order from Intersapa (on behalf of the Transkei Department of Posts and Telecommunications) or direct to the public at the Umtata main post office philatelic counter.[2] Even though independence day was a public holiday, the Umtata post office was open for the purchasing of Transkei inauguration and 1st definitive philatelic items.

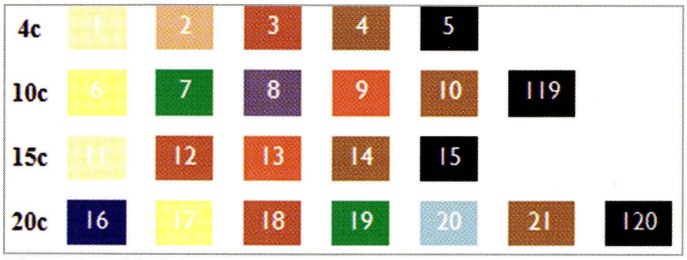


Plate colour block (PCB)

	4c	10c	15c	20c
No of panes ordered:	25 000	25 000	25 000	25 000
Printers sheets:	6 250	6 250	6 250	6 250
Number of stamps available:	625 000	625 000	625 000	625 000

Ref1: *The SA Philatelist* (Dec 1976) Vol 52, No 12, pp. 316

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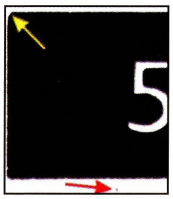
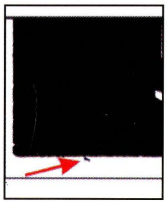
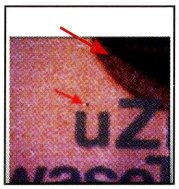
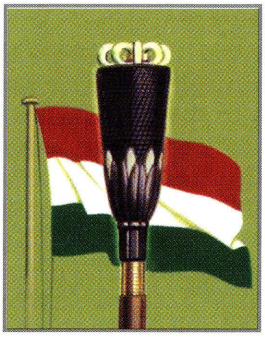
4c PANE DIFFERENTIATION:

	Bottom L margin perforation	Pane B	Pane A I:S	Pane C	Pane B-D P:S	Pane D
4c	Multi-positive flaw  Irregularity and black dot top R of TPT logo plate block (PB)		 Shaved top L and black dot below plate colour block 5 (PCB5)		 Three black dots below PCB5 - bottom L	 R5:1, black dot above 'u' of 'uZimele'

10c stamp: Transkei mace and flag







The evolution of the 10c stamp

The Parliamentary Mace:

The top of the mace contains nine ivory rings, symbolic of the nine regional chiefs, clasped together by a gold ring signifying the bringing together of the people in a traditional tribal independent government. The rings rest on a basket (similar to that used for reaping crops) made of stinkwood, The basket, particular to Transkei and used to store grain. It is supported by seven maize cobs, carved from white wood, which signifies the fertility of the territory, its abundance and the fertility of the people.

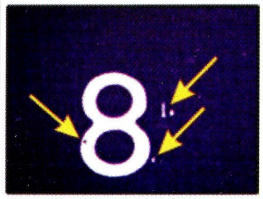
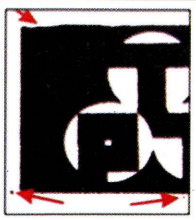
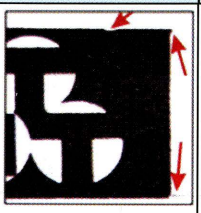
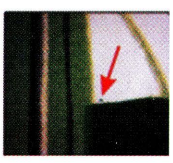
Several solid gold rings fused together to form two bands, one is situated below the maize cobs and the second near the base. These are typical of the bands Transkeians wear on their arms and legs.

The inscription IMBUMBA YAMANYAMA *(unity is strength)* appears below the upper gold ring. There are nine black rings occupying the lower half of the mace each inscribed with one of the nine electoral regions: Dalindyebo, Emboland, Emigrant Tembuland, Fingo, Gcaleka, Maluti, Nyanda, Qaukeni and Umzimkulu.

The Flag:

Transkeians designed their own flag in 1963 when the territory was granted self-government by the South African Parliament. The tricolour flag was adopted on 20 May 1966 and officially hoisted for the first time on 31 May 1966. It remained unchanged when Transkei became independent on 26 October 1976. The top red-ochre band is derived from the colour of the soil ("Im-bola") from which the traditional Xhosa huts are built. The middle white band stands for peace and the lower deep green band represents the rolling hills of the countryside and agriculture.

10c Pane differentiation:

	Bottom L margin perforation	Pane B	Pane C	Pane D		
10c	Multi-positive flaw  Purple dot in the '8' L bottom curvature and white lines to R of PCB8	 TPT logo plate block; - Irregular top L - Black dot bottom L - Black dot bottom R corner	 TPT logo plate block; - R corner dent - Black elongation and dot top R corner - Black dot bottom R corner	 White dot to right of '9' of PCBB9	 R 5:2, tan dot above 'k' of 'Transkei'	 R 5:1, tiny green dot in bottom L corner of white middle band of the flag
	Pane A I:S	Pane B-D P:S				

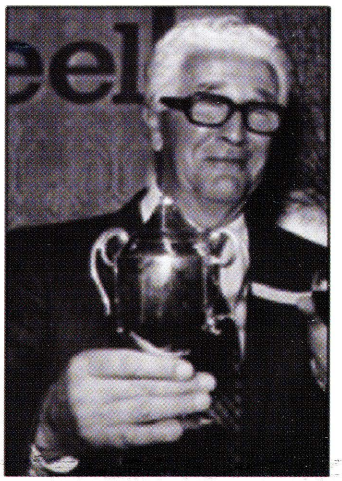
the site of a military post for British Colonial Forces, the town was formally laid out and proclaimed a municipality which was to endure for nearly a further 100 years before Umtata achieved city status.

The Artist/Graphic Designer:

BARRETT, Arthur Howard (Barry) (1916 - 2000)[9]

Barry was born on 2 December 1916 at Leytonstone, London - son of a brushware salesman with three brothers and a sister. He died on 3 July 2000.

AH Barrett of Osspoed, Bronkhorstspruit, was designated *Beeld's* 1989 *Stamp Designer of the Year* for his South West African series on Namib Desert Sand Dunes. He received the World Stamps



floating trophy plus a cash prize of R500 from Stephan Welz, well known in the world of art. Barrett had won this coveted prize then for the fifth time in ten years, which really establishes him to be *the country's finest stamp designer*, being responsible for 444 stamps.

Barrett was quite an adventurer who travelled the length of Africa by car. He lived and worked in Johannesburg and the countryside east of Bronkhorstspruit during his most productive years, i.e. *circa* 1970 to 1990.

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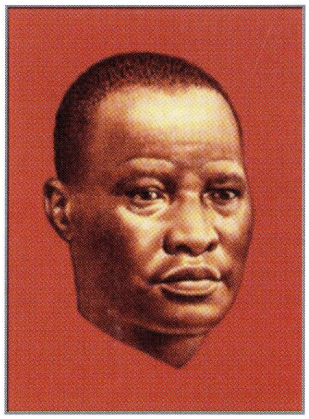
15c stamp: Paramount Chief *(uKumkani)* Kaiser D. Matanzima

Head portrait facing forward to his right.



Final stamp



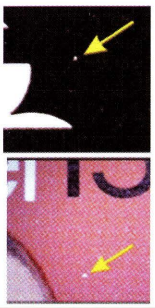
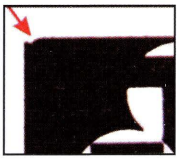
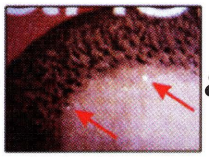
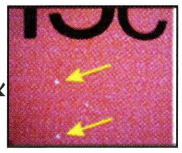
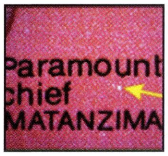
Final watercolour essay



Original photo used by graphic artist

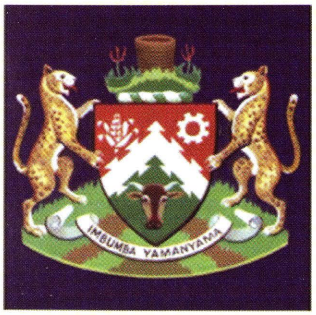
The evolution of the stamp

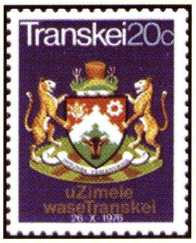
Pane differentiation:

	Bottom L margin perforation	Pane A	Pane A I:S	Pane B-D P:S	Pane D
15c	Multi-positive flaw  Tiny white dot top R of '15' PCB15	Pane B	 Tiny white dots to L of 'P' & bottom 'T' of TPT logo CB &  R5:1, white dot between 'T' & 'r' of 'Transkei' &  R5:1, light brown dot in 'e' of 'Transkei'	 Tiny white dot to R of 'T' of 'TPT' logo CB & R5:3, white dot below '1' of '15c'
		Pane C	 Broken irregular top L corner of TPT logo CB &  R5:1, tiny white dot to R of 'T' of 'Transkei' &  R5:2, white dots on Matanzima's forehead &  R5:3, two tiny white dots below '15c' &  R5:5, tiny white dot below 'u' of 'Paramount'	

20c Stamp: Transkei Coat of Arms







The evolution of the 20c stamp

The Transkei Coat of Arms:

The shield depicts; top left, maize - the main staple food; top right, a wheel - a symbol for industry and bottom, a bull's head - symbol for animal husbandry as well as being a symbol of wealth. The crest is made up of maize and a maize basket, another symbol for the richness of the country. The supporters are two leopards, the royal symbol of the people. The base symbolises the many green hills of Transkei. The brown and white are traditional colours used by the people of Transkei for painting the body. The motto is IMBUMBA YAMANYAMA, translated meaning *unity is strength.*

The micro details of the 20c stamp will appear in future publication - sadly these four pages have not done full justice to the incredible amount of research that the TVBC Stamp Study group have compiled.

Contact them via Dr Heinz Wirz... there is so much to share with this interesting aspect of collecting. Heinz Wirz <wirz@global.co.za>

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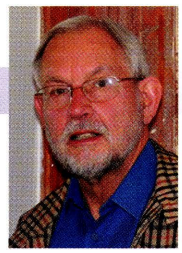
NEW SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP ISSUES - 2018 - Part I

by Robin Messenger,
South African Stamp Study Circle



1 December 2017 - 50 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST HEART TRANSPLANT

Details of this issue appeared in *The South African Philatelist* of February 2018 on page 28. Below is additional information not available at that time:

Printing sheet size: 481 x 640mm comprising six sheetlets arranged in two rows of three.

NOTE: For an undisclosed reason, delivery of this stamp issue to Philatelic Services was delayed but in the announcement by the South African Post Office, published on page 88 of the June 2018 edition of *The SA Philatelist*, it was stated that it would be available from 21 May 2018. The exact date of availability is unknown but the date on the canceller remained as 1 December 2017 and the cost of each stamp is now R10.30 in line with the new tariffs applicable from 1 April 2018.

31 May 2018 – SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS (Part 4) *Release date c13 August 2018*

Denominations: 5 x Standard postage rate (R4.20).

Designer: Thea Clemons, from photographs supplied by National Parks Board, depicting the following parks:
'Mokala National Park'; 'Mountain Zebra National Park'; 'The Knysna National Park'; 'West Coast National Park' and 'The Wilderness National Park '

Printer: La Poste t/a Philaposte, France.

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp sizes: 65 x 26mm.

Gum: Self adhesive.

Sheetlet size: 166 x 200mm comprising 10 stamps arranged in five rows of two, each row being a pair of similar design.

Quantity: 150,000 sheetlets.

Cylinder numbers: 8577 (blue), 8578 (red), 8579 (yellow) and 8580 (black).

Perforation: Die-cut simulated gauge 11. Stamps are separated by 8mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through sheet margins and also through the backing paper.

Phosphor: Yellow-green bands in 'L' shape along left (3mm wide) and bottom (3mm wide) margins of each stamp.

Printing sheet size: 640 x 480mm, comprising six sheetlets arranged in two rows of three.

First Day Cover: No. 8.115 of standard size, of which 1,000 were produced.



Canceller: No. 8.105 – 'Cradock / 31.05.2018'

18 July 2018 – MANDELA 100 – Centenary of birth of Nelson Mandela *(Joint issue with Germany)*

Denomination: Standard postage rate (R4.20).

Designer: Rachel-Mari Ackerman, from a photograph supplied by the Mandela Foundation.

Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp size: 34mm square, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 58mm square.

Gum: PVA.

Quantity: 38,000 miniature sheets plus a reprint of 45,000 delivered directly to Deutsche Post.

Cylinder numbers: none.

Perforation: 13.55, not perforated through to sheet margins.

Phosphor: Yellow-green phosphor coated paper.

Printing sheet size: 359.5 x 473mm, comprising 36 miniature sheets, arranged in six columns of six, with vertical 22mm wide gutters between each column. There are no horizontal gutters but guillotine markers show a 5mm trim between each miniature sheet.

First Day Cover: No. 8.114 of standard size of which 1,500 were produced to which both the RSA and German issues were affixed.

Canceller: No. 8.106 – 'HOUGHTON 2018.07.18' on the miniature sheet plus a German cancellation tying the German stamp, inscribed 'BERLIN / NELSON / MANDELA / 1918-2013 / ERSTAUSGABE / 12.07.2018 / 10117'





26 July 2018 - MANDELA BIRTH CENTENARY + GANDHI 125th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PIETERMARITZBURG STATION INCIDENT

(Joint issue with India). Release date c13 August 2018.

Denominations: 2 x Standard postage rate (R4.20).

Designer: Thea Clemons – left-hand stamp features Nelson Mandela, right-hand stamp features Mahatma Ghandi, taken from the 1995 RSA commemorative issue designed by Alan Ainslie.

Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp size: 30mm square, incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 115 x 92mm.

Gum: PVA

Quantity: 40,000 miniature sheets.

Cylinder numbers: none.

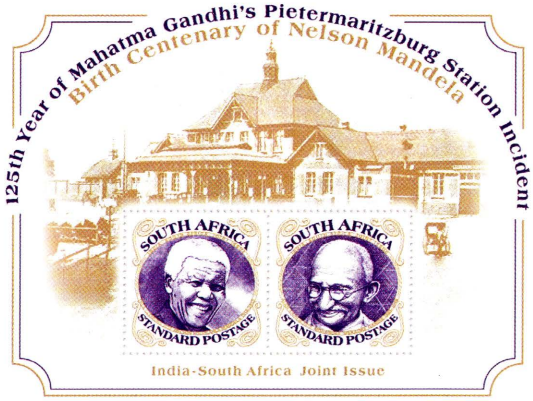
Perforation: 13.4, not perforated through to sheet margins.

Phosphor: Yellow-green phosphor coated paper

Printing sheet size: 590 x 472mm, comprising 16 miniature sheets, arranged in four rows of four.

First Day Cover: None.

Canceller: No. 8.112 – 'SANDTON 2018.07.26'



Acknowledgement:
The above information was collated from *WHAT'S NEWS?*, newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group, produced by Jan de Jong and personal observations. The images shown here, are of original artwork supplied by courtesy of Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services and may differ slightly from the issued stamps.

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
Website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.
Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662 *President*; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary)*;
Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

Website: https://www.rpsct.org/

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

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

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society meets monthly at 19:00 on first non-holiday Monday at the Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. President's night 5 Dec. 2018. For more information contact either Francois Friend (president, 082 554 8900, francois@softchem.co.za); David Brown (vice president, 041 360 4025) or Rodney Maclachlan (secretary/ treasurer, 072 619 5409).

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Heritage Room, 1st Floor, Berea Gardens 70 Jarvis Road, Berea

Meeetings : Every 4th Thursday of the month. Time: 19h30

President : David Preston 0827742090. Email:prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

* PLEASE NOTE **Back Issues** *of The South African Philatelist are limited. Requests for any issue should be made in writing to The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. An electronic PDF file may be requested should a printed copy of the journal not be available.*

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com *Secretary* Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com
Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. *Kontak:* djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

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

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits.
The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time.
Visitors are always welcome!
Contact: Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

Durbanville Stamp Fair

Stamp Fair dates: 6 Oct 2018, 3 Nov 2018, 1Dec2018. (all1st Saturday of the month).
Auction date: Auction #29 - 10 Nov 2018.
Contact: Ken Joseph ken@philatelicfriends.com

International *Exhibitions*

MACAO 2018

south coast of China,
Date: 21 to 24.09. 2018
South African Commisioner: Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA
FIAP Co-ordinator. Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIAP Patronage.
The South Africa exhibits comprise four 5 frames and four 1 frames.

THAILAND 2018

Bangkok
Date: 28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018
General World All Classes
South African Commisioner:
Vernon Mitchell. vjm@telkomsa.net

LONDON 2020

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
Date: 2 to 9 MAY 2020
South African Commisioner:
Patrick Flanagan.
patf@fgprop.com

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

PO BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

10 Oct	Favourite Cover/s
14 Nov	Third Competitive Evening
5 Dec	President's Evening

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday monthly at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.* Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society*. All welcome. *Contact:* Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. *Postal address - P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.*

Oct 17:	My favourite - (Maximum of one frame) and thematic exhibits
Oct 31:	5th Wed - to be decided
Nov 21:	Intersociety quiz and invited exhibits

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturdayofthemonth.Exhibits,talksandworkshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking. *President*: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com *Secretary:* Paul Hammerton. hampaul@ananzi.co.za

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday monthly (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie.
Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

Smalls: FOR SALE

Gold Coast. 1920-31. 5s Green & Red. Die II. Fine used. On pale yellow. Maurice Tozer: toz@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet 3rd Wednesday monthly at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. *Chairman* or *Secretary* Ian Walker. Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday **evening** of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. **Day** meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale's shop, Kilner Park Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. *President:* André du Plessis. andredupfs@gmail.com 083 399 1755 *Vice-President:* Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 10:00 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. *Group Leader:* Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Dr Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthof email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (Except December) - 2:00pm for 2:30pm. at the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. E-mail: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

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epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts: Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
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MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUES:
1. *Ordinary **Stamp Club** meeting every third Monday at 16h00 St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields Pietermaritzburg*
2. ***Thematics Group** meeting every third Saturday at 09h00 8a Sanders Road Scottsville 3201, Pietermaritzburg*

The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - Club President/ Competitions and Speaker. ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 316 3308.
burncree45@telkomsa.net aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com

- Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer,
- Janet Kimmince - Membership Secretary,
- Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Officer,
- Graham Bruce - Librarian,
- Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian,
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Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

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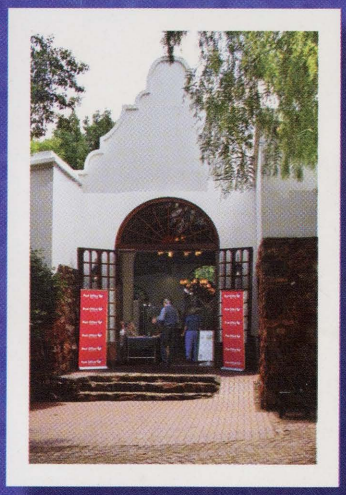

REPORT FROM 80TH CONGRESS AND NATIONAL STAMPSHOW 2018



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DECEMBER 2018 Vol 94 Number 6 Whole No 951

The South African Philatelist

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

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We've lost a special friend

Danny Swart RDPSA: there will be much written now, and in the future, about Danny's contribution to philately. Just one string to that bow was his work on the PFSA Expert Committee, serving over three decades, many of which as its vice-chairman. Danny brought to our often challenging work not only a wealth of experience and technical awareness but also that ever-present sense that what you were doing was to be enjoyed. To the core, he was a kind, nice man who was always a pleasure to be around - a stalwart work colleague, a team player and family friend. On behalf of the Expert team we share our respect in saying: 'thanks for your company over the years and go well, Dan. We salute you in the same way as you so often took your leave: 'Bye, chum.'

Michael Wigmore RDPSA
Chairman PFSA Expert Committee

Weinig Federasie Nuus!

Ek het vandag terug gekom nadat ek twee weke weg was van die huis en ek was verskriklik bly dat die Augustus-uitgawe van die *SAP* deur die pos gekom het terwyl ek weg was. Soos gewoonlik is die *SAP* die eerste posstuk wat ek oop maak en deur blaai! (Later lees ek dit in diepte deur).

Een ding van die eerste vier uitgawes van die *SAP* wat my opgeval het is dat dit nie meer nuus aangaande die Federasie bevat nie. Aangesien ek nie meer 'n lid van die Bestuurskomitee van Federasie is nie, kry ek nie meer die e-posse en notules van die Bestuurskomitee nie.

Nou het ek net gewonder?:

- Funksioneer en vergader die Bestuurskomitee met sy sub-komitees nog?
- Daar word gereeld oorsese Internasionale Uitstallings genoem in die *SAP*. Skryf van ons mense nog in vir die uitstallings, wie is die kommissarisse en wat se toekennings verwerf die uitstallers?

Jammer ek pla met hierdie vrae, maar hierdie dinge is goed wat altyd in die *SAP* gepubliseer is.

Beste groete,
Gawie van der Walt. Potchefstroom

Being a bi-monthly issue plus the SAPO mail delivery problems, The SA Philatelist is not a good medium for 'up-to-date' news. That should be the function of our website and/or local social media such as Facebook. The Editorial Board.

WELL DONE, STAMPSHOW!



It was a good exhibition and I think the best venue yet. Super lighting and a lovely location.

Kind regards,
Mike Tonking RDPSA
Whiteriver

We thought the venue was superb and it will be difficult to do better in the future. One particular thing for us was no travel when we were there and we could easily pick up stuff from our rooms and also a lovely setting to sit with clients.

Kind regards,
David Parsons and Ian Shapiro
SPINK

More from the mailbox on p 201

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material to avoid late delivery.

Articles should be submitted in the month **prior**:

- ***February*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 1. 952 : **08/01/2019**
- ***April*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 2. 953 : **06/03/2019**
- ***June*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 3. 954 : **07/05/2019**
- ***August*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 4. 955 : **09/07/2019**
- ***October*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 5. 956 : **10/09/2019**
- ***December*** 2019 - Vol. 95: 6. 957 **08/11/2019**
- ***February*** 2020 - Vol. 96: 1. 958 **09/12/2019**

PLEASE NOTE:

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

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

Subscription & circulation: Annual subscription rate for 2018 in South Africa is R350.00.

SADC countries, the subscription is R640.00 per year. International overseas, the subscription is R860.00 per year.

These prices all include postage via airmail. Should you have enquiries or wish to subscribe, please communicate with the Membership Secretary/Subscriptions Manager: email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za

Publication: This journal is published by ***The Philatelic Federation of South Africa***. The Secretary is Jill Redmond RDPSA. P O Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

Advertising: Rates available from the Advertising Manager, Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email **The Production Editor:** Janice Botes email: janice@gdb.co.za

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

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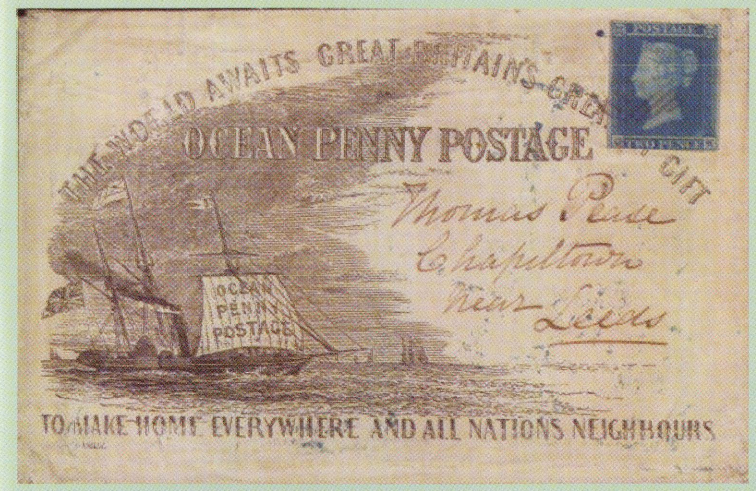

1849 Gilpin 'Ocean Penny Postage' printed envelope Darlington to Leeds uprated 2d blue pl. 3 (SG14) touched at foot, but clearly tied. Backstamped AP 2 1849. A stunning and very rare usage. £3750.00



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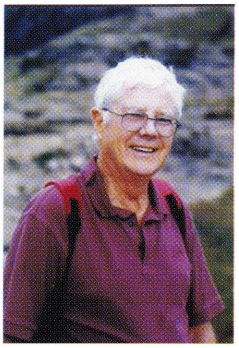
IN MEMORIAM

Daniel Thomas (Danny) Swart RDPSA (1935-2018)



Danny passed away on 25 September 2018 at his home in Somerset West after a long illness.

We will sorely miss this true gentleman, a man of integrity and humility, who was always willing to share his knowledge and expertise with all. He was for decades one of the leading figures in South African organised philately. He is described by Patrick Flanagan RDPSA as his 'philatelic godfather'.

Among his achievements were the following; Chairman of the Organising Committee of the 1986 'JHB 100' international Stamp Exhibition at NASREC – the first International Exhibition after being re-admitted by FIP.

The Chairman or Vice-Chairman of several National Stamp Exhibitions.

At his home society, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, which he joined in 1969, he was an Honorary Life Fellow. He served the society in many ways, including being President, and received seven of the top awards over the years for exhibiting and services to philately.

A leading member of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and the Philatelic Foundation of South Africa management for many years, serving on many of their committees, including Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance. After serving a term as Vice-President of Federation he was elected President for the 1995/96 year. Later he was also elected President of the Philatelic Foundation of South Africa.

Member and Vice-Chairman of the South African Expert Committee for more than three decades.

Active member of the Rhodesian Study Circle since 1977 and President for two years, writing articles, commenting and advising on members' queries, attending meetings locally and overseas.

Director and Head of the Stamp Department at Stephan Welz & Co/Sotheby's, where he was renowned for the combination of excellent material, well produced catalogues (accurately researched and lotted for auction) and for his competent running of the auctions from the chair.

As a collector, Danny formed important and impressive collections not only of the Rhodesias but also one of the finest Belgian Congo postal history collections in the world. He exhibited this collection in 1997 at San Francisco, achieving a Large Vermeil award, and again a Large Vermeil award at Belgica 2001.

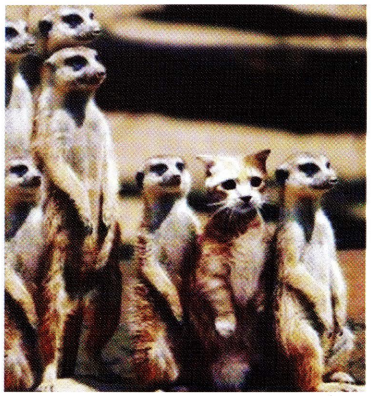
Danny was also a respected member of the South African Philatelic Dealers Association, in which he served amongst other positions as President

In 1987 Danny was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in South Africa, a fitting tribute for his contribution to organised philately. Thereafter he was elected to the position of Honorary Life Vice-President of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Philately in South Africa was enriched by Danny, a man who loved the hobby.

Danny was a dedicated family man, who will be sorely missed by his devoted and loving wife, Betty, his children and grandchildren as well as his close friends.

Howard Green, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

hidden in plain sight



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Discover what could make your exhibit special. Remember, half the 'Open Class' exhibit could include family documents and photos, newspaper cuttings of events which you have experienced, even letters and documents from those who similarly have shared losses and victories.

There are a handful of dealers who offer the wide range of material required for such appealing exhibits. Even fewer who've themselves regularly exhibited in the 'Open Class' segment.

If your soul calls for specialness, ask me for help to navigate your journey of a past you want to re-walk ... for South Africans, usually a path less travelled.

PAUL VAN ZEYL
trading as
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ROYAL MAIL CELEBRATES THE WIZARDING WORLD WITH A SET OF SPECIAL STAMPS INSPIRED BY THE HARRY POTTER FILMS

The Harry Potter movies continue to thrill and delight audiences of all ages. The goal with our stamps is to capture the excitement of the Wizarding World and the heroism of the students of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry comments Philip Parker, Royal Mail.

The critically acclaimed films, based on the books by J.K. Rowling, have attracted huge audiences worldwide, with eight films being released between 2001 and 2011.

The Triwizard sporting Cup also makes an appearance on a stamp. The five professors feature on a miniature sheet against a backdrop of the Marauder's Map – the magical parchment that reveals the current location of anyone on Hogwarts ground.



Royal Mail has issued a set of 15 stamps featuring characters in the book, the iconic modes of transport from the film and the learned professors at the school. Harry Potter, Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley amongst others are depicted, while the iconic Hogwarts Express train and Hagrid's enchanted motorbike are illustrated.

To provide a little extra magic and intrigue to the stamps, there are secret details that can only be revealed under ultraviolet light. In addition, the style of the '1' depicting the value of the stamp mirrors the iconic font used for the films.



Sparkling Holidays

50¢ Forever. Issue date: 11 October 2018

The U.S. Postal Service celebrates Christmas with four stamps featuring classic images of Santa Clause painted by famed commercial artist Haddon Sundblom. Each stamp portrays a close-up of Santa's face; the images are details from larger paintings created by Sundblom and originally published in ads for Coca-Cola from the 1940s through the early 1960s. The stamps are offered as a set of four on a double-sided pane of 20. A fifth *Forever* stamp is a souvenir sheet illustration from 1963 of him admiring a note as well as the glass bottle of Coca-Cola left on the fireplace mantle. With Clement Moore's 1822 poem *A visit from St. Nicholas* as inspiration, Sundstrom developed his image of the warm and friendly Santa which has since been adopted internationally. While the set of four will be available from US Post Offices, the souvenir sheet can only be bought through the USPS mail order service.



Fitting opportunity to thank Michael Sefi

Well over 200 Fellows and Members of The Royal Philatelic Society London attended the first meeting of the new season, which traditionally is a display from The Royal Philatelic Collection, graciously shown by consent of Her Majesty The Queen. The meeting on 13 September fittingly focused on Great Britain material from the reign of King George V.

It was the King's passion for stamps that established The Royal Philatelic Collection to become the unique record of the stamp issues of not only Great Britain but also the British Empire and Commonwealth.

The occasion was made more special by the fact that, after 16 years in the position, Michael Sefi LVO RDP FRPSL FRPSC is retiring as Keeper of The Royal Philatelic Collection. He was thanked for all he had done to display parts of the Collection at exhibitions across the world for many to enjoy.

In expressing his own thanks, Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL presented Michael with stamps from Belgium that bore his photograph.



Michael Sefi LVO RDP FRPSL FRPSC (centre) with his wife Harriet receives a sheet of stamps from Belgium bearing his picture from Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London.



The stamp from Belgium appropriately handstamped.

Those wishing to visit The Royal Philatelic Society London at 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or be a guest at one of its meetings, are asked to contact the Administrative Office (020 7486 1044).

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Phun with postmarks



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

The saga of Westridge in Mitchell's Plain, Cape Town

I am indebted to Klaus Rosenberg for notes that he prepared detailing the saga. Westridge Postal Agency opened in Avocado Close on Monday 3 April 1978 and only operated for part of the day. Due to a shortage of telephone and postal facilities less than 30 mail items were serviced on this day, and no registered mail. On 4 April 1978 the office was closed and reopened on 5 April 1978. Fig.1 shows a letter serviced on 3 April 1978, and time code letters A and B have been recorded. The box postal code (7802) was used, instead of the street postal code.

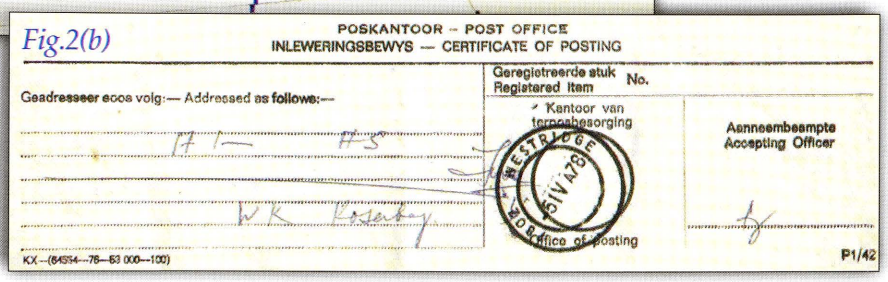


Fig.1: Letter serviced on the opening date, 3 April 1978.

Registered letters were serviced from Wednesday 5 April 1978, and only 12 items were processed, of which Fig.2a shows a cover and Fig.2b the certificate of posting. The services operated normally after the shaky start. Note the registration cachet which was used, as initially there was insufficient business to warrant registration labels.



Fig.2(a): Registered letter serviced on 5 April 1978 and (b) certificate of posting.



Interestingly the signboard was named MITCHELLS PLAIN as shown in the photograph as Fig.3. It was removed about 12 days after opening.



Fig.3: Photograph showing incorrect office name.

On 7 June 1978 the only date stamp was stolen in the late afternoon and returned anonymously on 9 June.

Fig.4 shows a note from Postmaster Barnes confirming the theft.

A negative sealer was used as an emergency canceller to service all mail and a total of 18 registered items and 10 postcards were serviced until the stolen date stamp was returned. Fig.5a shows the certificate of posting of a registered letter on 8 June 1978 (Fig.5b) with a cachet giving the date on the reverse.

The culprit who had taken the date stamp was arrested on 8 June 1978 at the Square Hill Post Office when trying to draw money from his P.O. Savings book. The credits were wrongly entered with the stolen date stamp with dates 9, 10 and 11 June 1978.

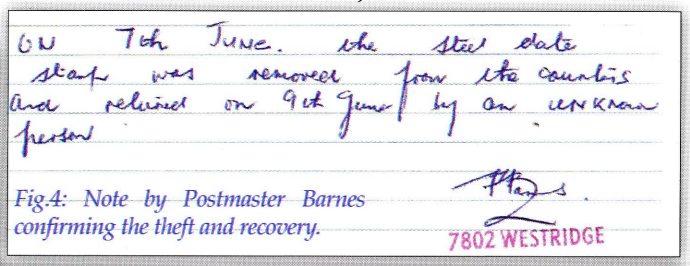


Fig.4: Note by Postmaster Barnes confirming the theft and recovery.

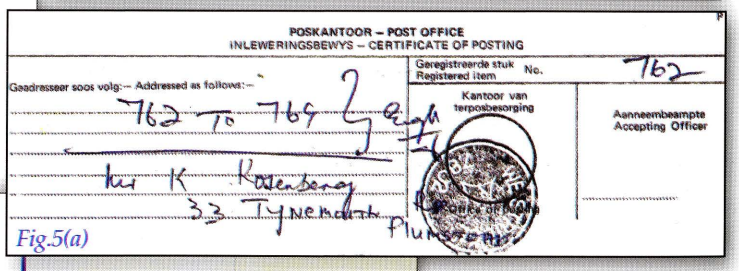
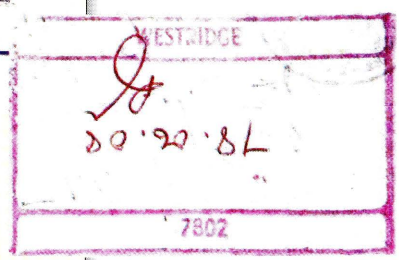


Fig.5(a)

Fig.5(a): Certificate of posting and date from cachet on reverse.



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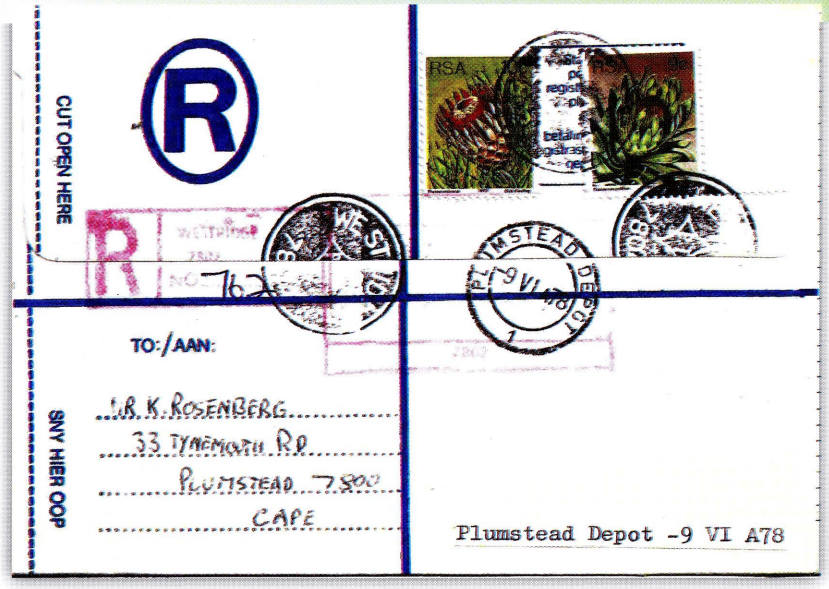


Fig.5(b)

This was recognised and the person was arrested.

In the next issue more information regarding stolen date stamps will be discussed.

Allerhande interessanthede kom na vore soos mens dieper delf in seëls en die poswese. Hierdie rubriek toon duidelik aan dat om nuwe poskantore te begin 'n uitdaging was, om nie eers te praat van skelms wat wou munt slaan uit die poskantoor nie. Indien u bewus is van soortgelyke staaltjies kan u dit gerus aan my stuur.

REPORT

SAVPEX 2018 ONE FRAME VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

by Emil Minnaar RDPSA, East Rand Philatelic Society and Joof van der Merwe, OFS Philatelic Society

The third South African Virtual Philatelic Exhibition, SAVPEX 2018, was held on 22 & 23 September 2018 at Kopano Nokeng, Bloemfontein.

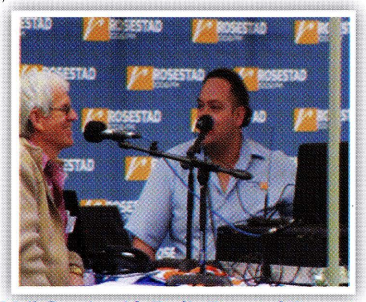
The Exhibition was well supported with 51 entries of which 30 were from abroad, 20 from Australia (1 no-show), 2 from New Zealand, 3 from Britain, 4 from the US and 1 from Canada. The overall winner was John McEntyre of Canada with his exhibit titled *1855 10 Pence: Canada's First Transatlantic Rate Stamp* which achieved 93 points. The runner-up was Harry Lower's *South Australia's 'Tannenbergs'* with 92 Points. Congratulations.

Jury Members:

Emil Minnaar RDPSA - Chairman
Joof van der Merwe - Secretary
Emil Bührmann RDPSA
Francois Friend
Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA
Howard Green RDPSA
Ian Matheson RDPSA
Ian McMahon MAP
Jannie Hofmeyr
Louwrence Erasmus
Malcolm Groom FAP
Michael Smith FRPSL,
Michael Wigmore RDPSA,
Neil Cronje RDPSA

The exhibits were available for viewing on TV screens at Bloemfontein HobbyEX 2018 in September. All the exhibits can be viewed on the PFSA Website 'Stamps.org.za'. We wish to thank the exhibitors and the Australian Philatelic Federation for their support. Also the Secretary and members of the Jury who gave freely of their time.

THE EXHIBITION



Neil Cronje with Radio Rosestad Presenter



Paul van Zeyl with customers



Nicolene Barnard & Richard Johnson



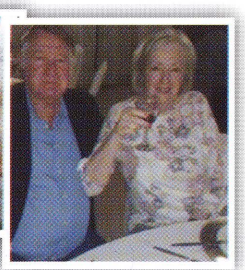
Young & old visitor perusing the exhibitions

THE SAVPEX DINNER

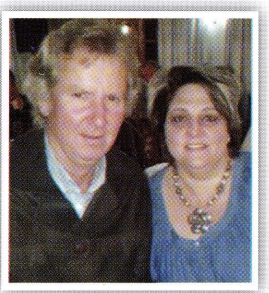
The Saturday night dinner, attended by dealers, members of OFS Philately Society and guests



Mr & Mr Johan Otto, and Kathy van Zeyl



Dries & Margareth Ferreira

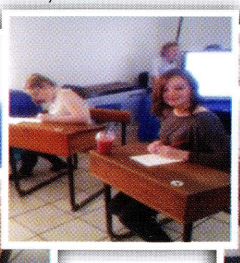


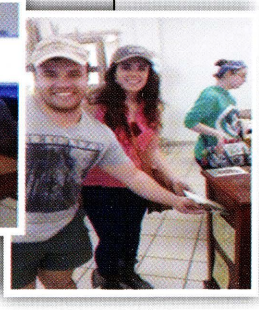
Prof & Mrs Osthoff

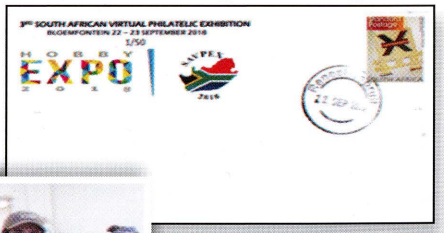
LETTER WRITING

Thirty letters were written









As with all previous virtual exhibitions, commemorative envelopes were issued - only 50 numbered envelopes were made with an historical overview inside and sold for R30-00 per envelope.

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The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society





Cancellation

From the beginning of postage stamps (the Penny Black), there has been concern regarding the reuse of stamps, thus defrauding the Post Office of income. Stamps that have passed through the postal system are cancelled to prevent their reuse. This is done by placing a mark which defaces the stamp(s).



Fig.1.

The most common form of a cancellation, or post mark, is a circular device (Fig.1) which also gives the name of the place and date when the item was mailed. This is also known as a CDS (Circular Date Stamp). Stamp cancellers come in a large variety of shapes and sizes. The one used in Fig.2 is known as a pictorial cancellation as it includes an image that relates to the theme of the cover. Cancellations are as much a collecting interest as stamps - see the regular article by Alex Visser.

Cachet

A cachet is a distinguishing mark placed on a cover in addition to the post mark or cancellation, or anything related to the transmission of the cover. Cachets can be printed, painted, drawn or applied with a steel or rubber stamp.

Cover

Philatelists refer to an envelope as a cover. Markings can often be found on covers that have passed through the post. These markings are of particular interest to postal historians as they can provide details regarding the postal rate, route, date or special handling of that cover which adds to our philatelic knowledge.

Cinderella

Often they look like stamps, but are not issued by a postal authority and cannot be used to pay for postage. They are sometimes known as a label. Cinderellas include items such as local postage, railway and airway stamps, commemorative and advertising labels. Christmas charity stamps and air mail labels are also considered as Cinderellas.

** Although this column is aimed at 'beginners', our resident expert on this subject, Chris Mobsby RDPSA, expands on the point of 'Cinderellas' and offers a more detailed explanation on page 201.*

Back stamp

When a cancellation is placed on the back of a cover to record the arrival at its destination, then this mark is referred to as a back stamp or strike. It does occur that this arrival mark can be placed on the front of the cover.

New Zealand stops the cancellation of stamps

Linn's Stamp News has reported that the New Zealand Post Office has temporarily stopped the cancellation of stamps as a cost saving measure brought about by the declining volume of mail. It is estimated that the NZPO handles 63-million fewer mail items in the 2018 fiscal year, with a 12% decline in volume and an 11% decline in revenue. This trial period started in August 2018 and is expected to end soon. As for concerns about the not-cancelled stamps being reused, a spokesperson said: *"While stamps are not currently being machine postmarked, we do have processes in place to detect the re-use of stamps and prepaid postage envelopes"*. NZPO did not want to reveal how this would be done. However, NZPO has said it will continue to cancel stamps for collectors at post offices. Admittedly this is not quite the same as having the item actually pass through the postal system as it would be a CTO.

Does this mark the beginning of the end for marcophilly?

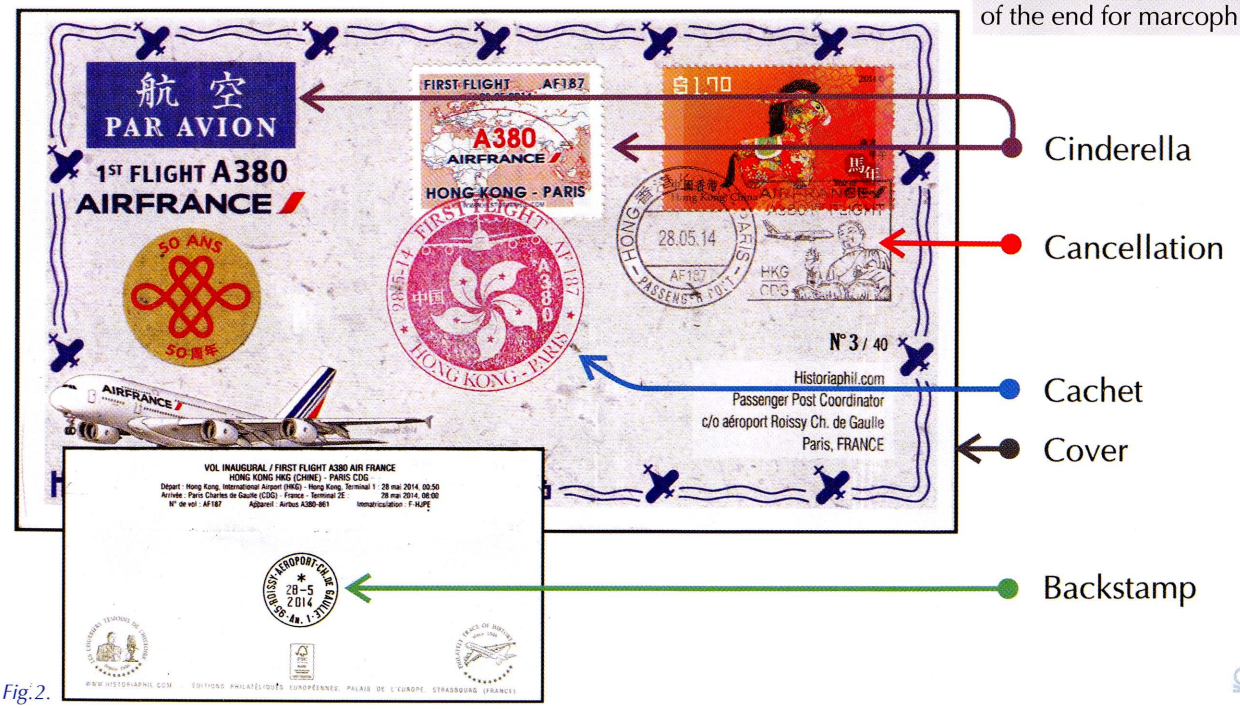

Fig.2.

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South African Junior National Stamp Show JUNASS: 2018

by Jan Hofmeyr with photos by Victor Millard, both members of The Royal PS of Cape Town



In 2017 there was only one exhibit by a junior at the SA Nationals. As the Royal PS of Cape Town had held a successful event for juniors a few weeks before, Jan Hofmeyr, the Royal's delegate at Congress and the VP for the Western Cape, offered to organise a junior exhibition for 2018. Jim Knight of the Fish Hoek PS suggested that the event should also recognise the decades of work that Jill Redmond had put into youth philately in South Africa and JUNASS 2018 began to take shape.

The event was held from 1- 3 October 2018 at the home of the Royal, the Athenaeum in Cape Town. Jill flew down from Johannesburg as a special guest and Mary Rogers, President of the Royal, opened the event to the public on the Monday morning.



Mary Rogers and Jannie Hofmeyr

The response to the call for exhibits far exceeded anyone's expectations. There were 24 exhibits by 19 individual exhibitors and two clubs. Six of the exhibits came from Pretoria, nine from the Western Cape (Pinelands, Bellville, Mossel Bay) and nine from Bloemfontein. The two club entries were submitted by Filaffie (Pretoria) and the OFS Youth Philatelic Society (Bloemfontein). The youngsters exhibited a wide range of collecting interests and whilst many collections were thematic, there were also some country exhibits. A notable aspect of the show was that girls outnumbered boys: 14 of the individual exhibits were by girls and only eight were from boys.

Prize-giving was on Wednesday afternoon, 3 October where Mary and Jill



Jill Redmond and David Sinclair

handed out the prizes. In her speech, Jill thanked the Royal for hosting the event and paid tribute to the many people who have supported youth philately over the years. In particular, she mentioned David Sinclair who runs the Royal's Penny Black Club and David Wigston who was both a friend and great support when organising events. Even Jill's daughter, Amanda, stepped in to help with publications for the youth. Jill also mentioned that she never travelled without her stamp albums. She started collecting as a ten year old in England - and her albums followed her to the Congo, South Africa and Rhodesia.

In the hobby she found a whole new set of friends who she feels literally saved her life when she was widowed.

Judging was done by Hugh Amoore and his team. Every participant received a bronze medal and certificate for participating. There were also four silver medals for age-group winners, a silver medal for the best club exhibit; and a gold medal for the Grand Prix.

The prize winners were:

8-9 years: Shaun Boshoff - *Diere van die Bybel*

10-12 years: Rhyenn Montassir - *My Favourite Sports*

13-15 years and Grand Prix winner: Kyla Bothma -*'Proteas: 3de Vaste Reeks van 1977*

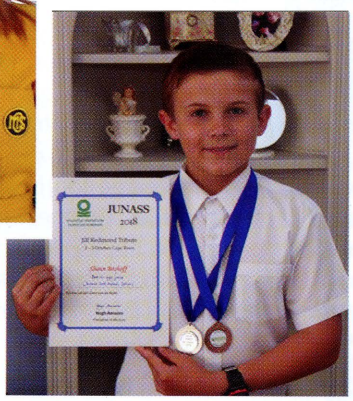
16-18 years: Malisa Erasmus -*'n Stukkie Moderne B5-groote Posgeskiedenis*



Rhyenn Montassir



Kyla Bothma



Shaun Boshoff from Hartenbos

You can find Jill's full speech on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KISJ4IOSx_U .



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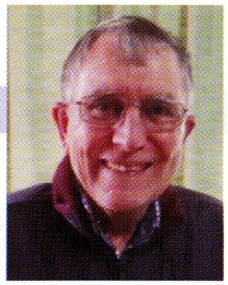
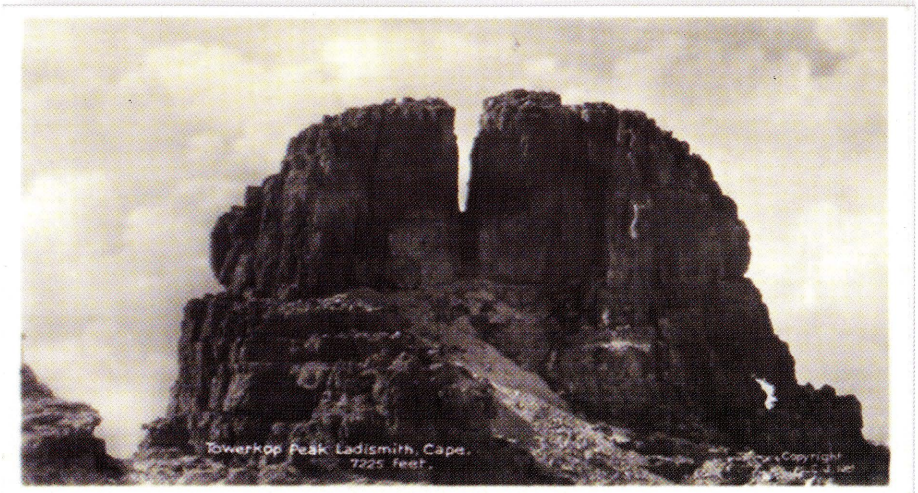


DEVELOPMENT OF POSTAL SERVICES ALONG THE FOOTHILLS OF TOWERKOP

by ds Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Philatelic Society

Part 2: continues from *SAP* June 2018

Ek het in 2010 die posgeskiedenis van die sendingstasies Zoar en Amalienstein in die Ladismith-distrik geskryf. So dis die vervolg en voltooing van die hele distrik se posgeskiedenis.



The Swartberg Mountain Range

CONVEYANCE OF THE MAILS

The conveying of the mails in this mountainous area during the pioneer years was really a hard nut to crack. Temporary Postmaster Kretzen informed the PMG on 2 March 1852 that the Rev Prietsch of Amalienstein was the post contractor. Prietsch told his post-rider to depart at the determined time whether the mail had arrived or not. Kretzen was not happy about this arrangement because the majority of the mails for Prince Albert originated from Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Worcester and the surrounding towns. For this reason the letters for Prince Albert often remained at Ladismith for a week. Kretzen spoke to Prietsch about this matter and asked him to wait until the Riversdale mails arrived, but to no avail.

Later that year on 18 August 1852, FJ Hudson, post contractor between Riversdale and Ladismith, gave notice that he would end his contract on 31 December. He was obliged to do so as the volume of mail became too big for one horse to carry together with the rider. It did not pay to use two horses. He therefore applied for saddle bags to use instead of carrying the mail on the rider's back.

On 24 September 1852, Rev Pietsch gave notice that from 1 February 1853 he would no longer convey the mail between Ladismith and Prince Albert. Postmaster Koenig responded with a letter to the Acting Postmaster General on 6 November 1853 regarding the mail between Ladismith and Prince Albert:

Sir,
I have received a letter from Post Contractor, Mr Ziervogel, who inform me that he was fined for a delay of the Mail on 16th last month. I beg to state that either you or I made a mistake. I never recollect ever received the Mail over its time from Prince Albert.
I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
FW Koenig

Postmaster Nefdt explained by letter on 15 April 1857 why the mail from Riversdale arrived at Ladismith on Sunday morning at 11a.m. instead of Saturday evening at 7p.m. The postmaster had only given the post-bag to the post-rider on Saturday evening at 9p.m. instead of Saturday morning at 7a.m. The post-rider was obliged to off-saddle in the middle of the night to rest the horse. When he wanted to harness the horse again he could not find it in the foggy mountainous conditions. He then had to complete the long postal road to Ladismith on foot.

New departure times for the mails between Ladismith and Riversdale were announced on 12 August 1858. The mail left Ladismith every Monday at 5p.m. to arrive at Riversdale on Tuesday at 5p.m.

A branch postal service between Ladismith and Amalienstein was introduced on 13 September 1858. The contractor was Carl Meyer. The mail would leave Amalienstein on a Sunday afternoon or early Monday morning for Ladismith and return at 12 noon.

According to the Post Office Guide of 1859, schedules for Routes 39 & 40 were:

CAPE TOWN TO AMALIENSTEIN (ZOAR)
Depart: Cape Town, Thursday 6p.m.
(Mail-closes at 4:30 p.m.
Arrive: Riversdale, Friday 7p.m.
Depart: Riversdale, Saturday 5a.m.
Arrive: Ladismith, Saturday 7p.m.
Depart: Ladismith, Monday noon,
Arrive: Amalienstein, Monday, 2p.m.

RETURN
Depart: Amalienstein, Monday 6a.m.
Arrive: Ladismith, Monday 8a.m.
Depart: Ladismith, Monday, 5p.m.
Arrive: Riversdale, Tuesday, 5p.m.
Depart: Riversdale, Wed. 10.20a.m.
Arrive: Cape Town, Thursday, 11:30a.m.

Meanwhile post carts were travelling across the district to get the mails to their destinations on time. Postmaster Bobbert wrote in a letter dated 20 May 1861 to the PMG informing him that Mr. D.G. van Reenen had left Winkelplaats (Buffelsdrift). Seeing that the postal route from Riversdale to Ladismith was introduced via Winkelplaats for the use of Van Reenen, he recommended that the route in future would run in a direct line from Riversdale to Ladismith. This would give a saving of three hours in time. A post office was opened at Groot Zwartberg by field-cornet De Wit approximately three miles from Buffelsdrift. This was a weekly post that could be used by the owner at Buffelsdrift.

Civil Commissioner Ross of Riversdale wrote to the PMG on 11 June 1861. It seems that he wanted to comply with someone's wishes. He said that although the circumstances changed, he was still of the opinion that facilities with regard to correspondence could never be too many and that Mr J.A.Nefdt therefore could just as well be appointed as deputy postmaster at Winkelplaats without remuneration. He was indeed appointed as postal agent on 4 July 1861. On 12 July, Nefdt wrote a letter of appreciation to the PMG regarding his appointment as postal agent at Winkelplaats.

On 13 September 1862, Carl Meyer applied for the renewal of his contract at £20 p.a. It was not granted; and on 17 November he sent in a new application for the period 1 January 1863 to 31 December 1866 for £7 10s p.a.

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Postal traffic to Ladismith increased over the years. The post-riders on the route between Riversdale and Ladismith complained about the weight of the mails they had to carry on their shoulders. Postmaster Brink was obliged to apply for a new saddle-bag type postbag on 23 February 1863. He acknowledged with thanks its receipt on 21 March. It seems the problem was not completely solved as post contractor F.P.Ziervogel supported his post-riders in a letter of 20 March 1864, stating: *It's impossible for a post-rider to carry the mail for 72 miles on his back.* He asked for a saddle-bag type postbag.

The arrival and dispatching times of the mails at Ladismith during 1870 were:

MAIL FROM RIVERSDALE TO LADISMITH

Depart: Riversdale, Saturday 5a.m.
Arrive: Winkelplaats, Saturday 4p.m.

Depart: Winkelplaats, Saturday 4p.m.
Arrive: Ladismith, Saturday 5p.m.

RETURN

Depart: Ladismith, Monday 9p.m.
Arrive: Winkelplaats, Monday 10p.m.

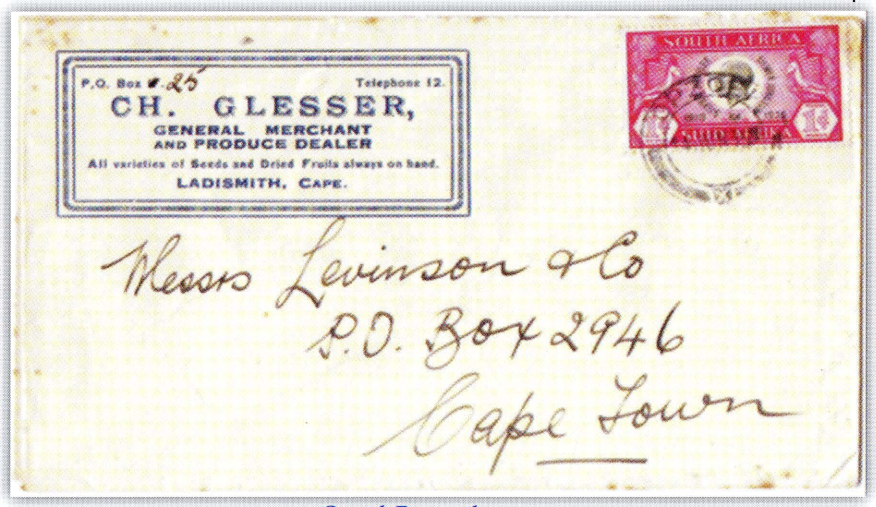
Depart: Winkelplaats, Monday 10p.m.
Arrive: Riversdale, Tuesday, 5p.m.

In a letter of 18 July 1870 post contractor Ziervogel revealed a narrow escape of his post-rider. The mail from Ladismith was lost at the flooded Touws River on 11 July. The post-rider realised that it was impossible to cross the river and he was compelled to delay the mail until Wednesday 12 July when he tried again to cross, but the horse was washed away beneath him. He nearly drowned but clung to tree trunks for all he was worth. The mailbags were lost and the horse washed up downstream.

On 1 December 1873 post contractor Ziervogel gave notice of his intended termination of his contract on 1 April 1874. With that, after a period of more than ten years, a colourful pioneer in the extension of the postal services in the Ladismith district and his post-riders off-saddled with honour. The new contractor, Mr J.J.Terblanche, wrote to the PMG that the stipulations in the contract were not the same as he had tendered for. According to the contract, the mail had to be carried overnight. It would not be possible for him to do this, and suggested the following hours:

- Mail departs Riversdale Monday mornings at 5 a.m. to arrive Ladismith 10p.m.
- Mail departs Ladismith Tuesday mornings at 5a.m. to arrive at Amalienstein 7p.m.
- Mail departs Amalienstein at 5p.m. to arrive Ladismith at 7p.m.
- Mail departs Ladismith Wednesday Mornings 5a.m. to arrive Riversdale 10p.m.

Civil Commissioner Garcia of Riversdale accepted the suggestion and the contract was awarded to Terblanche on 11 February 1874. According to a letter of 25 February, his post-rider was Johannes Cornelis Wolfaardt of Ladismith.



Opzoek Postmark

Postal services over the southern Cape were disrupted by heavy rains during 1875. Post contractor Terblanche wrote to the PMG on 14 September:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of yours of 11th inst. informing me that a fine of £28 10s has been incurred by me in my capacity as contractor for the conveyance of the mails between Riversdale and Ladismith. The cause of the delay is attributed to the severe and heavy storm of rain with which this part of the Colony was visited on Saturday, Sunday, Monday & Tuesday the 28th, 29th 30th & 30st ultimo whereby the Touws, Brand and Groot Rivers which I have to cross on my way from Ladismith to this, were flooded to an extent not seen by the oldest inhabitant.

These rivers being fed by 'mountain torrents' bring down with them large stumps and trunks of trees and other debris which render them highly dangerous and impassable and the fact of these rivers not being bridged and no means being at hand of crossing them, whilst thus flooded, my post boy although he ventured in more once carried down by the stream, was compelled to turn back and wait patiently for the fall of the waters to cross. As occasions like the one herein referred to are the only times that a delay of this kind takes place and never through any neglect on my part, which fact, coupled with the fact of my being a poor man with a large family to support, strengthens me in my hope that the fine will either be mitigated or remitted…

Civil Commissioner Garcia of Riversdale made an urgent recommendation on 21 September 1875 that the fine must not be imposed.

On 18 November 1879, 32 inhabitants of Ladismith requested two mail deliveries per week between Riversdale and Ladismith. By 1879 and 1880 C.Meyer and J.J.Terblanche were still the post contractors between Ladismith and Amalienstein, and Riversdale and Ladismith respectively.

During 1934, Laingsburg became the nearest railway connection with Ladismith. Possibilities to connect Ladismith with a railway line had been investigated since 1884. However, it was only in 1925 that the line between Touws River and Ladismith was opened. The train received the name of Makkadas. According to Nia Coetzee, a local reporter, the well-known author Abraham H. de Vries was born at Winkelplaas. His father, Thys de Vries, was the local shop keeper, owned the butcher's shop and two Pegasus petrol pumps at Winkelplaas and had the post contract to ride the post car once or twice a week when Makkadas arrived from Touws River. He delivered the mail at Vyversrust, Grootrivier, Zeekoegatsdrift, Voorbaat and also, in early days at Van Zylsdamme.

At Voorbaat, Annie Stassen was the shopkeeper and the Postmistress. Every day the handling of the mail was always a social get- together. One of the school children fetched the big mail bag from the post cart under the fig tree and put it on the shop counter. Annie always waited behind the counter with the kitchen knife to cut the small piece of lead to open the bag. At first, the parcels and newsletters were handed out, then the letters. The children stood in front of the counter and behind them the adults sat on small boxes and bags. All were in a happy mood and had much to talk and laugh about.

The *George & Knysna Herald* of 13

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March 1935 and 14 April 1937 carried an interesting story. The post cart service along the 15 hour postal route between Riversdale and Ladismith was abolished during the first week of March in 1935. It was substituted by a motor-bus transport service. This meant that the horse-power of Mr Hendrick Olieslager's post cart was changed, after 24 years, for another kind of horse-power. One could say that Hendrick Olieslager was a legend, a culture on his own. In the southern Cape he was known as the Prince of Post Cart drivers. He was only twelve years of age when he first got involved in post cart riding between Swellendam and Mossel Bay via Riversdale and Bland's Drift (Gouritz River). At sixteen, in 1888 he started to pull the reins for Searle Bros at Blanco. He then became an artist with whip, reins and bugle. All post carts carried the letters V.R. *(Victoria Regina)*. Olieslager had his own interpretation of V.R.: *I don't know the meaning but on my cart V.R. means 'Vinnig Ry'*. He was a well-known post driver in the George area before the railway line reached George in 1907. After his retirement in 1935 he ran a small shop at Riversdale until his death in April 1937.

In the disastrous Laingsburg floods of 1981 the railway line was totally washed away and today is only part of the history of the Little Karoo and in particular of Ladismith.

Postmasters on duty: 1852 – 1910

Johann Kretzen (temporary)	07.02.1852	17.02.1852
Christian van As	18.02.1852	28.02. 1853
FW Koenig	01.03.1853	02.01. 1857
Jan Nefdt	22.01.1857	28.08.1857
Josef Bobbert	29.08.1857	31.07.1861
Frederick Brink	01.08.1861	(May).1880
FE Almond	29.06.1880	31.07.1883
FN Hobern	01.08.1883	30.04.1889
RH Sutherland	01.05.1889	28.02.1890
WH Humphreys	01.03.1890	30.04. 1892
PB Borcherds	01.05.1892	31.05.1893
WCH Grimm	01.06.1893	-1899
CW Crafford	15.12.1899	? (1910 still in office)

District Post Offices and Postal Agencies

* No postmarks seen by author.

Zoar PA 3.11. 1853 - 28.2.1854,
PTA 18.10.1954; PO 7.4.1987 to date.

Amalienstein PA 1.3.1854 - 31.3.1980.

Langeberg* PA 31.8.1859 - 1904 (Riversdale);
PA re-opened 1.7.1904 - 1.5.1913 (Ladismith);
PA 1.5.1915 - 31.8.1970 (Riversdale).

Ockertskraal* 1st Office: PA 1.1.1887 - PA renamed Adamskraal 1.4.1903.
2nd Office: PA 31.5.1926;
PTA 14.11.1927; PTA 16.2.1958;
PA 25.1.1960 (perm. closed).

Roodeberg PA 1.4.1892; SO 1895; PA 1.6.1896;
SO 1.3.1898; SO closed 1.1.1902 (ABW)
SO re-opened 1.2.1902; renamed Van Wyksdorp 1.4.1904. PO 1914.

Van Wyksdorp SO 1.4.1904; PO 1914.

Hoeko PA 1.3.1912; PTA 7.7.1924;
PA 15.11.1954; PA closed 1.12.1962.

Anysberg PA 1.2.1915 - 30.11.1970
(First mentioned on Field Cornet Mail Route on the Laingsburg route to Ladismith).

Opzoek/Opsoek PA 14.5.1923; PTA 7.7.1924;
PTA 1925 's'; PTA 1932 's';
PTA 1934 'z'; PTA 1937 's';
PTA 1953 (from now all with - -'s';
PTA closed 3.2.1975.

Vyversrus(t) PA 16.7.1923 't'; PTA 12.5.1924;
PTA 12.5.1955 (without 't');
4.9.1973 (temp. closed);
4.3.1974 (perm. closed).

Plathuis PA 15.2.1926; PTA 21.1.1929;
PA 19.6.1961; PA closed 2.4.1979.

Prinsrivier* PA 1932; PA closed 1936; TtO 1958;
last listed 1959/1960.

Sorgvliet PTA 3.1.1949; PA 18.7.1955.
PA closed 14.11.1960.

Van Zylsdamme PTA 4.5.1952; PA 2.5.1955;
5.12.1955 (temp. closed);
PA 1956; 6.9.1977 (perm. closed).

Winkelplaas PA TtO 8.5.1944, closed after 1953.
(no postal facilities)

Postmarks of District Post Offices & Agencies



Ockertskraal was later renamed Adams Kraal (26 mm)

Amsalienstein (22 mm)

Hoeko (28 mm)

Anysberg (30 mm)

Roodeberg (23 mm C.G.H) *Sorgvliet (26 mm)*

Van Zylsdamme (26 mm)

Vyversrust (26 mm)

So this is my story. The pioneers, living along the foothills of Towerkop, and their descendants were the story tellers of all the hardships they had to deal with. I salute everyone for what they have done to establish a sound postal network in this part of the Little-Karoo.

SOURCES:

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- Abraham: *Dorp in die Klein Karoo.* Johannesburg, 1966.
- Dreyer, A : *Kruisgesante in Suid-Afrika.* Cape Town, 1927.
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- Van Tonder I W : Ladismith KP 'n vlugtige oorsig van die geskiedenis van die dorp en distrik sinds die tye van die eerste intrekkers tot 1952. Ladismith, March 1952.

ARCHIVALIA / CAPE ARCHIVES:

- GPO 1 - Incoming letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster-General.
- South African Public Library, Cape Town: Civil Service List 1885 - 1910
- *Die Burger* Archives. Photo: Brink's post office (17.8. 1964)

LIBRARY GEORGE MUSEUM

- *George & Knysna Herald*: 13.03.1935;14.04.1937

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS:

- Miss Haarhoff (PM Brink's great granddaughter).
- Mrs Kallie Van der Berg of Eerstepos.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES:

- Visser, Allex : Phun with Postmarks. *The South African Philatelist.* April 2017

NEWSPAPER:

- Coetzee, Nia : *Abraham H de Vries kry vandag ereburgerskap.*
- van Ladismith, Bylae *Die Burger* 22 Maart 1997.

PHOTO MATERIAL

- Pauw Steyl *Postal History collection and photos*
- *Die Burger;* Mrs Kallie Van der Berg
- Alex Visser

VARIOUS INTERNET SITES.

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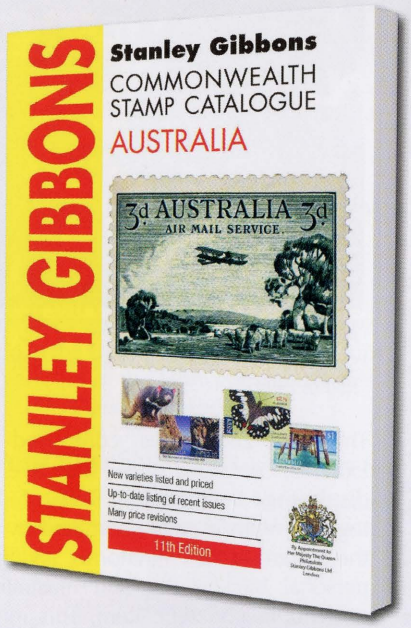

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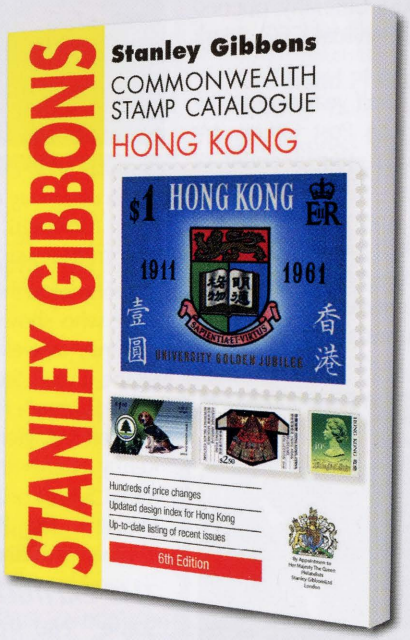

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 2018

Centurion • 17 to 20 October 2018

'Kleinkaap' 87 Jim Van der Merwe St, Clubview, Centurion 0140

PRETORIA STAMPSHOW 17-20 OCT 2018

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chaired by André du Plessis, with Steve Marsh, Paul van Zeyl RDPSA, Cedric Roché RDPSA, Alex Visser RDPSA, Terry-Lynne Harris and Mike Dove all from the Pretoria PS.

THE VENUE

Set in the beautiful Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel, this year's National Stamp Exhibition was hosted by the Pretoria Philatelic Society led by the then current President of Federation, André du Plessis.

THE OPENING of the EXHIBITION



A symbolic handing over of the new 16 page frames from Dr Jim Findlay RDPSA of Foundation to Peter van der Molen RDPSA, Chairman of the PFSA Exhibitions Committee.

STAMPSHOW 2018 was officially opened by South African Postal Services CEO, Mark Barnes.

Following his two and a half year stint as the head of the South African Post Office, Mr Barnes delivered an interesting account of where today's SAPO focus is. He still sees it as a growing organisation, even though private courier services have taken the gap caused by the PO's delivery problems. Mr Barnes aims to serve SA's wider community and his approach was spelled out at a subsequent meeting of attending RDPSAs.



President André du Plessis and CEO Mark Barnes

MEMBERS OF THE JURY 2018

Chair of the Jury: Emil Minnaar RDPSA, Vice Chair: Michael Wigmore RDPSA, Secretary to the Jury: Jan van Beukering, with members Howard Green RDPSA, Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA, Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA, Dr Jannie Hofmeyr, Francois Friend; Roger Porter was the apprentice juror. The international Jury consisted of Gerald Bodily (UK), David Parsons (UK) and Tim Bartshe (USA).

DEALERS IN ATTENDANCE

An impressive number of dealers were in attendance, both local and international. From Port Elizabeth Francois Friend represented Stamp's Friend, and Richard Johnson represented Filat Local and International. Overseas dealers included, from Spink - David Parsons and Ian Shapiro, Mark from John & Mark Taylor, Richard Bodily and David Morrison who jointly shared the Doreen Royan & Associates stand and also included Marcus Orsi from David Feldman. Howard Green was in attendance at this stand as well.



Chairman of the Organising Committee André du Plessis welcoming visitors.

From Montagu and representing the Expert Committee was Michael Wigmore.

Newcomer to the dealers stands was Dr Heinz Wirz who showed magnificent catalogues of currency as well as the ongoing development of the TVBC Study Group research thus far. Rand Stamps - Paul van Zeyl, as well as Chris Bennett & Xavier Laubscher from Mr Thematic. Kenny Napier and Clinton Goslin. The team from SAPO - Gert Theron and Mmama Phalatse. The Botswana Post Services with Refilwe Lynn Rantshabeng and Lesedi Jan.

THE EXHIBITION

Some 280 competitive frames were presented, all in the brand new 16 page lightweight version donated by Foundation, with supplementary lighting engineered by André du Plessis and Steve Marsh, which was also funded by Foundation.



The RDPSAs gathered for an informal meeting with Mark Barnes.



Refreshments at the opening.



Brig. Gen. Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA & Federation Secretary, Jill Redmond RDPSA, they both signed the Roll in 1999.

The first 28 frames comprised Invited Exhibits; notable were the five frames displaying Federation's Roll of Honour together with a page submitted by each of the current RDPSA signatories, giving a short personal background and illustrated with a favourite philatelic item. This innovation was greatly appreciated by visitors and a special thanks must be extended to André du Plessis for creating this feature. Also of note was the three frame tribute to Nelson Mandela and six frames showing artwork by

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- Heart over Head - The Life and Times of King Edward VIII
  Napier, Mr Kenny
  SAPDA
- Nelson Mandela...Following him in his Footsteps
  Heath, Mev Petra
  Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
- Great Britain George V
  Rogers, Mr Alan
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
- Internees and POWs held in the Union, 1914 - 1919
  Amoore, Mr Hugh RDPSA
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
- Suid Afrikaanse Plakkers en Slagspreuke gebruik gedurende die Tweede Wêreld Oorlog
  Ferreira, Mr Andries
  OFS Philatelic Society

* **F.A.K. Trophy** *(best with write-up in Afrikaans)*

- The Animal Series Definitive Stamps of the Union of South Africa
  Strydom, Dr Danna
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Namibia - All Covers; Publicity Information; Stationery
  Laubscher, Mr Xavier
  SAPDA
- Picture Postcards of Swaziland
  Van der Molen, Mr Peter RDPSA
  East Rand Philatelic Society
- Southern Africa Maxi Cards - Official and Un-Official Hand & Machine Cancelled
  Laubscher, Mr Xavier
  SAPDA
- Variety of Stamp Usages at Various Locations during the Boer War
  Van Dyk, Dr Arnold
  OFS Philatelic Society

* **Anglo-Boer War Society Cup**
(best Anglo-Boer War Exhibit)

LARGE SILVER *(70-74)*

- Imperial Airways: A Time Shrinker's Chronology
  Millard, Mr Victor
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
- Certified Mail Service
  Joubert, Mr Johan
  Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
- Into the Blue
  King, Mr Clive
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
- British Officers and Boer Commando Mail in the Boer War
  Van Dyk, Dr Arnold
  OFS Philatelic Society

SILVER *(65-69)*

- The British Occupation of the Italian Colonies in Africa
  Fenemore, Mr Brian
  Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
- The Full-Face Picture Postcards of the Union of SA
  Van Zyl, Mr Danie
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
- Triplets as Primary Indicators to the Hub and Spoke Distribution Concept in South Africa
  Joubert, Mr Johan
  Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
- Zeppelin World Flights
  Du Plessis, Mr Bernard
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
- Great Britain: Missing Queen's Head Errors
  Barit, Dr Shimon
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Rhodesia, from Federation to Independence
  Coetzee, Mr Peter
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Spink auction catalogue of The *'On India'* Provisional Stamps of Zanzibar
  Griffith-Jones, Mr John

SILVER BRONZE *(60-64)*

- Railway Post Cards of Sub-Equatorial Africa
  Dulez, Mr Jean
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
- The Legend of SAAF
  Botha, Mr Reinhardt
  Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
- Postcards of Raphael Tuck & Sons
  Harris, Ms Terry-Lynne
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
- Bechuanaland - The 1961 Decimal Overprints
  Barit, Dr Shimon
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Lesotho: 1981 - 1988 Birds on Stamps
  Barit, Dr Avi
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- They fought for Freedom - Kontakion for you the Departed
  Van Zyl, Mr Danie
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
- South Africa's Political History and Shifting Identity
  Kapp, Mrs Desré
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

BRONZE *(50-59)*

- Guiding Lights
  Mitchell, Mr Vernon
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
- Railway Commemorative Covers and Mail from Southern Africa
  Dulez, Mr Jean
  Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
- Basutoland - 1961 Decimal Overprints
  Barit, Dr Avi
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

- Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Member Information Guide
  Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

Awards Listing of One Frame Exhibits

Points awarded shown at far right in red.

- Northern Rhodesia - More Flaws Galore 85
  Evans, Mr Tony
  Maritzburg Philatelic Society

* **Rhodesia Study Circle Cup** *(best Rhodesian Exhibit*

* **Vrijstaat Trophy** *(best One Frame Exhibit)*

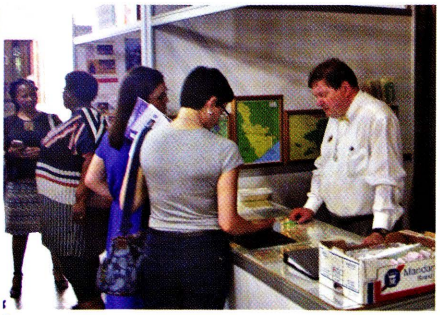
- Great Britain Early Line Engraved Adhesives 1840 - 1854 80
  Everest, Mr Simon
  Sandton Philatelic Society
- Spoorwegnuusbladseëls van Suid Afrika 75
  Van der Walt, Mnr Gawie RDPSA
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Hidden in Plain Sight 73
  De Villiers, Ms Reanie
  Bellville Philatelic Society
- Early Great Britain Postmarks 1850 - 1860 Marcophily 65
  Everest, Mr Simon
  Sandton Philatelic Society
- Great Britain - Perforation Errors 65
  Barit, Miss Chavah
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- Great Britain: Colour Omissions 63
  Barit, Miss Gila
  Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- The First Airmails 1917 - 1925 59
  Van Zyl, Mr Danie
  Pretoria Philatelic Society
- Shellfish Pursuits: A study of Mollusca 56
  Millard, Mr Victor
  Royal Philatelic Society of CT.

* **The Arie Bakker Award** *(The Best First Time One Frame Exhibitor)*

- The British Empire Exhibition of 1924/25:*'A Postal History Review'* 55
  Young, Mr Dave
  Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- German 2nd Reich - Weimar Republic (1919 - 1933) 49
  Nel, Mr Andries
  West Rand Philatelic Society
- Stamps Honouring British Gold Medal Winners at the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games 45
  Van der Molen, Mr Peter RDPSA
  East Rand Philatelic Society



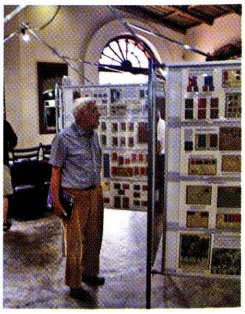
Registration table, manned by Marge Viljoen welcoming Jimmy Mitchell & Jill Redmond RDPSA.



New dealer, Dr Heinz Wirz discussing stamps, the TVBC research and currency notes and coins.



Jill Redmond RDPSA with Thea Clemons & Rachel-Mari Ackerman, graphic designers Philatelic Services.



A thoughtful inspection of the exhibits by Alan Rose.

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The 80th Congress of The Philatelic Federation of South Africa

This Congress took place on Friday 19 October 2018 at the Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel. Congress was attended by some 40 delegates representing 17 affiliated Societies, together with 4 observers.

OFFICIAL OPENING



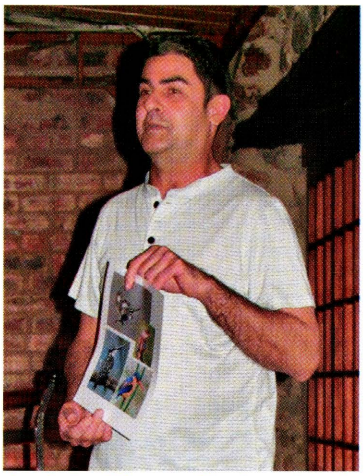
The PFSA Management team, from the left, Peter van der Molen, Andrew Fischer, Jill Redmond, André du Plessis and Neil Cronjé, together with guest speaker, Andre Olwage at right.

Mr Andre Olwage, the graphic designer of the Kingfisher stamp depicted on the 2017 miniature sheet, gave an interesting, illustrated talk on the process of producing the graphics for the Kingfisher stamp. The SAPO system has changed to a tender process. Previously, artists were assigned a project, but currently one has to submit preliminary drawings. Amongst other designs for the SAPO, Andre has also done a series on endangered butterflies and moths.

The process starts with the Stamp Advisory Committee showing a list of proposed stamp themes to various artists. Much research is required and Andre works from his own photographs and books. From the different species of kingfishers, Andre elected to design the Giant Kingfisher stamp, using some artistic licence, but at the same time avoiding copyright infringement and royalties.

Together with all the initial sketches, draft colour sketches were requested with a more detailed sketch thereafter. At that point Andre was happy to finish the final design and added a suitable background habitat, which would be later cropped, but gave the graphic department something with which to work.

Before completion of the artwork, SAPO approval was required, for which Andre provided a pencil sketch on A3 flexible material and colour artwork completed in pencil, oil or water colour. The reason for using flexible material was that the printer places it on a drum scanner, which is a cylinder that rotates, with a laser scanning the image electronically, ready for the printing process.



Artist Andre Olwage with photos he takes for reference of his artwork.

Once the artwork for a stamp is approved it is passed to the graphic design team at Philatelic Services in Silverton to put together the layout of the stamp, decide on positioning, and placement for the denomination. Often a canceller is required which depicts the theme. Once the art is lodged with Philatelic Services Graphic Department, which is the last the artist sees of it and the original artwork is then lodged with the SAPO archive.

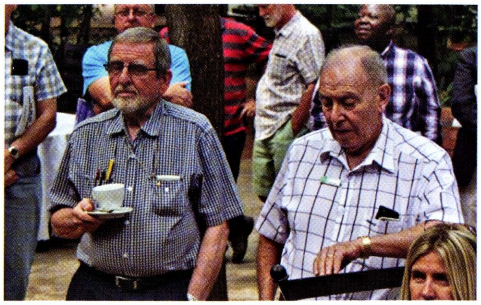
Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA thanked Mr Olwage for giving delegates a basic idea of stamp design. He also raised the question of the fate of rejected art material as it is popular in the philatelic world and very saleable. Mr Olwage thanked everyone and formally declared Congress open.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

It is my honour and privilege to welcome you all to the 80th Congress of the PFSA, was President André du Plessis's welcoming address.

It was a positive year with lasting memories: Three National Stamp Exhibitions - SAVPEX 2018, JUNASS 2018 and STAMPSHOW 2018 with new frames and lighting; Sasolburg's interclub competition; Planning for the International in Cape Town; Several philatelists competing abroad and receiving excellent results; Dealers holding regular stamp auctions in Gauteng and Cape Town.

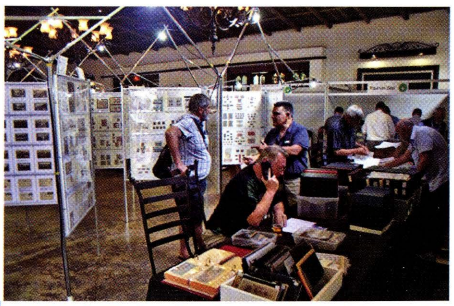
The Management Committee with Neil Cronjé RDPSA in the chair ensured



Among the audience and enjoying a cup of tea, Cedric Roché RDPSA and Howard Green RDPSA.



Paul van Zeyl RDPSA in the foreground with pensive Marge Viljoen and Jan van Beukering.



SAPDA Dealers hard at work at this year's National in Centurion.

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the day to day running of the PFSA. Key to this was Jill Redmond RDPSA, Andrew Fischer and the different sub committees. I would like to express thanks to everyone who contributes to the success of our Federation.

After the sad passing of Brian Gruzd, the appointment of an Independent Accounting Officer Robin Ford was agreed by MC in January 2018 in line with the 2017 Congress decision. This will be ratified by Congress today and the constitution updated.

A lot has been said about the computer-generated aspect of the hobby and PFSA's website. I hope to see specific guidelines and decisions taken by delegates today and that these are implemented during the next year.

The delay in the delivery of post due to labour action by Post Office workers was widely experienced in RSA. Alternative options were explored by dealers and other corporate organizations, resulting in loss of clientele and income for the PO. Although *The SA Philatelist* was published and sent out on schedule, there are still members who have not received issues going back to June 2018. The unavoidable fact seems to be to digitalise the magazine and make it available for all readers.

We will also discuss affiliation fees and other matters today and I hope we find the wisdom to make the correct decisions.

I trust that you have enjoyed the Exhibition with all its activities. I would like to thank all the participants who helped to make it a success; the jury, volunteers who helped to mount and dismount the exhibits, those working at the information desk, the dealers, exhibitors and members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Support for the activities and services of organised philately are provided by the PFSA and its operational committees, which is what makes National Exhibitions like this one possible. This year money was granted to install the frame lighting.

The President of the Foundation, Dr Jim Findlay RPDSA, says that Foundation has become the essential backbone for organised stamp collecting and will continue to serve its objectives with prudence and responsibility. The main object of the Foundation is *"To promote in every way whatsoever, including the collection of funds, their administration and application to the furthering of the cultural activity of Philately in South Africa".*



Registration of delegates, overseen by Marge Viljoen and Jimmy Mitchell

CONGRESS MOTIONS AND PRINCIPAL DEBATES

- Financial Reports as circulated were discussed with much attention given to the requirement for auditing. This was resolved by the Foundation offering their auditor's services to Federation.
- Affiliation fees were proposed to be increased to R250 p.a. and fees for overseas societies to be increased to R1050 p.a. which were approved.
- With the Philatelic Foundation focussing more on its role of promotion of philately, members requiring Foundation funding must approach the Treasurer Howard Green with a minimum of 32 days' notice.
- Societies requiring funding for promotional schemes to submit their request via the PFSA Secretary.
- A motion to mandate the Management Committee to bring a multi-tiered fee structure to Congress in 2019 or, if necessary, a virtual Congress at an earlier date, was accepted.
- A further motion, that Congress mandate the Management Committee to review the Constitution of the PFSA and bring proposals to Congress for (a) making the Constitution compatible with proposals for a multi-tiered fee structure, and (b) bringing the Constitution up-to-date with required practice, such as auditing, was approved and applauded.
- The Secretarial Report showed that as at 17 September 2018 the total number of members/subscribers was 751 (down from 828 last year), comprising 644 members, 54 direct subscribers with the balance going to SAPDA, free subscriptions including libraries and SAPO.
- Reports from Standing and other Committees were presented by their respective Chairmen and are extensively recorded in the Minutes of Congress.
- The Editorial Board of the *SAP* received a most unfavourable review from Mr Joh Groenewald, who proposed that the MC should urgently replace the Editorial Board to improve the journal.
- The Report by the Chairman of the Management Committee, Dr Neil Cronjé, advised the 'Incoming' Management Committee and Standing Committee Chairmen as follows:

Incoming Management Committee

- Hon Life President Peter van der Molen
- Hon Life Vice-President: Joh Groenewald
- President To be elected
- Treasurer Andrew Fischer
- Secretary Mrs Jill Redmond
- Foundation Rep. Peter van der Molen

Standing Committees: Chairmen

- Exhibitions Peter van der Molen
- Expert Michael Wigmore
- FIP/FIAP Emil Minnaar
- Heritage Vacant
- Judging & Ethics Dr Neil Cronjé
- Promotions TBA
- Publications Joh Groenewald
- SAP Peter van der Molen
- Youth Mrs Jill Redmond,

who agreed to continue as Consultant



Reports expertly handled by Jill Redmond.

- The Regional Vice Presidents presented their Reports, followed by a Report from SAPO Philatelic Services presented by Mr Rapetswa, and a Report from SAPDA presented by their President Francois Friend, followed by a Report from the Philatelic Foundation of SA, presented by their President Dr Jim Findlay. All these Reports are covered extensively in the Minutes of Congress.

FEDERATION AWARDS

NOMINATIONS FOR SIGNING THE ROLL OF HONOUR

A citation was read by Howard Green in recognition of the very significant philatelic achievements of Dr Nick Zerbst.

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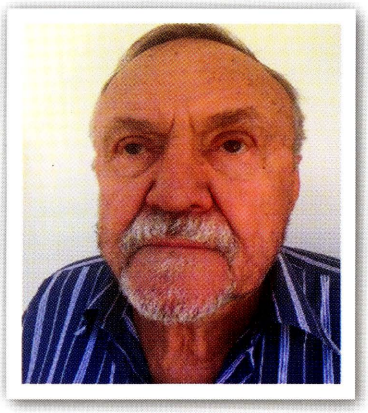
CITATION FOR ELECTION TO THE ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED S A PHILATELISTS (RDPSA)

Dr Nic Zerbst



In die filatelie is die Anglo-Boereoorlog 'n veelvuldige en komplekse terrein wat ná meer as 100 jaar steeds raaisels en ontdekkings oplewer - trouens, daar is al gepraat van *"'n wêreld van filatelie, alles in een oorlog"*.

Hierdie sitaat is vir 'n pos-geskiedkundige student wat 'n verskeidenheid van die elemente van hierdie filateliese mynveld nagevors en topklas versamelings gevorm het, naamlik Nic Zerbst van George.

Trouens, in die afgelope 33 jaar is vyf van sy versamelings by Suid-Afrikaanse nasionale uitstallings bekroon met groot Vermeil-toekennings, en hoër. Twee het Groot Goud gewen. Een het die nasionale Grand Prix verower.

Stellig die kroon op die versamelings is die uitstalling van die Kampe vir Boere-krygsgevangenes in Indië, wat by die 2015-uitstalling in Kaapstad met Groot Goud beloon is. Merkwaardige posstukke van al 14 kampe in Indië, talle met rare sensormerke, maak hierdie versameling die wêreldbeste.

Nic Zerbst se versameling van die sensormerke van die Boeremagte (die Transvaalse en Vrystaatse republieke) is eweneens ongeëwenaard. Sensormerke en sensorplakkers is 'n groot studieveld in posgeskiedenis en hierin het Nic uitgeblink. Een belangwekkende ontdekking is 'n Boere-sensorplakker uit 'n laat stadium van die oorlog.

Hierdie versameling is by die nasionale uitstalling in 2012 aangewys as die Grand Prix (en groot goud).

Die versamelings oor die pos van Boere-krygsgevangenes op St Helena en in Ceylon is albei by meer as een geleentheid met groot vermeil (groot vergulde silwer) toekennings vereer.

Nic se versameling van posmateriaal rondom *'die Staatsdrukker te velde, Machadodorp'* het twee keer goud behaal en verteenwoordig die omvangrykste studie en aanbieding van egte gebruikte Machadodorp-poskaarte, selfs een wat deur 'n Britse krygsgevangene in Boerehande gepos is. Die studie is die basis van die boek Die Machadodorp-briefkaarte van die Anglo-Boereoorlog, wat in 2006 verskyn het.

Intussen het Nic ook tussenkamppos uitgestal (vermeil) asook 'n persoonlike versameling van sy grootouers se oorlogspos – sy oupa was 'n Russiese manskap en die ouma was 'n Nederlandse verpleegster, albei vrywilligers by die Boeremagte.

Afgesien van die Grand Prix het Nic die Anglo-Boer War Society Cup 'n rekordgetal van vyf keer verwerf, die Stampcor-trofee twee keer, die Tony Chilton-trofee vir Transvaal twee keer, die FAK-trofee twee keer, en ook die Dawid de Villiers-trofee.

Die versameling van Indiese kampe het by die internasionale uitstalling Joburg 2010 ook 'n goue toekenning ontvang.

In die afgelope 20 jaar was daar 'n hele aantal artikels en ander bydraes deur Nic in die Anglo-Boer War Philatelist, meestal oor sensorpos. In *The SA Philatelist* (2005) het hy oor die vonds van 'n nuwe ZAR-sensorplakker geskryf, en in 2014 oor die oorlogskorrespondensie van dr Charles Plowright, 'n Britse geneesheer wat items versamel en in die publikasie *Bazaar & Mart* beskryf het.

Nic is meer as 30 jaar lid van die Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, van die George-seëlklub, (en die afgelope twee jaar die voorsitter), en van die Oranje-Vrystaatse Filatelievereniging.

Dr Nic Zerbst word voorgestel as 'n waardige kandidaat vir verkiesing tot die Ererol van Uitgelese Filateliste van Suid-Afrika.

Following the election procedure, it was announced that Dr Nic Zerbst was invited to sign the Roll but since he was not able to attend the Palmares, some other arrangement will be made.

A second citation was then read by Howard Green in recognition of the very significant philatelic achievements of Lars Jørgenson, who lives in Belgium, was born in Denmark and has worked in South Africa.

CITATION FOR ELECTION TO THE ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED S A PHILATELISTS (RDPSA)

Lars J rgensen



The early stamps of the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek - the Transvaal - are rated amongst the most difficult in the world to collect and study. Notable philatelists of international fame have devoted attention to them because they represent such a tremendous challenge.

In their famous book *Transvaal Postage Stamps* (1940) Curle and Basden describe the lure of the early Transvaal stamps in poetic terms: *"The fascination of these stamps, have the added merit of the difficulty of the stamps. The many varieties of papers, inks, gums, shades, bisectings, roulettings, errors, surcharges and overprintings can be very puzzling indeed. One may say that nearly all Transvaal stamps between the years 1869-1880 are scarce, and many of them extremely rare and almost unguessed varieties are frequently turning up. Most collectors avoid early Transvaal"*.

Now, almost 150 years after the first crude-looking ZAR stamps appeared, we have a new champion who has taken up the challenge. Lars Jørgensen, who grew up in Denmark and lives in Brussels, is doing South African philately proud with his brilliant studies not only of the stamps, but the equally scarce postal history of the old Transvaal, being the so-called First Republic, the first British Occupation, and the resumption of Republican rule.

His stunning 8 frame collection of *Transvaal 1869 to 1885* gained a large gold medal at the London 2015 International Exhibition and has been acclaimed as the finest reference collection ever formed. Almost incredibly, it contains 1765 stamps, all identified, and 41 covers. All the early printings are represented

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in detail, as well as the VR overprints in red and black. The Republican reprints of the originals are shown in fully reconstructed panes, four panes of each 20 stamps to every value. Covers show bisects and spectacular combinations of Transvaal with Cape, with Orange Free State, and even with both. Research reveals what happened in every case. This collection is now available as a privately published handbook.

Last year the Transvaal Study Circle published Lars' 206 page book titled *The Transvaal 'Spread Wings' 6d stamps 1870-1878*; an amazing study and plating reference with enlarged images. Another pioneering study published in 2010 by the Transvaal Study Circle is *Early Covers from the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek / Transvaal*, being a census and analysis of the known covers from 1870 to 1885. Every known cover, over 450 of them, is described in philatelic detail; items are listed and tabulated, with conclusions drawn.

Lars has in many ways contributed to our body of knowledge; Stanley Gibbons has invited him to rewrite the Transvaal section of its catalogue.

Lars is a home member of the Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika in the Netherlands, a member of the Transvaal Study Circle and other societies. He is an invited member of the select Royal Belgian Academy of Philately and a member of the European Academy of Philately. He is a worthy candidate for election to the Roll of Honour.

Following the election procedure, it was announced that Lars was invited to sign the Roll but since he was not able to attend the Palmares, some other arrangement will be made.

CITATION FOR THE SKINNER CUP

A citation was read by Howard Green in recognition of the very significant contribution to philately by Mrs Anne Marie Wigmore.

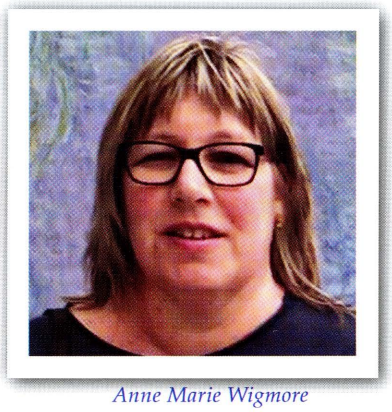
Mrs Anne Marie Wigmore

Anne Marie has been an active, steadfast and reliable supporter of South Africa's organised philately for many years. Coming from one of the country's well-known 'philatelic families,' she has - as exhibitor, judge, and volunteer, or as part of the family business - supported most local, national and international exhibitions. As an exhibitor she has competed in a few classes, but most frequently in Thematics, where she achieved a Gold medal for her presentation *In and Out of the Kitchen* at Bloemfontein in 2009. This innovative display has proved very popular at Society level and she receives regular invitations to exhibit it and thus promote our hobby.

She has served on the PFSA's judging panel for over twenty years. Whilst competent to judge in most competitive fields, she excels at the 'Thematic' and 'Open Classes.' This experience is recognised by regular invitations as a speaker on exhibiting and judging at societies and at judging seminars.

Anne Marie's understanding of the judging process led to service as senior jury secretary on a number of occasions. The most important of these appointments was at the highly successful 1998 Ilsapex International Exhibition where the incumbent secretary withdrew on the eve of the show and Anne Marie volunteered to step in. She worked with a new and complex system of data capture with a high degree of accuracy.

Not the least of Anne Marie's contributions to South African philately was serving as the financial and administrative secretary to the PFSA's Expert Committee for the last seventeen years. This time-consuming work demands the highest degree of meticulous organisation and record keeping – a 'hidden' aspect of the expertising process without which the Committee could not function to its desired standard.



Anne Marie Wigmore

It is with much respect and great pleasure that we nominate Anne Marie for the award of the Skinner Cup.

Following the election procedure, it was announced that she was awarded the Skinner Cup. She was not able to attend the Palmares, so some other arrangement will be made.

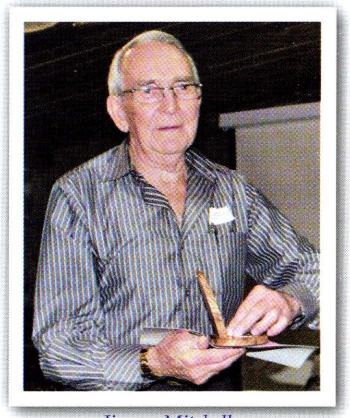
W E LEA CUP



Robin Messenger and André du Plessis

Awarded to Robin Messenger for his extensive knowledge on British Commonwealth and South African stamp issues, his regular column in *The South African Philatelist* and committee work for various societies.

FEDERATION PLAQUE



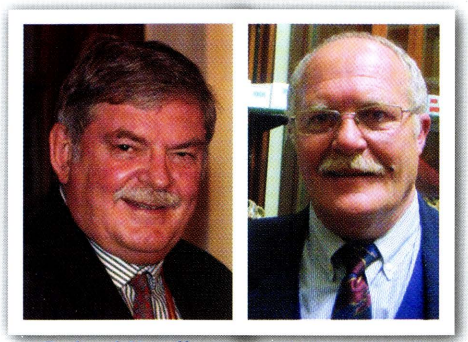
Jimmy Mitchell

This went to Jimmy Mitchell, President of the East Rand Society, for excellent service to organised philately over many years.

CONGRESS AWARDS for articles published in *The South African Philatelist* June 2017 to April 2018 went to Hugh Amoore, Lawrence Barit, John Bleazard, André du Plessis, Jim Findlay, Francois Friend, Gerhard Kamffer, John Joubert, Brian McGee and Colin Whittle.

CONGRESS AWARDS for regular *SAP* contributors went to Achie Frank RDPSA, Volker Janssen, Chris Mobsby RDPSA and Alex Visser RDPSA .

JACK HAGGER AWARD to Gerhard Kamffer and Johan Joubert for *Mail from the Border War* and *The Struggle against*



Gerhard Kamffer *Johan Joubert*

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Apartheid in SA: POW, Political Prisoner, Refugee and other Relevant Mail published June 2017.

PRESIDENT for 2019

Emil Minnaar, proposed by Jimmy Mitchell and seconded by by David Wigston, was elected as Federation President for the coming year.

Deputy President for 2019: Francois Friend proposed by Vernon Mitchell, seconded by Herwig Kussing and approved.

FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 National & Congress - to be confirmed, East Rand (Centenary of ERPS)
- 2020 Port Elizabeth celebration of 200 years of Settlers Arrival

The venue has been secured and deposit paid. The dates are 14 - 17 October 2020. The name of the exhibition will be finalised during late 2019 based on relevant sponsorships

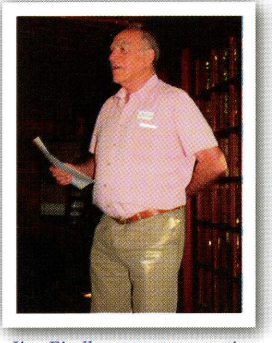
- 2021 Cape Town - South African International, Cape Town International Exhibition Centre, 17 - 22 May.

Size: 2,000 frames on a rotational basis. Appointments made to the Organising Committee to date are Chairman: Emil Bührmann, Commissioner General: Emil Minnaar, Treasurer: Keith Brodovky, Fundraising & Marketing: Jannie Hofmeyer, Event Organiser: Kevin Lodge, Senior Consultant: Hugh Amoore.

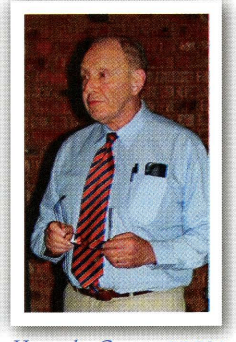
REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS:

These were appointed or confirmed as follows:

Region 1 Pieter Coetzee;
Region 2 Colin Bousfield;
Region 3 Andre du Plessis;
Region 4 Leon Jacobson (Jake);
Region 5 Dave Wyllie;
Region 6 Jannie Hofmeyr;
Region 7 Vernon Mitchell;
Region 8 Richard Stroud.

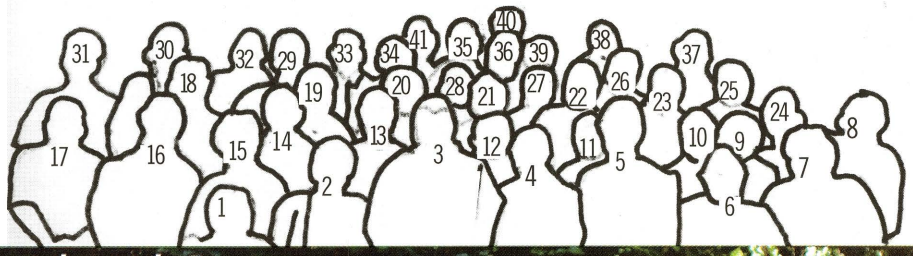


Jim Findlay RDPSA reporting on Foundation.



Howard Green RDPSA who read the Citations.

Attending Representatives at Congress 2018





KEY TO PHOTO

1. Mrs Elsa Bantz. Observer.
2. Mrs Jill Redmond RDPSA.
3. President, André du Plessis.
4. Clive Carr, President PS of J.
5. Dr Neil Cronjé.
6. Phetole Rapetswa SAPO.
7. Mr Uli Bantz.
8. Peter van der Molen RDPSA.
9. Mrs Heather Wyllie.
10. Alex Visser RDPSA.
11. Jimmy Mitchell Pres. ERPS.
12. Leon Jacobson.
13. Peter Coetzee.
14. Chris Carey, Pres. Sandton PS
15. Mrs Marge Viljoen.
16. Herbie Schaffler RDPSA Pres.WPS.
17. Mrs Petra Heath.
18. Herwig Kussing RDPSA.
19. Jannie Hofmeyr.
20. Hugh Amoore RDPSA.
21. Robin Messenger.
22. Vernon Mitchell.
23. Dr Kabelo Senyatsa, Botswana Post.
24. Albert de Jong.
25. Terry Lydall.
26. Dave Wyllie.
27. Tony Evans.
28. Joof van der Merwe.
29. Werner Barnard, Pres. Bellville PS.
30. David Wigston.
31. Herman van Niekerk.
32. Colin Bousfeld.
33. Howard Green RDPSA.
34. Ian Matheson RDPSA.
35. Andrew Fischer.
36. Joh Groenewald RDPSA.
37. Marnus Steyn.
38. Francois Friend.
39. Andre Nel.
40. Jim Findlay RDPSA.
41. Emil Minnaar RDPSA.

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The PALMARES

Centurion, Kleinkaap • 20 October 2018

The Grand Finale - the Palmares, took place at the hall at the Kleinkaap Boutique Hotel on the evening of Saturday, 20 October, when the award winners were honoured for their achievements.

It was a definite black tie affair. The Trophies set out on display for all to admire while guests mingled and renewed old acquaintances.

There was no signing of the Roll of Honour as both candidates who had been invited during Congress, were not present at the event.

Master of Ceremonies was Alex Visser, from Pretoria, who did a noble job of announcing the various awards which were handed over to the recipients by André du Plessis.

A report back from the Chairman of the Jury, Emil Minnaar, was briefly given.

The penultimate event was the official handing over of the Chain of Office to incoming President, Emil Minnaar by outgoing President, André du Plessis.

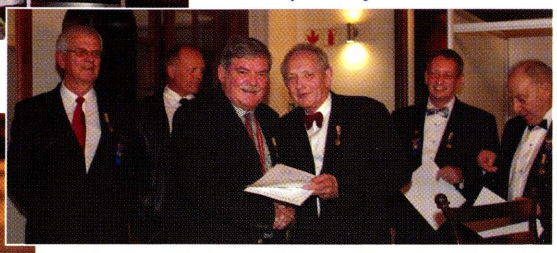
The event closed with the taking of a group photo of the RDPSAs present.



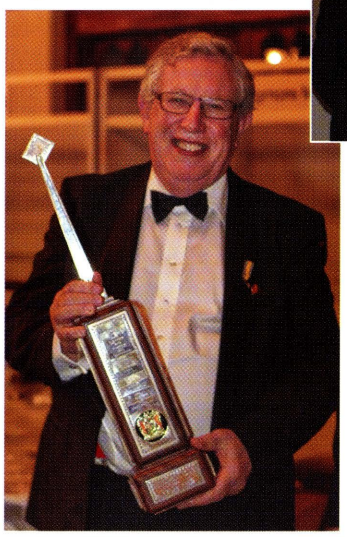
A pleasant atmosphere at the dinner awaiting the Awards Ceremony.



A special thanks to David Parson from Chair of the Jury, Emil Minnaar.

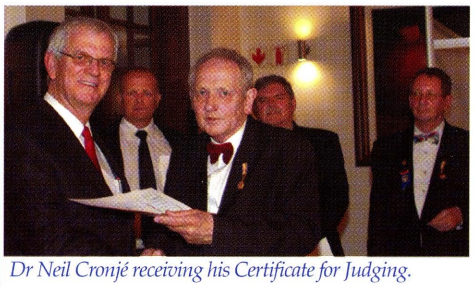


Members of the Jury receiving certificates from Chair of the Jury, Emil Minnaar - above Dr Gerhard Kamffer, and below, l-r, David Parsons, Michael Wigmore, Tim Bartshe and shaking hands, Howard Green. Neil Cronjé, Gerhard Kamffer and Francois Friend in the background.



A delighted Hugh Amoore RDPSA with the Grand Prix Trophy.

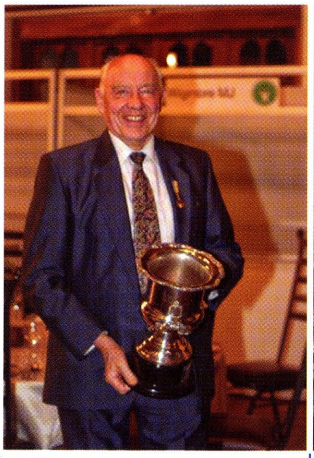




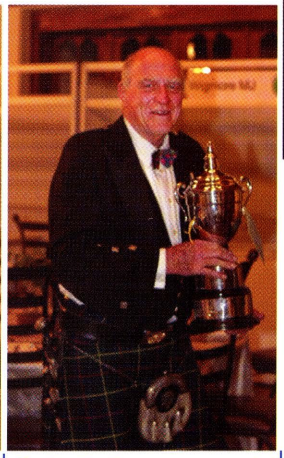
Dr Neil Cronjé receiving his Certificate for Judging.



André du Plessis, outgoing President, awarded the SA Post Office Shield and the Dawid De Villiers Display Trophy.



Herwig Kussing RDPSA awarded both the D.G. Crocker Cup and the Terence Radue Shield.



Dr Jim Findlay RDPSA, awarded the PEPS Best Open Class Trophy and the SA Stamp Study Circle Award.



Francois Friend President of SAPDA, receiving his Certificate.



Certificate of appreciation for Jury duty to Michael Wigmore RDPSA with Tim Bartshe and Dr Neil Cronjé in the background.



Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA receiving his Certificate from Emil Minnaar.



International Jury Member, Tim Bartshe receiving his Certificate.



Newly inducted President, Emil Minaar, receiving the Chain of Office from past President, André du Plessis.

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Paul van Zeyl, Dr Neil Cronjé, Michel Wigmore, Herwig Kussing, Emil Minnaar, Coen Slagt, Howard Green, Jim Findlay, Hugh Amoore, Alex Visser, Peter van der Molen, Dr Ian Matheson, Dr Gerhard Kamffer and Herbie Schaffler

A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS to Trippie Visser and David Wigston who supplied the photographs for this entire event.

... more from the mailbox



Fig.1

What is this?

AN UNIDENTIFIED 1974 RSA STAMP PRINTING

Jan van Beukering
OFS Philatelic Society

I recently came across a right marginal strip showing a blank column and then on the margin a cut off portion of the control bar and two perforations at the outer edge (Fig.1).
Unfortunately I do not have access to a full sheetlet of this issue to compare, but when shown to Mike Tonking RDPSA for an opinion he suggested that it may have been a trial perforation sheet portion, but not a misprinted column, done on the Grosvenor printing machine. In the bottom corner is, what appears to be, a doubled printed sheet number and two perfs on the bottom edge of the margin. (Fig.2) On the normal control left block the 5-figure sheet number appears on the bottom left margin
Has anyone come across a similar item or perhaps suggest another view?

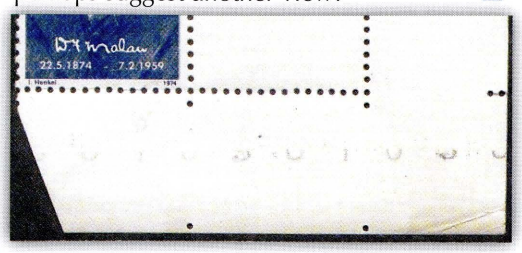

Fig.2

Dear Reader, A SPECIAL REQUEST...
If you change your address, please let our Membership Secretary know. We do need to keep on top of our mailing list in order to ensure that you continue to receive your copy of *The SA Philatelist*. Kindly notify Jill Redmond of any changes by sending an email to pfsasec@mweb.co.za or call 011 917 5304.



With regards to the 'ABC' on page 186...

David Wigston offers a basic understanding of the term CINDERELLAS - I feel it needs a broader understanding and thus offer this:

Cinderellas: Frequently they look like regular postage stamps but have not, for the most part, been issued by a national postal authority and cannot be used to pay for postage at that level. Detractors of the genre do sometimes refer to them as 'labels' and while this is justified for such productions as commemorative and advertising labels, Christmas 'stamps' and airmail etiquettes, such issues as those for the Chinese Treaty Ports, the Zemstvos of Russia, many of the G.B. Strike Posts of 1971 and the semi-official airmail stamps of, amongst others, France, Switzerland and Canada are certainly stamps, albeit of a limited authority, hence the term 'local posts'. Despite this, they are still classified as 'Cinderellas', a term that is by no means derogatory and is used to include any item that has the appearance but not the status and franking validity of a regular stamp.

Chris Mobsby RDPSA , Wits Philatelic Society.

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29 MAY - 2 JUNE

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LETTER FROM LONDON



by Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

With the advent of autumn it is once again an opportune time to reflect on recent philatelic activities. The Royal Philatelic Society, London, has been fortunate to have had outstanding displays covering many aspects of the hobby. President Patrick Maselis is to be congratulated on encouraging group displays, enabling exhibitors to show diverse and specialised parts of their collections.

James Podger's *Cayman Islands* exhibit, in May, commenced with Jamaican low values used on the islands and then went on to cover Essays, Die Proofs, colour trials, 'Specimens' and Varieties up to the Queen Elizabeth II era. The Edwardian provisional surcharges featured prominently, particularly those produced locally by Postmistress Parsons. Manuscript provisionals of 1908, a study of postmarks and revenue stamps were also included.

The *Monaco* exhibit of H.S.H. Prince Albert of Monaco at the next meeting was a fascinating overview of the postal history, from 1649, and early postal arrangements of the Principality, including aspects of Menton and Nice. The earliest manuscript Monaco marking dates from 1703, while a Monaco handstamp was introduced in 1764. During the French revolution a rare manuscript marking of *Port De La Montagne* was employed. French postal authorities remained in charge till 1818, when the Sardinians took over. Rare examples of Sardinian stamps used in Monaco were shown, followed by French ones after 1857. The 1885 Monaco issue was covered extensively, besides the production stages some spectacular covers were shown.

Twenty exhibitors combined to show *Polar Philately* at the last May meeting, covering Antarctic and Arctic postal history. Items ranged from a Wilkes Antarctic Expedition (1838-1842) cover to International Geophysical Year (1957-1958) material from France. Rarities of note included the only known cover from Nansen's *'Fram'* expedition of 1893-1896. A postcard from the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition of 1902 - 04, aboard the *Scotia*, showing an *Orcades del Sud* postmark and an Alfred Docks, Cape Town transit cancel caught the eye.

An innovation was *The Devonshire Bowl* one frame competition held at the Royal in July 2018. Fifty-four outstanding one-frame exhibits were shown and judged by the 132 members and guests attending the first in-house competition held at the Society. Organised by Alan Holyoake RDP, the varied displays ranged from *Jammu and Kashmir Rectangulars* to *Replating Colombia's 1861 1 peso stamp* and *South Africa's 5 shillings Oxwagon*. The best exhibit was judged to be Richard Hobbs' formidable *British 19th Century Propaganda Envelopes*.

After the summer recess, the new Season opened with an impressive display of *Great Britain-King George V* from the Royal Philatelic Collection. H.M. The Queen's exhibit is always an eagerly anticipated members-only event. This memorable exhibit commenced with essays by Bertam Mackennal and G.W. Eve and much material relating to the production stages. In the issued stamps a mint block of six of the rare 1914 ½d Cyprus green printing and block of the 1922 unsuccessful 1d trial for printing advertisements on the back of sheets of stamps were of note, as was the mint example of the 10 shilling *Cambridge Blue* shade in the *Seahorses* section.

Your scribe was invited to present a talk and display on *The Canadian Participation in the Second Anglo-Boer War, 1899 - 02* at the Canadian Philatelic Society of G.B. Convention at Welwyn Garden City. This extremely pleasant meeting went off very well.

The entire subject, from 'forming up' in Canada in October 1899 to the departure of the last Canadians in 1906 was displayed.

Autumn Stampex International was held again at Islington in September. This biannual event has become 'International' due to dealer and exhibitor participation from abroad. The American Philatelic Society brought over a number of 'first-class exhibits', including a fine study of *The 1d Ship issues of the Union of South Africa, 1926-53* by Eddie Bridges. It covered everything from production stages to sheet, roll and booklet forms. Charles Verge's *Patricia Airways & Exploration* exhibit was an excellent approach to the subject, while the Classics enthusiasts would have been impressed with Carol Bommarito's *U.S. Mail to, from and through GB, 1840 - 75*.

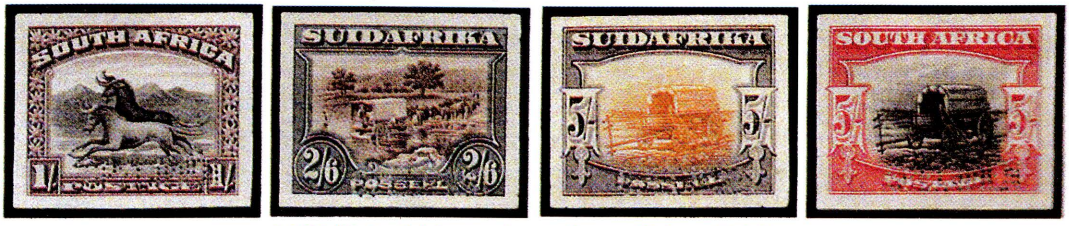
The Court of Honour showcased the award-winning display of GB *Wilding Issues* by Frank Walton RDP, a worthy exhibit of a modern issue.

The Royal's President's Dinner coincided with Stampex International this year. It was held at the sumptuous Whitehall Banqueting House, with its Rubens ceiling, where some 461 members and guests were entertained. John Cleese provided the humorous interlude for the occasion.

Auction houses have come up with interesting and rare material.

Spink's July auction sale included some significant Southern African pieces. A 1652 - 62 letter addressed to Jan van Riebeeck and estimated at £1,500 realised £5,800, while a Cape Burgher Senate cover fetched double estimate at £1,900. The ever-popular Paarl District Crown mark realised £1,300, against an estimate of £500.

The real excitement came in the South African section. The 1923 1d Van Riebeeck's ship essays in violet and brown and also in blue and green made £1,100 and £2,000 respectively, while estimated at £1,000 apiece. The 1928 De La Rue Essays for the ½d Springbok design in black and green as well as black and carmine each realised £3,800.



1927 Pictorial Issue, Imperforate Colour Trials.

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1933-1948 Rotogravure 1/- with Frame (Blue) omitted.

The 1927 Bradbury Wilkinson Pictorial set imperforate colour trials from 2d to 10/- nearly doubled its estimate at £11,000! A block of four of the 1933-48 Rotogravure issue 1/-, the upper pair with the variety 'top half of frame omitted' was bid up to £4,800, almost double its estimate. A striking horizontal pair of the same stamp with 'blue (frame) omitted' was sold for £8,000 though estimated at £10,000. Only eight pairs of this eye-catching variety are believed to exist.

Argyll Etkin Auctions offered some remarkable historical letters. Missives from Lord Nelson, written with his right and left hand respectively, realised £6,200 and £7,200 - exceeding estimates. Nelson lost his right arm in the Battle of Tenerife in 1797 and learnt to write with his left hand. A 1798 letter from Napoleon reached £1,700. Of local interest was a 1916 cover from General Smuts, in East Africa, to his daughter at Irene, which was sold for £320.

Auction houses generally add a buyer's premium of 20% to purchases.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London recently published *The Paper Trail* by K. Adema, RDP and J. Groeneveld, a book which deals with World War II in Holland and its colonies. It gives a graphic account of the German occupation, Nazi persecution and the Allied response through mail and postal documents. This book will be of interest to postal historians of the period and to those who were, like me, affected by the events.

Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes.

JRF

BIRD OF THE YEAR 2018

Information submitted each year
by Herwig Kussing, Port Elizabeth PS

This year on 4.11.2018 a special postmark was issued in Gaildorf for the bird of the year, which is the 'star' (*Sturnus vulgaris*). 'Star' is the German word for 'Starling'. The Starling being a rather common bird, where the number in Germany varies between 3-4,5 million pairs, which is about ten percent of the European Starling population depending on the food supply.

Collectors who are interested in a postmark can write to Axel Brockmann, P.O.Box 12, 74536 Rosengarten, Germany.

Please enclose an International Reply Coupon.





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INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

MACAO 2018

35th Asian International Stamp Exhibition

by South African Commissioner, Dr Ian Matheson



South African commissioner Ian Matheson with his wife Rosa at right, and Jenny Banfield from New Zealand (Bin Room Manager) at the Palmares dinner.

The Macao 2018 Exhibition was held at the Venetian Macao Conference and Exhibition Centre from 21 to 24 September 2018. Seven South African collectors exhibited, namely André du Plessis (86pts), Neil Cronje (Gold), Vic Sorour (73 points), Herbie Schaffler (Large Vermeil), Andrew Fischer (2 exhibits, Gold and 80pts) and Paul van Zeyl (Large Vermeil). Single frame exhibits earn points but not medals. This was an outstanding performance and in several cases exceeded the points that had been awarded to the exhibits on previous occasions.

Emil Minnaar served on the Jury and I was privileged to be the South African Commissioner.

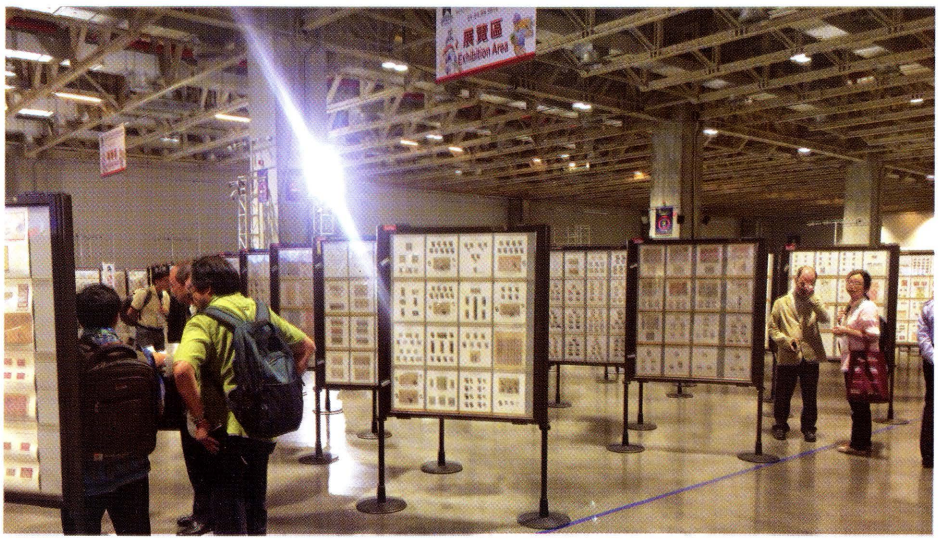
The standard Asian frames accommodate sheets 290mm high. FIP now recognises A4 pages. A4 is 297mm high and the page protector increases the total height to just over 300mm. Every one of the South African entry pages had to be mounted with Prestik. We were not the only nation with this problem, but it will be with us for years as the frames are moved around different sites in China.

A 'Treasure Gallery' featured highlights from the China National Postal Museum. There were 22 exhibits in the Court of Honour (FIAP Grand Prix Club Display). My personal view was that the exhibitors could have been asked to show more than a single page of their Grand Prix collections on each frame. Four pages would have quadrupled the spectacle. It was wonderful to see that there were 63 exhibits in the Youth class, 16 of which were from local Macao residents.

Five large gold medals were awarded. The Grand Prix International was won by Vincent Ong of Singapore with his display *'Escuditos of Uruguay (1864 - 1866)'*, the Grand Prix National by Ding Jinsong with *'Postal History of Mongolia (1854 - 1921)'* and the Grand Prix D'Honneur by Choi Cheong-Too of Hong Kong with *'Pre-adhesive Postal History of Macao (1797 – 1864)'*.

As has been the case in recent years in Asia most of the visitors were young people. I read a report recently that there are an estimated 48 million collectors worldwide of whom 18 million are in China. The volunteers organising the logistics were also all young people, presumably most of them from the Macao Post Office, who were ever-present in the organisation and financing of the show. We saw numerous school groups visiting and the entertainment provided included lucky draws, new issues, a passport to collect stamps and cancellations from visiting post office authorities and numerous giveaways. The Opening Ceremony and Palmares were grand affairs with singers, acrobats and dancers providing additional entertainment to the more routine aspects such as jury feedback, acknowledgements of assistance and, of course the presentation of awards.

Macao is an amazing place. Formerly a Portuguese colony it is now a 'Special Administrative Region' of China, similar to Hong Kong, and operating under the 'one country two systems' model. Although all official signs must be in both Chinese and Portuguese, we were unable to find anybody who understood Portuguese outside a couple of Portuguese restaurants. Macao is now connected to Hong Kong by the world's longest bridge. Different reports describe it as 42km or 55km long, 20 times longer than the Golden Gate bridge. The link comprises 3 bridges joining three artificial islands with a tunnel section to accommodate any future outrageously tall ocean-going vessels. New Macao is a mini-Las Vegas with multiple casinos and astonishing architecture. They have inter alia a Grand Canal with Gondolas, an Eiffel Tower, a Rialto Bridge and a Palace of San Marco. Old Macao is a delightful village with much character dating back to the days of the Spice Route. Cyclone Mangkhut struck Hong Kong and Macao days before the show. My flight was delayed by a few days, but the buildings withstood the gales (unlike unlucky Philippines). The same could not be said of the vegetation. Thousands of trees were brought down in Hong Kong and Macao; the clean-up was under way during the show.





The Macao mascot

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David Feldman
INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS

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First Concorde Christmas Day Flight

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

Who would want to spend Christmas Day in the semi-darkness and gloom of mid-winter at -30°C with a rudimentary infrastructure at best? In 1984 one hundred people did, at the cost of £850 each, on the luxury of a day trip in the Concorde from London to the home of Santa Claus in Rovaniemi, Finland. The brain-child of Goodwood Travel, this event was the impetus that started a vibrant travel industry and the establishment of a theme park in Lapland. Previously there was nothing - the airport consisted of one building and the Santa village comprised a single log cabin which doubled as a souvenir shop that did not take credit cards (this was another serious factor in the planning process). The Finns thought the British were mad. They kept on saying, *"Who on earth is going to want to come to Lapland in the coldest, darkest months of the year?*

The response by Goodwood Travel: *"They just couldn't see it. But we brought the tourists in and then there was this boom and big investment and new hotels."* This event was recorded with a set of flight covers, two signed by the flight crew (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4) and another with a full set of GB Christmas stamps (Fig.5). It needs to be noted that Concorde only carried mail officially on a handful of occasions up to 1979. The reason for not carrying mail was the issue of weight. However, these covers were carried by a courier as luggage.

Goodwood Travel started operating in 1981 as a specialised travel agent to take fans to various Formula One events. Their first experience with Concorde occurred in 1982 when they chartered a flight to Nice for the Monaco Grand Prix. With the success of this venture, Goodwood Travel now wanted to do something else just as extravagant. What better than a flight to meet Santa Claus on Christmas Day? But, the flight almost never happened.

The first stumbling block was the fact that Rovaniemi Airport, which doubled as an air force base on the Arctic Circle, was closed on Christmas Day. However the authorities at Roveniemi were only too happy to accommodate a Concorde flight and quickly arranged to open the airport. The anticipation of a Concorde arrival was so great that over 20,000 Laplanders turned up to see the aircraft; about 90% of the Rovaniemi population.

The second stumbling block was that British Airways was not so enthusiastic: the airport lacked the support equipment that Concorde needed. Concorde does not have an auxiliary power unit and also needed a heating unit and a start truck.



Fig.1a: Outbound flight. The cover is post marked 24 December 1984 as the British Post Office was closed on Christmas Day.

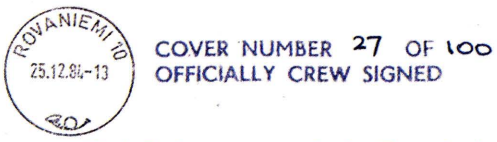

Fig.2: Back stamp on arrival at Rovaniemi

Goodwood Travel suggested moving this equipment temporarily from Helsinki. The answer was still 'no': too expensive. Despite the fact that Goodwood Travel offered to pay for the £2,500 transfer, British Airways was still reluctant to agree, arguing that the airport could not handle an aircraft the size of Concorde. When presented with the evidence that Finnair operated a DC-10 to Rovaniemi, BA had little option but to agree to the deal.

The third difficulty was that of crew rostering. The length of the flight required two crews; one to take the aircraft up and another to bring it back. But a little known regulation was invoked: one crew could do both trips provided they had 'horizontal rest' during time on the ground.

The route (Fig.6) was supersonic over the east coast of England, then north over the North Sea to Tromsø, then subsonic over land to Rovaniemi. The Air Traffic Controller at Rovaniemi was very happy with this routing as it simply meant less work for him! On arrival at Rovaniemi, the Concorde did a low overflight before returning to land. There was one final aspect that required a diplomatic approach before the flight could actually happen. The flight was scheduled to take place during the Cold War. What would the Soviet Union think when they observed a Mach 2 radar blip going up the coast of Norway and then make a right turn at 70°N? Out of necessity for the safety of the flight, British Airways had to work its way through the bureaucratic red tape of the Soviet Union to inform them of the legitimacy of the flight and this process had to be repeated for the subsequent nine flights.

Norman Britton (Fig.8) captained the first and second flights into Rovaniemi; he enjoyed the trip so much that he spread the word it was a dreadful flight, to ensure he was not outbid for the trip!

Table 1: Flight times

	Outbound	Inbound
Off blocks	LHR: 0805 GMT	RVN: 1750 GMT
Airborne	LHR: 0813 GMT	RVN: 1756 GMT
Landed	RVN: 1019 GMT	LHR: 1955 GMT
On blocks	RVN: 10:13 GMT	LHR: 2000 GMT
Supersonic flight time	58 minutes	54 minutes
Maximum speed	Mach 2.01	Mach 2.00
Block time	2hrs 18 min	2 hr 10 min
Maximum altitude	60,000 feet	54,000 feet
Distance	1,861 nautical miles	1,860 nautical miles

[LHR = London Heathrow, RVN = Rovaniemi]

Table 2: Flight crew

Pilot	Captain Normal Britton
Co-Pilot	SFO C Robey
Flight Engineer	SEO R Bricknell

Apart from the flight, the tour was a succession of calamities. It rained, the bus carrying the passengers broke down and the resident three-man band failed to turn up.

The last Rovaniemi flight operated by British Airways was on Sunday, 19th December 1999. In the period 1984-1999 ten Christmas Day Concorde flights took place. Even Air France, who originally rejected taking part, also started flying to Roviniemi with their Concorde. No cover for any of the Air France flights has been recorded. It was often the case that two Concordes could be seen at Roviniemi at Christmas time. Since the

British airways

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Concorde days (the Concorde was withdrawn from service in 2003), flying visits to Rovaniemi have become an industry; it's become the hub of the Santa industry with snow, the sleighs, the huskies and the reindeer (Fig.9).

Now it's possible to see no less than 20 aircraft lined up on the apron at Roviniemi airport during the holiday season.

More than 40,000 British holiday makers will visit Lapland during this period – most of them on day trips. And all this happened as a direct result of this Concorde charter flight on Christmas Day in 1984, ably recorded by a couple of flight covers.



Fig.5: An alternative unsigned cover, with a set of Christmas stamps.



Fig.3: Inbound flight



Fig.4: As the British Post Office was closed on Christmas Day, the covers were back stamped on arrival with a British Airways rubber stamp.



Fig.6: The route taken London - Rovaniemi - London. The flight overflew Tromso and was supersonic only while over the sea.





Fig.8: Profile of Captain Norman Britton on a commemorative cover.



Fig.9: The Concorde crew and tour organisers pose with Santa, the reindeer and its Sami handler.

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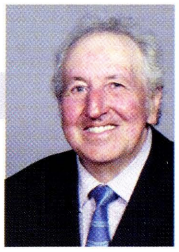
1961: The Forgotten Decimal Surcharge Errors

by Dr Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



Introduction:

There were numerous printing errors that occurred with respect to the 1961 surcharges of the three protectorates made in response to the change in their currency from Sterling to Rands and Cents. Two of these surcharging errors appear to have either been forgotten or alternatively just ignored in terms of their existence. Though one of these two errors received a certain amount of publicity, the second does not appear to have received any.

The two errors both stand out in terms of their immediate visibility. Both are as clear as other decimal surcharge errors which today are both sought after and highly valued.

The first is a Bechuanaland 1c on 1d double surcharge, which is illustrated by two examples. The second is a Basutoland 1c on 1d surcharge where joined pairs exist showing one stamp with surcharge, one without surcharge. It will be seen, from the illustrations, that these two errors are just as significant as other rarities which occurred in the 1961 surcharges.

Bechuanaland 1c on 1d. [Type I] 'Surcharge double':

The 1d duty originally issued on 3 Jan 1955 was surcharged with '1c' (Fig.1). The error is a 'double surcharge' of the 1c, illustrated by a marginal mint example (Fig.2), and a used example (Fig.3); there are no further known examples of this error. Both these stamps are surcharged with Type 1 font.

In Figs.2 and 3, the second of the surcharges is lighter. This (weaker) surcharge is probably the result of a *'flap'* and not because the sheet was surcharged twice. It could however be that the sheet passed through the printing press twice, without 're-inking', thus resulting in the second surcharge being weaker. The used and mint copies do not appear to be from the same sheet – as evidenced from the different positioning of the 'darker' surcharge.



Fig.1: 1c on 1d. 1961 Bechuanaland SG 157 surcharge.

The double surcharge shown in Fig.3 was reported in an article in *The South African Philatelist* of March 1963, p.53. The article appeared together with a picture of the stamp and stated: *"BECHUANALAND - The Robertson Stamp Co, has sent us a photograph and note of a Bechuanaland 1c Type 1 with double surcharge. The lower surcharge is the original one and the higher one is a kiss-printing and the inking is slightly weaker. Only one copy appears to exist of this variety and the stamp illustrated was used on a postcard sent in the ordinary course of business from Serowe".*



Fig.2: 1c on 1d. 1961 Bechuanaland double surcharge (mint).



Fig.3: 1c on 1d. 1961 Bechuanaland double surcharge (used).

Whilst the above accounts for the used example, the mint example in Fig.2 has an interesting history. It was unexpectedly found in a collection of Bechuanaland stamps which a stamp dealer had acquired. The original owner of the collection was not aware of the error on this stamp as it was amongst other surcharges.

Basutoland 1c on 1d Surcharge Omitted

The Basutoland 1c stamp, originally issued in 1954, was surcharged with '1c' (Fig.4) as part of the conversion to decimal currency. Shown in Fig.5, the error is the omission of the surcharge on the marginal right stamp. Also extant is an entire strip consisting of six stamps with five stamps having the surcharge and one stamp without surcharge (Fig.6). The strip clearly shows the marginal stamp with no surcharge. The strip of six represents a full row (with margins on both sides). As the sheet consists of sixty stamps - 10 down and 6 across - it would therefore appear that the right marginal stamp for some reason was not surcharged.

As there are ten rows there can only be a maximum of ten stamps with such a pairing; it is unknown whether this error affected all the stamps in column six or only a few. A detailed inspection of the Basutoland 1c on 1d omission reveals a tiny 'speck' of black which corresponds to the surcharged stamp where the surcharge should be. This is unlikely to diminish in any way the importance of this error.



Fig.4: 1c on 1d. 1961 surcharge.(SG59).

A further case of partial omission of the '1c' surcharge was known on a complete sheet where the surcharge was partly omitted and partly printed diagonally due to a fold or tear in the sheet. This item was illustrated on p22 of the *Robemark 1978 Catalogue Handbook* of the stamps of Basutoland, in the specialised study of the surcharges by Franco Frescura and is shown in Fig.7.



Fig.6: 1c on 1d. 1961 Basutoland strip - overprint omitted on the right hand stamp.

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Fig.5: 1c on 1d. 1961 Basutoland pair - overprint omitted rh stamp.

Whilst a unique item such as this sheet may not qualify for catalogue status, were this sheet to be split up then it would probably not yield any pairs with and without surcharge, but there appear to be some nine stamps with the surcharge at an angle which probably would qualify for a listing.

Conclusion:

The two examples as illustrated in this article show two distinctly visible errors, which are not listed in any of the major catalogues. It would seem that there is a strong case for both of these errors to be listed.

The 1961 decimal surcharges of the three former British Protectorates never cease to create an interest in the philatelic world.

The above two 'errors' again serve to illustrate this point. The question which we must now ask is, are there any other forgotten or still to be discovered errors of the 1961 decimal surcharges? In addition, are there any further examples of the above two errors?



Fig.7: 1c on 1d. sheet showing partial surcharges at an angle.

2021 FUNDRAISER: Postcards - Official Postal Stationery

As last year, Postcards have been prepared by the Organising Committee for the 2021 International Exhibition to be held in Cape Town.

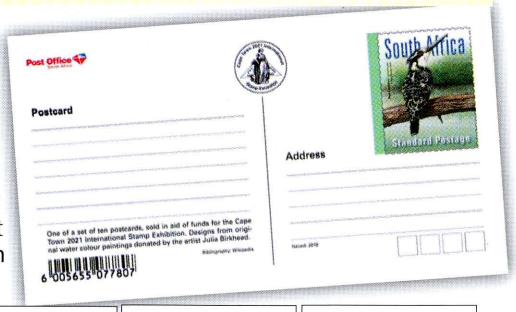
Different this year is that they have been prepared with the assistance of the Post Office to make them an official Postal Stationery issue by adding a preprinted 'Indica' of Standardised Postage. (Note: only a limited number of these sets have been printed).

Again, the postcards depict original artwork by Mrs. Julia Birkhead (widow of the late Harry Birkhead). The cards will be sold in packs of 10 designs, depicting indigenous birds and small animals. The cards were on sale at the **Stampshow 2018** which was held in Pretoria 17-20 October. Orders can also be placed with Emil Minnaar by email: Emil@Minnaar.org.

The selling price is R200 plus R15 (local) and R65 (Foreign) postage and packaging. Payment may be made by EFT to the account of:

Philatelic Federation of South Africa
Standard Bank - Branch Code: 012442.
Account number: 023 304 669 or to our PayPal account: kiongacollector@gmail.com

The original watercolours by this renowned artist, have been generously donated by her and went on auction on Saturday 20 October at the Stampshow 2018. Similar paintings donated last year by Julia Birkhead achieved a sale price of R4,800 each. A reserve, as last year, of R3,000 was placed on each painting.





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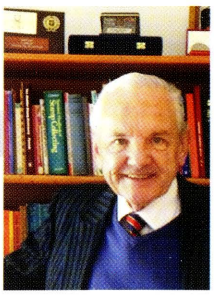

BEHIND THE STAMPS - *Part II*

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

(Four-Ten-Fifty What?)

While some of you may be reading this as a continuation of an article that was commenced in the October 2018 edition of *The SA Philatelist,* you may be wondering why I have chosen to append a sub-title to Part II. I had, originally, chosen this as the overall name of the article but, once it was decided that it should be run over two editions of the journal, *"Four - Ten - Fifty What?"* became somewhat less appropriate as a title. I feel however that this is pertinent to the second part as you will realise as you read on.

Having finished my introductory life-story exhibit, I chose to display some twenty or so stamps or covers from my collection ranging from Canada in the north-west to Fiji in the south-east, each of which had, in my opinion, an element of human interest above and beyond any philatelic merit. When the time came for me to think about compiling another article for *The SA Philatelist,* it struck me that, amongst the material that I had chosen to talk about at the U3A meeting, there were three stamps that were unusual in that the denomination or face value of the stamps was not in Rand or Dollars or Pounds but in an extremely unlikely sounding commodity.



Fig.1: Tristan da Cunha Cover

The first of these was a cover of 1950 from the island of Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic. At that time, no stamps had been issued for Tristan and the islanders had petitioned London in an attempt to get the situation rectified. In January 1952, a set of stamps of St. Helena was overprinted for use in Tristan da Cunha but it was only in June, 1953 that a stamp appeared in the name of the island, a single threepenny stamp in the omnibus design of the British Commonwealth that was issued to celebrate the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Among those people agitating for definitive stamps for the island was a South African, Alan Crawford, who was the meteorologist on the island. He went as far as designing and even printing a label featuring a penguin in front of an outline of the mountainous island and which, it was hoped, might have been accepted as a design for an authorised stamp. This was not to be but, in the example shown in Fig.1, a copy of Crawford's label was attached in lieu of a *bona fide* stamp to an envelope addressed to Cape Town. The label itself was cancelled on 22 February, 1950, with a *paquebot* strike showing that the letter had been posted aboard ship and it had also attracted a large capital '**T**' and '1½d' indicating postage due. Evidently, the postal officials in Cape Town were aware that there were no postage stamps available on the island and therefore refrained from doubling the shortfall to 3d. The South African postage due labels are also of interest in that the penny is of the basic design issued, with only minor modifications, from 1914 until the advent of decimalisation in 1961, but the halfpenny in the so-called 'bantam' format appeared only in 1943 when all of South Africa's issues were reduced in size as part of the 'War Effort'. While Crawford's label bore a denomination of 1d, that is to say one penny, it also showed a comparable 'local value' of '4 potatoes', the general unit of barter on the island at that time. That explains the 'Four' in my title!

For the number 'Ten', we need to turn to another island, that of Tierra del Fuego. The name, translating as '*Land of Fires*', was bestowed by early mariners who, when sailing at night-time through the Magellan Straits that separate the island from the mainland countries of Chile and Argentina, were able to spot on the hillside the cooking fires of the resident population, now known as *Fuegians*. Gold was discovered on the island and, in 1887, Julio Popper, a Rumanian and the technical director of an Argentinian company, was granted a concession to exploit the deposit. Popper arranged a delivery service to transport gold and letters to and from the mainland and in 1891, not 1861 as previously reported, he organised a suitable stamp for the mail, this being printed in Buenos Aires. The stamps were priced at ten cents each but this was not in the currency of the mainland but rather in a commodity more readily available, that is to say 10 centigrammes of gold dust or, as per the inscription, *'diez centavos oro'*.

Not unduly modest, the letter 'P' in the centre of the stamp shown in Fig.2 stood for 'Popper'. The postmark on this copy is that of San Sebastian, one of six mining camps on the island. The mail was shipped to Punta Arenas in Chile and I have seen a cover to which Chilean stamps had been added for eventual delivery in England. The British dealer in whose stock I came across this cover had priced it way beyond my reach and was obviously loath to part with such an attractively rare item.

The first two stamps described above were both featured in an article that I published in *The SA Philatelist* in June 2004, while a stamp with an equally bizarre denomination appeared in the

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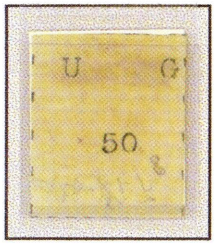
December issue of 2006. In this case it is one of the so-called 'Uganda Missionaries' of 1895. When the Reverend Ernest Millar of the Church Missionary Society arrived in that East African country, he found that, although there was an embryonic postal service in operation, there were no stamps available for franking the mail. He therefore set about rectifying this state of affairs using a supply of thin laid foolscap paper and a Barlock typewriter, both of which he had brought with him from England for the purpose of writing his sermons! Significantly, this was the only typewriter in the country at that time, knowledge of which must, I imagine, be of assistance to expert committees when they are asked to distinguish between true copies and forgeries of what are fairly rare and valuable stamps. The copy illustrated in Fig.3 has been certified as genuine as indicated on the album page by the adjacent letter 'e', as required in international exhibitions and standing for, I imagine, the French word - *éprouvé* - meaning 'proven'. The figure '50' in the middle of the stamp was indeed the face value but stood, not for pence or cents or rupees, but for cowrie shells. A small variety of these shells was imported in vast quantities from India and used as cash from Somaliland in the East of Africa to Nigeria in the West.



Fig.2: Tierra del Fuego 10 centavos

Thus, the answer to the question posed in the title of this article would be potatoes, centigrammes of gold dust and cowrie shells!



(e)

Fig.3: Uganda Government 50 Cowries

Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

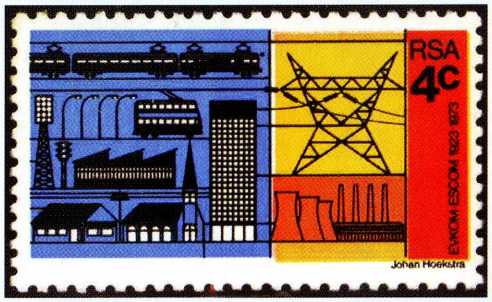
by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Episode 49

Errors on Stamps...

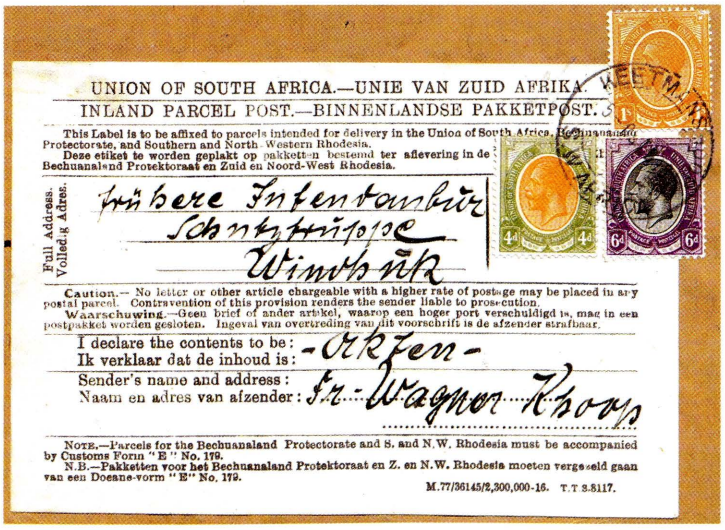
'ELECTRIC CARRIAGES'

This is the first South Africa stamp in my series of '*Errors on Stamps*', issued in 1973 for the 50th Anniversary of ESCOM. At the top left corner of the the 4 cent stamp a modern electric train is shown. The error is that not only the engine, but also the carriages are connected to the electric cables...



JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

SOUTH WEST AFRICA


UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA.
INLAND PARCEL POST.—BINNENLANDSE PAKKETPOST.
This Label is to be affixed to parcels intended for delivery in the Union of South Africa, Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Southern and North-Western Rhodesia.
Deze etiket te worden geplakt op pakketten bestemd ter aflevering in de Bechuanaland Protektorat en Zuid en Noord-West Rhodesia.
Full Address. Volledig Adres.
Caution.—No letter or other article chargeable with a higher rate of postage may be placed in any postal parcel. Contravention of this provision renders the sender liable to prosecution.
Waarschuwing.—Geen brief of ander artikel, waarop een hoger port verschuldigd is, mag in een postpakket worden gesloten. Ingeval van overtreding van dit voorschrift is de afzender strafbaar.
I declare the contents to be: Ik verklaar dat de inhoud is: -Orkfen-
Sender's name and address: Naam en adres van afzender: Fr. Wagner Knops
NOTE.—Parcels for the Bechuanaland Protectorate and S. and N.W. Rhodesia must be accompanied by Customs Form "E" No. 179.
N.B.—Pakketten voor het Bechuanaland Protektorat en Z. en N.W. Rhodesia moeten vergezeld gaan van een Doeane-vorm "E" No. 179.
M.77/36145/2,300,000-16. T.T S.8117.

Union of South Africa Inland Parcel Post label cancelled 'Keetmansdorp August 1918'

A RARE SURVIVOR IN SUCH EXCEPTIONAL CONDITION.

Address: P.O. Box 37324, London N1 - 2YQ
Tel: 020 7226 1503 Fax: 020 7359 7456 ***email address:*** markjtaylor@btinternet.com

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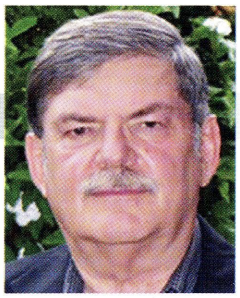

REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA CIGARETTE DUTY AND SURTAX LABELS

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Cigarette labels can be regarded as revenue stamps according to the definition of such stamps and should be included in any revenue collection. Simply put, revenue stamps are stamps issued by local, provincial or state departments to indicate the payment of a tax, duty or fee. Cigarette Labels were issued in terms of the Cigarette Excise and Surtax Act, No. 16 of 1911 in the Union of South Africa which clearly defines them as a type of revenue stamp.

This is a neglected field of revenue stamp collecting and very little research has been done in the past on this topic. A listing of the Cigarette Labels of the Union appears in the J. Barefoot Ltd, *British Commonwealth Revenues* catalogue published in 2012. This list is based on the pioneer collection of Cigarette Labels by Pieter Beukes from Cape Town. This is the first and only comprehensive listing of Union Cigarette Labels of which the author is aware. The collecting of cigarette labels can be a very exciting field of revenue stamp collecting. Other countries, for example Argentina and Malta, also issued what were called Cigarette Duty Bands.

The purpose of this article is to illustrate a basic set of the different types of Cigarette Labels used in the Union of South Africa from 1910 to 1961. For more details readers should consult the listing drawn up by Pieter Beukes as published in the Barefoot catalogue.

The *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek* (ZAR) also issued cigarette labels for 'Sigaren' that were used on cigarette containers (Fig.1). In the Cape, Act No. 12 of 1909 imposed a tax of ½d per ½ ounce of cigarettes in packets or boxes. This Act was repealed and the Cigarette Excise and Surtax Act, No. 16 of 1911 was instituted after Union in 1910. This Act made provision that a stamp shall be affixed to containers in such a manner as will necessitate the destruction of the stamp when the container is opened.

For the interpretation of different terms the following is applicable:

- **'cigarettes'** shall be taken to include all articles made of cut tobacco, rolled or enveloped in paper, leaf or other covering;
- **'duty'** shall mean the value of excise leviable and payable under the Act;
- **'surtax'** shall mean the tax payable under this Act on the secondary importation into the Union of cigarettes, in addition to any duty payable on their first importation. The surtax shall be levied, collected and paid by means of stamps affixed in the manner prescribed by regulation to the tin, box, packet, or other immediate container of cigarettes.

The Cigarette Excise and Surtax Act, 1911 made provision that instead of the tax being collected by means of stamps affixed to each container at the time of their retail sale, the tax could then be collected from the local manufacturer. This was done by means of stamps affixed to the packaging before the product left the factory; or by an importer at the time of first importation, or on removal from a bonded warehouse. Manufacturers overseas were allowed to purchase the necessary stamps and affix them to the packaging at the time of manufacture.

In terms of Act No. 16 of 1911 the following tariffs were applicable:

- On all cigarettes manufactured in the Union, whether made from tobacco grown or produced therein or from a mixture of Union-grown and imported tobaccos: an excise duty for every one-half ounce net weight or fraction th erein: a surtax (in addition to the duty payable under the Customs laws) for every one-half ounce net weight or fraction thereof…**One halfpenny**.

Regulation No. 874 published in the Government Gazette in 1911 stipulated that stamps required to be affixed to containers of cigarettes could be purchased from the Commissioner of Excise, the Postmaster-General, or their deputies by:

- The manufacturer, who shall use them only for the purpose of affixing to containers of cigarettes manufactured by him;
- Importers, for the purpose of affixing to containers on importation or removal from the bonded warehouse;
- Importers for the purpose of forwarding to manufacturers of repute overseas so that such stamps may be affixed before importation.

The Union of South Africa Post Office Circular No 14 dated 1 September 1911 stated: "Sale of Cigarette Duty Labels at Post Offices. - The Cigarette Excise and Surtax Act, 1911 provides that a duty of one half-penny for every half ounce of

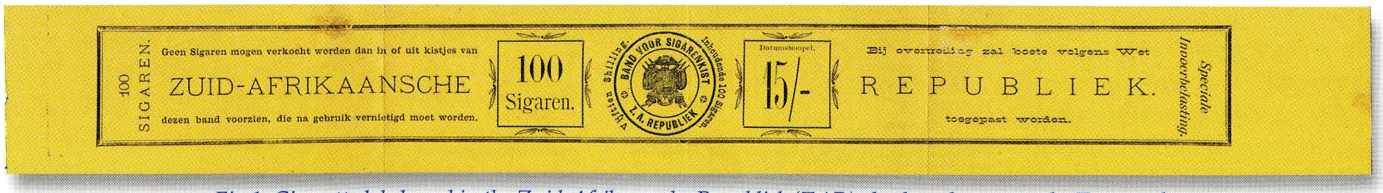

Fig.1: Cigarette label used in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) also later known as the Transvaal.
(Source: Deverell/Macgregor, http://www.rhodesia.co.za Illustration reduced)



Fig. 2: Label without a value tablet inscribed: 'CIGARETTE EXCISE & SURTAX ACT' and 'OPENED BY H.M. CUSTOMS'. This was probably used as a Customs Inspection seal.

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fraction thereof shall be paid on -

(a) All cigarettes manufactured in the Union whether made from tobacco grown in/or from tobacco imported into the Union.

The duty will be payable by means of narrow labels, about 5 inches long, affixed to the containers of the cigarettes and obtainable from any Post Office in the Union. The labels will be of ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d and 5d denominations.

(b) Cigarettes imported into the Union, either on first importation or when cleared from bonded warehouse.

(c) Cigarettes held in stock before commencement of the Act.

It was further stated in the Regulations that the Receiver of Customs or other officer acting as such at any port shall not permit the delivery of any cigarettes, whether on first importation or from a bonded warehouse, until the provisions of the Act and the regulations made thereunder have been complied with. The label with the inscription *'Opened by H.M. Customs'* has probably been used by the Receiver of Customs to affix the label to containers once he had inspected the content (Fig.2).

The different types of Cigarette Labels for the period 1910 - 1961 can roughly be classified by means of the Afrikaans wording of the description of the Act as well as the design of the different labels:

Type 1: Inscription: *'Zegelrecht'* and *'Stamp Duty'* (Fig.3). Probably used during the Interprovincial period (1910-1913). Rouletted. (Fig.9 and 9A) before the labels with the head of King George V were issued in 1913. However, much more research needs to be done and more copies need to be discovered to confirm the date of usage.

The following duties have been observed: 2d blue, 3d red, 4d green and 1/- brown in different sizes.

The 3d and 6d: 47mm x 9,5mm, 3d and 1/-: 70,5mm x 12mm and the 4d and 1/- measuring 139mm x 22mm.

Type 2: King George V design (Fig.4). Labels with the head of King George V issued in 1913. The following duties have been seen: ½d green, 1d red, 2d yellow-brown and 5d violet (Fig.10).



Fig.3

Figs.3 to 8: The identification of the various types of cigarette labels.



Fig.4

Note that the same colours were used as on the ½d and 1d denominations of the then current postage stamps.

Type 3: (Fig.5). Inscribed*: Sigaretten Aksijns en Surtaks Wet.* Used circa 1920-1930. Characteristic of these labels are the round value tablets and the spelling of the word *'Zuid-Afrika'*. According to Barefoot the following values are known: ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d and 5d (Fig. 11).



Fig.5

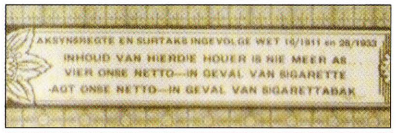

Fig.6



Fig.7



Fig.8

Type 4: Inscription: *Aksynsregte en Surtaks Wet 18/1911 en 28/1933* (Fig.6). Probably used circa 1933-1934. A variety of sizes were printed for this type: 130mm x 17½mm, 240,5mm x 17,5mm and 260,5mm x 17,5mm. The bigger labels were probably used for larger containers of packets of cigarettes. The smaller design (131mm x 14mm) also occurred with a surcharged value with the new tax of 3½d and the words 'CIGARETTES ONLY' and 'SLEGS SIGARETTE' overprinted (Figs.12 & 13).

Type 5: Inscription: *Sigaretaksyns - en Superbelastingwet* (Fig.7). These cigarette labels were in use circa 1930-1933. Two sizes used of this type are known: 131mm x 14mm and 131mm x 17mm.The smaller design (131mm x 14mm) also occurred with a surcharged value with the new tax of 7d and the words 'CIGARETTES ONLY' and 'SLEGS SIGARETTE' overprinted (Figs.14 & 15).

Type 6: Inscription: *Sigaretak-synsreg en Oorbelasting* (Fig.8). These cigarette labels were in use circa 1940 – 1961. Based on the daybooks of the Government Printer the

Fig.9A: Smaller issue (47mm x 9,5mm) of the 6d value with a hand stamp 'CANCELLED' which is probably an indication that this was a specimen type.



Figs.9 a&b

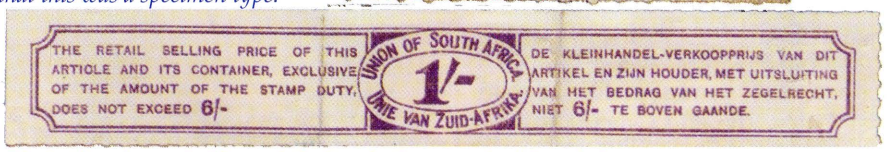

Fig.9: 1/- value probably used during the Interprovincial period.



Fig.10: Five pence label with the head of King George V.



Fig.11: Label (½d) inscribed 'Sigaretten aksijns en surtax wet' classified as Type 3.



Fig.12: Label surcharged (3½d) inscribed 'Aksynsregte en Surtaks Wet 18/1911 en 28/1933' as Type 4.

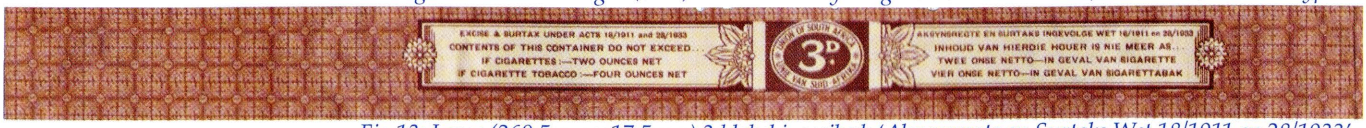

Fig.13: Large (260,5mm x 17,5mm) 3d label inscribed: 'Aksynsregte en Surtaks Wet 18/1911 en 28/1933'.

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Fig.14: Label (5¼d) inscribed: 'Sigaretaksyns - en Superbelastingwet. (Type 5).

following values of cigarette labels were printed by the Government Printer during the period 1949 to 1960:

- Horizontally designed labels: 2d, 3d, 3¼d, 4d, 4½d, 5d, 6d, 6½d, 9d, 9¾d, 10d, 11¼d, 1/-, 1/3d and 1/4¼d (Figs.16 & 17).
- Vertically designed labels: 2d, 3d, 3¼d, 4d, 6d and 6½d (Figs. 18 & 19).
- Type 6A was the Bantam issue. Bantams were also inscribed: *Sigaretaksynsreg en Oorbelasting*. Bantams were issued during the Second World War due to a paper shortage.

Type 7: Inscription: *Sigaretaksynsreg en Oorbelasting*. Decimal issue: on 14 February 1961, the Union implemented the decimal system of Rands and cents. Examples of these labels used during the short period from February to the end of May, the change to the Republic status, should be included in any revenue collection (Fig.20).



Fig.15: Surcharged '7d' label.



Fig.16: Block of cigarette labels hand stamped 'SPECIMEN' and 'CANCELLED' inscribed: 'Sigaretaksynsreg en Oorbelasting' (Type 6).

Cigarette labels used as postage dues

Cigarette labels were also used as postage due stamps at a certain stage during 1922. These labels were probably used due to a shortage of Postage Due stamps in the Durban Post Office. The Post Office also sold cigarette labels and these were at hand (Fig.21)



Fig.17: A 10d Cigarette label used correctly on a 'Rembrandt' cigarette box inscribed: '50 Untipped cigarettes' and '50 Ongekurkte sigarette'.

Regulations stipulated that labels must "be affixed to containers in such a manner as will necessitate the destruction of the stamp when the container is opened." (Illustration reduced)

Bibliography:

- Barefoot J, *British Commonwealth Revenues*, Ninth Edition, UK, 2012.
- Day Books of the Government Printer, Stamps and Stamped Stationery, Postal Orders, Labels etc. received from the Government Printer, Volumes 1 and 2, Post Office Archives, Silverton, Pretoria.

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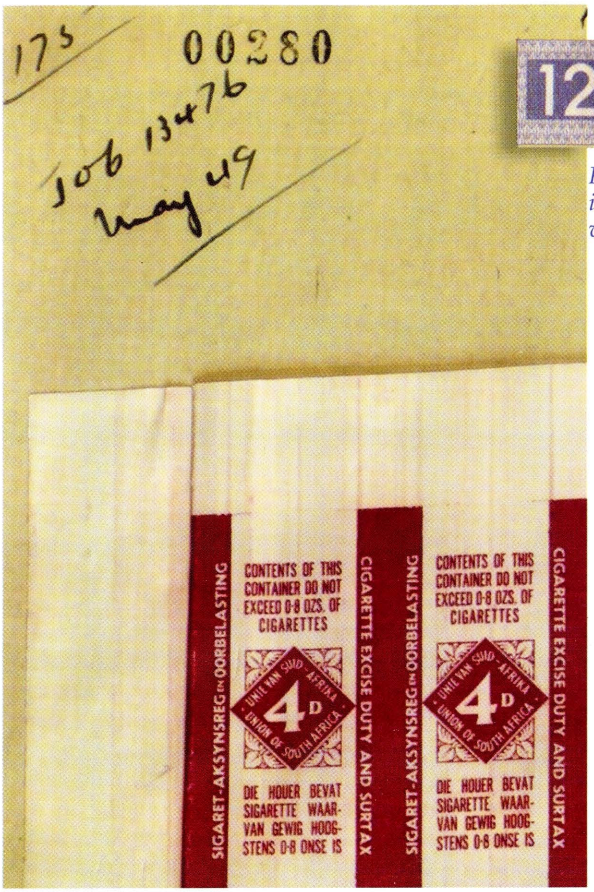



Fig.20: Cigarette label issued after decimalization with a value of 12c. Note the inscription: 'Union of South Africa'. Scarce example of this label that was only valid from 14 February 1961 to 31 May 1961.

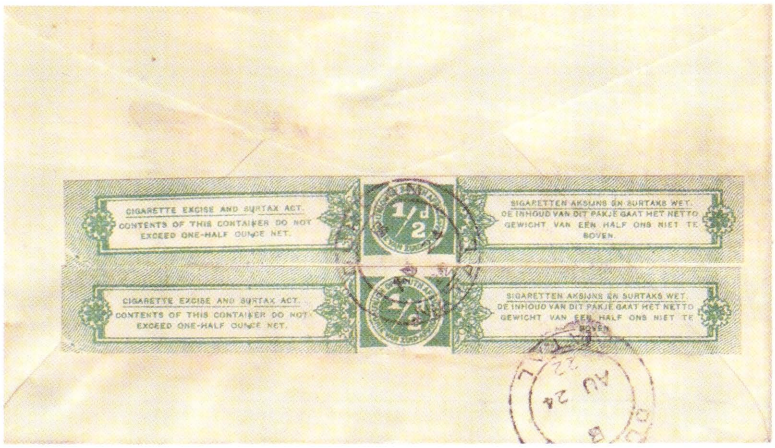

Fig. 21: Example of two Cigarette labels (x ½d) used as postage due stamps during 1922. This cover was taxed 1d (front of cover) at the Durban Post Office 24 August 1922 and the cigarette labels were affixed in the place of postage due stamps. Extremely rare official usage of cigarette labels as postage due stamps.



Fig 18: Top left part of a complete sheet of the 4d value from the 'Daybooks' of the Government Printer in Pretoria indicating that these labels were printed during May 1949 (Source: Post Office Archives, Silverton, Pretoria).

Fig 19: A 6½d Cigarette label printed in June 1952. (Source: Post Office Archives, Silverton, Pretoria).

- Unless otherwise indicated all illustrated items form part of the collection of the author.
- Images are not all reflected at full size

- *Union of South Africa, Official Yearbook of the Union and of Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland*, No. 5 – 1922, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1923.
- *Union of South Africa, Official Yearbook of the Union and of Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland*, No. 16 – 1933-1934, Government Printer, Pretoria.
- *Union of South Africa, Regulations 1910-1916*, Vol 1, A-DE, Published by the Minister of Justice, Government Printing and Stationery Office, Pretoria, 1917.
- *Union of South Africa, Statutes of the Union of South Africa 1910 and 1911*, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1911.

STAMPS of SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Freestate, Transvaal, Union of SA, Republic of SA

Modern mint SOUTH AFRICA 1961 - 2018: STAMPS, BOOKLETS, SHEETLETS, MIN.SHEETS Also G-SWA, SWA and NAMIBIA up to 2018.

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Met 'n ompad . . . Prof Henk Geertsema, Stellenbosch Filatelistevereniging

English summary:

A 'ROUNDABOUT' MESSAGE

Shortly after the signing of the Treaty of Vereeniging, ending the Anglo-Boer War, a Dutch post card, with a biblical message of support, was sent to President Steyn of the Orange Free State Republic to Pretoria.

However, by the time the post card arrived on 28 June 1902, President Steyn had already left for Kroonstad and Bloemfontein, departing South Africa on 15 July 1902 on the *Carisbrook Castle* for England. From there he travelled to the Netherlands and ultimately on to Clarens, Switzerland, to join President Kruger of the former Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek. The post card was returned to the Netherlands on 4 September 1902 where it was subsequently re-addressed to President Steyn, eventually reaching him during October 1902. There is a possibility that this card, as was the case with some correspondence of President Kruger, was improperly acquired to eventually reach the philatelic market.

Met die ondertekening van die Verdrag (of Vrede) van Vereeniging op 31 Mei 1902 te Pretoria het daar 'n einde aan die Anglo-Boereoorlog (1899-1902), maar ook aan die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek en dié van die Oranje-Vrijstaat gekom.

Tydens, en na, die oorlog was daar deurgaans 'n simpatieke houding jeens die boererepublieke deur veral die Noord-Europeërs. Boodskappe ter ondersteuning is gereeld uit die betrokke lande na die voormalige presidente, S.J.P. Kruger en M.T. Steyn van die twee boererepublieke, onderskeidelik, gestuur.

'n Briefkaart, met geskrewe bybelse verwysings en tekste op die sigkant (Fig.1), word op 6 Junie 1902 deur mej. S.M. Goeree vanaf Vlissingen, Nederland, na President M. T. Steyn gestuur.

Normaalweg vertoon 'n briefkaart net 'n vertrek- en 'n aankomsstempel, maar in hierdie geval is daar 'n paar bykomstige stempels wat 'n interessante verloop van die roete van die briefkaart aandui (Fig.2). Sulke posstukke staan in die Nederlandse filatelie bekend as '*zwerfpost*'.





Die briefkaart, gerig aan *"De HED (=Hoogedele) Heer M. T. Steyn, President, te Pretoria, Afrika,"* kom op 28 Junie 1902 in Pretoria aan. In President Steyn se afwesigheid word die briefkaart egter nie afgelewer nie en word die kaart, met 'n reghoekige handstempel 'ADVERTISED AND UNCLAIMED', op 4 September 1902 na die Returned Letter Office in Johannesburg verwys waar dit die volgende dag ontvang word. Die kantoor stuur die briefkaart met handstempel '*Retour Afzender*' terug na mej. Goeree; haar adres ('*Scheldestraat*') word op die sigkant van die kaart gegee.

President Steyn, wat weens gesondheidsprobleme nie die ondertekening van die Verdrag bywoon nie, vertrek op 29 Mei 1902 vir mediese behandeling na Kroonstad en op 11 Junie 1902 na Bloemfontein. Op 15 Julie 1902 reis hy vanaf Kaapstad met die Carisbrooke Castle na Southampton en arriveer op 2 Augustus in Nederland, waar hy President Kruger besoek. Op 24 September 1902 vertrek hy na Clarens, in die distrik Montreux, Switserland, vanweë die warmer klimaat en betrek die Villa Dubochet; President Kruger was reeds woonagtig in die Villa des Pierriers, met dieselfde adres (No 17).

Die kaart van mej. Goeree kom terug in Nederland. Mej. Goeree gee egter nie op nie. Met die wete dat President Steyn nou ook in Switserland woon, word die aanvanklike adres '*Pretoria Afrika*' op die kaart geskrap en en die adres na '*Montreux, Switserland*' verander.

Die kaart word op 16 Oktober 1902 te Clarens, 'n voorstad van Montreux, afgestempel. Blykbaar is die adresse van beide presidente welbekend in Clarens en word President Steyn se adres op die kaart met die naam van sy woning, '*Villa Dubochet*', in blou, deur 'n Switserse posbeampte aangebring.

Die briefkaart het President Steyn dus uiteindelik, maar heelwat later, bereik. Dit is waarskynlik dat sy korrespondensie, met sy terugkeer in Februarie 1905, na Suid-Afrika saamgekom het.

Na die heengaan van President Kruger in 1904 in Switserland, word sy boedel, insluitende korrespondensie, na Suid-Afrika terug gestuur. Volgens bronne (Hollenbach 1999) is 500 poskaarte uit President Kruger se korrespondensie later, waarskynlik onbetaamlik, deur 'n privaat persoon bekom en het op die mark verskyn. Die huidige briefkaart, gerig aan President Steyn, kon moontlik dieselfde pad geloop het.

Toeligting is deur Chris Swanepoel, Wilhelm Verwoerd en Hugh Amoore RDPSA verskaf.

Verwysings

- Hollenbach, C.A. 1999. *Briewe uit die Boere-oorlog.* Driefontein Publikasies, Florida Park.
- Krüger, D.W. 1963. *Paul Kruger. Deel II 1883-1904.* Afrikaanse Pers-Boekhandel Bpk, Johannesburg.
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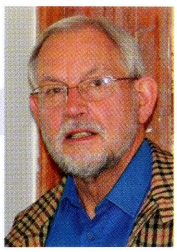
NEW SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP ISSUES - 2018 - Part II

by Robin Messenger,
South African Stamp Study Circle



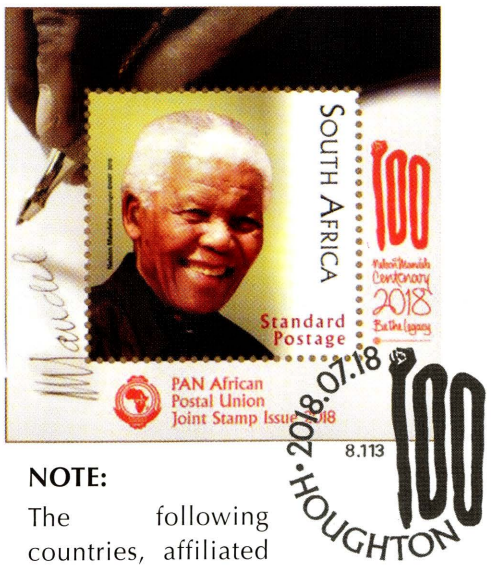
9 October 2018 - PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION - MATAMELA CYRIL RAMAPHOSA



Denomination: Standard postage rate (R4.20).
Design: Cyril Maphumulo from a photograph supplied by GCIS.
Printer: La Poste t/a Philaposte, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 36mm square incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm
Gum: PVA.
Quantity: 100,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Perforation: 13, extending through bottom margin of sheet.
Phosphor: Yellow-green phosphor coated paper.
Printing sheet size: 459 x 539mm comprising 12 miniature sheets arranged in four rows of three.
First Day Cover: No. 8.117 of standard size (190 x 101mm) of which 1,000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.108 – 'PRESIDENT / CYRIL / RAMAPHOSA /PARLIAMENT• 2018.10.09'

12 October 2018 – NELSON MANDELA PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION (PAPU) JOINT ISSUE

Denomination: Standard postage rate (R4.20)
Design: Thea Clemons from a photograph supplied by the Nelson Mandela Foundation
Printer: La Poste t/a Philaposte, France
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 36mm square incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 58mm square.
Gum: PVA.
Quantity: 100,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: None
Perforation: 13, not extending through sheet margins.
Phosphor: Yellow-green phosphor coated paper
Printing sheet size: 538 x 459mm comprising 30 miniature sheets arranged in five rows of six.
First Day Cover: None
Canceller: No. 8.113 – '2018.07.18 100 / · HOUGHTON'

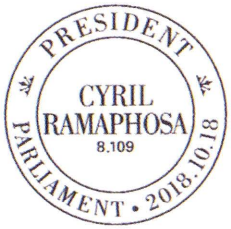


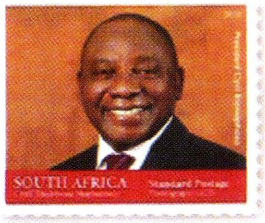
Canceller 8.113

NOTE:
The following countries, affiliated to PAPU: Algeria, Burkino Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Niger, Tunisia and Zimbabwe, stated their willingness to participate in this issue. These issues will not be available from Philatelic Services.

18 October 2018 - WORLD POST DAY

Denomination: Standard postage rate (R4.20).
Design: Cyril Maphumolo and Thea Clemons featuring a portrait of Cyril Ramaphosa from a photograph supplied by GCIS.
Printer: La Poste t/a Philaposte, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 34 x 29mm.
Gum: Self adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 112 x 205mm comprising 10 stamps arranged in five rows of two.
Quantity: 100,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8585 (blue), 8586 (red), 8587 (yellow) and 8588 (black).
Perforation: Die-cut simulated gauge 11. Stamps are separated by 8mm gutters





in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through sheet margins and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: A 3mm wide band as a frame over the white margin of each stamp.
Printing sheet size: 480 x 640mm comprising six sheetlets arranged in two rows of three.
First Day Cover: None.
Canceller: No. 8.109 – 'PRESIDENT / CYRIL / RAMAPHOSA /PARLIAMENT• 2018.10.18'

Acknowledgement:
The above information was collated from SAPO's Philatelic e-mail newsletter *WHAT'S NEWS*, October 2018, Newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group, produced by Jan de Jong and personal observations.

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SASOLBURG 2018 INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

Hats off to the Oilfilat Society on running another outstanding Inter-Club Competition. The effort put into this annual event by a small society goes to show what can be done by dedicated and enthusiastic members. A total of 73 frames were filled by 24 exhibits from the East Rand (13 exhibits) and Sasolburg (11 exhibits) Societies. The Competition, staged in the Sasolburg Public Library, made the exhibits available to the public for a week. The awards ceremony was held at 5pm on Saturday 3 November 2018, where the Sasolburg Society excelled with a spread of marvellous eats.

Dr Eddie Pretorius, doyen of the Sasolburg Society, acted as MC together with Jimmy Mitchell, President of ERPS. Eddie expressed the Sasolburg Society's appreciation for Federation's financial support and the cooperation of the staff of the Public Library, who made the venue available free of charge. He also thanked the exhibitors and members of both societies who made the event possible.

The entries were evaluated extensively in a judging session that extended well into the night by Louwrence Erasmus and Marge Viljoen on Sunday 28th, with a comments sheet provided for each exhibit. Louwrence and Marge had spent the Saturday afternoon, prior to the prize giving, discussing exhibits in some detail with exhibitors who attended. This was a most encouraging experience.

In his report on the exhibition, Louwrence Erasmus expressed his delight at the standard of the exhibits and how this has improved steadily year after year. Many of the exhibits, he said, could hold their own at national level. He also added that he was pleased to see a greater use of storytelling in the exhibits, with a specific beginning, middle and end, which is a growing trend in exhibiting.

The evening concluded when Johan van Wyk handed the Shield to the President of ERPS - the winning society (Fig.13) A score of 958 points against Sasolburg's 711. A ratio of 1:1.18, it was a close match!

CATEGORY	EXHIBITOR	SOCIETY	EXHIBIT	AWARD	TROPHY
ONE FRAME	L Jacobson	SASOLBURG	*Postage Due for underfranked mail in SWA 1961-1989*	SILVER	
	J A Bakker	ERPS	*The First Postage Due stamps of Holland*	GOLD	Rita Pretorius
	J A Bakker	ERPS	*Zeppelins and Holland*	GOLD	Jules Daneels
	L Jacobson	SASOLBURG	*My Philatelic Writing*	VERMEIL	
	J A Bakker	ERPS	*Russian Post Offices in the Turkish Empire*	GOLD	Grand Prix
	L Jacobson	SASOLBURG	*German Samoa*	VERMEIL	
UNION & RSA	T Dooley	ERPS	*Standardised Mail*	Certificate	
	A S N Nel	SASOLBURG	*Unie van SA/RSA/Nuwe SA*	Certificate	
REST OF AFRICA	J W van Wyk	SASOLBURG	*Philatelic Portrayal of the History of the Bechuanalands until internal self-government in 1965*	VERMEIL	CMGM
REST OF THE WORLD	C J Kok	SASOLBURG	*Tsegge-Slowakye 1957-1965*	SILVER	ISC
	C J Kok	SASOLBURG	*Gedenkseëls van SWA 1935-1973*	SILVER	
THEMATICS	C Rogers	ERPS	*The Food of Love*	SILVER	
	L Jacobson	SASOLBURG	*What to Collect*	VERMEIL	
	C Rogers	SASOLBURG	*Mare Mediterra*	SB	
	J Mitchell	ERPS	*Atoma*	GOLD	Anker
POSTAL HISTORY	J A Bakker	ERPS	*Dutch East Indies Postal Stationery*	VERMEIL	
	J A Bakker	ERPS	*Dutch Postage Due of 1912*	GOLD	Old Mutual
SPECIALISED	P Chrysochou	ERPS	*A study of the 1c value of the First Definitive Series of RSA*	GOLD	Frustration
	D J Wigston	ERPS	*Polar Flights (Aerophilately)*	VERMEIL	Oilfilat
	C Rogers	ERPS	*The printing of Egyptian Stamps*	SILVER	
OPEN CLASS	E J Pretorius	SASOLBURG	*The Wheel*	SB	
	P Erasmus	SASOLBURG	*Zimbabwe – Fauna & Flora on stamps*	SB	
	E J Pretorius	SASOLBURG	*Kansellasies en Stempels*	SILVER	
	E Minnaar	ERPS	*Chinese Food Stamps (Cinderellas)*	GOLD	Piet Schillings



Key to photos:

1. Louwrence Erasmus (judge) and Charles Rogers (ERPS) discuss a point on Charles's exhibit.

2. "And so as I said …" Dr Eddie Pretorius (Sasolburg) chatting with Charles Rogers (ERPS).

3. Miesie Erasmus (Sasolburg) organiser of refreshments.

4. Phidias Chrysochou (ERPS) and his exhibit of the first RSA 1c definitive issue.

5. Cecily Jacobson together with Yannick van Dorp, grandson of Dr Eddie Pretorius.

6. Charles Rogers (ERPS) receiving his certificate from Jimmy Mitchell (ERPS).

7. Marge Viljoen (Judge).

8. Drawing the raffle for the Christmas cake and bottle of wine, won by Ronel Erasmus.

9. Phidias Chrysochou (ERPS) receives the Frustration Trophy from Jimmy Mitchell.

10. Jakes Jacobson (Sasolburg) with Phidias Chrysochou (ERPS).

11. Andre Nel (Sasolburg) collects his certificate.

12. Louwrence Erasmus (Judge).

13.The evening was concluded when Jimmy Mitchell, President of ERPS (left), received the Shield as the winning society.

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TRANSKEI
- an introduction PART II

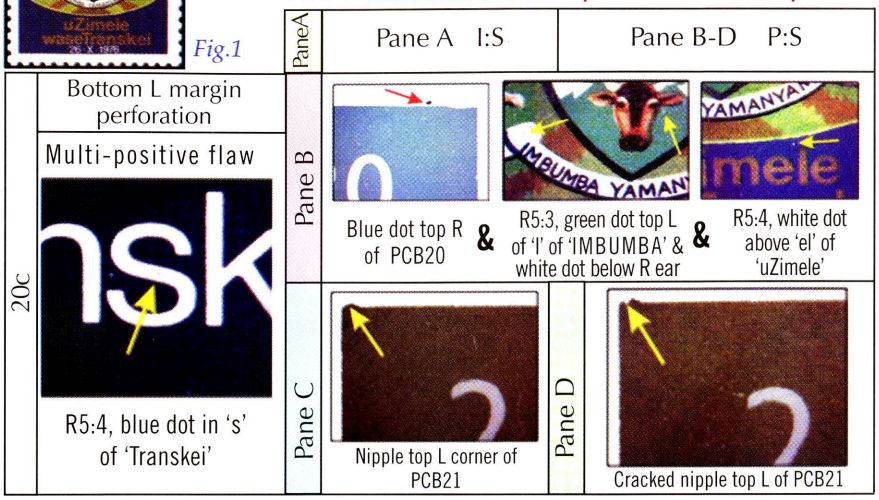
by the TBVC Study Group



Fig.1

The evolution of the 20c stamp apeared on p171 of the October issue.

Plate 1 - Micro detail of the four panes for the 20c Stamp



The Commemorative Cancellers and Postmarks

The only commemorative canceller for the Transkei seen to date is that for the first definitive series which was made from firm plastic. At least two sets of cancellers were produced for each design one of which was sent to the post office whose name appears on the canceller. The second set was used to cancel first day covers, collector's sheets and other philatelic items at Philatelic Services. Philatelic Services initially used a manual controlled machine to cancel philatelic items. In 1981 a fully automated Heidelberg cancelling machine (Fig.11) was commissioned.

UMTATA *(now renamed Mthatha)* Post Office

The Umtata Post Office is located at 55 Sutherland Street at 31° 35′ 19.187″S, 28 47′ 20.663′E in the city with the same name. Umtata, the capital of the former independent Transkei, is situated on the N2 approximately midway between East London and Kokstad. It received its name from nearby 'Mtata River', which received its name from the 'thathe' or sneezewood trees *(Pteroxylon utile)* which flourished along its banks. Another possible origin for the name is that it is derived from 'thatha' (the taker) owing to the damage and fatalities through drowning in the river when flooded. A third related derivation is 'Umthatha' translated loosely as 'the seizer' from the Mtata River drowning fatalities.



Fig.2: Final colour essay of an early Umtata Post Office building used for the first Transkei post office stamp issue



Fig.3: A more recent photo of the Umtata Post Office (courtesy Johan Joubert)

The Mtata River was the traditional boundary between the Tembu and Pondo peoples and in the 1860s both groups granted farms to European settlers along the river to act as a buffer between their feuding people. Initial European settlement on the future site of Umtata commenced in 1869 with a post office being established in 1875 and a magistrate appointed. In 1882 Umtata became the site of a military post for British Colonial Forces, the town was formally laid out and proclaimed a municipality which was to endure for nearly a further 100 years before Umtata achieved city status. The Umtata Post Office has operated continuously since its establishment.

Transkei commemorative canceller number 1 - Inauguration of the Transkei, Umtata

This is a single circle pictorial postmark with the post office name UMTATA following the inside of the circle at the top and the date horizontally at the base. The Transkei flag forms the centre of the canceller on which is imposed vertically the parliamentary mace. The canceller number '1' is located between the date and the base of the circle.

Two canceller types have been recognised on the first day covers and collectors' folders.

The first - Type 1, (Fig.5), similar to the original artwork (Fig.4) has an outer diameter of the circle of 26mm while the second - Type 2 (Fig.6) has a large dot at the base and centre of the 'M' in UMTATA with a circle outer diameter varying between 27 and 28mm. This difference could be due to the slight deformation of the canceller or differing pressures when the strike is made.



Fig.4: Original Art work.
Size: 27.5mm



Fig.5: **Type 1:** *No dot at the 'M' base*
26mm



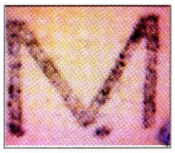


Fig.6: **Type 2:** *Dot at the 'M' base*
27-28mm

Commemorative First Day Cover 1.1 (Fig.7)

Printer: Could not be identified.
Quantity ordered: 12 700[3]

The vast majority 1.1 FDCs were cancelled with two type 2 cancellers simultaneously.

Rotational variation, inter-changeability and distance between the postmarks are explained by the removal of the cancellers from the canceller plate holding magnet for cleaning and variably reapplied. A small percentage of FDC 1.1 was cancelled by the finer and smaller Type 1 cancellers.

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Fig.7: First Day Cover

A mysterious cover containing the four Transkei inauguration stamp, cancelled by a large postmark reading *'Briefmarken aus der Transkei'* (Stamps from Transkei) with an unofficial and irregular Transkei COA in the centre, appeared in Europe three days after the launch of the Transkei inauguration stamp series.

The postmark (Fig.9) bears the dates 29 October to 1 November 1976 of the Rhein-Ruhr-Posta Stamp Fair held in Essen[4]. The Postmaster General of the Republic of Transkei had neither knowledge of the cover nor postmark used and the Transkei Department of Posts and Telecommunication had no official representation at the Essen Fair[5] .



Fig.9: Unofficial and irregular Coat of Arms (COA)

The then manager of Philatelic Services in a letter to *The SA Philatelist* indicated that the INTERSAPA agent for Europe, who had a stall at the Fair, considered it *"an excellent oportunity to bring the stamps of Transkei to the notice of the visitors and a cover for the event was prepared"*[6]. Dr Frank Golezewski, a local resident attending the fair, reported to *The SAP* that the event organisers created a 'philatelic passport', sold for DM 5, to encourage visitors to buy and have the stamps cancelled by offical cancellers of the different countries represented at the Fair. Transkei, RSA and SWA stamps were cancelled by unoffical postmarks that should be considered as cachets[7].

Commemorative Collectors' Folder 1.1a (Fig.10).

Printer: Could not be identified.

Quantity ordered: 23 500.

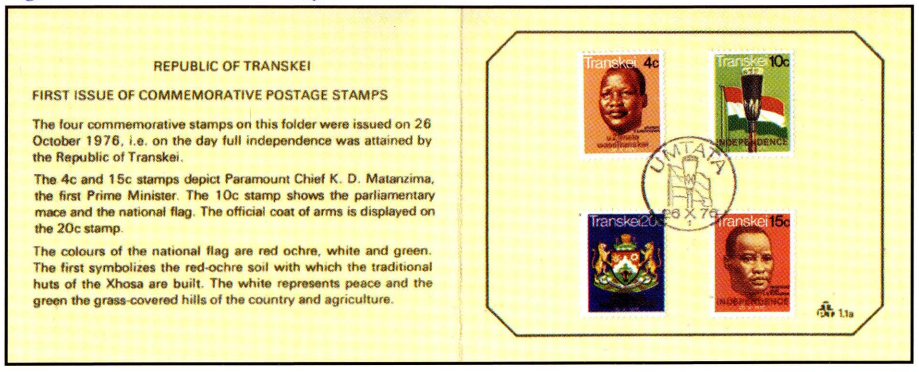
Note the clockwise rotation positioning of the incremental stamp value. This is the only Transkei commemorative collectors' folder issue where the incremental stamp value is arranged in this format.

Fig.8: Gold Foil master for the FDC

The majority of collectors' folders were cancelled with the finer, clearer single Type 1 canceller. The occasional collector sheet was cancelled with the larger Type 2 canceller. The Independence and inauguration stamp issues were publicised in a number of ways which included a glossy publication, a greyscale sheetlet ('black print'), a media release as well as a light green form to order the inauguration issue and the first Transkei definitive stamp series.



Fig.10: Commemorative Folder, front & inside



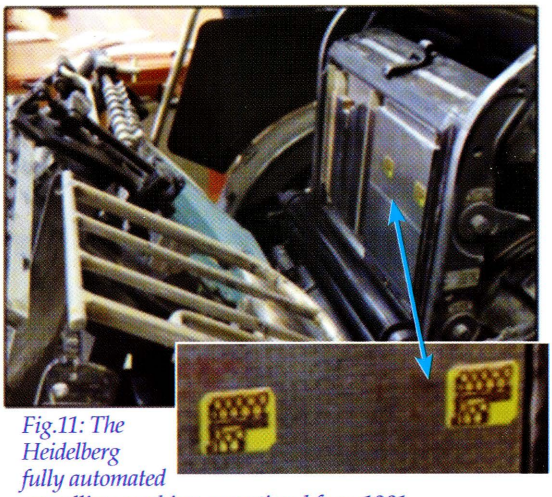


Fig.11: The Heidelberg fully automated cancelling machine, operational from 1981.

The 'black print' is a sheetlet printed on ungummed stamp paper measuring 102 x 171mm. It is understood that these sheets were not sold but inserted in the glossy illustrated booklet presented by the Transkei Post Office. It was also included with standing orders for stamps and postal stationery[1].

The 2½c South African stamp depicting the Bunga building in Umtata, brought out to commemorate the first meeting of the Transkei Legislative Assembly that took place in the Bunga building on 11 December 1963, ceased to be legal postal payment in Transkei after its full independence on 26 October 1976. These two SA sunset covers dated 15 X 76 making use of official Transkei 1.1 inauguration commemorative covers released only the next day! *(A sunset cover is shown in Fig.12).*

Interesting covers seen include a FDC where the gold embossed Coat of Arms is missing and others signed by K.D. Matanzima, Nelson Mandela, South African President B.J. Vorster and Robert Mugabe.

An inauguration FDC 1.1 containing a bilingual (isiXhosa - English) express label is shown in Fig.13. The registered FDC does not have a return address on the reverse side. Furthermore, the printing of non-fiscal postal stationery

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Fig.12: SA sunset cover (25 October 1976) cancelling a double SA 2½c Bunga stamp on a Transkei inauguration FDC1.1 cover

(i.e. excluding aerograms, imprinted postcards and postal orders) by local printers was encouraged using the equivalent South African template but with the local *lingua franca* translation and English, and in brackets (T) denoting Transkei. This was unlikely to have been ready by Independence. We believe this is a 'doctored' cover, i.e. a post-partum (post-delivery of *baby* - in this instance post-*independence*) falsely indicating that these labels were available from the time of independence. Furthermore, early continued use for a period, of RSA express labels and express cachets, is found on Transkei posted letters.

It is also interesting to note that while the main population group of Transkei is isiXhosa speaking, many thousands of Sesotho speaking hybrid Nguni peoples called Phuthi are found in the northern parts of Transkei. Furthermore, there were three official languages in Transkei (isiXhosa, English and SeSotho) but only two languages (isiXhosa and English) appear on Transkei postal stationery.

Varying degrees of imperfect registration of a double black printing have been identified among the 15c stamps ranging from a thickening of the font to varying amount of shifting of the two printings. This is as a result of a faint initial black print from an emptying black inkwell requiring a second printing. The non-availability of full panes *(sheets)* and the drying up availability of inauguration control blocks has resulted in these rare double imperfect registration printed 15c stamps only being found in inauguration collectors' folders and the odd inauguration FDC.



Fig.15: Normal / Correct black print

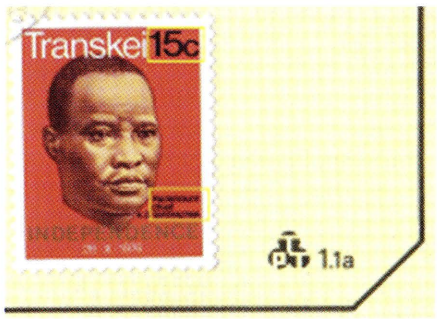


Fig.16: Collectors' folder 15c inauguration stamp with a double misaligned black plate (number 15) printing with varying degree of shift to the left.



Fig.13: Express registered Transkei inauguration FDC1.1

Express labels

South Africa



Transkei



References:

- *The SA Philatelist* (numbers of superscript in text)

1) (Dec 1976). Vol. 52, No. 12. *The Transkei's stamps and postal stationery*, p 316

2) (Aug 1982). Vol. 56. No. 8. *Intersapa to handle Transkei*, p 213.

3) (June 1982). Vol. 56. No. 6. *Transkei gedenkkoeverte*, p 203.

4) (June 1977). Vol. 53. No. 6. *Mystery cover of Transkei*, p 46.

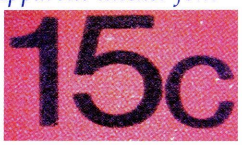
5) (Aug 1977). Vol. 53. No. 8. *Mystery cover of Transkei is spurious*, p 205.

6) (Oct 1977). Vol. 53. No. 10. *Transkei cover: Mystery deepens*, p 265.

7) (Nov 1977). Vol. 53. No. 11. *Transkei mystery - RSA and SWA now also involved.*

- Nel, G. (2008). *Stamp Artists of South Africa*, 2nd Edition
- Wirz, H. (2018). *The Independent State of Transkei - A Philatelic Inventory* - in print.

Apparent thicker font





Progressive imperfect registration to the left





Fig.18: Enlarged detail of shift to the left.



Fig.18: FDC with a 15c stamp having a double print shifted to the right

The TBVC Society wish to express their sincere appreciation and thanks to the Post Office Museum and their staff, Mr Gerhardt Potgieter (retired SA Government Printing Works chief printer) and all other agencies and contributors, wishing to remain anonymous, for all their assistance in making this publication possible.

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Philately makes its way back to the people of the West Rand

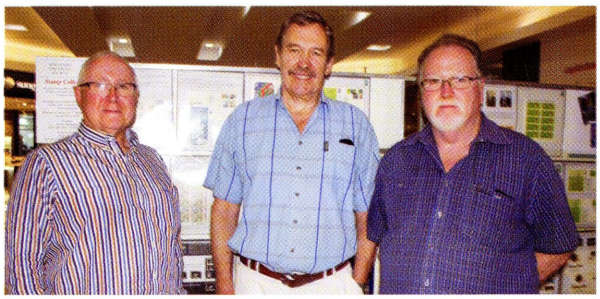
by Blake Linder | 5 October 2018.
Photographer: Adéle Bloem / Roodepoort Northsider. This article as it appeared in the *Roodepoort Record*, the Northside .

Well done to Peter Coetzee and his team.

Hundreds of people showed a newly found interest in the display that the West Rand Philatelic Society (WRPS) had set up at Clearwater Mall, where Peter Coetzee, Robert Crookes and Andries Nel represented the West Rand Philatelic Society on Saturday, 29 September.

"The turnout during our time at Clearwater was far better than we'd hoped, and it exceeded expectations," said vice-president of the WRPS, Peter Coetzee. While more than 150 showed interest, the twenty people who brought their collections along with them, almost equalled the number of members the WRPS has at the moment - 25.

According to Peter, philately can be one of the most beneficial hobbies anyone can undertake. *"It's one of the very few hobbies that has the ability to return the money you invest, if you take it seriously and collect the right stamps,"* he said.



Peter Coetzee, Vice President - Region 1 of the Philatelic Federation of SA and Vice Chairman of the West Rand Philatelic Society, Robert Crookes, a member of the WRPS, Andries Nel is the Chairman of the WRPS.

The day out for the WRPS also revitalised them as members, as they had begun to lose a bit of hope due to the lack of interest the people of the West Rand have shown. *"We had a lot of fun, and the newly found interest really rejuvenated our spirits."*

Among the collections shown to Peter and his team were two particularly interesting ones, while the rest were what may be consider 'schoolboy collections'. They provided advice to those who wished to further their hobby, as well as referring those looking for valuation to the right people.

Do you perhaps have more information pertaining to this story? Email northside@caxton.co.za (remember to include your contact details) or phone them on 011 955 1130.

This is an opportunity to 'market' philately - take them up on their offer and submit your own philatelic tales - every aspect of the hobby could be explored.

Peter Coetzee
Phone (W) 011 476 4100
email coetzeepeter@gmail.com

Pretoria Prof Shares Passion for Historic Stamps

Extract from the article which appeared in the *Pretoria East Rekord* of 12 October 2018 by Danielle Garrett.

A local man (from Pretoria) shared his life-long interest in philately. Professor Mike Dove, a former pathologist at the University of Pretoria medical campus, has collected thousands of stamps, postcards and other mail pieces over the years.

"Some of my stamps are over 100 years old. My interests include collecting stamps and postcards of some of our country's most significant moments in history, particularly historic buildings and monuments," says Dove.

"My journey with philately started at a young age; you know when young boys find things to collect ... Most boys from my generation collected stamps, either that or toy cars." His interest, however, had to be put on hold when he began studying to become a pathologist, but in 1976, he picked up his collection again.

Initially he aimed to collect some of the earliest stamps of the South African Union period, but then also began assembling material related to historical events relevant to Krugersdorp (where he was born), as well as postcards of Bloemfontein (where he lived for 20 years). Both exhibits were later awarded gold medals.

When asked how one went about obtaining old stamps and postcards in 2018, Prof Dove explained that the internet had made the process easier in the midst of South Africa's postal service difficulties.



PRETORIA EAST REKORD OCTOBER 12, 2018 COMMUNITY

Pta prof shares passion for historic stamps

Danielle Garrett

East woman to represent SA at world 'Mrs' pageant

"I have purchased many stamps on eBay; I have bought a few at meetings with dealers. It is something you are always aware of and look out for when you visit a new town. It takes some research, you read up about it and be sure to know what you looking for."

Commenting on the Pretoria National Exhibition, where he showed two exhibits, Prof Dove added: "Anybody and everybody is welcome to attend, not just to see what some of these collectibles sell for, but also to appreciate what some clubs have collected and to undergo somewhat of a lesson in international history. You will understand the art of dealing stamps and postcards after this show".

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly meeting, 2nd Wednesday. Auditorium of the Bellville Library, Charl van Aswegen Rd, Bellville. Meetings start at 19h00 to 21h00 and consist of club cup competitions, workshops and fun evenings with specific themes. Members from other societies are regularly invited. *Chairperson*: Werner Barnard; wernerb@axxess.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 082 567 0353; philately@netpoint.co.za
Website: http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com
Contact the Secretary for further Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.
Contacts: Mary Rogers 0729461767 or 021 5582662
President; Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613 *(Secretary);*
Email: royalphilct@gmail.com

Website: https://www.rpsct.org/

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

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

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Website: www.fhps.infoFHPS

GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caladon St. *President*: Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary*: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. email: robrita@mweb.co.za

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society meets monthly at 19:00 on first non-holiday Monday at the Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
For more information contact either Francois Friend, president, 082 554 8900, francois@ softchem.co.za; or David Brown, vice president, 041 360 4025 or Rodney Maclachlan,secretary/ treasurer, 072 619 5409.
Meetings 2019: 14 Jan. ; 4 Feb. ; 4 March (AGM) ; 8 April (1st is a holiday) ; 6 May ; 3 June ; 1 July ; 5 Aug. ; 2 Sep. ; 7 Oct. ; 4 Nov. ; 2 Dec.

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Heritage Room, 1st Floor, Berea Gardens 70 Jarvis Road, Berea
Meeetings : Every 4th Thursday of the month. Time: 19h30
President : David Preston 0827742090. Email:prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca 082 334 7603

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

* PLEASE NOTE **Back Issues** *of The South African Philatelist are limited. Requests for any issue should be made in writing to The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. An electronic PDF file may be requested should a printed copy of the journal not be available.*

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com *Secretary* Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com
Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. *Kontak:* djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief, 10vm.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact*: Secretary, Keith Perrow o83 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings or Contact us (http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/)

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 - Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to more experienced philatelists. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time. Visitors are always welcome! *Contact:* Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com

Durbanville Stamp Fair

Stamp Fair dates: all on 1st Saturday of the month). Auction date are advised via email communication. *Contact:* Ken Joseph ken@philatelicfriends.com Philatelic Friends
Mobile: +27 72 597-1287 I Fax: +27 86 612-3659
4A Mill Street, Paarl 7646. PO Box 2849, Paarl 7620
www.philatelicfriends.com

International Exhibitions

THAILAND 2018

Bangkok
Date: 28 Nov to 3 Dec 2018
General World All Classes
South African Commisioner:
Vernon Mitchell. vjm@telkomsa.net

SINGPEX 2019

36th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, at Suntec Singapore.
Date: 31 July to 4 Aug 2019
South African Commisioner:
Joof van der Merwe
jnc1@vodamail.co.za

LONDON 2020

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
Date: 2 to 9 MAY 2020
South African Commisioner:
Patrick Flanagan.
patf@fgprop.com

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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

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

Dates for Society Meetings 2018 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

5 Dec '18 President's Evening
9 January '19 Annual General Meeting
13 February '19 Workshop on Thematics and Postcards

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2018 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday monthly at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm *Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors.* Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society*. All welcome.
Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at the Victorian Secret coffee shop, corner Russel / Woburn Ave, Benoni,14h00 every last Saturdayofthemonth.Exhibits,talksandworkshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking. Free entrance, refreshments and safe parking.
President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com
Secretary: Paul Hammerton. hampaul@ananzi.co.za

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

2019 meeting programme
16 Jan : Africa & its islands
30 Jan : *5th Wed* - TBD
20 Feb : AGM & invited exhibits
20 Mar : Open - all categories & postal stationery
17April : Anything relating to the letters 'M &/or N'
15 May : British Commonwealth.
29 May: *5th Wed* - TBD
19 Jun : Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
17 Jul : Foreign, the art of philately & philately as art
31 Jul : *5th Wed*, Society auction

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday monthly (Feb to Dec) *Venue:* Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie.
Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome. For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet 3rd Wednesday monthly at 19H30 at Panorma Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. *Chairman* or *Secretary* Ian Walker. Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday **evening** of the month at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. **Daytime** meeting meets every first Thursday of the month following the first Monday in Glen Carpendale's shop, Kilner Park Galleries, 6 Wilkinson Street, Kilner Park, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. *President:* André du Plessis. andredupfs@gmail.com 083 399 1755
Vice-President: Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief *'Die Posduif'* verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 10:00 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. *Group Leader:* Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein. ***President***: Dr Neil Cronjé and ***Vice president***: Garry Osthof email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (Except December) - 2:00pm for 2:30pm. at the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. email: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647, Danabaai, 6510. St Peter's Kerksaal, Marsh Straat, Mosselbaai. Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November.
President: Japie de Vos
082 767 5004 / 044 695 0705
epos: sanjari@mweb.co.za
Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contacts: Zbigniew Kawecki, *(President)* 082 968 6888
Ted Brown, *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
Trevor Harris, *(Secretary)* 082 377 8465
email zeptepi@3i.co.za
Kraft von Aulock *(Treasurer)* 031 2629162

'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...
'All are welcome'

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HHPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/ coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings. *President: Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards. edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za*

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUES:
1. *Ordinary **Stamp Club** meeting every third Monday at 16h00 St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields Pietermaritzburg*
2. ***Thematics Group** meeting every third Saturday at 09h00 8a Sanders Road Scottsville 3201, Pietermaritzburg*

The Executive Committee meets on the first Saturday of every month at 11h00.
President: Dave Wyllie - Club President/ Competitions and Speaker. ***Treasurer:*** Heather Wyllie.
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 316 3308.
burncree45@telkomsa.net aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com

- Ron Buchell - Deputy Treasurer,
- Janet Kimmince - Membership Secretary,
- Gordon Bennett - Stamp Book Circuit Officer,
- Graham Bruce - Librarian,
- Joyce Hulse - Assistant Librarian,
- Val de Jager - Catering Officer

Publicity and Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

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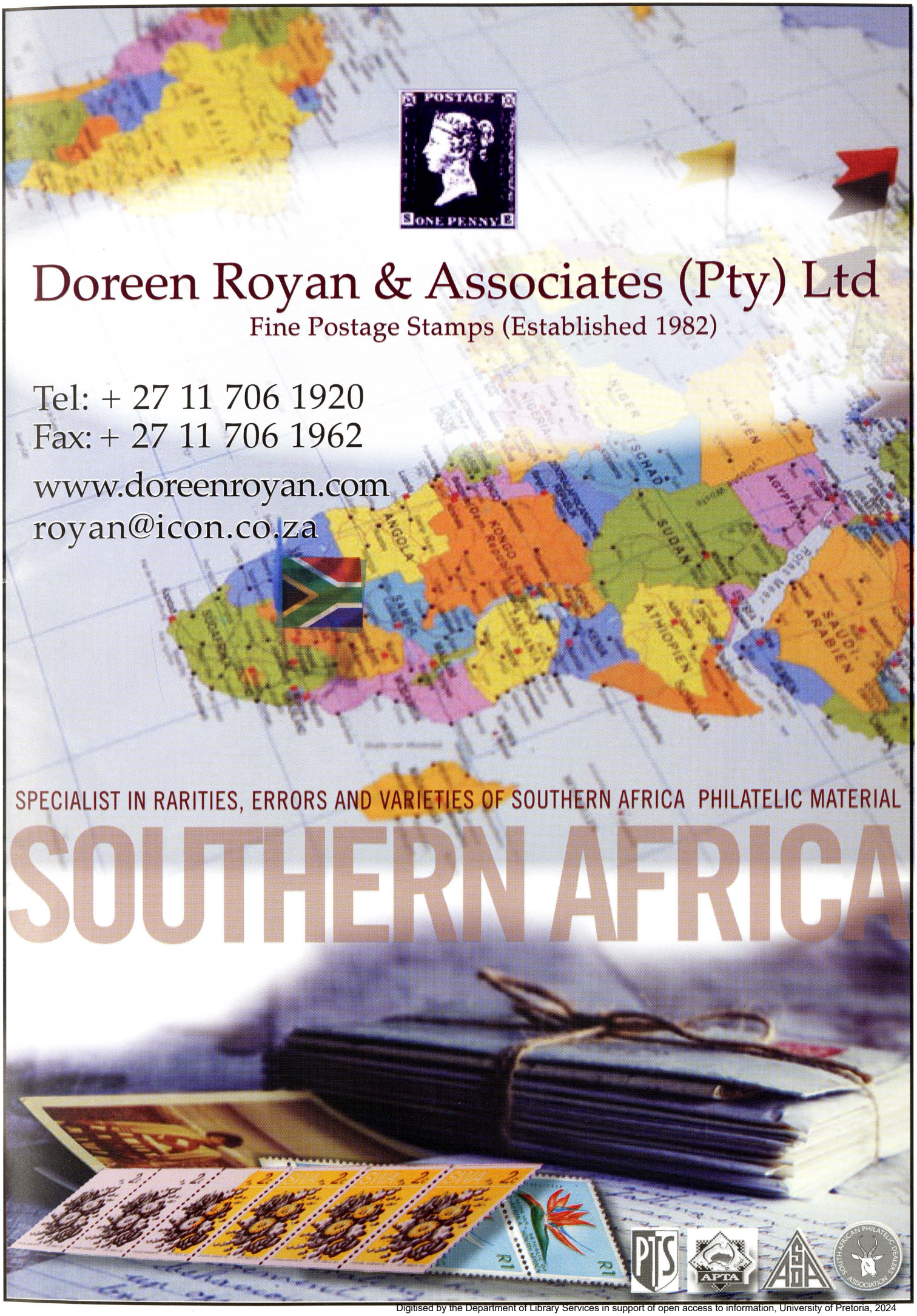

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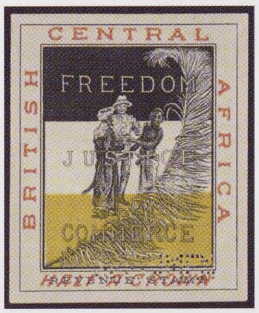











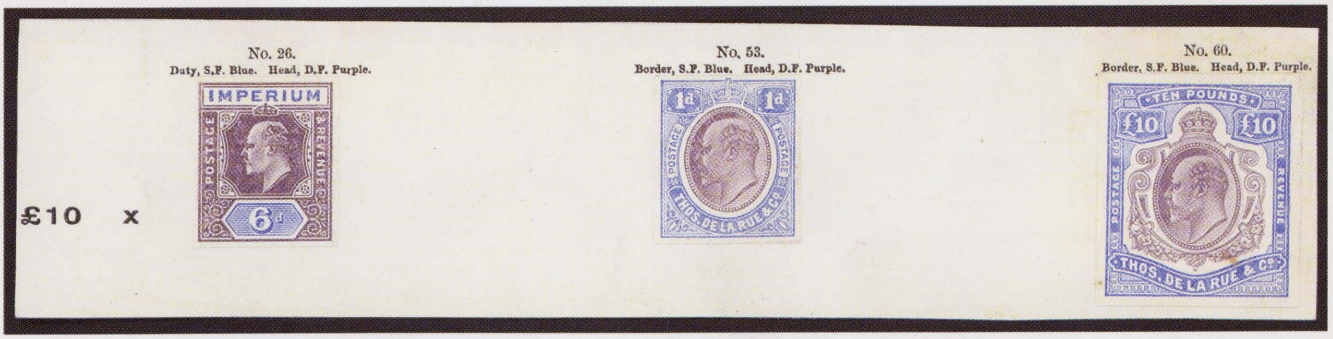

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Ian Shapiro: Tel: +44 020 7563 4000 | Email: ishapiro@spink.com

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