FEBRUARY 2015

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PHILATELIST
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THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 91:1. 928



POSTMARKS

The regular feature on South African postmarks through the eyes of Alex Visser



2015 - YEAR OF THE GOAT

The Chinese Lunar Year, starting on 19 February



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Part ONE of a series to assist in forming an interesting and meaningful Cape of Good Hope collection



BRASSED OFF

A topical article depicting the use and range of musical instruments



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Early Official Correspondence of the 'Voortrekker Republics' and *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek* (ZAR) from 1844 to 1875

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



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The South African Philatelist

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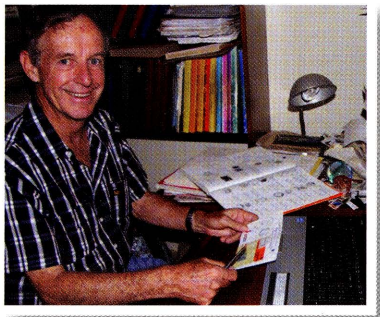

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD



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

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ERRATA

We regret that in the December 2014 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, on p155, the captions of the right-hand pictures were switched around.





The MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY wishes all a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May 2015 be filled with many hours of enjoyable stamp collecting & fun-related activities. Remember, "the secret of life is not to do what you like, but to like what you do!".

World War II stamps posted in Egypt



I refer to Jim Findlay's response 'Seeking an answer' to the WW II Cover which appeared in *The SA Philatelist* of August 2014, and wish to advise that I have stamps on 'piece' posted in Egypt, with two 'Egyptian Pre-Paid 64' cancellations with three stamps thereon, two being South African stamps and one being a 3 pence stamp of Great Britain. I have checked through Jim Findlay's list published in *The SAP* of June, 2014, listing SA censor types and numbers and cannot find '64' in the said lists. The date of posting appearing on the stamps is not very clear and seems to have been posted in 1942. I attach hereto a copy showing the three stamps on piece and shall appreciate receiving any comments thereon.

Peter Cooke, Nelspruit/Mbombela.

In reply to the query by Peter Cooke:

The Egyptian postal authorities insisted that all military mail originating in Egypt during World War II must have an 'Egypt Postage Pre-Paid' date stamp. This came into effect on 1 May 1941 for free surface mail, airmail (10d.) and registered mail. Stamps of any Commonwealth / Allied country could be used for postage.

'Egypt Postage Pre-Paid' is a date stamp used by the Egyptian postal authorities for an office attached to South African and other Army Post Offices in Egypt during World War II.

This is not a censor mark.

EPP 64 was not attached to any South African APO according to '*The Postal History of the South African Army Postal Services*' by E.B. Proud (1989).

It appears to have been used by the Canadian Air Force, Royal Engineers and Indian forces at an airfield near El Alamein during 1942 according to '*Egypt Postage Prepaid Military Datestamps 1941-1947*' by F.W. Benians (1978).

Jim Findlay

Uruguay stamps

I am writing in reference to my philatelic enterprise in Montevideo, Uruguay, South America. My grandfather, Jacques GLÉVILLE was an important and well known French philatelist, who worked in Uruguay selling international stamps, especially for Europe and South America. From 1970 to 1990 his price list was published in distinguished newspapers in USA, France, Italy and Germany such as '*Linns*', '*Le monde des philatélistes*' and '*L'écho de la timbrologie*'. Today, I still have a remarkable collection of stamps from all over the world, with a high current value.





Therefore, to give an example, I am offering to you, two different Uruguayan blocks: The first one was edited during the 'ESPAMER' exposition (an Uruguayan and Spanish exposition) in 1975, it has the mark of 'EXFILMO 75' and the mark of 'ESPAMER 75 MONTEVIDEO' with the mention 'CORREOS DEL URUGUAY' on the top.

The second one, is an Uruguayan commemorative block from the Sports Philatelic Exposition in 1980, it shows three different stamps from the Olympic games, the Football World Cup and Christmas.Would this offer be of your interest? If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to let me, I look forward to hearing from you.

Melina Rocha Gléville : hadamelina@hotmail.com

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CAPE TOWN 2015

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

A copy of the prospectus and entry forms for this 2015 National Exhibition are enclosed in this issue. The organisers are looking forward to receiving as many entries as possible.

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We salute

David Graham Crocker

(1937-2015)

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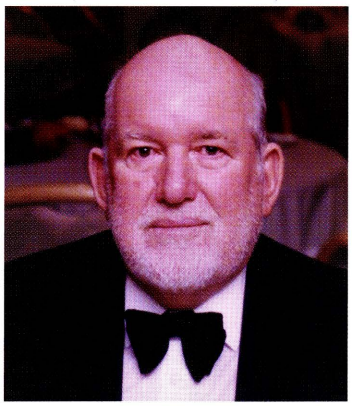
Hailed as a doyen of philatelic judging in South Africa, David Crocker RDPSA (77) passed away on 9 January 2015 after an illustrious philatelic career spanning 60 years.



David had many roles in philately - collector, postal historian, dealer, judge, expert, mentor, friend - and is mourned by members of the philatelic fraternity throughout South Africa.

He loved stamps, collecting from age 7. In 1953 he joined the youth section of the *Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging*, where Fanie Vermaak RDPSA introduced him to the technicalities of the hobby. David then met the famous Ernest Hunt RDPSA, who stimulated his interest in the philately of Transvaal.

David tackled this difficult terrain and twice formed collections of Transvaal, his local gold medals culminating in a vermeil award at London 1980.

At the time of the centenary of the first Transvaal stamps (ZAR 100, 1969) David, who was a Chartered Secretary by profession, started part-time dealing. A few years later he became a full-fledged dealer, with his former tutor Fanie Vermaak working for him.

David was a founder member of the South African Philatelic Dealers' Association (1976) and was its chairman intermittently for many years. In 2013 SAPDA elected him as its Honorary Life President.

In professional philately he was the South African associate of the legendary Robson Lowe, the father of postal history in the UK.

During 1988 David and Rose Marie relocated to Montagu in the Western Cape, where, in season, a philatelic visitor would be treated to a gift of freshly picked apricots !

Record as Jury Chairman

In 1976 he was invited to join the jury of the East London National Exhibition as a learner. His depth of knowledge was quickly recognised, and he became a regular juryman, serving on 31 juries. In 1982 he was invited to chair the Port Elizabeth National jury – in fact, he chaired eleven juries, including the 1986 and 1998 Internationals.

Michael Wigmore RDPSA, his son-in-law, recalls that in 2010 a survey of accredited South African philatelic judges revealed that every one of them had been an apprentice juror under the chairmanship of David.

In 1986, at the philatelic congress coinciding with the centenary of Johannesburg, David was elected a signatory to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa.

David participated in many national and international exhibitions. His collections reflect a remarkably varied interest and included Tibet, Nepal, Ukraine, Greece Large Hermes Heads, Rhodesia Double Heads and Great Britain line-engraved issues.

His expertise was widely acknowledged. He was elected chairman of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation in 1983, an exacting task which he performed for 22 years. He at times held various positions in the Federation, being president in 1991.

People will remember David for many things. For instance, he was the first – and only – dealer to issue a price list of philatelic literature, in itself a source of reference.

A memorial service in Montagu was well attended by various high-profile members of the philatelic fraternity and the local community. The PFSA, Management Committee and Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist* extend our deepest condolences to his family.

David leaves Rose Marie, daughters Jennifer and Anne Marie, five grandchildren – and a wide-ranging legacy in the mosaic of South African philatelic life. – JG

A TRIBUTE FROM OVERSEAS

I was devastated to learn of David's passing. We were such good friends for over 30 years that it is hard to imagine South African philately without him. I first met David in 1982 and he was integral to my becoming an international exhibitor and judge. He stayed with my wife and I on his many tours to America. It was during his first visit in the late 90s that he convinced me to begin exhibiting. Twice visiting SA, I stayed with the family in Montagu and along with judging the PE show we travelled to SWA for a week or more. It was at the show that I was honoured to be awarded the *Alfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion*.

David's philatelic knowledge was nearly bottomless and his love for the hobby had no bounds. It was with him that I got to see Bloemfontein and spend so much quality time at the museum and with Mr. Frick and absorb things that I was so blessed to see. The dealer and collector community has lost a champion of South African philately and he will be remembered with great respect and fondness. I was so looking forward to seeing all of you this next Christmas when I again visit for a month of so.

My condolences to all of South Africa for your loss.

Tim Bartshe, USA

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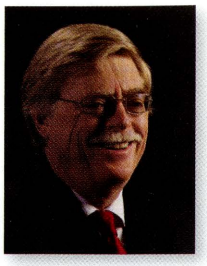
Collecting Cape of Good Hope

by Emil Bührmann RDPSA, Stellenbosch Philatelic Society



Part 1 - The Pre Stamp Period

Preface: The main purpose of this series on Cape philately is to assist collectors in forming interesting and meaningful collections. An attempt will be made to answer the following: What can I collect?

Secondly, what is the availability of material in a particular field and thirdly to highlight a few out of the ordinary items. This is by no means a detailed study of the subject but it will hopefully assist collectors to start the 'Cape collecting journey'.

Popularity of a particular field/country, condition and rarity perceived or genuine are the main drivers of prices and availability. In Postal History we find large variances in prices mainly because condition and rarity is often subjective and there are no established price guides.

In my view, condition of readily available material should be of high quality (full clear postal markings and no cover defects). Please refer to the introductory pages of the Stanley Gibbons 'Part 1' catalogue for a comprehensive explanation on the subject of stamp quality. It is highly recommended that collectors familiarise themselves what is 'good, bad and ugly' in the stamp world in order not to rely on optimistic interpretations by sellers.

Historical Background

First Dutch Rule (1652 – 1792)

No formal postal service was established by the Dutch East India Company (VOC) between April 1652 and 2 March 1792 when the first Post Office situated in the Castle was opened to accommodate overseas mail.

Private post to and from the Cape was carried by favour on VOC and other vessels. Inland letters were carried by local runners and were usually attached to a cleft stick *(briefstok)*.

The First British Occupation (1795 – 1803)

The British took control of the Cape on 16 September 1795. In 1797 Earl Macartney revived the postal service and an Ocean mail service between the Cape and England was established. Local official post was handled by landrosts and field – cornets. Private post was handled by favour.

The Batavian Period (1803 – 06)

In 1803 the Cape was handed back to the Dutch. The new administration established the Cape's first internal postal system. The Cape Town – Algoa Bay Post, the Simonstown and False Bay Dragoon Post and the Stellenbosch and Tulbach District post were the first permanent postal routes to be established[1]. The public were invited to make use of the facility.

Permanent British Occupation (1806 – 53)

General Baird with a large force retook the Cape when he won the battle at Blaauwberg and the Dutch surrendered on 10 January 1806. Baird was appointed governor and so began a new era under British rule. The postal system gradually grew as the borders and the European population of the Cape expanded. By the beginning of 1816 three country post offices (Stellenbosch, Simonstown, Uitenhage) were open.

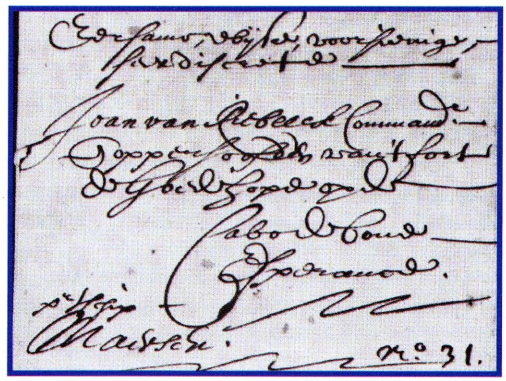
In 1824, the number of post offices tallied 19. This grew to 29 by February 1846 and by August of that year it reached 52. From 1847 – 1852 a further 15 offices were added. The number grew to 95 by 1853 and to 170 in 1858.[2]

Collecting Early Material

Prior to the Permanent British Occupation

No official postal handstamps were in use at the Cape before 1806. In addition, sufficient variety in postal rates and routes do not exist to make this period a postal history subject.

However, material is available to construct a historical narrative of the period. Letters to and from Governors and important figures of the time, combined with historical documents, maps etc. can make or serve as part of a wonderful Open Class exhibit. Care should be taken when Governors material is purchased, as a 'Van Riebeeck' entire recently offered on auction was suddenly withdrawn due to its uncertain origin. It is believed that there are about 10 'Van Riebeeck' covers recorded. Franco Frescura's two volumes on *Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope* contain excellent social and historical background information. Material suitable for collecting from this period is scarce to rare. Genuine briefstok mail is very scarce and again collectors should make sure items are genuine as it is relatively easy to replicate a 'briefstok fold'. Also bear in mind that Mr Jurgens was the creator of many fine philatelic items.



Letter-wrapper addressed to 'Joan van Riebeeck' Cabo de bon Esperance. Source Maxwell Joseph.

The only postmark of relevance for the period is the VOC mark struck on letters emanating from Holland to the Cape. There are at least 4 different types of handstamps and triple rate covers are exceptionally rare. (Refer to Goldblatt for details) Jurgens firmly believed that this was a Cape mark[3], a view not shared by Goldblatt and the author.

Illustrated below: An undated wrapper from Holland bearing a double strike of the VOC handstamp. Source Maxwell Joseph.



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'Shipping in Table Bay', a watercolour by an unknown artist c1785. An item in the William Fehr Collection, reproduced by permission from iziko Museums of Cape Town.

Permanent British Occupation (1806 – 1853)

This period as a postal history subject is well worth considering. Not only are there new discoveries to be made, but the challenge factor in obtaining some elusive items is high. The availability of material makes it well suited to compile a rounded and comprehensive collection. A very brief summary on what is available follows.

The Cape Town Post Office

To record pre-payment (compulsory) an Oval Post Office Medallion handstamp (fig 1) was brought into use in January 1806. Premium impressions are scarce. A Ship Letter handstamp inscribed 'Cape of Good Hope Ship Letter' (fig. 2) for overseas mail (scarce) also came into operation



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

In 1817 a set of 'Crown Circle' undated handstamps (fig. 3) was supplied to the Cape. Each handstamp carried the name of the post office to which it was ascribed. Between 1815 and 1819 a packet letter service operated between England and the Far East. The Cape was supplied with a handstamp,fig. 4, very rare as it was in use for a short period only.

In 1822 it was decided to introduce a dated letter stamp for Cape Town (fig. 5) and later for Port Elizabeth in order to verify dates of postage. In 1828 (fig. 6) and in 1834 (fig. 7) replacement handstamps came into use. Fig. 7 is a common mark. In 1847 a new undated letter stamp was introduced (fig. 8), of which 4 types have been recorded.

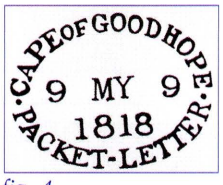

fig. 4

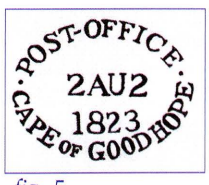

fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7

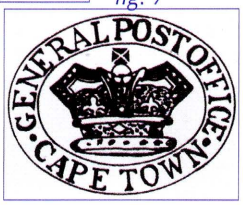

fig. 8

Country Post Offices

Country post offices were gradually opened as the need arose. The first handstamps to be issued were 'Crown Circle' (CC) handstamps allotted to 10 post offices between 1817 and 1818 and by 1824 the number tallied 19. These handstamps were used to denote postage or free official passage. The Paarl handstamp is rare and there are probably less than ten reasonable copies known. Crisp impressions of Paarl, Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown and Graaff- Reinet are difficult to find, as it appears that postmasters did not clean the instruments regularly.

In 1849, the Octagonal Numeral handstamps were introduced to replace the worn out CCs that were in service for more than 25 years. Initially 60, (No 1, Cape Town was not used), were issued and to date not all of the numbers can be tied to specific offices. Some numbers are exceedingly difficult to find and are known to fetch in excess of R10,000. Premium material is that stamped in colours other than black and those that have the dispatching and receiving numbers on the face of the entire. These handstamps had a relatively short life and were replaced by triangle obliterators with the introduction of postage stamps in 1853. Late usage has been recorded at 9 post offices probably as temporary date stamps. Fakes are known.

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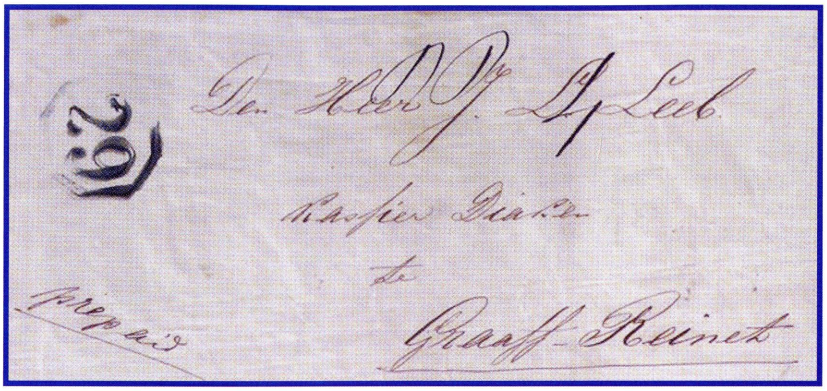

1850 Rivier Zonder End No 29 octagonal on entire struck in blue, an extremely rare cover. Source Filat AG.

Other Postmarks

Desirable and very collectable marks include those of forwarding agents, various private handstamps brought into use by some postmasters and an interesting array of Paid and To Pay marks.

Postal Rates

A proper study of rates is beyond the scope of this article. Information provided serves as a basic guide.

The Early Period

Pre-payment to countries other than the Netherlands and its possessions was compulsory. No rate tables have been seen. For incoming mail the postmaster had to collect 2 stuivers per rate increment extra to that indicated on the letter. The basic rate was 6 stuivers per single sheet. (A stuiver was approximately one penny).

From 1798 the overseas letter rate was 1 skilling per single sheet and a delivery charge on incoming letters was made at the rate of one skilling per letter single sheet. These charges were repealed in 1806.

1805 - 1846

Distance based inland rates applied and varied from route to route. The first tables were published in 1806. A basic 4d per letter arriving from overseas in addition to the inland rate if applicable was charged.

From 1827 it became optional to pre-pay postage. This gave rise to distinctive handstamps denoting Post Paid/Prepaid or To Pay depending on who was responsible for postage. In the early years the marks were only used at Cape Town but later issued to larger post offices. Many varieties exist. Pre-payment only became compulsory with the introduction of postage stamps in 1853. Of interest are the Port Elizabeth 'Paid and To Pay' handstamps. The latter is rare.

In 1815 the overseas rate became 1/- per packet and 8d per private ship for a single sheet. Rates were amended from time to time.

A uniform 'all-in rate' of 1s 4d was charged from 1840 on outgoing mail.

1846 – 1853

The inland rate was reduced to 4d irrespective of distance and an additional 2d was charged if the letter was not pre-paid. Up to 1857 a 4d delivery fee was charged for overseas letters.

The packet rate was reduced to 1/- and private ship to 8d in 1853.

Official Mail

This is a specialised field outside the scope of this article. Fine collections covering the subject exist.

Reference works

The most important works covering early Cape are:

1. AA Jurgens. *The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope…*, The Cape Times 1943.
2. Robert Goldblatt RDPSA FRPSL, *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*, Reijger Publishers (Pty) Ltd. 1983.
3. Franco Frescura, *The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope 1792 – 1910.* Archetype Press 2002.

Important auction catalogues

- The *'C Emerson Huston'*, Harmers Ltd. July 1961 offered 22 lots including a *'Van Riebeeck'* wrapper.
- The Maria de la Queillerie sale, Harmers Ltd. May 1970 offered 33 pre adhesive lots.
- The Sir Maxwell Joseph sale at Sotheby's in October 1982 contained 122 pre-adhesive lots. This included Two Van Riebeeck, two briefstock , 4 'VOC' , two Paarl 'CC' and many other important historical wrappers and letters.

Footnotes

1. Robert Goldblatt RDPSA FRPSL, *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope,* Reijger Publishers(Pty) Ltd. p30.
2. Ibid, p 80.
3. AA Jurgens, *The Handstruck letter stamps of the Cape of Good Hope…* , Cape Times Ltd, 1943, p4.

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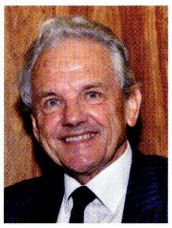

"Yours Socially…"

by Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL,
Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

When the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist* was appointed more than ten years ago, it was given the brief that it should attempt to produce a bimonthly magazine that would appeal to all members of the Federation, that is to say to both the seasoned philatelist and to the relative newcomer to the hobby. While I do believe that a reasonable degree of success has been achieved in the attempt to realise this aim, there are, perhaps not surprisingly, a number of detractors who are less than satisfied with the content of the journal. Some are of the opinion that the articles published to date are predominantly in the English language. The standard reply to that accusation is that the Board can only include material that is submitted to them for publication. Further complaints have arisen regarding the nature of the contents of the Journal. There are criticisms that there is too much emphasis on the technical aspects of the hobby, such fields as watermarks, printing varieties, perforation shifts and shades of colour while on the other side of the fence there are those who complain that there should be even more space allowed for research into such areas. It will surely never be possible to please "all of the people all of the time".

However, it is essential, I feel, for the Journal to acknowledge the changes that are taking place in the hobby. People not involved in organised philately are frequently quite surprised to hear, firstly, that it has become highly competitive and, secondly, that there are fairly strict rules when participating in a national or international exhibition. Over the years, the huge volume of material available has tended to discourage the 'whole-world' type of collection that would have been accumulated by our grandfathers in favour, rather, of specialised studies. These might concentrate on a single country or, more probably, a limited period in the history of that country. Typical of this type of study might be the *'Definitive King George VI Issues of Swaziland'* or the *'Chinese Treaty Ports 1864-1897'*. An even greater degree of specialisation would be evident under such titles as the *'Emergency Issues of Mafeking during the Anglo-Boer War'* or *'Plate XI of the Penny Black of Great Britain of 1840'*. These would all be classified as 'Traditional' exhibits and judged accordingly with points being awarded under such categories as 'Condition and Scarcity of Material', 'Completeness', 'Research' and 'Presentation'. Another well-established class is that of 'Postal History' where the emphasis is on the tracing of rates and routes through the medium of items of mail and the postal markings thereon. Other popular groups include 'Postal Stationery', 'Thematics', where the exhibit is based on such topics as *'The Olympic Games'* or *'Princess Diana'*, *'Aerophilately'* and even, in keeping with the times in which we are living, *'Astrophilately'*. I well remember that, at an international exhibition that I attended in Seoul, South Korea in 2002, a visiting Russian astronaut was in great demand as he was prepared to add his signature to covers that had been carried into space. Two further categories that have been added comparatively recently are those of 'Social Philately' and the 'Open Class'. One definition of the former states that *"Social Philately is … Social History told by way of mail and ephemera"* while the Open Class is similar to 'Thematics' but encourages a equal use of non-philatelic material such as photographs, press cuttings, menus, time-tables, medals and the like.

This preamble serves to introduce the cover with which I have illustrated this article. It is, I believe, interesting from a philatelic as well as from a social point of view. It is, in fact, an example of a postal stationery envelope of Nicaragua bearing an imprinted 5-cent blue stamp. This would have been sufficient for local delivery but, as the letter was addressed to Bremen in Germany, it appears that a further ten cents worth of postage was required. This was added by means of a pair of 1-peso stamps that had been surcharged *'5 cent. 1901'* in order to overcome a temporary shortage of the that value. In passing, it should be mentioned that, whenever it is deemed necessary to fulfil a need for stamps of a certain value by surcharging, it is usually the practice to decrease the face value of the original stamp. If, for instance, a 5-cent stamp had been surcharged '1-peso' (100 cents), there could have been a considerable temptation for unscrupulous speculators to acquire a quantity of the lower value, apply a forged surcharge and then to sell them at the inflated price to an unsuspecting public. That, though, is by the by. In this particular case it will be seen that the right-hand stamp alone has three wavy lines below the revised denomination. This variety is similar to one that is listed in the catalogues and although probably not worth significantly more than the 'normal' version, it is perhaps somewhat less than common to find both of them used as a pair on cover. As can be seen, the letter was dispatched from the town of Granada on 30 December 1901 and postmarks on the back of the cover tell us that it travelled via Paris (27 January) and arrived in Bremen on 28 January 1902. Both the pre-printed stamp and the pair of adhesives feature the Momotombo volcano, a choice of design that proved to have had a profoundly adverse effect on the future of the country.

At the turn of the century, discussions were under way in the United States regarding the possibility of linking the Caribbean and the Pacific Ocean by means of a canal cutting across Central America. Both Nicaragua and Panama had been mooted as possible locations for such an undertaking and although Nicaragua is considerably wider than Panama, the existence of a extensive system of lakes in the heart of the country might well have had a beneficial effect on the length of canals required to link the east and west coasts. However, it is believed that a lobby that favoured the choice of Panama submitted copies of the then current postage stamps of Nicaragua to Congress with the suggestion that a country that was home to active volcanoes was really not a suitable site for the project. If this is a true story, it does tell of a ruse that certainly seems to have proved effective and has provided us with an intriguing slice of social history.



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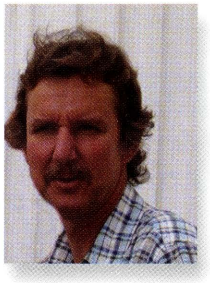
Deel 11

VERSIERDE POSKANTORE

Heidelberg

deur Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein



DECORATED POST OFFICES Part ELEVEN - HEIDELBERG, W. Cape

Heidelberg originated as a trading station and was named after the town in Germany. During the first War of Independence it was the capital of the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek. The post office was built in 1940 on the corner of HF Verwoerd and Ueckermann streets. It is a large building with inner court. It is not of a single architectural style, but bears influences of the American, Frank Lloyd Wright, Cape Dutch and Art Deco. The influence of Wright is the wide roof overhang, grouped windows and arched vehicle entrances with spandrels and plaster reliefs. The Cape Dutch influence lies in the wood and glass doors with beautiful wood carving and door locks. The Art Deco influence is obvious in the horizontal plaster band across the building, which the Americans refer to as *Streamlining*. The pilasters framing the main entrances are abstract, making it impossible to relate to Greek, Roman or Italian influence. The tiled panel was painted by Rosa S. Hope, who was born in Manchester, England, and later became a senior lecturer at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. The scene is in Delft blue and depicts an apple orchard. In the background is a large farm house and in the foreground a smaller cottage, both in the Cape Dutch style. It might be characteristic of the seventeenth or eighteenth century Cape, but not of the Heidelberg area. Perhaps it was chosen to complement the Cape Dutch style doors of the building.

Heidelberg het sy begin in 1862 as handelstasie van Heinrich Julius Ueckemann. 'n Dorpie het daaromheen ontwikkel wat na die geboorteplek van Ueckermann in Duitsland vernoem is. Gedurende die eerste Vryheidsoorlog was dit die hoofstad van die Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek vanaf 1880 tot 1883. Na die ontdekking van Goud op die Witwatersrand in 1885 was dit die tuiste van die Mynkommissie.



Die poskantoor is gebou op die Suidoostelike hoek van HF Verword en Ueckemann strate in 1940. Die hoofingang was in Ueckemannstraat. Die gebou is van 'n heel ander styl as die ander wat tot dusver in die reeks bespreek is, met allerlei versierings wat verdien om bespreek te word.

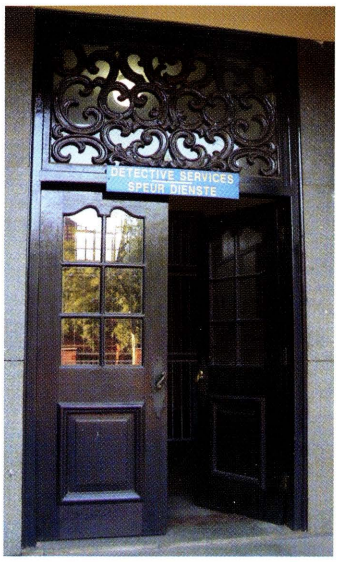
Dit is 'n groot reghoekige dubbel-verdiepinggebou met 'n binnehof wat met geelbruin en donkerbruin sierstene afgewerk is. Eenvoudig en prakties as wat die gebou is, is daar 'n paar interessante invloede sigbaar in die detailering, spesifiek die invloed van die Amerikaner, Frank Lloyd Wright, 'n Kaaps-Hollandse invloed en ook Art Deco. Dit is dus 'n hibriede aard van ontwerp en onmoontlik onder een stylbenaming te klassifiseer.

Frank L. Wright se invloed is die dak wat ver oorhang en die vensters wat daaronder in 'n band saam groepeer is. Dit was ook een van sy sogenaamde Prairie-huise se kenmerke. Aan die Westekant is daar twee boogingange vir motors wat met houtdeure gesluit word en wat lei na 'n binnehof. Die invul-driehoek (Eng. spandrel) bo elke boog is versier met gepleisterde reliefwerk van blare net soos wat Wright dit gedoen het.

Die Kaaps-Hollandse invloede is nie ooglopende gewels en stoepe nie, maar die hout-en-glas deure van die hoofingange, waarvan die boligte pragtige houtsneewerk het. Die deure self se glaspanele volg die patroon van Stellenberg se skerm, baie soortgelyk aan die boligte wat te sien is by Rust-en Vreugde in Kaapstad. Die slotstel op die deure is ook 'n Kaaps-Hollandse namaaksel wat redelik algemeen aan die ou Kaap gebruik is, en waarvan oorspronklikes te sien is aan die Koopmans de Wet Huis en Nederburg Huis. Nog 'n element wat oorgeneem is uit die ou Kaap, is te sien bokant die drie groot ingange. Die versierde profiellyswerk op die lateie bo-oor die openinge bevat gepleisterde skilde omring met vrugte en blare (Eng. cartouche) en die jaartal is daarop aangebring. Dit kan vergelyk word met die versierings bokant die De Katbalkon in die kasteel of die pleisterwerk op die Burgerwaghuis in Kaapstad.

Die Art Deco beweging het tussen die twee Wêreldoorloë sy hoogtepunt in Suid-Afrika bereik. Aanvanklik het dit swaar en massief probeer oorkom met klem op die vertikale, maar later was horisontale ook beklemtoon. Hierdie horisontale laaste faseword deur die Amerikaners verwys as *Streamlining*. Aan hierdie poskantoor is daar 'n flou verwysing na *Streamlining* met die pleisterband wat horisontaal oor die hele fasade sny. Dit is ook tipies dat die baksteenwerk die hoek sny en dat daar nie 'n stut op die hoek is nie, want die bouers en ontwerpers wou destyds graag wys dat hulle betonwerk bemeester het en dat 'n hoekkolom outyds sou wees. Die strak plat pilare (pilasters) weerskante van die hoofingange is abstrak gemaak, sodanig dat dit onmoontlik is om te sê of dit Grieks, Romeins of Italiaans is. Die pilasters van graniet het op 'n Art Deco manier sonder kapitele (versierde bo-kante van kolomme) of voetstukke oorgebly en is hier net 'n oppervlakkige muurdetail.





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Die gebou is in 3 seksies, waarvan die hoekseksie die poskantoor was. Tans word dit deur die Departement Binnelandse Sake beset, en die res deur die SA Poliesidiens. Die teëlpaneel is in die sy-ingang in HF Verwoerdstraat aangebring. Dit is in 1941 geskilder deur Rosa S. Hope, gebore in Manchester, Engeland, en later 'n senior lektor by die Universiteit van Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Die toneel is in Delft blou en wys 'n appelboerdery. In die agtergrond is die groot plaashuis en in die voorgrond 'n kleiner kothuis, beide in die Kaaps-Hollandse boustyl. Links is 'n boord met jong boompies wat deur werkers gesnoei word en regs is 'n gevestigde appelboord met bome wat so groot is dat 'n leer benodig word om appels te oes. Volgens die kleredrag en implemente dui dit op die agtiende of vroeë negentiende eeu. Die toneel is nie verteenwoordigend van die Heidelberg omgewing nie en hoort eerder tuis in die Wes Kaap. Die argitektoniese style wat na die stigting van Heidelberg gewild was, was anders as Kaaps-Hollands, en daar was ook nooit groot vrugteboerderye in die omgewing nie, allermins appelboorde. Hierdie toneel is moontlik gekies om by die Kaaps-Hollandse styl van die deure van die gebou te pas.

Bedankings:

Kobus du Preez, Afdeling Argitektuur vir die argitektoniese beskrywings en Zane Wilsnach vir redigering van fotos.





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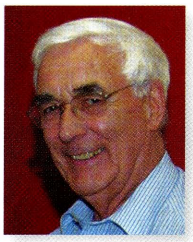
Brassed Off

by Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society



Musical instruments fall into one of three groups: bangers, blowers or scrapers, or more elegantly, percussion, wind and strings. Brass instruments, principally trumpets, horns and trombones are clearly wind instruments, or aerophones, a grouping they share with woodwinds such as oboes, clarinets, bassoons and saxophones. The difference is that woodwinds use a single or double reed to excite vibrations in an air column, whereas brass instruments or labrosones, use the vibrations of the player's lips in a cup or funnel shaped mouthpiece.

The Chromatic Scale

Almost any tube can act as a 'natural horn'. Blowing with pursed lips can produce one note, or perhaps two. The easy one to produce, the fundamental, depends on the length of the tube, and the others, the harmonics, on the degree of the compression of the lips. Unfortunately, this arrangement, (the Harmonic Series) leaves gaps in the chromatic scale of notes which were initially filled by adding 'crooks' or 'shanks' (short lengths of tube), to alter the length of the basic tube, and thus the key. Clearly this was inconvenient when playing, and not conducive to rapid pieces, although Mozart in *Don Giovanni* asked for 35 changes of crooks!

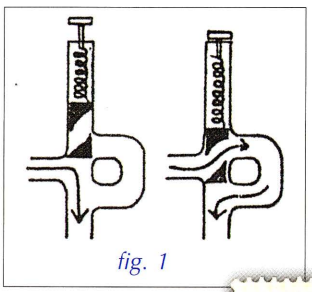


fig. 1

The problem of a continuous scale was only solved in 1815 with the invention by Blümhel and Stölzel, of the piston valve, fig.1. This allowed instantaneous changes of tube length at will, and the introduction of three valves into the natural trumpet allowed a full chromatic scale to be played. In consequence brass instruments, barring the trombone and the natural horn, are characterized by the presence of three, and occasionally, four valves.

The mouthpiece is also critical in determining the tone of the note. Most are cup shaped; with increasing size producing deeper, more noble tones, as heard in the progression from trumpet to tuba. The funnel mouthpiece of a French horn produces a more mellow and rounded tone which contrasts with the brilliance of a trumpet.

Historically, modern brass instruments have evolved from this humble beginning along one of two routes: either from a straight tube, or a curved one, with each route giving rise to a different family of instruments.



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4

Straight Horns

The earliest instruments were probably hollow reeds which later inspired straight horns such as have been recovered from Egyptian tombs. The Roman latuus and tuba, and the medieval French buisine were essentially straight tubes with flared ends, as is the local Vuvuzela, fig 2. Unfortunately the range of these natural horns is limited to the Harmonic Series, that is, the fundamental and its harmonics. The frequent appearance of these horns in religious paintings has led to them being called 'angel trumpets', fig 3. (A cool angel was seen, however, in 2011 playing a modern valve trumpet, fig 4).

Specialised rural versions of straight horns can be found in the mountains of Europe in the form of the alphorn, fig 5, and in Asia as the Buddhist temple horn, fig 6. Both are three to four metres long but have a very poor range limited to the lower registers, and by the lung power of the player.



fig. 5

The 15th Century saw the tube of the angel trumpet folded into the natural trumpet, fig 7, which allowed crooks to be inserted to adjust the length of the tube and hence the key. In the 19th Century the invention of the piston valve allowed the natural trumpet to evolve into the valved trumpet we know today, with three valves, fig 8. Generally keyed in B flat and occasionally A, it has a rotary valve to facilitate key changes.

The other significant instrument derived from the straight tube is the trombone, fig 9, which evolved via the medieval sackbut. A U-shaped slide, manipulated by the player, allows continuous variation of the tube length, and thus a full chromatic scale. Keying is normally in B flat although instruments are available in a number of other keys. Valve trombones with three valves similar to the trumpet allow rapid pieces to be played where wide slide movements would be difficult if not impossible.



fig. 6



fig. 7

Curved Horns

Animal tusks and horns have either been used as, or given their shape to, horns for hunting, military communication and herding.



fig. 10



fig. 8



fig. 9



fig. 11

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fig. 12



fig. 13



fig. 14

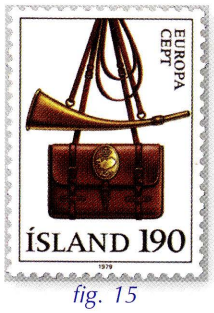

fig. 15



fig. 16

The Scandinavian lur, was styled in bronze from a mammoth tusk, and the oliphant, a Byzantine military and ceremonial horn was made from an elephant tusk. Shepherds' horns and hunting horns made from ramshorns were common with hunters, herders, and military regiments, figs 10 and 11.

From this simple shape have evolved three families of instruments: the bugle, the French horn and the post horn.

The bugle, fig 12, has a simple tube of cylindrical bore coiled to a convenient, compact shape. It is much favoured by Scout groups and the military for communicating orders via simple sets of phrases. Native predecessors, used to call tribes to assembly or war, were made from kudu or sable horns (*phalaphala*), fig. 13.

The French horn is a more sophisticated descendant. The combination of conical bore, and a funnel shaped mouth piece gives this orchestral instrument a mellow, rounded sound. Appearing initially as a coiled variety of the natural horn, it was later fitted with valves and is now available in two keys, either B flat or F, fig 14. Like the trumpet, instruments in other keys are available.

The post horn has evolved in several directions. In some regions an almost straight horn was adopted, fig 15, but others retained the original crescent shape of the animal horn, fig 16. This evolved further via the circular form of the hunting horn, the *cor de chasse*, fig 17, into its present format. Reduced from an instrument of 700mm diameter used when hunting to a more manageable 150mm, it became an essential part of the equipment used by postilions, fig 18. These gentlemen were a critical part of early postal systems as they carried mail either on horseback or on foot. The horn was used to announce their arrival in a village or town, and in extremes to summon help. It was their symbol of authority and its use by unauthorised persons was punishable in law.

In this smaller, coiled shape it has been adopted as the emblem of postal services worldwide and appears in many forms, both in facsimile and symbolic representation, fig 19.

The advent of the mail coach saw the demise of the postilion as a mail carrier but the role of the horn player was taken by the coach guard. The size became of less importance and the coach horn, in Britain, reverted to the shape of the angel trumpet, while the coiled shape was retained on the continent of Europe. On coaches, the horn was used as a communication medium to announce impending arrival and departure from staging points, to indicate ahead the number of fresh horses needed, to claim right of way on the road and to demand that turnpikes and city gates be opened to allow free passage of the mail.

A development of the post horn is a hybrid that has made good. The cornet, fig 20, has a bore which is part cylindrical (as the trumpet) and part conical (as the horn). This combination, matched with a cupped mouthpiece gives it a pleasing intermediate tonal quality, not as brilliant as the trumpet or quite as mellow as the horn.

For a while in the late 19th Century the cornet displaced the trumpet as the principal alto instrument in the orchestra although it has since lost this role. It is currently used as the alto instrument in brass and military bands where it plays alongside flügelhorns, saxhorns and trombones.

The flügelhorn, at one time called a valved bugle, was a natural, though somewhat contorted, development, fig 21, of the curved horn and was used in military bands into the 19th Century. Its contemporary descendent is a frequent instrument in modern brass bands, similar in appearance to, but slightly larger than, the cornet.

In the 1840s, Adolphe Sax of saxophone fame, developed a range of seven saxhorns, figs 22 and 23. Like the flügelhorn, these are valved instruments, with conical bores, cupped mouthpieces, keyed in B flat or A and capable of a full chromatic scale. Together they cover the range from alto to bass and now comprise much of the complement of modern brass and military bands. The instruments of the lowest register are variously known as tubas, bombardons, helicons or euphoniums. All are played with the bell pointing upwards.

In the 20th Century, modifications were made to the lowest register instrument, the helicon, to accommodate the requirements of marching and military bands. The sousaphone, fig 24, was made to the specification of John Phillip Sousa, the American bandmaster, fig 25, and featured a detachable bell.



fig. 17



fig. 19



fig. 18



fig. 20

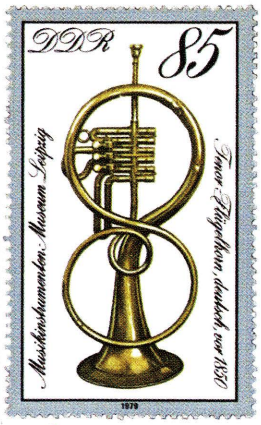

fig. 21



fig. 22



fig. 23



fig. 24

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fig. 25

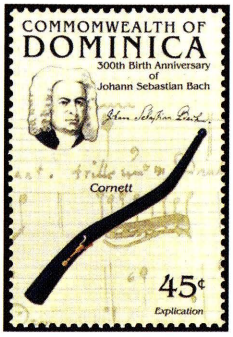

fig. 26

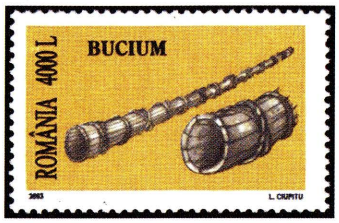

fig. 27



fig. 28

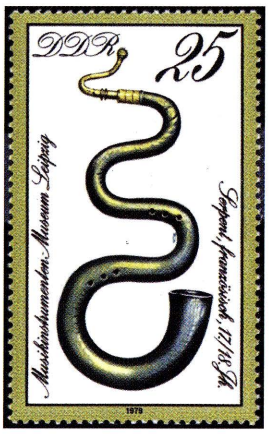

fig. 29

Materials

'Brass' is a generic term used to group instruments where the vibrations of the players' lips in a cupped or funnel mouthpiece are used to excite the resonant air column. Whilst most instruments in the western world *are* made of brass, many early instruments and particularly the more primitive types are of other materials.

The 17th Century European instruments like the *cornetto*, fig 26, or *cornetto diretto* were made of wood or ivory, and were either straight or curved with cupped mouthpieces.

The Swiss alphorn, fig 5, and the Rumanian bucium, fig 27, are constructed of wooden staves tightly bound together. The Latvian taure, fig 28, the Finnish nevertur and the Ukranian trambita are of birch or alder bark. Being natural horns, none of these is used for music, but for signaling or communication.

The serpent, fig 29, is of similar construction to the alphorn but covered in leather. Used extensively in the 19th Century in military bands and for church music its range was augmented by the addition of six finger holes. Native instruments from Africa and Asia are frequently made of brass or other local materials such as wood, ivory and animal horns (fig 13). Many have finger holes in lieu of valves, fig 30.

Uses of Brass Instruments

Orchestras

A full symphonic or philharmonic orchestra will have upwards of 12 brass instruments; a common distribution is three trumpets, three trombones, four horns and possibly one or two tubas. The actual number and their distribution will depend on the music being played as many composers specify the number and type of instruments required in order to achieve specific tonal effects.

Light Music

In early dance bands, the trumpet and trombone carried the melodic line, together with conventional woodwinds, but of recent time the saxophone plays a more prominent role. In traditional jazz ensembles trumpet or cornet, trombone and clarinet carry the melody with occasionally a brass bass to supplement or replace the usual string bass, fig 31. Brass instruments are popular with circus and other comedic performers, fig 32.

Brass Bands

In northern England and parts of western Europe, many villages, local communities, clubs, and commercial firms sponsor a dedicated brass band, figs 33 and 44. The make-up of instruments varies but is generally a blend of cornets, flügelhorns, saxhorns and trombones. In some instances a bass drum, cymbals or a clarinet are allowed. The Salvation Army world-wide makes generous use of brass bands to attract attention to its message and to invite congregation, fig 34.

Martial Music

Military bands are akin to brass bands in composition with the exception that more percussion in the form of side drums, xylophones and cymbals are used and clarinets, oboes and saxophones are not uncommon. The military band, whilst having sedentary ceremonial duties, is essentially a marching band with the function of creating a marching rhythm for troops on the move.

The ability to play whilst marching is a requirement of players in brass bands, and for military bands, players must also ride. Fig 35 shows a 30-strong Czech military band, ca.1908 with a complement of flügelhorns, saxhorns, trombones, helicons, Wagner tuba and French horns, plus a drum and clarinets.

Religious Ceremony

Many faiths use brass instruments in their ceremonies, either for their mellow tones or occasionally to stir and arouse their congregations, figs 36 and 37. Frequently the instruments used are traditional, i.e. rams, sable or kudu horns.

Secular Ceremony

Western ceremonial instruments are generally of the angel trumpet type, either valved or natural. Decoration is limited to the use of heraldic banners, fig 38. In Asian countries the instruments themselves are frequently highly decorated, fig 39.

Communication

Brass instruments, particularly the natural horn in various guises, have been used for centuries as a means of communication, either to summon people or to give orders or instructions. The use of alphorns, shepherds' horns and the like for controlling livestock has been mentioned; also the temple horns of Asia and the



fig. 33



fig. 30



fig. 31



fig. 32



fig. 34

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fig. 35



fig. 36



fig. 37

Middle East for summoning a congregation.

Bugles are used extensively in military applications for giving orders.

All these instruments have the limited range of the Harmonic Series and are restricted to the transmittal of instructions or messages by way of set series of notes.

Composers

Nearly all the major classical composers have, at some time or another, written music for brass instruments generally in the concerto format; with trumpet, French horn and trombone as the usual soloists. Some composers, like Handel and Wagner, have called on them for special effects and even had instruments designed or purpose-made to play in certain non-standard registers.



fig. 38



fig. 39



fig. 40

Instrumentalists

Regrettably, players of any instruments in classical music are poorly represented philatelically, with perhaps one exception, fig 40. On the lighter side, cornetists, trumpeters and trombonists of the classical jazz and swing eras such as Buddy Bolden, Louis Armstrong, King Oliver, Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey and others have been celebrated on stamps, figs 41,42 and 43.

There is no doubt that the musical world would be poorer for the lack of brass instruments. Their stirring sounds are integral to all types of music from the driving rhythm of a march and the urgent call of a reveille to the brilliant tones of a trumpet concerto or the gentle melody of a solo flügelhorn.



fig. 41

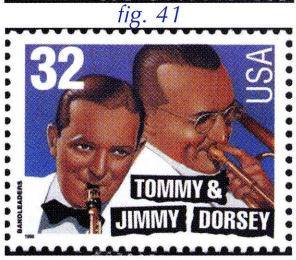

fig. 42

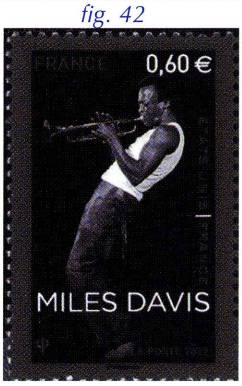

fig. 43



fig. 44a - Inside of Belgian booklet



fig. 44b - cover of booklet

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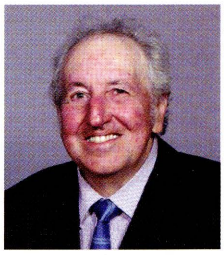

The 10c on 1/- Swaziland 1961 Decimal Surcharge

by Dr Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Introduction:

On 14 February 1961, Swaziland converted its currency from the Sterling system (Pounds, Shillings and Pence) to the Decimal system (Rands and Cents), at the rate of £1 equalling 2 Rand. Simultaneously a set of stamps surcharged on the 1956 definitive set with the new decimal values was issued. This new set consisted of 12 stamps; the 1/3d duty was not surcharged because of minimal stock. The surcharging was meant to be a temporary measure in order to see the Postal Authorities of Swaziland through till new decimal currency stamps became available.

The surcharging was done by the South African Government Printer in Pretoria. The ½c surcharged on the ½d stamp was the lowest value, with the highest value being the R2 overprinted on the £1 stamp.

Swaziland's conversion to the decimal currency was in line with the other users of the South African currency. The countries which followed South Africa, in addition to Swaziland, were Basutoland, Bechuanaland, South West Africa and Tristan da Cunha.

The 10c on 1/- :

The 10c value was surcharged on the 1/- (black and deep olive) stamp (Figure 1). The stamp depicted the Havelock Asbestos mine and depicting (as did the other stamps in this set) the head of Queen Elizabeth II. Due to a surcharging error, which occurred on one sheet, this stamp was to become one of the best known of the 1961 Decimal Surcharges.



Fig 1: 10c on 1/- surcharged stamp.

The entire available stock of 300 sheets of the 1/- stamp were surcharged with the 10c value. Each sheet consisted of sixty stamps resulting in 18,000 stamps being issued. The surcharge was in 18 point Tempo Bold. It is believed that a number of sheets had the surcharge applied 'low' as a result of the original inconsistent trim of the sheets. All the 10c surcharged stamps were sold out within days. There was only one surcharging printing on this value, unlike many of the other stamps in the Swaziland set of surcharges. The new decimal definitive 10c stamp which had been prepared in anticipation of a shortage of this value was already in stock on the day of decimalisation (Figure 2).

Franco Frescura, writing in the *1978 Robemark Catalogue Handbook* stated:

"The ½c and 10c surcharges were sold out on the day of issue and the inscribed decimal definitive ½c and 10c values were immediately put into use. Orders for surcharges, either complete sets or short sets up to 10c value, were distributed in many instances with the ½c and 10c values already replaced by the inscribed definitives."

The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue lists five of the new decimal definitive values as being available on 14 February 1961. They are the two as stated by Frescura (the ½c and 10c) as well as the 1c, 2½c and 12½c. The 1c and 2½c definitives were however not immediately released since there were plenty of surcharged stamps available but the 12½c definitive was required since that value was not surcharged.



Fig 2: The 10c definitive Swaziland stamp as issued and available on 14 February 1961.

The Error – Double Surcharge:

A sheet was discovered on which the 10c was surcharged twice. The doubling of the surcharge is of such a nature that there is absolutely no doubt, by the strength of the surcharges, the new position of it, as well as the consistency over the sheet, that the doubling was a result of the sheet passing through the surcharging printing press twice. The illustrations of the doubly surcharged stamps clearly depicts this. (Figures 3 and 4).

Frescura, in his above mentioned article, states:

"Major Error. A complete sheet of the 10c on 1/- was recorded early in the issue of decimal provisional surcharges with a very clear double surcharge. The second surcharge is just underneath the first one at the bottom left but it also impinges slightly on the stamp below. The sheet was acquired by a London dealer, David Field Ltd, who offered them on the market at £150 per stamp. Soon after that, one single item realised £155 at a sale."



Fig 3: Pair of the 10c on 1/- double overprint stamp [from the collection of the writer].

Of the decimal surcharge errors, this stamp is regarded as one of the most sought after. A virtue of the doubling is the clarity with which both surcharges appear. It is, especially when in a pair or a block, spectacular.

The reason for this double surcharge and the fact that it slipped through to find its way onto the market has been said to be as follows. When the Government Printer in Pretoria surcharged the stock of the various Swaziland stamps, they forwarded to Swaziland every sheet that they had used, whether for distribution or destruction purposes. It is believed that the



Fig 4: Block of four [left top marginal] of the 10c on 1s double overprint, (from the collection of Peter van der Molen).

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Fig 5: Pair of the 1c on 1d double overprint [from the collection of the writer].

sheets which were meant for sale were packed neatly within the parcel whereas those being returned for destruction were placed separately. This was in order that the number of sheets supplied and surcharged balanced; the reason being that stamps have a monetary value. The stamps with errors, e.g. trial printing, wrong setting etc., were to be destroyed. Somehow the sheet with the double surcharge did not suffer the fate of being destroyed and hence today forms part of the decimal surcharge errors.

Philatelic Interest:

A second Swaziland surcharge, namely the 1c on 1d was also discovered with the surcharge being double (Figure 5). Again, as with the 10c 'double', the complete sheet with this error reached London where it was split. With respect to the doubling effect, the coincidence is that both Swaziland stamps, namely the 10c and the 1c surcharges, had definitive values ready for sale. Another coincidence is that both have the doubling effect exceptionally clear – as opposed to the sheet going through the overprinting press at virtually the same position. Of the other Swaziland major error, namely the inverted ½c surcharge on ½d (Figure 6) also stands out as the surcharge is the wrong way round. Here again, in a further coincidence, the ½c definitive stamp was also available on date of decimalisation.

These three Swaziland errors, each with a maximum of sixty stamps, had the entire sheets 'discovered' prior to any stamps having been sold, hence no used copies exist. Yet again, this being a further coincidence. The absence of further overprint types on these three values is explained by the fact that for the ½c and 10c surcharges the entire available stock was surcharged, while for the 1c surcharge the quantity surcharged was sufficient to cover demand until the 1c definitive was introduced.



Fig 6: ½c on ½d inverted overprint. [from the collection of the writer].

Conclusion:

The 10c on 1/- double surcharge is one of the rarest of the Swaziland surcharges. It is listed in the 2014 Stanley Gibbons catalogue, *Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps 1840-1970* at a value of £1,600 each. There can only be a maximum of sixty of this stamp in existence as there was only a single sheet. By the fact that David Field obtained and photographed the whole sheet, there can be no doubt that the whole sheet survived.

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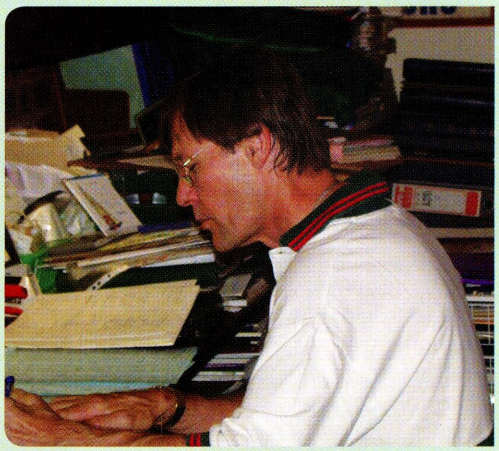

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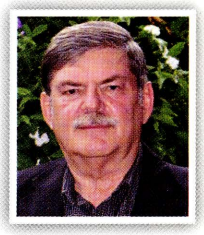

Early Official Correspondence in the 'Voortrekker Republics' and *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR)* from 1844 To 1875

by Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

In the Postal Act of the *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek* (ZAR) of 1859 the following instruction was given to 'De districts-postmeesters' (District postmasters) regarding the handling of official mail: *"Art. 12: De districts posmeesters zyn verplicht al de ontvangen ambts-brieven – gemerkt in dienst – met den meesten spoed aan het adres te doen bezorgen"*. In terms of this article district postmasters were obliged to forward all official mail annotated 'On Service' as fast as possible to the addressee. But long before the Postal Act of 1859 was instituted the system of official mail marked in Dutch 'In Dienst' was used by the Voortrekkers who settled in Natal, the Free State and across the Vaal River.

The requirement for a postal service dates from the time the first Voortrekkers entered the Transvaal, as there was a need to maintain contact with and between Government offices in Potchefstroom, Winburg and Pietermaritzburg. The transfer of official mail between 'state offices' in these early days was the responsibility of the field-cornets, who had the authority to enlist *burghers* (civilians) to assist if necessary.

To place the usage of these official letters into perspective one needs to understand the political circumstances that prevailed before the formation of the ZAR. Andries Pretorius led the last major trek out of the colony in 1838 and organised the Voortrekkers in Natal to defeat Dingane's army in what later became known as the Battle of Blood River. He later formed the *Republiek van Natalia* which was a short-lived Boer Republic, declared in March 1839 at Pietermaritzburg. Andries Pretorius established his farm on the site of the future Edendale. The Boer Republic was annexed by the British in 1843 and became part of the Cape Colony in 1844 (fig. 1).

The *Trekboers*, including the family of Paul Kruger, were migrating frontier farmers. They followed different routes to the north in what later became known as the Great Trek. However, divisions and squabbles among themselves nearly destroyed the trek. Even the leaders did not agree on their ultimate destination, apart from wanting to settle near an outlet to the sea.

By the beginning of the 1840s Hendrik Potgieter had established his personal authority over the Voortrekkers in the Potchefstroom-Winburg area. In 1844 Hendrik Potgieter - the Voortrekker leader who as 'senior commandant' claimed control of the Voortrekkers between Potchefstroom and Winburg - offered a treaty to the Griqua leader Adam Kok. In 1845 he moved to Ohrigstad in the bushveld of the northeastern Transvaal. Then Potgieter moved to Soutpansberg and the rest of his followers to Lydenburg. Three separate trekker communities now existed north of the Vaal – Potchefstroom, Lydenburg and Potgieter's people in the Soutpansberg (Fig. 2).

Voortrekker unity remained a problem but in 1860 the three groups reached consensus. At the Sand River Convention of 1852, Britain gave Transvaal Afrikaners the right to govern themselves. Without much preparation the ZAR was established in 1852, and two

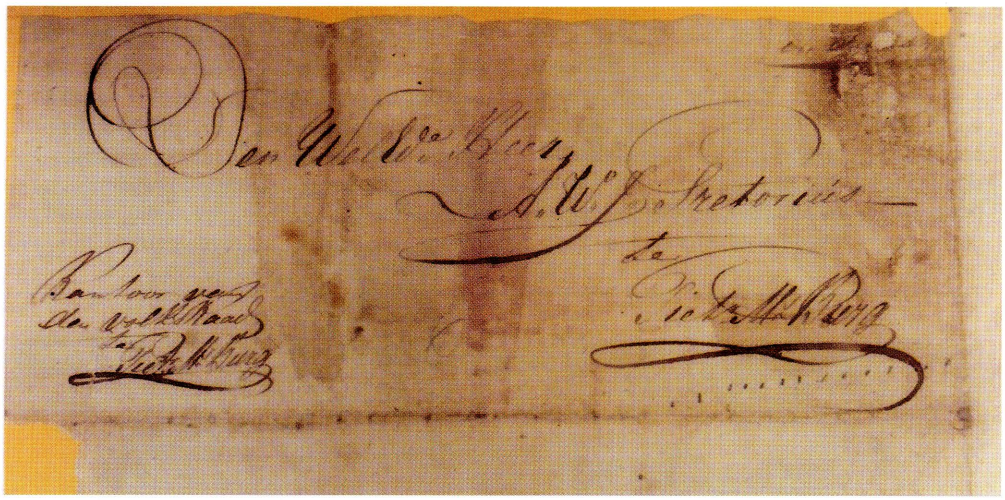

Fig. 1: Official letter addressed to AWJ Pretorius in Pietermaritzburg dated 24 August 1841 and annotated correctly 'Dienst' (top right) to indicate that it was an official letter. Pietermaritzburg was at that stage the seat of the short-lived Boer Republic of Natalia. Note the annotation in the bottom left corner: 'Kantoor van den Volksraad Pietermaritzburg'(Office of the 'People's Council') and top right corner: 'In Dienst'.

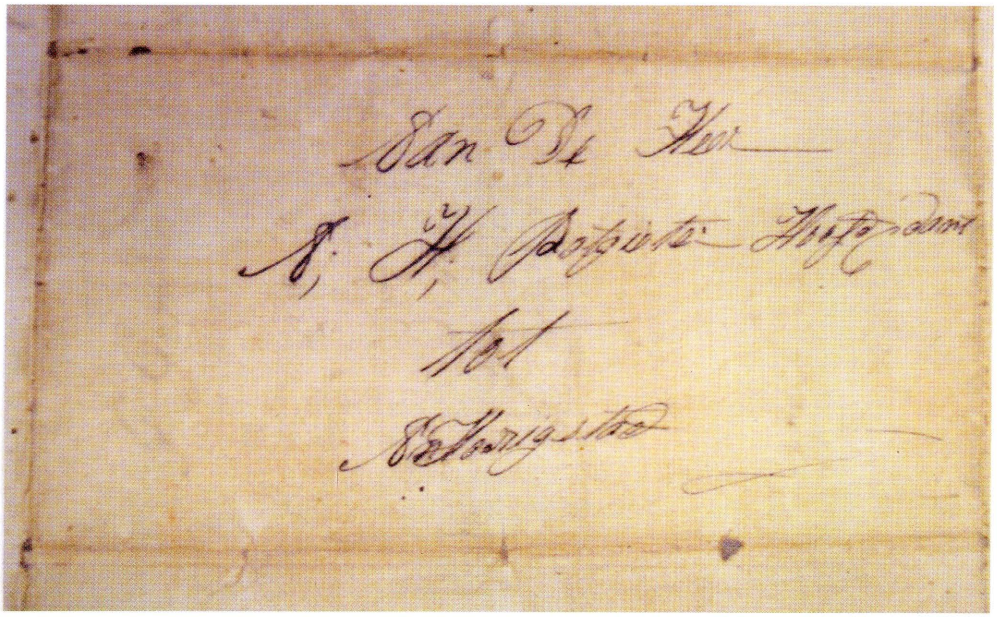

Fig. 2: Official letter addressed to AH Potgieter (Andries Hendrik) 'Hoofcmdt tot Ohrigstad' (Chief Commandant of Ohrigstad) dated 21 February 1846. Potgieter founded Ohrigstad in 1845 as a trading station.

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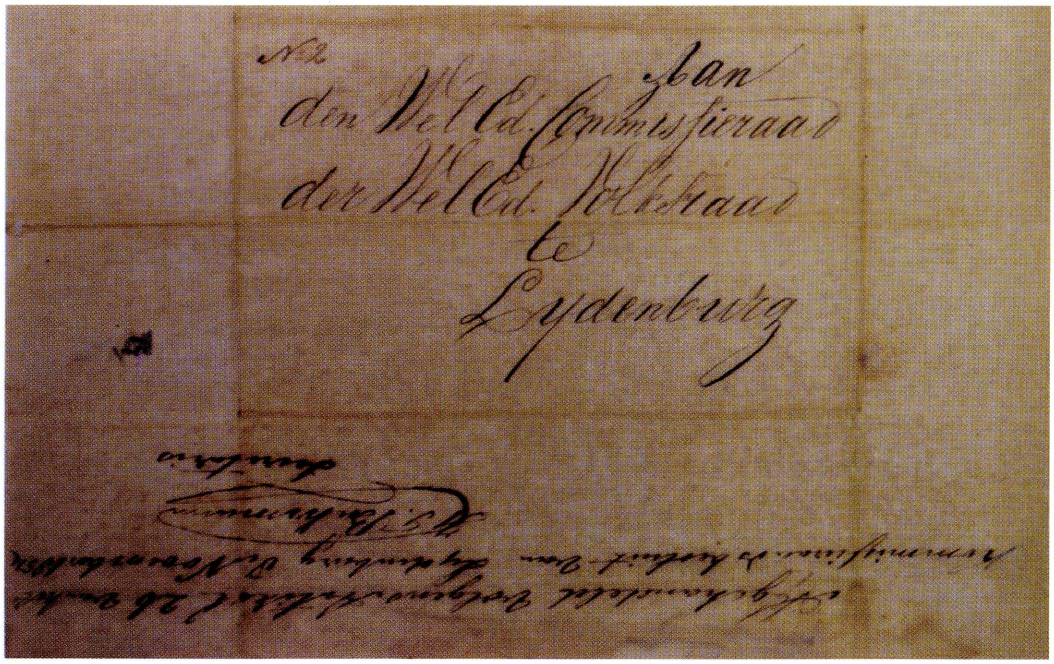

Fig. 3: Official letter addressed to the 'Volksraad' in Lydenburg from HT Bührmann dated 8 November 1854. Bührmann played an important role in the reunion of the Republic of Lydenburg and the ZAR or Transvaal Republic in 1860. From 1850 to 1880 he, was with short interruptions, a member of the Volksraad for Lydenburg.

years later the Republic of the Orange Free State. Marthinus Wessel Pretorius, son of Andries Pretorius (AWJ Pretorius) was elected first president of the ZAR in 1857 (fig. 7). When he was sworn in at Potchefstroom the national flag, the *Vierkleur*, was raised for the first time.

The aim of this article is to illustrate some official letters sent during the period from 1844 to 1875 between government officials linked to the formation of the ZAR or the Transvaal. In most cases these official letters were folded in the manner of an envelope and sealed with the words '*In Dienst*' or 'Dienst'.

The development of the postal system should be viewed in conjunction with the establishment of districts and 'field-cornetcies' in the ZAR.

After the Great Trek field-cornets fell under the jurisdiction of the Commandant-General and were primarily responsible for the safety of the community. As soon as a new area was settled, a *landdrost* (magistrate) was appointed. As these areas were vast, the *landdrost* was unable to maintain contact with all the people for whom he was responsible, and the field-cornets therefore also acted as liaison officers.

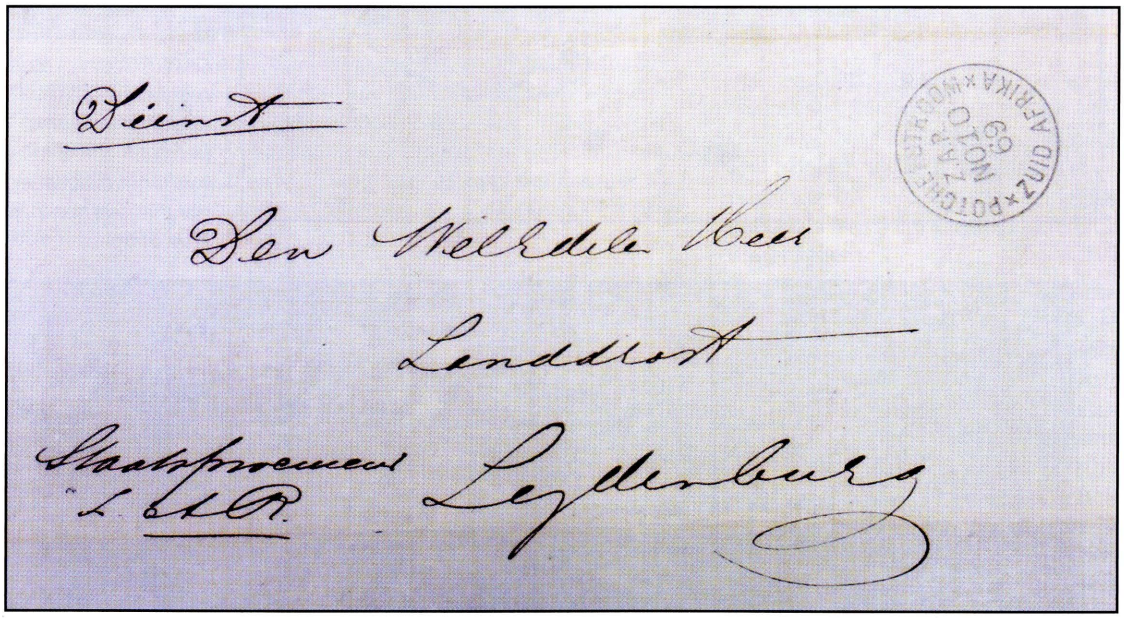

Fig. 4: Outer wrapper of an official letter from the 'Staatsprocureur ZAR' (State Attorney) in Potchefstroom to the 'Landdrost Lydenburg' (Magistrate). Note the very early usage of the Potchefstroom single-circle date stamp of 10 November 1869.

The first form of government in the Transvaal before 1840 was the council appointed by Hendrik Potgieter from the military officers then under the jurisdiction of the *Natal Volksraad* (House of Assembly). Because of the vastness of the country, a deputy-council was constituted for the Transvaal in 1841. After the annexation of Natal by the British, this council was transformed into a civil council for Potchefstroom in 1844, with the 'Thirty Three Articles' being regarded as a guideline and 'constitution'.

Article 24 read as follows:

*"Any person who transgresses the law by opening letters shall be liable to a fine of *Rijks 50: however should any suspicion of treason arise, such a suspicious letter should be sent to the first commandant, vice-commandant or field-cornet who shall [have] the authority to open the same. However, in such cases where no detriment to the company can be detected, he shall immediately forward the letters to its address".*

By 1850 settlements with government offices were in existence in Potchefstroom, Rustenburg, Lydenburg, Ohrigstad and Soutpansberg (Fig.3). In order to understand the functioning of the field-cornet as a type of 'postmaster' in these pioneering circumstances, the matter of *wyke* (wards) must be explained. As the new settlers spread throughout the districts, new wards were demarcated within the districts for the purpose of administration, effective control and safety. Where a field-cornet was no longer able to deal with the interest of a particular ward on account of its size, he applied for the demarcation of a new ward. Alternatively an assistant field-cornet was appointed. This system formed the basis of the commando system where

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a commandant responsible for a district was placed in control of the different field-cornets elected by *burghers* residing in that ward.

However, if a new ward was instituted, the *landdrost* had to draw the boundaries on a map. All farms had to be shown, and the field-cornet, who was elected, had to draw up a list of *burghers* farming in his ward. The handling of mail was thus facilitated, as the field-cornet usually knew all the inhabitants of the ward for which he was responsible. Responsibility for the mail was later assumed by postal agents. Their agencies were in many cases named after the farm on which they were located (Figs. 4 – 10).

The following official instructions for field-cornets regarding their responsibilities in terms of the postal system, were issued in 1858:

Art. 22: One of the most powerful tools to promote trade and civilisation is based on

Fig. 5: This letter was posted after the first ZAR stamps were placed on sale and is an example of unfranked official mail, sent by the Postmaster at Potchefstroom to the Cape Postmaster General. The sender annotated the cover to record that it was to be treated as registered mail, hence the oval 'REGISTERED CAPE TOWN CAPE COLONY' datestamp to record that it was received on 'AU 15 72'. From 1 March 1872 under the terms of the Postal Convention between the ZAR and the Cape Colony, mail exchanged between them was to be forwarded via the Diamond Fields rather than the Orange Free State.

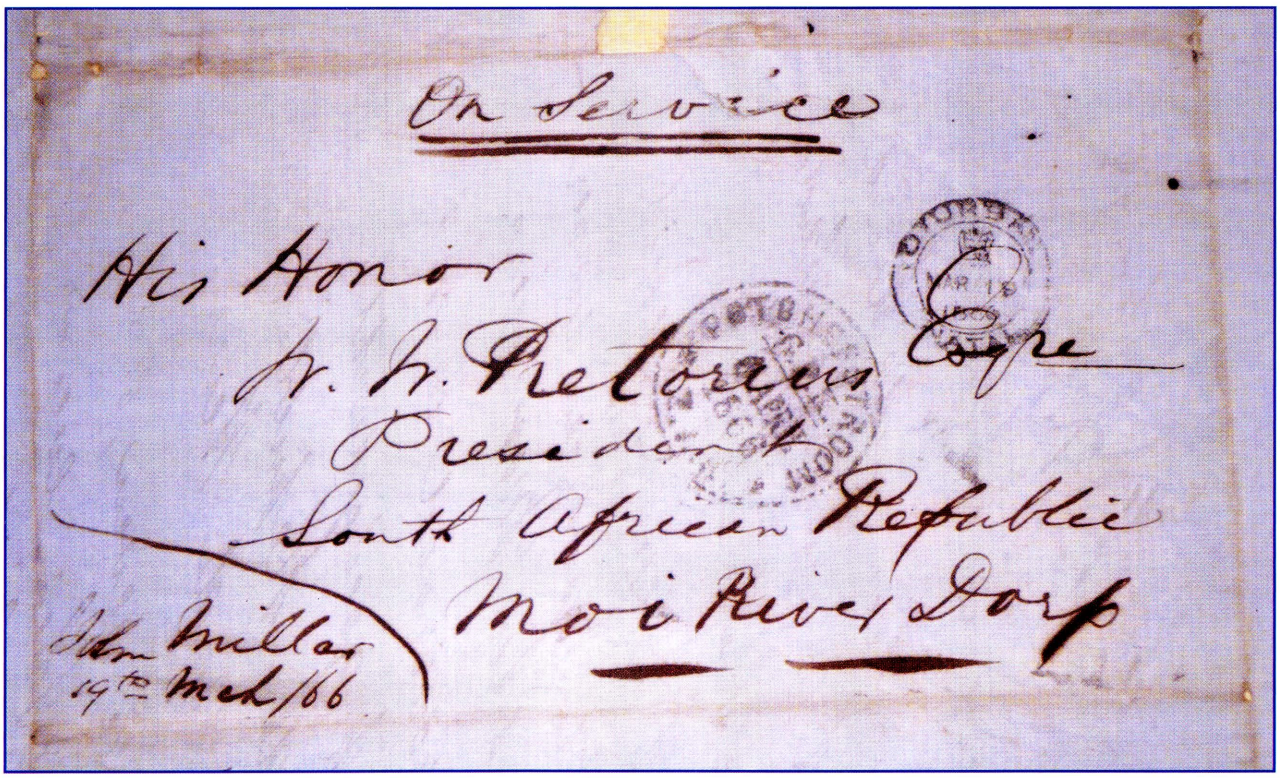

Fig. 6: An official letter 'On Service' addressed to MW Pretorius, President of the 'South African Republic' at 'Mooi River Dorp' (Potchefstroom) posted in Durban on 19 March 1866 with the Potchefstroom 30mm date stamp struck to record receipt on 6 April 1866.

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Fig. 7: An official letter sent from Rustenburg by Paul Kruger in his own handwriting and in his capacity as Commandant General of the ZAR to the State President of the ZAR. Early usage of the 24mm Rustenburg single-circle date stamp set at 24 July 1870. Note his signature in the left bottom corner. Paul Kruger was farming in the Rustenburg-district and was later elected as a field-cornet for one of the wards and later as Commandant for the Rustenburg-district. He was elected as Commandant General of the ZAR for the first time in April 1863 and as President of the ZAR in 1883.



Fig. 8: Official letter from 'HJ Badenhorst Veldcornet' (see annotation in left bottom corner) to the Public Prosecutor in 'PC Stroom' (Potchefstroom). The Coded Multi-ring obliterator no. 29 indicates that the letter was posted at Maquasi (Makwassie), with Potchefstroom 24mm arrival date stamp dated 14 June 1875.

the consistency of the postal system in the country and in this regard the Field Cornet should pay specific attention and should try and convince every person in his field cornetcy about the importance of a consistent and reliable postal system.

Art. 23: Every field cornet should see to it that all inhabitants of his field-cornetcy will forward parcels and letters addressed to civil servants in the quickest possible way and by deliberately refusing to do so can be fined 50 Rds – 500 Rds according to Article 133 of the Constitution.

The Post Office Law of the ZAR in 1859 made provision amongst others for the following:

Art. 1: The Post Office in the South African Republic is governed by a Postmaster-General (PMG) and various district postmasters.

Art 2: The PMG and district postmasters are appointed by the President, the district postmasters having been proposed by the PMG to the President.

Art 12: The district postmasters are obliged to forward all official letters received and marked 'In Dienst' as fast

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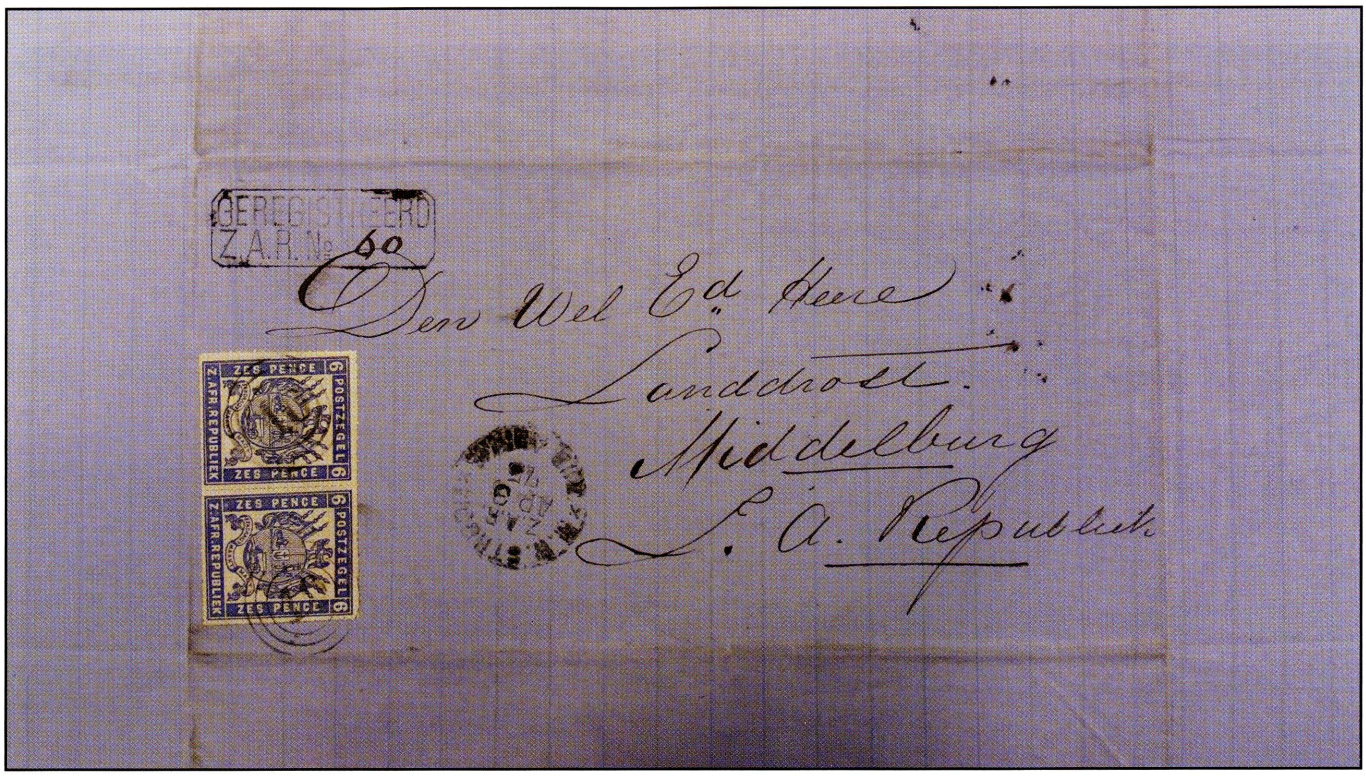

Fig. 9: Example of an official registered letter, franked with Otto-printed postage stamps, posted at M.W. Stroom on 3 April 1875 where the franking – receipting payment of the half-ounce inland letter rate plus the registration fee of 6d – was cancelled by the coded multi-ring obliterator no. 10 that was allocated to M.W. Stroom. The registered letter was addressed to the 'Landdrost Middelburg' (Magistrate). The reason for the registration was because cash was included with the letter.

as possible to the addressee.

Art. 13: All official letters marked *'met haast'* (urgent) must be immediately handed over to the field-cornet of the ward to which the letter was addressed who will then deliver the letter to the relevant person.

Art 20: The postmasters are to be paid Rds 133-2-4 annually, the PMG will receive Rds 300. The Postmaster-General also serves as the Postmaster of Potchefstroom.

Art. 23: All letters received by the post offices should have the name of the post office and the date of receipt mentioned clearly by postmasters. The Government will provide appropriate handstamps with the name Potchefstroom etc.

The Postal Act of 1869 provided for the following:

Art. 14: In the main town of every district and in any other place determined by the Postmaster-General with the approval of the State President there will be a post office...

Art. 31: As soon as the necessary date stamps have been issued to Postmasters, they shall be bound to mark each letter and parcel with the date of receipt and of despatch. Until such stamps have been made the Postmasters shall write the name of the office and date on the address of letters and parcels.



Fig. 10: Official registered letter posted at the postal agency of De Emigratie (Numeral 23) on 4 June 1875 to JJ Meintjies as the acting magistrate in Middelburg from HT Bührmann. At that stage Bührmann was located in the Ermelo-district where he played an important role in local affairs. The franking of two Otto 6d stamps is receipting payment of the 6d inland letter rate and the 6d registration fee. Note the annotation at the top: "Geregistreerd ten poskantore De Emigratie No. 23 onder No. 24" – Registered at the Post Office De Emigratie No. 23 falling under No. 24. Numeral 24 was allocated to Lake Chrissie (north of Ermelo) in 1874. The reason for the registration was the fact that Bührmann included £25 cash for farm tax for 17 farms.

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Art 54: Letters to and from a military expedition are post-free within the State.

Art. 56: Letters and parcels on Official Service, to be sent post-free, must have above the address the words *In Dienst* (On Service) and below the name of the official sending the same, together with the date of posting.

The following dates are of importance:

- **1848:** The first reference to a postal service occurs in Ohrigstad Volksraad minutes of 20 September 1848. During this meeting a motion was passed to appoint mail-bearers or postal couriers to distribute *Raadspapieren* (Official notices).
- **1850:** During a meeting of the of Lydenburg *Volksraad* on 27 May 1850 it was decided to instruct the landdrost of Potchefstroom (Lombardt) and Lydenburg (J de Clercq) in collaboration with the field-cornets to establish a postal system with the use of couriers. The first regular route would be from Lydenburg via Renosterpoort and Suikerbosrand (Heidelberg) to Potchefstroom.
- **1852:** On 15 June 1852 the Commandant General was instructed by the Volksraad to institute a post using Native couriers/runners from Potchefstroom via Rustenburg to Lydenburg.
- **1859:** The first postal law was approved by the Volksraad on 24 September 1859 with immediate effect. This law entrusted the administration and control of postal affairs to a Postmaster-General who also served as Postmaster of Potchefstroom.

It is clear that the original requirement for a postal service dates from the time the first Voortrekkers entered the Transvaal, as there was a need to maintain contact with and between government offices in Potchefstroom, Winburg and Pietermaritzburg. It is also clear that early official mail was correctly annotated and sent before the first postal law of the ZAR, which specifically made provision for official mail, was approved by the Volksraad on 24 September 1859.

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  TAB, Archive of the Landdros, Potchefstroom, 1859-1871.
- Gawie van der Walt RDPSA, Potchefstroom collection.

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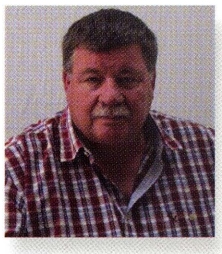


The Union of South Africa 1935 Silver Jubilee: Further Observations

by André du Plessis, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The Union of South Africa Silver Jubilee stamps are a feast for the collector interested in varieties and flaws on stamps. During my study of this issue, incorrect descriptions or inaccuracies of known flaws were observed in the literature. This article lists one such incorrect description.

Of all the stamps the 1d stamp is probably the most interesting, with the most flaws and varieties.

A very interesting design characteristic is the different number of lines seen within the left '1' and right '1' of the '1d' in the value tablet for all 3 printings. The left hand '1' has 13 lines inside the outline of the '1', whilst the right one has 14.

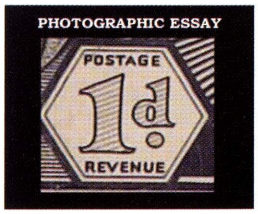
In the November/December 1966 issue of *The Springbok* (page 118), Tim Hall and R P Jonas described this flaw as only being present on the English ('SOUTH AFRICA') inscribed 1d stamp. The reality is that it appears on both language inscribed stamps. Furthermore, this phenomenon can be traced back to the original design.

The author has in his possession a copy of a photographic essay of the design prior to its approval by H.M. King George V. This photo essay is 'SOUTH AFRICA' inscribed and clearly shows the same difference in the number of lines.

Scans of the left and right value tablets are shown below.

In the case of 'SOUTH AFRICA' inscribed stamps, the Afrikaans inscription *'Posseel / Inkomste'* appears in the right value tablet and *vice versa* on the SUID-AFRIKA inscribed stamps. The extra line is identified by the blue arrow. A word of thanks to Neil Donen for his continuous advice and support.

Left Value Tablet

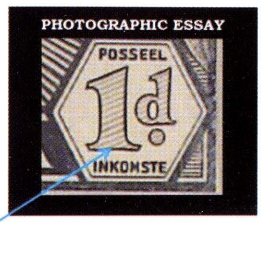






Right Value Tablet







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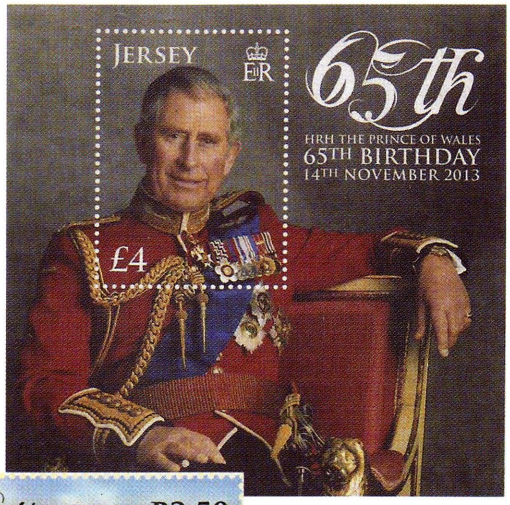
Thematically Yours

by **Rev Cassie Carstens**,
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging, Pretoria



Get Collecting - it's fun!

* **The African Lion** *(Panthera leo)* is classified as vulnerable to extinction by the International Union for Nature Conservation (IUNC) Redlist. It is the largest and the only social member of the extant cat (Felidae) family in Africa. The lion species is restricted to savannah habitats of sub-Saharan Africa excluding the dense and wet equatorial rain forests. It is found in East Africa, Southern Africa and small populations scattered in West and Central Africa. Around 1980 the African lion population was estimated as approximately 75,800; now it is approximately 32,000. Botswana carries the largest population of free ranging lions in Southern Africa, estimated at about 3,000.





* **Sturla Þórðarson** (1214-1284) was a chieftain, a poet and an historian in early Iceland. The main accounts of his life are to be found in the Saga of Icelanders which he himself composed. He was one of the most powerful men in Iceland and witnessed many of the dramatic events that he later described. Sturla wrote about the two main battles in the Age of the Sturlungar. His accounts of these events are amongst the most terrifying and dramatic composed in the 13th Century.



* Have you seen the brilliant film *The Cup*? **Flemington** is the oldest surviving metropolitan racecourse in Australia, with races run every year since 1840. The centrepiece of its spring racing carnival is the Melbourne Cup, Australia's premier race which was first run here in 1861. Flemington is also home to the Victoria Racing Club, which celebrated its 150th Anniversary in 2014.



* The first European sighting of the **Cocos (Keeling) Islands** is thought to have been in 1609 by Englishman Captain William Keeling of the East India Company. Soon after, the two atolls that comprise the islands started to appear on maps – French, Dutch and English over a period of 400 years from the 17th until the 20th Centuries.



* **The Canadian Museum for Human Rights** will guide visitors through the worst – and brightest – of stories about human rights. While that journey is likely to be powerful, difficult and haunting, the Museum aims to encourage reflection, dialogue and hope for a changed world. That goal is reflected in the architecture of the Winnipeg-based institution, where an innovative design literally leads visitors from darkness to light.



* The Island of Jersey has issued an attractive miniature sheet commemorating the 65th birthday of **Prince Charles** HRH the Prince of Wales, in full regalia. I would love to meet him and have a chat about the royal stamp collection; perhaps we can exchange a few items – and share a cup of tea with Camilla.



* **2015 is The Year of the Goat** in the Chinese Lunar Year, starting on 19 February. For people born in the year of the goat (1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991 and 2003), 2015 is considered an auspicious year. Goats are said to enjoy being in groups. They are honest, intimate, and can be easily moved by the misfortune of others.

* **Cardiovascular disease** is the main illness and cause of death in the western world. The Israel Heart Society aims to improve the life expectancy and quality of life of heart patients in Israel. Israeli cardiology has attained great achievements, placing Israel in the global forefront of clinical care quality, prevention and evolutionary research in the field of cardiovascular disease. At the same time, and in conjunction with the Israeli hi-tech industry, Israel has pioneered the development of unique and innovative medical devices, such as stents, defibrillators and heart valves.



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- AUSTRALIA: Stamp Bulletin: No 328, May-June 2014
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- Wikipedia

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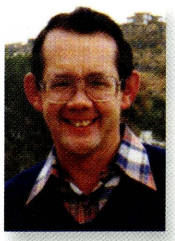


South African Post Office Names

by Errol van Greunen, Postmark and Postal History Society.

Over the years one thing that has been quite noticeable is that names of post offices have been changed, due to the fact that more attention has been paid to the original roots of the name. For example Mafeking is now Mafikeng and the list is endless.

In the Gatsrand (literally-'holey ridge') area of Transvaal, two post office names (Carletonville and Blyvooruitsig) have fascinated me, as I grew up in that area. The area was known to be Dolomitic and often sink holes appeared in the countryside causing chaos to roads in some instances and also even subsidences in housing areas.

Carletonville developed as the town that serviced the mines of the West Wits Line which saw the development of such mines as Blyvooruitzicht in 1937, West Driefontein in 1945, Doornfontein in 1947 and eventually Western Deep Levels in 1957.



A picture of the subsidence of 3 houses in the suburb Westdene of Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mine in 1963.

The Gold Mine Blyvooruitzicht had its own post office on the property and it was named Blyvooruitsig. The reason for this naming was that in 1922 in the Schweizer Renecke area, the post office Blyvooruitzicht was opened on 5 June and was closed again on 17 July 1922.

BLYVOORUITSIG BLYVOORUITZICHT	1922-1922 1945-CURR	TVL	(H/O SCHWEIZER RENEKE, WELVERDIEND, INDEPEND., CARLTONVILLE) *(Literally translated means "Joyous Prospect", named after the Gold Mining Co. of the same name, exactly halfway between Johannesburg and Potchefstroom.)* 1st Office: PA opened 5.6.1922; closed 17.7.1922 (i.e. only 6 weeks!) (Blyvooruitzicht). 2nd Office: PO opened 20.8.1945 (Blyvooruitsig); PO continuous since then - CURRENT.

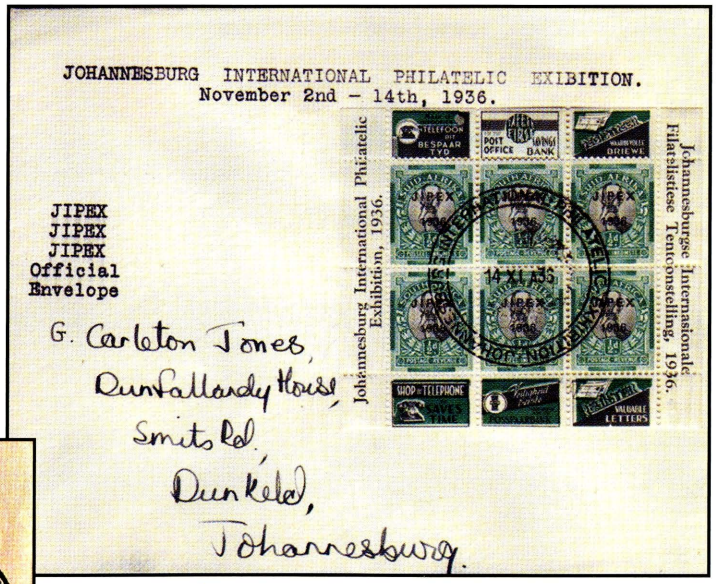
Extremely RARE

So with the establishment of the gold mine Blyvooruitzicht, a post office was opened on 20 August 1945 and named Blyvooruitsig. A lot of migrant labourers on the mine, whose English/Afrikaans was nearly non-existent took to using the address Bly486, in corresponding with their families.

Carletonville, named after Guy Carleton Jones, a Canadian geologist who founded the West Wits Line while working for Consolidated Goldfields, often has the hotel name imposed on its spelling, i.e. Carlton. In Putzel's Vol 1 of *'The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies'*, in the description of Blyvooruitsig, the controlling post office is noted as Carltonville.

I have seen a road sign with the incorrect spelling as well!

This must have been something that Guy Carleton Jones grew accustomed to over the years, when one looks at the two examples on the right.



Alternative spellings of Carleton - Carlton



The franking machine impression (indicium) shows the address of the mine along with the CDS Blyvooruitsig.



The CDS of Carletonville

Editorial note: The post office situated at the Western Deep Levels Mine was called WESTERN LEVELS.



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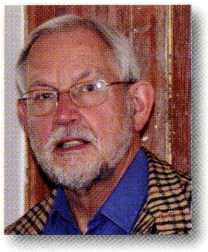


South African Stamp Issues - 2014 - part VI

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

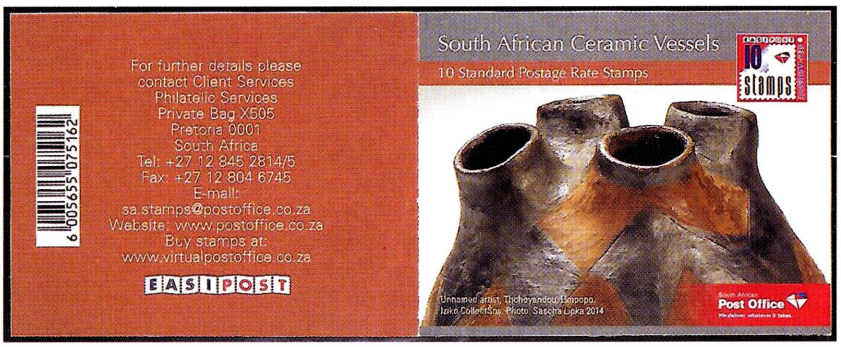
13 November 2014 – SOUTH AFRICAN CERAMIC VESSELS

Denominations: Standard Postage (R3.00) in booklets of ten different designs printed *se-tenant* in two rows of five.
Designs: From photographs by Sascha Lipka, of ceramics held in the collections of Iziko Museums of South Africa, Cape Town. These vessels highlight a selection from the pre-Colonial period through to contemporary times. (Note: on the stamps the source of the ceramics described at top left is shown as 'Iziko CollectŠns'.)
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 24 x 30mm.
Perforation: Die cut simulated of gauge 12.75 x 12.25 with a 6.5mm gutter between stamps three and four in each row. Top, bottom and left margins of booklet are imperforate.
Gum: Self adhesive.
*Phosphor:*3mm yellow bands in 'L' shape on left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Booklet size: 150 x 60mm, opened.
Quantity: 100,000 booklets.
Cylinder numbers: none.
Printing sheet size: 500 x 740mm comprising nine panes arranged in three rows of three, each pane comprising four booklets.
First Day Cover: No. 8.74 (with stamps from top row affixed) and 8.75 (with stamps of bottom row affixed) both of standard size (190 x 102mm) of which 2,000 of each were produced.
Canceller: No. 8.61 – 'ROGGEBAAI / 13.11.2014'.



'Iziko CollectŠns' an enlarged view





5 December 2014 – 4th UNI WORLD INDABA

UNI is the abbreviation for Union Network International founded in 2000, now known as UNI Global Union. It is an international union federation for skills and services, drawing together national and regional trade unions and represents more than 20 million workers from over 900 trade unions in 150 countries worldwide. The Fourth World Congress took place in Cape Town from 7 to 10 December 2014.

Denomination: R5.00.
Designer: Anande Nöthling, featuring the Indaba logo as well as the UNI Global Union logo.
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
*Stamp sizes:*29 x 38mm incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 75mm.
Perforation: Gauge 13, extending to left margin of sheet.
Gum: PVA.
Paper: Phosphor coated.
Quantity: 20,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: none.
Printing sheet size: 475 x 595mm comprising 15 miniature sheets arranged in five rows of three.
First Day Cover: None. It was intended to issue Souvenir Folder SF8.8 containing an example of this miniature sheet. This is illustrated in *Setempe* but has been withdrawn.
Canceller: Used on Cancelled To Order examples, No. 8.62 – '4TH UNI WORLD INDABA / SOUTH AFRICA · 5.12.2014 · CAPE TOWN'.



Acknowledgement:
The above information was collated from SETEMPE Vol 19 No 3, dated September-December 2014, with additional data from Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, together with personal observations.

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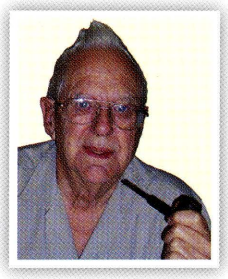
AN UNUSUAL STAMP PRINTING

by M. J. H. Tonking, S A Stamp Study Circle.



On 3 March 1971 the issue of the second distribution of the third issue of the 10c definitive value took place, which was printed on Harrison new glossy paper, having the RSA tête-bêche watermark, facing left and right. The same interior cylinder 254 and exterior cylinder 253 as originally used for the first 10c issue in June 1968 were again utilised. The 3mm phosphor bands were applied by cylinder G6. Printed on the Goebels 840 Press, the five figure black sheet numbers Type II were printed on the 'A' pane below stamps 1 and 2. The sheets were externally perforated 14 x 13.75 by the Grover two row small hole appliance. Printing records show that by December 1971, 127,200 sheets against Job Number 56295.38 and 15,100 sheets against Job Number 65518.70 had been delivered.

Now we come to the unusual printing. For some unknown reason, on 10 March 1971 a very small third distribution was made using the same printing cylinders. However, in this case the stamps were printed on Harrison old matt narrow paper having the same watermark. Since this paper was 190mm wide, it was only possible to print a single 'A' pane of 100 stamps (5 rows x 20). It was reported that there was little of the narrow paper in stock and thus very few sheets were printed. The numbers are unknown and were included in the numbers of sheets recorded above. In fact, most unusually, these sheets were not issued separately but just included with the second distribution sheets. The use of the narrow paper gave rise to another problem concerning the perforation. In order for the Grover perforator to handle the narrow paper, it was necessary to move the pegs for the perforation register punch holes, which had to be brought closer together and for the first time it was necessary to make punch holes in both the top and bottom of the sheet, above and below stamps 13 and 14.

Identification of this very small printing may be made by reference to the punch holes and the sheet numbers, which were reported to be between 03515 and 04303 on about 100 sheets seen.

It is indeed a complete mystery as to what prompted the Government Printer to go to all the trouble of using narrow paper to print such a small number of sheets, instead of just printing more of the second distribution to complete the order.

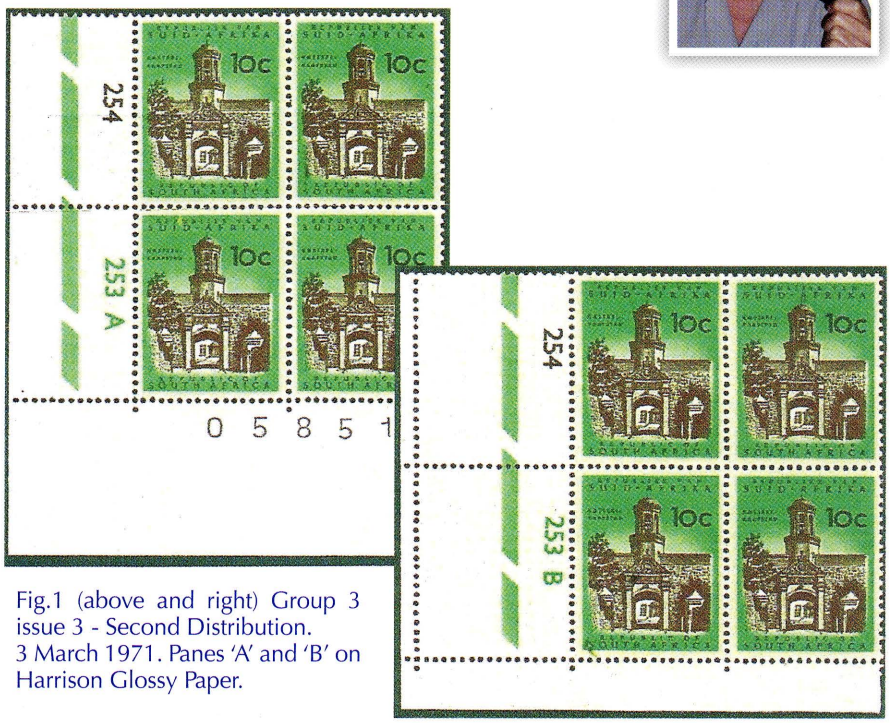
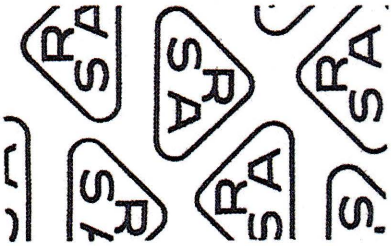


Fig.1 (above and right) Group 3 issue 3 - Second Distribution. 3 March 1971. Panes 'A' and 'B' on Harrison Glossy Paper.



Fig.2 Group 3 issue 3 - Third Distribution - 10 March 1971. Pane 'A' on Harrison Matt Narrow Paper. Punch holes above and below stamps 13 and 14 sheet number in correct range.



Tête-bêche watermarks facing left and right (The SA Philatelist June 2006).



Fig.3 Group 3 issue 3 - Third Distribution - 10 March 1971. Pane 'A' with sheet number in correct range.

Editorial note: This was first recorded by the SASSC, and published in RSA handbook; worth a reminder though.

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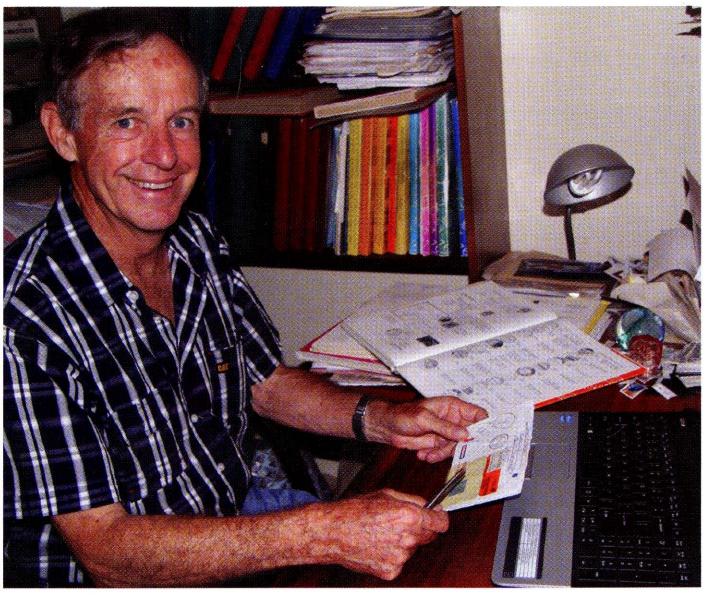
Toegewyde Alex sorg dat stempeldata bybly

Die lewende stempelargief is aan een man te danke

Describes the monumental contribution being made to philately by Alex Visser in recording Southern Africa postmarks, now exceeding 100,000 'different', used by more than 10,000 offices. Most weeks there are up to 50 new discoveries, where the validation process is time consuming. All items are recorded in an electronic database and a hardcopy archive, comprising more than 50,000 covers and 40 stockbooks of stamps and 'on-piece', together with details of the office where used. Alex's interest was awoken by Putzel's first postmark volume, published in 1986, when he assisted Putzel with subsequent volumes and then produced the final three volumes himself.



Alex Visser aan die werk in sy 'stempelkantoor'. Foto : Trippie Visser

Hoeveel handposstempels is daar in Suid-Afrika ? Ruim meer as 100,000 verskillende stempels is deur die jare gebruik by meer as 10,000 poskantore, sê Alex Visser, pasvorige president van die Filateliese Federasie van Suid-Afrika.

Alex weet, want hy is die vrywillige kurator van die land se grootste stempelversameling en –argief – 'n selfopgelegde liefdestaak wat hom elke week ure lank besig hou.

Want elke week word 40 tot 50 'nuwe' handstempels aangeteken en by die elektroniese argief op rekord geplaas. Dit is nadat tot 'n duisend stempels deurgekyk, ondersoek en vergelyk is.

Medewerkers in verskillende dele van die land en wêreld meld handstempels aan, stuur voorbeelde of illustrasies, of rig navrae. Party is 'ou' stempels wat vir die eerste keer aan die lig kom. Elke week is daar ook 'n vet possak met koeverte wat aan die Universiteit van Pretoria gerig was. Party is nuwe eietydse stempels wat selfs enkele dae tevore in gebruik geneem is.

Nou huisves Alex meer as 50,000 koeverte met duidelik leesbare stempels en 40 insteekalbums propvol stempels op los seëls en briefstukke (koevertknipsels) wat stempels vertoon.

Saam met die stempels gaan inligting oor die poskantore, opening, status, sluiting en so meer.

Werk van jare

Hierdie wonderlike inligtingsbron het oor 30 jaar tot stand gekom en is in opvolging van die baanbrekerswerk van Ralph Putzel RDPSA van Kaapstad.

Hoe het dit alles gebeur ?

"Dit is maar 'n versamelaar se filateliese lewensverloop," vertel Alex. "Eers, as jongeling, maak jy alles bymekaar en spog oor hoeveel seëls jy het.

"Dan kom jy tot 'n besef dat jy nie alles kan versamel nie, dus fokus jy op 'n land of tema. Veral met 'n landsversameling kom jy later by die punt dat jy alles het wat jy kan bekostig.

"Nou probeer jy spesialiseer, soos in 'n bepaalde reeks seëls, of jy kyk na posgeskiedenis – posstukke wat getuienis is van geskiedenis."

Toe Putzel se eerste ensiklopedie in 1986 verskyn het wat die poskantore van Suid-Afrika lys en beskryf – *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies A-E* – het Alex dit geweldig interessant gevind. Hy het ook foute in die boek raakgesien.

"Ek het vir Putzel genader en aangebied om te help met die redigering van die volgende volume. So het 'n goeie samewerking begin. Met 'n rekenaarpakket wat ek ontwikkel het, kon data gekorreleer en reggemaak word, en natuurlik het ek self in die poskantore en agentskappe se stempels begin belang stel."

Ná die verskyning van die vier dele van die ensiklopedie het Putzel hom toegespits op die bywerk van Friedenheim se standaardwerk oor Suidwes-Afrika (waarvan Putzel reeds in 1980 'n Engelse vertaling uitgegee het), en Alex het hom hiermee bygestaan.

Intussen het die groot visuele rekord van Suid-Afrikaanse handstempels gestalte begin kry – altesaam 10 boekdele, elk met sowat 350 bladsye, met wat tussenpose van ongeveer 'n jaar gepubliseer is.

Al die werk gaan oor na Alex

Putzel se gesondheid het verswak en Alex is genoop om Deel 7 van die stempelreeks tydens die produksieproses oor te neem. Daarna het hy self die laaste drie dele gepubliseer, almal pragboeke. Volume 8 is by die nasionale uitstalling van 2003 (Port Elizabeth) met 'n vermeil-toekenning (vergulde silwer) bekroon.

Nog voor die reeks van 10 boekdele voltooi is, het nuwe inligting opgeduik, want dit blyk later dat die boeke sowat 80% van die stempels dek wat indertyd bekend was. Alex het 'n bywerking van stempelillustrasies op rekenaar begin, en dít beslaan tans 'n byna ongelooflike 2000 blad sye.

Ja, dit is byna verstommend om te sien hoeveel verskillende handstempels inderdaad bestaan. Mense van Vryburg was verbaas oor die volle raam (15 propvol bladsye) net van Vryburg-stempels wat Alex vertoon het by die loodsing van die boek *Die Vryburg-seëls van die Anglo-Boereoorlog* in 2010.

In die afgelope jare is daar 'n groot toename in verskillende stempels, spesifiek die ronde en reghoekige self-ink posstempels. Die rede is dat hierdie rubberstempels van sodanige gehalte is dat hulle na drie of so jaar onbruikbaar raak, en vervang moet word.

In teenstelling daarmee het Alex gevind dat van die 1913-kringstempels met plekname (metaal) meer as 70 jaar in gebruik gebly het.

Ook poskantore se geskiedenis

Die databasis probeer ook tred hou met die datums van opening en sluiting van poskantore en agentskappe, die gebruik van aflosstempels (wanneer 'n ou stempel kapot is en 'n nuwe afgewag word), en spesiale tydelike stempels.

Alex werk saam met die merkwaardige studie van ou Vrystaatse stempels deur die Orange Free State Study Circle (sowaar, elke jaar word 'n paar nuwes gevind), en hy hou die meester-opgawe van die Kaapse BONCs (balkie-ovaal nommerstempels wat aan kantore uitgereik was om seëls te 'kanselleer'). Hy was ook die outeur van die hoofstuk oor posstempels in Peter van der Molen RDPSA FRPSL se internasionaal bekroonde *Swaziland Philately to 1968.*

Voorwaar 'n enorme eenmanstaak. – JG

Navrae oor die stempelboeke kan aan Alex Visser gerig word by alex.visser@up.ac.za

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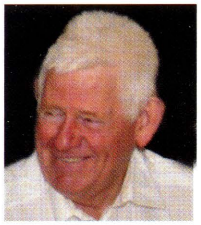
Thou Shalt Not...

by Jan Bakker RDPSA,
East Rand Philatelic Society



The Third Commandment

Thematic and topical collecting are very popular in South Africa. However, one of the failures in many collections is the lack of appropriate postmarks. From experience, it is often difficult to find a postmark which fits exactly into such a collection.

Pity then the collector with a Biblical theme. Certainly one can find a postmark 'Bethlehem', but that is not really applicable unless it is Bethlehem in Judea. Bethlehem in the Free State doesn't really count! If one's collection is on the Ten Commandments then one must think 'out of the box.' Stamps are not always available



but occasionally there is an alternative. The Third Commandment tells us we may not take the name of the Lord in vain. In English, this normally means swearing which the dictionary defines as the use of curses, blasphemy or profane language. In Dutch, the word is 'vloeken'.

Believe it or not, in Holland there is a 'Society against Swearing'. This not a new society as it celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1967. To commemorate this event the attached postmark was issued – the perfect way to illustrate the Third Commandment. One or two postmarks like this and a collection comes to life!

The Fourth Commandment

Belgium issued stamps with a tab attached instructing the Post Office not to deliver the letter on a Sunday. This tab could be removed if the sender had no issue with a Sunday delivery or if the letter was mailed in the beginning of the week. The State took the trouble to issue the stamps with a tab.





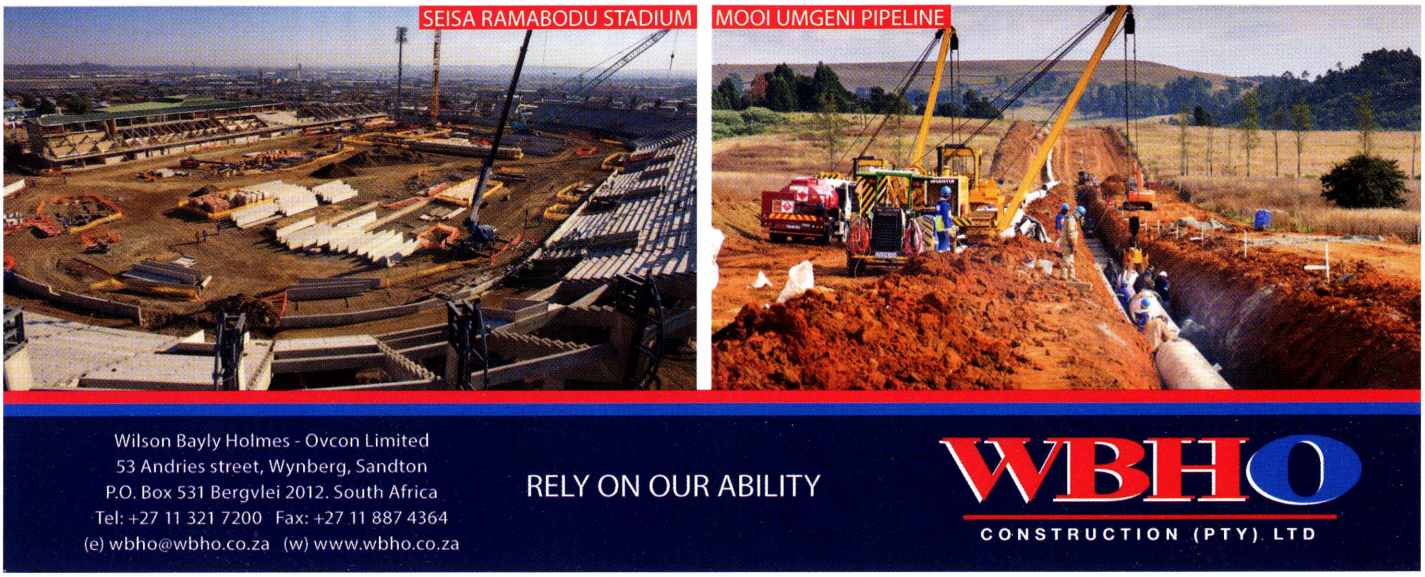
In Holland there was, a long time ago, a postal delivery on a Sunday. There were many people who had an issue with this as it was seen as work, and thus contravened the Fourth Commandment which is, to observe the rest on the Sabbath day. However the Dutch had a different attitude, seeing it as the responsibility of the individual, not the Post Office, to observe the Sabbath. There was also a private organization, the Netherland Society for the Advancement of Sunday Rest, which printed a blue label for sale at the post office (1cent for a sheet of 50), which could be stuck on a letter if you didn't want a Sunday delivery.

In opposition was another organization, the Netherland Society to fight Excessive Rest on Sundays, which issued a red label for use if you really wanted a Sunday delivery! This was perhaps a little excessive as there was a Sunday delivery in only eight major towns in Holland.

The question remains: why mail a letter on Friday or Saturday if you didn't want it delivered on Sunday? Why not wait until Sunday to mail it? Perhaps people considered that mailing a letter on Sunday was also work?



These tabs and labels fit nicely into a thematic or topical collection on the Bible or even on legal matters, and they can be 'windowed' if it is not needed to show the whole cover. On the cover shown, it seems a little futile unless it was thought that the Austrian authorities understood Dutch!



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South Africa's 'Booysen Essay'

a comment by Michael Wigmore RDPSA



Over the course of the last eight months I have had no less than three independent enquiries to my office seeking information on this subject. There are surprisingly few references to the Booysen Essay in the literature to hand (mostly 'one-liners') and it appears to be just one of those items that is known, accepted, collected and exhibited - seldom discussed or questioned.





These illustrations replicate pictures from a private reference collection.

The popularly called 'Booysen Essay' dates back to 1929 - the period of the Union rotogravure Darmstadt trials in Germany. There was no public awareness of these trials so when all the material emanating from that source later started to appear it generated a protracted debate in the philatelic community as to its exact status. When, in turn, the 'Springbok Head, Booysen Essay' came to light, it was simply assumed to be part of those trials and was first catalogued and described as an 'official essay' (*Handbook/ Catalogue - Union of South Africa Stamps, van Riebeeck Tercentenary edition*, published, 1952, page79).

Debate on the status of the 'Darmstadt' material persisted, culminating in the local Philatelic Federation appointing a sub-Committee (1954) to investigate and bring clarification to the matter. As part of their studies, postal officials were interviewed and those discussions revealed that JL Booysen, a Government Printer employee, was not directly involved with their 'Trials staff' in Darmstadt but had been independently sent to Leiden, Holland, to study the technical processes of gravure printing. Importantly, they commented that: 'he was under no official instructions to print anything in particular whilst there.' It is presumed that, as part of his studies of the etching techniques (required for making cylinders for the new 'Goebels' press on trial in Darmstadt) he, on his own initiative, prepared the 1d Springbok design that now popularly bears his name. Presumably this provided him a more accurate test of his newly acquired skills and ended with him printing an unknown number of sheets of the essay on a randomly available, small press. On unwatermarked, gummed paper the essays may be found in bright violet, reddish-brown, bright blue or black. Sheet size was eighty units. Most are imperforate, but at least one sheet in black was provided (it is thought also at Leiden) with a rough perforation gauging between 10.5 and 11.25.

With the above information, the Booysen essay was re-assessed as an unauthorised, private production and the Volume II supplement to the *Tercentenary Handbook* (published 1955) advised that its status be changed to 'unofficial essay' and the pricing guide deleted. Jack Hagger, the editor of the most recent edition of the *Union Handbook* (published 1986) chose only to footnote the existence of the Booysen Essay (along with the Hunter Penrose and Cigarette Tax Label design Darmstadt ink and paper trials) as he believed none of these were covered by the Federation Committee's ruling on the bulk of the '1d Ship' trials. He does, however, provide insight into the source material for the design, quoting Booysen: *'Black-and-white proofs of all values were provided by Waterlow. These were photographed and enlarged for redrawing by the postage stamp department of the Government Printer, including the 1d used in Leiden.'* The epithet 'Booysen Essay' persists. Some maintain it is not correct to term them as 'essays' as they were neither officially commissioned nor authorised; nor represent any stage in the production of any particular Union stamp. An argument for a link (even if tenuous) to the Darmstadt Trials is that the latter prompted Booysen's presence in Holland and the 'Leiden 1d's' were only created as a result of this trip. Those examples in my own collection in the past were simply written-up as 'an unauthorised, test production.'

I would very much welcome comment to the Editor on the above from anyone who can confirm, refute, correct or add to the story.



This image from the Stephan Welz catalogue for the Gramadoelas auction in Johannesburg on 14-15 May 2014, sale 1405. Lot 1057 – 1929 Booysens Essay. Fine u/m right marginal pair of the 1d violet imperforate essay, sold for R2,500.

FEDERATION CONTACT DETAILS

For any queries to or requiring information from the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, please contact the Regional Vice President who represents your region as given below:

Region 1: *Gauteng and North-West Province*
Vice-President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA
P O Box 528, Florida Hills 17166;
tel: 011 672 7747;
cell: 082 722 7604
email: haschaff@iafrica.com

Region 2: *Eastern Gauteng*
Vice-President: Jimmy Mitchell
P O Box 9202, Cinda Park 1463;
cell 083 442-7191; email: jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

Region 3: *Pretoria, Mpumalanga and Limpopo*
Vacant

Region 4: *Free State and Northern Cape*
Vice-President: Prof Gary Osthoff
P O Box 11479, Universitas 9321;
tel 051 522 3542 (h); 051 401 2216 (b); fax: 051 401 2216;
cell: 072 187 7258;
email: osthoffg@ufs.ac.za

Region 5: *Kwazulu/Natal*
Vice-President: Beverley McNaught-Davis
P O Box 112, Umbogintwini 4120; tel: 031 904 1522;
email: mcod@telkomsa.net

Region 6: *Western Cape*
Vice-President: Robert Harm
P O Box 1532, Brackenfell 7591;
tel 021 981 3348; cell 086 672 1625; email: robharm@mweb.co.za

Region 7: *Eastern Cape*
Vice-President: Dave Brown
9 Annesley Gardens, Narcissus Street, Linton Grange 6025, Port Elizabeth;
tel: 041 360-4025 (h);
email: baldcoot@xinet.co.za

Region 8: *Areas Outside South Africa*
Vice-President: Andrew Higson
29 Wallace Road, Loughborough, Leics LE11 3NU, England;
tel: 0044 1509 233983;
email: A.W.Higson@lboro.ac.uk

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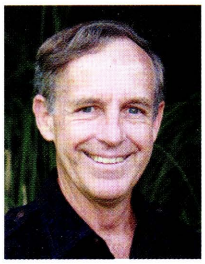
Phun with postmarks



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

I am honoured to present an article by guest contributor Kevin Price, editor of an updated study by the Orange Free State Study Circle (OFSSC) of the Batten postmark books of the Orange Free State and Orange River Colony. An earlier version of this article appeared in the OFSSC Bulletin, and permission to incorporate is gratefully acknowledged. Their website can be found at *orangefreestatephilately.org.uk* > The article relates to the vanishing O.R.C on date stamps, and besides being of postal history interest, it may have a wider historical significance.

THE CASE OF THE VANISHING O. R. C

Late in 1900 a new **22mm** canceller was introduced for use with a *wide-set* O.R.C at the base (+O.R.C), as seen on these images in Figure 1 of Bethulie, Bloemfontein, Harrismith, Luckhoff and Rouxville. From about July 1902 a second identical canceller but with a *close-set* O.R.C (also +O.R.C) was likewise brought into operation and both styles appear to have been used concurrently. This second setting can be seen on the Brandfort, Jacobsdal and Kroonstad images.

The majority of the post offices and sub post offices used this style of canceller for varying periods of time and in most cases it was eventually replaced by larger 24 or 26mm cancellers. What is intriguing about this 22mm canceller is that at some time many of the offices also used an identical canceller with the O.R.C ***removed*** from the base (–O.R.C). Note that the images in this article are from the nine offices where *both* types of canceller, with and without the O.R.C, have so far been recorded.

There are two particular periods when the O.R.C disappeared – 1901 to 1902 and upon Union in 1910. Table 1 shows the combined recorded periods of use of the two styles of this generic 22mm canceller at those offices that show both the +O.R.C and the –O.R.C. I have also listed those cancellers that were used into 1910. The numbers in bold type are the corresponding Putzel references.

OFFICE	+O.R.C	-O.R.C
Allandale	**6** 12.11.05 - *1910*	Presumed
Bethulie	**16, 18** 1.12.00 – 25.10.04	**17x** 30.8.02
Bloemfontein	**47a, 48** 1.11.00 – 31.12.05	**49** 31.1.02 – 16.6.02
Brandfort	**8x** 7.10.02 – 30.8.07	**8y** 25.1.02 – 30.3.02
Harrismith	**17** 21.2.01 – 12.12.03	**17x** 26.9.01 – 15.4.02
Jacobsdal	**2** *.*.02 – 4.1.05	**5y** 2.2.02 – 2.3.02
Kroonstad	**15, 17** 16.6.02 – 18.11.04	**25z** 9.2.02 – 23.6.02
Luckhoff	**2** 12.12.02 – *20.6.10*	**2x** 20.6.10
Parys	**3** 12.12.02 – *30.5.10*	**4** 22.10.10 – 7.4.14
Rouxville	**8c** 26.11.00 – *27.4.10*	**12** 20.10.10
Smaldeel		**4x** 18.3.02 – 11.12.02
Vrede	**7** 9.4.03 – 8.3.10	Presumed

Table 1. *Listing of dates of use of the different cancellers.*



Figure 1. Images of the different pairs of cancellers.

First disappearance

The +O.R.C canceller was first introduced near the end of 1900. Around late 1901 either the same canceller with the O.R.C excised (or an entirely new –O.R.C canceller) was used until about mid-1902 when its use stopped. The +O.R.C canceller in both its styles continued to be used past this date. The reason for the O.R.C omission is unclear although the date of cessation of this canceller might give us a clue towards an explanation.

On 28 May 1900, with the OFS Republic in British hands it was formally annexed to the British Crown and renamed Orange River Colony. The first use of the +O.R.C canceller appears in November 1900. After its introduction, perhaps the British authorities thought the Boer population saw them as pugnacious and oppressive invaders and so were premature in using the +O.R.C canceller while Boer guerilla activities continued. Perhaps the offending O.R.C was then removed from the canceller to placate the proud Boers and as a sign of goodwill towards a lasting peace settlement. It should be noted that other cancellers used at the time did not have the O.R.C removed.

The war was formally ended on 31 May 1902, and coincidentally within three months of this date those –O.R.C cancellers also ceased to be used. Smaldeel is the exception as its 22mm canceller was used until December 1902. The +O.R.C cancellers continued to be used, in some instances up until Union.

Note that Smaldeel also used a similar +O.R.C canceller of a *larger* **23mm** size from about July 1903 to February 1907. The difference between the two cancellers is that the 22mm Smaldeel wording begins and ends at the top of the date while the 23mm Smaldeel wording is larger and begins and ends halfway down the side of the date. These differences can be seen on the two Smaldeel images in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Illustration of Smaldeel cancellers.

Second disappearance

Upon Union on 31 May 1910, most cancellers of the former South African colonies continued to be used albeit with those colonies' initials at the base being excised. Interestingly, so far, only five offices in the Colony have been seen to use this 22mm +O.R.C canceller through into 1910 (see the italic dates in the table). The colony's initials were then duly removed from this canceller after Union and only those –O.R.C cancellers from Luckhoff, Parys and Rouxville have been recorded at

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this stage. Note that the images of these three offices appear worn from their long years of use.

REQUEST: Would readers please look at these cancellers in their collections and advise us of any extensions to the dates in Table 1. There may also be **unrecorded instances** of the many other offices not mentioned in the table that also may have used the –O.R.C canceller. Anybody who has a copy of the **unrecorded** +O.R.C **22mm** canceller of Smaldeel, please send us a scan or good photocopy. In addition please look at the +O.R.C and –O.R.C cancellers closely and report any new ones used into 1910. Examining the table, in theory, Allandale and Vrede might also have used this –O.R.C canceller. All new recordings or different use of these cancellers will be added to the Putzel updates.

THE ONGOING SAGA OF NOORBRUG/ NOORDBURG

In the February and June 2014 Phun Columns I mentioned the Noordburg date stamps, which were found to be incorrectly inscribed. Apparently correctly inscribed 29 mm date stamps were taken into use on 10.6.2014. At the time of writing only the one canceller shown in Figure 3 has been recorded. A request was made to the Branch Manager in December 2014 for clear impressions of all the new date stamps. He was unwilling and requested a letter of support from SAPO management, which was duly produced. He then refused to assist and indicated that he is not there to assist philatelists. This is a disturbing trend as having lost a great deal of support and business due to the 4-month long strike the SAPO needs all the goodwill they are able to generate. We trust that this is an unfortunate isolated incident, and that philatelists will continue to receive support from SAPO management and staff.

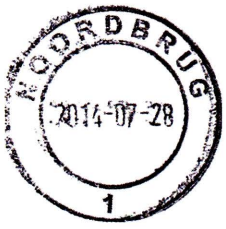


Figure 3. Corrected Noordbrug date stamp.

In hierdie rubriek word die hipotese gestel dat nadat die Oranje Vrystaat deur die Britte beset is datumstempels met ORC onderaan vir doeleindes van versoening verander is, veral omdat die vrede nog nie onderteken was nie. Die datums van gebruik mag help om die hipotese te ondersoek, en lesers word versoek om sulke gebruik te help dokumenteer deur op hierdie artikel te reageer. In die geval van die foutiewe datumstempels van Noordbrug is die saga nou opgelos. Die houding van die pospersoneel om die posgeskiedkundige by te staan word egter in 'n ernstige lig gesien, en benodig dringende aandag van hoofbestuur van die poskantoor.



28 MAY TO 4 JUNE 2016
AT THE
JAVITS CENTRE
NEW YORK CITY

A total of 3,800 exhibition frames from beginning to advanced levels featuring some of the rarest philatelic material on the planet will be on display at this FIP World Stamp Exhibition. All details are now available on the website www.ny2016.org - the Official Bulletin can be found under 'Show Information'. There you will find a 'Web' version and a 'Print' version. On the 'Web version', the GREX (General Regulations) is shown on pages 34 to 49, while the IREX (Individual Regulations for NY2016) is on pages 50 onwards.

In summary, all FIP exhibition classes are offered, including 'Open' and 'Modern Philately' and a 'First Day Cover' Class (no.15). Entry forms can be downloaded; only hardcopies will be acceptable and must be forwarded via the National Commissioner, Peter van der Molen, who can be contacted at 011 849 4822 or molens@pixie.co.za to be received in New York not later than 31 August 2015.

For 16 pages per frame, entry fees are $95 per frame, $150 for the One Frame Class, Literature is $100 per entry and Youth exhibits are free. The Philatelic Foundation subsidy of 50% of frame fees will be applicable for qualifying entries.

Smalls

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

WANTED: The director of a Russian 'Interschool 43' is looking to receive philatelic material for their school. Contact: The manager: Valera Ivanov. Saratov Region. City:Balashov F.Engelsa 26 - 1. postal code:412316 E-mail: infinitounis@gmail.com

EXCHANGE: having lived in SA for 15 years, this Portuguese national is seeking to trade stamps of Portugal for stamps of South Africa. Contact: Alfredo Pereira. E-mail - asdpereira@hotmail.com Rua Maria José Matos, 42 4415-515 Grijó - Carvalhos. Portugal

FOR SALE: Postcards of Cape Town and environs. 1960-2000. All different - 670 cards. Hand picked mint/used. Private issued postcards included. Price negot. Contact: brummerb@hawcweb.co.za 043 726 2858.

WANTED: Jean François Remy, a French Polar philatelic collector - collects all polar bases, SANAE, ships and icebreakers. He is trying to contact somebody to help him post covers that he sends with South Africa stamps. 6 Rue Martin Luther King. 44640 LE Pellerin. France. mailto: jfremy36@gmail.com

EXCHANGE: A 56 years old sales manager and 'advanced' philatelist and collector looking to exchange materials; coins bank-notes, phone-cards, mint/ and used/stamps themed: flora-fauna, sport, 01 games, locomotives, tennis, ships, aeroplanes, Red cross. Contact: Mr Juraj Riedl. Ku Bratke 38. 934 01 Levice, Slovakia.

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

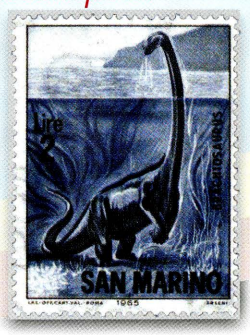
by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek PS and Royal Philatelic Society

The 28th episode of : Errors on Stamps...

This commemorative stamp, issued in 1965 by San Marino, shows a drawing of a *Brachiosaurus* which lived about 200 Million years ago in North America and East Africa.

The artist who created this drawing must have ignored what scientists know about this huge animal, which had a short tail and much longer front legs.

His 'fantasy dino' has much shorter legs and sits on his too-large tail like a kangaroo.



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Local Events

exhibition news invited for all future local events

STAMP FAIRS: Fairs, all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations & contact persons/detail are:

- *QSA or QUICK STAMP AUCTIONS* - monthly auction of quality & exciting material on the 3rd Saturday of each month at alternate venues. On 'odd' months namely, May, July, Sep, etc. auction held at the Victoria Cross Lodge, 26th Ave, Menlo Park (westwards off N1 highway, 'Atterbury Rd' off-ramp). On 'even' months, (June, Aug etc). auctions are at Ernest Ullman Recreation Centre, Alma St, (off Bowling Ave, from Marlboro M1 turn-off), Sandton. Auctions are run by two knowledgeable collector-exhibitors, Cedric Roché, RDPSA (also an international judge) & Paul van Zeyl. Contact Paul on 076 124 9055.
- *WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR:* Durbanville 1st Saturday each month from 09h00 at the Durbanville Library, Cnr Oxford & Koeberg Roads, Durbanville, Western Cape. Contact Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.
- *PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:* 1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.
- *TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:*

Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. Every first Saturday at the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact rev Cassie Carstens on 012 653 2279.

- *SANDTON STAMP FAIR:*

2nd Saturday of every month; at the Kyalami Country Club, ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin on 083 272 9367.

- *KZN STAMP FAIR:* Last Sunday of all months, except December; Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. Contact: Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, mdco@telkomsa.net.
- *EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:*

CHANGE OF VENUE.

Last Saturday of all months, except December; No longer at Impala Community Centre, Elizabeth Road. NOW at Benoni Lake Club.

MAJOR Philatelic Events

6 - 8 March '15
HONG KONG 2015 - 31st FIAP Asian International Stamp Exhibition
Commissioner :
Jim Findlay RDPSA

14 - 19 August '15
SINGAPORE 2015
World Stamp Exhibition
www.singapore2015.com
Commissioner:
Emil Minnaar RDPSA
FIP Patronage
Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of Singapore (1965-2015)

29 May - 04 June '16
NEW YORK 2016 - USA
www.ny2016.org
Commissioner:
Peter van der Molen RDPSA
FIP Patronage

Durbanville Stamp Fair

Now on the 2nd Saturday of the month. The venue is: **D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig,** corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions and a map are available on request.
Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. (028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287)

Western Cape Stamp Fair Activities:

Contact person is Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - first Tuesday of the month at 19h00.
Venue - Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch.
Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly Newsletter *with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*

Visitors are welcome at all meetings

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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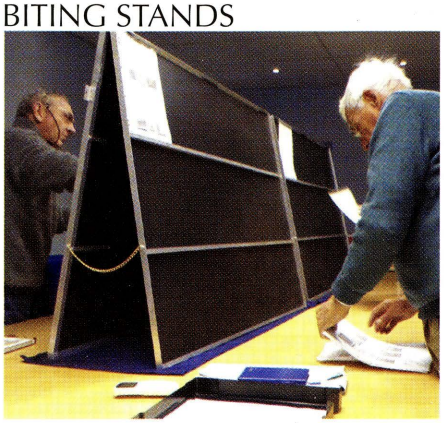
FOR SALE
SOCIETY EXHIBITING STANDS

Table-top A-frame exhibiting stands suitable for society or club use, as supplied to ERPS, are available to order. Stands take 15/16 pages each side in three rows. Overall dimensions are 1280 x 940 x 40mm, weight 4kg. Two are easily portable by one person and fit into most small/medium cars. Cost is R1,350 per unit, carriage from Springs extra. Enquiries to A Mortimer at tmortimer@telkomsa.net or 073 150 8710.



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WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier Street, Auckland Park. For further information contact the President : Herbie Schaffler RDPSA - 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings for 2015
always on a Wednesday at 20h00

11 March - One to Five Page Exhibit
8 April - 1st Competitive Evening
13 May - Modern Philatelic Evening
10 June - Grand Challenge Match
8 July - Foreign Exhibit Evening
12 August - Favourite Cover/s

Eurocircle Stamp Study

Meetings for 2015 in the Captain's Table at Woodmead ***on the last Wednesday of each month at 20h00*** (except December)

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 7896357
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716
Contact: • Alistair Mackenzie *(Chairman)* Tel: 011 7687565
• Ian Walker *(Secretary)* Tel: 011 4721161

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society.
email: info.fhps@info
Website: www.fhps.info
Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

REGION 3:

Pretoria, Mpumalanga, Limpopo

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
* Alex Visser *(President)* 012 803 1881
* Steve Marsh *(Vice-President)* 012 656 0493
Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history. Monthly newsletter.

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting every 1st Saturday of the month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant and active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them. Loads to share, so come along and join in.

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:

Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Team of your **forward meeting** programme so that the information may be published timeously

AFRIKAANSE FILATELEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: chairperson: Jan de Jong. *011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za*. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za. Connie Liebenberg. P O Box33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. jacoli@mweb.co.za

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. 10 vm

ADAMI STAMP FAIR

Contact: Paul van Zeyl; first Saturday of the month at the Denis Adami Hall in Queenswood, Pretoria. 12+ dealers in attendance and a good auction every time. * Regular exhibitions organised by Cassie Carstens.
PO Box 50797 WIERDAPARK 0149.
Tel: 012 653 2279 / 082 463 0460
email: dscassie@telkomsa.net

Kwazulu Natal

FOUNDED IN 1911

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 on the **second Thursday evening** of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban.
(January meeting held on the ***third*** *Tuesday)*
'All are welcome'
Contacts:
• Ted Brown *(President)* 083 284 6554
• Bev McNaught-Davis *(Vice- President)* 031 904 1522
• Harold Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club.
An open invitation to members of all the other Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FUN WITH STAMPS

President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net
Other committee members: Joyce Hulse; Val de Jager; Gordon Bennett; Franklin van der Spuy; Tony Evans; Julia Evans. **Meetings**:

The monthly Executive Committee meetings will be held on the THIRD SATURDAY of every month.
Same venue. Same time.

at St Mathews Parish Hall, Hayfields, at 16h00. The Thematics Group meets every FIRST Saturday of the month at 09h00 at 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville. Visitors always welcome.

OTHER KZN CLUB INFO:

• ***Hibiscus Coast Philatelic Society***

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

KZN STAMP FAIRS

• ***Kloof Country Club,*** Victory Road (off Abrey Rd.), Kloof on the last Sunday of the month. ***Contact***: Bev McNaught-Davis Tel.031 904 1522 email: mcnd@telkomsa.net

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

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

• *President:* Robert Cummings. Tel: 041 961 0645. Cell: 083 326 7294.
• Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
• Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409.

This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.

PROPOSED MEETING DATES
all on a Monday evening, 2015:
2 March (AGM); 13 April; 11 May ;
1 June; 6 July; 3 August; 7 September; 5 October; 9 November; 30 November (President's Night).

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LONDON
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NORTHERN RHODESIA

The Award-Winning Collection formed by Neville Polakow RDPSA, FRPSL

16 APRIL 2015 | LONDON



For more information please contact **David Parsons**
Tel: +44 (0)20 7563 4072 | **Fax:** +44 (0)20 7563 4085 | **Email:** dparsons@spink.com
SPINK LONDON | 69 Southampton Row | Bloomsbury | London | WC1B 4ET

WWW.SPINK.COM

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CAPEX 2015
NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION
14th – 17th October 2015

Entry Form
Section "A" - Personal Details

TITLE	INITIALS	OFFICE USE
SURNAME		
ADDRESS		TEL: H: W: Fax: Cell: Email:
POSTCODE	SOCIETY	

SECTION "B" - ENTRY FORM

*I wish to enter for **CAPEX 2015** the exhibit described below.*
I agree to abide by the rules.

Entry Fee of R100 & Frame fees of R120 / frame payable to **Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town**
EFT to First National Bank, Branch 25 06 55; Account: Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town
Account Number: 5008 074 0217
noting your name and CAPEX as reference. Please submit a copy of payment advice.
NB Cheque & cash deposits attract a levy of R18.00 by the Bank and must therefore be paid in addition to the above fees

Signature _____ Date _____

This Entry Form must reach The Secretary, CAPEX 2015, 37 Mon Repos Crescent, Welgelegen, 7500 or email to vmrogers@telkomsa.net not later than 30 June 2015

TITLE OF EXHIBIT:	
CLASS	NUMBER OF FRAMES REQUIRED

PREVIOUS AWARDS received by this exhibit at National level or higher

DATE	OCCASION	AWARD

If not applicable, delete clause below, otherwise obtain signature of Society Chairman or Secretary
I am a first-time exhibitor at National level and per clause 3.4 of the Prospectus,
my Society hereby confirms that my exhibit is of National standard.

Name & Signature of Society Chairman or Secretary:

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CAPEX 2015
National Philatelic Exhibition

14th – 17th OCTOBER 2015

CITY HALL
CAPE TOWN

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY
The Philatelic Federation of South Africa

hosted by
Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town & Western Cape Societies

PROSPECTUS

1. STATUS OF EXHIBITION

1.1 The Exhibition will be both competitive and non-competitive and open to all members of Societies affiliated to *The Philatelic Federation of South Africa* (PFSA) and all members of Societies affiliated to the *Federation Internationale Philatelique* (FIP) and *Federation Internationale l'Asie Philatelique* (FIAP).
1.2 Any collection, which has since 1 July 2013
(a) gained a Large Gold Award at any South African National or Special National Exhibition, or a Gold or Large Gold Award at any International Exhibition, shall not be eligible for competitive entry for this exhibition except in Group B Class 01 (Championship Class);
(b) gained a Gold Award at any Southern African National or Special National Exhibition shall only be eligible for competitive entry at this exhibition subject to the provisions of Clause 8.3.
1.3 Entries (other than literature) from outside of the RSA shall only be accepted provided that the exhibitor or a person delegated by him shall personally bring the exhibit into and out of RSA; the organizers will not provide for exhibit clearing or forwarding facilities.

2. SCOPE OF EXHIBITION

Group A: Non-competitive
(a) : Court of Honour
(b) : Invited exhibits
Group B: Competitive Philately
Class 01: Championship Class (see point 1.2 and 7.4)
Class 02: Traditional Philately
(a) South Africa, all periods (includes pre-Union areas)
(b) Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c) Rest of the World
Class 03: Postal History, Historical and Historical/Social Studies
(a) South Africa, all periods (includes pre-Union areas)
(b) Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c) Rest of the World
(d) Historical, Social and Special Studies, all World (see Clause 9)
Class 04: Thematic
Class 05: Aerophilately, Maritime and Disaster Mails
Class 06: Revenues and Postal Stationery
Class 07: One Frame exhibits (see clause 11)
Class 08: Literature, including Electronic Media
Group C: Competitive – FIP Experimental Classes and Other
Class 09: "Open Philately" Class (see clause 10)
Class 10: Modern Experimental Traditional Class (see clause 12)
Class 11: First Day Covers, Cinderellas
Class 12: Picture Postcards

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1 A non-refundable administration charge of R100 per entry will be due on submission of the Entry Form.
3.2 The fee per frame or per Literature entry is R120 payable on submission of the Entry form.
3.3 There is no maximum number of entries for each exhibitor, however, if more than one entry is submitted, the exhibitor must signify his/her preference if not all can be accepted. No exhibit may be entered in more than one class. For exhibits that previously gained up to a Large Silver Award or have not been shown competitively at a National Exhibition, up to 5 frames may be applied for. Where an exhibit has been awarded a Vermeil or higher at a National Exhibition, up to 8 frames may be applied for. Single frame exhibits can only be entered in Class 7. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee reserves the right to allocate frames at its sole discretion.
3.4 An entry from an exhibitor competing for the first time must be accompanied by a statement from the committee of his/her Society confirming that the exhibit is of national standard. This declaration will automatically enter the exhibit for the ERPS Floating Trophy which is awarded to a first-time philatelic exhibitor at National level.
3.5 Entries must be the *bona fide* property of the exhibitor; the completion of an entry form is deemed an implied declaration to this effect.
3.6 An Entry Form, with the administration fee for each exhibit, must be received before **30th June 2015** All awards gained by an exhibit in the previous 3 years must be listed on the Entry Form.
3.7 The Organising Committee reserves the right to reject any entry or exhibit, in whole or in part, without having to provide any reason for such rejection.
3.8 For each accepted exhibit, the Organising Committee must receive in addition before **30th June 2015** (a) the prescribed frame fees (Clause 3.2), (b) a description of the exhibit in English or Afrikaans not exceeding 100 words (in MS Word) for inclusion in the exhibition catalogue, (c) a photocopy or scan of the exhibit's introductory page outlining the concept of the exhibit; which may subsequently be amended (fundamental concept of the exhibit may not be changed).
3.9 After receipt by the Organising Committee of all fees, special labels or envelopes for submission of the exhibit will be forwarded to all accepted exhibitors.
3.10 Commissioners will be appointed in the larger centers to transport exhibits and trophies to and from Cape Town.
3.11 Exhibits must be received by the Commissioners as they instruct or must be delivered to the Organising Committee not later than **10th October 2015**, except for Literature (Class 08), where entries are required by **1 August 2015** for judging purposes; delivery instructions will be advised on the Final Entry Forms.
3.12 Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the eligibility of any entry, the ruling of the Organising Committee shall be final.

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4. EXHIBITION FRAMES

4.1 Exhibition frames accommodate 16 sheets, each with a maximum height of 305mm. The daylight width of the frame is 900mm. Sheets will be mounted in the sequence of 4 *horizontal* rows of 4 sheets each. The minimum stiffness of the sheets must be 120 g/m^2 as thin sheets are difficult to mount.
4.2 All exhibitors must provide their sheets with acetate or plastic exhibition covers to ensure the safety of their material; entries will not be accepted without exhibition covers. Sheet numbers must be shown on the front at the top/bottom right corner. Numbering is to be sequential within each exhibit, e.g. for a 4 frame exhibit the sheets shall be numbered from 1 to 64.
4.3 All frame allocations are at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

5. LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

5.1 Although every possible care will be taken of exhibits while in the custody of the Organising Committee, such exhibits shall at all times be at the owner's risk. Neither the Organising Committee nor the officers, members and employees of the sponsoring Societies arranging this National Exhibition, nor any voluntary helpers, shall incur any liability for any loss or damage sustained by an exhibit from any cause or for any reason whatsoever.
5.2 There will be no insurance cover. The onus rests with the exhibitors to arrange their own cover.

6. JURY AND JUDGING FOR AWARDS

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a philatelist to chair and appoint the jury, which will comprise currently accredited judges of the PFSA or other suitably qualified judges. Other persons may also be nominated to act as Apprentice Jurors.
6.2 The Chairman shall have full control over the activities of the jury, which shall be subject to the Rules and By-laws of the PFSA. While the jury may call in any person/s as a consultant, neither consultant/s nor Apprentice Jurors shall have any vote in the jury's deliberations. The Chairman shall have the casting vote.
6.3 The deliberations of the jury are confidential and its decisions, once announced, shall be final and irrevocable.
6.4 Judging for awards will be on material submitted and no further supporting matter will be required or permitted. Copied material (photostats, scans or photographs) used in exhibits must be clearly labeled as such and must be at least 25% linearly larger or smaller than the actual size of the item depicted. Original photographs in Class 3 (Postal History) are permitted in full size if they are part of the development of the exhibit.
6.5 Competitive exhibits will be judged on their individual merits and not against other collections, except in the case of the *Grand Prix* and other Special Awards.
6.6 No exhibition page may bear any indication of price or value, nor shall any exhibit in any way be advertised for sale.
6.7 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibitor's related exhibits may be grouped together with a view to making an award for the whole greater than that which such exhibits might have obtained individually. Such combinations shall not receive a Gold or Large Gold Award.
6.8 At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibit entered in a particular Class may be transferred to another Class with a view of making an award greater than it might otherwise have obtained, except for exhibits entered in Class 10 (Modern Experimental Traditional).
6.9 An exhibitor providing fewer frames than requested and allocated shall not have that exhibit judged; a frame must be completely filled with relevant material.
6.10 Judging shall be based on current FIP rules for each Class, where they exist. Where exhibitors are not clear about FIP rules or PFSA interpretation thereof, please contact the Organising Committee stating the Class of interest.
6.11 Adjudicating the winner of Group B Class 01 (Championship Class) will be by Jury majority vote (Chair has casting vote).

7. AWARDS (except for Classes 01 and 07)

7.1 Exhibition Awards and points will be:

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

Vermeil and Silver awards may be given with the Felicitations of the Jury.
7.2 No exhibit may receive more than one Exhibition Award.
7.3 Each entry that is not given an Exhibition Award will receive a Certificate of Participation. All Exhibition Awards and Certificates awarded to exhibits in Class 7 and Group C will clearly state for which Class they were awarded.
7.4 In the Championship Class only a winner of the Class will be announced and all entrants will receive a Large Gold Award.

8. SPECIAL AWARDS

8.1 In addition to the Exhibition Awards, various Special Awards may be made available to the jury to be awarded within each Exhibition Group. Class 12 exhibits are not eligible for Special Awards except for Awards specifically for this class.
8.2 Within the Competitive Philately Group, the *Grand Prix* shall be awarded to the best competitive exhibit of not lower than Gold Award standard and shall take precedence over all other awards. The Post Office Trophy shall be awarded to the best exhibit of South African philately of not lower than Gold Award standard. These two exhibits will not be eligible for any other Special Award.
8.3 An exhibit which since 1 July 2012 has gained a Gold Award at any Southern African National or Special National Exhibition will not be eligible for any Special Award unless at this Exhibition it is awarded a Large Gold Award.
8.4 No exhibit will be eligible for more than two Special Awards.

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

FIP introduced this sub-class under Postal History with effect from 1 January 2009. Exhibits in this class would include material developed by commerce and society for use in the postal system and may include an appropriate amount of non-philatelic material relevant to the subject. Exhibits eligible to enter under Class 03(d) would include but are not limited to the following fields: Telegram services, Greeting cards, Pictorial commercial envelopes used in the postal system. Historical, local and or regional studies; studies related to an event.

10. THE 'OPEN PHILATELY' CLASS

10.1 The objectives of the Open Philately are to provide interesting exhibits which stimulate both the committed and the new collector, to provide a competition for those who wish to exhibit outside traditional regulations and to permit the inclusion of a certain amount of non-philatelic material, such as labels, picture postcards, numismatic items, telephone cards, documents, pictures, postcards, photographs, drawings, newspaper clippings, etc. In addition to all requirements for competitive exhibits, viz entry forms and fees, introductory page, exhibit description, etc, the only stipulations are (a) no part of the exhibit may exceed 5mm in thickness so it can be mounted in the frames, and (b) the philatelic elements must be not less than 50% of the total area of items shown (see SAP August 2013 p.137 for marking).
10.2 Entries in the Open Philately will be eligible for the Special Awards and Trophies.

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11. THE 'ONE FRAME' CLASS

11.1 The objectives of the 'One Frame' Class are to provide for both new collectors to start exhibiting on a small scale at a National Exhibition and also to give established collectors an opportunity to show material that cannot be treated well in more than one frame or to show new ideas and developments. The 'One Frame' exhibit must have an introduction page which lays out the intention and scope of the exhibit. This page may also contain exhibition material. The "One Frame" exhibit must have a narrow scope and not be an extract from a large exhibit.
11.2 The 'One Frame' Class will have 5 awards; the certificate shall state "One Frame" class:

Gold	85 - 100
Vermeil	70 - 84
Silver	55 - 69
Bronze	40 - 54
Certificate of Participation	up to 39

11.3. Entries in the 'One Frame' class will be eligible for any of the Special Awards and Trophies. Entry in this Class will not prevent the Exhibitor qualifying for the ERPS Trophy at a later Exhibition with a multiframe exhibit.

12. MODERN EXPERIMENTAL TRADITIONAL CLASS

This exhibition will include an experimental traditional philately class to encourage exhibits of modern material. The class will follow existing traditional philately rules but be restricted to stamp issues after 1 January 1961. Marking system has been modified to exclude criterion Importance. The 10 points previously allocated to Importance have been redistributed to Presentation and Treatment. The revised points for the class are: Presentation 10; Treatment 25; Philatelic Knowledge, Study and Research 35; Condition 10; Rarity, Acquisition Difficulty 20; Total 100. There will be no transfers in or out of the Experimental Class. The exhibitor decides the class when he enters. The FIP only allows 5 frames in an experimental class. As this is a national exhibition, there may be exhibitors who enter the new class without wishing to exhibit internationally. For those exhibits the Organising Committee are prepared to exercise its discretion as to the quantity of frames awarded.

13. BLACKLISTED PHILATELIC MATERIAL

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

14. ACCEPTANCE OF REGULATIONS

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

15. EXHIBITION CERTIFICATE AND CATALOGUE

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

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further copies of these Exhibition Guidelines and provisional entry forms may be obtained from:
Capex 2015 Cape Town
37 Mon Repos Crescent, Welgelegen, 7500 or email vmrogers@telkomsa.net.

These Exhibition Guidelines and Entry Form will also be available on the Federation website www.philatelysa.co.za

17. NON COMPETIVE EXHIBITIONS

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

DEADLINES

Final Entry	30th June 2015
Deliver Literature Entry	1st August 2015
Deliver Exhibit	10th October 2015

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JUNASS 2015 at
CAPEX 2015
National Philatelic Exhibition

14TH – 17TH OCTOBER 2015

CITY HALL, CAPE TOWN

Supported by
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Hosted by:
Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town & Western Cape Societies

PROSPECTUS JUNASS 2015

1 STATUS OF EXHIITION

The exhibition shall be competitive and open to all junior members of clubs affiliated to the Youth Activities Committee of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Exhibitors must be under the age of 21 on 1 January 2015. Exhibits which have attained a Gold award within the last year at a JUNASS or higher level will not be eligible for competitive entry.

2 SCOPE OF THE EXHIBITION

2.1 COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES
- Star Class (beginners, 8, 12 or 16 pages)
- Medal Class (guided by FIP rules)
  a) Country, b) Thematic, c) Open, d) Other, e) Literature (newsletters, articles, others)
- Club exhibit (1 frame)

2.2 AGE GROUPS
Each of the above categories are sub-divided into the following age groups (as at 1 January 2014)
a) 9 years and under
b) From 10 up to and including 12 years of age
c) From 13 up to and including 15 years of age
d) From 16 up to and including 19 years of age
e) From 19 up to and including under 21 years of age

2.3 CLUB EXHIBIT: COMPETITIVE
One frame per Club allowed, theme to be **"The Floral Kingdom"**.

3 ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1 Each competitor to provide a photograph, about postcard size of him/herself with details of school, interests, etc. These are to go on the frames with the exhibit.

3.2 A charge of R60.00 per exhibit will be due on submission of the entry form. This fee is not refundable. The entry form and fees for each exhibit must be received before 30th June 2015 to enable the Organising Committee to allocate frames, together with a description of fifty words or less, in English or Afrikaans, for the brochure.

3.3 Each entry form must be signed by the Club Youth Leader or entrant's parent or guardian to confirm the exhibitor's age and that the exhibit is the bona fide property and work of the entrant.

3.4 At the discretion of the organising Committee, a maximum of five frames will be allocated per entry (minimum – one frame) and a maximum of two entries per exhibitor will be considered. If two entries are submitted, the exhibitor must indicate their preference if only one is accepted.

3.5 Addressed envelopes and/or envelope labels will be sent to entrants via the Youth Leader for despatch of the exhibit to the Organising Committee.

3.6 Exhibits must reach the Organising Committee not later than 11th October 2015

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

4 EXHIBITION FRAMES

4.1 One frame holds 16 sheets each with a maximum height of 30 cm and width of 23 cm. Sheets must be protected with acetate or plastic sheets in order to be accepted.

4.2 The entry fee per exhibit: Medal class and literature, **R60.00;** Star class, **R40.00;** Club exhibit, **free**.

5 LIABILITY

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

6 JURY AND AWARDS

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a person to chair the jury and to appoint jury members all of whom are on the list of accredited judges maintained by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

6.2 Awards will be made at the discretion of the Jury whose decision is final. The Grand Prix award will only be made to an exhibit attaining Vermeil or Gold standard. The medal awards are as follows:
a) Gold b) Vermeil c) Silver d) Silver Bronze e) Bronze f) Certificate of Merit
For the STAR Class, one to five stars will be awarded, with a prize for the best entry in this class.

6.3 Certificates will be issued to all participants. Additional special awards may be made available by the Jury. No entry should be eligible for more than one special award.

6.4 All previous awards attained by an exhibit must be indicated on the entry form.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF EXHIBITION REGULATIONS

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

8 ENTRY FORMS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Entry Forms are enclosed and photocopies are acceptable. Copies of the Prospectus and Entry Forms are available on **www.philatelysa..co.za**, or by email from Malcolm Suttill at **malcolms@lantic.net** Correspondence to Malcolm's email or 6 Little Hampshire, Emerald Street, Heldervue, Somerset West, 7130

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JUNASS 2015

14th – 17th October 2015, City Hall, Cape Town

ENTRY FORM

6 Little Hampshire, Emerald Street, Heldervue, Somerset West, 7130
or by email to malcolms@lantic.net

In accordance with the rules and regulations of JUNASS with which I agree to be bound, I wish to enter the exhibit described below.

1 DETAILS OF EXHIBITOR

Name: .....
Date of birth: ..... **Age on 1 January 2015:** .....
Club/Society/Youth Leader: .....
School: ..... **Grade:** .....
Physical address: ..... **Postal Address:** .....
....
....
Telephone No: .....**Cell No.** .....
E-mail address: .....

2 TITLE OF EXHIBIT

.....
Class: ☐ Medal, ☐ Star, ☐ Club,
Category: ☐ Country, ☐ Thematic ☐ Open, ☐ Other, ☐ Literature
Number of frames: .....

3 DELIVERY OF THE EXHIBIT

My exhibit will be
☐ sent by post
☐ sent by courier (please request physical address before sending)
☐ delivered by hand

4 RETURN OF THE EXHIBIT

My exhibit is to be returned by
☐ post
☐ sent by courier (please provide physical address and costs with entry)
☐ collected by hand upon signed authorisation

5 PREVIOUS AWARDS FOR THIS EXHIBIT

My entry has received the following awards in the last three years at JUNASS exhibitions or at a higher level.

	Date	Occasion	Award
1:			
2:			
3:			

6 DESCRIPTION OF THE EXHIBIT

Provide a description of your exhibit in a maximum of fifty (50) words.
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

7 PAYMENT

- Entry fee per exhibit to be enclosed: Medal, Open and Other class and literature, **R60.00;** Star class **R40.00;** Club exhibit, **free**
- Payments (cheque or direct deposit or transfer) to be made to Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town
  FNB a/c 5008 074 0217; Branch Code 25 06 55
- Please indicate the exhibitor's name and JUNASS as a reference on direct deposits or transfers.

8 ACCEPTANCE OF THE EXHIBIT

- **Signature of parent, guardian or club youth leader:** I confirm that the entry is the work and property of the entrant and also that the age is correct.
- **Signature of youth leader:** I confirm that the club entry is the work of the junior members.

....
Parent / guardian /Club youth leader Club youth leader

9 IMPORTANT DATES

- This form, plus payment and photograph of the exhibitor, MUST be returned by **30TH JUNE 2015 to the address given above.**
- All exhibits MUST be received by **10TH October 2015**.

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELIST
for ALL interested in

APRIL
2015

stamp COLLECTING

volume 91:2. 929

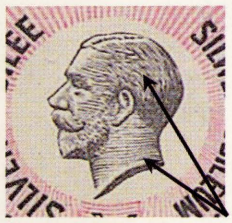
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1899

www.philatelysa.co.za



1935 SILVER JUBILEE

The headplate flaws revised with comments & observations



FORGED!

Natal fiscals are not known used in the Transvaal during the 'Interprovincial' period



NATIVE TAX STAMP IN THE UNION OF SA

Puzzled by the 2/6d Native Tax Stamp overprinted for revenue purposes, when a pair of regular stamps led to further confusion regarding the background of this mysterious stamp issue



NEW ISSUES

South African artist depicts the beauty of nature and creates awareness of the danger of poaching

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The South African Philatelist

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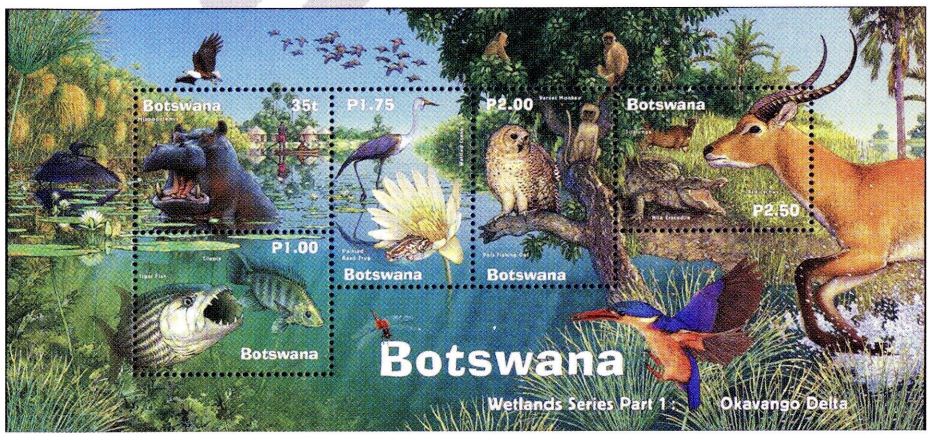

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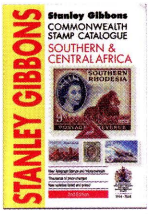

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD



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

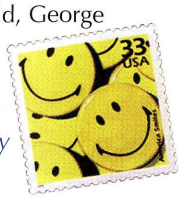
Sponsored by PILOT More than a Pen!

Geluk met gawe nuwe voorkoms

Geagte Redakteur,
Gelukwense met die nuwe voorkoms van *The SA Philatelist* – dit is voorwaar 'n plesier om die blad met die aangenamer en meer gemaklike voorkoms ter hand te neem.
Die pragtige voorblad van Februarie 2015 wys: dit gaan oor seëls !
Ja,die tydskrif weerspieël die nuwe lewe en energie in die Filateliese Federasie. Mooi so !

Joh Groenewald, George

Editorial comment:
Thanks also to those Societies and readers who responded positively to our 'new look' publication.



In the June 2014 issue of *The SA Philatelist* 'Seeking an Answer'

Jim Findlay RDPSA, responded to the question *"seeking an answer"* raised by Diederik Viljoen in the August issue of 2014, following a further two copies of EPP no.59 from DJ Watts. This adds to our information.

Enlarged view of cancellers on cover at right







Jim Findlay had explained that air mail postage for 'On Service' or 'On Active Service' was 10d while surface mail was postage free. The postmark is Egyptian and the Egyptian postal authorities insisted that all mail went through their system. An Egyptian post office was attached to all the SA APOs and the only time you can get a SA APO postmark on mail from Egypt is if it was registered. Egyptian Pre-Paid 59 Post Office was allocated to SA APO 36 from 16.06.1941 to 20.05 1942. On 8 August 1941 this was located at El Alamein, Egypt.



Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa Exhibition and Seminar 14-17 May 2015

DENVER, COLORADO, USA

Almost fifteen years ago, the Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA), held an anniversary exhibition and meeting in association with the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver.

In 2015, the PSGSA will again convene at the **Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver** and as part of the 2015 events, Tim Bartshe and Colin Fraser are organizing a full day seminar covering a number of themes relating to African Philately. This seminar will be held on 14 May, 2015, the day prior to the opening of the show.

In the evening there was a no-host dinner with a noted philatelist as the guest speaker.

We would like to send an invitation to participate in this event either as an attendee or as an exhibitor.

In 2002 we presented over 100 frames of British African material and displayed some of the greatest material in North America. The 2015 Jury comprises Rich Drews (Chair), Colin Fraser, Kathy Johnson, Peter McCann and Chris Dahle.

The exhibition will have a full complement of dealers and will be held from 15 to 17 May, 2015. It is a fully accredited American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately national exhibition. Full details of the exhibition, including application forms, can be found on the web site: www.rockymountainstampshow.com

CAPEX 2015

14th to 17th October
CAPE TOWN CITY HALL

The Organising Committee has filled all the portfolios and planning of this year's National Exhibition is well advanced.

The Cape Town City Hall has a long and interesting history, most notably in recent times as the place from where Nelson Mandela made his first official appearance following his release from prison.

Major upgrades to the various rooms are well advanced and provide ample space to accommodate all aspects of the event such as a main exhibition hall, dealers stands, Junass, specialised society meetings and Congress. Catering has been arranged for the duration of the exhibition.



As an added attraction we will have artistic material on loan from the Charles Davidson Bell Trust. Bell is well known in South Africa for his many achievements in land surveying, paintings and designing. His designs for the Heraldic Arms of the South African College (now UCT) and the three anchor badge for the South African Mutual Life Society (now Old Mutual) are still in use. As far as philately is concerned, we have Charles Bell to thank for the Cape of Good Hope Triangular Stamps, and it is a great privilege to be able to feature his works at our National Exhibition.

Ample parking will be available opposite the City Hall on the Grand Parade.

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

Collections in Museums: safekeeping vs permanent immobilization?!

In his latest QSA (e-auction) musings, SAPDA dealer Paul van Zeyl has again raised the question: "... are we doing posterity a favour by locking our prized stamp and postal history collections away in a museum for safekeeping purposes and periodic airing, or is this just an ego ruse which permanently immobilizes a collection as well as having the potential of destruction-by-neglect?" Paul holds the latter opinion and claims that the neglect of museum-deposited stamps (e.g, Transvaal by JH Curle, RDPSA) and postal history (e.g, WW2 censor markings, JH Harvey Pirie, RDPSA) collections have already led to their deterioration. Further, he revives a point made by Stanley Phillips years ago (in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, Dec 1951, p45) about the importance of older collectors re-offering their material to newer ones. Phillips also used the example of Curle's Transvaal collection. Curle had struggled to acquire several of the Transvaal rarities outside of the British King's collection, and complained to Phillips about how difficult this task had been. Phillips then explained to him that this would be less of a problem for later collectors if, after Curle's passing, his collection would be re-offered to newer collectors. Curle did not accept the life-giving benefit of Phillips' view, he insisted on creating a memorial-type collection ... so that all his treasures have now effectively become permanently immobilized. Paul expressed the further concern that Curle's Transvaal example may be followed in our times. If this happens, he predicts that Transvaal philately would regretfully face a bleak future. His perspective on the comparative futures of societies was that specialist societies such as the trade-positive Rhodesian and Bechuanaland ones were already, comparatively speaking, much more active than the Transvaal Study Circle from whose members little significant Transvaal material was finding its way back onto the market.



Curle Collection; Bisected 1/- imperforate

What are readers' views?!

Comments by SAPDA dealer Paul van Zeyl

EXHIBITION NEWS

WORLD STAMP SHOW IN NEW YORK : CRITICAL MILESTONES

Printed Bulletins and Entry Forms are now available from the National Commissioner Peter van der Molen, at molens@pixie.co.za

PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR EXHIBITS:

- **31 August 2015:** Exhibit applications MUST be in the hands of the Commissioner General.
- **November 2015:** Notice of acceptance or rejection to be sent to all commissioners
- **1 January 2016:** Commissioners to request their accepted exhibitors to send their title pages to the Commissioner General by electronic means.
- **29 February 2016:** Commissioners to remit participation fees to the Commissioner General or another designated member of the NY2016 Organizing Committee.
- **25-27 May 2016:** Commissioners arrive at the Javits Center in New York. Exact dates to be determined later.

World Stamp Show NY 2016

SINGAPORE 2015 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION

ACCEPTED COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT LISTING

Commissioner: Emil Minnaar, in attendance as a Juror - Howard Green.

Exhibitors:

- **Emil Bührmann** RDPSA, *Cape of Good Hope : The Hope Rectangular Design during the Victorian Period*
- **John Friend,** *The Stamps of St Helena (1884-1935)*
- **Herbie Schaffler** RDPSA, *North German Confederation (1868 to 1872)*
- **Ian Matheson** RDPSA, *Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope*
- **Gila Barit,** *Namibia: The Overprints of the 2000s and their origin*
- **Avi Barit,** *Basutoland 1961 Decimal Overprints*

The SA Philatelist Publication

Closing dates for advertising copy

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August issue	Vol. 91: 4. 931 : 06/07/ 2015
October issue	Vol. 91: 5. 932 : 07/09/ 2015
December issue	Vol. 91: 6. 933 : 05/11/ 2015

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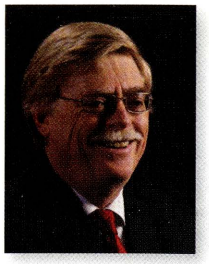

Collecting Cape of Good Hope

by Emil Bührmann RDPSA, Stellenbosch Philatelic Society

Part 2 - The Triangular stamps (1853 – 1863)

Triangulars rank as one of the most iconic early classical stamp issues in the world. With exceptions, triangular stamps are not rare but command relatively high prices due to popularity and collectability.

Only stamps in a good condition (margins not cut into, and in the case of used stamps with light postmarks) should command a premium price. Novice collectors are often talked into acquiring inferior copies at inflated prices. Be aware that there are many repaired copies in circulation, especially woodblocks. Fakes and forgeries are relatively easy to identify and should not pose a problem for most collectors.

Historical Background

In 1848 the first attempt to introduce a reduced letter rate and stamps was rejected by the Cape Governing Council. In 1852 an appointed board of enquiry on postal reform recommended the introduction of postage stamps. The report stated:

"In order to obviate errors in sorting letters or stamping, we would suggest the adoption of a device and shape so different from those of the English postage stamps as to catch the eye at a glance, and we would propose that of a triangle with the figure of 'Hope' in the centre ..."

Mr Charles Bell's design was accepted and Perkins Bacon and Co. were instructed to print 1d and 4d stamps. The first stamps were issued on 1 September 1853.

The Perkins Bacon Issues

Pre-payment of overseas postage only came into effect in 1858 and that explains why the 6d and 1/- stamps were only issued four years after the 1d and 4d values. Stamps were arranged in pairs forming squares and each pair was struck from two separate dies. The differences between the dies, re-entries, constant marks and details of the printing plates are discussed in detail by Stevenson (Ref 2) and are outside the scope of this article. Stevenson also discussed the handmade paper used and the reason why some sheets were blued.

The 1d was printed from the same inks as the contemporary 1d of Great Britain. It is therefore possible to link the Cape stamps with the colours of the British stamps. A chart illustrating this point is contained in the *Robson Lowe Africa in Switzerland* sale of 26 October 1976 catalogue.

Stamps supplied

Value	Printings	Quantity 000s
1d	26	5,850
4d	29	7,010
6d	2	920
1/-	2	380

General notes

Unused multiples are generally scarce. Most stamps and shades are readily available in used form. Covers in good condition other than to the UK, Holland and Germany are difficult to find. Inland covers to the OFS and Transvaal are particularly hard to find. So are soldiers' letters and newspaper postage usage.



SG 1 probably the most desirable of all Perkins Bacon mint multiples. Source: Mrs. AD Indhusophon.

The 'Woodblock' Provisionals of 1861

The Cape followed a policy of holding two years consumption of stock in order to prevent any shortages. In 1860 a large order of 1d and 4d stamps was delivered but laid unclaimed in the Cape Town docks. It was decided to augment supplies to prevent shortages by printing stamps locally. This gave birth to one of the most famous issues in philately. Saul Solomon & Co., a local printer, was requested to engrave new dies on steel for the two values.

Between February and April 1861 a total of 113,256 four pence and 125,012 one penny stamps were produced. Both Allis (Ref 1) and Stevenson supply considerable detail on the five 4d and four 1d printings. The printer could not obtain colour consistency between the printings and this gave rise to three distinct 1d and five 4d shades.



The unique tête – bêche pair. The only example recorded, ex Dale Lichtenstein.



The only known block of four unused of the 1d woodblock vermilion shade, ex Lichtenstein.

Errors of Colour

In the process of fixing the metal stereos to the printing plates, a 4d stereo was inadvertently affixed to the 1d plate and vice versa. One 4d stereo was also damaged in the left hand corner during preparation and a series of parallel lines were drawn. This gave rise to the so called 'retouched' corner variety.

Allis made a careful study of the errors and concluded that the first and last printings did not contain the errors. He calculated that 1,568 4d red errors and 1,194 1d blue errors were printed. The red errors are considerably rarer than their penny blue counterparts. This is attributed to the fact that 1d stamps were in the main used for the newspaper rate, where their survival was much lower than on letters.

1883 Reprints

Solomon reprinted about 12,000 stamps of each value for distribution to Postal Administrations for official purposes. The 1d was printed in a bright red and the 4d in deep indigo blue, both on white wove paper (originals were laid paper). Copies have found their way into the trade.



A world rarity. The only decent one penny error of colour mint stamp recorded to date. Source: Lady Hope Collection.

The De La Rue Issues

The Crown Agents were dissatisfied with Perkins Bacon due to their perceived lax and negligent behaviour and work was transferred to De La Rue. As the work on the new rectangular designs was not complete, Cape stamps continued to be printed from the Perkins Bacon plates. The first deliveries to the Crown Agents were on 21 January 1863.

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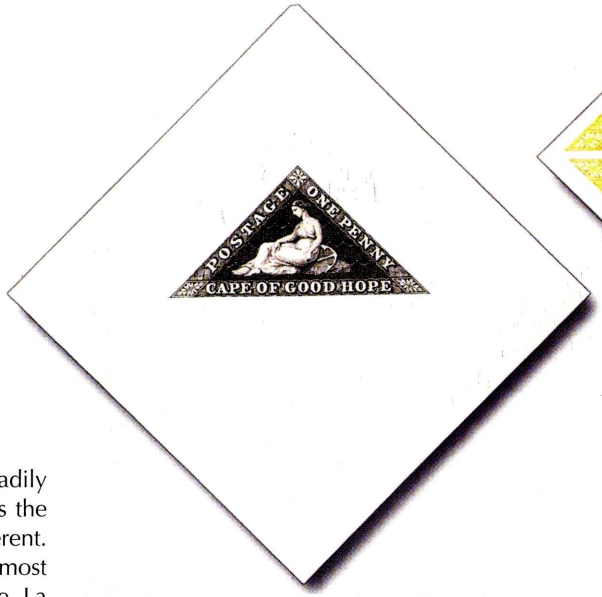
Arguably the most important Cape Philatelic piece: 4d error of colour on cover. Source: Joseph Hackmey Collection.

Stamps Supplied to Crown Agents

Date	Face Value	Quantity 000s
2 Dec 63	1d	493
13 Apr 64		730
	Total	**1,223**
17 Apr 63	4d	47
2 Dec 63		481
13 Apr 64		736
	Total	**1,264**
21 Jan 63	6d	95
21 Jan 63	1/-	38

Source: The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps, John Easton 1958.



Original Perkins Bacon Master Die Proof
Source: The Lady Hope Collection



Two Earl of Crawford 1/- Colour Trails.
Source: the Lady Hope Collection.

Notes

The 1d, 6d and 1/- stamps are readily distinguished from the earlier issues as the colours used by De La Rue were different. The 4d is more difficult to identify, the most prominent feature being that the De La Rues are of a duller blue shade. As many shades exist certain stamps are difficult to identify. Both Stevenson and Allis supply additional detail. Two shades of the 4d slate and steel blue as well as well as a pale emerald green printing from the 1/- and the bright mauve 6d are the most desirable copies to collect.

Remainder stock was sold to the London trade and unused copies in multiples are not rare except for the mentioned shades. However the 6d and 1/- used on cover are difficult to find and not many collectable covers have survived.

A trial printing on CC watermarked paper of the 1d exists in unused state only. No more than six examples probably exist.

Archival Material

No attempt is made to provide a comprehensive list and the information supplied is to give prospective collectors some pointers.



Very rare single stamp usage of the De La Rue 6d Bright Mauve to discharge the letter rate to Natal in 1865.

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Original sketches by Mr Bell, illustrated by Allis on page 24.

Die Proofs
Die proofs of all four values exist. More than 20 in total have been noted by the author.

Earl of Crawford Colour Trials
Apparently three sets of ten colour trials of the 6d and 1/- were printed by Perkins Bacon. It is not sure if all three sets survived.

Plate Proofs
Proofs exist in black on wove paper without watermark and in the colours of the issued 1d and 4d stamps without gum or watermark.

Modern die proofs
A variety of proofs in various colours, some with defaced values, were produced circa 1900 – 1926.

Overprinted 'Specimen'
De La Rue 'Specimens' exist and are very rare. Two copies of the famous Perkins Bacon 'cancelled' specimens have also survived.

Four Pence Black
This appears to be a trial printing and about 12 copies have come to light.
It is regarded as one of the Cape rarities.



The rare De La Rue Specimen set

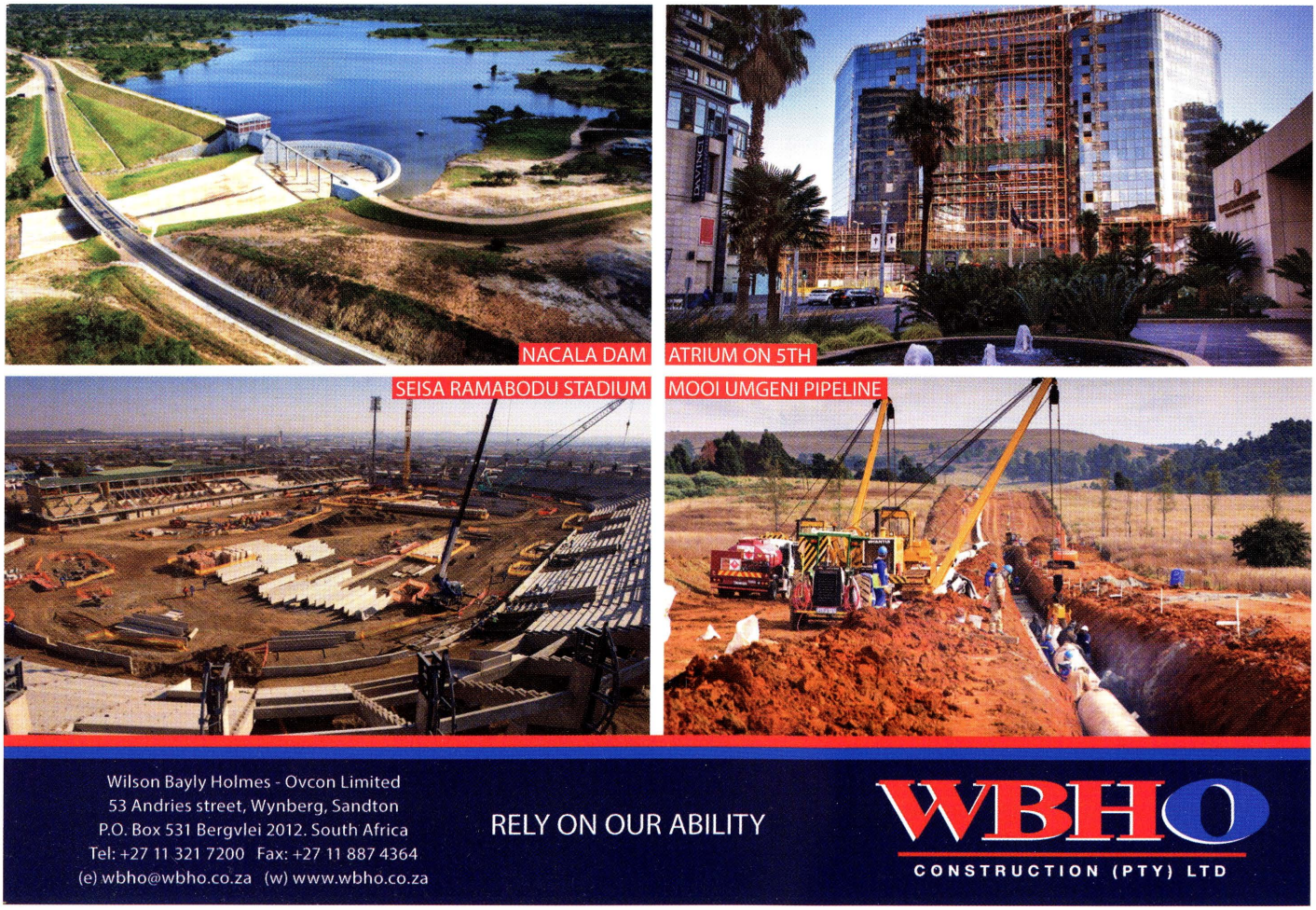
Reference Works
The two important books are:

1) Gilbert J. Allis: *Cape of Good Hope, Its Postal History and Postage Stamps*. Stanley Gibbons Ltd, 1930.

2) D. Alan Stevenson: *The Triangular Stamps of Cape of Good Hope*. HR Harmer Ltd.

Important Auction catalogues
Over the decades there have been more than a dozen single country Triangular sales and space does not permit a full listing.

- The Sir Maxwell Joseph Collection offered by Sotheby's in 1982 is the finest Cape collection ever put together and the catalogue for example contains no less than 300 woodblock copies in full colour. The catalogue contains about one thousand triangular lots, most illustrated in colour. It is a must for any serious collector.
- The Louise Boyd Dale and Alfred F. Lichtenstein Collections, Cape of Good Hope, Harmers of New York, November 25 1989.
- Mrs AD Indhusophon Grand Prix Collection, Spink, 26 May 1999.
- The 'Lady Hope' Collection, Feldman Galleries, 19 November 2003.
- The 'Bonaventure' Collection of Triangular Issues, Christie's Robson Lowe, 9 September 1993.
- The 'Maximus' Grand Prix Collection, Sotheby's, 7 September 1989.



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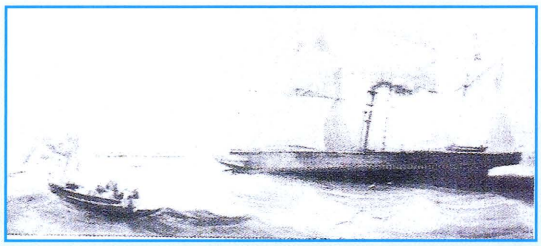
THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE ROYAL MAIL SERVICE

by Dr JR Frank RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

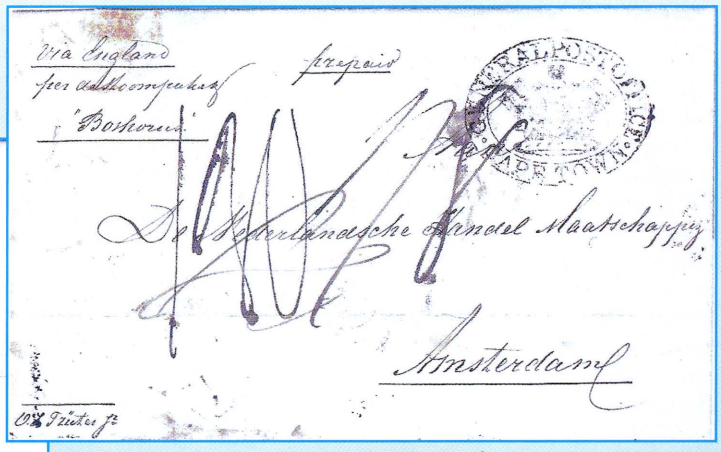
An attractive Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp item, showing the Cape's 1847 undated Crown postmark (Goldblatt Type 4) and endorsements regarding its conveyance, is always of interest. However, this entire proves the introduction of the Royal Mail Service.

The endorsements indicate that the entire was sent 'prepaid' by OT Trüter Jr. 'per steam packet' *Bosporus* (sic) via England to Amsterdam in the Netherlands. The reverse bears a receiver of 13 March 1851, a red oval strike of 'Engeland over Ostende' and an Amsterdam receiver of 15.3.1851.

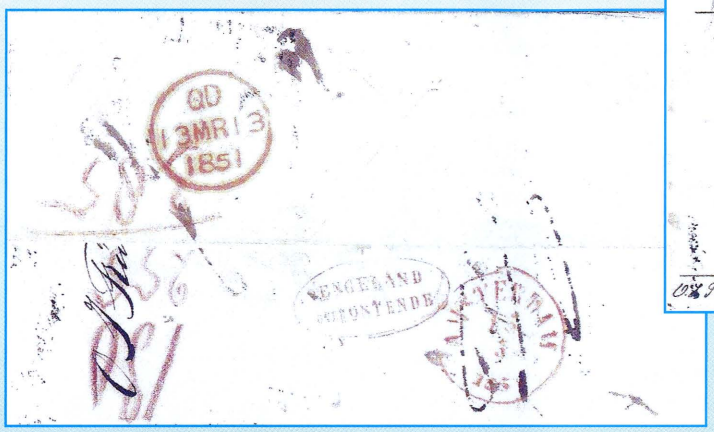
The Cape Town port charge of 8d and the 1/- packet rate are indicated, as is the total charge of 1/8. The Dutch charge appears to have been 190 cents.



The Bosphorus (G.S.S.S.C.)



Sent 31 Jan 1851. Entire from Cape Town to Amsterdam, via England and Ostend, Belgium.



Reverse of entire showing transit markings and Amsterdam receiver.

Reference:

Newall,P. 1999, Union Castle Line, *A Fleet History.*

The arrival dates of the entire rang a bell. This was likely to be the earliest northbound mail of the General Screw Steam Shipping Company by the *Bosphorous*. The contents of the entire, datelined 31 January 1851, confirmed this.

The writer states, in translation from the Dutch, "I want to make use of the favourable opportunity of the *Bosporus* (sic) (the first packet boat to establish a regular monthly service to the Cape) which leaves to-morrow from Table Bay. It is anticipated that the *Bosphorous* "can complete the journey in less than 35 days." The remainder is commercial news.

Communications between the United Kingdom and the Cape of Good Hope had been left in the hands of the Admiralty, which made them very irregular and unreliable. The 'Packet Ship' side of the Post Office was conducted by the Admiralty at the time. In fact, this impeded commerce in the cash strapped colony.

It was only in November 1850 that the Admiralty signed a contract for a regular monthly service between Plymouth and Cape Town with the General Screw Steam Shipping Company (G.S.S.S.C.).

The first ship to provide this service, the *Bosphorus*, arrived in Table Bay on 27 January 1851, after a 40 day voyage.

The return journey was commenced surprisingly quickly, on 1 February 1851, according to this missive. The postal markings indicate that the journey to England took at most 41 days.

The entire was then probably carried by the Dover-Ostend service to Belgium and subsequently by rail from Ostend to Amsterdam.

The item is of particular interest as it was carried on the first return voyage of the G.S.S.S.C., which held the packet mail contract until its collapse in 1854.

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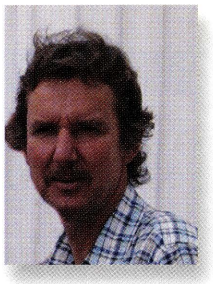


Part 12

DECORATED POST OFFICES

by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

Tsomo

Tsomo was founded in 1877. It originated as a military station known as Tsomo Post on the banks of the Tsomo River. In 1775-76 the river was described as the Great Zomo or Great Water-eye and is derived from the Khoikhoi tsu (sore or pain) mû (eye).

The alienation of Xhosa ancestral lands began during the 1770s when the Dutch annexed the border areas between the Gamtoos and Bushman's Rivers and began a gradual process of agrarian settlement that misrepresented indigenous concepts of land ownership. These incursions began to take on a more military aspect after the British annexation of the Cape Colony in 1806. After the annexation the eastern frontier of the Cape became the arena for a series of increasingly bitter land wars. The greater part of European settlement in the region occurred between 1848 and 1866, with several revolts by the amaNgqika, amaGcaleka and amaMfengu, the original inhabitants. In 1857 the so-called 'cattle killing' led to the starvation, and ultimate death of some 70,000 Xhosa people. This effectively brought their armed resistance to European colonialism in the Eastern Cape to an end. Barring a brief uprising in 1877 and 1878, when the amaGcaleka turned upon their amaMfengu neighbours, the British annexation of lands east of the Kei River was able to proceed unimpeded. Originally the Transkei included the territories of Idutywa Reserve, Mfenguland and Gcalekaland.

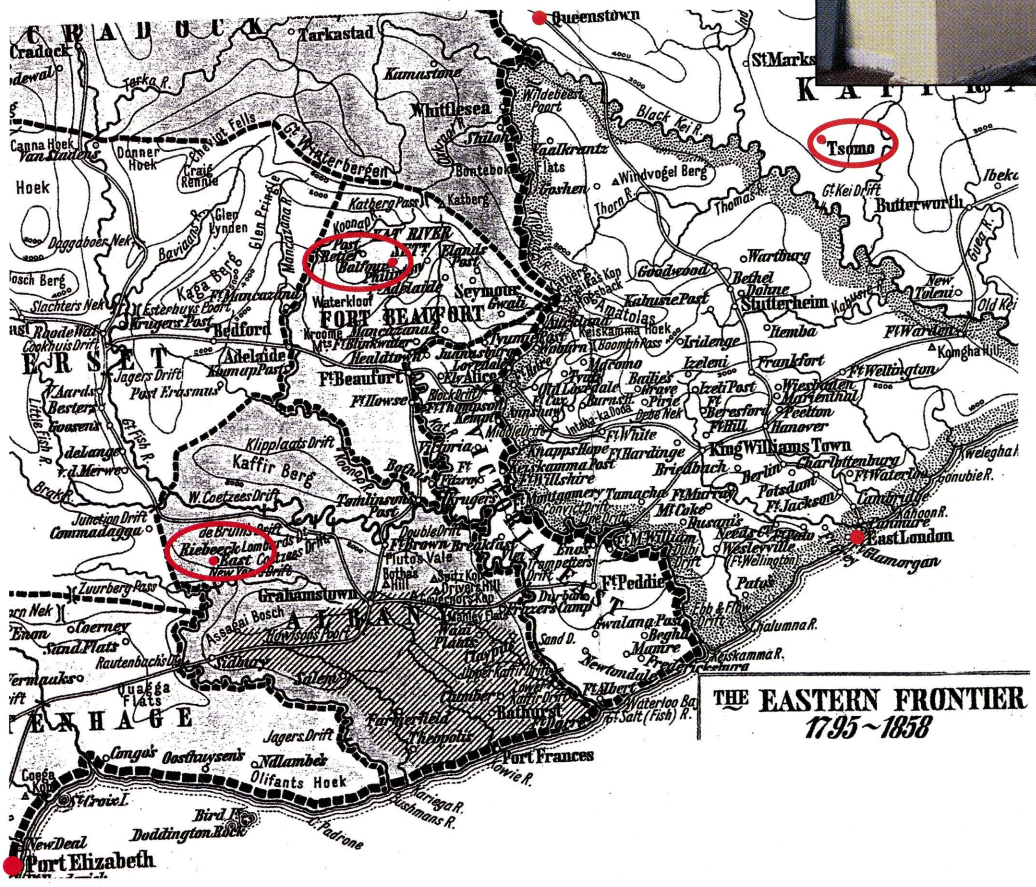
Following their annexation they were restructured into the divisions of Butterworth, Tsomo and Nqamakwe for Mfenguland; Kentani and Willowvale for Gcalekaland; and Idutywa for the Idutywa Reserve.

The post office is situated on the main road to Queenstown. It is a small, symmetrical, Baker-style building. A triple arched loggia forms the entrance, which is flanked on each side by a Ceramic Studio tiled panel by Isa Cameron, dated 1938. The panels are in Delft blue. On each side of the loggia is a fine, salt-glazed pot by J. Kirkness Ltd, Pretoria.

The tiled panel to the left of the entrance depicts a violent scene between two groups of warriors and cattle driving. The shape and size of the shields and spears identify them as Nguni, in this case, Xhosa. The scene probably illustrates the battle between the amaGcaleka and amaMfengu of 1878. At least two of the animals may be identified as Nguni by the large spots. The shields of the warriors are also made from the skin of Ngunis. The warriors wear earrings and anklets, while the cattle are driven by younger boys without spears and war dress.

The second panel depicts a scene of a seated teacher. It is possibly a missionary or an ex-soldier. He wears long puttees around the legs and a sun helmet or pith. In the background are two female assistants, one of whom rings a school bell. They are surrounded by pupils, some of whom carry chalkboards. Some of the children are scantly dressed in animal skin, while others wear clothes of fabric. In the middle are two structures. One is a traditional hut with the roof lifted above the wall by poles for ventilation, probably a storage facility. The other is a rectangular building with a pitched roof, probably the school. On the right is a maize field in seed and at least one ear can be seen, which indicates late summer. A lean mutt fills the left side. The whole scene is situated in a landscape of hills with trees and more huts in the background, with two white egrets flying past. The peaceful scene with settled school indicates that some time has passed since the last hostilities. The pith helmet confirms this and dates the scene after 1878, when this head gear was first introduced to Southern Africa.





The map shows the Eastern Cape in the 1800s. In red circles are three towns with post offices that are decorated with ceramic tiles that portray various scenes that involve the border wars, i.e. Tsomo, Balfour and Riebeeck East.

References: Telford A.A. (1972) *Yesterday's Dress. A history of costume in South Africa.*

Raper P.E. (1989) *New dictionary of South African place names.*

Acknowledgement:
Dr Petro Esterhuyse, University of the Free State for anthropological information.

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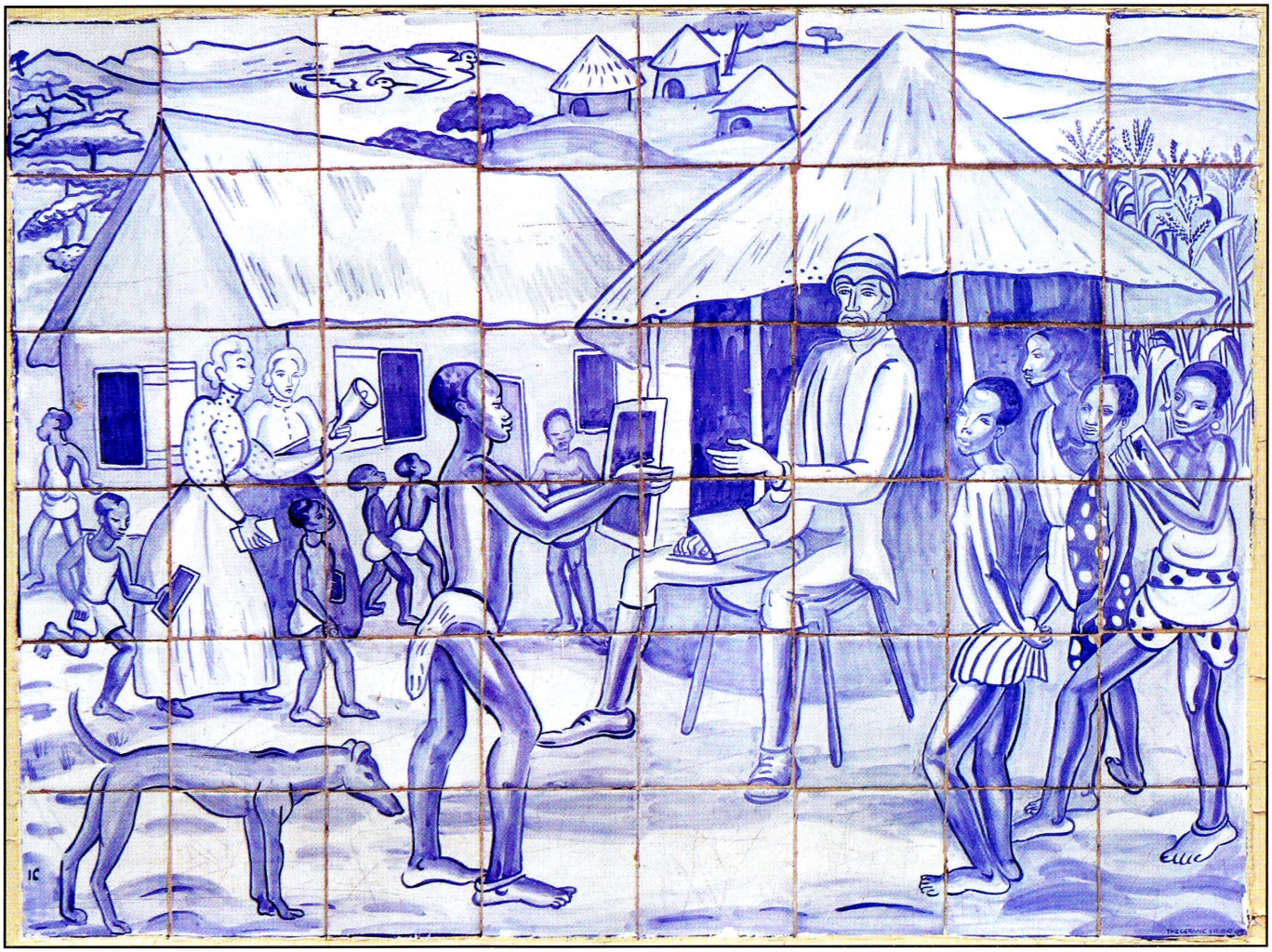

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Stroud Solves Concentration Camp Cover Confusion

There is good news for collectors of South African postal history - Richard Stroud's outstanding reference work on the concentration camps of the Anglo-Boer War is now locally available.

The book, *The Postal History of the Burgher, Refugee and Concentration Camps of the Anglo-Boer War during 1900 to 1903*, has been well received in Europe since its publication at the end of 2014.

Representing over ten years of research, the book is dedicated to John Sandilands RDPSA of Pretoria, who was the initial co-author but who died in October 2006.

The book is well set out, in a standard pattern for the 44 concentration camps for which postal material is described and illustrated. Each camp is described in terms of its location, opening, superintendent, population at various stages, and other relevant information. Then follows the philatelic aspect, being the postal office concerned, censor cachets, administrative camp cachets and further details.

Extensive background material is given in appendices, for instance about medical and nursing matters, death rates, schools, hospitals, relief committees, with names of doctors, nurses, teachers and so on. Native camps are also listed.

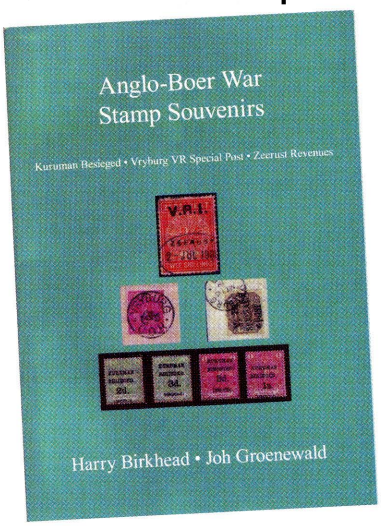
This means that one can easily access the basic information about any camp cover or front in your collection, and 'place' the cover.

As we know, even after 100 years Anglo-Boer War philately has scope for discovery, so one should check the information: the book lists a number of 'philatelically unknown' temporary or mostly transit camps, some rather short-lived, having been a camp for perhaps two or three weeks only. This fine book of 272 pages published by the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society is in A4 format, wire-bound, and costs R475. Orders may be directed to the society's treasurer in South Africa, Nigel Hosking, at nigelh@bell.co.za -- JG



From the Volksrust camp the grandmother of Nic Zerbst of George wrote to her husband, held as prisoner of war in the Ahmednagar camp in India. The grandfather, in turn, wrote back, marking his envelope for the section of Volksrust Camp were women and children were held who had been rounded up in the Piet Retief district.
Illustrations courtesy Nic Zerbst

A new publication: Anglo-Boer War Stamp Souvenirs



The fifth and final book in the Birkhead/ Groenewald series on the local stamp issues of the Anglo- Boer War, *Anglo-Boer War Stamp Souvenirs*, was published late last year. The book deals with the Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted 'Kuruman Besieged', the Vryburg 'VR Special Post' stamps and the ZAR revenues handstamped 'VRI' and used at Zeerust.

The Cape stamps cancelled at Vryburg and initialled 'CSQ' at the centre of the circular postmark are also detailed.

As with the previous books published by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa on the local stamps issued at Wolmaransstad, Schweizer-Reneke, Rustenburg and Lydenburg, the research of the authors has provided new facts and perspectives on these issues, which are labelled 'souvenirs'.

Joh Groenewald says in the two years prior to the passing of Harry Birkhead in April 2013, the authors had critically re-examined the relevant material in the Birkhead collection, perused material from other collections and checked all the amassed archival references and other data.

Companion volumes on the wartime philatelic issues sanctioned by the ZA Republiek government are in Afrikaans and deal with the Machadodorp postcards, the Vryburg ZAR on Cape overprints and the Petersburg stamps.

Enquiries may be directed to johgroen@mweb.co.za -- EM

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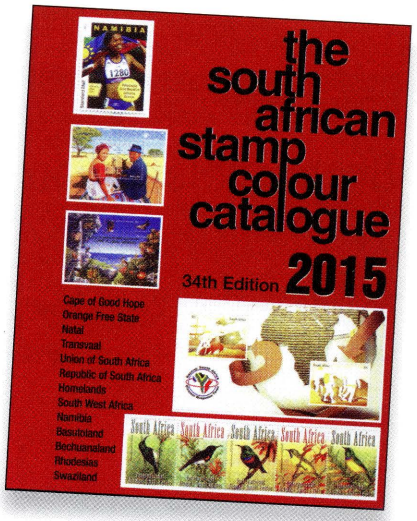
THE NEW 2015 SACC IS NOW AVAILABLE



Glen Carpendale (tel: 012 333 9385) offers a few preliminary comments on what he has seen, and comments on the prices. These comments were done after only an hours study and it is a rough guide, not an in depth study...

1). The new catalogue **lies flat** and is a pleasure to use. 10 out of 10 for that.

2). Layout is the same, very few, if any changes here.

3). **Cape of Good Hope:** Triangulars are up, Rectangulars are the same.

4). **Griqualand West:** - same prices

5). **Mafeking:** - same prices

6). **Natal**, **Nieuwe Republiek, O.F.S., Transvaal, Pietersburg, Lydenburg**, etc - all the same.

7). **Zululand:** all the same except the £5 which is up by R15,000.

8). **Union of SA:**

- **Kings heads** ** are up. The £1 from R18,000 to R22,000,
- **The Pale Olive £1** ** up from R20,000 to R26,000
- **Kings heads £1** * are up from R10,000 to R13,000
- **The Pale Olive £1** * up from R12,000 to R15,000.
- **1927 London printings** up ** from R19,000 to R29,000 and mounted from R9,720 to R13,670
- **1925 Airs** the same,
- **1929 Airs** up,
- **1930 Rotos** are up.
- **1933 Unscreened** printings are slightly up, as is the **1948 Screened printing**
- **Union Commemoratives** are the same.
- **Union Booklets** are exactly the same.
- **Postage Dues** and '**Officials**' are the same.
- **RSA:** some definitives are slightly up but mainly the same, commemoratives are up.
- **RSA Definitives** are either the same e.g. Proteas and others are up e.g. The buildings Control Block.
- **The 1988 40c Bible Stamp** is up from R9,000 to R12,000
- **Modern R.S.A.** is up ± 15%
- The R5 coin in the Mandela inauguration FDC is still at R1,200, but the market price has fallen substantially.

Homelands are all up in value.

B.S.A.Co: Early Definitives are up a lot, also Double Heads are up. The 1905 Vic Falls is the same. Admirals are up.

Southern Rhodesia: up

Northern Rhodesia: is also up.

Federation of R&N : is up.

Modern definitives are up but commemoratives are the same.

Basutoland: George V is the same, George VI & QEII are up.

Stellaland : is up.

Bechuanaland is up and so is **Swaziland**.

German SWA : is up, **SWA** Kingsheads are up.

London printings are up, Wars are the same, Commemoratives are up.

More modern SWA after 1961 is mainly up, but not all.

Postage dues and 'officials' remain the same.

Namibia: is much the same, with not many changes.

In general, I give it the thumbs up, and would say it is an improvement on previous catalogues. Prices are more realistic and if anything, are a bit high in a few places, but dealers can always give a discount.

The cost is R625 plus R60 postage and I do have stock.

If you are using a pre-2009 SACC, please note that the catalogue numbers have changed, which can cause collector and dealer confusion when ordering.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue – Southern and Central Africa

This the Second edition published in December 2014 and priced at £32.95 is available from their local agent: *Mr Thematic: email: chrisb@asapcc.co.za P.O.Box 4061. Honeydew. 2040. Cell: 082 566 3378*

Size is 240 x 170mm, soft bound with approximately 3,300 illustrations.

Listings for issues up to 1970 have been extracted from the 2015 *Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps* 1870-1970, with later issue having been revised and updated especially for this catalogue.

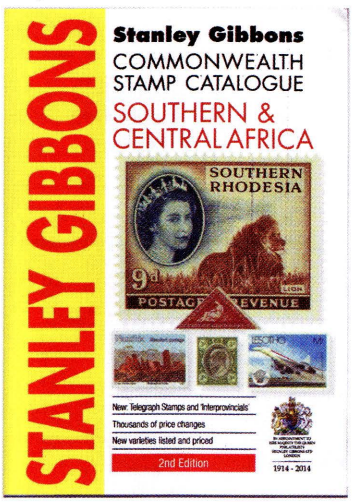
Key features are:

Comprehensive priced listings of the stamps of present-day Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique (from 1995), Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Includes earlier stamp issuing authorities: Basutoland Bechuanaland. British Central Africa. British South Africa Company, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West, Natal, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Orange Free State, Rhodesia, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Stellaland, Transvaal and Zululand.

Also includes Anglo-Boer War provisional issues for Mafeking and other towns and the 'Homelands' of Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda.

On cover 'multipliers' provided for all stamps to 1945, to allow calculation of prices for stamps on cover.

Watermark varieties, shades, plate flaws, Major errors, postage due stamps and booklets all listed and priced.



Includes priced listings of Transvaal Republic stamps used in Swaziland and British stamps used by the Army in South Africa.

Several new varieties have been added since the last edition, including the 'Lake' and 'Bay' flaws on the 1965 New Constitution stamps of Bechuanaland and the 'Dart in Gnu's back' on the 1930 1/- of South Africa.

The South African 'Interprovincials' - the stamps of Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal used in their own province or in any of the other three between the establishment of the Union and the issue of its first stamps, are now fully listed and priced.

New for this Edition

Government telegraph stamps of Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal, British military telegraphs used in Bechuanaland and South Africa and the 'Reuter's Telegraph Service' stamps of Matabeleland are all listed for the first time.

New issue listings updated as follows:

Botswana (up to January 2011)
Lesotho (up to April 2010)
Malawi (up to July 2013)
Mozambique (up to February 2011)
Namibia (up to June 2013)
South Africa (up to December 2013)
Swaziland (up to April 2012)
Zambia (up to November 2010)
Zimbabwe (up to July 2013)

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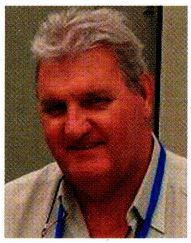
Bechuanaland and Botswana Commemorative Stamps

by Otto Peetoom, Bechuanaland & Botswana Society. Email: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com



The Bechuanaland Protectorate

Their stamp issuing policy was essentially under the control of the Crown Agents who included Bechuanaland in the various Commonwealth Omnibus issues starting with the 1935 King George V Silver Jubilee.

During the Reign of King George VI it included the 1937 Coronation, 1945 Victory (not the standard Crown Colonies design, but overprinted on the South African issue), 1948 Royal Silver Wedding and 1949 75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union.

In addition Bechuanaland issued a set of four stamps to commemorate the 1947 Royal Visit and used the same designs adopted by Basutoland and Swaziland. South Africa produced its own designs and the stamps were overprinted S.W.A. for use in South West Africa.

Starting with the Reign of Queen Elizabeth the country issued the various Crown Agent Omnibus stamps which are the 1953 Coronation, 1963 Freedom from Hunger, 1963 Red Cross Centenary, 1964 400th Birth Anniversary of William Shakespeare, 1965 I.T.U. Centenary, 1965 International Co-Operative Year and the 1966 Churchill Commemoration.



1960- 75th Anniversary of the Protectorate



1965 New Constitution

Bechuanaland's first exclusive commemorative stamps were a single design in a set of three values issued on 21 January 1960 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Bechuanaland Protectorate that came into being in 1885.

Before Independence, two further commemorative issues followed, a set of four using a common design for the New Constitution on 1 March 1965. Finally four different designs honouring the men who fought in World War II as the *Bechuanaland Royal Pioneer Corps*, issued on 1 June 1966.

Botswana Commemorative Issues

Following Independence in 1966, only one set of four stamps was issued to celebrate the Independence of the country.

A conservative policy was adopted that avoided a flood of unnecessary issues that is the hallmark of many Independent African States. That started with Ghana in 1957 and is mirrored by Independent Lesotho.

Miniature Sheets

Issuing miniature sheets to accompany a set of commemorative stamps became a Universal Philatelic gimmick that was an innovation boosting the income of Philatelic Bureaux. Miniature sheets essentially have no postal use and are simply an instrument to ensure that a stamp collector buys the same set of stamps twice.

The miniature sheets steadily evolved into a philatelic curse of today and at first they only included the same values that were issued in sheet format. Then they either included some of the values of a set or a totally different design to the rest of the set. Another gimmick was to use the same designs but give each stamp a much higher denomination. Over the years the sheetlets steadily grew in size and from initially being square or rectangular, larger and strange shapes were introduced.

Botswana Miniature Sheets

Although Botswana Post indulged itself with the miniature sheet market, they extended a conservative policy that avoided the over-kill that other African states resorted to. Since Independence in 1966, in forty nine years Botswana issued 49 miniature sheets which is an average of one per annum.

In reality the numbers ranged from one per year to as many as four in 2001 and there were several years in which no miniature sheets appeared.On 30 September 1968 the first Botswana miniature sheet made its debut to commemorate the opening of the *National Museum and Art Gallery*.



MS No 1 *1968 The Botswana National Museum*

The Botswana National Museum, also known as the National Museum and Art Gallery, is located in the capital Gaborone and is a multi-disciplinary institution that includes the National Art Gallery and Octagon Gallery. It displays traditional Botswana crafts and paintings and aims to celebrate the work of local artists.

The museum was established in 1967 by an Act of Parliament and it officially opened to the public in 1968. The museum celebrated a year-long 40th anniversary in 2008 under the banner of Museum as Agents of Social Change and Development, mirroring that used by the International Council of Museums.



1966 Bechuanaland Royal Pioneer Corps

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The museum is also involved with the preservation of Tsodilo, the country's first World Heritage area, among other efforts. It is the caretaker of Tsholofelo Park, the burial place of the Negro of Banyoles, known as El Negro in Botswana, following the body's return from the Darder Museum of Banyoles, in Spain.

Christmas stamps accompanied by a miniature sheet

Botswana introduced an annual set of Christmas stamps that was usually issued during November, but in some instances in late October or in early December. The first set made its debut on 11 November 1968 and the first miniature sheet followed with the second Christmas issue on 6 November 1969.

The designs of the Christmas stamps slowly evolved from local people observing the **Christmas star** to **Nativity scenes** and from 1974 the annual set depicted the **Flora of Botswana**. From 1978 the Christmas issues always included a symbolic emblem representing the Christmas star. Three exceptions to the flora theme are 1983 Dragonflies, 1984 Butterflies and 2005 Doves and Pigeons.



1970 Christmas Miniature Sheet

The Annual Christmas stamp policy includes six miniature sheets for 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1974 and 1987.

The last annual Christmas set has a plant theme and was issued on 30 November 1998. A few erratic sets followed in 2004, 2005 and 2006 and no Christmas stamps have been seen since.

A Review of Pictorial and Interesting Miniature sheets

MS No 3 1970 *Death Centenary of Charles Dickens*, this subject somehow does not really tally with Botswana, however the accompanying miniature sheet is enhanced by various 'Dickens' scenes around the margins of the sheetlet.

MS No 6 1972 *Mafeking - Gubulawayo Runner Post*- This sheetlet reflects the entire historical route and includes images of the Mafeking 638 Barred Oval Numeral Canceller (BONC).

A miniature version of the foregoing sheetlet was issued in 1988 to mark the Centenary of that Runner Post **(MS No 21)**.

MS No 10 1975 *Rock Paintings in the Tsodilo Hills*, a rather oversized six inches square sheetlet (150cm) which portrays the rock painting designs of the stamps with the hills as a background on the selvedge plus a small map of the country which indicates its location.

MS No 11 1976 *First National Currency,* the selvedge of the miniature sheet offers an informative description and explanation of the new P: Pula (rain) and t: Thebe (shields) currency.



1986 20th Anniversary of Independence

MS No 19 1986 *20th Anniversary of Independence*, the miniature sheet includes four 20t values and was only issued in this format.

MS No 30 1999 *Southern Africa Community Day*, one value and only issued as a miniature sheet.



MS No 32 2000 Moths

MS No 32 2000 *Moths* - The first oddly shaped miniature sheet which represents a giant moth that includes all five values.

Please note that due to greatly varying sizes of miniature sheets, they are not all shown at the same size ratio

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2000 - 03 Wetlands series 1 to 4

MS No 33

2000 Series 1 - *Okavango Delta*

MS No 37

2001 Series 2 - *Chobe River*

MS No 38

2002 Series 3 - *Makgadikgadi Pans*

MS No 40

2003 Series 4 - *Limpopo River*

These colourful miniature sheets paint a complete picture of the stamps and selvedge to an extent whereby the individual stamps are more or less surplus to requirement.



2000 Series 1 - Okavango Delta

1995 A change of policy for Miniature sheets or sheetlets

1995 *Endangered Species - the Brown Hyena*, the four stamps were printed in sheets of fifty and in addition se-tenant strips of four were arranged in a sheetlet of 16 with pictorial selvedge. The foregoing is not regarded as being a miniature sheet.



Botswana Post joins the trait of exploiting the stamp collector as the connoisseur who desires all the available permutations requires a set of single stamps, a se-tenant strip plus a complete sheetlet. It requires the purchase of six sets at a cost of 15 Pula instead of one set at P2 50t.

MS No 27 1997 *Golden wedding of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip*, for the first time the miniature sheet depicts a different design with a top value of ten Pula.



MS No 28 1998 *Diana, Princess of Wales Commemoration*, a set of four cost P5 85t and the miniature sheet includes the same designs, but each with a face value of P2 50t costing ten Pula in total.

MS No 29 1998 *Botswana Weavers*, a miniature sheet with a different design and face value of P2 50t.

MS No 35 2001 *Kgalagadi Transfrontier Wildlife Park*
This miniature sheet only includes two of the four values.

MS No 42 2005 *Endangered Species - Black-footed Cat*. Two se-tenant sets of four incorporated into a large miniature sheet, thus one had to buy two additional sets instead of one.

MS No 47 2011 *Endangered Species - White Rhino*. A large miniature sheet with all four designs in the shape of a huge Rhinoceros.



1992 Deluxe Railway Service

2004 Joint Issues of Southern Africa Postal Operators Association Members - This marks the beginning of pictorial miniature sheets with unusual shaped stamps and identical designs were issued by other African countries.

MS No 41 2004 *First SAPOA National Birds*, eight hexagonal designs - Also issued by Angola, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

MS No 44 2007 *Second SAPOA National Animals*, five square designs - Also issued by Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

MS No 45 2010 *Third SAPOA World Cup Football*, nine circular designs - Also issued by Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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No	Year	SG - MS	Botswana Miniature Sheets - Details	Value*
1	1968	248	Opening of National Museum and Art Gallery	£ 1.00
2	1969	260	Christmas	£ 1.00
3	1970	269	Death Centenary of Charles Dickens	£ 2.75
4		275	Christmas	£ 1.00
5	1971	289	Christmas	£ 1.00
6	1972	298	Mafeking - Gubulawayo Runner route	£11.00
7		303	Christmas	£ 1.25
8	1974	340	Christmas	£ 1.75
9	1975	345	Tenth Anniversary of Self Government	£ 1.00
10		350	Rock Paintings, Tsodilo Hills	£12.00
11	1976	366	First National Currency	£ 1.00
12	1977	405	Historical Monuments	£ 2.50
13	1978	434	Okavango Delta	£ 1.50
14	1979	448	Handicrafts	£ 1.00
15	1981	485	Insects	£ 2.50
16	1983	549	Traditional Artefacts	£ 3.75
17	1985	576	5th Anniversary of SADC Conference	£ 7.00
18		594	Centenary of Bechuanaland Protectorate	£14.00
19	1986	603	20th Anniversary of Independence	£ 3.75
20	1987	643	Christmas - Grasses and Sedges	£ 4.25
21	1988	656	Centenary of Mafeking - Gubulawayo Runner Post	£10.00
22	1989	677	Slaty Egrets	£ 3.25
23	1990	701	Traditional Dress	£ 9.00
24	1992	737	Deluxe Railway Service	£14.00
25		760	Olympic Games - Barcelona	£ 6.00
26	1993	775	Railway Centenary	£ 5.00
27	1997	876	Royal Golden Wedding	£ 4.00
28	1998	889	Diana, Princess of Wales Commemoration	£ 2.50
29		894	Botswana Weavers	£ 3.00
30	1999	903	South African Development Community Day	£ 4.00
31		910	Miss Universe	£11.00
32	2000	920	Moths	£ 7.50
33		938	Wetlands 1st Okavango Delta	£ 7.50
34	2001	939	Hong Kong 2001 Exhibition Overprint on MS938	£ 7.50
35		948	Kgalagadi Wildlife Park	£ 3.50
36		953	Traditional Baskets	£ 2.75
37		963	Wetlands 2nd Chobe River	£ 7.00
38	2002	999	Wetlands 3rd Makgadikgadi Pans	£ 8.25
39	2003	1008	Beetles	£ 6.00
40		1014	Wetlands 4th Limpopo River	£ 7.00
41	2004	1027	First SAPOA National birds	£ 13.00
42	2005	1044	Endangered Species Black-footed Cat	£ 8.00
43	2006	1061	40th Anniversary of Independence	£ 8.50
44	2007	1079	Second SAPOA National Animals	£ 7.00
45	2010	1146	Third SAPOA World Cup Football	£ 13.00
46		1157	Night Animals	£ 10.00
47	2011	1174	Endangered Species White Rhinoceros	£ 5.00
48	2014	1210	Lions of the Chobe	£ 6.00
49		1217	Philkorea Stamp Exhibition Overprint on MS1210	£ 5.00

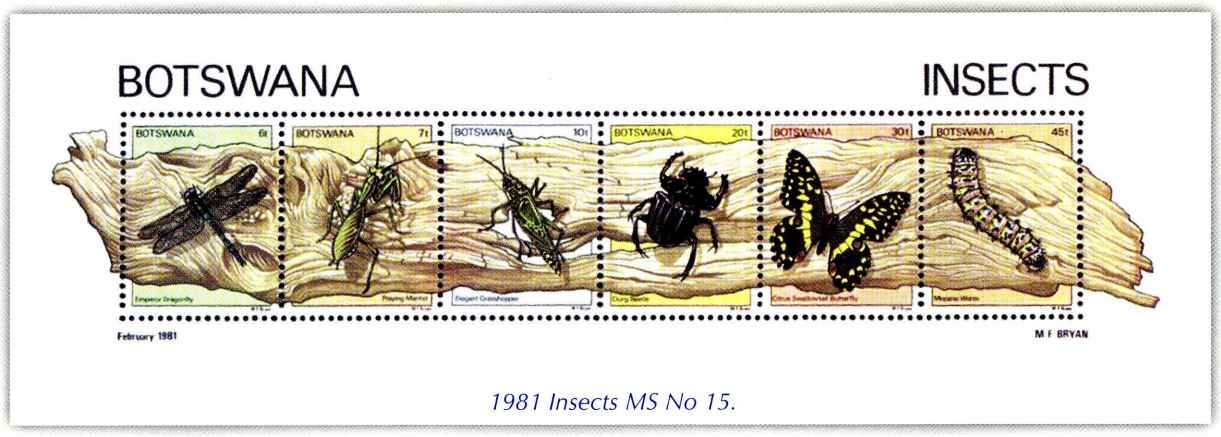
* Values from Stanley Gibbons. Southern & Central Africa Catalogue 2nd Edition 2014

1972 Runner Route



Miniature Sheet Printers

De La Rue MS 1
Harrison MS 2, 5, 22, 24, 25
Questa MS 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 27
A & M MS 6
Enschedé MS 9, 29, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 47
J. Waddington MS 12
SA Govt. Printer, Pretoria MS 15, 19
Mardon MS 16, 17, 18
National Printing, Zimbabwe MS 20, 21, 23, 26, 30
Cartor, France MS 28, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 42, 46
Southern Colour MS 31,48, 49
Walsall MS 3



1981 Insects MS No 15.

All Botswana stamp issues may be viewed at www.bechuanalandphilately.com

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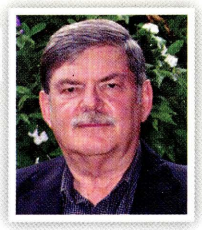
THE 2/6d NATIVE TAX STAMP IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



by Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

The author has been puzzled over the last 20 years by the 2/6d Native Tax Stamp overprinted for revenue purposes. When a pair of un-overprinted stamps was acquired it led to further confusion regarding the background of this mysterious stamp issue. The author has only seen two pairs of un-overprinted Native Tax Stamps over the last 20 years (Figs 1 & 2). When copies were seen of these stamps overprinted for revenue purposes for Bechuanaland and Basutoland, it was realised that there must be an explanation for the conversion of this stamp into a revenue stamp.

In an article entitled *'Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa'*, published in *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956, LJ Dodd indicated a "Series 3a Provisional Stamps" 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 (Fig. 3). The earliest cancellation seen is January 1942." He linked this to Series 3 that 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 wrote 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 Tax stamp with the words REVENUE or INKOMSTE".

The following was reported in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1942: "Collectors of revenue stamps 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'. What is also interesting is that a 2/6d revenue stamp was also issued as part of Series 3 despite the fact that the Native Tax Stamp for 2/6d overprinted 'Revenue/Inkomste' was available.

Research that was recently done in the State Archives in Pretoria revealed that a system of Native Tax Stamp Cards was approved in 1938 and introduced in 1939. In a letter from a RJ Chake from Pretoria addressed to The Secretary of Native Affairs in July 1946 he stated the following:

"May I have the honour to hereby draw the attention of, Your Honour, to the fact that sometime back during the years 1938 on the recommendation of a Commission which sat in connection with the mode of Collecting Tax from natives, a 'Native Tax' Revenue stamp was issued at 2/6d each together with 'Native Tax Cards' in order to enable our people to pay-off by instalments whatever amounts they individually owe to the Crown as Tax. It is now about 7 years ago and to my surprise I have not seen these 'Native Tax Cards' in the possession of 'Africans' but have seen a lot of the 'Native Tax Stamps' in the Post Offices, and have noticed that these Stamps were also used for 2/6d Revenue Stamps by Office bearers. I therefore, Your Honour, hereby apply to you for either 500 or 1,000 Native Tax Cards for introduction of the simple method of easily paying Tax to our people."



Figs.1 & 2: Pairs of Native Tax/Naturelle belasting stamps cancelled in the Port Elizabeth Post Office on 27 February 1945 (above) and another pair also cancelled in Port Elizabeth (below). Only these two pairs of 'un-overprinted' Native Tax stamps have been seen by the author over the last 20 years.



Fig.3: Pair of Native Tax Stamps overprinted for revenue purposes early in the 1940s. Further research is necessary to determine the exact date that these stamps were overprinted.



Fig.4: Native Tax Stamp overprinted BASUTOLAND / REVENUE / 2/-. Based on examples seen this must have been one of the first overprints that was probably done circa 1945.



Fig. 5: Native Tax Stamp overprinted 'BASUTOLAND / 10/- / REVENUE. Date of overprint still unknown at this stage.

This system of collecting Native Taxes by means of a Stamp Card was based on Act No. 41 of 1925. This system was introduced in 1939 following the motion: "That a uniform system be adopted in all Magistrate's offices for crediting Native Tax Cards and that existing cards be suitably amended and reprinted". The Native Tax Revenue Handbook was the guiding document to implement the system.

Many challenges were encountered with the Native Tax Card system. In a letter from the Native Commissioner in Eshowe on 18 December 1945 to the Chief Native Commissioner in Pretoria, it was indicated that a Native has affixed postage stamps to the value of 15/- to his card instead of the special Native Tax Stamps. The Postmaster General was then requested to replace the stamps with Native Tax Stamps or refund the person involved.

In a Circular dated 15 August 1947 regarding the 'Abolition of the Native Stamp Tax Cards', the Secretary for Native Affairs, Mr. G. Mears, wrote that the ratio of the value of stamps sold is vastly disproportionate to the value of receipts issued under the scheme and that many taxpayers abandoned the scheme after the purchase of stamps of insufficient value for conversion to tax receipts.

At a conference of Native Commissioners held in Johannesburg on 11 December 1946, the following motion was adopted unanimously:

"That the Department be requested to abolish the Tax Stamp Card method of collecting General Local Tax." The conference expressed the view that in spite of the wide publicity which had been given to the scheme neither taxpayers nor employers appeared to understand it.

After the abolition of the system it was found 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 Department of Inland Revenue must have realised earlier on, before the Card System was abolished in 1946, that they

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were sitting with a surplus of these stamps because stamps overprinted for revenue purposes in the Union of South Africa were recorded as used on documents in 1942.

The following overprints on the 2/6d Native Tax Stamps of the Union for Basutoland and Bechuanaland are recorded in the inventory records of the Government Printer in Pretoria over the period 1951 to 1953:

- 1 Sheet x 60 2/6d Native Tax Stamps overprinted 'Basutoland Revenue 6/-' in July 1951. (Fig. 6)
- 1 Sheet x 60 2/6d Native Tax Stamps overprinted 'Bechuanaland Protectorate 6/- Revenue" in May 1952. (Fig. 7)



Fig. 6: Native Tax Stamp overprinted Basutoland / Revenue / 6/- These stamps were overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria in July 1951.



Fig.7: Native Tax Stamp overprinted: Bechuanaland / Protectorate / 6/- / Revenue. These stamps were overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria in May 1952.



Fig.8: Native Tax Stamp overprinted BASUTOLAND / 6/- / REVENUE. These stamps were overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria in September 1953.

- 1 Sheet x 60 2/6d Native Tax Stamps overprinted 'BASUTOLAND 6/- REVENUE' in September 1953. (Fig. 8)

The total number of sheets overprinted are not known at this stage and further research will have to be done in this regard.

In conclusion the following can be confirmed regarding the 2/6d Native Tax Stamp:

- That originally these stamps were printed for the sole purpose of being used with the new Native Tax Card System introduced in 1939. Due to the fact that the system was a failure it was abandoned in 1946 and a surplus of these stamps were in stock.
- That for the convenience of clients these stamps were also available in the countrywide network of Post Offices.
- That due to a shortage of 2/6d revenue stamps these stamps were overprinted 'Revenue/Inkomste' circa 1941/1942. This confirms that a portion of these stamps were already overprinted for revenue purposes long before 1946 when the Native Tax Card System was stopped (Fig. 13). The earliest date of usage of the overprinted stamps, used as revenue stamps in the Union of South Africa, is January 1942.
- That the surplus of stamps available also led to the decision to overprint these stamps for ASSIZE/YK purposes (Figs. 10 & 11).
- That these stamps were also overprinted for revenue use in Basutoland as early as circa 1945 (Figs. 4, 5 & 12).
- The Receiver of Inland Revenue must have realised by the 1950s that stocks of these stamps were still available and the Government Printer in Pretoria was instructed to overprint these stamps for use as revenue stamps in Basutoland (1951, 1953) and Bechuanaland (1952).
- The Native Tax stamp was originally intended to be used for Native Tax purposes with the Native Tax Card system introduced in 1939. Throughout the period 1939 to 1946 it became clear that the system was a failure and alternative usage of these stamps had to be considered. Further, due to the shortage of paper at that stage, that led to the Bantam issues, the Department of Inland Revenue could not afford to destroy the surplus stock of these stamps. The surplus stock was then mainly overprinted for revenue purposes in the Union of South Africa,



Fig.9: Pair of Native Tax Stamps overprinted Basutoland / Revenue / 6/- and cancelled 6 September 1952.



Fig. 10: Native Tax Stamps overprinted 'ASSIZE / A YK / 2/6' for ASSIZE / YK purposes.



Fig. 11: Example of the ASSIZE/ YK overprint on the Native Tax Stamp, used with other ASSIZE-stamps. Date unknown.

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Basutoland and Bechuanaland. However, what is interesting is that not one example of a Native Tax Card with these stamps correctly used, has been observed over the last 70 years.

Fig. 12: (below) The Native Tax Stamp overprinted BASUTOLAND / REVENUE / 2/- used with other Basutoland revenue stamps and cancelled 3 August 1945. This is indicative of the fact that this version of the overprint on the Native Tax Stamp was probably one of the first.





Fig. 13: (above|) Pair of Native Tax Stamps overprinted for revenue purposes used with 4 x 1/- Bantams cancelled 4 December 1945.

Sources:

- L.J. Dodd, **The Revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa**, *The SA Philatelist*, September 1956 and December 1959.
- **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.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD



Regarding Rennie's Steam Service:

Editorial Board,

The article on Postal History, of Rennies Steam Services by RN Porter (December edition), was most interesting.

An extract from the book, *'Forgotten Shipwrecks of the Western Cape'* about the wrecking of the mail-steamer *Waldensian*, and of her Captain Joss, may be of interest:

Michael Walker

Editorial note:

Michael Walker's sent a page from the book 'Forgotten Shipwrecks of the Western Cape' which was forwarded to Roger Porter - it deals mostly with the superstition of the sailors about having more than one clergyman on board; "And, as the Waldensian Steamer, under the command of Captain WA Joss, had among her one hundred and twenty passengers and crew, EIGHT ministers of the Dutch Reform Church, as well as a compliment of Christy Minstrels - this was too much for even the most hardened of seamen, especially when the Reverend Lion Cachet recorded a prophecy that the ship would run aground, as had been the fate of her sister ship 'Madagascar' four years earlier...

The ship was wrecked because it had been 'set-in' by the current and some local deviation in the compass...." it makes for fascinating reading.

Response from Author:

The information from the book *'Forgotten Shipwrecks of the Western Cape'* sent by Mr. Michael Walker has thrown more light on the incident of the loss of the *'Waldensian'* on 13 October 1862 as described in *The SA Philatelist* of December 2014. The explicit description of the superstition of doom among seamen regarding clergymen travelling on board a ship was of particular interest. However, what had been assumed in the December article was that the mails rescued from the *Waldensian* were transported overland to Cape Town. This may be incorrect.

There were 128 souls on board, eight of which were crew. The account details that passengers were taken by the vessel *Kadi* and the crew by the steam tug *Albatross* to Cape Town. The *Albatross* was frequently used to take the mails on the coastal run between Cape Town and Port Natal when either of Rennie's steamers were undergoing repairs and were unavailable to meet the conditions of the mail contract. It is therefore probable that the mails from the wrecked *Waldensian* were taken by the *Albatross* from Struisbaai to Cape Town in time to meet the Union steamer *Athens* before its departure on 21 October.

The *Albatross* had the advantage that it would be faster than the overland route for the mails to reach Cape Town in time, the vessel could manoeuvre in small spaces during times of inclement weather, it carried fewer passengers and that the mails could be secured.

Roger Porter

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Ann's Villa

1864

by Dr Helen Lunn, hglunn@gmail.com





Anns Villa date stamp is redrawn here, hence the little hand. The impressions on stamps are too weak to warrant publication.

Ann's Villa (www.annsvilla.co.za) is a hamlet situated at the foot of the Zuurberg Pass, Eastern Cape. In 2015 it will celebrate its 150th Anniversary. The features that make the Villa unique and interesting are many...

- It is recognisably the same building that existed in 1864
- It is home to a registered 1855 blacksmith museum housed in the original smithy at the Villa
- It has the complete shop built in 1864 in its original location
- It has the original Post Office located in the shop where it has always been.

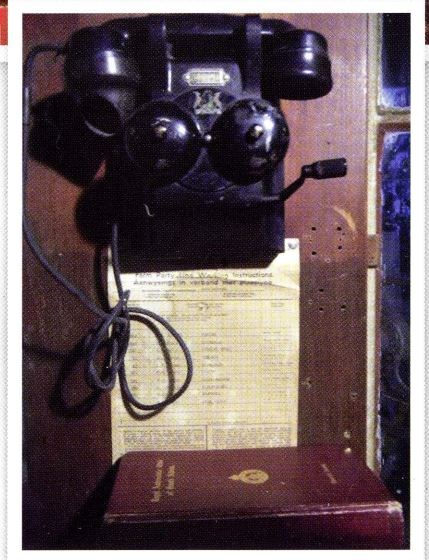






The Villa is a declared national monument and despite being relatively in 'the middle of nowhere' stands testimony to the history of the region. It was built shortly before the diamond rush started in 1871, and was on one of the four routes to the interior.





Helen Lunn tells us a little about the envelope; *"The little boy who posted the letter from Ann's Villa, was sent to the Villa to recuperate with his grandmother. He was the son of Phoebe Jackson, née Hall, who was the daughter of Elizabeth and George Hall. His mother obviously kept the letter which was given to me by her granddaughter, Katherine Berger, in 2004. So the envelope has travelled a long way through time to return to the post office at the Villa. What I like about the letter is the address on it written in pencil and as vague as can be, but it found its destination!"*

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It serviced the local community with everything from loans for the purchases of farms, repairs to everything on the farms, and acted as a central point from which to transport and receive goods. In the 1880s a school house was added to the small hamlet and there are still adults in the area who recall receiving their earliest education there.

From the beginning, the Post Office at the Villa performed a central role in keeping the community connected. When telephones were introduced (date unknown) it became the central exchange for the area via the party line system. Everything from newspapers which were delivered via the post, to family news, arrived through the post. Telegrams announcing births and deaths and more dramatic news were the 'instagrams' of yesteryear. Without the small rural post offices it is unlikely that most small communities would have survived.

Proposal for stamp issue:

It is suggested that as Ann's Villa still has one of the original post offices reminding us of the role performed in the past of the PO, a stamp issue celebrating the role of the historical small rural post office might be a suitable subject for consideration.

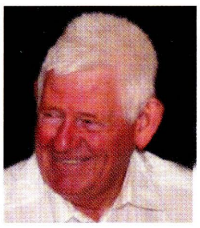
Postmark:

It was also suggested that for the week leading up to and including heritage day, Ann's Villa post office be permitted to accept and postmark post which would then be taken to **Paterson Post Office** for postage. Allowing the use of the post mark with specified dates would have two possible outcomes.

One would be 'new stories' about the unique event which would be good publicity for the PO.

The other would be the value implicit in the limited number of franked items with the Ann's Villa postmark. It would be a type of limited edition postmark which would make it highly collectable.

Celebrating the role of small rural post offices would also serve to highlight the continuing and significant role that rural post offices continue to play.



BORDERS . . .

by Jan Bakker RDPSA, East Rand Philatelic Society

Some time ago I described a postcard showing the point where three Empires met. But how many people know of the point where four countries came together?

When I ask people which countries were involved, many offer Belgium (correct), then Germany (not totally correct) and then they run out of ideas. Some will suggest Luxembourg (only 150km out) or France (200km out). Then there is silence.

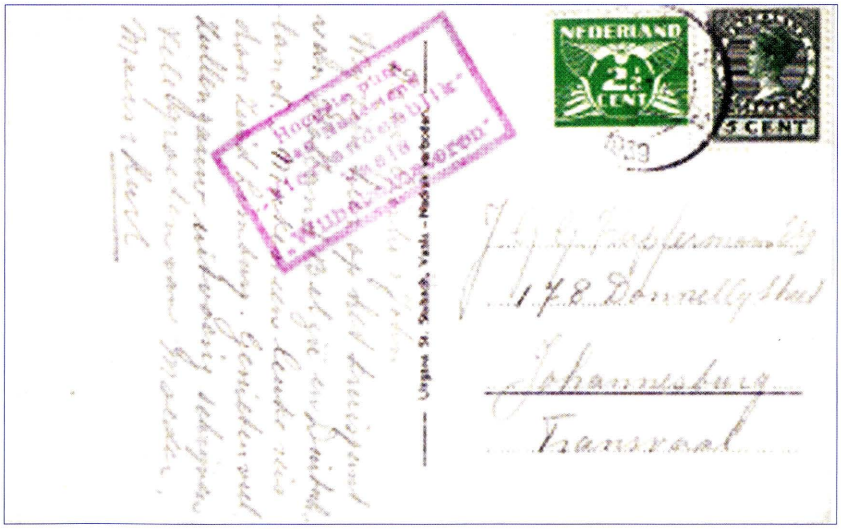
Let me explain how it occurred. The point is the southernmost tip of Holland, on the appendix sticking out into Belgium, at a place called Vaals. It is near the highest point in Holland, all of 300m above sea level. By comparison Johannesburg is 1800m above sea level. Currently only three countries meet there.

After the fall of Napoleon in 1813, the Congress of Vienna was held to decide borders and compensation. At the place in question there was a very large zinc mine near the village of Moresnet but due to its importance the delegates did not wish to allocate this area to Holland or to Prussia. As Belgium did not exist at this time, the two countries agreed to a 'neutral Zone' under the supervision of two commissioners from each country: Holland from 1817 until 1839, Prussia/ Germany from 1817 to 1920, and later Belgium from 1835 to 1920.

The last of these 'countries' was perhaps the smallest state in the world, vying with Monaco, the Vatican and San Marino for the title. However, things were not stable and after WWI, the whole area was given to Belgium as compensation for the occupation. Prussia had become Germany, which occupied Holland in 1914.

So philatelically, what does this mean? Stamps issued in Holland, Belgium and Prussia were valid in Moresnet, which also used the currencies of its neighbours. Local letters were mailed with the stamps of the country of destination and thus used the local domestic rate. In the 1860s it was still possible to collect 'the whole world' but unfortunately collectors were rather gullible and naïve and bought anything that was offered for sale. (There were very few stamp magazines to guide them and no internet). In consequence, rogue dealers invented stamp issuing countries and bogus issues were common.

In 1867, a well-known dealer, M. Moens, issued four stamps as an April Fool's joke to show how easy it was to fool collectors and to see the reaction of the trade. These were two bi-coloured stamps for correspondence with Germany and two stamps for letters to other countries: 10 centimes lilac and green, 20 centimes orange and red and 12½ centimes red. Reaction to these was muted but on 5 October 1886 Moresnet officially issued



Translation of cachet: *Highest point/ of Netherlands/place of four countries/ Vaals/Wilhelminatower.*

The whole area was split into three parts: the north under Dutch juridical supervision, a part under Prussian juridical supervision and a neutral area, which contained the village of Neu-Moresnet and the zinc mine. The whole area was only a few square kilometres but contained possibly the richest zinc mine in Europe. However, after 20 December 1830, when Belgium declared UDI from Holland there were now four countries involved : Holland, Prussia, Belgium and the neutral zone of Moresnet., The last area was known as 'het vier landen punt', see the cachet on the card.

a set of eight stamps rated in pfennig. These were initially imperforate, but later appeared perforate. (Perforate stamps are all believed to be mint, and used examples are claimed to be forgeries.)

The stamps were supposed to be for franking packets to Achen in Prussia (about 10km away), but the commissioners soon moved in and prohibited the use of these items. The old French laws of 1799 were still operative and the postal system was a state monopoly. The use of these stamps was stopped on 19 October 1886 having been valid for only two weeks.

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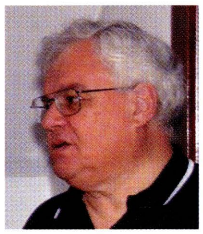
THE SOUTH AFRICAN *Christmas Stamp Fund*

by Franco Frescura, University of KwaZulu-Natal



INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) is a highly contagious disease, primarily of the lungs. In addition miners' *phthisis*, or *silicosis*, caused by the inhalation of quartz dust, is often accompanied by secondary tubercular infection. The disease itself is ancient and evidence of its existence has been found in the remains of bison, dated to 15,000 BCE, and in prehistoric humans dated to c 4,000 BCE. The term *phthisis* is of Greek origin and its use can be traced back to c 460 BCE. Its meaning is, quite literally *consumption,* and is a direct reference to one of the outward symptoms of TB, involving a chronic weight loss.

Because of its association with phthisis during the early 20th Century, the spread of TB on the Witwatersrand gold mines became a matter of concern. Although miners were a high-risk group, the disease was contagious, and liable to spread to other sectors of the population, regardless of social standing and economic background. As a result, its prevention and eradication became the focus of public awareness campaigns, which also sought to raise funds for free medical treatment for all sufferers.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHRISTMAS STAMP FUND

In 1929 Mrs Maja Egil Christiansen, a Danish national residing in Durban, put forward the idea of selling Christmas labels, to raise funds for the erection and maintenance of a children's TB sanatorium. The idea was, no doubt, inspired by events in her own country where, in 1903, a postal clerk, Einar Holboll, suggested adding an extra stamp sold in aid of charity, to letters and greetings cards mailed during the Christmas season. The money raised could then be used to assist children who had contracted the disease. The plan was approved by the Danish authorities, and in December 1904 the country issued the world's first Christmas postage stamp.

The practice of using colourful and well-designed labels on postal items arose during the latter years of the 19th Century, when envelopes left open for postal inspection were charged half the current rate for letters in sealed envelopes (Fig 1). Inspection by the post office was nominal at best and the public took advantage of this rebate and started closing the envelope flaps with stamp-like labels, or seals, to maintain their privacy. Inevitably Christmas charities began to design and sell their own seals to raise funds, and in subsequent years these became popularly known as *Christmas Stamps*, although they were only charity labels with no postal standing. Many, who did not care about the rebate, merely applied these labels to the front of their letters to show publicly their

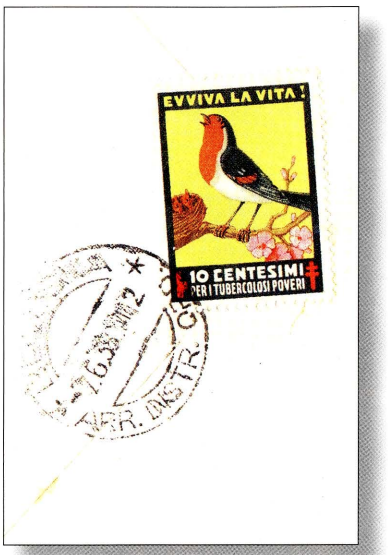


Fig 1.Italian charity label closing flap of letter.

support for a cause. But by the 1960s the halcyon years of poster stamps, as these were sometimes known, was over, as their designs began to reflect the cheaper and more accessible methods of litho printing. The days of fine engraving, art nouveau ladies and recess printing were gone (Fig 2).

The symbol used by the international movement against TB was the Cross of Lorraine, a double-barred cross, originally carried by Knights Templar during the Crusades. It was adopted as the symbol of the world-wide movement against TB at the International Conference on Tuberculosis held in London in 1902, and appeared for the first time on a Christmas stamp, issued by the US Postal Service, in 1920. In South Africa the cross was featured on Christmas seals from 1933 onwards. However, this choice was not without local criticism. Writing in the 1950s Credo Mutwa pointed out that, in Black iconography, the two-barred cross was considered a symbol of death, which deterred many possible patients from seeking medical assistance. In all fairness, by the time Mutwa had penned this opinion, the symbol had been in use in South Africa for over a generation, which means that its image probably preceded its reputation.

In 1929 Mrs Christiansen's ideas were put before the Tuberculosis Hospital Fund of Natal. The outcome was the establishment of the South African Christmas Stamp Fund, and the publication of the first Christmas seals in November 1929. Unfortunately the organisation's archives were destroyed in about 1995, when its head office was transferred from Durban to Johannesburg, and many of these facts have been extrapolated or drawn from secondary sources.

In 1947 a number of anti-tuberculosis associations throughout the country amalgamated under the leadership of Charles E James, then Chair of the Natal Anti-TB Association to form the South African National Tuberculosis Association (SANTA). South Africa was widely regarded as one of the worst TB areas in the world, and by 1973 the association had about 200 branches and action groups, with 120 care groups dedicated specifically to black urban communities, and over 300 located in the rural areas.

Although the Christmas Stamp Fund (CSF) and the Natal Anti-TB Association, later SANTA, were nominally separate organisations, each having its own management structures, the two bodies had their offices in the same building, and it is difficult to believe that they did not cooperate in matters of common concern. Thus, although the CSF was primarily concerned with the raising of funds towards anti-TB activities, in the context of SANTA's overall financial structuring its contribution must have been relatively modest. Nonetheless the sale of these labels played a fundamental role in shaping the

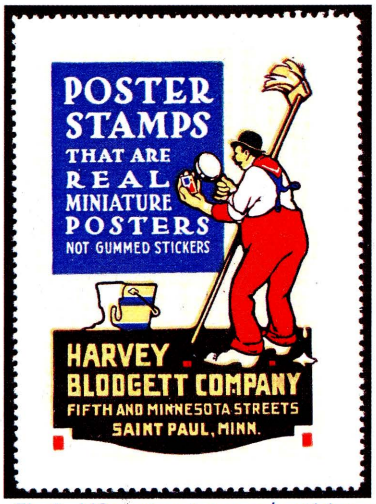


Fig 2. US poster stamp advertising a printer of poster stamps, c1930.

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organisation's public image as well as the general perception and awareness of TB.

The first stamp which went on sale at all Union Money Order offices on 15 November 1929, sold a total of 168,362 units at a penny each, giving the organisation a total of £786.9.6. Of this amount £174 was raised in Durban, while Cape Town contributed over £52. The committee continued its activities until 1995 when it was finally wound up, by which stage its annual income from the sale of charity sheetlets had dropped to less than R6,000. Presumably much of this can be attributed to changing public perceptions of the disease, as well as the failure of the organisation to adapt its volunteer work force to the changing national demographic of a post-1994 South Africa.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS AND THE POST OFFICE

It seems probable that the Christmas stamp programme received the support of the Post Office virtually from the outset, although its exact nature has been difficult to determine, and was probably subject to changing circumstances.

The first stamps, issued in 1929 and 1930 respectively (Figs 3 & 4), were a cheaply



Fig 3. 1929 Christmas label.

designed and produced product. They were badly printed on poor-quality gummed paper which was brittle and susceptible to the ravages of tropicalisation. Their design, which was almost identical in both years, did not understand the principles of miniaturized artwork. The stamps were distributed to Post Office Money Order offices throughout the country and sold to the public over the counter. Equally important, they were announced to post office employees by Post Office Circular No. 596 of 25 November 1929 which told them that proceeds from their sale would *accrue to the Radium Fund or other approved charity.*

Although these labels were not recognised for postal use, they were accorded *semi-official* status and were subject to the same Post Office accounting procedures as any postally valid stamp.

Despite bearing no value, they were sold for 1d each, and there is reason to believe that they may have been considered as antecedents for future issues of a semi-postal nature. Certainly we know from Post Office records that the following returns were made for the first, 1929 issue.

Total numbers printed	:	489,000
Total number sold in 1929	:	168,362
Total surplus	:	303,360
Probable wastage	:	17,278
		or 3.5% of total
Income from sales	:	£786 9 6
Less Post Office charges	:	£84 19 4
		£701 10 2
Printing & production costs	:	£149 0 3
Net profit	:	£552 9 11



Fig 4. 1930 Christmas label.

PRODUCTION ISSUES

The relationship between the Christmas Stamp Fund Committee and the Union Post Office was renewed the following year, although details of their financial arrangements are not known. What is clear, though, is that from 1931 onwards, the Post Office must have taken a more direct interest in the design and production of the labels. The first two issues, in 1929 and 1930, bore similar designs whose printed area was 22.5x31mm, but from 1931 onwards, these measurements were reduced to 21.5x26.5mm, one of the standard sizes used by the Government Printer to produce the Union's definitive stamps.

In 1931 the printing was carried out by the Durban firm of Robinson & Co by screened rotogravure, but the sheets were not rouletted as before but were perforated on a comb 14 machine, again one of the standard sizes used to perforate Union definitives. However, Robinson & Co would not have had the machinery necessary to carry out this work and, as far as is known, perforating technology at this level is a security feature that has always been the monopoly of the Government Printer. It must be concluded therefore, that the printing of the labels was carried out in Durban, but that the consignment was then sent to Pretoria for finishing. As the facilities at the Government Printer were not made available for outside commercial work as a matter of Government policy, it can also be concluded that the design and printing of the labels was done in Durban to Post Office specifications, and that the perforating was done subsequently in Pretoria under instruction of the Post Office.

Given the technical limitations of rouletting technology, it seems likely that, in 1929 and 1930, the size of the sheets did not exceed 60 labels, laid out in a 6x10 format. Anything larger might have resulted in unacceptable levels of wastage. Unfortunately, the largest positional piece found in the SANTA archive was a horizontal marginal strip of five, which yielded little information.

After 1934 labels were printed in sheets of



Fig 5. Têtê-bêche blocks of the 1953 and 1955 issue Christmas labels

120, in a 6x20 format. Details of the sheet design varied from year to year. Sometimes positional arrows were placed at the centre of the sheet, on both the horizontal and the vertical axis, in others these were omitted. To facilitate booklet manufacture in most years the top three horizontal rows were printed upright, while the lower three were inverted, giving rows 3 and 4 a têtê-bêche format (Fig 5), but in at least six issues this was not done. In some years the selvedge was used to carry anti-TB messages, in others not (Fig 6).

In 1964 and 1965 the SANTA labels were redesigned and produced in the Republic's

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new commemorative stamp format, which had been introduced in 1961 (Figs 7 & 8). Unfortunately there was no alteration to SANTA's marketing strategy, and the design of the booklets must have been done by someone who lacked knowledge of packaging.

From a booklet point of view this must have been catastrophic, producing a product which few people could have liked. In 1966, in a bid to recover sales, SANTA switched to a miniature sheet format of 2x5 labels, which appears to have been popular with the public, although few labels from this period have been seen on cover. Sheets were rouletted even though their design continued to reflect graphically the use of perforations. It seems likely therefore, that at this time the Christmas labels ceased to be produced by the Government Printer. SANTA however, continued to be the Post Office's *designated charity*.

THE SANTA ARCHIVE

Two years after leaving the Post Office, I was requested by SANTA's Management to dispose of their archives on their behalf on the collector's market. This raised about R12,000. The data recorded below is based upon the material that was delivered to me for disposal. Regrettably their records did not include any of their operational files, and details of designers, artwork, printing specifications and all relevant correspondence had apparently been destroyed some years previously. Similarly no original artwork has ever been found.

The archive included a range of stamps, in sheet and booklet format, as well as stocks of the post 1966 decorative sheets, which should be the subject of a separate study. The years 1931, 1932, 1933, 1941 and 1944 were not represented, and it must be assumed that all stock of those issues was sold out. The material had previously been stored in Durban, presumably not under ideal conditions, and much of it was badly tropicalised. Labels from 1929 and 1930 were in particularly bad condition. Sheets were generally brittle and tended to separate at the perforations, and before any research could be done, they had to be pressed and kept flat for a length of time. Storage was a problem, even in the short-term, and all but the most careful of handling was hazardous.

SOME OBSERVATIONS

The seemingly innocuous design and production of charity labels does not appear to have been without its share of controversy.



Fig 6. Use of selvedge for advertising in the 1946 issue Christmas label

In 1942 the label featured a kneeling woman and child in an obvious reference to the birth of Jesus. While the baby proclaimed his divinity by disporting a nebulous halo, the lady had no such attachment (Fig 9). Some Catholics saw this as a mark of disrespect towards Our Lady and wrote letters to the press, whilst others decided the design depicted a nun with a sick child and had no objections. In the war years most people had other issues uppermost in their minds, after all.

In 1950 the Christmas Stamp Committee issued a drab design showing a nurse standing on a landing welcoming two toddlers crawling up stairs towards her (Fig 10). Presumably the toddlers had TB, for why else would they be trying so hard to get into hospital, but then why should this nurse be forcing them to crawl up the stairs in the first instance?



Fig 7. 1964 Christmas label



Fig 8. 1965 Christmas label



Fig 9. 1942 Christmas label, showing a nebulous halo over the child's head

Unfortunately, the Committee liked this design so much that in 1950 the label went to three printings, each technically worse than the last. They even reprinted the same design in 1962, just in case the lesson had not been learnt twelve years before!

In 1951 two versions of the same stamp were issued, both featuring a small child in a night shift standing on a brown globe which resembles a basketball. One, found only in sheets, had 1d inscribed on the globe; the other with no value, has only been found in booklets (Fig 11). The reasons for this discrepancy are not known, but it might be the result of a change in marketing policy. The labels for 1929-1932 were not given a value, but those from 1933-1949 were inscribed 1d. In 1952 they reverted to being value-free. It seems probable that sometime in 1951 a decision was taken to do away with the inscribed value, but the artist was not informed. When the first sheets were delivered the mistake was realised, but instead of delaying their decision for another year, the Committee decided to order a reprint of the label minus its value. Those sheets were then used in the manufacture of booklets. It is possible that the labels in sheet format were never issued.

In 1958 the Moderator of the NGK in the Transvaal, the Rev AM Meiring, declared that the label designed by the Christmas Stamp Fund for that year should not be circulated, because although the depiction of the Virgin Mary on the stamp with a halo that was larger than that of the Child Jesus was completely in the Roman Catholic tradition, *it was offensive to the Protestant point of view* (*The Star*, 1958). On the other hand Monsignor F Mason, Vicar-General of the Pretoria Arch-diocese of the Roman Catholic Church thought it was *a very nice stamp* (Fig 12). The dispute reached as far as the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Dr Albert Hertzog. Ultimately the Committee reprinted the 1957 label and inscribed it 1958, giving the public a choice of which stamp they wished to buy (Fig 13).

The English roots of the Christmas stamp programme were probably typified by the fact that the Natalians who ran it took sixteen years to translate *Christmas* into the Afrikaans *Kersfees*. It started off correctly in 1929 as *Kersfees*, but then degenerated into *Krismis*, then *Kersmis*, and finally settled upon *Kersfees* in 1944 (Figs 3, 4 and 14).

BOOKLETS

The earliest booklet found in the archives was for the 1935 issue, with a value

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Fig 10. 1950 Christmas label



Fig 11.1951 Christmas labels with inscribed value



Fig 12. 1958 label, also known as the Madonna with the large halo



Fig 13. Alternative 1958 Christmas label



Fig 14. 1944 Christmas label with standardised spelling of KERSFEES

of 1/- (Fig 15). Given the design of its cover, this was probably the first year that Christmas labels were sold in this format. It is uncertain at what stage additional booklet values were created, but there were certainly 6d and 1/- booklets in 1939. Thereafter a complete range of booklets was made available, including the 6d, 1/-, 2/6d, 5/- and 10/- values. With decimalization in 1961, the cheapest booklet was priced at 10c and the most expensive at R1.

The first booklets were saddle-stitched on the left-hand side, but within a few years they were stapled, and later glued together. Booklets for 1938-40 carried advertising on the back cover, paid for by the Vacuum Oil Company of South Africa. In 1938 they featured *Pegasus 8 in 1 petrol*, in 1939 we were introduced to *Pegasus* and *Mobiloil*, and in 1940 we were told that *Mobiloil Gargoyle* was the *World's largest selling motor oil* (Figs 16 & 17). Thereafter this advertising space, which might have generated valuable revenue for SANTA, was taken over by them to publicise their role in the fight against TB.

CONCLUSIONS

The status of South Africa's Christmas labels has always been difficult to determine. It seems likely that, at some stage, it was planned to raise them to the status of *official* charity stamps, a concept which was first used in South Africa in 1938 and again in 1939. Certainly their link to the Union Post Office and the Government Printer in Pretoria makes this highly probable. The latter was prohibited from printing any material of a commercial nature, and would not have done so without a strict undertaking being given by the Post Office. Added to this is the fact that some early issues were printed on multiple Springbok-head watermarked paper, which was normally reserved for Union postage and revenue stamps. Some early Union catalogues and handbooks had no compunction about listing them, as an addendum at the back of the book perhaps, but they enjoyed a degree of philatelic recognition nonetheless.

The reason why they did not take the final step, from charity label to official stamp, has never been documented or fully understood. The wanton destruction of their original archive in Durban has, sadly, left many questions unanswered.

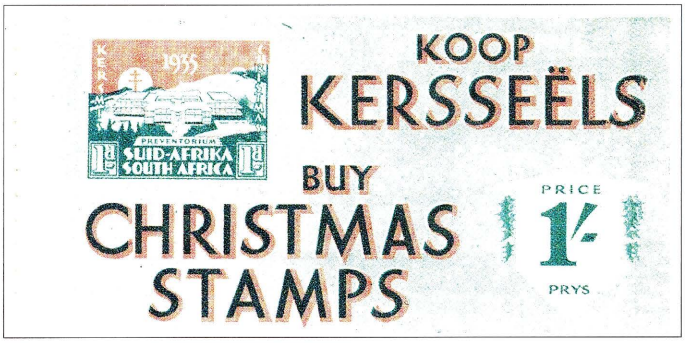

Fig 15. Booklet cover for the 1935 issue, saddle-stitched on the left-hand side.

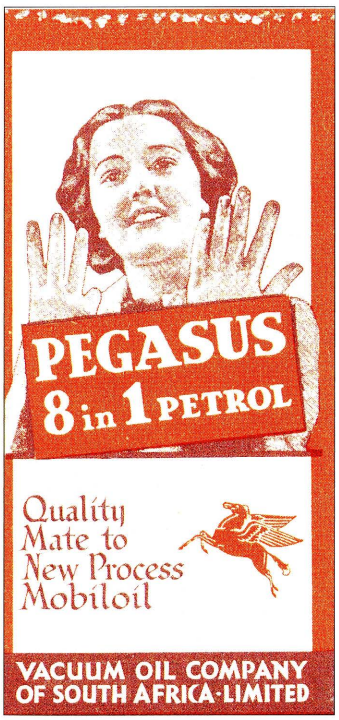

Fig 16. Advertising on the back of the 1938 booklet.

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Fig 17. Advertising on the back of the 1940 booklet.

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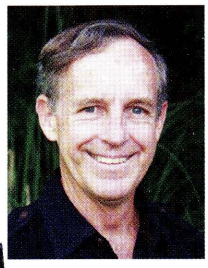
Phun with postmarks



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

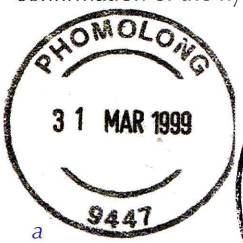
REAL FUN WITH POSTMARKS

In this column I will look at a range of interesting aspects of post offices and cancellers, many new on the postmark scene.

Where is Phomolong?

The question was raised when postmarks of Phomolong were found with regionally different postal codes. Postal codes are divided into regions, and the first digit relates to the region, as shown in Figure 1 for the recorded date stamps of Phomolong. Free State is digit 9, whereas Gauteng is digit 1. Historically we found that offices in pre-1910 provinces had the same name, and these did not change after 1910, except that the province was included, for example Middelburg Cape and Transvaal, and Heidelberg Cape and Transvaal. But why would new offices use a name that had already been used? It is difficult enough to have offices which have similar names, as I discussed in SAP February 2011, but why have exactly the same name?

Part of the answer may be that Phomolong in the Free State was opened in Hennenman on 2.1.1999, but no record could be found that it had been closed (exists on an October 2014 office listing provided by SAPO) although the date stamp in Figure 1a was only recorded used from 31.3.1999 to 14.7.2003. The Gauteng office was opened on 22.11.2010 in Midrand, and postmarks have only been recorded from 13.6.2012 to date. It is thus hypothesized that the Free State office was closed and hence the name became available. I would appreciate confirmation of the hypothesis.



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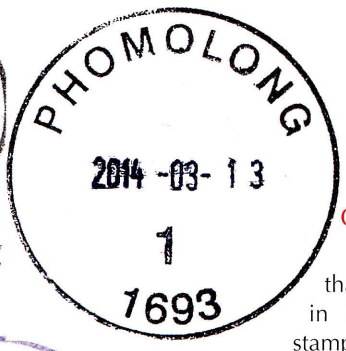


b

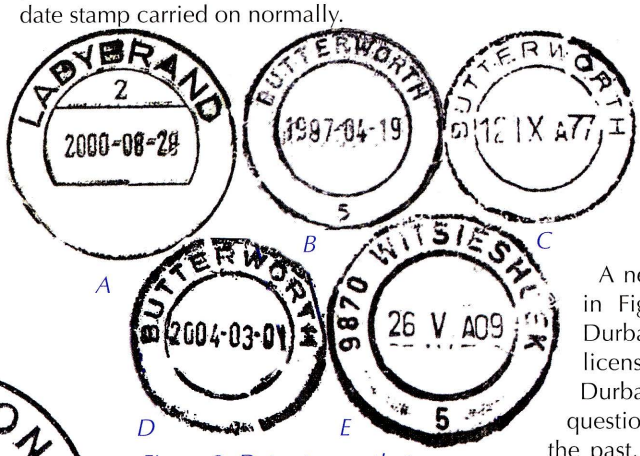


c

Figure 1. Phomolong in the Free State and Gauteng. (a,b,c)

Survivors

Many of us remember that as we approached 1.1.2000 there were fears that the world would grind to a halt at midnight since technology could not handle the year 2000. The post office was one organization that was affected by the Y2K phenomenon, as many date stamps could not roll past 1999. About 3,500 new date stamps, also sometimes termed the Swiss style as shown in Figure 2A, were made to replace the old date stamps. It was generally accepted that no date stamps made before about 1980 would be found after 2000. From about 1980 provision was made for 2000 in all date stamps manufactured, as they were typically of the numeral type shown in Figure 2B. The original thinking has been shown to be incorrect, as the initiative of postal staff, particularly in the face of not having functioning date stamps (damaged or lost), has been exemplary. Figures 2C to E show three of a large number of date stamps which David Allison has termed 'survivors'. The Butterworth date stamp received new date wheels as may be seen from the pre and post 2000 dates, whereas the Witsieshoek date stamp carried on normally.

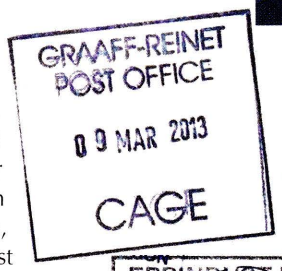


A B C D E

Figure 2. Date stamps that handle the year 2000.

Of cages and containers

Two recently seen date stamps that solicit a chuckle are shown in Figure 3. The Graaff-Reinet date stamp is inscribed CAGE, which had me wondering until I approached a Branch Manager. It is nothing sinister as the cage is a secure area in the back office where all recorded items such as registered letters and parcels are handled. I have seen a similar inscription on Botswana date stamps. The Eppindust date stamp is inscribed CONTAINER, which probably should have been COUNTER.



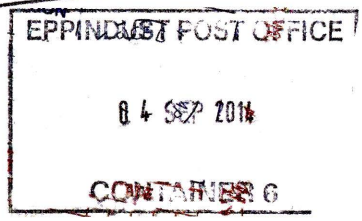


Figure 3. Date stamps that solicit a chuckle.

The riddle of the missing T

Estcourt recently received a new steel date stamp of a style that is currently popular. It has the counter code above the date, which is in the reversed date style and the postal code at the base. This date stamp (Figure 4), however, is inscribed Escourt, with a missing T. This is probably not a formal name change but an inadvertent oversight, or was the engraver thinking of his lunch of cold meat?

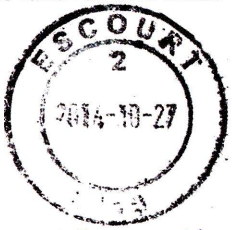


Figure 4. Estcourt with the missing T.

Reminders

A new cachet/date stamp, shown in Figure 5, has emanated from Durban. It is a reminder that vehicle licenses can be renewed at the Durban Post Office, which begs the question, why not all post offices? In the past, slogans applied by machine cancellers were used for advertising purposes. This date stamp is applied by hand, and is this an indication of the demise of machine cancellers or ineffectiveness? We will probably never know.

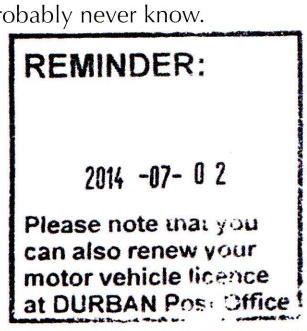


Figure 5. A first date stamp with advertising from Durban.

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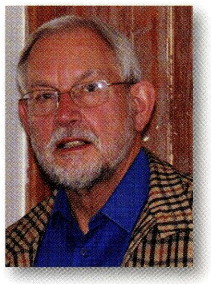

South African Stamp Issues - 2015 - part I

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

5 February 2015 – SOUTH AFRICAN AVIATION CORPS CENTENARY

Denominations: 5 x Airmail Postcard rate (R6.05).
Designs: Lize-Marie Dreyer. Designs showing badges, medal and tunic associated with the Aviation Corps and the Henry Farman Bi-plane.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: One each of 52 x 25mm, 37 x 25mm (in top row); one of 52 x 37mm and two 37mm square (in bottom row). See illustration.
Perforation: Die cut simulated of approximate gauge 12. Stamps are separated by 6.5mm gutters, in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of individual stamps. These roulettes extend to the margins of the sheetlet and also through the backing paper.
Paper: Avery Dennison Kraft Back PSA.
Phosphor: 3mm yellow-green bands following the inscription: 'SOUTH AFRICA AIRMAIL POSTCARD', along the left margins of the two stamps in the top row and the bottom margin of the three stamps in the bottom row.
Gum: WLK6 pressure sensitive adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 178 x 97mm
Quantity: 100,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8443 (blue), 8444 (red), 8445 (yellow) and 8446 (black).
Printing sheet size: 505 x 710mm comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in six rows of two.
First Day Cover: No. 8.78 of standard size (190 x 102mm) of which 2,000 were produced.
Canceller: No 8.65 - ' KIMBERLEY | 05.02.2015'.



3 March 2015 – ANIMAL POACHING AWARENESS

Denominations: 6 x Standard Postage rate (R3.00).
Designer: Alan Ainslie. Designs showing South African threatened fauna. Top row: Oribi , Black Rhino and Grey Crowned Crane. Bottom row: Ground Hornbill, Sungazer Lizard and Cape Parrot.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 28 x 43mm.
Perforation: Die cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 5.5mm gutters, in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of individual stamps. These roulettes extend to the left, right and bottom margins of the sheetlet and also through the backing paper.
Paper: Avery Dennison Kraft Back PSA.
Phosphor: 3mm yellow-green bands following right and bottom margins of each stamp.
Gum: WLK6 pressure sensitive adhesive.
Quantity: 50,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8447 (blue), 8448 (red), 8449 (yellow) and 8450 (black).
Printing sheet size: 504 x 708mm comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in four rows of three.
First Day Cover: No. 8.79 of standard size, 2,000 were produced.

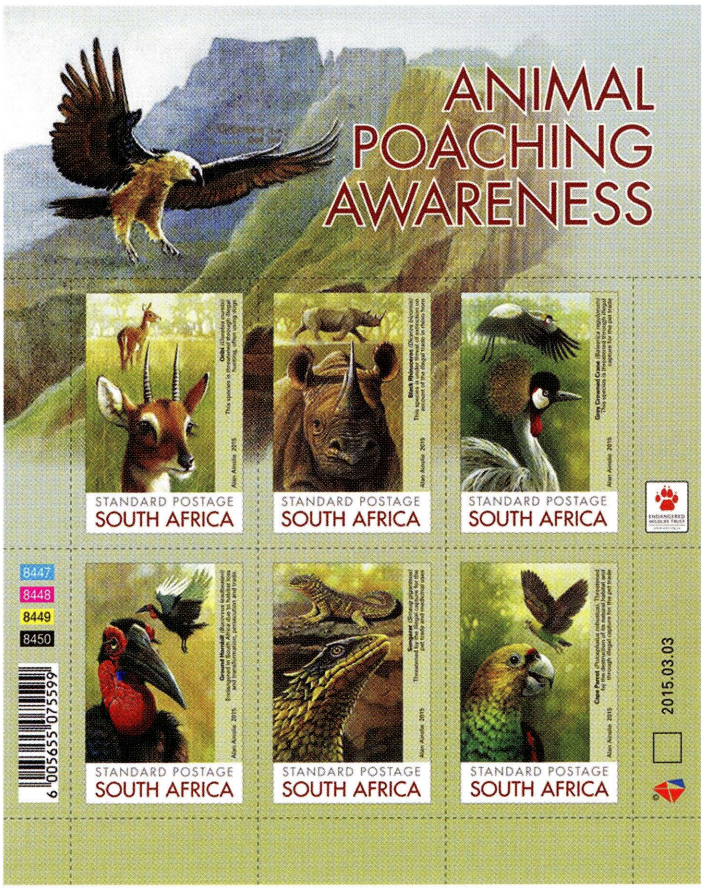

Illustration above is taken from the original artwork

Canceller: No 8.66 - 'STOP ANIMAL / POACHING / 5 March 2015 • Skukuza'.

Acknowledgement:
The above information was supplied by Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, and Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services, together with personal observations.

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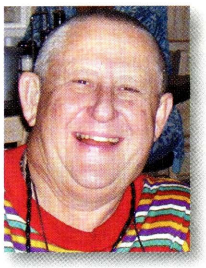
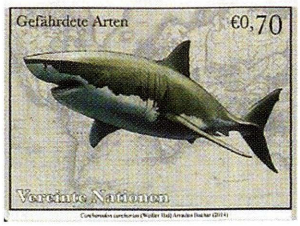
Thematically Yours

by **Rev Cassie Carstens**,
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging, Pretoria



Get Collecting - it's fun!

* The United Nations Postal Administration issued a set of 12 stamps depicting endangered marine life. This was the 22nd set of stamps in UNPA's multi-year series on Endangered Species, and the first on marine life. The artist, Amadeo Bachar (USA), completed a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology and a Masters Certificate in Scientific Illustration. Depicted on this stamp is a **great white shark** *(Charcharodon carcharis)*







* The **Roman Connection** in Europe and Britain is not restricted to the well-known Asterix and Obelix! Julius Caesar and his legions conquered Gaul more than 2,000 years ago – the Celtic and Roman worlds were in a violent collision. *Armarica* was the name given by the Romans to the region encompassing Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark, and also some areas in northern France. The people were known as Gauls. Recently some 70,000 ancient coins were found in a field in Jersey.

* **Dragons** are, without doubt, the most popular and recognisable of mythical creatures. Tales of dragons have existed for thousands of years the world over and if asked, most people would be able to describe one in a reasonable amount of detail. This is quite remarkable for a creature that does not actually exist! Different countries and cultures have their own dragon legends with portrayals ranging from fire-breathing monsters lurking in dark caves to scaly sea dwelling serpents and huge winged creatures with pointed tails.

* **Assassination on 28 June 1914** of Austrian Archduke Ferdinand by Serb nationalist Gaurilo Princip in Bosnia-Herzegovina sparked the route to war which quickly escalated via a complex series of political alliances into a cataclysmic conflict involving countries from every continent. For the next five years countless communities were affected by the breadth and horror of war.



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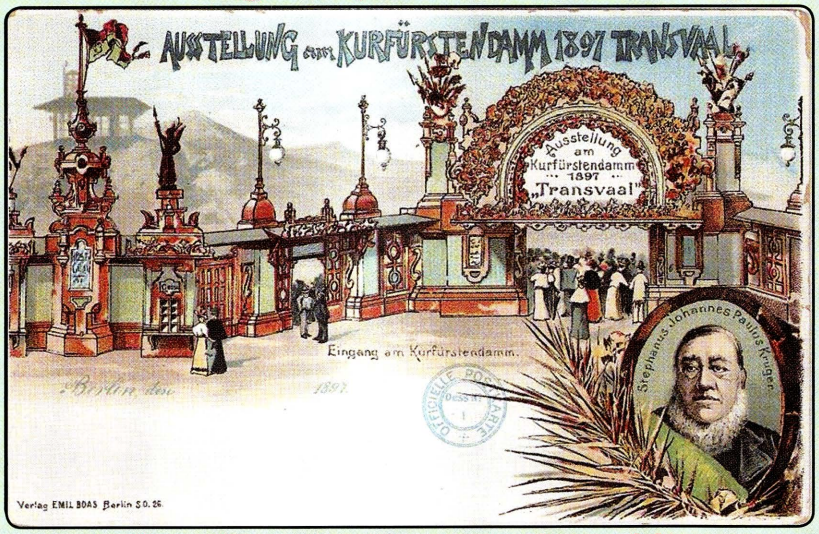

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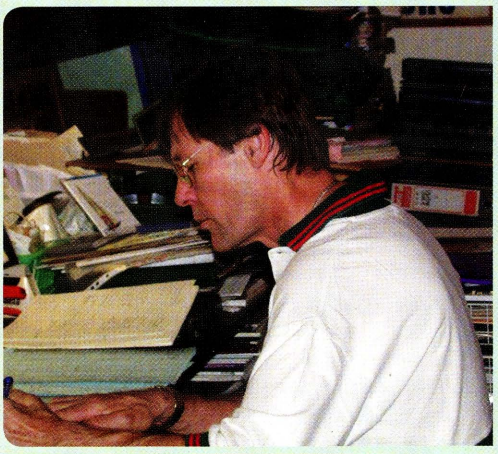

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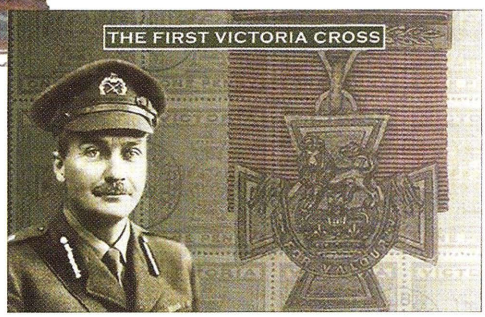
* Bishop Francois de Laval established the Notre-Dame de Quebec on 15 September 1664 (350 years ago) on rue Du Buade in Quebec, Canada. Within the church is *La Virgen y el Niño con San Juan Baptista* (*The Virgin and Child with St John the Baptist*). The oil on canvas is the work of Flemish Baroque painter **Abraham Janssens van Nuyssen** (1567 / 1632). Until the arrival of his lifelong adversary, Peter Paul Rubens, Janssens was thought to be the leading historical painter of his time.



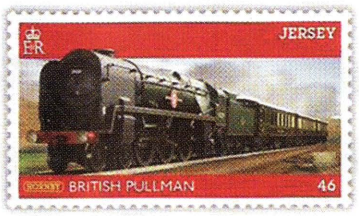


* **The British Monarch** (Queen Elizabeth II) and three future heirs to the throne: Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince George. It is a photo to cherish for many years to come... because she is going to outlive them all! You wanna bet?



* **The Victoria Cross** was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1856 to honour conspicuous bravery during the Crimean War, but was not awarded to an Australian until the *Second Boer War* of 1899-1902. During this conflict, in which Australians fought alongside British forces, five Australians were honoured with a Victoria Cross, the first being Captain Neville Howse.

* The theme for EUROPA 2015 is **traditional toys**. The model train continues to be one of the most loved and successful of all traditional toys. The most widely recognised brand of model railway is produced by *Hornby*, a British company founded by Frank Hornby. In 1925 the first Hornby electric train was produced. With over 650 items in its current range, Hornby still delights children and adults alike.



References:

- Fascination: United Nations Postal Administration: No 342 – 4/2014.
- Jersey Stamp Bulletin: Summer 2014 and Winter 2014/2015.
- Australia: Stamp Bulletin No 332 / Jan - Feb 2015.
- Canada: Details, Oct 2014 No 9.
- Guernsey Stamps : November 2014 / Vol 9 / No 16.

Stamps from the Faroe Islands

Total Solar Eclipse - Stamp issue 11th March 2015





On 20 March 2015 a Total Solar Eclipse covered the Faroe Islands in darkness at 9.41 am.

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SA2015

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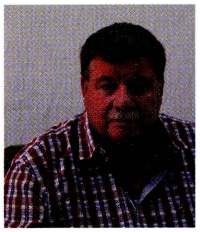
Revised constant headplate flaw of the 1935 Silver Jubilee: Hairline in head

by Andre du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society



The Union of South Africa's 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps were part of an Empire-wide issue commemorating the 25th Anniversary of King George V's accession to the throne. In total 249 commemorative stamps were issued on or about 6 May 1935 (date of the anniversary) by 59 administrative units of the British Empire. The KG V omnibus issue was the first commemorative omnibus issue of the British Empire and set a trend for omnibus issues in the British Empire as well as worldwide.

During a study of the Union's issue, I identified a number of characteristics in all four values which were either incorrectly or not previously described. This paper focuses on the former.

An interesting recurring headplate flaw appears on Row 17/1 of all values in the 1st & 2nd printings of this issue. I describe it as *'V5' shape hairline flaw on head.*

- This flaw appears on top of the Kings's head as a 'V' shaped hairline with a curl – in the form of a 5 – on the left limb of the 'V' and the sharp point facing towards the eyes.

Another distinct characteristic found on stamp R17/1 is the 'Spot on neck'.

During 1935/36 GN Gilbert authored various articles in *The South African Philatelist (SAP)* in which he identified and described the characteristics and flaws of the Union Silver Jubilee stamps. The flaw(s) in R17/1 seem to have been described in two steps, suggesting that he did not identify one of the flaws early on.

In June 1935 the Spot on neck was mentioned for the first time in *the SAP* without any mention of the hairline flaw and the different printings[1].

The spot on neck AND hairline flaws were first mentioned in the November 1935 issue[2]. Gilbert indicated that these flaws were found in all four values for the first two printings but were not present in the 3rd printing of the 1d stamp.

During December 1935, in a summary of the more obvious flaws, both flaws were confirmed[3]. The summary did not include the absence of the flaws in the 3rd printing of the 1d stamp. This could create the mistaken impression that it appears in all printings of all denominations.

Subsequent authors appear to have down-played the presence of the *'Hairline in head'* flaw as they only list the *'Spot on neck'* flaw[4-5]. Hall, for example, states that the Spot on neck is "one of the important varieties found in all values". There is no mention of the *hairline in head* (See table).

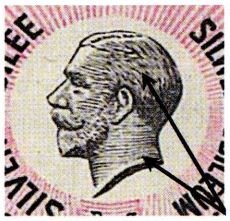


½d 1d 3d 6d

Photocopies of enlarged view of flaws showing (a) Spot on neck and (b) 'V5' shaped hairline

PLATE DIFFERENCE

The sheet layout of the 1d. value differs from those of the other values in that 'SOUTH AFRICA' (frameplate) appears at the top of the first stamp of the sheet. However 'SILVER JUBILEE' (headplate) continues to appear to the left of the King's head i.e. facing the King.



Neither the 'Spot on neck' nor the 'V5 shaped hairline flaw' appear on stamp R17/1 of the 3rd printing.

The non-appearance is due to the usage of the second (new) headplate to print the third printing of the 1d stamp.



As there is no change in the positioning of the head plates between the values, any headplate flaw' that occurs on an AFRIKAANS headed stamp, in this case Row 17/1 for the ½d, 3d and 6d stamps, will appear on the same sheet position as an ENGLISH headed stamp for the 1d stamp.

The author would like to acknowledge and thank Neil Donen for his continuous support regarding the Union 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps.

Presence/absence of descriptions of Spot on neck/ Hairline in head flaws (R17/1) found in commonly accessed resources for 1935 Silver Jubilee varieties

	Catalogue/Journal	Spot on neck	Hairline in head
1	Gilbert, *South African Philatelist* June 1935	Yes	No
2	Gilbert, *South African Philatelist* November 1935	Yes	Yes
3	Gilbert, South African Philatelist Dec. 1935	Yes	Yes
4	Hall, Springbok, 1985	Yes	No
5	Donen, Springbok, 2002	Yes	No
6	George V Silver Jubilee web site, 2010	Yes	No

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References

1. Gilbert GN. *The Jubilee Stamps of the Union* in *The South African Philatelist*. 1935 June pp. 87

2. Gilbert GN. *The Jubilee Stamps of the Union*, in *The South African Philatelist*. 1935 Nov. pp. 166-7

3. Gilbert GN. *The Jubilee Stamps of the Union – Headplate flaws common to all denominations*, in *The South' African Philatelist*. 1935 Dec. 181-4

4. Hall WAE. *A beginners' guide to the 1935 South African Silver Jubilee Issue*. The *Springbok* 1985;33(3):54-7. May/June.

5. Donen N. *South Africa – An updated list of the 1935 Silver Jubilee varieties: Part 2 of 2*. The *Springbok*. 2002:50(3);62-7. July/Sept

6. King George V Silver Jubilee: www.philatel2.com/jubilee/id32.htm. Accessed 20 April 2014.

A FORGED INTERPROVINCIAL NATAL FISCAL

by M. J. H. Tonking, S A Stamp Study Circle



Generally Interprovincial stamps are not normally subject to the forger's art, however some trouble was taken over the example of a Natal fiscal.

The Natal fiscals are not known used in the Transvaal during the Interprovincial period. In this example of the 1902 watermark crown CC 5/- fiscal the original cancellation was removed. It was then replaced with an old Transvaal Republic date stamp dated 29 September 1910, so applied to ensure that the letters 'ZAR' did not appear on the stamp.

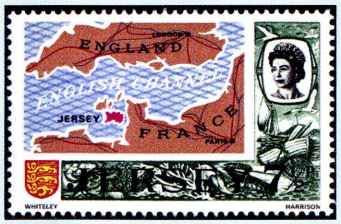
Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek PS and Royal Philatelic Society

The 29th episode of :Errors on Stamps...

A MATTER OF SIZE



There is nothing really wrong with this 7½p stamp of the definitive issue of JERSEY of October 1969 except the cartographic error that shows the size of the three Channel Islands Jersey (in red), Guernsey and Alderney (in brown) totally out of proportion and blown up several times larger on the map of the English Channel than on any other map in our atlas.

This is quite obvious when you look at the large French Peninsula of Cherbourg and consider that the size of the tiny island of Jersey is only 116 square kilometres. Also the distance between England, France and the three Channel Islands is not as short as shown.

Smalls

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

EXCHANGE: having lived in SA for 15 years, this Portuguese national is seeking to trade stamps of Portugal for stamps of South Africa. Contact: Alfredo Pereira.
E-mail - asdpereira@hotmail.com
Rua Maria José Matos, 42
4415-515 Grijó - Carvalhos. Portugal

EXCHANGE: A 56 years old sales manager and 'advanced' philatelist and collector looking to exchange materials; coins bank-notes, phone-cards, mint/and used/ stamps themed: flora-fauna, sport, 01 games, locomotives, tennis, ships, aeroplanes, Red cross. Contact: Mr Juraj Riedl. Ku Bratke 38. 934 01 Levice, Slovakia.

EXCHANGE: A collector of stamps from Ukraine is looking for local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Andrew Pavlyuk, Kolomijska 3/18. 79049 Lviv. Ukraine mailto:mwleesma@mweb.co.za

MAJOR Philatelic Events

14 - 19 August '15
SINGAPORE 2015
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www.singapore2015.com
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FIP Patronage Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of Singapore (1965-2015)

29 May - 04 June '16
NEW YORK 2016 - USA
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QSA AUCTIONS Ullman Recreation Centre,

SANDTON: Confirming that QSA will, in future, NOT be held bi-monthly in Pretoria. This follows from a change in management of the Victoria Cross Lodge, Menlo Park, Pretoria. All the QSA auctions will, in future, be held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. *Directions - from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.* Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

STAMP FAIRS: all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations & contact persons/detail are:

• *WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR:* Durbanville 1st Saturday each month from 09h00 at the Durbanville Library, Cnr Oxford & Koeberg Roads, Durbanville, Western Cape. Contact Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

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

• *TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:*

Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. Every first Saturday at the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact rev Cassie Carstens on 012 653 2279.

• *SANDTON STAMP FAIR:*

2nd Saturday of every month; at the Kyalami Country Club, ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin on 083 272 9367.

• *KZN STAMP FAIR:*

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

• *EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:* **CHANGE OF VENUE.** Last Saturday of all months, except December; no longer at Benoni Lake Club, now at the Italian Club in Bedfordview.

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

• *DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:*

Now on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Venue: **D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig,** corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions and a map are available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. Dates 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 8 Aug, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov & 12 Dec.

• *WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR ACTIVITIES:*

Contact person is Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.



WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier Street, Auckland Park. For further information contact the President : Herbie Schaffler RDPSA - 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings for 2015 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

13 May - Modern Philatelic Evening
10 June - Grand Challenge Match
8 July - Foreign Exhibit Evening
12 August - Favourite Cover/s
9 September - Annual Auction

Eurocircle Stamp Study

Meetings for 2015 in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December)

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00. *Venue* - Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch.

Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly Newsletter with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.

Visitors are welcome at all meetings

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society.
email: info.fhps@info
Website: www.fhps.info
Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

- *President:* Robert Cummings. Tel: 041 961 0645. Cell: 083 326 7294.
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409.

This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.
PROPOSED MEETING DATES all on a Monday evening, 2015:
13 April; 11 May ; 1 June; 6 July; 3 Aug; 7 Sep; 5 Oct; 9 Nov; and 30 November (President's Night).

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:
Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Team of your **forward meeting** programme so that the information can be published timeously

FOUNDED IN 1911 THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 on the **2nd Thursday** evening of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban. *(January meeting held on the **3rd** Tuesday)*
Contacts: ***'All are welcome'***

- Ted Brown *(President)* 083 284 6554
- Bev McNaught-Davis *(Vice-President)* 031 904 1522
- Harold Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123

'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what notto do to achieve success...

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club. An open invitation to members of all the other Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net
Other committee members: Joyce Hulse; Val de Jager; Gordon Bennett; Franklin van der Spuy; Tony Evans; Julia Evans. **Meetings**:

The monthly Executive Committee meetings will be held on the 3rd SATURDAY of every month.
Same venue. Same time.

St Mathews Parish Hall, Hayfields, at 16h00. The Thematics Group meets every FIRST Saturday of the month at 09h00 at 26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville. Visitors always welcome.

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting every 1st Saturday of the month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant and active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them. Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

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AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za. Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. jacoli@mweb.co.za

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, 10 vm. Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
* Alex Visser *(President)* 012 803 1881
* Steve Marsh *(Vice-President)* 012 656 0493
Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history. Monthly newsletter.

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.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

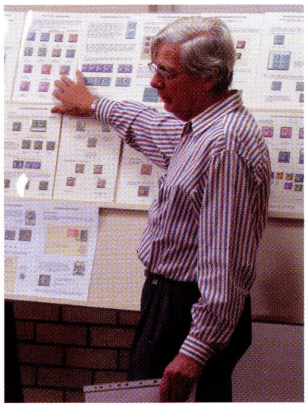
P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Alistair Mackenzie *(Chairman)*
Tel: 011 768 7565 or Ian Walker *(Secretary)*
Tel: 011 4721161

Established in 1924
MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Tony receives the Robert Goldblatt Cup

Members of the MPS were thrilled when Bev McNaught-Davis, The Vice-President for Region 5 of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, presented the *Robert Goldblatt Cup* to Tony Evans on behalf of the Federation for winning 'The Best Thematic Entry' on show at the 2014 Stampex National Stamp Exhibition in Pretoria during October 2014. It is only the second time in the history of the cup that it has been awarded to a member from Kwa-Zulu Natal. Well done Tony, we are very proud of you! (Fig1.)

At the same meeting, Tony Evans also showed his Silver-award winning exhibit on the *Coat of Arms of Northern Rhodesia* which he had exhibited in the Traditional Philately Class at the National Stamp Show in Pretoria.



Tony Evans



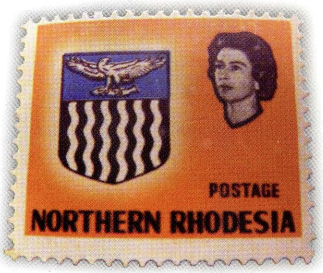
Fig 1. The Bob Goldblatt Cup to Tony Evans.

(Fig 2.)



He explained the many flaws that occurred during the printing of the Northern Rhodesia stamps and the reason for all the mistakes

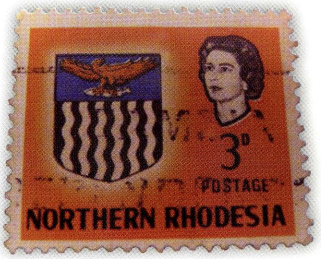
Following the break-up of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, also known as the Central African Federation, at relatively short notice, the Northern Rhodesia GPO ordered new postage stamps in August 1963 for delivery by 1 December of the same year. It was going to be a rush!



(Fig 3.)

A simple design by Harrisons in England was approved on 23 October 1963. Over 28 million stamps in 14 different values and colours were needed and the rush was on!

The issue would only be in circulation for ten months, The country then became the independent state of Zambia on 24 October 1964. Who would have thought that such a small and philatically minor country could produce an enormous range of varieties?



(Fig 4.)

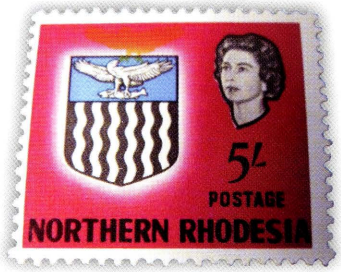
Stanley Gibbons, a recognised World Authority on postage stamps, lists 13 major flaws/errors but there must be hundrеds of others.

The 3d stamp was the internal letter rate stamp so it was the most common value used and it had the bulk of the flaws.

The rarest listed SG flaw is the 3d with the eagle printed double. The eagle above the coat of arms is in the correct place but a second one is seen without any surround below the coat of arms. (Fig 2.)

A second listed flaw, also on a 3d stamps, shows the value omitted and the orange eagle missing! (Fig 3.)

An unlisted flaw shows the Queen with a white face (Fig 4) whilst the only known 5/- stamp where the eagle is white but with the orange eagle design clearly visible 4mm higher than it should be, outside the Coat of Arms, was first recorded in 2013 (Fig 5)



(Fig 5.)

Looking for this type of detail is exciting and you might never know what you might find or what it is worth unless you make an effort and have 'fun with stamps'. The AGM took place on 16 March 2015 when Tony Evans displayed his award-winning 'My Golden Horn' exhibit which portrays the plight of rhino's Worldwide

For any additional information contact: Aubrey Bowles - 033 386 8912 or cell-phone 083 382 8308

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JUNE
2015

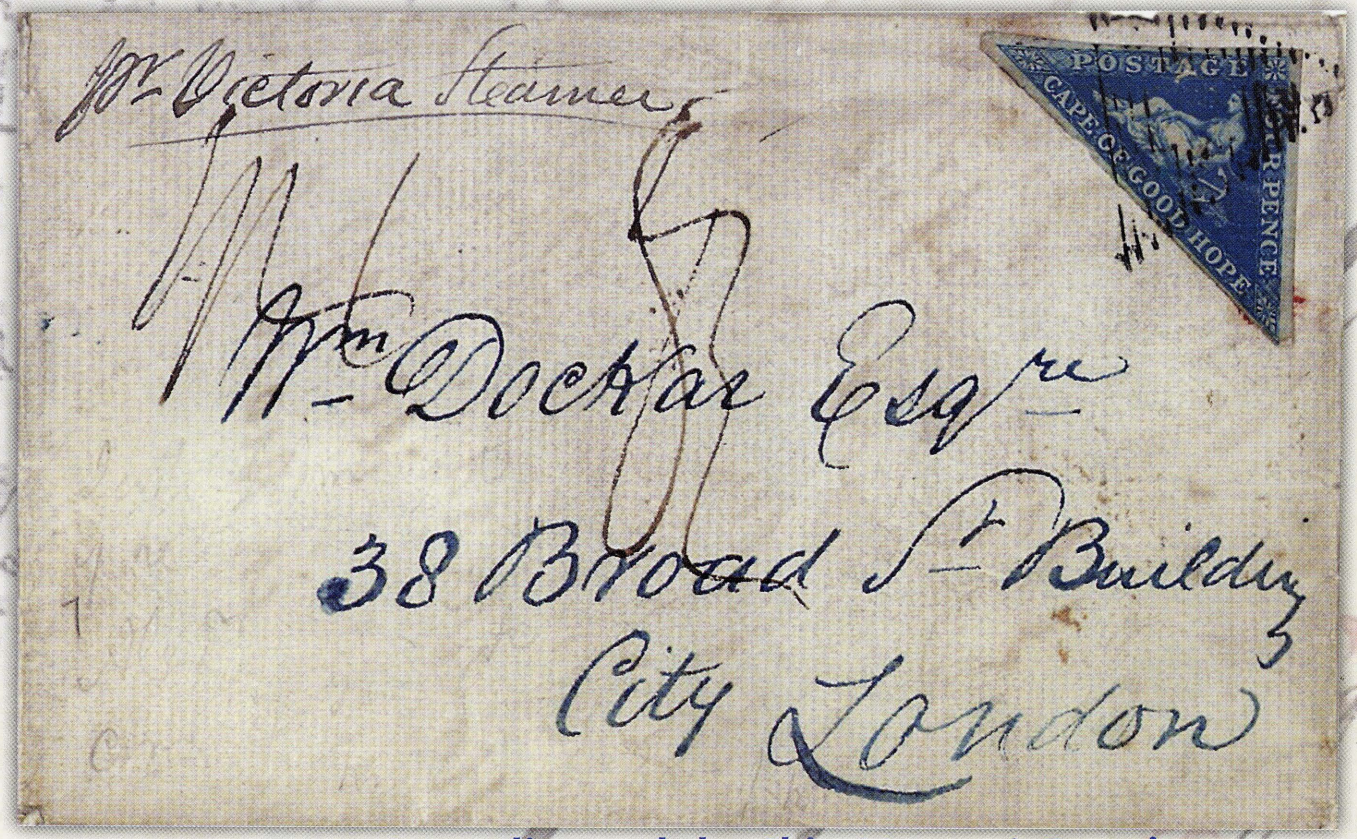
The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 91:3. 930

www.philatelysa.co.za

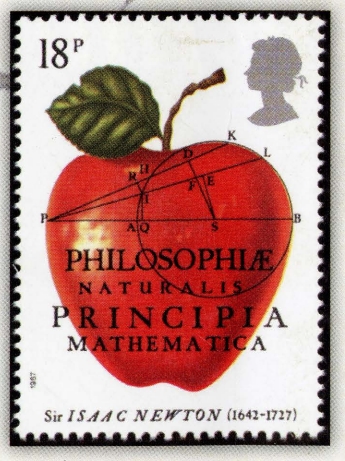


Letter Smuggling and the Ship Masters' Gratuity

A 1853 wrapper carried on the ship 'Victoria'



Nelson Mandela - Descendant of Tribal Royalty, Prisoner, President, Nobel-Laureate, convicted on 12 June 1964



More than just a falling apple Sir Isaac Newton



COLLECT MOZAMBIQUE A closer look at our neighbour; inspiration to consider collecting an African country that originally facilitated the trading route between India and Portugal.



The ½d Springbok - This subject is far more complex than first envisaged: the production of these low value stamps was continuous and never stopped. Part one of a three part series.

9 771812 164020

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The South African Philatelist

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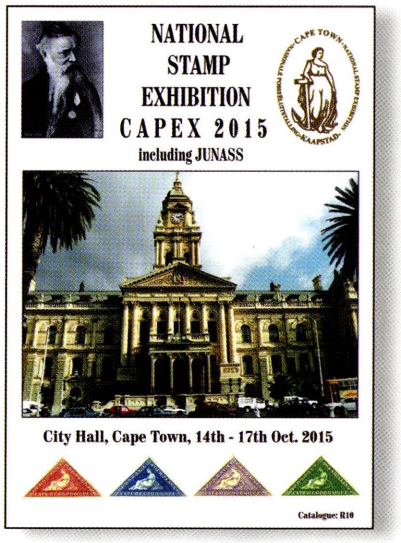

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD



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

Sponsored by PILOT More than a Pen!

MORE ON GERMANY AND THE STAR OF DAVID !

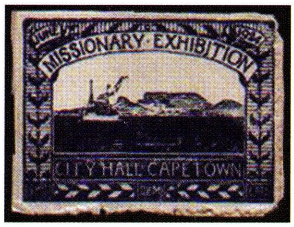
Dear Editors

I enjoyed reading the report headed *'Germany and the Star of David'* on page 11 of the February 2014 in *The SA Philatelist*.
There is another chapter to that story... In 1938, the order was given that stars should be removed from all German datestamps in which they were present. This is recorded, for instance, on pages 34 and 35 of *'Zur Geschichte der Tagesstempel der Deutschen Reichspost'*, by Hans-Joachim Anderson (Heft 135 of the Neue Schriftenreihe der Poststempelgilde e.V.) I attach a copy of a postmark which (if it had survived to 1938) would have been affected by this order. Thank you for producing such an interesting magazine.

David Allison.



HELP NEEDED !







Dear Reader,
Included here are 3 scans of cinderella stamps. I require background information on these items as I want to use them in an exhibit. Is there any reader who can help me please?
E-mail: gawiehugo@gmail.com or PO Box 5046, Worcester,6850 or Tel 023 347 1615 a/h. Cell no is 083 956 2410, but I prefer the landline.

G.J.(Gawie) Hugo

WOODBLOCKS



It is a not entirely uncommon misconception that the Cape Triangular 'Woodblocks' were in fact printed from wooden plates. This idea is said to have arisen from the fact that they were comparatively crude in appearance, so crude in fact that, when they were first received on mail to England, they were thought to be forgeries!

Somewhat more plausibly, it is thought that the term arose because Saul Solomon's metal printing stereos that had been derived from CJ Roberts' steel engravings, had, in fact, been mounted on blocks that had been fashioned from wood, hence the term 'Woodblocks'.

C.M.M.

ERRATA AND TITLE OF SAP

Dear Editor

Errata

I refer to the *SAP* of February 2015, the article Versierde poskantore, deel 11, ***Heidelberg*** (Western Cape). It should be Heidelberg (Mpumalanga). It was my neglect not having specified the province, and I apologise for that. However, the editor should have confirmed the correctness with the author before making changes.

Title of SA Philatelist

From February 2015 the title of the SAP was changed. The name of the journal is small and "Stamp collecting" appears in large print. This was discussed at a meeting of the OFS Philatelic Society and the members wish to report as follows:
It seems as if the name of the journal was changed. Perhaps this was not the intention of the editors. For librarian purposes, the largest title on the cover is taken as the official title of a magazine. "Stamp collecting" is (or was) the title of a British philatelic magazine. In a library the *SAP* will now be listed under a new title.
The intention might have been to draw the attention of prospective readers to the *SAP*. This would be better achieved by placing images of stamps and philatelic material on the cover, rather than buildings that act as venues for exhibitions.

Prof G Osthoff
OFS Philatelic Society

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The SA Philatelist Publication
Closing dates for advertising material

August issue	Vol. 91: 4. 931 : 06/07/2015
October issue	Vol. 91: 5. 932 : 07/09/2015
December issue	Vol. 91: 6. 933 : 05/11/2015
February issue	Vol. 92: 1. 934 : 05/01/2016

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Letters to the Editorial Board:

I recently received copies of the February/ April 2015 Editions and at first sight it appears that you have changed the title of the magazine. ***Stamp Collecting*** is a title of a defunct British Publication that I have often made reference to.

The South African Philatelist, or simply the *SAP*, to my mind is an iconic South African Philatelic magazine that is known to stamp collectors around the World. Whatever were you all thinking when suddenly the title of this 92 year old magazine is shrunk into the background in favour of a bold Stamp Collecting. Would any of you inform your 92 year old grandfather that he is no longer called John as the name Piet ought to suit him better!

When I open an envelope I expect to see a bold title that reads ***The South African Philatelist.*** I possess a fair number of back issues starting from 1923 and I have derived, hours, days, weeks and years of pleasure going through old *SAPs* searching for snippets of information. So let us continue to give the Ou Baas his proper title. Please! The ironic part is that back in 1923, when the *SAP* came into being, most people in those days were Stamp collectors rather than Philatelists. Whereas today it is a hobby of the older generation who by and large have collected for half a century or more and it is more apt to call them philatelists.

I present a brief resumé as to how it all started. Thank you.*

Otto Peetoom

*(*Held over to the next issue)*

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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.

The masthead that caused the furore !







The SAP Journal Masthead ....

When the Journal's full colour production neared its tenth anniversary, it was felt that the layout should be refreshed somewhat. This included the masthead, where the bold 'PHILATELIST' seemed to be aimed at a narrow segment of collectors, and should preferably indicate a broader scope, also for better understanding by a broader public - hence the subtitle *'For all interested in Stamp Collecting'*. The differing emphasis in font sizes led some readers to believe that the journal had been renamed to 'Stamp Collecting' which never was the intention, but which elicited some strong reaction as shown here. The masthead has now been 're-balanced' somewhat but may undergo further fine tuning.

The Editorial Board.

SA Philatelist name change

The name change to 'Stamp Collecting' (bold heading and only maintaining a very small *'SA Philatelist'* in one corner) does not make sense to me.

I cannot see it selling any more copies or attracting more advertising which are the only reasons I can imagine justifying the change.

Many, if not most, of the articles published have little to do with basic 'stamp collecting' but a lot to do with postal systems, history, markings, airmails, etc.

I think if we are looking at juniors then 'stamp collecting' is fairly appropriate but not for senior collectors surely!

I, for example, certainly do not now consider myself a 'stamp collector.' Maybe I did so, forty odd years ago when starting out, but then only for a very short time .

I soon realised there was a lot more beyond just postage stamps to our hobby!! That realisation has given me a great deal of satisfaction over the years.

Please let us revert back to the old heading. We just seem to be downgrading our hobby by this, in my view, unnecessary and possibly unconstitutional change.

Malcolm Suttill FRPSL

Dear Editorial Board members,

I understand, from an e-mail from Paul van Zeyl, that you have recently changed the name of 'SA Philatelist' to 'Stamp Collecting'. This seems to me to be a mistaken decision, and one that should not have been taken in haste and without consultation with your members.Two reasons seem to me to be particularly important:

You have, at a stroke, made it more difficult for people to find out about the magazine and the Federation. If you doubt this, try running a browser search for 'SA Philatelist' (on my browser philatelysa.co.za comes up as the first hit), and 'Stamp Collecting', which produces a lot of general hits (wiki, Gibbons etc.), but where PFSA doesn't figure and isn't likely to. Not a good marketing move.

I hope that you will have the courage to reverse a mistaken initiative.

Bas Payne

..AND MORE...

I congratulate you and the Editorial Board on the last two issues of *The South African Philatelist*.

There is something for everyone, as interesting articles cover the entire spectrum of philately.

The excellent presentation makes it a pleasure to peruse the magazine.

Unfortunately, the front covers of both are a bit of a 'mixed grill', which does not really draw the attention of the casual reader.

However, the masthead filled me with dismay.

Is this a reincarnation of *'Stamp Collecting'*, the weekly British stamp magazine edited by Douglas Armstrong for half a century and which ceased publication some forty years ago?

Of course, "Stamp Collecting" never was the journal of the PFSA anyway.

On closer inspection I located a little note, hidden in the top left hand corner of the cover, indicating that this is ***The South African Philatelist.*** Why are we hiding our light under a bush?

I assure you the *SAP* is a respected international publication and I have been asked for copies of several articles in past issues to prove it.

Asia, America, Canada and others are quite happy to have a 'Philatelist', even London has a very good one.

If this change is made to appeal to younger stamp collectors, it will fail. Young people have other interests and demands on their time today. They also consider philatelic items too expensive to sustain their interest.

As far as I know, the *SAP* is the only philatelic journal published in sub-Saharan Africa.

It should reflect the research and views of the philatelists of the region, with the accent on South Africa. Let us revert to a meaningful masthead, which appeals to philatelists and not try to make the journal look like a latter-day *Boys' Own Magazine*.

Dr JR Frank RDPSA FRPSL

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ADJUDICATION REPORT

Bellville Philatelic Society declared a dispute with the Federation, in particular the Editorial Board of this magazine and the Management Committee, arising out of the article published in the April 2013 edition of the *SAP* entitled 'WHERE DOES THIS GO?'. An adjudicator appointed in terms of Article 24 of the Constitution of the Federation has examined the background and basis of the dispute and has issued a report on the matter to the parties concerned. On the direction of the adjudicator the following statement is published:

1. The Editorial Board of the *SAP* must operate with editorial independence consistent with the objectives of the Federation, namely the promotion of the hobby of philately and the study of all its facets and the promotion of the philatelic interests of its membership.

2. The Editorial Board of the *SAP* was at fault in the article entitled 'WHERE DOES THIS GO?' published in the June 2013 edition of the *SAP* when quoting extracts from a letter received from Mr Wobbe Vegter of Bellville Philatelic Society without his consent, as he had made it clear to the Editorial Board that he would only consent to the publication of his letter in its entirety. The Editorial Board apologises to Mr Vegter for not taking account of his wishes in this regard.

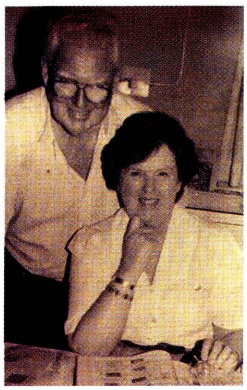
3. Once the matter had been referred to the Management Committee of the Federation, that Committee failed to properly deal with the issue by failing to investigate the causes of the complaint. The Committee accepts that it was in error in circulating its decision to all the Societies affiliated to the Federation, and not to Mr Vegter personally, and accepts that its decision that the matter was to be put to rest and no further participation or discussion on the issue was to take place was wrong. The Management Committee expressed view that the matter was to be treated as a learning experience is regretted.

4. The dispute resolution procedure has to a sufficient degree vindicated the feelings held by Mr Vegter and Bellville Philatelic Society, and it is to be hoped that he will resume his membership of Bellville Philatelic Society so he can once again contribute to philately in South Africa.

Advocate Adrian de Bourbon SC,
Adjudicator.
Report date is 27 March 2015

OBITUARY

Keir Wedderburn-Maxwell
1925-2015



Keir Wedderburn - Maxwell passed away on 11 November 2015 aged 90, after a life coloured by interest in all aspects of philately.

He was born in Lahore (then India), educated at Charterhouse and at Edinburgh University but before he could complete a degree, joined up to serve with the British army in Burma and Singapore.

After the war, he emigrated to the then Rhodesia and, with his wife, built up a local stamp business which soon evolved into philatelic auctions; some collectors will remember *Sprighton and Flower Hill Auctions*. During this period he was privileged to handle the iconic Jacobs Collection of the proofs and essays of the KEVII and Double Head stamps of the BSA Company.

Keir was president of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society and a founder member of the South African Philatelic Dealers' Association. After retiring to the coast, he started the Lower South Coast Philatelic Society and maintained an interest in part-time dealing and local auctions.

His own collecting interests were limited by the pressures of full-time employment and raising a large family, but in stamp collecting Keir found an absorbing past-time, enriched by the friendship of many great philatelists whose paths he crossed, Robson Lowe, Ernest Hunt, Manfred Weinstein and Lou Abrams to mention but a few.

Letter: COUNTRY BORDERS THAT MEET. . .

The Editor, SA Philatelist

I refer to the April 2015 contribution of Mr Jan Bakker on country borders that meet.

One might also think of the point near the Kazungula ferry where many believed that the borders of four countries met. Cf siyabona.com/four-countries-in-a-day and the claim of the SA Government in 1970. See www.en.wikipedia/wiki/quadripoint. Amid legal uncertainty whether historic events did cause a quadripoint and uncertainty about where in the Zambesi the point was, governmental agreement in about 2007 settled a de facto border that allows traffic between Botswana and Zambia without entering another country. Even if legally there was/is a quadripoint, practice sees only two tri-points: Zambia-Zimbabwe-Botswana and 150 meters away (79 meters per Jan Krogh.com) Zambia-Namibia-Botswana. Cf. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kazangula_Ferry.

I also referred to wikipedia to clarify some matters. Its version holds that only two countries were at any given time involved with the zinc mine area and its village. The Netherlands and Prussia agreed to govern the area jointly through commissioners. After 1830 Belgium replaced the acquiescing Netherlands.

That 'neutral area' never was a 'country'and its permanent residents were normally 'stateless'. It could not have 'country' borders. Its neighbours could. The apex of the neutral area was at the point on the Vaalserberg where the borders of the Netherlands, Belgium and Prussia (later Germany) met. Roads in the area are correctly named the three 'country' road. A Dutch road is named 'the four borders' road. That is not wrong because the neutral area was delineated by a neighbour's country border on each of its two 'north-south' sides. See wiki's Neutral _Moresnet#.

It follows that the statement that stamps were 'officially' issued is incorrect. The neutral area did not do so and could not issue 'valid' stamps. The commissioners immediately stopped the private 'issue' of 1886 (1887?). Their creator was not a stamp dealer Moens but a medical doctor Molly. Lastly, the two towns then called Moresnet were respectively part of Prussia and Belgium and would surely have sold stamps of their governments?

The contribution of Mr Bakker states that the Dutch called the neutral 'area' (Mr Bakker intending to say 'point'?) 'het vier landen punt', see the cachet on the card'. The cachet does not mention such a 'point'. The first lines read *'Hoogste punt van Nederland. Het vier landen blik'*.

Assuming that 'landen' here meant 'countries', the English for the Dutch is **"The four countries view"**.

H C J FLEMMING. (011 888 5215)

OCTOBER 2016
NATIONAL EXHIBITION
It is with great pleasure that SAPDA will be hosting the National Stamp Exhibition in 2016 in Gauteng.

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Brief: UITBUITING? (EXPLOITATION?)

My buitelandse kleinseun wat ek sewe jaar laas gesien het, het geweet sy oupa versamel seels. Uit die diepte van die outjie se hart en die vlakheid van sy geldsakkie, het hy die geel vel gekoop soos gesien kan word in die meegaande skandering. My hart juig van waardering vir sy gebaar. Ek sal dit item koester en bewaar. Maar ek huil ook. Ek huil vir die uitbuiting van onkundigheid.

Ek het sake met die soewenier winkel opgeneem. Die eienaar beweer dat alle seels in die winkel verskaf is deur die SA Filatelieburo. Ek glo dit ten minste vir die eerstedag koeverte wat die winkel in perfekte toestand uitstal. Ek wonder net of daar ook herdrukke plaasvind en of filateliedienste se oormatige voorrade so diep is.

Wat is die probleem? In die winkel is baie sulke geel kaarte wat in plastiek verseel is. Soms een seel; soms meer. Elke rugkant vertel iets wat billik genoeg is. Die kopiereg is beweerdelik gesetel in 'n plek soos "Cape to Cairo cards" en ander (vir my) onoopspoorbare name. Dit sluit seels in wat so swaar gestempel is dat enige buitelander wat die soewenier persent kry, ernstig sal frons. Alles is redelik onverkoopbare seels.



Die meegaande kaart beeld uit: die zebra; die wildebeest die cheetah en die vlakvark. Hulle en die impala is op die rugkant billik beskryf. Maar die seel oo die voorkant en die uitgifte datums wat verstrek word, is die van 'n springbok.

Die prys van die kaart met die vyf seels? R45.00

Het filateliedienste dit regtig verskaf? Is dit net die winkel wat so goed doen uit R45.00 vir seels wat kwalik iets hoef te kos?

H C J FLEMMING

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY NEWS:

from Dave McWilliams, President of East London Philatelic Society.

At the February meeting, the Society had the honour of welcoming Dave Brown, Eastern Cape Vice-President to their meeting. He presented club secretary Joan Muller with her certificate for being the longest serving secretary of any society. The certificate had been awarded at Congress last year. Dave also gave a short talk about his stamp life.



News of the death of their oldest member, 93 year old **Jack Howl,** was highlighted during the ELPS March meeting. Jack had passed away on 23 March 2015.

He had joined the society in 1944 and had been a member for 70 years. Jack was Vice-President and had served on the committee for many years. He used to bring sandwiches for tea of which the most popular were the ones with the peanut butter and crisps filling.

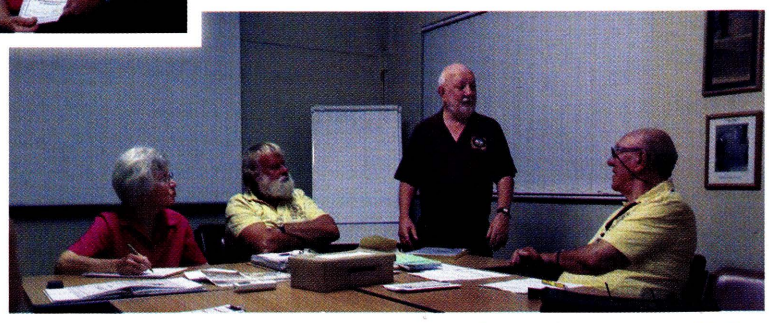
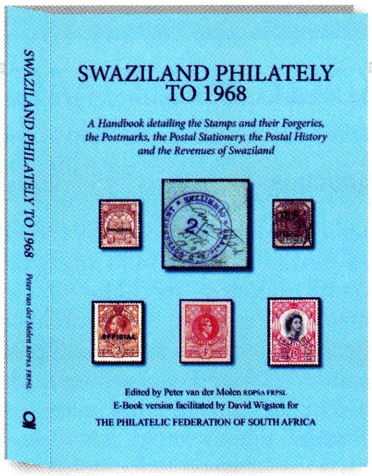


Photo Above - Joan Muller receiving her certificate from Dave Brown, and below Dave sharing his life in stamp with the members of the East London Philatelic Society.



E-Book
version of
'Swaziland Philately to 1968'

A Handbook, edited by Peter van der Molen and the E-book version facilitated by David Wigston, with over 500 pages of information on most philatelic aspects of that country, published in printed book format in 2013 by the Royal Philatelic Society London, now out of print.

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COLLECT MOZAMBIQUE STAMPS



by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Introduction

Portuguese explorers first set foot in what is now Mozambique in 1498 when Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope en route to India. Sofala, an ancient trading town on the coast, was occupied in September 1505 and Mozambique Island was occupied in 1507. The purposes of these posts were twofold: facilitate the trading route between India and Portugal, and trade with the local inhabitants for gold and ivory. From these two posts developed what would later become Portuguese East Africa.

Within Portuguese East Africa there were a surprisingly large number of stamp issuing authorities, each of which was recognised by Portugal, the resident colonial power. Besides Mozambique (1877 to 1975), one can find stamp issues for Mozambique Company (1892 to 1942), Lourenço Marques (1893 to 1920), Zambezia (1893 to 1920), Inhambane (1895 to 1920), Portuguese Nyassa Company (1898 to 1929), Quelimane (1913 to 1920) and Tete (1913 to 1920). In addition, there is a wartime issue for the conquered German colony of Kionga (1916).

Why the Stamps of Mozambique?

The stamps of Mozambique make for a compelling tale of European colonialism, poor central and local planning, and financial and political instability both in the colony and in Portugal.

The stamps first came about as a result of the formalisation of Portugal's control of Portuguese East Africa during the middle and latter part of the nineteenth century – the 'Scramble for Africa' by the powers of Europe.

However, unlike its European competitors in the colonial sphere, Portugal hovered on the verge of bankruptcy. In addition, it was beset with administrative challenges and a weak central government. The upshot of these difficulties was a postal administration that was reactive rather than proactive. This manifests most glaringly in the large number of provisional stamps, overprints and surcharges issued in the territory.

For the philatelist, whether a generalist or a specialist, this provides a rich source of interesting material to collect and research. Most of the stamps of Mozambique are readily obtainable at reasonable prices – more than 60% of the stamps of Mozambique are catalogued at prices below R10 each. The stamps, with a few exceptions, are also fairly easy to come by in both mint and used condition.



Fig 1. 1877 Crown issue 50r

While early postal history is difficult to find and most of these items command significant prices, later issues can be found on cover without resorting to raiding the piggy bank.

For the generalist it is unnecessary to delve into all the various papers on which the stamps were printed. However, most philatelists will have little trouble identifying the various perforations of certain issues.

In addition, most of the flaws and varieties of Mozambique are fairly well priced when compared to similar duties of Commonwealth countries.

For the specialist a whole world can be opened up. There are different types of papers, perforations and reprints. Furthermore, archival material is available for most issues, although these can be pricey due to their rarity and the demand for these pieces.

A Pandora's Box awaits the researcher – whether it be rates, routes, markings or postmarks there is a great deal still to be discovered about the stamps and postal history of Mozambique.

Set out below is a summary of the definitive stamp issues of Mozambique proper, up to the Second World War.



Fig 2. 1886 Luis I issue 50r

The Currency used in Portuguese East Africa

Until 1864 the currency used in Portugal's colonies was the equivalent of the currency of Portugal – the Milréis equivalent to 1,000 réis. In 1853 the first 'Colonial coins' were minted specifically for use in Mozambique.

The Milréis and réis were used until decimalisation of the currency in 1913. The Mozambique Escudo, equivalent to 100 centavos, replaced the Milréis. While it had the same value as the Portuguese Escudo, this currency was issued for exclusive use in Portuguese East Africa, and is distinct and separate from the Portuguese Escudo used in Portugal.



Fig 3. 1893 Luis I issue 300r

The First Postage Stamps

The first postage stamps issued in Mozambique were the so-called 'Crown' issue, so named because the stamp reflected the imperial crown of Portugal (Fig1). This issue was authorised by a Royal decree dated 14 February 1876, subsequently promulgated by a General Directive issued by the Secretary of State for Colonies dated April 28, 1876.

A total of fourteen duties were issued over a period of eight years commencing in May or June of 1877. The stamps were issued in three different perforations - 11½, 12½ and 13½. The issue was withdrawn on 15 March 1889.

The King Luis I Issue

This issue was the first of many issues to reflect the bust of the incumbent monarch, in this case King Luis I who had acceded to the throne in 1861 (Figs 2&3).

First issued in January 1886, this issue comprised nine duties printed on two different kinds of paper and again being variously perforated 11½, 12½ and 13½.

Between January and June 1893, due to a shortage of low value duties, a number of

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Fig 4. 1898 Carlos I issue 50r



Fig 5. 1903 New rates surcharge with inverted overprint

stamps were surcharged locally. These duties are scarcer than most Mozambique stamps, and are very difficult to find used on cover.

This issue was in service until its withdrawal in early 1895.

A further surcharge issue was made in 1897, again due to a shortage of low value duties in the colony.

However, in January 1903 certain values of this issue re-appeared. The duties had been surcharged – four values on nine different stamps – in Portugal for use in the colony (Fig 5). Due to severe fiscal constraints the Portuguese authorities adopted a 'Waste Not Want Not' policy. This represented the first of many so-called 'Consumption' issues to use up stocks of previously withdrawn stamps.

The King Carlos I Issue

With the death of his father in 1889, King Carlos I came to the throne. It was a few years, however, before the first issue bearing his bust was authorised (Fig 4).

Over a period of some eighteen months commencing on 28 June 1893, a total of thirteen duties were issued in Mozambique. Again the duties were perforated 11½, 12½ and 13½, and a total of three different papers were used for this issue.

As with the King Luis I issue, this issue was also surcharged; in 1897 the 300 réis duty was surcharged 50r due to a shortage of this value at post offices. Again in 1903 various duties were surcharged to provide for a shortage of lower value stamps in the colony.

This issue was withdrawn in 1898 after the introduction of the second King Carlos I definitive issue.

The Second King Carlos I Issue

Between 1898 and 1901 the second stamp issue bearing the bust of King Carlos I was released. This issue comprised fifteen duties. Unlike previous issues, all duties were perforated 11½ only.

In 1903 the same design was used again, this time to provide new values and colours in keeping with certain resolutions passed at the Universal Postal Union Congress of 1902. A total of eight duties – all perforated 11½ - were issued.

As with previous issues, this issue was also surcharged by the authorities.

This issue remained for sale until 1913, which is quite remarkable since King Carlos I was assassinated in 1908 and furthermore Portugal became a Republic in 1910.

The King Carlos I 'Republica' Issue

After the revolution in Portugal, the second issue of King Carlos I was overprinted 'Republica' – fifteen duties were issued during the last quarter of 1911 (Fig 6).



Fig 6. 1911 Republica overprints issue 25r block of 6

The King Manuel II 'Republica' Issue

King Manuel II acceded to the throne in 1908 after the assassination of his father. While an issue of stamps bearing his likeness was authorised for issue in 1907, it was delayed due to financial constraints. Eventually printed in 1910, the stamps were not issued before the revolution of October 2010 (Fig 7).

The stamps were, however, not wasted and were overprinted 'Republica' in 1911, and eleven duties were issued in Mozambique in June 1912.

Perhaps more than any other issue, this most eloquently represents the 'Consumption' issues of Portugal and its endeavours to save money.

The Ceres Definitive Issue

This issue was the first 'Republic' issue without any reference to the Royal Family of Portugal. It was also the first issue to be denominated in the new currency – Escudo (Fig 8). Over forty different values were printed for this issue. This issue is



Fig 7. 1912 Manuel II issue 500r

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Fig 8. 1914/26 Ceres issue 20E pair

depicted an image of the Roman goddess 'Ceres'.

Due to the advent of the First World War and the resultant shortage of raw materials especially paper, this issue is renowned for the large number of papers that were used for its printing.

As with all previous issues, the 'Ceres' definitive issue was frequently overprinted or surcharged during its lifetime.

This issue was in use for a very long time, with the last new duties being issued in 1926 and the withdrawal of the stamps only occurring on 13 August 1933, to coincide with the introduction of the 'Lusíadas' duties.

The Lusíadas Definitive Issue

Issued on 19 July 1933 to commemorate the 'Lusiads', an epic Portuguese poem of the discoveries of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries written by Luís Vaz de Camões, this issue comprised nineteen duties in all (Fig 9).

A further two duties were issued in 1947 due to changes in the postage rates of the colony.

The issue remained in service until its withdrawal on 1 January 1949.

Conclusion

I have had tremendous fun during my years collecting the stamps of Mozambique, and have developed an abiding passion for the stamps, history and postal history of Portuguese East Africa in all its facets. I hope that a small part of this has rubbed off on the reader.



Fig 9. 1933 Lusiadas issue 1c inscriptional block of 10

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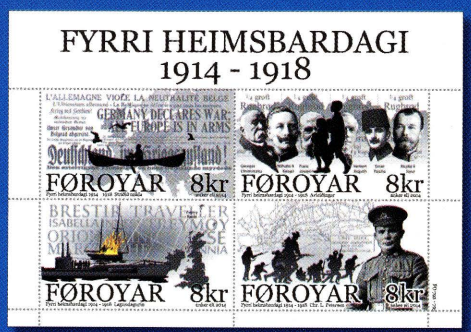

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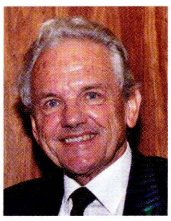

SMYRNA ~ 'GATEWAY TO THE MIDDLE EAST'

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

While the degree of finesse that has been exhibited in addressing any envelope would not, normally, have a significant effect on the intrinsic value of such an item, there can be little doubt that the handwriting displayed on the cover accompanying this article would be sure to enhance its appeal to either a hardened philatelist or to a complete novice in the hobby. "Beauty", as they say, "is in the eye of the beholder" and, personally, I have no hesitation in describing myself as 'beholden'. However, the afore-mentioned 'hardened philatelist' might well dismiss this cover as being 'philatelic' meaning that it was created apparently for the benefit of a collector rather than for the primary purpose of conveying a letter from point A to point B. (For my own part, I rather decry the use of the word 'philatelic' in a derogatory sense when it was created originally to describe the essentially honourable hobby of stamp-collecting. That, though, is another issue. No pun intended).

Nevertheless, I don't think it can be denied that our present cover has, to a degree, been 'manufactured'. The very use of these particular stamps and their careful positioning on the cover, together with two exceptionally neat cancellations and the undeniably beautiful script, all combine to suggest that the sender was confident that his envelope would never be consigned to the waste-paper basket. Less obvious but in confirmation of this observation is the name of the addressee, 'Mr A.Yaremdji'. It transpires that he was one of the leading stamp-dealers of his day! In fact, the imprint appearing on the shop's own stationery bore the legend stating in translation, if my school-boy French is not too far off the mark, that it was *"The oldest and most important firm in Turkey for the sale and purchase of stamps of the Orient"*. Although the location of the bazaar – *'Tidjaret-han'*, now apparently with the spelling '*Ticaret*'– does appear to have survived, I can find no proof that the company itself is still in existence. It was not listed among the 28 Turkish stamp dealing businesses that were registered with the International Federation of Stamp Dealers' Associations and listed in their annual handbook. The copy of that publication that I possess is for the years 1984/85 so I am open to correction if any reader has evidence that Mr A.Yaremdji, or rather his heirs, are still buying and selling *"stamps of the Orient"*.

It was comparatively recently, when discussing the Himalayan state of Bhutan *(SAP Dec. 2013)*, that I commented on the tendency for towns and countries nowadays to rename themselves. The chances are that children of the 21st Century would have no idea of where you had been if you were to tell them that you had visited the Gold Coast,



Fig.1.



Fig.2.



Fig.3.



Fig.4.

Ceylon or even Basutoland while readers of an older generation might wonder what Myanmar, Belize and Mali were known as when they themselves were youngsters. However, this need to acquire a new identity is by no means exclusively a phenomenon of the present day and age. Today's scholars might well be hard put to locate in their atlases either the source or the destination of the cover shown in Fig.1. Constantinople is, of course, a familiar name having been founded by the Romans under Constantine the Great in 324 A.D. and thriving under that name well into the 20th Century. Although the Roman Emperor gave his name to the city, it had been established originally by the Greeks who knew it as Byzantium. At one stage a bastion of Christianity in the East, it was conquered by the Muslims in 1453 and became the Islamic capital of the Ottoman Empire. In 1930, official recognition was given to the old native name 'Istanbul' although many Europeans still refer to the city as Constantinople. Smyrna is similarly steeped in history but has been known as Izmir since 1930. Incidentally, I do have in my library a copy of a gazetteer of place name changes compiled by Adrian Room in 1978 and which runs to 187 pages with some fifty towns or countries per page. Even allowing for the fact that several of the entries are reflected under both the original and the present spelling, that's still a lot of new names for old. However, a high proportion of them are in Russia or China and are thus unlikely to be of great concern to the average philatelist.

As well as Great Britain, both Russia and Italy established post offices in Smyrna and, in 1909, provided certain of their own definitive stamps with appropriate overprints. Examples of these are illustrated in Figs.2 and 3. The British on the other hand, were content to make use of their own domestic stamps or, alternatively, those overprinted 'Levant' or surcharged in Turkish currency. Without this overprint, it was only by means of a postal cancellation that it could be determined if a stamp had been used in the British post office in Smyrna. The term 'British Levant' included post offices in Greece and Lebanon as well as Turkey. The Turkish *piastre* was depreciated against sterling in 1884 and surcharges were applied to existing stocks in order to avoid currency speculation. The 3d, 4d and 6d values of the King Edward VII set that had first appeared in 1902 were surcharged for the British Levant in 1910 and all three issues were used on 17 May 1913 to register the letter to Constantinople. On the reverse, the receiving stamp of the British Post Office confirms that it arrived at its destination two days later. It was only three years after this that the Gulf of Smyrna was the site of the birth of one of the iconic local stamps of the British Empire. Long Island in the Gulf and known variously as Cheustan, Makrosini and Uzun, was occupied by a British Naval detachment in the spring of 1916. At first, the administrator, Lieutenant H.Pirie-Gordon, used a stock of Turkish fiscal stamps that he had 'liberated' from a Syrian post office in December, 1914. These were overprinted 'G.R.I. Postage' and surcharged in sterling. By May, 1916, he was to supplement these with a series of stamps using a typewriter and carbon paper (Fig. 4). For security reasons, he initialled each and every stamp. It is reported that the G.P.O. in London was not amused and ordered the withdrawal of the stamps claiming that they had never been officially authorised. Nevertheless, they did accept from Pirie-Gordon the sum of £34 17s 9d in respect of stamp sales and, to their credit, allowed mail bearing the stamps into the country without charging postage due.

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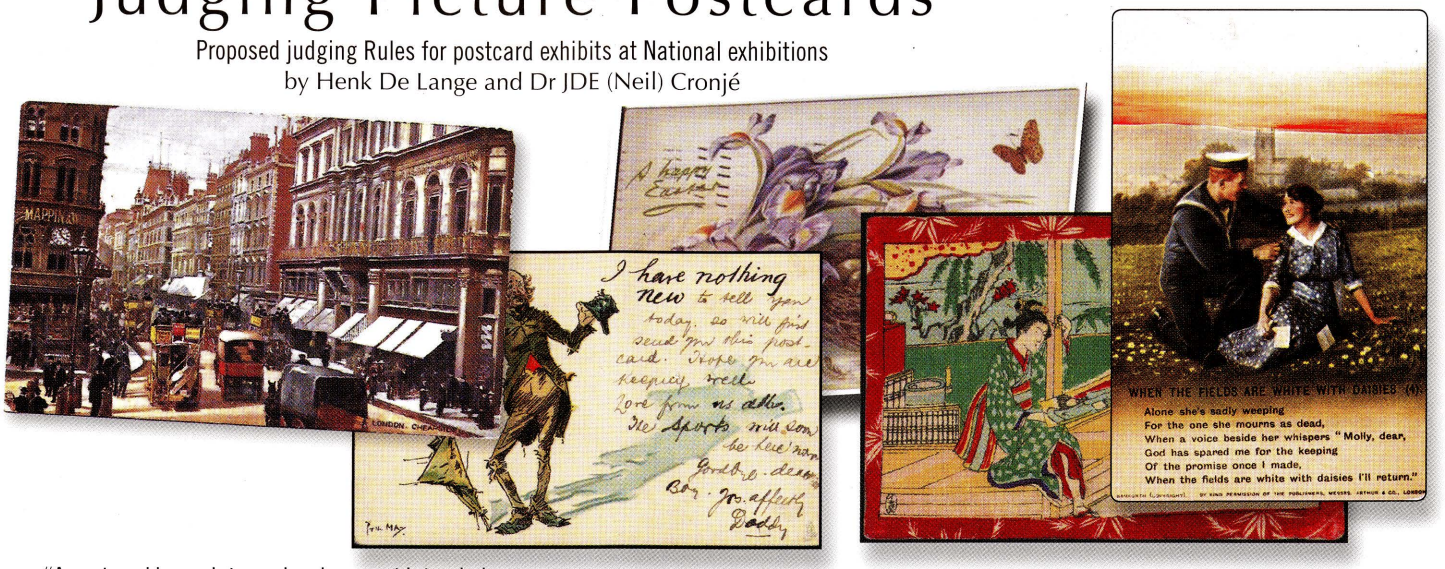
Judging Picture Postcards

Proposed judging Rules for postcard exhibits at National exhibitions

by Henk De Lange and Dr JDE (Neil) Cronjé



"A postcard is a print on a hard support intended for postal use for open correspondence" *(Albert Thinot)*.

The category 'POSTCARDS' applies exclusively to illustrated postcards and excludes postal stationery. (For exceptions see point 5 under Notes). The collection of postcards can have features attached to the different displays, e.g. (historical, thematic or varieties).

INTRODUCTORY and PRESENTATION: Introductory Page: 5 points and presentation 10 points. (Total 15 points).

(a) Introductory page: The first page should have a plan or outline of the exhibit, which explains the logical progression through the exhibit as given by the title with a concise and easy to read write-up without being too lengthy or overpowering. The first page (or else the last page) should include a select Bibliography to support certain Research carried out.

(b) Presentation: Here cleanliness, tidiness, overall balance and presentation will be considered. In general terms two or three cards should be shown on each page and the viewside should be fully visible without any overlapping.

COMMENTARY and RESEARCH: Commentary 15 points and Research 10 points (Total 25 points)

(a) Commentary: Exhibitors should show a clear knowledge and understanding of the subject, well beyond the expected average viewer's perspective.

(b) Research: Original research should be noted by the exhibitor and should be rewarded by the judges although it is accepted that such original research will not be feasible in all cases particularly where extensive research has already been carried out by third parties. The exhibitor is expected to show a technical knowledge of the cards including the printer and/or publisher, photographer, year of issue, number of cards in sets etc. All these technical details are not expected on every page but some relevant knowledge to the overall production of the cards should be evident.

BREADTH and COVERAGE: 15 points

Judges should look for evidence that the exhibit covers all pertinent aspects of the subject as per introductory page. This also includes the repetition or padding of material as well as important cards one should expect, in order to tell the story. Of primary importance is the interweaving of the material into an interesting story.

CONDITION and RARITY: Condition 20 points and Rarity 10 points (Total 30 points)

(a) Condition: Cards, unless very hard to find should be free of defects particularly if they have not gone through the mail. Much of the material available, particularly in the early years was sent through the mail and a certain tolerance of minor faults such as corner rounding and handling bends will be granted for older posted items. Hand-writing on the picture side of older cards will be accepted. Torn and/or repaired cards should be avoided unless the card is deemed to be of extreme rarity. The aim is to display the best condition available for the material selected whether unused or used.

Modern cards or older cards with relatively high print runs must be in pristine condition. Exhibitors should appreciate that very few marks will be awarded for these cards in this category.

(b) Rarity: It is not expected that all of the cards in an exhibit will be rare but there should be evidence that cards have been assessed relative to the frequency of their survival and difficulty in their acquisition, particularly in comparison with their relative popularity among card collectors.

APPEAL of CARDS: 15 points

This is not to be confused with presentation but appeal of the cards is a subjective judgment of the cards themselves and how attractive they are to the general viewer. Obviously the more modern and colourful cards selected can be more appealing to the eye but the exhibit may then score low in the Rarity category. The display should encourage viewer participation and attract the viewer to delve deeper into the exhibit. It is here that the exhibitor may well find that the standard 4 x 4 layout can be modified by using larger sheets that nevertheless fit into the standard size frame.

Points allocation:

Introductory page Presentation	5 10
Commentary Research	15 10
Breadth and Coverage	15
Condition Rarity	20 10
Appeal of Cards	15
Total	100

Notes:

1. It is permissible in postcard exhibits to show supporting material to complement the display e.g. photographs, newspaper cuttings and the like, as long as they are considered vital to illustrate, or draw attention to a particular point or situation. However the supporting material shall be neither numerically, nor in area, more than 10% of the exhibit.

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2. Cinderella labels/stamps, cigarette cards, trade cards and money tokens are not classified as postcards and are not allowed.
3. The highlighting of postmarks should be avoided unless it is to prove a specific point such as earliest usage.
4. When it is desirable to illustrate a significant marking on the reverse side of a card, this may either be drawn or illustrated with a reproduction (photograph or photocopy). The reproduction should be annotated. Photocopies or photographs should differ at least 25% in size from the original.
5. Postal Stationery with **privately printed illustrations** may be classified as postcards and can be shown in a postcard exhibit but they must not be in the majority.

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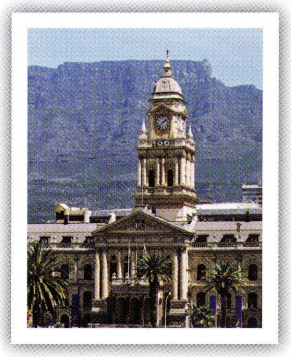
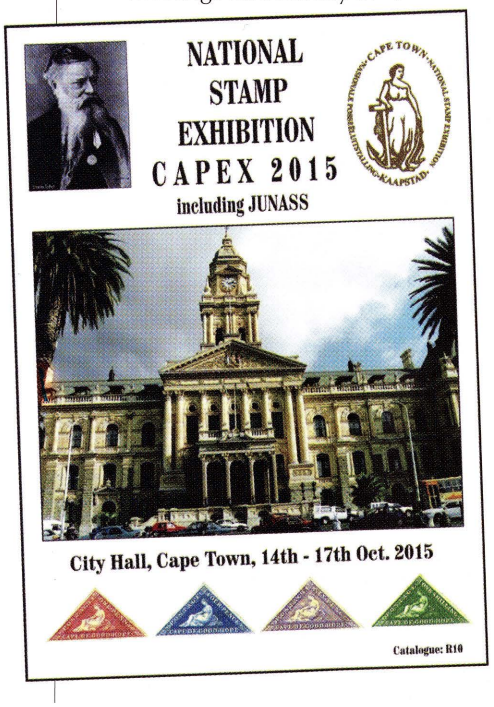


Everything is on track for this year's National being held in the Cape Town City Hall.

Entries are coming in and the initial response is very pleasing, indications are that we are going to be fully subscribed.

- The Jury/Dealers dinner will be held at the **Western Province Cricket Club**, Avenue de Mist, Rondebosch on THURSDAY 15 October.
- The Palmares is at the Tsogo Cape Sun Hotel, cor Strand Street and St. Georges Mall, Central Cape Town, Saturday 17 October.
- Several specialist societies have already booked times for their meetings on Saturday 17th.



- In addition, David Figg from Australia will be presenting a workshop on Postcards
- David Stotter, the author of *'The British Post Office Service in Morocco 1907 – 57'* will give a talk on this and his new book just published, as well as the GB Overprint Society.
- Seventeen Dealer's have already secured stands at this stage.
- Volker Janssen is producing the exhibition catalogue and advertisers can contact him at janssenp@iafrica.com to place advertisements according to the following schedule.

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

SAPDA HAS BECOME AWARE OF POSSIBLE CONFUSION

PLEASE NOTE:

The Forthcoming Welz Stamp Auction, taking place on 10 and 11 June 2015, may create confusion by stating on their advertising 'THE CROCKER AUCTION'; when in fact the items listed represent less than 1% of the number of lots offered.

Permission was granted to Savo of Stephan Welz, for Welz to name this next stamp auction as the 'David Crocker' sale merely as a tribute to David, who has been considered his friend and mentor. The expected introductory note has not featured in any of the published marketing or the Stephan Welz catalogue and this, based on the number of calls and e-mails already received, seem to have led many people to make the broad assumption that the entire content of the auction is a specific estate sale.

Whilst obviously not pleased about the confusion that has arisen, this confusion was unintentional and was not meant to mislead, however, clarity on this issue is important.

To emphasise - Material on offer at this auction may well have formed part of other collections and should NOT be seen as the entire "Crocker Collection".

SAPDA Management
Steven van den Hurk:
President

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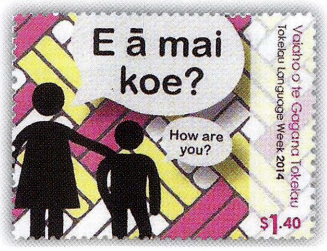
Thematically Yours

by **Rev Cassie Carstens,**
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging, Pretoria



Get Collecting - it's fun!

* **Tokelau Language Week.** Can you speak Tokelau? Well, neither can I. But on the small island Tokelau they have a special week to highlight and promote the use of Tokelau language, as well as display the rich culture and heritage of Tokelau. The stamp depicts a common Tokelauan phrase as well as the English translation.



* **World Heritage - Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo Jump, Canada**. A world heritage site holds clues that whisper to all who visit. The stamp shows such a site and evokes feelings of what it would be like to stand in that place and feel history permeate the skin. To know that others have walked before you – that by being there you are a part of living history – is a powerful feeling. In Alberta, Canada we find the evocatively named Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo Jump. Here for thousands of years, Aboriginal peoples of the plains hunted bison by herding them over the edge of the sandstone cliff. The sound of hooves on grassy plains and the speed of movement ending in a giant drop come alive with the visual.



* **Headline News.** What is the most important headline news of the 20th Century….? A SMALL STEP – A GIANT LEAP. The epic words of astronaut Neil Armstrong when stepping out of the lunar module onto the moon in July 1969 still resounds in our ears: *One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.* (My grandfather never believed the moon landing and dismissed it as an American farce.)



* **Oyster Fishing.** The oyster fisheries had existed in Jersey for centuries but it was in the period following the Napoleonic Wars that they had the greatest impact on the island's economic development. In 1810, the British government encouraged fishermen to increase production as part of the war effort and English fishermen moved into the area. Soon, a large-scale trade developed and pressure on the oyster beds grew. Clashes between fishermen became common, requiring the involvement of the French navy and intervention between the French and British governments. By the 1860s the industry was all but finished.



* **The Flag of Iceland.** Prime Minister of Iceland, Hannes Hafstein, established the Flag Committee in December 1913. The Committee was appointed to make recommendations regarding the design, shape and colour of the future Icelandic flag. On 1 July 1914, the Committee submitted two proposals for the colour of the flag. The best proposal was a sky blue flag with a white cross and a bright red cross inside. On 19 June 1915 a royal (Danish) decree was issued establishing the tricolour as the flag of Iceland and confirming a new constitution for Iceland as a free and sovereign state under the Danish crown.





* **G20 Leaders Summit.** Australia was the official host for the G20 leaders Summit in 2014. The summit was held in Brisbane on 15 and 16 November. That was the most significant meeting of world leaders that Australia had ever held. Hosting the G20 gave Australia the opportunity to influence the global economy agenda and to strengthen engagement with the world's major economies. The G20 was also an opportunity to showcase Brisbane, Queensland and Australia as a world-class destination for tourism, education and business. As many as 4,000 delegates and 3,000 media representatives from around the world attended the event.

* **Black history : Nelson Mandela.** Nice and interesting to read how foreign people honour Mandela. Descendant of Tribal Royalty, Prisoner, President, Nobel-Laureate – Nelson Mandela was all these, yet he was a dignified and humble man. His struggle against apartheid inspired hope; his victory triggered a global celebration; his death, in 2013, brought millions to tears. As leader of the African National Congress, Mandela was arrested in 1962, and sentenced to five years in prison for leaving South Africa without a passport and inciting workers to strike. He was serving this sentence when he was brought to trial in 1963 for sabotage, then convicted on 12 June 1964. Mandela would be imprisoned for more than 27 years. Released in 1990, Mandela became the first black President of South Africa in 1994 to be elected in a free vote by persons of every race. It was the first election in which he could legally cast a ballot. During his life, he received hundreds of awards, including the Nobel Prize in 1993. Mandela was also the first living person bestowed with Honorary Canadian Citizenship.



* **Flowering Shrubs on Christmas Island.** Christmas island is covered with lush green vegetation and is notable for its flora and fauna. It is home to around 411 plant species of which 213 are native and about 18 endemic. The stamp depicts the species *Abutilon listeri.*



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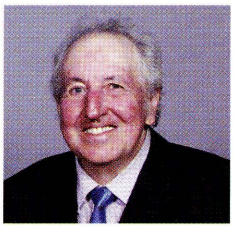

Bechuanaland Protectorate - the 1961 Decimal Surcharge 10c on 1/-

by Dr Lawrence Barit – Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Introduction

With the currency change from Pounds, Shillings and Pence to decimal Rands and Cents, Bechuanaland issued a provisional set of overprinted stamps on the 14th February 1961. These surcharges were a temporary measure in order to tie the postal authorities over until a new definitive set was finalised, for which in January 1959 the Crown Agents had invited artists to submit designs for a new definitive issue for the territory[1].

The reason for the conversion was the introduction of decimal currency by South Africa which compelled other users of their currency to follow suit, namely Bechuanaland, South-West Africa, Basutoland, Swaziland and Tristan da Cunha.

The surcharges

Bechuanaland issued 11 decimal overprinted duties with the lowest value being the 1c on 1d and the highest denomination being the R1 on 10/-. A large demand resulted in further surchargings which included new settings, new types as well as positional shifts. All the overprinting was done by the South African Government Printer in Pretoria.

The 10c on 1/-duty

The Shelley Catalogue[2] reported two surchargings of the 10c on 1/- (black and brown-olive) stamp. The first printing consisted of 800 sheets of 60 (48,000 stamps) which were issued on 14 February 1961. The second printing which was on 1,052 sheets of 60 (63,120 stamps) appears to have been issued during or around the month of June 1961. There was only one type of the 10c surcharge, in 18 point Tempo Bold, unlike other values in the decimal surcharged set where second types have been recorded.



Fig 1 – Surcharge centered 'left'



Fig 2 – Surcharge centered 'right'



Fig 3 – surcharge at far 'left'

Some differences in the positioning of the surcharges have been noted which may tempt an allocation to either the first or second surcharging, but an analysis of fig1 and fig2 shows that in overprinting the positioning is dependent on the trimming of the original sheet. However, Shelley recorded as Var.22 one sheet with the surcharge in an extreme LH position shown in fig3, which could have resulted from a sheet with a very wide LH margin. Similarly, an angled 'trim' of the top or bottom margin of a sheet could result in an overprint at an angle as shown in fig4.



Fig 4 – Surcharges sloping down from L to R

Gross misalignment of the surcharge

The Shelley Catalogue[2], published in November 1962, recorded on p14 the variety V21: a misplaced surcharge across one sheet which resulted in one vertical row appearing without surcharge with the comment "five rows only were found". A photograph of this piece was taken at the time and a copy[3] is shown in fig 5.

This led to the belief that the remainder were used for postal purposes and this was echoed by Franco Frescura in his writing on these decimal surcharges[4].

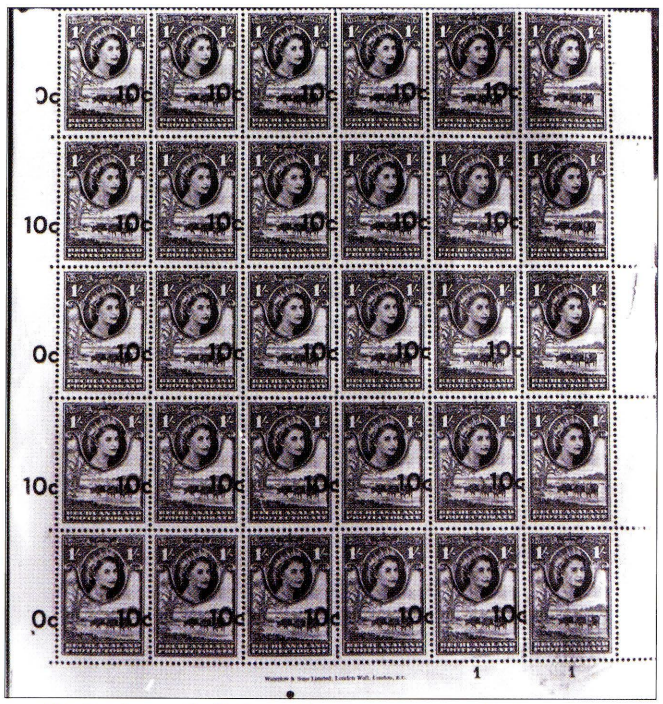

Fig 5 – Lower half sheet showing extreme displacement of surcharge to the left.

Holmes in his "...Bechuanalands[1]..." published in October 1971 just noted that "One sheet received the surcharge too much to the left, so that the first vertical row was printed on the margin, and the last vertical row of stamps remained unsurcharged" which could be interpreted that the whole sheet existed. In fact neither of those views was correct, since in *Stamp Collecting* of 14 August 1969[5], R.W. Brownlow (formerly the Secretary of the Mafeking and Bechuanalands P.S.) recorded the overprint displacement but noted "Three rows were destroyed at the counter before the error came under notice" which meant that a total of seven rows can exist. Of the two additional strips, which were probably rows 4 and 5, row 5 can readily be identified in fig 6 by the small black circular 'needling'[6] marks in the opposite margins which are known in those positions on the sheets of the bi-coloured duties from 1/- upwards.

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Fig 6 – Row 5 showing the 'needling' targets in opposite margins[7].

Identification of other strips with the shift in surcharge

Presuming the three strips 'destroyed' at the Post Office were from the top of the sheet, there are thus 7 strips in existence, from rows 4 to 10. Row 5 has been identified above and strips from rows 6 to 10 can be identified by reference to the photograph in fig 5, as follows:



Fig 7 – Row 6, identified by 'broken 0' in LH margin and paper tear at top LH corner



Fig 8 – Row 7, identified by 'straight foot to 1' in LH margin[8].

For Row 8, no image is to hand. This could be identified by an undamaged '0' in the LH margin, but that could also be a characteristic of Row 4 which so far has not been identified.



Fig 9 – Row 9, identifiable by 'slant foot to 1' in LH margin

For Row 10, the identification is easy because the item has been seen with the lower margin attached showing the Imprint and Plate Numbers.

Further Comments

A curiosity about the sheet in fig 5 is that the left hand side has every alternative marginal overprint (ie the overprint that missed the stamp) in full (ie 10c) with the alternative being partial. How that occurred is an interesting question.

Could it be that the surcharging forme had some form of clamping device? If so, it would have had to be paper thin otherwise the rest of the overprint would not have been able to have come out in the same clarity as the rest of the overprinting on the sheet. Why in any event every second vertical row?

The following can be noted: There exists seven pairs which reveal an overprint on one stamp and no overprint on the other stamp. (Right side marginal pair). Seven pairs exist where an overprint appears on one stamp with the second overprint being in the margin. Further, there would then be twenty-one stamps where the overprint, as a result of the misplacement, is in a completely different place from where the original overprint was meant to be. This means that the value of a complete horizontal strip must be looked at not only with respect to the 'pair' (one with overprint, one without), but also with respect to the further errors in the horizontal strip.

General: The sheet with the surcharging errors was discovered at a Post Office, name not stated but probably 'Lobatsi'. It is probable that this sheet was printed to check the alignment of the overprinting; under security printing conditions every sheet used had to be accounted for and 'waste' had to be formally 'written off'. It would thus appear that the waste was not identified or actioned and was distributed with 'good' stock to Post Offices. This would also explain why other major overprinting errors such as double surcharges came into circulation.

The current Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Southern and Central Africa (2nd Ed 2014) states in a footnote with respect to the 10c on 1/- overprint error as follows: "(This error) was caused by a shift of the surcharge so that the last vertical row on the sheet is without '10c' ". Gibbons says nothing about the overprint appearing in the margin of the first vertical row. It further lists the error as follows: "Horiz. Pair, right-hand stamp without surcharge. £12 000". The latest South African Stamp Colour Catalogue (34th Ed 2015) lists the error without any comment as follows: "10c on 1/- pair one without surcharge R180,000.00".

Summing-up: This 10c on 1/- overprint error, though not unusual in terms of overprinting, where one stamp in a pair has the overprint and the other has not, only appeared on two values (the 10c on 1/- and 2½c on 2d) with respect to the 1961 decimal overprints. This does not mean that there were not such other errors, which were never discovered and proceeded to be dispersed through normal postal use. Whichever way it is looked at, the 10c on 1/- surcharge with the positional shift as we have discussed, forms an interesting study, and still contains an element of a mystery in it.

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2: *The Shelley Catalogue of the Decimal Surcharges of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland*, compiled by P.N. Bullivant, Stamp Collecting Ltd, London November 1962.

3: Photograph published courtesy of Peter van der Molen who was given a print by Harmers of London. The print had some damage to the RH edge.

4: Frescura, Franco, *The Provisional Decimal Overprints of Bechuanaland, ca. 1980*, intended for but not published in the Robemark Catalogue which published his corresponding articles on Basutoland and Swaziland.

5: Brownlow, R.W., *The Bechuanalands and Botswana, Stamp Collecting* 14 August 1969, p.1323.

6: Sheets were located on the perforator bed by impaling on protruding needles, aiming for the centre of the 'needling' marks printed in the sheets.

7: Image courtesy of Brian Hurst, UK.

8: Image courtesy of an anonymous SA collector.

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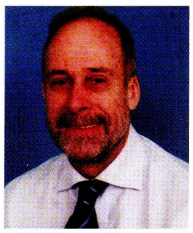

Letter Smuggling and the Ship Masters' Gratuity

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

In the early years of the Dutch settlements at the Cape of Good Hope and East Asia, private correspondence was regarded with suspicion by the directors of the *Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (VOC, the Dutch East Indies Company). Information of strategic or commercial value had to be protected, and private correspondence could also facilitate private trading, which was strictly forbidden. The articles governing VOC employment overseas therefore required official authorisation for any private letter. Breach of this rule was regarded as serious misconduct which could lead to dismissal and disgrace. In March 1701, for example, the VOC's directors in the Netherlands were informed that unauthorised private letters had been discovered in the baggage of the crew of a ship arriving from the Indies:

"Having been opened and read, we found to our regret the excessively large trade carried on between Holland and India publicly and unhesitatingly, contrary to honour and oath, and with contempt of the orders and placcaten issued against it from time to time." The directors ordered that all the offenders should be prosecuted, and those considered 'more guilty than others' be summarily dismissed from the Company's service, and repatriated to the Netherlands 'without pay or rank'.

Surviving records do not reveal the procedures followed at the Cape of Good Hope to regulate private correspondence, but the system may have been similar to that adopted in Batavia, where private outgoing letters were read and recorded in a *Patriaboek*. Incoming letters were also opened, read, and recorded before collection by the addressee. Once approved, an outgoing private letter was deposited together with official correspondence in the so-called *scheepsdoos* (ship's box) on one of the VOC's ships.

These procedures were of course unpopular, and generally ignored. Although private letters to or from the Cape at this time are scarce, surviving examples generally bear superscriptions which indicate that the letter was carried outside the *scheepsdoos*, and smuggled ashore when the ship reached its destination. Such inscriptions include *Met Heer en Vrind Die god geleijde in Salvo* (By gentleman and friend entrusted to God in heaven), and *Wiens geleijsman God* (May he be escorted by God). Sometimes the endorsement reveals secret carriage by a named individual, such as the cover illustrated in figure 1, which was smuggled from Batavia to the Cape by Daniel Strahle, the senior helmsman of the ship *de Vrouwe Wynanda Luberta* in 1785.

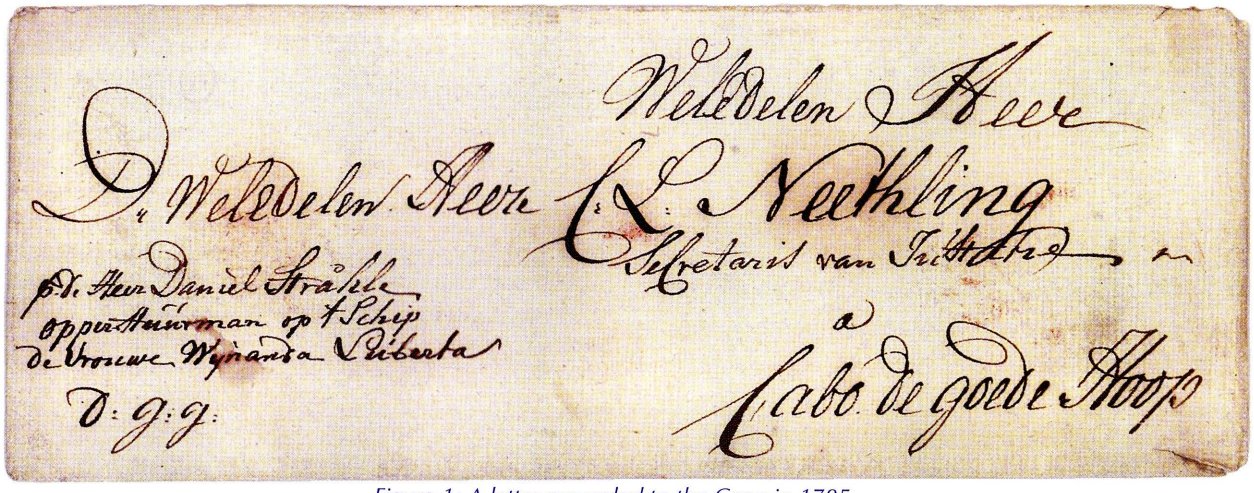

Figure 1: A letter smuggled to the Cape in 1785

Smuggling during British Rule

Following the British seizure of the Cape in 1795, the primary concern was security against attack by the French or their supporters. For the first three years, there was no post office, and private letters could lawfully be carried by ship masters or other travellers subject to one overriding proviso which was stated and restated in several public notices: that 'immediate death will be inflicted on all persons found communicating with the enemy'.

On 16 May 1797, the following proclamation was issued for the attention of all merchants, inhabitants and other writers of private letters:

> "Whereas it has frequently happened that during the time of war, the enemies have got intelligence of the state of the settlements and plantations of his Majesty by letters from private persons to their correspondents in Great Britain or elsewhere taken on board ships coming from such settlements and plantations, which has been of dangerous consequence, all merchants, inhabitants and others are hereby required and commanded to be very cautious in giving any accounts or information of the affairs or circumstances of (the) said settlement, and the harbourmasters and all others whom it may concern are moreover to give directions to all masters of ships or other persons to whom they may entrust any letters, that they put such letters into a bag with a sufficient weight to sink the same immediately in case of imminent danger from the enemy …."

On 6 March 1798, a proclamation 'Regarding Postal Affairs' was issued, in order to address "the very great inconvenience (which) has arisen from want of a post office in this colony, for receiving, distributing and sending away letters, not only of the civil and military department, but particularly of the inhabitants at large …" The post office was established in the Castle of Good Hope and John Holland was appointed "to superintend the duties thereof as Postmaster-General ….. (and) for the present to fix his office in the room of the Government sworn translator where Mr. C. B. Hohne will daily attend from the hour of nine o'clock in the forenoon till eleven o'clock ….."

In order to generate revenue, this Proclamation also established the Post Office a monopoly on the handling of all incoming (and outgoing) letters:

> "Upon the arrival of any vessel the captain of the Port shall collect all the letters and immediately send them to the post office agreeable to his instructions upon that subject.
>
> The Postmaster-General shall immediately cause all the military or naval letters to be selected sending the first to the office of the town major and the latter to the secretary of the admiral.

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Figure 2: 1807 letter handed to the Post Office

All other single letters are to pay one skelling from whatever part of the world they may come and to increase at that rate for each letter or enclosure.

All packets exceeding one ounce, all pamphlets, books or newspapers to pay one rixdollar but if exceeding in weight one pound to be opened in presence of those to whom they are addressed and to pay two rixdollars…..

When any ship or packet with letters arrives a board is to be hung out at the post-office stating when the letters will be delivered and such letters as are not called for the first day will be sent round by the messenger."

For the avoidance of doubt, the Proclamation also included the following provision which criminalised letter smuggling:

"And in order to guard against any frauds being committed, I do most strictly prohibit all masters of vessels on penalty of 50 rixdollars not to retain any letters from the harbourmaster or to receive any letters but such as have been marked at the post-office."

Although the 50 rixdollars penalty was harsh, the evidence suggests that this regulation was ineffective. Most surviving private letters of this period have no postal markings, and were delivered directly to the addressee by the carrier rather than by the newly established post office. The *Records of the Cape Colony* also contain no reference to any ship master being prosecuted for smuggling letters. Most private letters were of course commercial, containing bills, invoices and orders for goods, and it had long been customary for the masters of ships departing London for the Cape (and elsewhere) to hang bags in coffee houses, inns and the offices of shipping agents in which letters could be deposited for private delivery when the ship reached its destination. A penny was usually paid by the sender to the ship's master as his perquisite for each letter thus received.

These practices continued during the short-lived period of Batavian rule from 1803, and immediately the British resumed occupation of the Cape in January 1806, Lieutenant Ross of the Royal Navy was appointed to act as Captain of the Port and Harbour Master, with instructions to board and report upon all vessels entering Table Bay:

"You must also receive and bring immediately to the Post Office in the Castle all Letters for this Colony, and you cannot be too particular on this head with respect to Neutral Vessels, the Masters of which are liable to a Penalty of Fifty Rixdollars for every letter which they do not deliver to you."

The Postal Proclamation of 1806

On 23 May 1806, William Caldwell was appointed to the office of Deputy Postmaster by a letter which informed: "The Captain of the Port will deliver to you all Letters brought here by Ships whether for the Garrison or the Inhabitants. You are to cause those for the Garrison and English Inhabitants to be forthwith carefully issued, charging the Postage according to the annexed Tariff, and transit to the Secretary's Office a list of those that may be sent to you for any Dutch or Foreign person, when you will receive His Excellency's orders respecting the same."

The postal proclamation issued on the same date provided that the charge to be levied on an overseas ship letter thus received was 1 Skelling a single and 2 Skelling a double. Letters to non-commissioned officers, soldiers and sailors were to be delivered free of charge.

Intelligence gleaned from surviving letters again suggests that these regulations were largely ignored by letter carriers, which is hardly surprising since the 1806 proclamation had the same fundamental weakness as its 1798 predecessor: a lack of enforcement provisions. The Port Captain had no power to search incoming ships for letters, nor even to require the ship's master to swear on oath that he had not withheld letters for private delivery. The vast majority of letters addressed to the Cape from overseas during this period therefore bear no transit or postal markings. Figures 2 and 3 are of interest because they illustrate exceptions to this trend. Figure 2 is a letter entrusted to Captain Johnston of the *Venus* which was duly handed to the Port Captain upon arrival in Table Bay from Portsmouth on 29 September, 1807. The letter received the Cape Post Office handstamp, and was charged 3 skelling as a triple sheet letter when delivered to the merchant William Weideman, on 1 October (Weidemen's manuscript note on reverse).

Figure 3 shows another letter to Weideman, carried this time by Captain J. Teale of the *Alfred* which arrived in Table Bay from



Figure 3: 1807 letter smuggled ashore at Cape Town

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Falmouth on 2 December 1807. Teale ignored the provisions of the 1806 proclamation, and personally delivered the letter to Weideman's agent, Mr Venables, on the Strand. In order to ensure that his service did not go unnoticed, Teale endorsed the reverse flap: "Forwarded by y(ou) r ob(edient) Ser(vant), J.T(eale). at Mr Venable's Strand pl(ace)." The post office charge was therefore evaded.

'Introduction of the Masters' Gratuity

Although the vast majority of ship letters continued to be smuggled into the Cape for private delivery in defiance of the Post Office monopoly, the authorities did nothing further to deter the practice until 1826, when the masters' gratuity was introduced. This gratuity was a 'persuasive measure' that had already proven successful in Britain, where - since 1711 – ship masters had received payment of one penny for each letter they delivered to the post office. In 1799, this gratuity was raised to two pence per letter. Unfortunately, the introduction of this measure at the Cape was less successful than it should have been because of a defect in the relevant provision statutory provision.



Figure 4: 1829 letter subject to master's gratuity

Section 9 of the 1826 Postal Ordinance (No. 25 of 1826) provided as follows:

> "On the arrival of any Vessel from abroad with Bags of Letters (not made up at any of the Post Offices in the United Kingdom) or with any loose Letters addressed to any of the Inhabitants of this Colony, or on the arrival of any Vessel from any of the Ports of this Colony with Letters or Bags of Letters as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster stationed at the Port or Bay in which such Vessel may arrive, and he is hereby required to pay to the Master, Officer, or other Person, who shall deliver such Letters to the Postmaster, or to the Captain of the Port for transmission to the Post Office, One Penny **for every Letter bearing Postage** so delivered, which amount so paid shall be charged by the Postmaster in his Contingent Account." (emphasis added)

The application of this provision is illustrated by Figure 4, a double sheet letter carried by the *Matilda*, on which postage of '1/8' was paid at the London Ship Letter Office on 31 July 1829. In accordance with Section 9, the ship's master (Captain Vaux) handed the letter to the Port Captain when the *Matilda* docked in Table Bay. Captain Vaux was then given a receipt, which entitled him to claim the one penny gratuity from the Cape Town Post Office. The letter was subsequently stamped at the Cape Post Office, and eight pence was charged upon its receipt by the addressee.

The defect in section 9 was that the masters' gratuity was only payable in respect of letters "bearing postage". The master therefore received no gratuity for a letter which had been directly entrusted to him by the sender without postage paid to the post office in the country of despatch.

This defect was not remedied until 1834 when ship masters became entitled to receive a gratuity for every letter that was liable to a

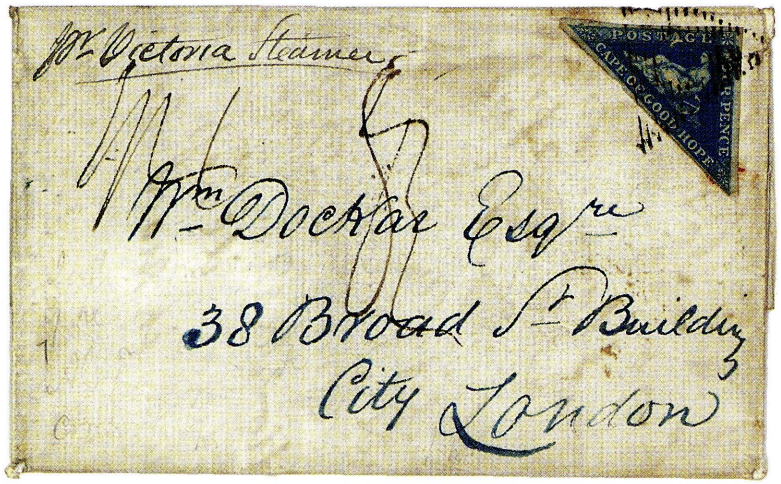

Figure 5: 1853 wrapper carried on the Victoria

postal charge in the Cape and delivered by the master to the Post Office. Section 4 of the 1834 Ordinance, which reads:

> "The Postmasters stationed at the several Ports or Bays in this Colony shall pay to the Master of any Vessel arriving therein, or to any Person duly authorised by him to receive the same, the sum of one Penny for every Letter liable to pay Postage, which shall be by him delivered at the Post Office, and such payments shall be charged by the Postmaster in his Contingent Account: Provided always, that nothing shall be payable for any Dispatch Box addressed to the Governor of this Colony, or any thing therein contained."

This more generous provision encouraged ship masters to deliver to the Cape Post Office the vast majority of letters in their possession. From 1835 onwards, most surviving letters therefore bear postal markings, and Post Office revenue from postage charged on ship letters gradually increased. By 1845, the Cape government estimated its annual expenditure on paying the masters' gratuity would amount to £300 [from a total of 72,000 ship letters received].

By the middle of the nineteenth century, letter writing had significantly increased in many parts of the world. Figure 5 illustrates a wrapper sent from Cape Town to Britain by the *Victoria*, a steamship operated by the Australian Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company (ARMSNCo) , which carried a ship letter mail from Melbourne via the Cape comprising 31,860 letters and 56,508 newspapers, for which the master received gratuities amounting to £500 and 19 shillings when the *Victoria* delivered them to the British Post Office in December 1853. The master refused to pay the gratuities over to the ARMSNCo, which then demanded this amount from the Post Office as remuneration for carrying such a heavy mail. The Post Office referred the dispute to its solicitor who advised that the gratuities were payable to the master only. The ARMSNCo reluctantly accepted that this was the effect of the legislation.

The master's ship letter payable at the Cape remained at one penny per letter until 1882, when it was abolished. By this time, most of the mail was carried under the terms of packet contracts negotiated between the Post Office and the shipping company, for which the ship master received no gratuity.

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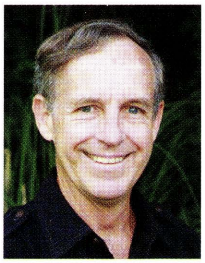
Phun with postmarks



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

A PHILATELIC SOS!!

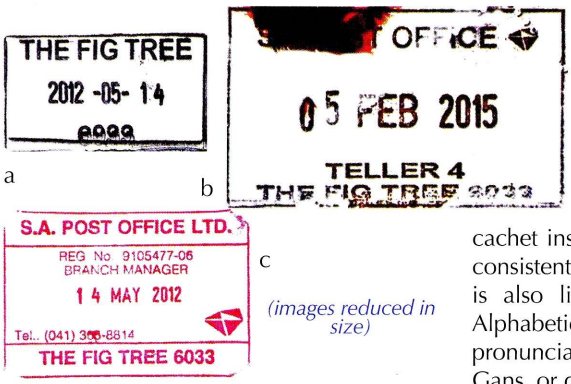
In this column I wish to send out an SOS. The post office strike which started in August 2014 and whose backlog has not yet been fully worked off at the time of writing (April 2015) has had severe implications on postal history and postmarks. Many long-standing customers have moved their document and parcel business to the private sector as reliability of delivery is considered more important than the marginal increase in cost. Courier services have reported major increases in business, and a small company in Pretoria added 10 vans to its fleet. The result of this is that post office business, and particularly fastmail services, has diminished and as this has been the main source for documenting postmarks in recent years, difficulty is being experienced in getting sufficient material. The first SOS is thus for every collector to befriend their local Branch Manager and obtain impressions of all date stamps and cachets on white paper. These can be scanned at 300 dpi and submitted by email in jpeg format to my email address above. This would be of tremendous assistance.

Another implication of the strike is that the SA Post Office has seriously looked at cutting costs as heavy losses were incurred. This is being achieved by rationalising the distribution of post offices and closing uneconomical branches. Reportedly some 300 offices have been closed, and about 360 further outlets are in the pipeline. There is no formal reporting mechanism to alert postal historians of closures. Hence my second SOS is to please advise me of imminent or recent closures. Again, copies of date stamps and cachets shortly before or on the closing date would be highly appreciated.

Recent post office closures

Two post offices that have been closed because of the rationalisation are The Fig Tree in Port Elizabeth (Opened 10.9.2004 closed 5.2.2015, closure information provided by Herwig Kussing) and Brooklyn Square in Pretoria (opened 1.12.1998) that closed during February 2015.

Figure 1 shows examples of the most recent date stamps and cachets used at The Fig Tree. These rectangular self-inking date stamps are typical of the ones used in the Eastern Cape. In 2012 there were three identical date stamps of the example shown in Figure 1a, and I am indebted to Ferdie Schoeman who obtained this information by visiting the post office. There are a number of offices, particularly in the Eastern Cape, that over the years have used identical instruments and this information can only be gleaned by a visit, as postally used impressions could not be differentiated unless wear or damage allows identification. The impression in Figure 1c is a typical example of a Branch Manager's cachet, which is sometimes found on mail, but invariably is used for correspondence. Again these are only obtained by a visit.



a b c

(images reduced in size)

Figure 1. Selection of The Fig Tree date stamps and cachets.

The Brooklyn Square post office, the successor of Brooklyn in Pretoria, also intermittently used the old name, as may be seen in Figure 2, where a selection of recent postmark impressions is shown. The date stamp with the large counter number is typical of the current Gauteng region offices. The published postal code is 0075, but we see two variations namely 0075 and 0175. Figures 2b and c show counter 8 and the two name variants. Up to counter 10 has been seen, which shows that this was a substantial post office. The CHIEF TELLER date stamp (Figure 2d) is typically used for internal use, but may be found on cover. The date stamps shown in Figures 2a and c were issued shortly before closure and are rare.



a b c d

Figure 2. Selection of Brooklyn Square date stamps.

What is in a name?

I suspect most people know Gansbaai, literally translated as the 'goose bay' because of the wild geese that abounded there in the late 1800s, as a fishing village and holiday resort about 48km from Hermanus on the southeast coast. When the post office was originally opened in 1901 it was named Gans Bay, but was named Gansbaai in 1932, and bilingually since 1937. Only the first Cape single circle date stamp was inscribed Gans Bay (my copies too poor to reproduce), and all the others Gansbaai, such as Figure 3a. I was rather surprised to find a recent Branch Manager's cachet inscribed in English. This is however consistent with the bilingual name which is also listed in, for example, the 2003 Alphabetical listing of Postcodes. Would this pronunciation be an English equivalent of Gans, or does it show our bilingual heritage?

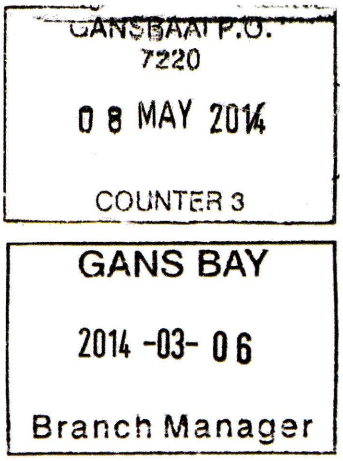


Figure 3. Date stamps from Gansbaai/Gans Bay.

Die herstrukturering van die SA Poskantoor het geweldige implikasies ook vir die pos-geskiedkundige. Ons weet nie van poskantore wat gesluit word nie, en daarom moedig ons alle versamelaars aan om sluitingsinligting deur te stuur. Met die verminderde gebruik van die poskantoor kry ons ook minder materiaal om stempels te dokumenteer, en benodig ons die hulp van kollegas om stempelafdruke by hulle plaaslike poskantoor te verkry en deur te voer. Drie poskantore se stempels is in hierdie rubriek bespreek, en dit bewys weereens dat mens baie pret met moderne posstempels kan hê.

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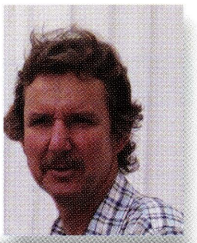

Part 13 DECORATIVE POST OFFICES

by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

Marseilles



Marseilles consists of a railway station and post office situated between Thaba N'Chu and Ladybrand in the Eastern Free State. It served the farmers of the area. Lately these services have declined, with the post office building doubling as a shop and postal agency. The building was erected by the Public Works Department in 1937. It is from a standardized design of which many small post offices were built. The entrance faces north towards the road and railway station. Two ceramic tile panels by Wilgy Van Hall decorate the walls on either side of the arches. The themes of the artworks represent historical conflicts that occured in the area between the Basotho and Boers and British.

The panel on the right wall depicts the meeting between King Moshoeshoe and Lt-General Sir George Cathcart on 15 December 1852 at Platberg Mission Station, near the present day Maseru, before the Berea campaign. The object of the campaign was to compel the payment of a fine in 10,000 head of cattle and 1,000 horses, as punishment for constant raids. Failure to comply would result in the fine being collected by force, and three times the original demand would be seized. The force that Cathcart mustered included infantry and mounted detachments, numbering some 2,500 men.

By 19 December, only one-third of the cattle had been delivered and the invasion of Basotholand was prepared. Cathcart was over-confident and detailed less than half his formidable force to the task. The remainder was left behind to guard the Platberg camp and the drift on the Caledon (thereafter known as Cathcart's Drift). Moreover, clearly not expecting serious resistance, the British brought along no spare ammunition, limiting each man to the sixty rounds he carried with him. Perhaps the riskiest aspect of the plan was that the invading column, little more than a thousand-strong, was to be split into three divisions, each operating apart from the others. Cathcart also failed to make his objectives clear and his instructions to Lieutenant-Colonels Eyre and Napier were confursing so that they acted as they saw fit and became engaged in a prolonged cattle hunt.

Napier's men bore the brunt of an unexpected counter-attack of about 700 Sotho horsemen under Moshoeshoe's second son Molapo, while a detachment of some thirty Lancers under Major Tottenham were almost wiped out and five CMR were cut off near the Berea mission station and shot dead. Despite these successes the Sotho failed to recapture their



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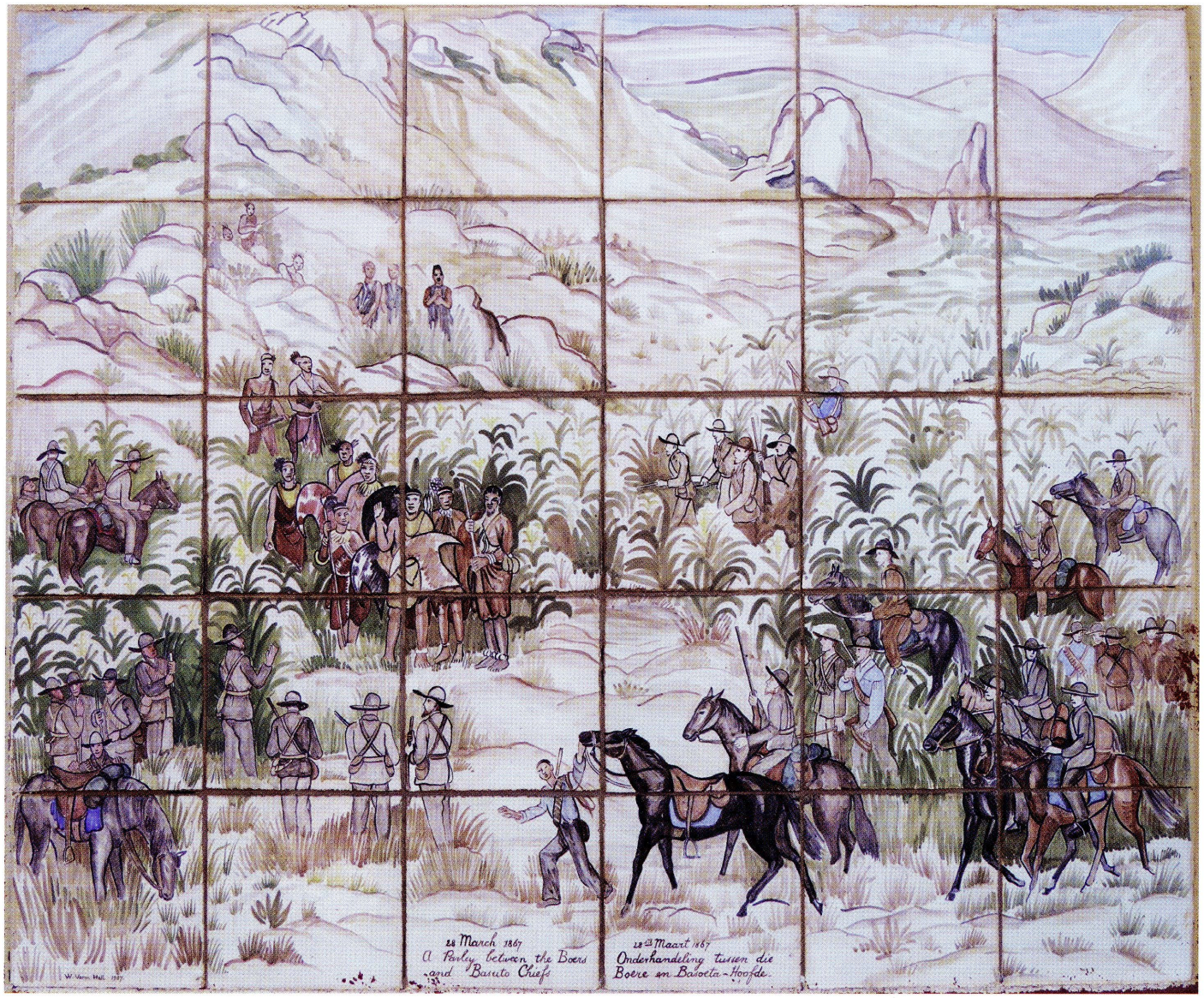

cattle and the British, having regrouped, were able to hold them off. Molapo's men were unable to stop Napier crossing the Caledon with the captured cattle and horses. Napier never admitted it officially, but the Sotho counter-attack had effectively put his column out of action and he took no further part in the events.

By evening the Basotho were disheartened and near panic, but they did not know that their threatening demonstrations had made a profound impression on Cathcart and the tables had been turned. It is generally regarded as having been a British reverse, but in truth it was not quite as straight-forward as that. It is considered that it was the British who got the best of the fighting and that the Basotho, unable to make any headway against their opponents, were thoroughly demoralized after the battle. Apparently it was Moshoeshoe who sued for peace, hardly the action of a victor, but this amicable resolution of the dispute ensured that, thereafter, Anglo-Sotho relations would remain on a friendly footing and this would save his country from annexation by the Orange Free State fifteen years later.

The second panel depicts a meeting between the Basotho and Boers on 28 March 1867 during the Seqiti War. In 1865 war broke out between the Basotho and the Boers, where the latter met with considerable success. After an unsuccessful appeal for aid from the British, Moshoeshoe was forced to sue for peace in 1866 and the treaty of Thaba Bosiu was signed, with the Basotho ceding large territories to the Free State. However, the Basotho were dissatisfied with the terms of the treaty and conflict again arose in 1867. During this third war, the Free State stormed most of the Basotho strongholds, with Thaba Bosiu alone remaining impregnable. With things looking bleak, Moshoeshoe again appealed for aid from the British, and eventually accepted annexation by the British Empire on 12 March, 1868. Basutoland was placed under British protection, ending the conflict. In the final treaty, Basotho had to again cede territories, but still retained enough land to remain a viable state.

In the artwork, the meeting between Cathcart and Moshoeshoe mirrors a peaceful scene, because women and children are present and they are involved in everyday activities. However, a sense of tension is incorporated by the warriors showing off their knobkieries and spears. Firearms are not obvious, although it is known that the Basothos used flint lock rifles. The building is not of a Sotho type, and would therefore suggest a building at the mission station. The clothing of the Basotho is mainly of textiles, such as dresses and trousers as well as blankets, and few animal skin garments are seen, which demonstrates the European influence. Moshoeshoe appears in his black suit and top hat, which is well known from photographs and his facial features are recognizable. The British forces on the left represent the 12th Lancers with their dark blue uniform and yellow piping on the trousers. A red breast piece is, however, missing and the caps should be black or red. On the right are the CMR in rifle green uniforms; however, missing is the black piping on the trousers and black peak CMR letters on the caps.

The meeting with the Boers is depicted as a careful affair, with members from both parties hiding away in the maize fields. The Boers are clad in jackets, trousers and wide brimmed hats. Some carry powder horns and bullet pockets whle others have bandoliers, which indicates the mixed use of muzzle and breech loaders. The group of Basotho warriors that form the central feature of the panel, must be leaders, because they wear brass gorgets (Sesotho = khau) around their necks, which were only awarded by Moshoeshoe to the bravest warriors. They are clad in leather and armed with sticks, knives and spears. The shields are of animal skin in the shape of a swallow, symbolizing good and rainy times.

References: Military History Journal Vol 9 No 6 - December 1994

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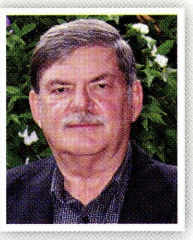
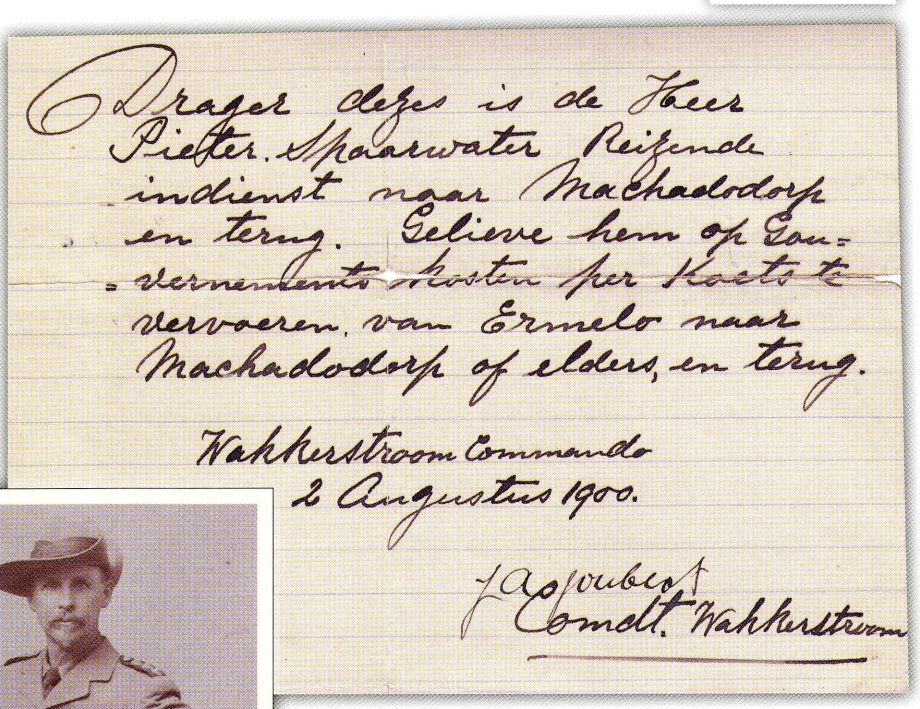
DIE KORRESPONDENSIE VAN PIETER SPAARWATER VAN WAKKERSTROOM IN DIE TRANSVAAL (1899-1913)

deur Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



This article is about Pieter Spaarwater born from parents of Netherlands descent who migrated to the Cape in 1845. He acquired Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek or Transvaal citizenship in 1897 while farming in the Wakkerstroom district. He became involved in the Anglo Boer War as a member of Wakkerstroom Commando and was later appointed as a Field Cornet and as adjudant to the Commandant of Wakkerstroom Commando, JA Joubert, and promoted to the rank of Captain.



Drager dezes is de Heer Pieter. Spaarwater Reizende indienst naar Machadodorp en tering. Gelieve hem op Gouvernements kosten per koets te vervoeren van Ermelo naar Machadodorp of elders, en tering.

Wakkerstroom Commando
2 Augustus 1900.

J.A. Joubert
Comdt. Wakkerstroom

Pieter Spaarwater se ouers is in Rotterdam in Nederland gebore en het in 1845 in Kaapstad aangekom en hulle op Stellenbosch gevestig. Pieter Spaarwater is gebore te Stellenbosch op 8.10.1868. Hy sterf op 4.8.1929 en is in Piet Retief begrawe.

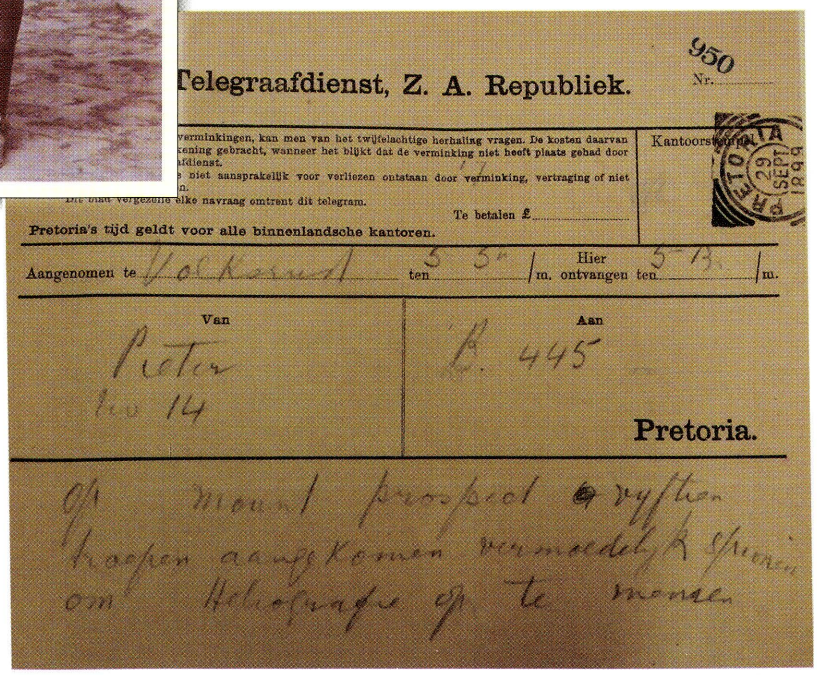
Pieter verhuis as jong man na die Marthinus Wesselstroom (later Wakkerstroom)-omgewing in die Transvaal, waar hy hom as boer vestig en op 31 Januarie 1896 genaturaliseer word. (Sien fig. 1)

Pieter Spaarwater het as lid van die Wakkerstroom Kommando tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog (ABO) na die front gegaan soos talle ander genaturaliseerde Hollanders. Die Hollanders op straat in Holland was die Boere se saak simpatiek gesind.



Met die uitbreek van die ABO het die hoofmag van die ZAR onder die persoonlike bevel van Kommandant-Generaal Piet Joubert gestaan. In hierdie mag is Wakkerstroom en Ermelo Kommando's bestaande uit 1,800 tot 2,000 man saamgegroepeer.

Dat Pieter Spaarwater 'n uiters bekwame persoon was, blyk uit die verskillende poste wat hy in die Wakkerstroom-distrik voor, tydens en na die ABO beklee het. Hy het spoedig opgang in die kommando-opset gemaak en 'n leierskaprol aangeneem. Tydens die ABO is hy as veldkornet aangestel en later tree hy op as adjudant vir Kommandant JA Joubert en bevorder na die rang van kaptein (Sien fig. 2). In die gedenkboek *Onze-Krijgsofficieren* wat in 1904 uitgegee is word Spaarwater se dapper optrede tydens 'n insident waar sy kommandant, JA Joubert gewond is as volg beskryf: *"...Niet voor 22 Mei 1900 was hij* (JA Joubert) *zover hersteld, dat hij het bevel over zijn kommando weer kon aanvaarden. Precies een jaar later werd hem op verraderlike wijze in het dorp Amersfoort de arm stuk geschoten en zijn paard onder hem zodanig gewond dat het spoedig bezweek en hij te voet moest gaan. Door zijn adjudant, Pieter Spaarwater, geholpen kwam hij echter uit en werd opgenomen in het veldhospitaal van Dr. Jurriaanse..."* Vir hierdie daad het hy in 1921 die dapperheidsmedalje *Dekoratie voor Trouwe Dienst* (DTD) gekry.



950 Nr.

Telegraafdienst, Z. A. Republiek.

verminkingen, kan men van het twijfelachtige herhaling vragen. De kosten daarvan kening gebracht, wanneer het blijkt dat de verminking niet heeft plaats gehad door afdienst.
niet aansprakelijk voor verliezen ontstaan door verminking, vertraging of niet n.
Dit biedt vergezeld elke navraag omtrent dit telegram.

Kantoorstempel

Te betalen £

Pretoria's tijd geldt voor alle binnenlandsche kantoren.

Aangenomen te Wakkerstroom ten 3 30 m. Hier ontvangen ten 5 15 m.

Van Pieter Aan L. 445

Pretoria.

Op Mount Prospect 6 wyfies koeien aangekomen vermoedelyk Gruens om Heliograaf op te monsen

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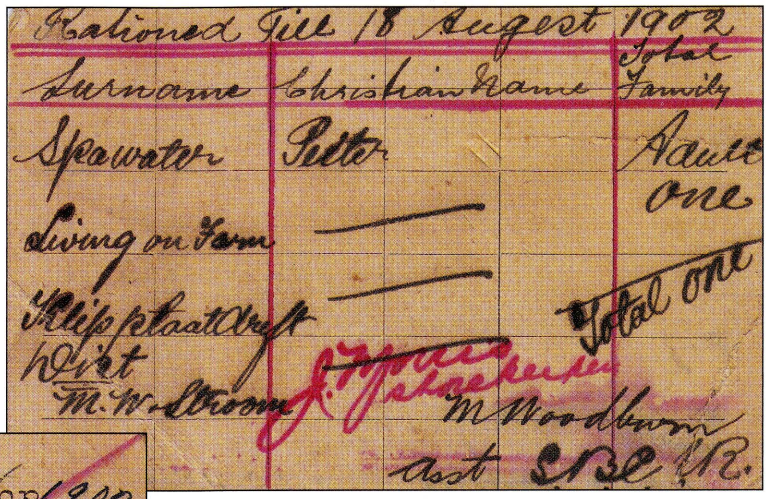
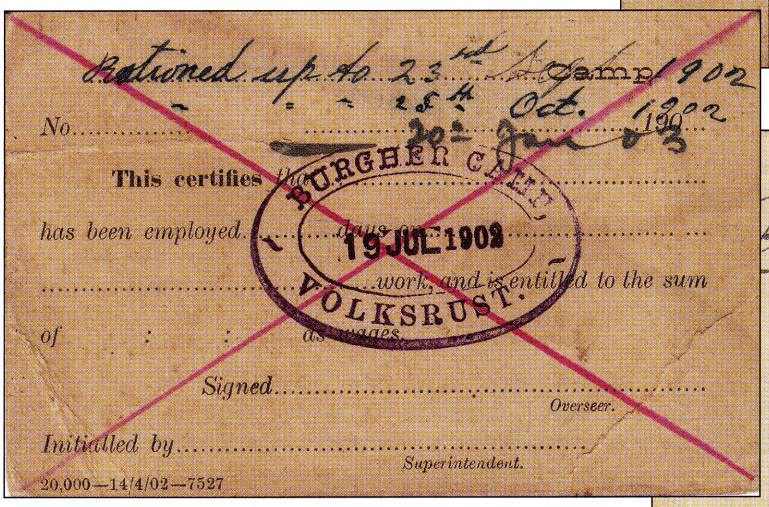
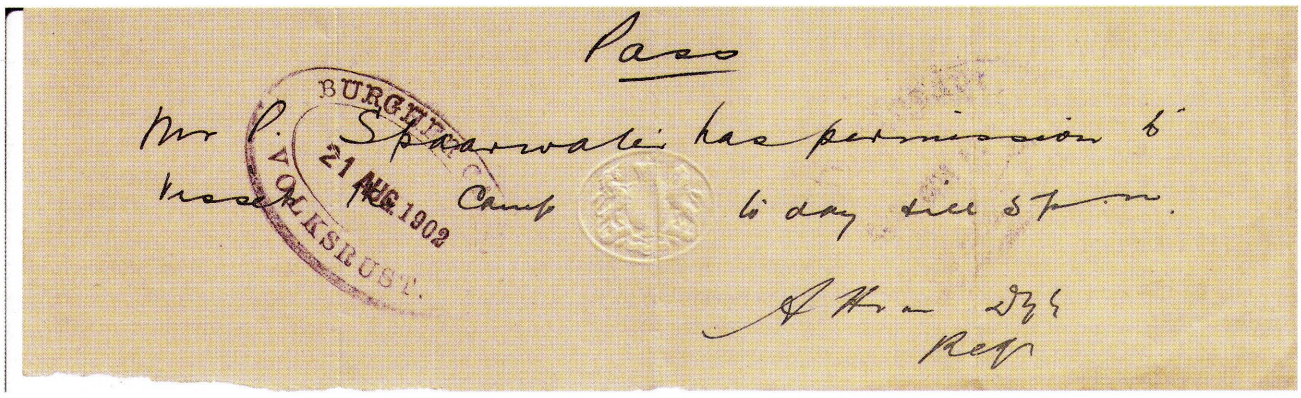
Spaarwater ook 'n rol op die oorlogsfront binne die *Speurpolitie* en die *Geheime Dienst as deel van die Staats Prokureurs Departement* gespeel. Tjaart Kruger, die Hoof van die Geheime Diens, het reeds vroeg in September 1899 die behoefte aan 'n geheime agent op Volksrust geïdentifiseer. Op 5 September het hy navraag by die Resident-vrederegter op Volksrust gedoen of die gerugte waar was dat Britse troepe vanaf Ladysmith die ZAR se grens nader en hom versoek om 'n speurder ondersoek te laat instel. Kruger het tot sy ontsteltenis agtergekom dat daar geen speurder geplaas is nie en het dieselfde dag 'n skrywe aan die hoofspeurder in Johannesburg





gerig waarin hy opdrag gegee het dat 'n speurder homself op Volksrust dringend by die Resident-vrederegter moes aanmeld. Hierdie gebeure het 'n heilsame uitwerking gehad want voor die grootskaalse mobilisering van die Boeremagte

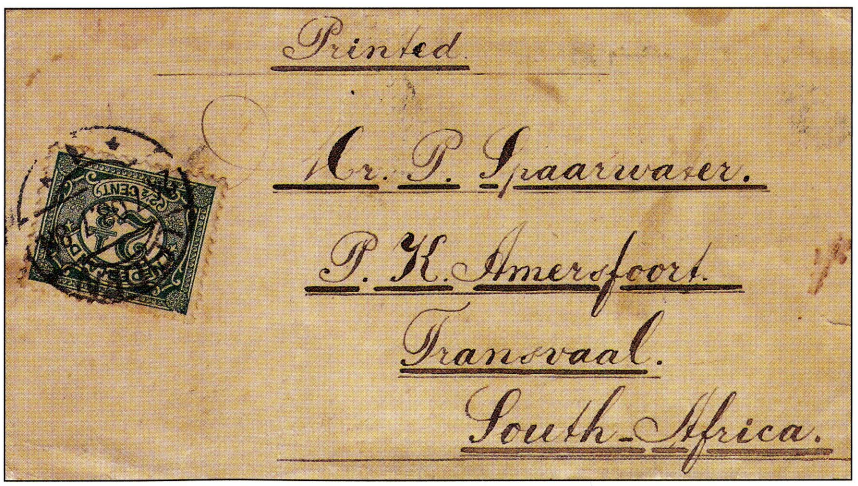




tot teen die Natalse grens is geheime agent P. Spaarwater, alias Pieter, alreeds op Volksrust geplaas. Spaarwater is op 27 September 1899 teen 'n salaris van £25 per maand aangestel. Sy opdrag was om die spoorlyn veral aan die Natalse kant te monitor. Ten spyte van die hoë risiko daaraan verbonde, het hy tot vier keer per week aan die Natalkant van die grens gaan spioeneer. (Fig. 3)

Op 3 Julie 1900 is die dorp Wakkerstroom deur die Britse troepe beset. Pieter Spaarwater was 'n bittereinder en het voort geveg as deel van die Wakkerstroom Kommando. Onmiddellik na die oorlog het hy op sy plaas Klipplaatdrift gewoon en het met die nodige toestemming van die Britse magte rondbeweeg. (Figs. 4 – 6).

Na die ABO beklee hy 'n reeks burgerlike



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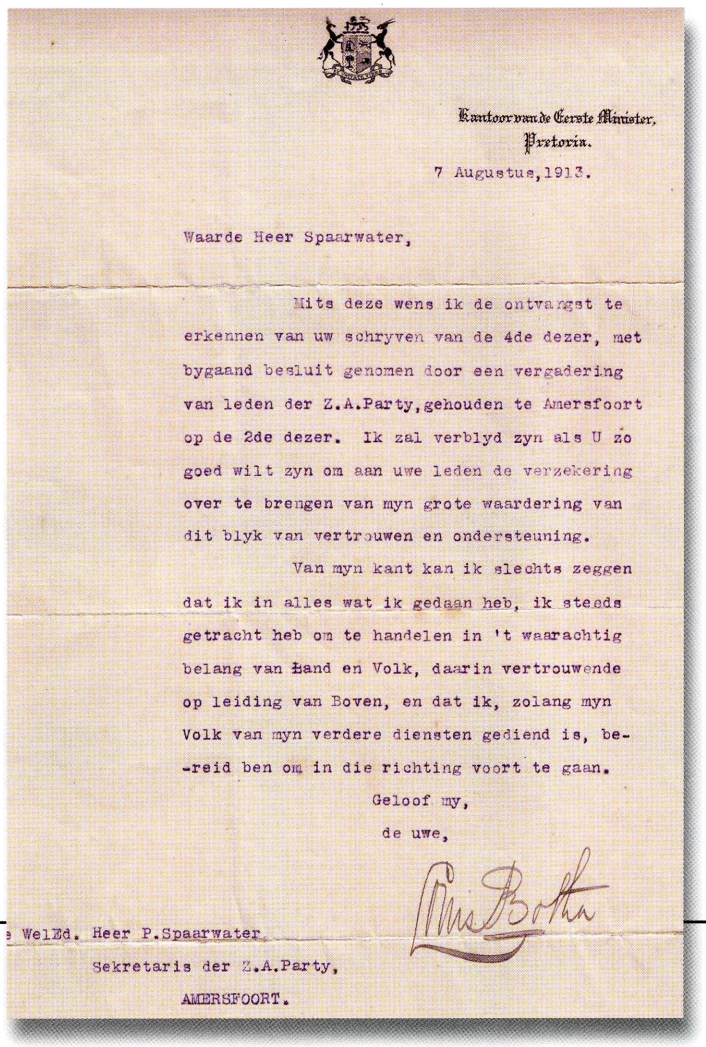

Kantoor van de Eerste Minister,
Pretoria.

7 Augustus, 1913.

Waarde Heer Spaarwater,

Mits deze wens ik de ontvangst te erkennen van uw schryven van de 4de dezer, met bygaand besluit genomen door een vergadering van leden der Z.A.Party, gehouden te Amersfoort op de 2de dezer. Ik zal verblyd zyn als U zo goed wilt zyn om aan uwe leden de verzekering over te brengen van myn grote waardering van dit blyk van vertrouwen en ondersteuning.

Van myn kant kan ik slechts zeggen dat ik in alles wat ik gedaan heb, ik steeds getracht heb om te handelen in 't waarachtig belang van Land en Volk, daarin vertrouwende op leiding van Boven, en dat ik, zolang myn Volk van myn verdere diensten gediend is, bereid ben om in die richting voort te gaan.

Geloof my,

de uwe,

L. Botha

e WelEd. Heer P.Spaarwater,
Sekretaris der Z.A.Party,
AMERSFOORT.

aanstellings: Publieke Aanklaer vir die distrik Wakkerstroom, aangestel op 29.3.1902; Afgevaardigde van die Z.A. Nationale Party van die Wakkerstroom-distrik om dié party *"als een invloedrijke persoon over het gehele land"* te verteenwoordig op 'n stigtingsvergadering in Bloemfontein van 'een grote' Zuid Afrikaanse Partij gehou op 21.11.1911; 12 Augustus 1913 en Sekretaris der Z.A. Party in Amersfoort en verkies op 7.8.1913 (fig. 9).

Op 30.1.1907 trou Pieter te Piet Retief met Louisa Petronella Davel, geb 31.12.1879 van Morgenzon. Hulle het twee seuns: Pieter, 'n geneesheer, en Johannes Jesajes Davel, 'n boer en munsipale amptenaar.

Bronne:

- Dr. Jan Ploeger, *Die lotgevalle van die burgerlike bevolking gedurende die Anglo-Boereoorlog, Deel II*, Staatsargief, Pretoria, 1990.
- Gerhard Kamffer, *Die Geheime Diens in die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek*, D Phil proefskrif, PU vir CHO, Potchefstroom, 1999.

Hierdie artikel is moontlik gemaak deur die samewerking van Maritz Spaarwater van Hermanus, kleinseun van Pieter Spaarwater wat die materiaal en inligting beskikbaar gemaak het.

EXHIBITION NEWS

WORLD STAMP SHOW IN NEW YORK : CRITICAL MILESTONES

Printed Bulletins and Entry Forms are now available from the National Commissioner Peter van der Molen, at molens@pixie.co.za

PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR EXHIBITS:

- **31 August 2015:**
Exhibit applications MUST be in the hands of the Commissioner General.
- **November 2015:**
Notice of acceptance or rejection to be sent to all commissioners
- **1 January 2016:**
Commissioners to request their accepted exhibitors to send their title pages to the Commissioner General by electronic means.



Entry Fees are US $ 95 per frame, US $ 100 per Literature entry, US $ 150 per One Frame entry. Youth entries are free. In view of relatively high participation fees, the Philatelic Foundation wishes to encourage entries by subsidising 75% of these fees.

POSTAL RATES – VALID FROM 1 APRIL 2015

report by Robin Messenger – South African Stamp Study Circle.

Domestic Letter	New Rate R c	Old Rate R c	Increase %
Small DL	3.30	3.00	10.00
Medium B5	6.55	5.95	10.08
Large B4	8.00	7.30	9.59

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 R130.90 (previously R119.00, an increase of 10%).

Small DL (3.30 + 19.60)	22.90	20.80	10.10
Medium B5 (6.55 + 19.60)	26.15	23.75	10.11
Large B4 (8.00 + 19.60)	27.60	25.10	9.96
International			
Registration fee	31.00	28.20	9.93
There is no insurance option for international letter post.			
Aerograms	4.90	4.45	10.11
Postcards – Airmail	6.65	6.05	9.92
Airmail letters – Southern Africa			
Small DL	5.95	5.40	10.19
Medium B5	21.65	19.70	9.90
Large B4	33.65	30.60	9.97
Small packets (per 100 g)	19.05	17.30	10.12
Airmail letters – Rest of the world			
Small DL	7.70	7.00	10.00
Medium B5	26.15	23.75	10.11
Large B4	44.35	40.30	10.05
Small packets (per 100 g)	33.55	30.50	10.00

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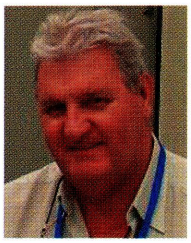

The Half-Penny Springbok: A Review of the Final Printings 1947 to 1954

Part I - Frame Screened (1947 - 48) - SG 114 and 1943 - 1953 Roll (Coil) Stamps

by Otto Peetoom, South Africa Collector's Society, Email: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com

Introduction - This article will appear in three parts and the initial intention was to focus on the screened printings of the ½d Springbok. When I started researching I realized that the subject is far more complex than I had at first envisaged.

Having studied the information from the Government Printer I gain the impression that the production of low value stamps was continuous and never stopped.

½d Springbok Issues

Part of the Government Printer's job was to supply ½d stamps to the Post Office which it did in sheets, rolls and booklets.

In February/March 1943 the first screened ½d Springbok appeared as a mono-coloured coil stamp (SG 105).

In September 1947 it produced the ½d in sheets with the frame screened (SG 114) and this type was also used in the 1948 3/- booklet (SG 114a). In December 1948 an all screened version appeared in sheets (SG 114c) and it also turned up in the 1951 3/6 booklet (SG 114ca).

Other Supplementary ½d Printings - These included a July 1948 reprint using the 1927 Pretoria Plates (SG 126) and the 1949 ½d U.P.U. plus 1952 ½d Van Riebeeck (SG 136)

Making Sense of the Complex Issues

In a perfect world the stamp collector prefers to arrange and classify his stamps by type, method of printing and/or date.

The two low values of the Union definitives that are the most complex are of course the ½d Springbok and 1d Ship.

One could easily go through a lifetime of collecting by studying the printings of these two designs.

One man who seems to have done just that was Dr Gordon Ward whose work on *The Springbok Half-Penny* was serialised from June to October 1955 in *The Strand Stamp Journal* published by H.E. Wingfield & Co. in the Strand, London[1]. Circa 1956 Eric Sherwood reprinted Ward's work in two booklets, the other being *The Ship Penny.*

(**Note** - *The Springbok Half-Penny* booklet was advertised by Eric Sherwood in the March, April and May 1957 *SAP* for 5/3 - Post Paid)

Relevant Union Publications - The majority may start with the Union Handbook, but it is my opinion that the UHB is not as comprehensive or accurate as it purports to be.

Each subsequent edition copies the previous one, adds and subtracts a few things and rewrites previous information.

This longstanding *'Bible'* of Union Philately is in urgent need of a systematic revision chapter by chapter. An enormous task that may not come to fruition during my lifetime.

My research draws on the resources available to me starting with back copies of *The South African Philatelist* (1943 to 1970) from which I extracted the Post Office information re dates and quantities printed. I scrutinized contemporary reports in the *SAP* by the likes of A. Hilton Sydow and other known Union philatelists of the past.

On several occasions Gordon Ward, who acknowledges Sydow, is also quoted. The foregoing is supplemented by a stock book full of ½d Springbok stamps that I studied years ago which refreshed my memory as I assembled this article.

½d Frame screened - Ward Group E2 numbered as Sets 35, 35a, 35b, 36 and 38 - Set 37 is the 1948 booklet stamps.

1986 UHB - Issues 16A, 16B, 16C, 17 & 18.

1947 - 48 ½d Springbok Printings - Un-screened

Starting in early 1947 Job 11662 had turned out 214,600 sheets x 240 stamps from cylinders 60/49 and 6912/6019.

Then two new sets of cylinders were used (48/6933 & 48/45) on which the frame is screened being SG 114 described as grey and green (frame only screened) (1947).

Date Issued...*Delivered subsequent to 28.8.47 and...from 4.9.47.* Thus the issue was available by September 1947.

According to the Literature

These issues were either introduced by ... *late 1947 or early 1948 (1952 UHB), November 1947* (Ward) or Late 1947 (1986 UHB). Classified by Ward as Group E2 - Sets 35 and 35a and listed in the 1986 UHB as Issues 16A & 16B.

Continuing Job 11662 - The next batch of 66,500 sheets reverted back to using old cylinders and the final four deliveries used a cylinder with the frame screened. The final 173,400 sheets were printed from a 180 set being cylinder 25/6912.

Illustrated -The bottom two Rows of the March/April 1948 reprint that used up rolls of narrow paper, with nine stamps across instead of 12 and two marginal arrows top and bottom.



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Part of Job 8218 delivered two batches from cylinder 86/82 (frame screened) 355,000 sheets in total.

Job 11662	Cylinders	Sheets Printed
Delivery Date		
After 19.2.47	60/49*	83,500[2]
Started 17.4.47	6912/7019*	11,600[2]
After 3.6.47	6912/7019*	119,500[3]
After 28.8.47	48/6933	35,000[3]
From 4.9.47	48/45	19,500[3]
After 30.9.47	6916/29*	66,500[4]
After 20.10.47	6912/6933	72,000[4]
After 22.12.47	48/6933	87,000[4]
Up to 10.2.48	48/6933	68,410[5]
	Total	563,010
Mar-Apr 1948	25/6912**	173,4005
*Not screened **180 Stamp sheets		
Job 8218	**Cylinders**	**Sheets Printed**
After 1.6.48	86/82	290,000[6]
After 31.10.48	86/82	65,000[7]
	Total	355,000

1943 - 1953 ½d Springbok Roll (Coil) Stamps

Introduction - The Union Roll or Coil Stamps is a subject that appears to be somewhat under-developed and I am not about to pretend that I am an expert on the matter.

Dr Gordon Ward included the coil stamps in his series of articles in *The Springbok Half-Penny* from June to October 1955 and in *The Strand Stamp Journal* published by H.E. Wingfield & Co. in the Strand, London[1]

Ward listed the coils as his Group F and only included Issues 44 (18.2.1943), Issue 45 (May 1948) and Issue 46 (October 1948). It becomes clear that, at the time, his knowledge of the Union Roll Stamps was limited and rather sketchy.

RD Allen collated an extensive amount of material into a booklet entitled *South Africa Union & Republic Coil or Roll Stamps* (1910 to 1984) - Published in 1985 and reviewed by S.J. Hagger in *The Springbok* in September1985.

Allen gathered information from *The Springbok*, *The South African Philatelist* and *The South African Stamp Study Circle's Newsletter*. Actual comment by the Author on the issues is somewhat limited. However, overall his publication is a mine of information.

Contemporary reports in *The South African Philatelist* from May 1943 to November 1950. The ongoing *Recent Union Printings* are also subject to careful interpretation as the manner in which they appear has, on occasion, led to a certain amount of head scratching and at times it raises questions that do not necessarily have an answer.

1943 ½d Green coil stamps - April 1943 *SAP* announced as... *having appeared about 25th March.* The May *SAP* indicated 4064 x 500 rolls, using cylinder 6911, delivered between 18.2.43 and 30.3.43 and the 1952 UHB took that as its date of issue (18 February) - Number **R19**.

Screening - In the 1952 UHB described as Fine mesh screen, modified to *Irregular-grain screen* (1955), then **R21**... *fine and regular screen, but as mosaic* (1960).

In the 1986 UHB ... *fine and regular, this only shows on some parts of very lightly inked copies. In most cases it appears as mosaic, and is easily recognised.*

Delivery Date	Cylinder	No. of Rolls	
Job 4058		x 500	-
Btw 18.2.43 - 30.3.43	6911	4064[8]	-
Job 3034		**Order for 1000**	
		x 500	x 1000
On 14.9.43	6911	-	540[9]
Up to 18.1.44	6911	1077	1559[10]
Job 16		**Order for 1000 x 1012**	
		x506	x1012
On 16.11.44	6911	100	120[11]
Final on 13.2.45		1153	1495[12]
Job 791		**2½ Year gap between printings**	
Btw 24.7.47- 26.8.47	6911	2000	1620[13]

Cylinder 6911 Total = 9,589,338 stamps being the equivalent of about 39,956 sheets x 240

Bi-coloured Coil Stamps

Listed as **R18** and incorrectly dated 1943 (1952 UHB) and amended to 1947 (1955 UHB) with a Note: *The cross-hatching in the Roll stamp is not always as clear as it is in the sheet form*

The 1979 UHB intimates...*available towards the end of 1947...* and the 1986 UHB states...*were made between 24 July and 5 November 1947 and are fairly scarce.*

Delivery date	Cylinders	No of Rolls	
Job 791	**New**	**x 506**	**x 1012**
After 26.8.47	39/54	1300[13]	-
Up to 5.11.47		2675	1044[14]
	Totals	3975	1044

Cylinders 39/54 Total = 3,067,878 stamps equal to 12,783 sheets x 240

May 1948 *SAP* page 70 under *New ½d Roll Stamps*

Dr Harris ...reports ½d bicoloured stamps...on sale in the slot machines in P.E...



Fine Screen Bi-Coloured Coarse Screen

1948 New Job No 792 - Return to Green mono-colour coils

Cylinder 39 - In the 1952 UHB No **R21** Issue date June 1948, comment *Coarse mesh screen - Lines wider spaced.*

Foregoing amended in 1955 to...*fine cross-lined screen.*

The 1960 UHB - Now **R22** - commented...*had a very short life... were used up almost before the change was noticed and are therefore scarce...can only be distinguished by the slightly coarser screening...clearly visible...particularly in the corners.*

The 1986 UHB Implies...*was quite the worst from a production point of view of all those used to print...by rotogravure.*

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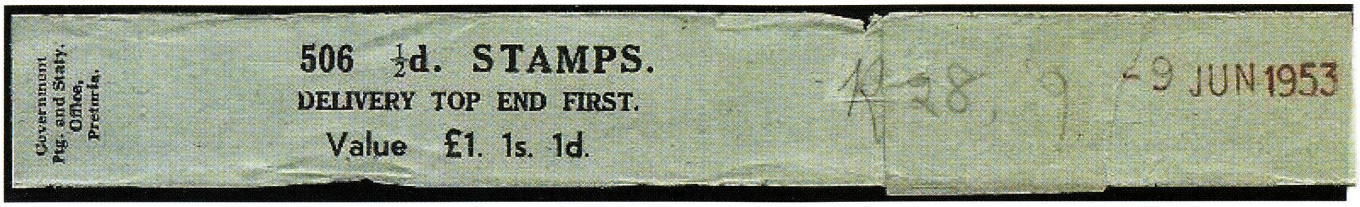

Cylinder 39 Total 2,039,180 stamps (About 8497 x 240 sheets)

Delivery date	Cylinders	No of Rolls	
Job 792		**x 506**	**x 1012**
After 25.5.48	39	1784	1123[15]
	New		
On 26.10.48	6045	300	540[15]
12.5.49	6045	3800	3240[10]
8.8.49	6045	900	60[17]
21.11.49	6045	2500	1320[18]
Up to 1.3.50	6045	500	540[19]

Job 792 Complete 9784 x 506 and 6823 x 1012

The above is equal 11,855,580 stamps or 49,398 sheets x 240

August 1949 *SAP* comment - *New ½d Roll Stamp on Sale*

'Recent Printings' information mentions a new issue of ½d roll stamps from Cylinder 6045. The stamps which have been on sale in Johannesburg machines during the last few months appear to be from this new cylinder for they exhibit fewer flaws and have a much cleaner and sharper definition than those vended in 1948.

1950 The Final Order for ½d Springbok Roll stamps

Job No 10070 - An order for 5000 x 506 and 6000 rolls x 1012

Reported as...*from one colour cylinder 6054 as before* I believe this must be a typing error that ought to read ***Cylinder 6045***!

Delivery date	Cylinders	No of Rolls	
Job 10070		**x 506**	**x 1012**
On 23.5.50	6045	800	1560[20]
After 14.6.50	6045	3100	2220[21]
	Totals	3900	3780

Job 10070 Not completed - Totals 3900 x 506 and 3780 x 1012

None of the subsequent *Recent Union Printings* offered any explanation as to why Order No 10070 was not fulfilled. I suspect it was because the inland postage rate was increased from 1½d to 2d on 15 May 1950.

1948 - 50 Cylinder 6045 - Total delivery 8000 x 506 plus 9700 x 1012 Rolls = 9,816,400 stamps (About 40,902 x 240 sheets)

The 1952 UHB listed it as **R22** dated 1949 with a comment: *Screen much sharper. Well defined.* In 1955 it added *Fine cross lined screen and a Note - The coil formed from Vertical row No 7 was not issued due to a printing flaw on this strip.*

1960 UHB amended date to October 1948 and the size from 18½ x 22½ to 19 x 22½ mm and noted...*In addition to the difference in size, these stamps show fine, regular screening.*

Page 235...*A new feature introduced...the pencilling of a number from 1 to 12 on the wrapper of a completed roll to indicate which of the twelve columns it had occupied...*

...these numbers have to be reversed for the purpose of reconstructing the sheet.

1986 UHB renumbers as **R23** and again modifies the size of the roll stamp from 19 x 22½ to 18½ x 22¼ mm which is close to the original size stated during 1952 - 55.

½d Coil Stamps Discontinued - According to the information published in the *SAP*, as supplied by the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O., the mid 1950 final order for ½d Roll stamps was not completed. There are no reports why or when the sale of ½d Roll stamps was discontinued. None of the Union Philatelists raised the question in the *SAP* and we draw the same blank in the 1952 to 1986 *Union Handbooks*. It appears that at some point in time the use of ½d Roll stamp simply discontinued.

After hours, the vending machines were useful to the public because they could obtain ½d and 1d coil stamps to make up a 1½d inland rate.

Mike Tonking sent me an illustration of a Roll stamp wrapper hand stamped with a 29 JUN 1953 date which suggests stocks lasted at least until then. (See above).

Notes: ½d Frame Screened (1947 - 48)

[1]Articles by Ward - Reported in *SAP* November 1955 page 191 *The South African Philatelist* Union Notes - Recent Printings

[2]August 1947 page 113, [3]November 1947 page 161,

[4]March1948 page 33, [5]June 1948 page 89,

[6]January 1949 page 1, [7]June 1949 page 89.

½d Roll Stamps

[1]Articles by Ward - Reported in *SAP* November 1955 page 191 *Union Notes - Recent Printings*

[8]May 1943, [9]December 1943, [10]June 1944, [11]January 1945,

[12]April 1945, [13]November 1947 page161, [14]March 1948 p33,

[15]January 1949 page 1, [16]July 1949 page 105,

[17]October 1949 page 153, [18]February 1950 page 24,

[19]April 1950 page 49, [20]August 1950 page 118,

[21]November 1950 page 169.

Acknowledgements

Eddie Bridges, Morgan Farrell, Mike Tonking, Jan van Beukering.

To Follow in later Editions of *The South African Philatelist*

- **Part II** - 1949 - 54 Screened ½d Springbok SG 114c
- **Part III** - 1948 ½d Reprint SG 126



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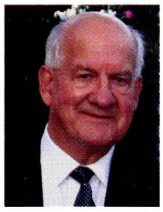
Sir Isaac Newton

More than just a falling apple !



extracted from an article by Colin Whittle

Sir Isaac Newton (1642–1727) was an English physicist and mathematician, described in his own day as a 'natural philosopher' (Fig 1). He is widely recognised as one of the most influential scientists of all time and a key figure throughout the scientific revolution. In 1661 he enrolled at the University of Cambridge's Trinity College in a work-study program and due to his straitened circumstances, he waited on tables and took care of wealthier students' rooms.

When Newton arrived at Cambridge, the scientific revolution of the 17th Century was in full force. The heliocentric view of the universe, theorized by astronomers Nicolaus Copernicus and Johannes Kepler (Figs 2 & 3), and later refined by Galileo, was well known in most European academic circles. Philosopher René Descartes had formulated a new concept of nature as an intricate, impersonal and inert machine. Yet, like most universities in Europe, Cambridge was steeped in Aristotelian philosophy and a view of nature resting on a geocentric understanding of the universe. Descartes was the most important early influence on Newton the mathematician.

During his first three years at Cambridge, Newton was taught the standard curriculum, but became fascinated with the more advanced sciences. All his spare time was spent reading the modern philosophers. The result was a less-than-stellar performance, but one that is understandable, taking into account his dual course of study. It was during this time that Newton kept a second set of notes, entitled *Quaestiones Quaedam Philosophicae* (Certain Philosophical Questions). The *Quaestiones* reveal that Newton had discovered a new concept of nature that provided the framework for the scientific revolution.

Though Newton graduated without honours or distinctions, his efforts won him the title of Scholar and, more importantly, four years of financial support for further study. Unfortunately, in 1665, the Great Plague that was ravaging Europe came to Cambridge, forcing the university to close and Newton returned home to pursue his private studies.

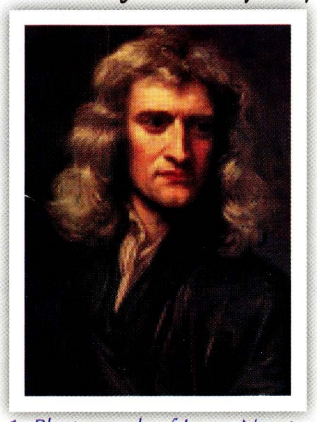


Fig 1. Photograph of Isaac Newton as a young man

It was during this 18-month interval that he conceived many of his later theories, including significant insights into the laws of planetary motion; insights that eventually led to the publication of his *Principia* in 1687. Legend has it that, at this time, Newton experienced his famous revelation about gravity with the falling apple (Fig 4).

Gravity is the dominant force within the universe at the macroscopic level. It is the cause of the formation, shapes and trajectories (orbits) of astronomical bodies, including those of asteroids, comets, planets, stars and galaxies. Gravity is responsible for causing the earth and the other planets to orbit the sun (Fig 5); for the moon to orbit earth; for the formation of tides; for natural convection by which fluid flow occurs under the influence of a density gradient; for heating the interiors of forming stars and planets to very high temperatures; and for various other phenomena observed throughout the universe.

This is true for several reasons: gravity is the only force acting on all particles with mass; it has an infinite range; it is always attractive and never repulsive and it cannot be absorbed, transformed or shielded against. Even though electromagnetism is far stronger than gravity, electromagnetism is not applicable to astronomical objects, since such bodies have an equal number of protons and electrons that cancel each other out, resulting in a zero electrical charge.

Modern work on gravitational theory began with the work of Galileo Galilei in the late 16th and early 17th Centuries. Galileo showed that gravitation accelerates all objects at the same rate. This was a major departure from Aristotle's belief that heavier objects accelerate faster. Galileo's work set the stage for the formulation of Newton's theory of gravity.

Newton's theory enjoyed its greatest success when almost two centuries later, it was used to predict the existence of the planet Neptune based on motions of Uranus that could not be accounted for by the actions of the other planets. Although Newton's theory has been superseded, most modern non-relativistic gravitational calculations are still made using Newton's theory because it is a much simpler theory to work with than Einstein's theory of general relativity, and gives sufficiently accurate results for most applications.

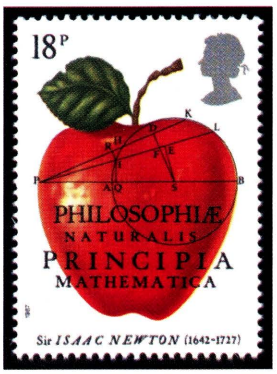


Fig 4. The 'falling apple'

When the threat of plague subsided in 1667, Newton returned to Cambridge and two years later received his Master of Arts degree. In addition, Isaac Barrow, Newton's mentor, was instrumental in presenting one of Newton's major inventions to the scientific community. The refracting telescope commonly used during that period could not produce clear images. Newton replaced the lenses of the refracting telescope with mirrors. His new reflecting telescope was one-twelfth the size of conventional refracting telescopes and had more powerful magnification. Barrow's presentation of it to the Royal Academy earned Newton membership to the Society.



Fig 5. Our Solar System

As a professor, Newton was exempt from tutoring but was required to deliver an annual course of lectures of his own choice. He delivered the results of his work on optics as his initial topic. Part of Newton's study in this





Figs 2 & 3. Astronomers Copernicus and Kepler

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discipline was aided by using his reflecting telescope, which helped prove his theory of light and colour. The Royal Society asked for a demonstration of his reflecting telescope in 1671, and the organization's interest encouraged Newton to publish his notes on light, optics and colour in 1672; these notes were later incorporated into his *Treatise of the Reflections, Refractions, Inflections and Colours of Light*.

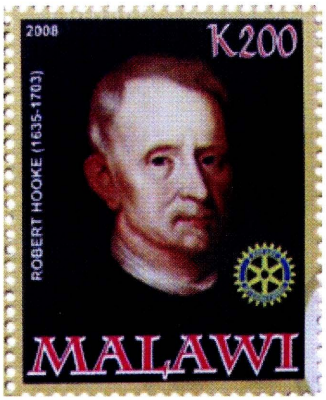

Fig 6. Robert Hooke

However, not everyone at the Royal Academy was enthusiastic about Newton's discoveries in optics. Among the dissenters was Robert Hooke (Fig 6), one of the original members of the Royal Academy and a scientist who was accomplished in a number of disciplines, including mechanics and optics. In his paper, Newton theorised that white light was a composite of all colours of the spectrum (Fig 7), and that light was composed of particles.



Fig 7. Colours of the spectrum

Hooke believed that light was composed of waves and quickly condemned Newton's paper in condescending terms, attacking Newton's methodology and conclusions.

Hooke was not the only one to question Newton's work in optics. Renowned Dutch scientist Christiaan Huygens and a number of French Jesuits also raised objections. Newton denied Hooke's charge that his theories had shortcomings and argued the importance to science of his discoveries. In the ensuing months, the exchange between the two men grew more acrimonious, and Newton threatened to quit the society altogether. He only remained after several other members assured him that he was held in high esteem and that the Fellows supported him. However, the rivalry between Newton and Hooke would continue for several years and in 1678 Newton suffered a nervous breakdown, withdrew from public life and the correspondence abruptly ended.

In 1679, Newton returned to his work on orbital mechanics by considering gravitation and its effect on the orbits of planets with specific reference to Kepler's laws of planetary motion. Ironically, the impetus that put Newton on the right path in this study came from Robert Hooke. In a letter of general correspondence to Royal Society members asking for contributions, Hooke wrote to Newton and brought up the question of planetary motion, suggesting that a formula involving the inverse squares might explain the attraction between planets and the shape of their orbits.

In early 1684, in a conversation with fellow Royal Society members Christopher Wren (Fig 8) and Edmond Halley (Fig 9), Hooke made his case on the proof for planetary motion. Both Wren and Halley thought he was on to something, but pointed out that a mathematical demonstration was essential.

In August 1684, Halley travelled to Cambridge to meet with Newton, who had come out of seclusion. Halley idly asked him what shape the orbit of a planet would take if its attraction to the sun followed the inverse square of the distance between them (Hooke's theory). Newton replied, "An ellipse" and claimed to have solved the problem some 18 years earlier, during his absence from Cambridge due to the plague.


Fig 8. Christopher Wren

Newton's renewed interest in matters astronomical had received further stimulus by the appearance of a comet in the winter of 1680–1681.

After the exchanges with Hooke, Newton worked out proof that the elliptical form of planetary orbits would result from a centrifugal force inversely proportional to the square of the radius from the object. Newton communicated his results to Edmond Halley and to the Royal Society in a tract entitled *De motu corporum in gyrum*, which was copied into the Royal Society's Register Book in December 1684. [This tract contained the nucleus of what Newton later developed and expanded to form his *Principia* (Fig 10).

Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy) was published on 5 July 1687 with encouragement and financial help from Edmond Halley. In this work, Newton stated the three universal laws of motion. Together, these laws describe the relationship between any object, the forces acting upon it and the resulting motion, laying the foundation for subsequent classical mechanics. They contributed to many advances during the Industrial Revolution which later followed, and were not improved upon for more than 200 years. By deriving Kepler's laws of planetary motion from his mathematical description of gravity, and then using the same principles to account for the trajectories of comets, the tides, the precession of the equinoxes and other phenomena, Newton removed the last doubts about the validity of the heliocentric model of the cosmos. This work also demonstrated that the motion of objects on earth and of celestial bodies could be described by the same principles of orbital mechanics and planetary motion.

The laws contained in *Principia* allowed Newton to calculate the mass of each planet, explain the flattening of the earth at the poles and bulge at the equator, and how the gravitational pull of the sun and moon create the earth's tides. In Newton's words, *"gravity kept the whole universe balanced, made it work together, and brought heaven and earth together in one great interactive relationship"*. In his view, gravitational force was everywhere, from an apple falling from a tree to the moon being kept in orbit by its mutual attraction with earth. While imperfect, Newton's conception of universal gravitation dominated physics for more than two centuries. The book is said to be the single most comprehensive and influential publication on physics and all of science.

Newton shares credit with Gottfried Leibniz (Fig 11) for the development of calculus as a response to the inadequacies in mathematics of the time. Calculus provided methods for solving complex problems about orbits, curves and other issues that classical geometry could not solve. Calculus produces information about situations that are continually changing – such as the speed of a falling object. In calculus, Newton laid the basic framework for understanding these problems and for making the calculations described by his laws of motion and gravitation.

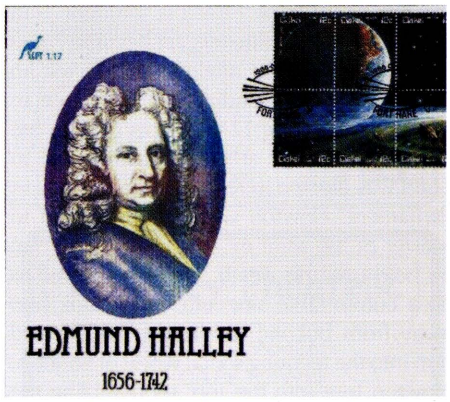

Fig 9. Edmond Halley – commonly misspelt as Edmund (taken from a FDC)

Unfortunately, Newton's theory of an invisible force able to act over vast distances led to him being criticised for introducing 'occult agencies' into science.

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Upon the publication of *Principia's* first edition, Robert Hooke immediately accused Newton of plagiarism, claiming that **he** had discovered the theory of inverse squares and that Newton had stolen his work. The charge was unfounded, as most scientists were aware, because Hooke had only theorized on the concept, but had never brought it to any level of proof. However, Newton was furious and strongly defended his claims. As a result he withdrew all references to Hooke in his papers and threatened to withdraw from publishing the subsequent edition of *Principia* altogether.



Fig 11. Gottfried Leibniz



Fig 10. His famous work 'Principia Mathematica'

Halley, who had invested much of himself in Newton's work, worked hard to make peace between the two men. While Newton begrudgingly agreed to insert a joint acknowledgement of Hooke's work, shared with both Wren and Halley in his discussion of the law of inverse squares, it did nothing to placate Hooke. As Newton's reputation and fame grew, Hooke's declined, causing him to become even more bitter toward his rival. Hooke took every opportunity to offend Newton and knowing that his rival would be elected President of the Royal Society, Hooke refused to retire until the year of his death, in 1703.

Newton no longer found contentment in his position at Cambridge and when the publication of *Principia* brought him international prominence, he became more involved in public affairs. He played an important role in leading the resistance to King James II's (Fig 12) attempts to reinstate Catholic teaching at the university and in 1689 was elected to represent Cambridge in Parliament. Newton was also promoted to Master of the Mint in 1699, a position that he held until his death. It was supposed to be a comfortable sinecure, but it took him away from bucolic Cambridge and hurled him into the teeming social world of London. Newton tore into the job; reorganizing the Mint, buying new equipment and using his alchemical knowledge of metallurgy. He also severely punished counterfeiters and reformed the currency, moving the British pound sterling from the silver to the gold standard (Fig 13).

Upon Robert Hooke's death in 1703, Newton was elected President of the Royal Society. He was knighted by Queen Anne of England in 1705, becoming only the second scientist, after Sir Francis Bacon, ever to be knighted. At this point in his life, Newton's career in science and discovery had given way to a career of political power and influence.

Although his discoveries were among many made during the Scientific Revolution, Newton's universal principles of gravity found no parallels in science at the time, although he was later proved wrong on some of his key assumptions. Albert Einstein would in the 20th Century overturn Newton's concept of the universe, stating that space, distance and motion were not absolute but relative, and that the universe was more fantastic than even Newton had ever conceived. Had Newton been alive at the time he might not have been surprised or disappointed. In his later life, when asked for an assessment of his achievements, he replied, *"I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself now and then by finding a smoother pebble or prettier shell than ordinary, while the great ocean of knowledge and truth lay all undiscovered before me."*

Albert Einstein kept a picture of Newton on his study wall alongside ones of Michael Faraday and James Clerk Maxwell. Newton remains influential to today's scientists, as demonstrated by a 2005 survey of members of Britain's Royal Society asking who had the greater effect on the history of science, Newton or Einstein. Royal Society scientists deemed Newton to have made the greater overall contribution.

Newton died in his sleep in London on 20 March 1727 and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Voltaire was present at his funeral and praised the British for honoring a scientist of heretical religious beliefs with burial there. After his death, Newton's hair was examined and found to contain mercury, probably resulting from his alchemical pursuits. Mercury poisoning could explain Newton's eccentricity in his later years.

Newton's Monument can be seen in Westminster Abbey (Fig 14), near his tomb. It was executed by the sculptor Michael Rysbrack in white and grey marble with design by the architect William Kent. It features a figure of Newton reclining on top of a sarcophagus, his right elbow resting on several of his great books and his left hand pointing to a scroll with a mathematical design. Above him is a pyramid and a celestial globe showing the signs of the Zodiac and the path of the comet of 1680.



Fig 12. King James II

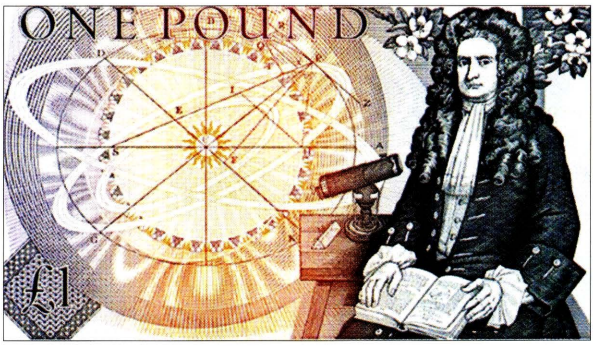

Fig 13. Newton commemorated on £1 note

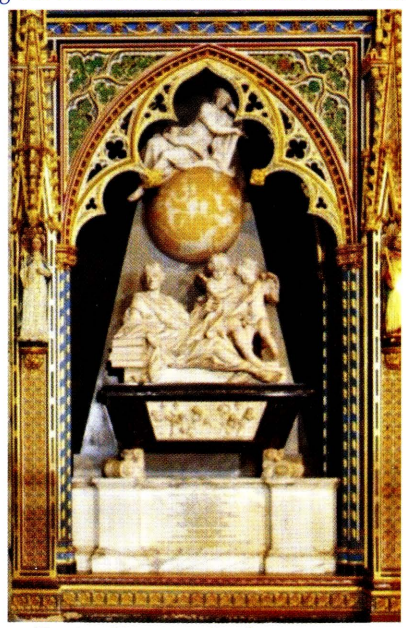
Fig 14. Photograph of Newton's Monument in Westminster Abbey

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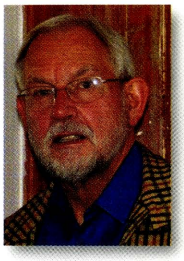
South African Stamp Issues - 2015 - part II

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.



2 April 2015 – 8th WORLD CONGRESS OF NEPHROLOGY

Held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre: 3 to 7 April 2015.

Denominations: 5 x International small letter rate (R 7.70).
Designer: Marli Joubert. The designs draw attention to steps that can be taken to lower the risk of chronic kidney disease (CKD). These include: regular medical check-ups; regular exercise; a healthy diet; stop smoking and limit alcohol intake. The stamps have a red and blue colour scheme inspired by diagrams showing oxygenated blood (red) and deoxygenated blood (blue).
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 38 x 38mm.
Perforation: Die cut wavy line of gauge 14.3, separated by 6mm gutters, in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of individual stamps. These roulettes extend to the top, right and bottom margins of the sheetlet and also through the backing paper.
Paper: 247gsm.
Phosphor: Yellow in a 3.5mm wide frame surrounding each stamp
Gum: Self adhesive.



Illustration above is taken from the original artwork

Sheetlet size: 165 x 110mm, with the five stamps arranged in two rows as shown in the illustration.
Quantity: 30,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8451 (blue), 8452 (red), 8453 (yellow) and 8454 (black).
Printing sheet size: 618 x 500mm comprising 9 margins of each stamp.
First Day Cover: No. 8.80 of standard size (190 x 102mm) of which 2,000 were ordered.
Canceller: No. 8.67 – Heart shaped, inscribed 'CAPE TOWN / 8th WORLD / CONGRESS OF / NEPHRO- / LOGY / 02.04.2015'.

Note: Although details are given of a First Day Cover for the above, and also for the two issues described in the April 2015 *SA Philatelist*; these covers are not yet available.

Additions to the 2015 Stamp Programme,

published in the December 2014 SAP, p 177.

* Women's Charter: 17 April 2015;
* 60th Anniversary of Freedom Charter: 26 June 2015;
* Oliver Tambo: 27 October 2015.

Acknowledgement: The above information was supplied by Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, and Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services, together with personal observations.

Smalls

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

EXCHANGE: 'Advanced' philatelist and collector looking to exchange materials; coins bank-notes, phone-cards, mint/and used/ stamps themed: flora-fauna, sport, Olympic games, locomotives, tennis, ships, aeroplanes, Red cross. Contact: Mr Juraj Riedl. Ku Bratke 38. 934 01 Levice, Slovakia.

EXCHANGE: A collector of stamps from Ukraine is looking for local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Andrew Pavlyuk, Kolomijska 3/18. 79049 Lviv. Ukraine mailto:mwleesma@mweb.co.za

MAJOR *Philatelic Events*

14 - 19 August '15 - SINGAPORE 2015. World Stamp Exhibition
www.singapore2015.com *Commissioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA.*
FIP *Patronage Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of Singapore (1965-2015)*

20 to 23 November '15 - HONG KONG International Exhibition
FIAP International Exhibition. *Commissioner : Jim Findlay RDPSA.*

29 May - 04 June '16 - NEW YORK 2016 - USA
www.ny2016.org *Commissioner: Peter van der Molen RDPSA*
FIP Patronage

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and Royal Philatelic Society

Episode 30 of : Errors on Stamps...
'Two Left Feet'



Some of us may remember the 1966 Soccer World Cup in England. The 4d stamp shows two players fighting for the ball. The stamp was designed by the British graphic designer David Gentleman.
It would seem that the player on the left, with the red jersey, managed to hit the ball with two left feet. The shape of the shoe on his right foot obviously shows his big toe is placed to the left part of the shoe. Maybe he was the player who shot the third and winning goal in the 101st minute which remains controversial between England and Germany... Nevertheless England won its first and only World Championship that year.

Wembley Philatelic

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

STAMP FAIRS: all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations & contact persons/detail are:

• WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR: Durbanville 1st Saturday each month from 09h00 at the Durbanville Library, Cnr Oxford & Koeberg Roads, Durbanville, Western Cape. Contact Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

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

• TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS: 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact rev Cassie Carstens: 012 653 2279.

• SANDTON STAMP FAIR: 2nd Saturday of every month; at the Kyalami Country Club, ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin: 083 272 9367.

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

• EAST RAND STAMP FAIR: **CHANGE OF VENUE.** Last Saturday of all months, except December; at Edenvale Bowling Club.

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

• DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR: Now on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map are available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. Dates: 6 June, 4 July, 8 Aug, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov & 12 Dec.

• *WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR ACTIVITIES:* Contact person - Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society.
email: info.fhps@info
Website: www.fhps.info
Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

• *President:* Robert Cummings. Tel: 041 961 0645. Cell: 083 326 7294.
• Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
• Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. ***This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.***

PROPOSED MEETING DATES
all on Monday evenings, 2015:
6 July; 3 Aug; 7 Sep; 5 Oct;
9 Nov; and 30 November
(President's Night).

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Alistair Mackenzie (*Chairman*)
Tel: 011 768 7565 or Ian Walker (*Secretary*) Tel: 011 4721161

FOUNDED IN 1911
THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 on the **2nd Thursday** evening of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban.
*(January meeting held on the **3rd** Tuesday)*
'All are welcome'

Contacts:
• Ted Brown *(President)* 083 284 6554
• Bev McNaught-Davis *(Vice-President)* 031 904 1522
• Harold Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123

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

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club.
Open invitation to members of all the Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.
President: Ian McMurray. mail:ianjarvismcm@gmail.com

Established in 1924
MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg
• Thematics Group Meeting 09h00
• Executive Committee Meeting 11h00
Third Monday of every month: St Mathews Parish Hall, Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Monthly Club Meeting. 16h00
President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net
• Tony Evans: *Competitions & Events Manager.*
• Mike O'Connor: *New Issues.* • Val de Jager: *Catering Officer*
• Joyce Hulse: *Library Assistant.* • Julia Evans: *Liaison Officer.*
• Gordon Bennett. *Stamp Circuit Book Manager.*
EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
• Graham Bruce: *Librarian.* • Heather Wyllie: *Stamp Sales Table.*

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

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

Exhibit programme for meetings to March 2016:-
Jun 17 : Mini Exhibits, 1 to a max of 16 pg.
Jul 15 : Foreign.
Jul 29 : 5th Wednesday. *Talk on exhibiting & judging*
Aug 19 : Southern Africa.
Sep 16 : Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book.
Sep 30 : 5th Wednesday. To be arranged.
Oct 21 : My favourite (Max of one frame) and thematic exhibits.
Nov 18 : Intersociety quiz, invited exhibits and end of year function.
Jan 20 : Africa and its islands.
Feb 17 : General.
Mar 16 : AGM and invited exhibits.

Please note : The postal address for the PSoJ is now P O Box 131037, Bryanston,2021, RSA.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier Street, Auckland Park.
For further information contact the President : Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings for 2015 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

10 June - Grand Challenge Match
8 July - Foreign Exhibit Evening
12 August - Favourite Cover/s
9 September - Annual Auction
14 October - One Frame Evening
11 November - 2nd Competitive Evening
2 December - President's Evening

Eurocircle Stamp Study

Meetings for 2015 in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December)

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00. *Venue*- Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch. *Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly* Newsletter *with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*

Visitors are welcome at all meetings

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES: Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Board of your **future meeting** programme so that the information can be published **timeously**.

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QSA AUCTIONS

Ullman Recreation Centre,

SANDTON: Confirming that QSA will, in future, **NOT be held bi-monthly in Pretoria.**

This follows from a change in management of the Victoria Cross Lodge, Menlo Park, Pretoria. All the QSA auctions will, in future, be held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. ***Directions*** *- from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.*

Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

* Alex Visser *(President)* 012 803 1881
* Steve Marsh *(Vice-President)* 012 656 0493

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

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them.
Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.
email: eugene@umalusi.org.za.
Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. jacoli@mweb.co.za

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. Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm
Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November
President: Jack Visser (082 332 5353)
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E-pos: jackvisser@yahoo.com
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Tel / Faks 044 6981074 E-pos: gajcon@gmail.com

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• contact: David Parsons
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SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

SAPDA
South African Dealers Association

MEMBERS

• *President:* Steve van den Hurk
• *Vice-President:* Jacques Kuun
• *Immediate Past President:* Kenny Napier
• *Secretary:* Paul van Zeyl
• *Additional Members:* Ken Wright, Chris Bennett,

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SAPDA's CODE OF ETHICS:

Members of the South African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA) are bound by a Code of Ethics. These members also agree to accept the decision of SAPDA's Executive Committee in the event of a dispute. Collectors are therefore protected from wrongdoing by dealer-members (only). It is the responsibility of individual collectors to ensure that they deal with SAPDA members should they want assistance in the event of a philatelic dispute. Should a collector have a dispute with a dealer-member, he/she should refer the matter IN WRITING to SAPDA's secretary at Box 11133, Queenswood, 0121 Pretoria.

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16 APRIL 2015 | LONDON



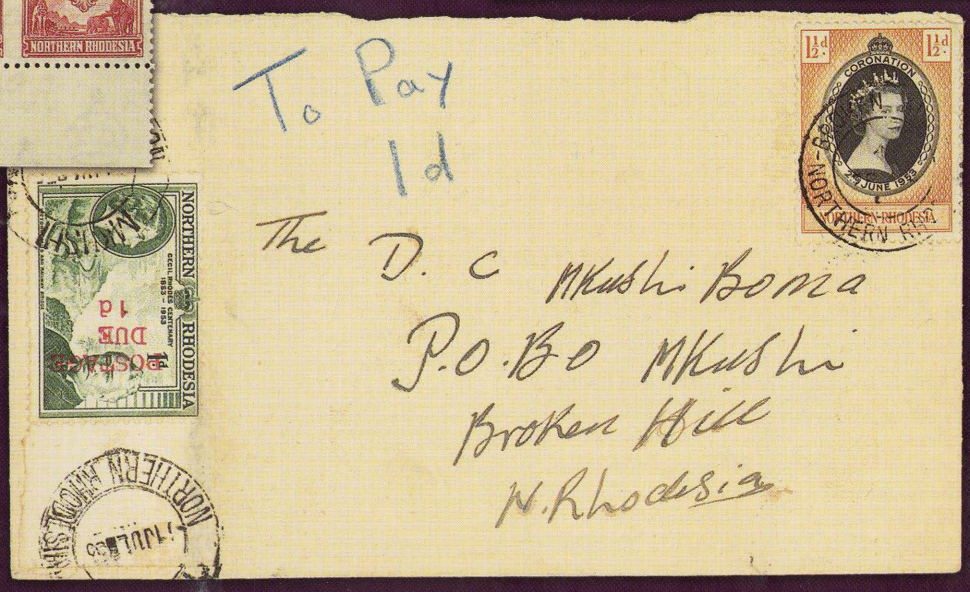
Lot 42
1½d. carmine-red block of twelve, columns two and three comprising four pairs with variety imperforate between.
Realised: £114,000

Lot 20
4d. violet marginal horizontal pair, variety imperforate between stamp and margin.
Realised: £4,200



Lot 78
3d. yellow lower right corner cylinder 1B block of four, variety eagle printed double.
Realised: £16,800





Lot 120
1953 (July) envelope from Broken Hill to Mkushi bearing Postage Due Rhodes Centenary 1d.
Realised: £5,400

For more information, please contact David Parsons:
Tel: +44 (0)20 7563 4072 | Fax: +44 (0)20 7563 4085 | Email: dparsons@spink.com
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AUGUST 2015

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 91:4. 931

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WHAT A MESS: 'Return to Sender'

A study of cancels and notations



'Letter from London'

Swaziland Philatelic Auction



Mixed usage of postage and revenue stamps in the Union of South Africa



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The South African Philatelist

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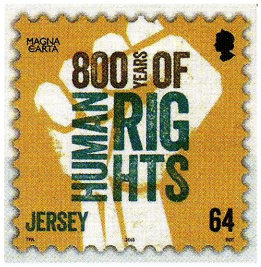
- Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
- Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- Federation Plaque 2004,
- Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- Large Silver NZ Literature Exhib 2007,
- Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.



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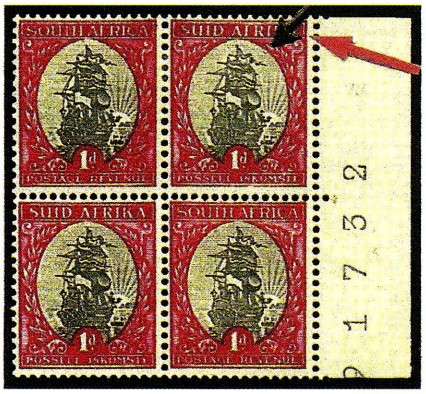

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Post Office
We deliver, whatever it takes.

A SPECIAL MENTION AND 'THANKS' TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE FOR THE COMPLIMENTARY MAILING OF THIS ISSUE TO LOCAL READERS. WE APPRECIATE THEIR SUPPORT.

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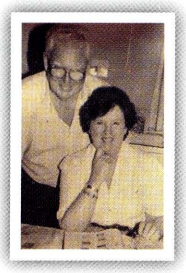

Keir Wedderburn - Maxwell passed away on 11 November **2014** and not 2015 as incorrectly published in the June issue of *The SA Philatelist*. He was aged 90, and had enjoyed a life coloured by interest in all aspects of philately.

Editorial Board's choice

Winning Contributor

This issue's award of the **PILOT** pen goes to Jan van Beukering for past and present contributions.

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South Africa or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

HELP NEEDED !

Dear Colleagues,

As a result of research I am currently doing on the postmarks of the Cape Post Office, a number of statements by previous researchers in the field have come under review. In writing about the introduction of the *'Triangle defacing stamp of 1853'* in 1943, Adriaan Jurgens stated that *"the Triangular defacer used in 1853 ... appears to have been taken from the defacing Stamp used by the Stamp Office, Cape Town, in 1837"* and that *"the large triangle was used for defacing the embossed Revenue Stamps on documents"* (p55).

In 36 years of archival research, most of it unrelated to postal matters, I cannot claim to have recorded a single example of such a canceller being used to obliterate revenue stamps on Cape documents. The only examples I have seen to date can be found on pp128-130 of Jurgens' book, but they purport to represent the postal use of revenues, and not the revenue cancellation of revenues. They are also generally held by other experts in the field to be forgeries.

I would like to ask the assistance of collectors and other historians in confirming, or refuting, the claims made by Jurgens which I have quoted above. It would also be valuable to confirm whether a similar barred canceller was ever used to obliterate revenues in Britain prior to 1837 or, indeed, at any time.

Franco Frescura
(frescuraf64@gmail.com)

Open Forum for the Philately of Southern Africa

A flyer has been received from British dealer Otto Peetoom, announcing the formation of this Forum. This concept is seen as a development of the Annual Southern Africa Conferences which have been held at Leamington Spa since 2003 and which have proven highly successful. Initially organised by Brian Trotter, from 2010 these conference were staged by Simon Peetoom. The format of these events remained very similar since inception: meet at the Falstaff Hotel Hotel at Leamington Spa for a convivial dinner on the Friday, then on the Saturday invited displays are presented where the audience cast their votes for the best display, for which the Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy is presented after that night's dinner. On the Sunday, any other displays are shown in a less formal style and can vary from a few pages to several frames, and an auction is held. The Conference continues to enjoy considerable support from collectors of the various Southern African philatelic entities and the organisers feel that it would be worth expanding the concept by adding a journal and a website to this open forum. This forum is not a society and does not have membership or other charges; those attending Conferences pay their own way. A number of websites are already operational and the first issue of the Journal is scheduled for September 2015 and will be distributed free. What is offered is none of the usual society 'overheads', but simply pure Southern African Philately. The Journal subscription for 2016 will comprise three issues; cost overseas is £15.

Contact: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com

SWA Official ½d. with transposed overprint SG O23a

The 2015 edition of the *South African Stamp Colour Catalogue* is once again a useful catalogue for both the general and to an extent the specialised collector of Southern Africa. 'It is noted that the SWA Official ½d with transposed overprint is still listed as SACC 23a used only, despite the fact that, to the best of my knowledge, no genuine example has ever been seen (The SA Philatelist, June 2013, page 88). In view of this Stanley Gibbons withdrew the listing of SG O23a in 2014.

Although the SACC notes that it should have a certificate it is most unlikely that this will ever be possible based on our knowledge to date.

MJH Tonking

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The early *South African Philatelist* 1923-1926

A Review by Otto Peetoom
Incorporating *The Union Philatelist* and *Quarterly Review of Philately*
Edited by G.W. Reynolds - Published by H. Blom

The launch of *The South African Philatelist* incorporated the two previous titles published during 1920 - 1922.

- From February 1923 to August 1924, with Editor GW Reynolds - Whole Nos. 1 to 19, published by H Blom.
- In the September 1924 editorial it was announced that Reynolds was moving from Johannesburg to Durban and handed the reins over to H Blom who edited and published the magazine from September 1924 to December 1924 - Whole Nos. 20 to 23.
- In January 1925 J Robertson took over as editor and publisher of *The South African Philatelist* and in his farewell Blom wrote: *The new editor Mr J. Robertson is known to all readers. The founder of the Union Philatelist and the Quarterly Review of Philately, the predecessors of the South African Philatelist, he has laboured much in the cause of philately in South Africa, and I have no hesitation in saying that under his able guidance this journal will continue to flourish.*
- J. Robertson continued as editor and publisher of *The South African Philatelist* from January 1925 until December 1928 Whole Nos. 24 to 71 and for some unknown reasons the *SAP* was not published during 1929 and 1930.
- Publication resumed in February 1931 (Whole No 72) and there was no Journal in May. Robertson continued in his role until December 1932 (Whole No 92).
- **In the December 1932 issue the following appeared:** Report of Meeting of Third Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa. Held in the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October 1932. In the final Paragraph it states: ***SA Philatelist***

The President, on behalf of the Permanent Executive, reported on the purchase of this paper for Congress, and Congress approved of the action of the Executive. Congress placed on record its appreciation of the work of Mr J. Robertson in maintaining the journal in the past.

The format of the *SAP* was less than an A5 size being 210 x 130 mm. The content included notes on new issues and varieties plus articles on Union and Pre Union Philately.

- The new 1923 South West Africa overprints were another feature and there was a regular section for Society News, also Overseas news on important auctions and what appeared in certain British philatelic magazines was also included.
- News of other African countries was another feature –

For instance in the second edition there is a photograph of a complete sheet of the East Africa & Uganda 1919 4 cents on 6c overprint with almost half the sheet folded back that caused the Surcharge to be printed on the gummed side and omitted from the front.

- Rhodesia filled many of the pages during 1923 - 24 in a series of articles by JEM Coch that commenced in April 1923.

Several correspondents in Rhodesia made regular contributions to the Journal.

- In August 1923 there is a four page article by GW Reynolds on the Union's used high values and Telegraphic cancellations.
- During 1924 Rhodesia continued to feature and there were letters of shock, indignation and disapproval in connection with the British South African Company's sale of their remainder stock to the Stamp Trade.
- On the home front Reynolds submitted *Notes on Plate Numbers on Union stamps* and was a frequent contributor on other Union matters.
- Emil Tamsen wrote on *The Stamps of East Griqualand* that includes the history of the Mount Currie Express.

The South West Africa overprints continued to receive considerable attention throughout 1924 and 1925.

The year 1925 started with news on the Air Mails and the stamps, varieties and flown covers popped up frequently. There was strong disapproval that the airmail remainders remained on sale under a title *Government Selling Stamps Which Cannot Be Used.*

The year 1926 opened with *Our New Stamps* and *South West Africa Not Forgotten* and was followed by *Alan Cobham's Great Flight.*

The SA Philatelist Publication

Closing dates for advertising material

October issue	Vol.	91: 5.	932	: 07/09/2015
December issue	Vol.	91: 6.	933	: 05/11/2015
February issue	Vol.	92: 1.	934	: 05/01/2016
April issue	Vol.	92: 2.	935	: 07/03/2016

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LETTER FROM LONDON



by Dr JR Frank RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Time has flown and we are already halfway through 2015. Although I was unable to attend some philatelic events in the early part of the year, due to illness, it has once again been full of interest.

In March the Royal Philatelic Society London was treated to an exceptional display of the six Australian states, in some six hundred pages (!) This indeed was an unrivalled display of Classic material by Joseph Hackmey RDP. Remarkable items from all the states were on view, while 'condition' was the watchword. In New South Wales the unique 1850 Sydney View 2d blue tête-bêche pair on cover and the only recorded mint block of 1850 Sydney Views in private hands, of the 3d yellow-green, caught the eye. The only recorded unused example of Victoria 1850 1d orange-vermillion first printing and its rare 1850-53 2d drab with 'void lower corner' were shown.



New South Wales 1850 Sydney View 3d yellow-green. Only recorded unused block in private hands.



Victoria.1850 2d drab-lilac void lower left corner



South Australia 1855 One Shilling Violet prepared for use, but not issued.

Tasmania impressed with two pairs of the 1853 1d blue on the earliest recorded cover to Scotland and also all five 1855 values with the barred 'Cancelled' Perkins, Bacon handstamp. South Australia provided a lovely pair of the 1855 one shilling violet prepared for use but not issued and the 1860-69 'Ten pence' on 9d yellow in a used pair with inverted surcharge. Queensland's star items included a used block of four of the 1860 imperforate 1d carmine-rose and the same stamp was shown on cover together with the perforated 2d blue and 6d green to England. In Western Australia the 1854 1 shilling salmon was the highlight while the 1864-79 4d carmine (2) and 6d violet all doubly printed added much interest. This was the exhibit of the year for me.

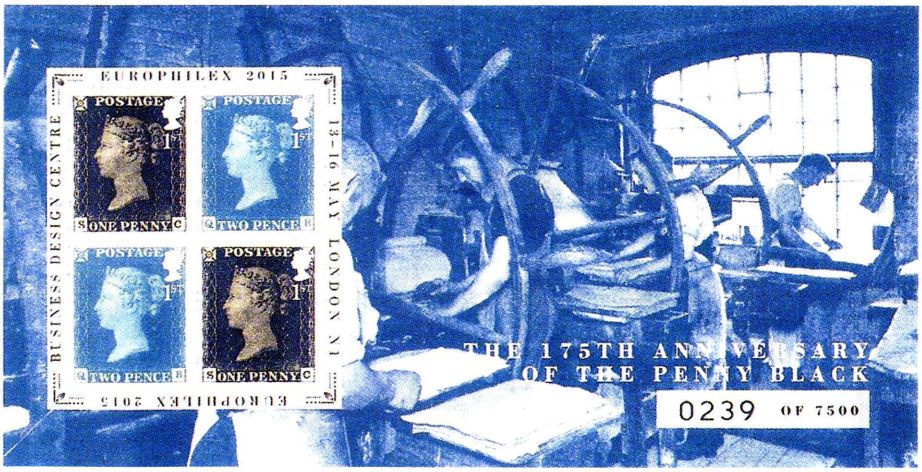
In April the Nederlandse Academie voor Filatelie provided a combined display, celebrating *'200 Years of the Kingdom of the Netherlands'*, in 650 pages. Various members showed individual issues and topics. The 1852 exhibit included the rare 5 and 15 cents inter-panneau pairs, as well as a tricolour mixed franking of the first and second issues. A cover to the Netherlands Indies franked with two 1867 25 cents plus 1872 10 cents value was most attractive and rare, while the Telegraph stamps formed an unusual exhibit. Topics such as Postal Services in Rural Areas, the Belgian Revolt and World War II Postal History were also noteworthy.

May saw a display of Sicily 1859-60 by Francesco Lombardo. Although an ephemeral entity, before Garibaldi's Patriots added it to the Sardinian Kingdom, this was a vast exhibit of stamps and postal history. Beside plating studies of the lower values and an explanation that the ½gr - blue was a 'used proof', local and international rate and route covers were shown in profusion. These included three bearing the 50gr-brown in combination with other values.

The second May meeting was filled by Brian Moorhouse's display of *'1881-87 Liberty Head issues'* of Haiti, accompanied by an excellent hand-out, which covered the nature of the varieties as well as their history over the years. Essays, composite proofs, specimens (from the Natal archives, which appeared on the philatelic market around 1980!), postal forgeries, multiples and covers were included. The last are particularly elusive due to the high illiteracy level of the population, adverse climatic conditions and limited foreign commercial relations. Both the major rarities of Haiti were in the display. These are the inter-panneau sheet of the 1881 one cent value, giving rise to ten vertical tête-bêche pairs, and the imperforate strip of four 20 cents value on a registered cover to Hamburg. Many other rate covers were included.

From 13-16 May 'EUROPHILEX 2015', a FEPA sponsored International exhibition, was held at Islington, London. Superbly managed and organised it did justice to the many wonderful exhibits on show. Dealers and auctioneers offered good material, while seating and catering were adequate. A £10 admission charge was levied on the first day only. The usual array of stamps in publicity format was produced, but a miniature sheet of two 1d blacks and two 2d blues with a Europhilex 2015 overprint around the stamps was a new gimmick for me. A printing of 7,500 sheetlets in all was released in batches throughout the five days at £4.95 per sheetlet.

The Club de Monte Carlo showed an invited 20-frame display of *Philatelic Events that Changed the World*. The combined display consisted of rare items loaned by major collectors, exhibits ranging from the 1190 earliest written letter in private hands, via letters from Emperor Charles V and one to John Hancock in New York on 4 July 1776, to an Apollo 11 cover carried to the moon.



'Europhilex 2015' Miniature sheet (number 239 of 7500) with overprint around the stamp.

The Confederate Stamp Alliance, an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society, showed a combined exhibit of American Civil War, 1860-65, material. Stamps and attractive patriotic covers were displayed. The original copper printing plate used to produce the famous 1847 Mauritius 1d and 2d stamps was shown on the Feldman stand, while the Royal Philatelic Society London displayed the notorious forger Jean de Sperati's printing press actually being used.

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The competitive displays were equally remarkable: Joseph Hackmey (once again!) provided a spectacular *'Classic Switzerland'* exhibit. The number and quality of the Zurich, Geneva and Basel Cantonals as well as the first Federal issues were astounding, as was the knowledgeable presentation. It deservedly received *Best in Traditional Class* award. Stefan Heijtz's *St. Helena Postal History* and JC Vasseur's *Newfoundland Airmail* were wonderful exhibits, while James Gough's UPU exhibit received the Grand Prix d'Honneur and Allan Holyoake's *Secured Delivery Leading to the Introduction of UK Registration of Mail 1450-1852,* the Grand Prix National.

However, the judging provided some strange anomalies. An outstanding exhibit of Rhodesia's *Arms Issue, 1890-1909* with essays, die and plate proofs, part-perforates, varieties (including the very rare 1909 £1 in a mint pair, lower stamp without overprint) and covers received a Large Silver medal, as did a five-frame Mafeking display mainly consisting of interesting covers. Maybe the latter should have been reclassified as Postal History. A ground breaking study of the GB Victorian £5 orange was awarded a Vermeil award but certainly deserved more appreciation. Such are the vagaries of international exhibiting.

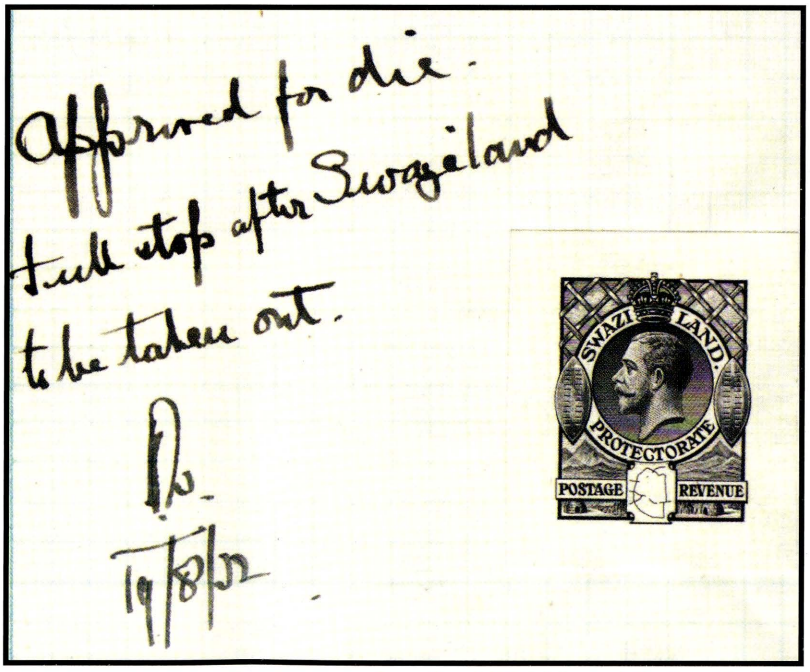
The London auction scene remains active, a truly international market. Much material of Southern African interest has been offered recently. The Vestey collection's *Rhodesia Double Heads* was marketed by Spink. A really memorable assembly of these colourful stamps in unused condition. Competition was keen, even in the absence of postal history items. An imperforate pair of ½d values realised £5,500, almost double its lower estimate, while an imperforate between vertical pair of the 1d made £12,000 and the rare 5d lake-brown and green realised £16,000. A superb imprint block of eight of the 7/6d value, purchased for 6 guineas in 1946, was sold for £15,000. The highlight of the collection, the corner block of four £1 error of colour came up to expectations at £48,000.

While Spink's *'Northern Rhodesia'* sale included some impressive proof material, its highlight was the mint block of twelve King George VI 1½d values with four vertically 'imperforate between' pairs, which realised £95,000. A lovely used Queen Elizabeth II 6d grey with inverted watermark fetched £5,500, against a catalogue value of £4,500. The King George V mint pair imperforate between left stamp and margin was sold for £4,200, against an upper estimate of £2,500. Essays of the same reign reached £4,000 and £4,500 respectively. A unique cylinder corner block of four of 1963 Arms definitive issue 3d value with the eagle printed double made £14,000, but a corner block of twenty-four with the orange (eagle) omitted failed to find a buyer. The three 1953 Mkushi Provisional Postage Due covers ranged from £3,000 to £4,500.

Yet it was Peter van der Molen's highly specialised *Swaziland* sale at Spink that provided most surprises. It was good to see the opening lot, a signed copy of *Swaziland Philately to 1968* edited by the vendor, reach £220. The full sheets of sixty of the 1889-92 1d and 6d realised £1,700 and £2,200 respectively, exceeding estimates, while a nice mint 10 shilling value of the same issue made £4,500, although estimated at £3,500. A master die proof in black for the 1933 definitive issue sold for £2,800 and those in



Mint block of 12 KGVI 1½d values in the Polakow sale



Swaziland 1933 Master Die Proof in black.

blue fetched £1,400-£1,900 apiece.

A full set of the denominated die proofs of this issue reached £16,000, while a set of imperforate colour proofs fetched £14,000. Both these carried an upper estimate of £12,000.

The unique set of corner examples of the Official overprints, a modern 'classic', attained its upper estimate of £35,000. A surprising result was the £2,900 obtained for the 1948 Royal Silver Wedding ten shillings value perforated 'Specimen' and backstamped 'BW Archives' with an estimate of £1,000. However, the 1961 Decimal Surcharge issue produced startling prices, often exceeding S.G. Catalogues values! An attractive mint collection of these, estimated at £400, sold for £1,700. The catalogue quotation was £1,150 in this case. A marginal block of four of the ½c on ½d Surcharge Inverted, catalogued at £6,000, realised £7,000. The 1c on 1d Surcharge Double, in a corner block of four and a similar variety of the 10c on 1/- both made £4,500.

The 25c value Type II (Lower Left) in a plate block of four surged to £3,200, against an upper estimate of £1,200.

The spectacular imprint block of 30, really a half sheet, of the 50c with Type II Trial surcharge was sold for £7,500 (catalogue value £4,800), while this value in an imprint block of eight Type III made £9,000, against an upper estimate of £3,500.

It would appear that catalogue prices of this issue are due for revision, as a leading London dealer told me that demand for earlier Queen Elizabeth II issues has been unprecedented recently. For airmail enthusiasts the unlikely and lone Swaziland 1934 Zeppelin acceptance cover to Argentina was sold for £2,400, against an upper estimate of £1,500. Spink charges a 20% buyer's commission.

It is gratifying to see that philately retains its appeal even though local society membership is greying and declining.

Best Wishes
JRF

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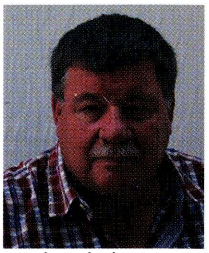


The Union 1935 KG V Silver Jubilee Issue: Frameplate Characteristics of the ½d stamp

by Andre du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society.

A number of design characteristics and differences appear on the stamps of all four denominations. Some are unique to a specific value and others will be found on other values as well.

Although much is said of characteristics, little has been written about them. For instance no definition could be found. I decided to look into this specific subject per denomination, starting with the ½d stamp.

My view is that it deserves to be described and treated autonomously.

The following philatelic terminologies have a bearing and should be kept in mind: (My underlining)

- **Error:** A mistake in stamp design, printing or production
- **Flaw:** A fortuitous blemish on a stamp, a printing fault
- **Variety:** A stamp differing in some detail from the normal issue *(Source: Stanley Gibbons)*
- **Error:** A major mistake in the production of a stamp or postal stationery item. Production errors include imperforate or imperforate-between varieties, missing or incorrect colors, and inversion or doubling of part of the design or overprint.
- **Flaw:** A defect in a plate that reproduces as an identifiable **variety in the stamp design.**
- **Retouch:** The repairing of a damaged plate or die, often producing a minor, but detectable, difference in the design of the printed stamps.
- **Variety:** A variation from the standard form of a stamp. Varieties include different watermarks, inverts, imperforates, missing colors, wrong colors and major color shifts. *(Source: ARPIN PHILATELY -Stamp Collecting Glossary)*

These terms tend to introduce confusion when discussing characteristics. It is my understanding that a characteristic would occur during the physical design process (master design) and before printing.

In rotogravure printing the Master Design is photographed multiple times to produce a Master Negative. At this stage flaws/errors may arise on a particular negative and present themselves as recurring flaws on every so many stamps. As the multipositive was used to etch more than one cylinder, it follows that any flaw that had appeared on it during the preparation stage will be repeated. Also with each new use, ones would appear or be removed.

Characteristics are in fact features of the design and are not the result of mistakes. Neither are they found on a single stamp but rather are a consistent recurring feature originating on the Master Design prior to production of the Master Negative.

Generally a characteristic is defined as a distinctive feature or quality belonging to a specific object. Typically a philatelic characteristic is considered part of the stamp design.

For the purposes of this and subsequent papers I define a characteristic as *"a peculiarity on a stamp originating during the design process"*.

As the language setting of 'SOUTH AFRICA' and 'SUID-AFRIKA' appear alternately at the top of the stamps, they are respectively referred to as English and Afrikaans headed stamps.

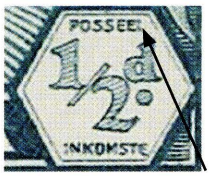
Frameplate characteristics will be distinctive for a specific value as a different Frameplate was used to print each value.

Some of the same characteristics, especially in the two value tablets, occur on the ½d and 1d values. Not much has been written about them and most handbooks concentrate on recurring varieties, flaws and errors that can be identified by their position on the sheet.

The following are known Frameplate characteristics of the ½d stamp that have been listed over time in various publications such as *The South African Philatelist*, *The Springbok* and philatelic websites such as The King George V Silver Jubilee (www.philatel2.com/jubilee).

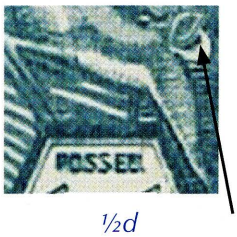
'I' for 'L' in POSSEEL

On all English headed stamps the 'L' in POSSEEL, where it appears in the right figure of value tablet, appears as an 'I' – 'POSSEEI' instead of 'POSSEEL'. *(Gilbert[1,2], Jonas[5])*

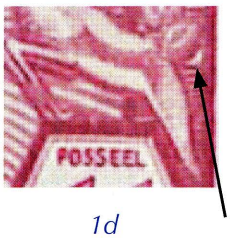


On all English headed stamps, the tail of the right Springbok is curled more compared to that of the other denominations.

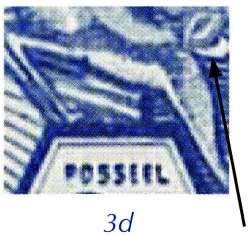
CURLED TAIL



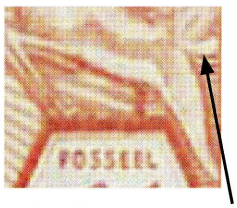
½d



1d



3d



6d

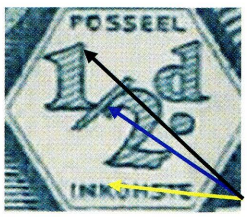
Included are scans of the other three values for comparison purposes. *(Gilbert[1], Jonas[5])*

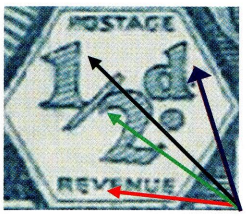
Whilst examining the value tablets the following Frameplate characteristics were identified of which no previous descriptions could be obtained.

The scans below constitute a block of 4 stamps. The value tablets are inscribed in Afrikaans and English. On the Afrikaans headed stamps, Afrikaans appears in the left value tablet with English in the right tablet and vica versa for the English headed stamps.

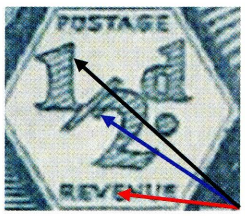
UNEVEN ROWS

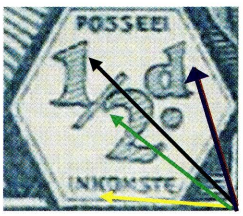
AFRIKAANS HEADED





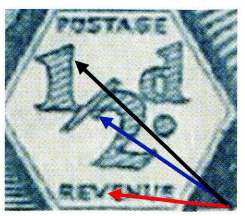
ENGLISH HEADED

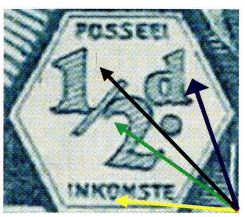




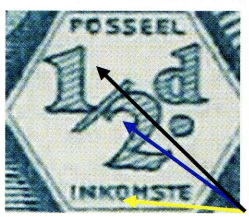
EVEN ROWS

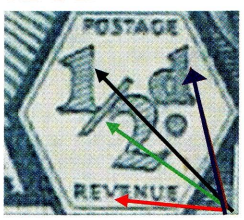
ENGLISH HEADED





AFRIKAANS HEADED





1. The 'V' of 'REVENUE', where it appears in both value tablets, does not come down to be level with the other letters. In fact the word 'REVENUE' looks the same in all printings (Red arrow).

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• This characteristic was described by Gilbert[4] and RP Jonas[5] to be present only on Afrikaans headed stamps of the 1d value.

2. The letters 'INK' of 'INKOMSTE' are 'shaved' at the bottom where it appears in all value tablets. This is also the case with the 1d stamp (Yellow arrow).

3. The '1' of '½' in the left value tablet has seven lines inside the outline compared with 9 in the right value tablet throughout, irrespective of the language setting (Black arrow).

4. The '2' of '½' in both value tablets look different from each other. The left '2' has 10 lines inside the outline and the right one has 11. They also touch the fraction bar at different angles and appear in the same value tab throughout, irrespective of the language setting (Blue and green arrows).

5. The 'd' in the right value tablet has 9 lines inside the outline compared to eight in the left value tablet throughout irrespective of the language setting (Purple arrow).

Comments

Both value tablets on every alternate stamp have the same characteristics and look exactly the same. These confirm the statement by Gilbert[1] that a pair was used as the original design and not a block of four as was the case with ½d, 1d and 6d issues of the definitive series of the time. For example, the Afrikaans headed stamps (½d, 3d and 6d) on row one number 1, 3 and 5 become number 2, 4 and 6 on the next row and continue in that way till row 20. For the 1d it is the English headed stamps.

The Union's Silver Jubilee features and descriptions are mainly based on the work and writings of G N Gilbert done way back in 1935/36. To quote R P Jonas in *the Springbok* of Nov/Dec 1966:

"...and although there have been some slight changes in the catalogue listings since those articles were published, it is a tribute to Mr. Gilbert that such changes are so few." [5]

I would like to acknowledge the mentorship and assistance by Neil Donen from Canada in providing Silver Jubilee source information and critical reviews of my various articles.

References

1. Gilbert GN. The Jubilee Stamps of the Union, *The South African Philatelist.* 1935 June p. 87

2. Gilbert GN. The Jubilee Stamps of the Union, *The South African Philatelist.* 1935 September p. 13

3. Gilbert GN. The Jubilee Stamps of the Union, *The South African Philatelist.* 1935 October p. 154

4. Gilbert GN. The Jubilee Stamps of the Union, *The South African Philatelist.* 1936 February p. 18

5. Jonas RP. A study meeting in London on the Silver Jubilee Issue *The Springbok.* 1966 Nov/Dec p 118

6. King George V Silver Jubilee: www.philatel2.com/jubilee/id32.htm Accessed various times.

CAPEX 2015

14th to 17th October

CAPE TOWN CITY HALL

EXHIBITION UPDATE

by Alan Rogers alanrs@telkomsa.net

ENTRIES

There had been a very good response. At the time of writing, which was before entries closedm the organizing committee have ± 350 frames booked reflecting a pleasing diversity and depth of content. There are a number of entries from affiliated members in Australia and one from a local society member residing in New York, so all in all a good spread of national and foreign interest.

JURY

Emil Bührmann's Jury is a well - balanced group of experienced, local and international judges to cover the various Senior and JUNASS classes.

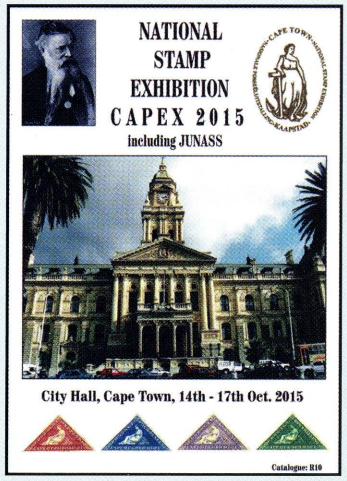
Jury members are: Emil Bührmann (Chairman); Neil Cronjé, Hugh Amoore, David Parsons, Henk de Lange, Emil Minnaar, David Figg, Alan Macgregor, Howard Green, Andrew Fischer, Michael Wigmore, Gerald Bodily, Jill Redmond, Mervyn Rosenberg, Colin Hoffman and Chris Carey (Secretary).

DEALERS

19 local and international dealers have booked stands, so there promises to be something for everyone looking for new material.

AUCTION

Ken Joseph will be holding an auction from 2pm on Thursday 15 October, again another opportunity for exhibition visitors to pick up that 'special' item. Updates on this will be made available closer to the event.



SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

Bookings for meetings have been made by the Rhodesian Study Circle and a combined meeting of A.G.B./Transvaal Study Circle/O.F.S and Cape & Natal societies. In addition David Figg will present a workshop on Postcards and Dr. David Stotter FRPSL will give a talk on his latest publication – *A Postcard from Tangier; A Postal & Social History of Tangier 1880 – 1958*. Both of these talks should prove extremely informative.

PALMARES

The Palmares dinner will be held at the Cape Sun Hotel on Saturday 17 October. Bookings for this event are open.

CONGRESS

Congress will be held at the City Hall on Friday 16 October. Congress fees are R175.00 per delegate.

SAPDA NATIONAL October 2016

It is with great pleasure that the South African Dealers Association will host the National Stamp Exhibition in **2016**.

By securing an ideal venue in Johannesburg, at the Italian Club in Bedfordview, the SAPDA management is keen to create an early awareness amongst the philatelic community. Not only is this venue very central, within ten minutes from the OR Tambo airport, in close proximity to major highways, shopping malls and a variety of excellent accommodation, it also offers the space and parking that many exhibitors and visitors find essential. There is also a decent restaurant and a good bar facility on the premises.

It is estimated that there will be space for about 350 frames and an expected 20 local as well as international dealers are keen to participate at this National.

Due to the fantastic venue, booking the Palmares evening has already been secured, with an expected booking for 180 people wanting to attend the dinner.

The SAPDA Executive Committee is already in the process of contacting sponsors and recruiting assistants. Information in this regard will be advised in *The SA Philatelist* over the next few issues. The full-colour A4 format brochure is expected to be completed and printed by mid year 2016.

Interested parties are welcome to contact either Kenny Napier or Steve van den Hurk at these email addresses;
kenny@sapdapex2016
or steve@sapdapex2016

We look forward to hosting you at SAPDAPEX 2016.

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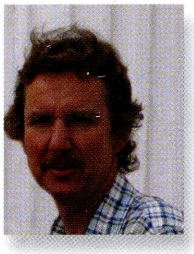


Deel 14

VERSIERDE POSKANTORE

deur Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

Riebeek-Oos

English Summary:

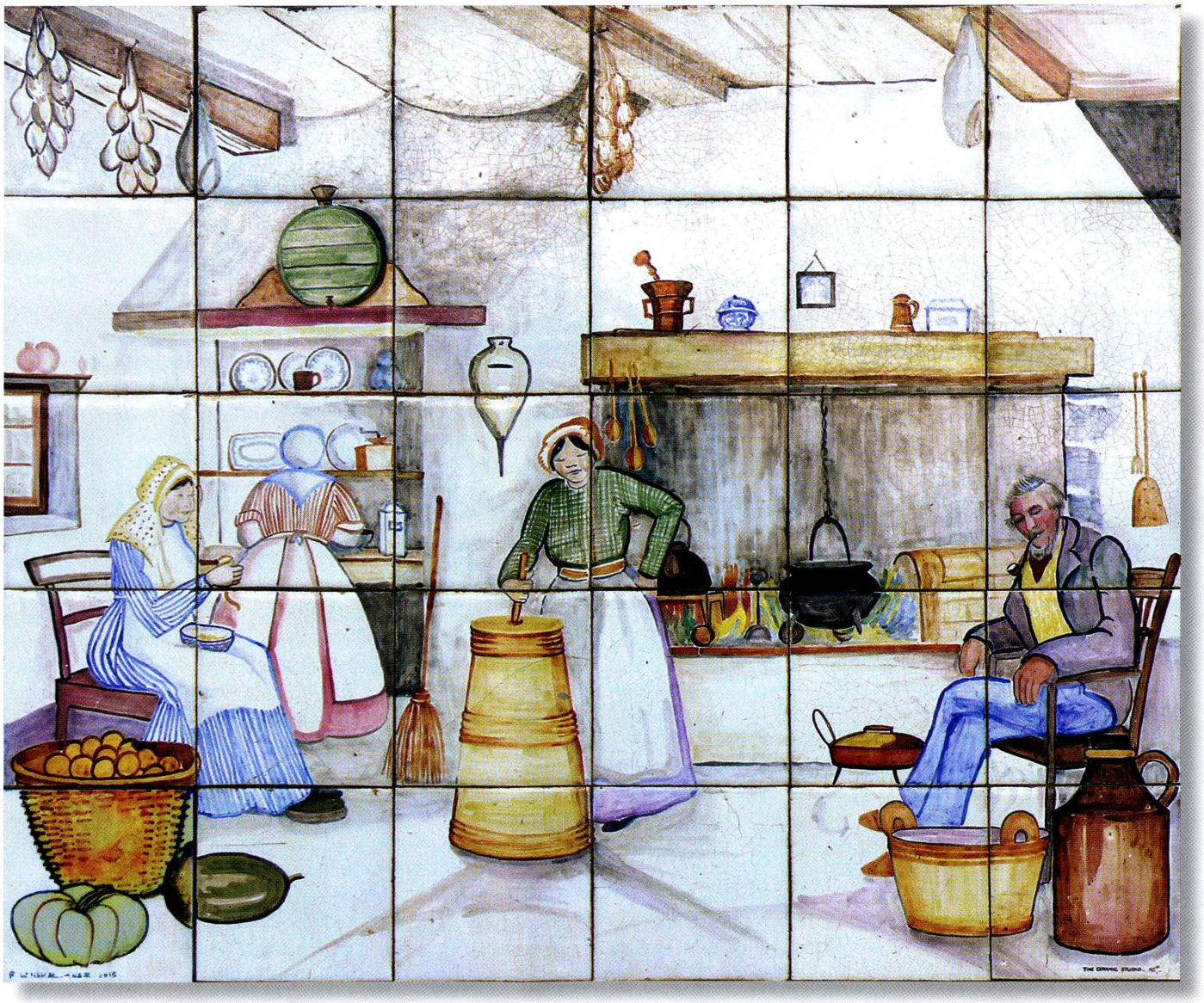
DECORATED POST OFFICES Part 14:

Riebeek East

Riebeek East is a village in the Eastern Cape, 42 km west of Grahamstown. The Post Office was built in 1937 and is currently a private residence. It bears two ceramic tile panels by Thelma Gifford-Gayton. The panels depict lesser known aspects of the history of Piet Retief, later a Great Trek leader, and the village. The panel on the right of the door shows the Retief family in the kitchen of their house on the farm Mooimeisjesfontein. With the people as reference, the artist portrayed the kitchen as much more spacious than the real one. Kitchen utensils and food processing practices of the early 1800s are shown, such as cooking in large pots on an open fire and using the roof beams for storage by suspending onion bunches and smoked hams. The second panel shows the landscape of the town around the church. It is not the current church, which was inaugurated in 1862, but the first church built between 1845 and 1848. The scene is from the Seventh Frontier War, also known as the war of the axe, during which the church was severely plundered. In the scene on the tiled panel the farming community was besieged in the church by Xhosa warriors. The artist excellently managed to express the tension of the situation, with men at the ready with firearms on and under the wagons, and the Xhosa warriors hiding behind rocks. This is surrounded by a peaceful landscape with plants. The church and parsonage is a true copy from a photograph, but the huge trees surrounding the buildings are the creation of the artist.

Riebeek-Oos is 'n nedersetting in die Oos Kaap, 42 km Wes van Grahamstad. Dit is gestig in 1842 op die plaas Mooimesjesfontein wat oorspronklik aan Piet Retief, die Voortrekkerleier, behoort het, en vernoem na Jan van Riebeeck. Die poskantoor staan op die Noordoostelike hoek van Kerkstraat en Nieuwestraat, met sy ingang na Oos. Dit is uit rooi bakstene met 'n rooi teëldak in die styl van die 'Baker school' en gebou in 1937 deur die Departement Openbare Werke. Dit het drie boë uit swart stene oor die ingang en stoep. Die gebou is tans 'n woonhuis en die stoepboë, waar oosrpronklik die telefoon en posbussies gehuisves was, is toegebou deur hergebruik van die oorspronklike boumateriaal. Weerskante van die boë is twee teëlpanele van Thelma Gifford-Gayton, wat haar opleiding by die Durban School of Art en Royal College of Art, London, ontvang het.

Die twee panele beskryf 'n die minder bekende geskiedenis van Piet Retief en Riebeek-Oos. Die paneel aan die regterkant van die poskantoor wys 'n kombuistoneel. Dit verteenwoordig grootendeels die kombuis van die plaashuis op Mooimeisjesfontein aan die Oostekant van die dorp, wat tans 'n nasionale historiese gebou is. Met



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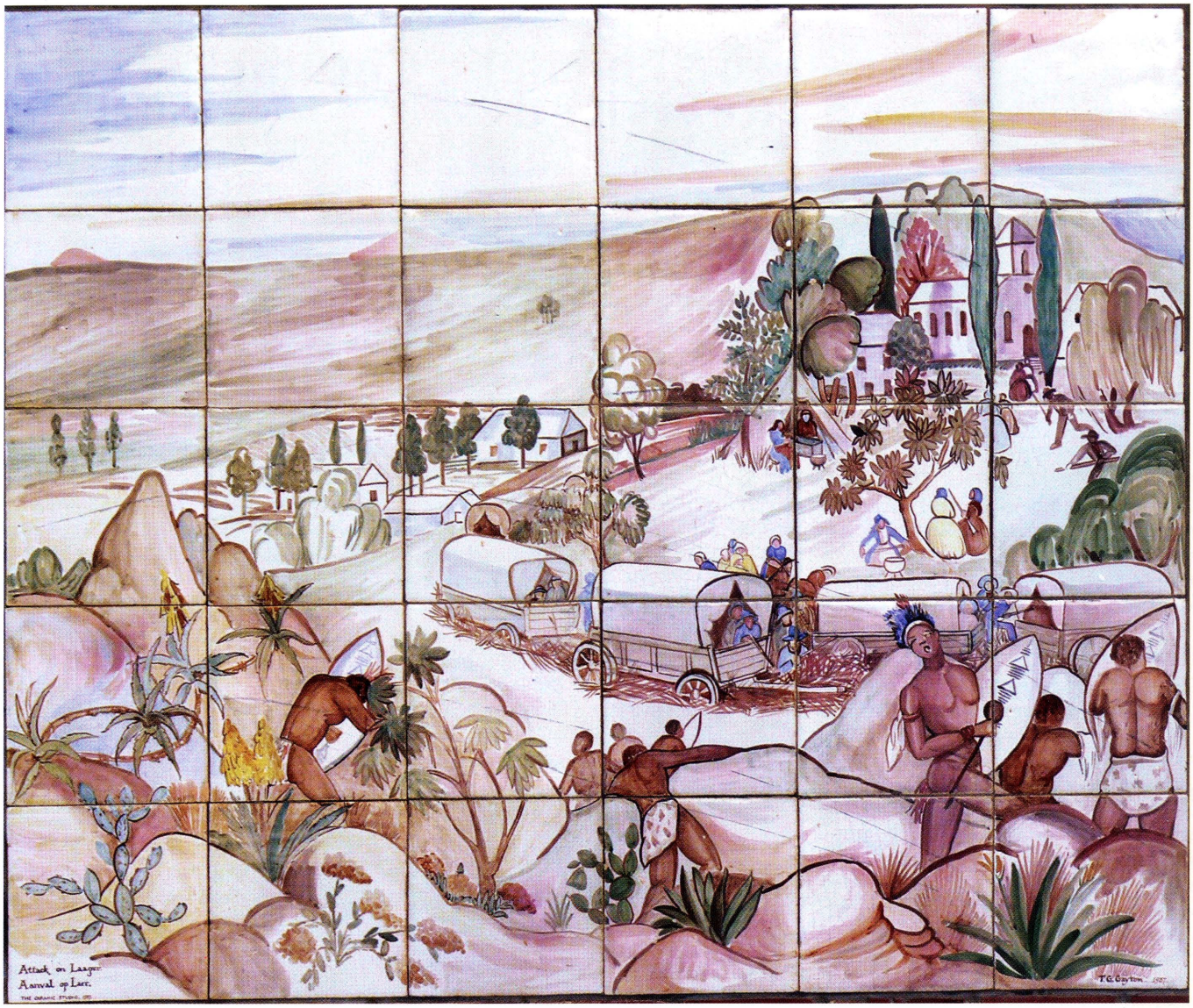
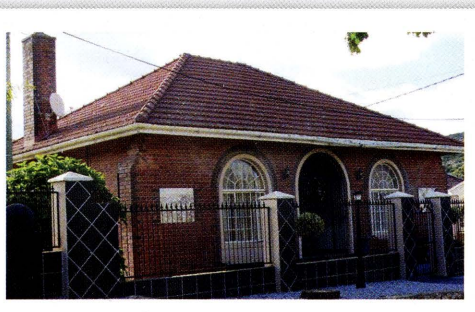
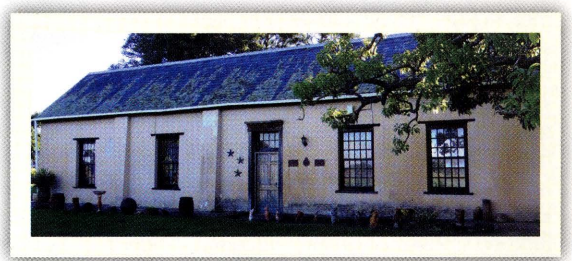
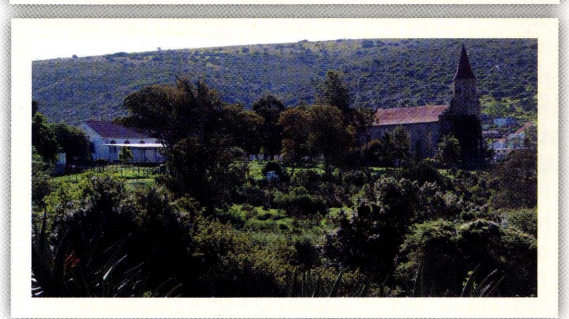


die grootte van die persone as verwysing, het die kunstenaar die kombuis ongeveer een-en-'n-half maal groter laat voorkom as wat dit werklik is. Die dakbalke verskyn ook nie in die werklike kombuis nie, maar wel in die kamers van die voorhuis. Uitgebeeld is Retief en sy vrou Lenie, en waarskynlik hul twee dogters. Die toneel wys gebruike van die tyd, soos om in 'n groot ysterpot op 'n vuur te kook, botter te karring en berging van uie in bondels en gerookte ham aan dakbalke. Implemente teenwoordig is 'n koffiemeule met stamper, blaasbalk, koleskoppie, koper tertpan, balie vir skottelgoedwas, botterkarring met sy roerder, balie met kraantjie vir water of wyn, ketel en 'n drie-been pot, mandjie vir algemene berging soos van groente, en 'n erdekan vir gemmerbier.

Die tweede paneel wys die landskap van die dorp met die kerk as middelpunt. Dit is egter nie die huidige kerk nie. Die Engelse setlaars van 1820 het hul hoofsaaklik in Grahamstad gevestig, wat tot gevolg gehad het dat die Akrikaanssprekende lidmate van die NG Kerk na die Albany distrik, later Riebeek-Oos, verskuif het. Die Afrikaanssprekendes moes egter na Uitenhage of Graaff-Reinet reis om kerkdienste en nagmaal by te woon. Hul petisie in 1826 om 'n kerk is afgewys en hulle is aangeraai om die Engelse kerk in Grahamstad vir dienste te gebruik. Die eerste kerkraadslede is in 1831 in die Metodistekerk in Grahamstad deur Ds. Alexander Smith van Uitenhage bevestig en in April 1839, word Ds. John Pears as eerste prediker aangestel. 'n Gedeelte van die plaas Mooimeisjesfontein is van die nuwe eienaar, M.J. van Rooyen, aangekoop en onderverdeel as erwe vir die dorp, waarvan die opbrengs die kerkgebou gefinansier het.







Teen die einde van 1840 is 'n aanvang gemaak met die bou van 'n pastorie.

Ds. Pears is in 1841 deur Dr. Adriaan Roux opgevolg, wat hom vir die uitbreiding van die gemeente beywer het. Op 6 Januarie 1845 is besluit om 'n kerk te bou, wat op 22 Februarie 1846 ingewy sou word. Die Sewende Grensoorlog van 1846-1847, ook bekend as die Byloorlog, het dit gestrem, en Dr. Roux

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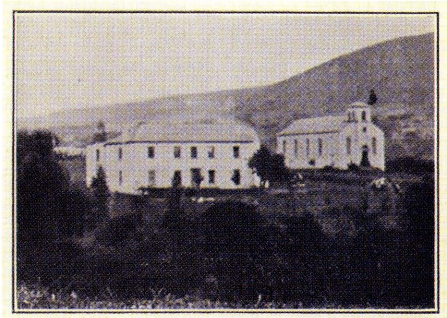


DIE EERSTE KERKIE (1848—1861).
Langsaan die ou Pastorie.

moes tydelik in Grahamstad gaan woon. Eers in 1847 kon die kerkraad weer vergader en in 1848 is die kerkgebou teen 'n koste van £900 ingewy. Binne twee jaar het die Agtste Grensoorlog uitgebreek en weer het Albany swaar gely. Weer moes dr. Roux wyk, om eers in 1853 na sy geplunderde gemeente terug te keer. Hy werk met ywer sodat die hoeksteen van die kerkgebou wat vandag nog in gebruik is, in 1861 gelê kon word. Die nuwe kerk is op 31 Mei 1862 ingewy.

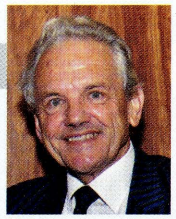
Dit is die gebeure van die sewende grensoorlog rondom die eerste kerkgebou wat op die teëlpaneel uitgebeeld word, spesifiek die aanval op 4 Mei 1846. Dit wil voorkom asof die laer rondom die kerk en pastorie getrek was. In werklikheid was die laer slegs rondom die pastorie, die gebou links van die kerk. Gevolglik het die Xhosa krygers die kerkgebou binnegedring en verwoes. Die kunstenaar het die atmosfeer van gevaar en spanning goed uitgebeeld binne 'n vreedsame omgewing van die natuur. Die boere lê met gewere skietgereed in en om die waens, en ander hardloop nader met stokke, terwyl die Xhosas agter rotse skuil en knopkieries en skilde in gereedheid bring vir 'n aanval. Die aalwyne, *Aloe striatulata* (heel links) en *Aloe ferox* (of Aloe speciosa, tweede van links) asook *Crassula falcata* (links voor) en *Strelitzia reginae* (regs), is treffend uitgebeeld. Die ander plante kan nie duidelik identifiseer word nie. Die turksvy, sipresse of denne, wilgers en ander bome is uitheems. Die kerk en pastorie is 'n getroue weergawe volgens 'n foto, maar die groot bome rondom die geboue is die skepping van die kunstenaar.

Verwysing:
Dreyer, A. (1931) *Kerksoewenier van die Gemeente Albanie: 'n geskiedkundige oorsig van die honderdjarige bestaan van die plaaslike Ned.-Geref. gemeente (1831-1931)*. Uitgewer: Archivaris Synodi van die NG Kerk in Suid-Afrika.

Bedankings: Vicky Heunis (Museum van die Boererepublieke) en Prof Johann du Preez (Universiteit van die Vrystaat) vir die identifikasie van onderskeidelik die kombuistoerusting en plante; Chris Lemmer, Louis Pieterse en Era Coetzee van Riebeek-Oos om my op die regte spoor van inligting te bring; Zane Wilsnach vir die redigering van fotos.

ITEM OF INTEREST

The Philatelic Chronicle Revisited



by Chris Mobsby RDPSA FRPSL RNCP, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Recently, I came across a copy of a 40-page magazine entitled *'The Philatelic Chronicle'*, the issue of June, 1939, a mere three months incidentally before the outbreak of World War II. It was printed in Johannesburg and, as my copy was Number 6 of Volume 1 of what was evidently intended to be a monthly publication, the journal must, presumably, have first appeared in January of that year. No mention was made of the name of the Editor but, in his brief editorial, that gentleman did acknowledge that, although towns that enjoyed the privilege of hosting the Annual Congress of Federation were in the habit of staging a public stamp exhibition, he did feel, nevertheless, that this was "not sufficient". He went on to make the suggestion that a major centre such as Johannesburg should go to the extent of promoting an Annual Exhibition. This he would put forward as a formal motion at the upcoming A.G.M. of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

The journal included newsletters from four of the philatelic societies then in operation; those of the East Rand, West Rand, Johannesburg and Natal. The last of these held its May meeting in the Mayor's Parlour at the City Hall in Durban with an attendance of 84 members and visitors! The East Rand recorded a visit from Johannesburg under the chairmanship of no less a personage than Dr Harvey Pirie who, personally, displayed a collection of *Bechuanaland* while Messrs Smithers, Houbert and Isaacs were responsible for presentations of *Modern Australia*, *Early Transvaal* and *Newfoundland* respectively. The West Rand enjoyed a potpourri of exhibits that included *Unions* by Mr. Powell, *Early Classics* by Mrs. Skinner, *Matabeleland Rebellion Covers* by Mr. Allan and *Dutch Commemoratives* by Mr. Ovens while Mr. Johnstone gave tips on how a collection should and should not be mounted. There was also a cartoon by, I think, Bob Connolly, of J.W.K. Schofield, President of the Johannesburg Society 1938 -1939.

Two of the major contributions to this edition of the Chronicle were *The Stamps of Cyprus* by CE Donne and the *Stamps of Newfoundland* by I. Isaacs. The first of these included a brief but interesting history of the Mediterranean island and went on to include research into the use of G.B. stamps identifiable by their Cypriot cancellations (1878-1881). British stamps overprinted 'Cyprus' were introduced in 1880 and the article was rounded off with varieties appearing in the 'Queen's Head' issues from 1881 and those of the 'King's Heads' from 1902. Mr. Issacs also introduced his article with an abridged but informative history of the Colony and thereafter commented on various stamp issues dating from the now elusive definitives of 1857 to the extremely rare General Balbo airmail overprint of 1933. Both articles included a limited number of black and white illustrations.

There was also a fascinating account of *The Postage Due 'Concession' Stamps of 1937* by I.H.C. Godfrey. Mr. Godfrey introduced his article with the reproduction of a newspaper cutting that informed the reader that Christmas mail to England with insufficient postage would not be charged *'postage due'*. Reuter's release went on to quote the following statement by the British Post Office; *"As an exceptional arrangement during the Christmas period. Only the collection of surcharge is waived. Kindly request the sender to ascertain the correct rate of postage"*.

Eight of the countries served by the Empire Airmail Scheme of Imperial Airways produced labels to put their version of this message across to the public; in Great Britain and Southern Rhodesia they were printed in red on white paper, in Zanzibar, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika they were in black on white paper, in Mauritius crimson on white while those for South Africa were prepared by the Government Printer in Pretoria in black on salmon-coloured paper. For the Union, a total of 97,500 'stamps' were printed in vertical strips of five, rouletted horizontally.

All these Concession Labels, other than those for Zanzibar, were printed on gummed paper. In use, members of the public were urged to use these labels in place of the familiar blue airmail stickers. Godfrey went as far as to say that, in his opinion, no highly specialised collection of any of these countries could be considered complete without these *stamps*, even though they had not been granted catalogue status.

No special stamps were printed for the Sudan or for the three protectorates of South Africa – Basutoland, Swaziland and Bechuanaland – but each of these territories likewise waived the surcharge. Reuter's release also stated that the Customs authorities would not be levying duty on small Christmas gifts sent to England from South Africa and that a similar attitude would be adopted by Post Offices in the Union. The issue of such labels was not repeated in 1938. Has anyone got more information on this or use on cover?.

While each of the above-mentioned

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contributions made for a deal of interesting reading, one further article really caught my eye. It was written by EF Hurt of Harpenden in England under the rather lugubrious title of *The Place of the Local and Private Posts in the Scheme of Philately and Postal History*. Erik Hurt was born in 1890 and was a well-known authority on private postage stamps. He was, in fact, the co-editor with Maurice and Norman Williams of the *Handbook of the Private Local Posts*, a volume that I have found invaluable in the course of my own research into the so-called *Cinderella Stamps of the World*.

Hurt provides the reader of the Chronicle with a wealth of fascinating facts about such issues as the Lake Lefroy of Western Australia (shown in example 2) (which he considers rarer than the 'Lady McLeod of Trinidad'(!), the Fresno to San Francisco Cycle Mail in the USA (example 1), the Treaty Ports of China, the Circular Delivery Companies of Great Britain (example 3) and the Hotel Posts of Switzerland. He even slips in a reference to the Mount Currie Express of East Griqualand and Bakker's Express in Pretoria. While an abundance of philatelic literature is available on the likes of Newfoundland, Cyprus and the Sudan (General Gordon also merits a mention in the Chronicle), writings on 'local' philately are comparatively few and far between and an authoritative work such as this goes a considerable way towards addressing the situation. The article is, in fact, only the continuation of a story that began in the May edition of the Chronicle.

I would be very interested to hear if any reader has or knows the whereabouts of that particular magazine. In the June edition, there was also a review of Erik Hurt's latest publication, *The Illustrated Philatelic Record* and also his advertisement of material that he, as a dealer, had for sale including 'rare proofs of all Africa and the World' and also a complete sheet of the Gambia 1d of 1880 with double embossing, one of only two sheets known, a bargain at £40!

Sadly, there were no illustrations accompanying Erik Hurt's article so I am including with my review scans of three sheets from my own collection of *Issuing Authorities of the World* which include, *inter alia*, a copy of the Lake Lefroy 'Swan' with a Coolgardie cancellation, a strip of three of the retouched rhomboidal stamps of the Fresco-San Francisco issue and a selection of Great Britain's Circular Delivery Company stamps, one of which is recognisable as a forgery but is apparently used on cover. While I enjoy composing my pages the way I do, I should perhaps warn readers that it is not an acceptable format when it comes to competitive exhibiting. Even though my collection includes regular as well as local stamps, it also has a complete absence of 'non-philatelic' material and does not, therefore, comply with the rules of even the newly instituted *'Open Class'*!

(The following pages and illustrations have been adapted from the author's collection.)

North American Local Posts

Example 1.

Over the years, various local posts operated in North America, many of which fall into the category of 'Private Carriers', those services which were to supplement the national organisation between 1842 and 1862. Certain other categories are illustrated here.



The world's first strike post was established by bicycle between **Fresno and San Francisco** in July 1894 was to counteract industrial action by the American Railway Union. This copy of the 25 cent stamp shows the retouched die with the first 's' of 'Fransisco' being amended to a 'c'. It is recorded that 380 letters were carried during the two weeks duration of the strike.



Albany



New York

The U.S. Sanitary Commission of 1861 was established to attend to the welfare of Union troops during the Civil War. At certain fund-raising fairs, including **Albany** and **New York**, stamps were issued at the special post offices for use on local mail. Authoritatively, Scott's catalogue states that "they occupy a position midway between U.S. semi-official carrier stamps and the private local posts."





In 1851, the postmaster-general gave his official authorisation to a **U. S. Post Office Despatch** stamp to cover the cost of both local delivery and of mail between post offices. A less common usage was that of a collection fee for drop letters. Used in the main in Philadelphia, the service was discontinued in 1863.

Wells, Fargo & Company took over the well-known Pony Express in 1861. Mail carried by the service was transported on horseback between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California. The distance of 1,960 miles was covered in ten days. This issue appeared in July 1861 when the postal rate was halved to $1 per ½ ounce.

(e)



McGreely's Express was formed by S.C. Marcuse in 1898 at the time of the Klondyke Gold Rush to carry mail between Dyea and Skaguay (Skagway) in Alaska. The 25 cent stamps were printed in San Francisco and although the design shows a dog sledge it is believed that letters were carried by motor-boat.

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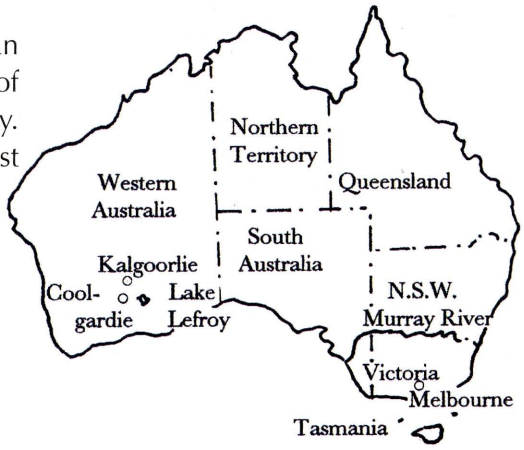
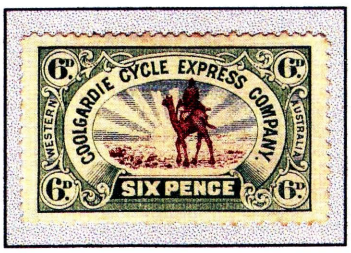
Australian Local Posts

Example 2.

Bona fide local posts are encountered only infrequently in Australian philately. This is in all probability a reflection of the low level of habitation of the island continent during the nineteenth century. However, some of those that were established are among the most glamorous examples from the world of local posts.

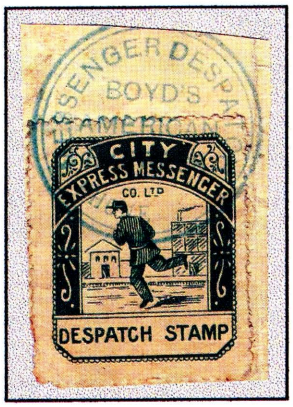






Gold was discovered in Australia in 1823 but it was 1851 before the first goldrush occurred and that in New South Wales. It was in 1892 that the focus shifted to Western Australia A post office was opened in the following year but by 1894 the need for communication with the outside world was so great that the **Coolgardie Cycle Express** was established to supplement the weekly service. Using bicycles, mail was delivered as far as 280 miles from Coolgardie. Because of the weight of gold *specie*, the cycle express was replaced by the **Coolgardie Camel Post** but both services were suppressed by the Western Australian authorities in 1896.





Fitz A. Boyd, grandson of the founder of Boyd's City Express in New York (1830 - 1883), emigrated to Melbourne in 1888 and joined the firm which was to become the **City Express Messenger Company.** Despite the fact that they were in use from 1894 to 1910, the stamps are now not particularly common. The design, rather surprisingly, owes a lot to that of the issue of 1877 for Hussey's Express, a rival of Boyd's in Downtown New York. One of four known cancellations, the strike on this copy reads 'Boyd's American Messenger Despatch'.

Towards the end of 1896, the Coolgardie Express had been replaced by the **Lake Lefroy** cycle mail. In 1897, one thousand of the stamps were lithographed on green wove paper but not more than three dozen are thought to have survived. Most of the used copies are cancelled in manuscript with 'H.M.' for the organisers, Hillier and Maskell. This, and one known strike of Kalgoorlie, may have been applied on mail for more distant destinations.

Stamps of the **Murray Steam Navigation Company** are among the least frequently encountered of Australian local posts. The service operated from 1866 to 1873 between the upper reaches of the Murray River and Tasmania. Only one copy is known on cover, the 3d used with 2d grey of Victoria dated 10 February 1869 and carried on the Paddle Steamer *Kelpie*. The rough perforation is a feature of this issue. It was felt undesirable to break up a set in this particular case.



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Circular Delivery Companies

Example 3.

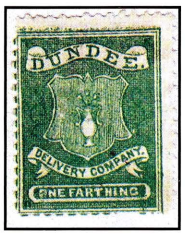
Despite the successful operation of his delivery companies in Edinburgh for about a year, Brydone was declared bankrupt in 1866. His uncle rescued him from debt but he decided to open a new service in London.







The **Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company**, above, and the **Edinburgh and Leith Circular Parcel Delivery Company** shown in a block of four, were formed by Robert Brydone, who was a printer and stationer by trade, in the Autumn of 1865.They were the first of his enterprises to issue distinctive adhesive postage stamps.



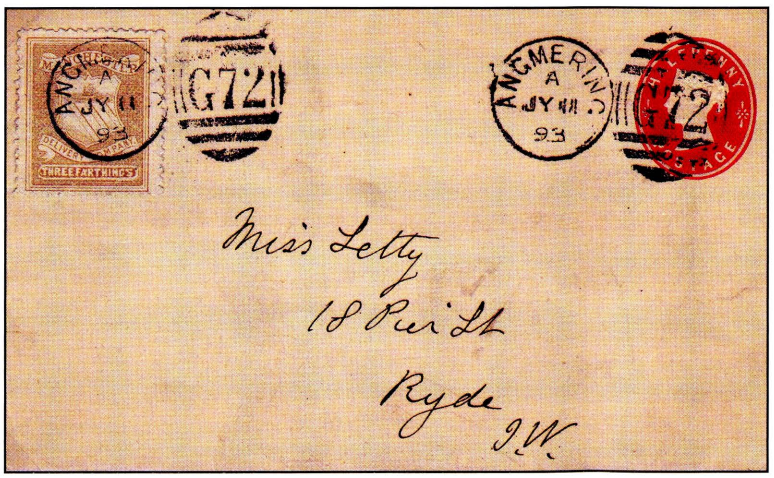
The issue of the **Dundee C.D.C.** is from the compound town issue of 1868 and is shown to be genuine by the minute letters 'TNDC' in the corners, which stand for 'The National Delivery Company'.

The stamps of the **Aberdeen C.D.C.** were issued in about May 1867 but were not put into use due to legal proceedings by the Post Office. The issues of the **Glasgow C.D.C.** appeared at the end of 1866 in both perforated and imperforate sheets, as at right.





Compound sheets that featured 9 different towns appeared in February 1868 and forgeries of them followed in July and again in 1870, 1885, 1890 and 1912. The ¾d label for Manchester Delivery Coy was drawn from the 3rd forgery and was added to a postal stationery envelope sent in July 1893 from Angmering in Sussex to Ryde on the Isle of Wight. The 'G72' duplex is also used to cancel the GB ½ d vermilion *(SG 197)* on the reverse of the cover.



'Philatelic' but uncommon usage; note absence of corner letters in the forgery.

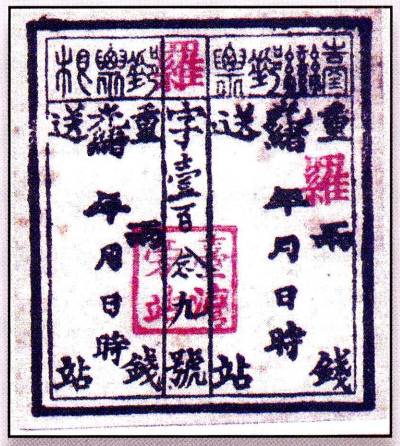
FOR SALE

'ISSUING AUTHORITIES OF THE WORLD'

CHRIS MOBSBY-RDPSA, FRPSL, RNCP.

The decision has been taken to offer this collection for sale. It is an unusual collection in that it reflects an attempt to illustrate by the means of a ***single stamp or cover****, each and every authority that has ever issued stamps for postal purposes. The collection is particularly strong in semi-official airmails, both on and off cover, Russian Zemstvos, of which seven are on cover, Great Britain including each of the College Posts, a number of better Australian and Chinese locals and Africa as a whole including the Anglo 'Boer War & several covers of the Cherifien Posts of Morocco. Genuine 'Missionary' stamps of Uganda and Madagascar are represented by certified copies.*

In total, some 3,800 authorities are represented of which some 2,200 are of a "local" nature while 380 are on cover. A large percentage of the material is mounted on exhibition pages, some 340 in all, which reflect considerable research.



Formosa (SGC4) 1894.



1901 East Highveld Express 1d on piece from the Anglo-Boer War.

Selected items are illustrated here and many more have featured in articles under 'Cinderellas' and other topics in The SA Philatelist since 2004. The collection has been valued at £ 65,300 plus and is offered for sale - you are welcome to view by making an appointment, prior to making a purchase offer.

The purchaser will need to collect the lot (14 albums + s / books etc.) from Wilderness, in the Western Cape. Contact 044 877 0234.

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UNION KGV ROLL STAMPS - A STUDY TO INDICATE THE RARITY OF SOME POSITIONAL ITEMS

by Jan van Beukering, OFS PS.

One of my favourite collecting fields are the early Union of South Africa roll stamps and production methods for these as utilized by the printers at the time. Over the years much has been said and reflected on this, but that is another story, to be told in an extensive paper at a later stage!

The *SACC* lists the KGV roll stamps in such a way that the base stamp catalogue values and those for the few so-called variants mentioned there, whether constant or occasional, can obviously not be based on the actual rarity of the material as the comparison will show. Although print numbers are not known at this stage many millions of roll stamps were issued and catalogue prices are overrated and not in line with normal stamp valuations.

Similarly even the *Union Handbook* attaches valuations to the stamps which cannot possibly relate to the actual rarity of the material, whereas *Gibbons* just lists the basic stamps and inverted watermarks.

To compare one must illustrate how the rolls were made up for the KGV definitives. The stamps used were from the same plates as for the normally issued sheets for the ½d, 1d, 1½d and 2d stamps, except that most pins for the vertical comb perforations were omitted, barring one, about ¾ way down, either side of the central vertical gutter. These isolated perforations were used to align the sheets of 240 stamps on pins on the rotating guillotining table, prior to trimming them to separate panes, 'A' and 'B' and afterwards to line up panes ready for pasting together.

At the top and bottom ends blank paper strips were attached, called 'Tops' and 'Tails'. Those used for the top end, and generally for all pane pasting, are indicated in red. Those to be used for the tail ends were specially trimmed such as to leave a glueing strip at the bottom of the panes (blue).

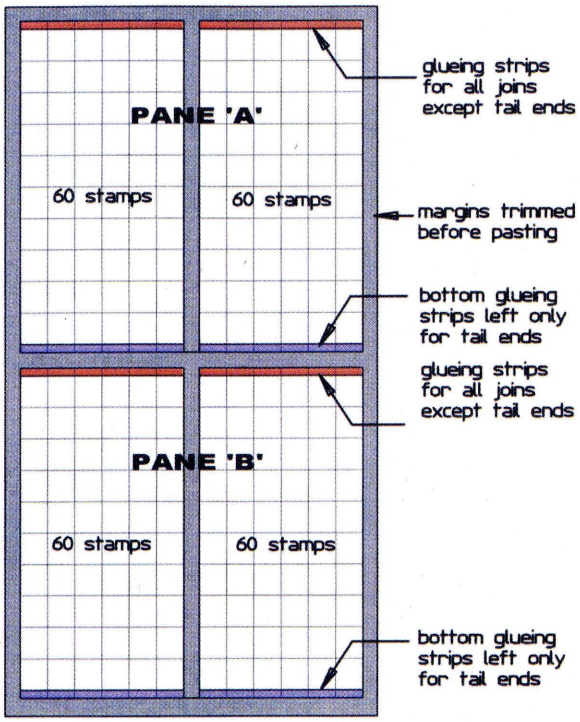
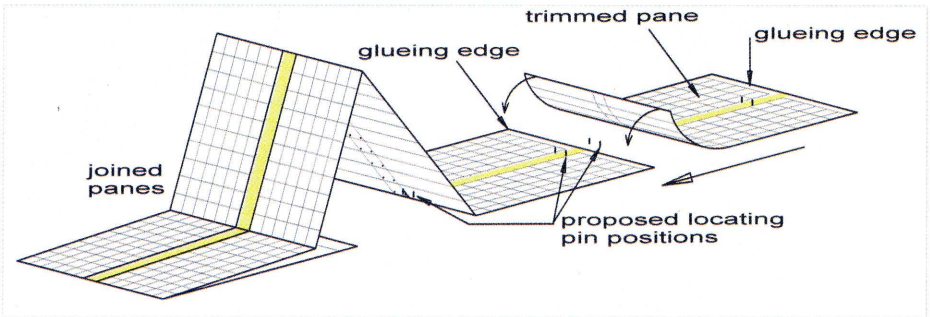


Fig. 2 Pane pasting make up

One needs to illustrate the detail of glueing strips both at the tops and bottoms of panes, as used for pasting up. The 'C' numbers indicate the vertical column positions (see fig 3).



TRIMMED PANES PASTED ONTO PANE BELOW WITH GLUEING STRIP

Fig 1 Indicating the probable process used to line up and join panes

The guillotined panes of 2 x 60 stamps each allowed for small glueing strips at the top of the panes, onto which subsequent panes were pasted until the required roll lengths were achieved, at first with 120 panes to obtain 1200 stamps per coil for use in vending machines. Later these were also issued in 500 stamp coils using 50 panes, presumably for sale over the Post Office counter or also to be dispensed by vending machines.

Contrary to belief by the novice collector, and probably also by some authors of the catalogues in question, the isolated perforations were present on the whole sheets including the horizontal gutter strip, either side of the vertical gutter in columns 6 and 7, and thus there were many more 'isolated' perforations, left or right, than previously thought, in fact one out of every six roll stamps had these either left or right.

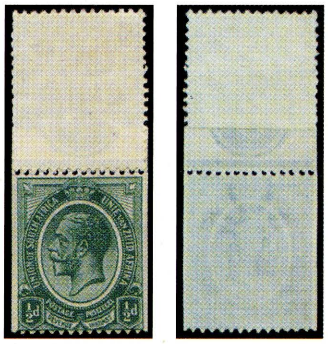


Fig. 4 Top of roll with control no.



Fig. 4 Top of roll with C6 arrow

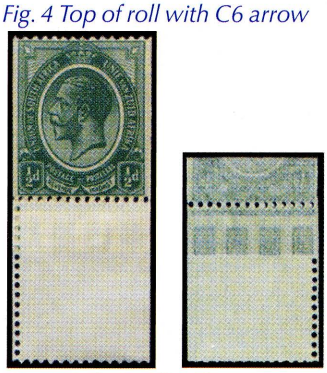


Fig. 4 Tail of roll with gutter

After pasting up the panes into rolls, they were cut into stamp widths by rotary cutter, which, if exactly positioned, would halve the perforation holes either side of the vertical gutter, which was discarded. If out of register the "complete isolated perforation holes" could show – or not depending which sides they were 'miscut'! This latter is not to be considered a constant 'variety'.

As the trimmed panes were randomly chosen, either could be used in any position and, as in fig. 5 where 'A' panes were used at a roll 'Top' and directly below as intermediate pane. The above illustration indicates the use of either pane 'A' or 'B' for the 'Tops' and 'Tails' and likewise the intermediate panes could be 'A' or 'B'.

As can be noted the individual 'arrows' on the 'Top' and 'Tail' ends of the rolls, each quite distinctive, are now the rarest of the variants in the roll make-up, an average of approximately 1 in 10,000!

Total stamps to make up twelve rolls of 500 roll stamps : 6,000.

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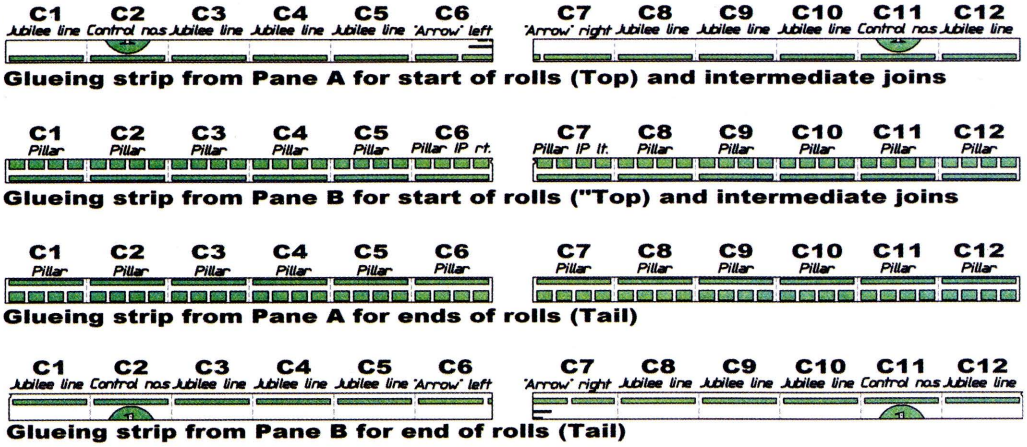

Fig. 3 The 'C' numbers indicate the vertical column positions.

and excludes any non-constant varieties which could occur during the paper production, initial printing, trimming, perforating and roll slitting processes. Thus the varieties which presented themselves on normal stamp sheets would / could also be present on roll stamps. These count for seemingly endless variety possibilities from watermark varieties, printing errors, erroneous perforating resulting in 'reversed' perforations, etc.



Fig.5 Top of row C6 strip of 10 with arrow joint to top as well as on stamp no. 10. Note all stamps with IP's. The top margin does not show isolated perfs as the stamp sheets were fed bottom margin first under the perforation comb.

POSITIONAL REFERENCE CODES
PANE "A" MARGIN AT TOP AND TAIL

A	top marginal jubilee join	C1, C3-5, C8-10 & C12
B	top marginal control join	C2 , C11
C	top marginal arrow join	C6
D	top marginal arrow join	C7
E	bottom marg. jubilee join	C1, C3-5, C8-10 & C12
F	bottom marg. control join	C2 , C11
G	bottom marg. Arrow join	C6
H	bottom marg. Arrow join	C7
I	intermediate jubilee join	C1, C3-5, C8-10 & C12
J	intermediate control join	C2 , C11

INTERMEDIATE PANES

K	intermediate arrow join	C6
L	intermediate arrow join	C7
M	intermediate gutter join	C1-C5, C8-12
N	intermediate gutter join	C6 IP right side
O	intermediate gutter join	C7 IP left side
P	general stamps	
Q	Isolated perf. stamps	C6 IP right side
R	Isolated perf. stamps	C7 IP left side

PANE "B" GUTTER AT TOP AND TAIL

S	top gutter join	C1-C5, C7-C12
T	top gutter join with IP right	C6
U	top gutter join with IP left	C7
V	bottom gutter join (no IP)	C1-C12

fig. 6 Table indicating position codes and distribution of various stamps in the roll make-up

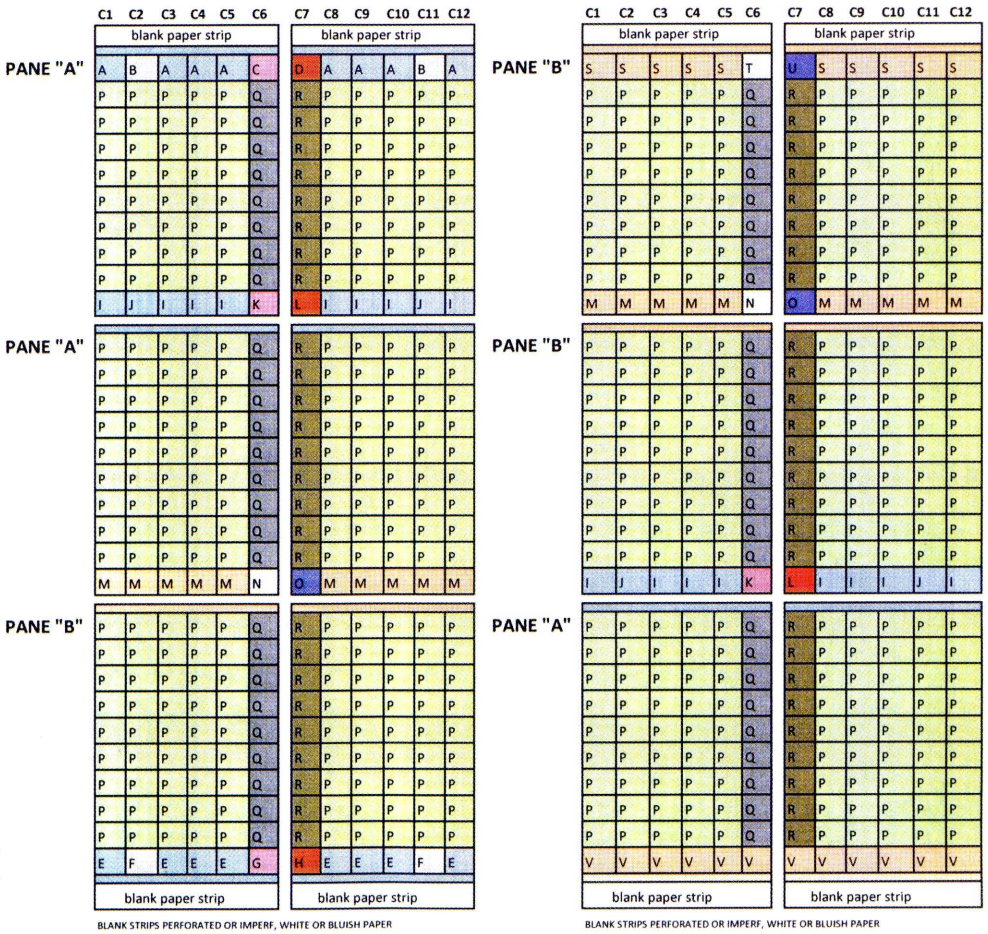

fig. 7 Tables indicating 'gutter' or 'pillar' joins

Top and Tail end stamps with blanks attached to the glueing strips from Pane 'A' - 12 stamps, which can be more closely identified as 'jubilee' line joins (8), Control number join (2) and so-called 'arrow' joins – columns 6 and 7, of which there were only one each making up the 12 total.

If from Pane 'B', 10 stamps would show 'gutter' or 'pillar' joins in columns 1 – 5 and columns 8 to 12. Those from column 6 and 7 will also show gutter or pillar joins but with the IP remnants, also in the gutter glueing strips, respectively right (C6) or left (C7), comprising 1 each out of the row of 12. This is due to the perforation comb also applied to the stamp sized horizontal gutter between rows 10 and 11.

Similarly the total stamps to make up twelve rolls of 1200 roll stamps : 14,400.

However, there still remained only one 'Top' and one 'Tail' strip on each larger roll, and the quantity of the individual 'Top' and 'Tail' join types remain the same, making them even rarer. I have, as yet, to establish if there are distinctive arrow differences for each control number to determine from which printing they originated.

The above only indicates positional rarity

Variations directly resulting from erroneous roll stamp production processes include lateral miscuts during slitting, repaired stamp rolls, as well as horizontal miscuts from ill spaced cutting blades in stamp vending machines.

The varieties mentioned above demand another chapter on the KGV roll stamps and provide for many hours of pleasure searching for these elusive items.

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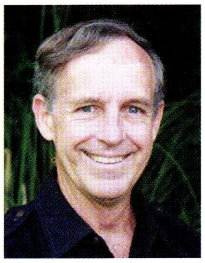

Phun with postmarks

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

Voges oh Voges!

What makes a collector happy? Obviously finding something that has been unseen or unheard of or unknown. And the thrill cannot be explained and needs to be experienced personally. In the last couple of weeks two such events occurred.

The first one was finding a postmark of a postal agency that was only operational between 1904 and 1912. The agency is Voges in the Cape, with mother post office Piquetberg. Figure 1 shows a card written at Mamre on 9 December 1911, date stamped at Mamre on what appears to be 12 December, Malmesbury 12 December and Piquetberg 13 December, before arriving at Voges on 16 December 1911. This is the first recorded date stamp of Voges, a single circle which is bare at the base. What makes this card even more interesting is that it is an Orange River Colony card used interprovincially. The message on the reverse is in German and I was unable to decipher the handwriting.



Figure 1. Postcard from Mamre to Voges.

The other find was a ZAR negative sealer used to seal the mail or money bag. It is normally not used for cancelling the stamps. The cover shown in Figure 2 was recently offered on Paul van Zeyl's monthly Pretoria auction. The negative sealer is inscribed POSTKANTOOR GROOT SUIKERBOSCHKOP and ZAR at base and a post horn in the centre. This postal agency opened on 1.12.1887 and closed in 1895. The illustrated cover is thus outside the operational dates, but shows a rare impression of the negative sealer which had not been recorded previously. The agency had Lijdenburg and Middelburg, Transvaal as mother offices at different times. The address suggests that someone in the vicinity found the sealer and applied it sometime during the 1950s. This sealer may thus still be in one of the post offices in the region. For ZAR/Transvaal collectors this is a huge find. A squared octagon postmark has also been recorded for this agency.

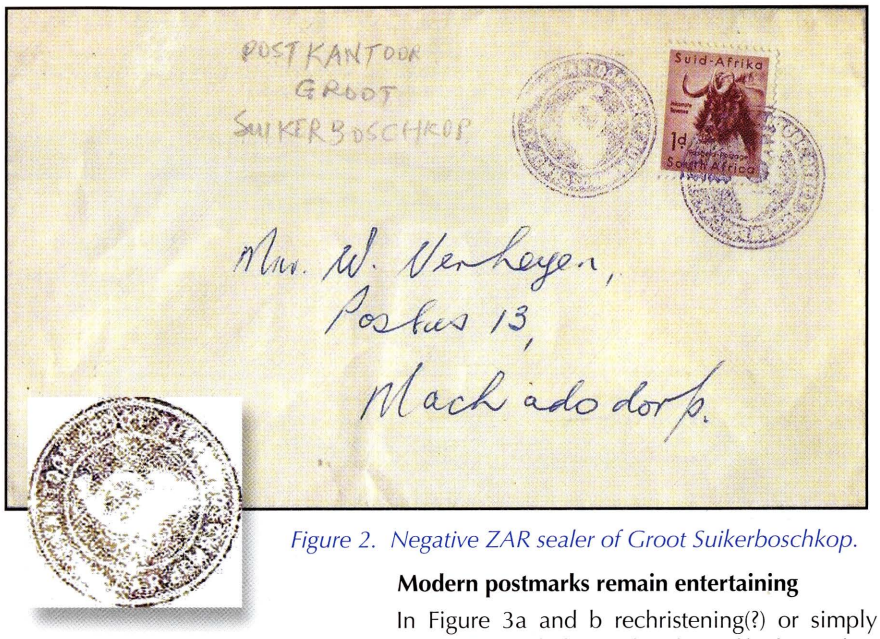

Figure 2. Negative ZAR sealer of Groot Suikerboschkop.

Modern postmarks remain entertaining

In Figure 3a and b rechristening(?) or simply misreading of the order for self-inking date stamps are shown. Arboretum, in Bloemfontein, shows the missing R in the name. Greenacres, in Port Elizabeth, has R15 instead of RLS (Registered Letter Section) in case you were wondering what the R15 was supposed to cover.

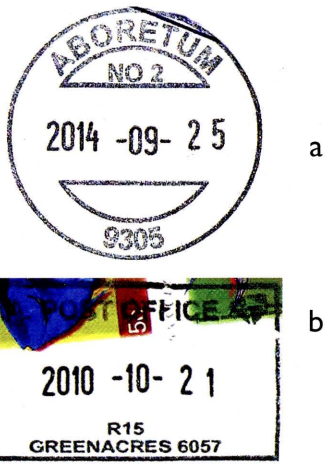

Figure 3. Misspelt date stamps of Arboretum and Greenacres.

Posgeskiedenis bly 'n opwindende stokperdjie, veral wanneer voorheen onbekende materiaal op die mark kom. Die materiaal wat in hierdie rubriek verskyn is ouer as 100 jaar in die geval van Voges, en ouer as 50 jaar in die geval van die negatiewe seël.

Ek kry maar selde terugvoer oor hierdie rubriek, en waardeer met opregte dank die bydrae van Gert Schoeman van Leraatsfontein oor die Parlement-rubriek van Augustus 2014. Hy het 'n afdruk van die 1935 registrasie kasjet gestuur en daarop gewys dat dit effens verskil van die getekende weergawe. Let wel dat met die drukproses mag daar klein veranderinge aan die groottes voorkom. Hy het ook 'n afdruk gestuur van die Y2K stempel (nr 12) sonder 'n datum. Hierdie stempel is ook in die Oktober 2014 SAP bespreek. Laastens het hy ook nuwe gebruikdatums verskaf. Baie dankie, Gert.

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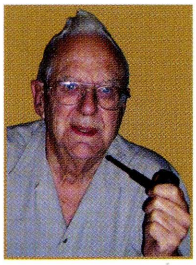
Revisiting the Typographed Roll Stamp Cylinder Transpositions

by M.J.H. Tonking, SA Stamp Study Circle.



In the printing of the typographed roll stamps two printing cylinders were used. One, the INTERIOR cylinder for the vignettes and the other, the EXTERIOR cylinder, for the frames.

The cylinders used for the roll stamp printings, unlike those used for the sheet stamps, had no blank rows at the top and bottom of the sheet. This created a problem for the Government Printer, as to ensure that any particular row of vignettes was always correctly mated with the same row of frames, both cylinders needed to have marginal reference marks which the printer needed to ensure coincided prior to printing.

Unfortunately the printer did not always make these marks with the result that when printing, cylinder transpositions occurred in which the vignettes and frames were not in the correct relative positions. Under these circumstances it was pure chance that the printing cylinders were correctly aligned.

This appeared to be of little consequence to the Government Printer as he was only interested in printing stamps and since this did not affect the finished product, it was left to the philatelist to worry about the various cylinder transpositions.

In 1943 the roll stamps of R12 were also issued in sheet form, being the first time that roll stamps surplus to requirements were sold in sheet form. Each sheet contained 240 stamps in 20 rows of 12. It was then realised that cylinder transposition had occurred.

Examination of the typographed rolls stamp issues revealed that many such transpositions had occurred, some of which are very rare.

RECORDED CYLINDER TRANSPOSITIONS

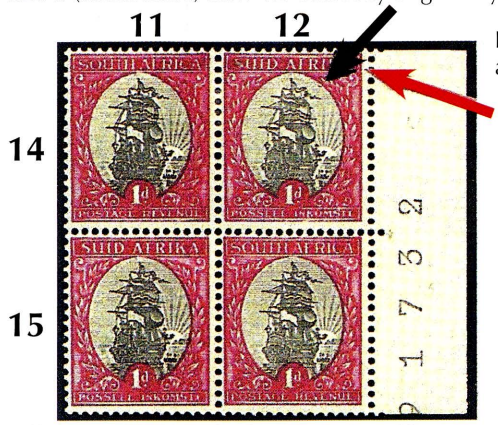
- 1d. R12 1934
  1row, 5 rows, 6 rows, 10 rows.
- 1d. R12 S (sheet issue) 1943
  5 rows, 10 rows.
- ½d. R14 S (sheet issue) 1935
  1st printing 1 row,
  2nd printing 5 rows,
  3rd printing 1 row.
- ½d. R17 1940 1 row.
- ½d. R17 S (sheet issue) 1940
  many different transpositions.
- 1d R20 1940
  1 row, 3 rows.
- 1d R20 S (sheet issue) 1940
  3 rows.

References:

- *Stamps of the Union of South Africa* - SJ Hagger RDPSA. 1986.
- The South African Stamp Study Circle Newsletter - various.

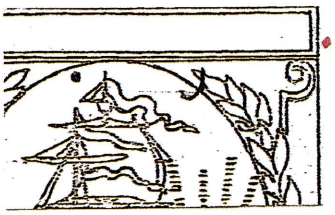
R20 Example of Cylinder Transposition

R20 S (Sheet Issue) Row 12 Correctly aligned cylinders.



Row 14/12 Vignette Flaw, 'hooked line' and black dot on Afrikaans stamp.

Frame flaw -tiny red dot in right gutter.



Roll Issue row 12 Cylinders transposed by one row.





Row 15/12 Vignette Flaw, 'hooked line' and black dot now on English stamp.

Row 14/12 - Frame flaw - tiny red dot in right gutter.

Row 9: Interior and Exterior Cylinders, Roll 12, in correct relative postions.



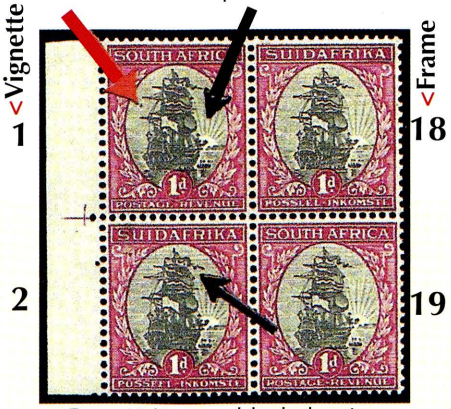
Row 18/9 - Red dot below yardarm.



Narrow gutter between rows 20 and 21 with row 21 frame offset to left and darker colour.

R12S Example of Cylinder Transposition

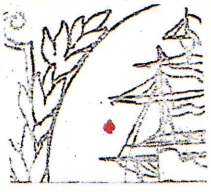
Rows 1 and 2 Cylinders Interior and Exterior Cylinders 5 rows out of step.



Row 18/1 - two black dots in sunray.
Red Cross between rows 18 and 19



Row 18/1 - Red dots above lower yardarm.



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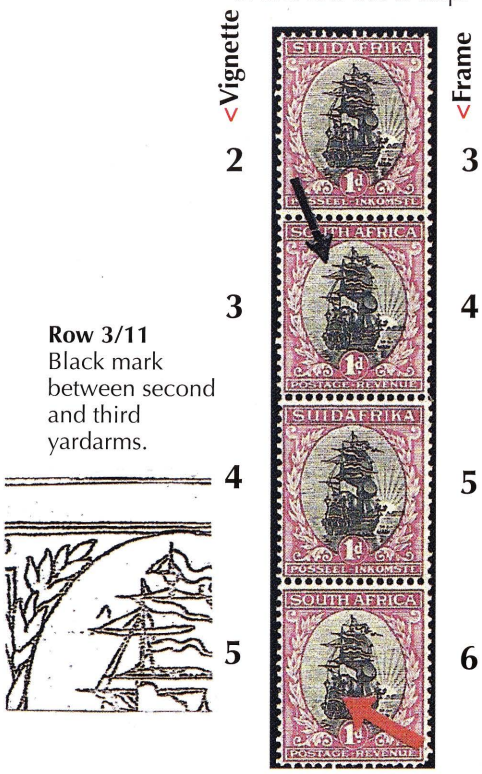
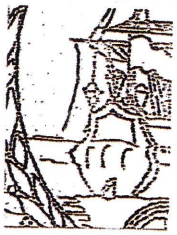
Roll 12 examples of Cylinder Transpositions

Row 11: Interior and Exterior Cylinders in one row out of step.

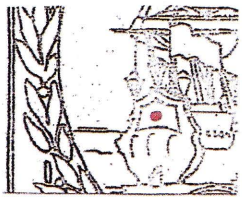


Row 3/11 Black mark between second and third yardarms.

Row 5/12 Black line by ship's stern.



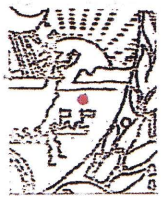
Row 6/11 Red dot on ship's stern.



Row 12: Interior and Exterior Cylinders six rows out of step.



Row 12/12 Red dot above boat.



Row 13/12 Tiny red dot above 'C' in Africa.



Faroe Islands Stamps

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EUROPA 2015: Old Toys
The theme of the 2015 EUROPA issue is "Old Toys". The stamps feature a rag doll and a hornhoop (a circular hoop made of rams' horns).

The Faroese National Flag 75 Years
In May 2014, the Faroese mountaineer Arne Vatnhamar unfurled the Faroese flag on Mount Everest's peak, as the first Faroese ever.





FO 810-811





FO 812-813

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SA2015

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Return To Sender

A study of cancels and notations

by Mervyn Wood FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg mervwood@global.co.za



On 27 March 1973, a registered cover was posted by sea mail at Przemyśl Post Office, code 37.700, in Poland to Sunnyside, Pretoria, R.S.A. Przemyśl is a city in south-eastern Poland.

On arrival in Pretoria on 30 April 1973 it was 'found open or damaged' and was repaired by the Postal Authorities. It had probably been pilfered, because registered letters often contained bank notes so it needed resealing.

All four sides of the envelope have been opened. Both short ends have been clean cut with a knife or blade. Only the brown Post Office label holds the cover together.

The cover is soiled after being handled by many. It has a Bronberg back-stamp. This was probably a mail sorting depot in the Sunnyside area of Pretoria). This cancel is dated 2 May.

The red ink inscriptions in so-called 'postman code' probably describe the reason for non-delivery. Procedure dictated that a written advice had to be mailed to the same address requesting that the letter be collected. These three dates – 4,9 and 16 May – were recorded in the three-lined red rubber stamp impression.

There probably was a numerical error in the address and the letter was then deemed undeliverable. So the undeliverable empty envelope was sent to Cape Town and was 'Returned to Sender' on 18 June – see Cape Town RLO backstamp.

There is an indistinct Polish cancel with only the letters 'RSZAV' visible.
The last readable circular date stamp is Rzeszow, Poland - 16 July 1973.

Much ado about nothing? Maybe, but there is also a fun side to philately

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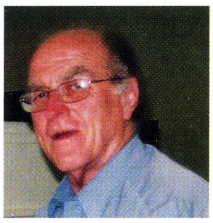
FIELD POST OFFICE 3 AT THE RAND SHOW, JOHANNESBURG, 2014 AND 2015

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and S.A. Military Mail Study Group



As in 2011, 2012 and 2013 the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was a major exhibitor at the Johannesburg Rand Show from 18 to 28 April 2014 and 3 to 12 April 2015. 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. (See 'Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2011' in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 87, No. 5, October 2011; 'Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2012' in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 88, No. 3, June 2012; 'Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2013' in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 90, No. 1, February 2014.)

The SANDF display included the functional FPO 3 which falls under 11 Field Postal Unit. A special 'Rand Show' datestamp was commissioned in 2011 and was again used during the period of each of the shows to date, which is illustrated on the covers and postcards in Figures 1 and 2 for 2014 and Figures 3 and 4 for 2015. The covers were privately produced and the postcards were produced by the staff of FPO 3 and handed out to visitors as a souvenir.

The first days of the show and of FPO 3 functioning were 18 April 2014 and 3 April 2015 which were both Good Friday, which is a public holiday in South Africa. Again, this was perhaps the only functioning Post Office open in South Africa on this day.

For the record, the datestamp is 9-pointed with a maximum diameter of 29mm. It incorporates the 11 Field Postal Unit emblem at the top between the words 'RAND' and 'SHOW' with the alphanumerical date in the middle and 'FPO3' at the bottom.

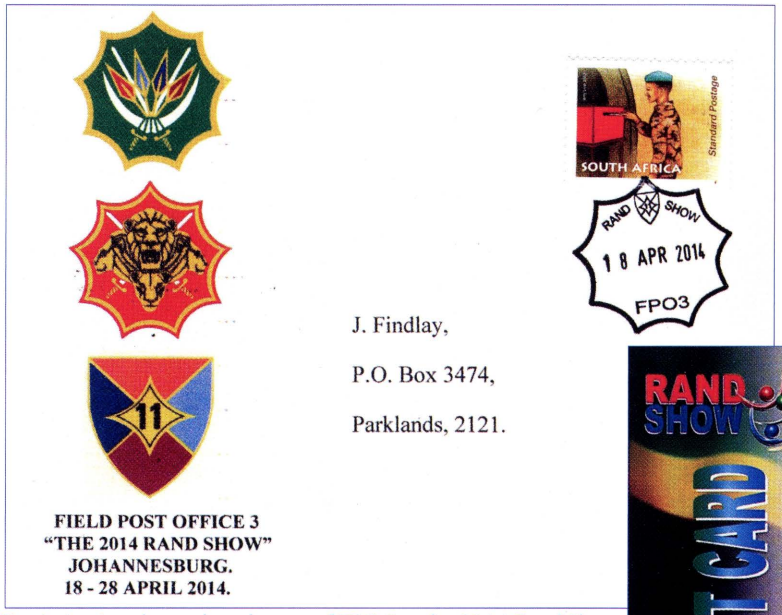


Fig. 1: A privately produced cover of FPO 3 at the 2014 Rand Show.

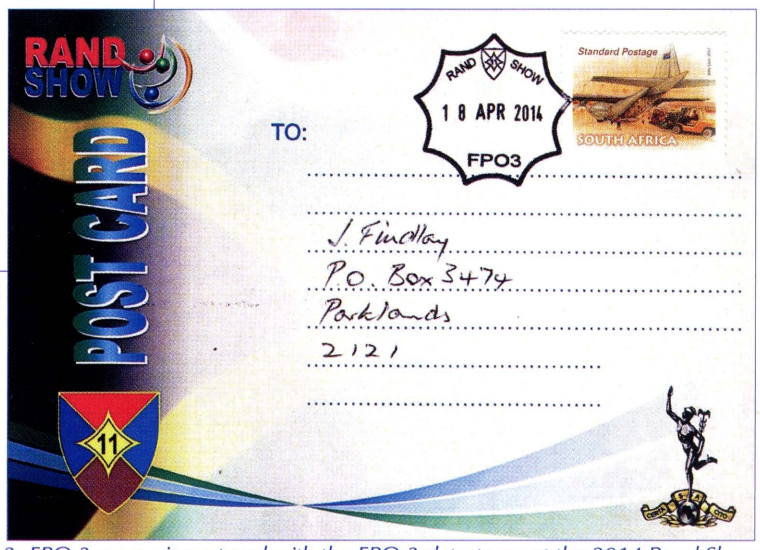


Fig. 2: FPO 3 souvenir postcard with the FPO 3 datestamp at the 2014 Rand Show.



Fig. 3: Part of a privately produced cover of FPO 3 at the 2015 Rand Show.



Fig. 4: The FPO 3 souvenir postcard (front) with the FPO 3 datestamp at the 2015 Rand Show.

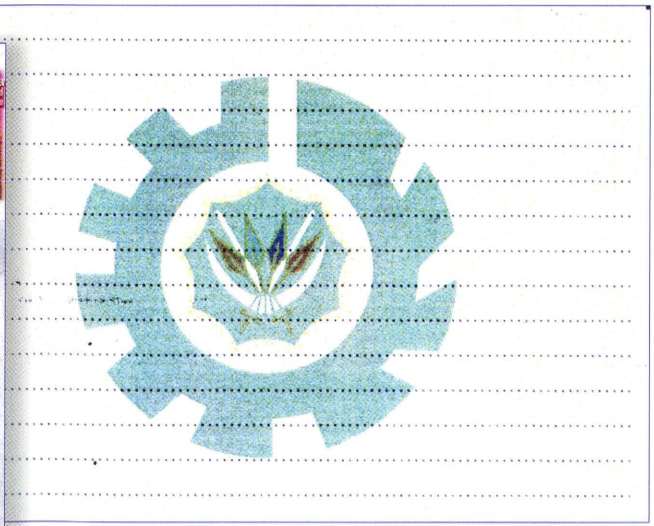


Fig. 5: FPO 3 souvenir postcard (reverse) at the 2015 Rand Show.

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Three Ships and a Letter

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



The letter illustrated in Figure 1 was written at sea, in the South Atlantic, approximately halfway between Tristan da Cunha and Cape Town, on 7 May 1820, by John Claridge to his father in England. Claridge was an officer serving on the *Duke of York*, a three-masted sailing ship chartered to the East India Company for a voyage to Madras and China. The master was Captain AH Campbell who had been sworn in by the Court of Directors at the East India House in London to command the *Duke of York* on 1 January 1820. At 1,327 tons, the *Duke of York* was one of the largest ships ever chartered to the Company, and was well provisioned with livestock, supplies and water when she departed from London on 8 March, 1820.



Figure 1: Claridges's letter written at sea in the Cape Basin

By early May, the *Duke of York* had made good progress, sailing down the West African coast, then steering south west across the equator, almost as far as Brazil in order to catch the strong winds of the 'roaring forties' which could carry her past the Cape and into the Indian Ocean. Campbell had decided there was no need to call at Table Bay for fresh water or provisions, and those crew members who wanted to write home, in order to assure their loved ones that all was well, therefore anticipated no opportunity to do so until they reached India in approximately four months' time.

On 7 May, however, another sailing ship was spotted on the horizon, travelling from the south west towards Southern Africa. As the two ships came closer, each captain decided that the other was neither a pirate nor a threat, and Campbell ordered a long boat to be lowered to enable the captain of the smaller ship to be brought aboard the *Duke of York*. After an exchange of greetings and news, the two captains probably shared a meal, and at half past seven, John Claridge wrote as follows:



Figure 2: 1831 from Cape Town with INDIA LETTER / DEVONPORT cachet

"*Duke of York*, Lat 34. Long 6

My dear Father

I hope you will excuse my writing in this slovenly manner. I should not do it were the Letter Bag not being Sealed. I am quite well and have been the whole of the Voyage which has been pleasant hitherto as we have not had bad Weather. I send this by a South Sea Whaler who will put in at the Cape.

I am my dear Father
Your dutiful Son
P.J. Claridge

7 May Sunday half past Seven"

We can be reasonably certain that the 'South Sea Whaler' was the *Pickering*, an American ship, which docked in Table Bay on the first of June, 1820. The *Cape Almanac* records the *Pickering*, captained by Samuel Edes, as the only whaler to visit Table Bay between May



Figure 3: 1837 from Somerset West with INDIA LETTER / DEAL cachet

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Figure 4: 1840 from Cape Town with INDIA LETTER / LYMINGTON cachet

and August in 1820. Edes had left Boston three years earlier on a sealing expedition. He visited the Falkland Islands en-route to South Georgia, recording that *"After reconnoitering about the Falkland Islands, without finding seal enough to warrant us in leaving a gang there, we ran over to Staten Land, and Tierra del Fuego …"*, and then on to the South Sandwich Islands, Gough Islands, Prince Edward Islands (where a sealing gang was left for two years), Iles Crozet and Iles Kerguelen.

After docking in Table Bay, Edes enquired about ships departing for England, and learned that the *Sarah*, captained by James Norton who had until recently been employed by the East India Company, was preparing to leave. Claridge's letter was not entrusted to the Cape Post Office, but handed directly to James Norton, probably still contained in the sealed letter bag that Edes had collected from the *Duke of York*. The *Sarah* departed Table Bay for London on 4 June 1820, breaking bulk at Deal on 21 August, where a partial strike of the DEAL / INDIA LETTER handstamp was applied to Claridge's letter after it was handed to the post master.

The India Letter Handstamps

For most of its life, the powerful East India Company battled with the British Post Office over charges for letters carried on Company ships. The Company argued that since it had been granted a monopoly over trade with all countries to the east of the Cape of Good Hope and to the west of the Straits of Magellan, it therefore had the sole right to carry the mails between this region and the British Isles, without interference from the Post Office. In the early years, the Company required that all letters from India be carried in boxes addressed to the Company's directors, who then charged from 2/6 to 10/- per letter for private delivery by the Company's employees in the London area. This 'private' postal service provided the Company and its directors with a considerable income, which was defended on the grounds that it incurred no cost whatsoever to the Post Office.

In 1819, following much political lobbying and the failure of the costly and inefficient India Packet Letter service, a new charging system acceptable both to the East India Company and the Post Office was introduced. With effect from 12 July 1819, the charge to be levied on ship letters received from the Cape and India was reduced by half, from 8d to 4d, for a letter not exceeding three ounces. In addition to this 'landing charge', both ship letters and India letters were charged the standard inland postage rate from the port of arrival. On this basis, the charge due on Claridge's letter was assessed in Deal as one shilling, comprising 4d for an India Letter, plus 8d inland postage from Deal to London.

Since India Letters were now charged at a different rate to other ship letters, it was necessary to introduce special INDIA LETTER handstamps to enable identification of letters subject to the lower 'landing charge'. Distinctive handstamps were therefore issued to all British ports at which India Letters might be landed. As illustrated in Figures 2, 3 and 4, these handstamps were often applied in red ink. Although the privileged India Letter Rate was abolished in January 1840, some port post offices continued to use the handstamp even though it no longer served any useful purpose. An example of the DEAL handstamp applied to a letter from the Cape as late as July 1843 is shown in Figure 5.

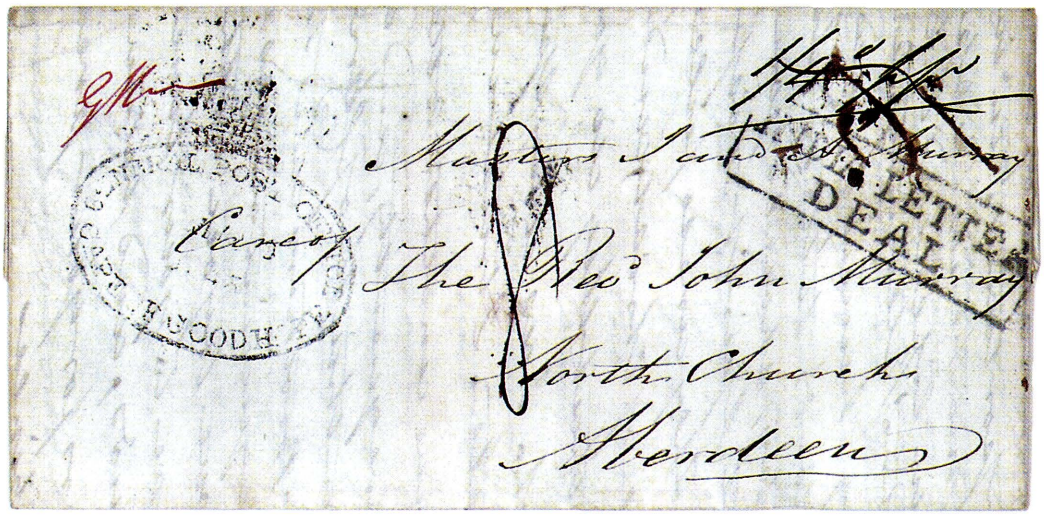

Figure 5: 1843 from Graaf Reinet with INDIA LETTER / DEAL

Bibliography

- A. Farrington, 1999, *Catalogue of East India Company Ships' Journals and Logs, 1600-1834,* The British Library, London
- AW Robertson, 1955-64, *A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles,* reprinted by James Bendon, Limassol, Cyprus, 1993
- Cape Almanacs, Lloyds Shipping Lists, *Falklandstimeline.wordpress.com* (internet site)

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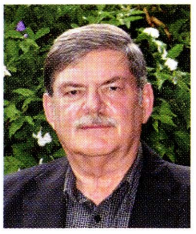

THE USE OF POSTAGE STAMPS AS REVENUE STAMPS IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA,
Pretoria Philatelic Society.

The Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911

Introduction

Great Britain was one of the first countries to issue in 1881 a dual purpose adhesive, the 1d lilac POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE stamp. The shortened form 'Postage and Revenue' appeared on low value British definitive stamps from the 1880s to the 1960s. Also in other countries many stamps bear the inscription 'Postage & Revenue' indicating that they are valid for both postage and revenue purposes.

The same practice was followed in Zululand for the 1894-96 definitive issue where all the values ½d to £5 were inscribed POSTAGE-REVENUE. In the case of the Natal Colony all the values of the 1902-03 issue from ½d to £20 were also inscribed POSTAGE-REVENUE. Also in the case of the Transvaal Colony King Edward VII issue of 1902-03, the values from ½d to 2s were inscribed POSTAGE-REVENUE. (fig.1)



Fig. 1: Transvaal 1d stamp inscribed Postage/Revenue, dated 3 November 1910, used during the Union period as a revenue stamp on a stock bond certificate..

The meaning of this inscription is simple – not only were these stamps valid for the payment of postage but they could also be used to pay certain small taxes or duties. This article will mainly focus on postage stamps used as revenue stamps but also the link between postage and revenue stamps.

A similar practice was followed in the Union of South Africa that was formed in 1910. The stamp duties payable under the laws of the Union upon various classes of instruments and the provisions relating to the payment of such duties, were contained in the Stamp Duties and Fees Act, 1911 (Act No. 30 of 1911) as amended. Various *Stamp Duty Handbooks* were published throughout the years to place before the public in convenient form a summary of the law and practice applicable to each class of instrument. Instrument in this case means any written document. 'Stamp' in terms of this law meant a stamp impressed by means of a die or an adhesive stamp.

The three lower denominations of the 'King's Head' series namely the ½d, 1d and 1½d values carry the words 'REVENUE' and 'INKOMST' in the lower ribbons between the value tablets (figs. 2 and 3). The 1½d 'postage/revenue' stamp was introduced on 23 August 1920 because the rate for inland letters and those for British possessions was increased as of 10 May 1920 from 1d to 1½d. The 1½d stamp is seldom seen used for revenue purposes.

Hereafter all the Union ½d and 1d stamps both definitive and commemorative stamps were valid for postage and revenue purposes. The 'Voortrekker' issues of the 1d stamp issued for the Voortrekker Memorial

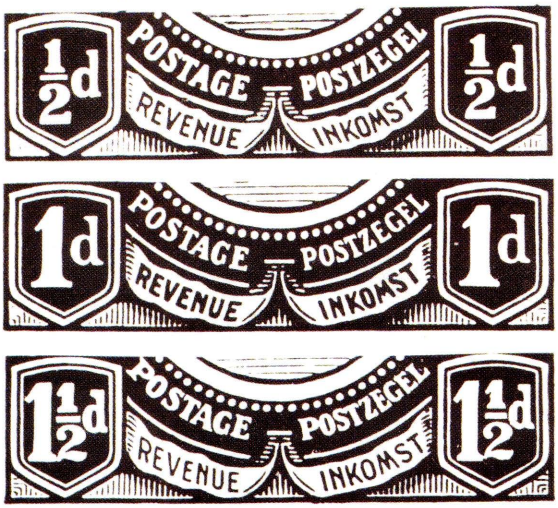

Fig. 2: Enlargements of portions of the die proofs of the ½d, 1d and 1½d Unions King's Heads illustrating the inscriptions 'REVENUE' and 'INKOMST' to indicate that these stamps were also valid for revenue purposes.

Fund, 1933 and 1936 and the ½d and 1d Voortrekker Memorial Fund and Centenary issued in 1938, had no inscription that they were also valid for revenue purposes.

It was however indicated in the *Stamp Duties and Fees Handbook* that such stamps could be used to denote the payment only to the extent to which they are available for postage purposes.

As was indicated many Union stamps bear the inscription 'Postage and Revenue'. This gives us a clue to some more similarities, at a general level, between the two classes or types of stamps – namely postage and revenue. First the same printers were used starting with De La Rue, Waterlow and Sons Ltd, Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd and later the Government Printer in Pretoria.

In some cases, one will find common design elements, printing processes and plate and production varieties. A more serious commonality between postage and revenue stamps is that the material is in one sense of the word, money, and represents one of a government's sources of income (figs.4 – 8)

Furthermore, stocks of revenue stamps were also kept at most post offices throughout the Union. This is why it could happen that postage stamps were used as revenue stamps and vice versa.

It was announced in terms of Government Notice No. 1399 dated 6 September 1913 that the following postage and revenue stamps were issued on 1 September 1913 and were available for sale at all Post Offices throughout the Union of South Africa: 'Postage Stamps: ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1s, 2s6d, 5s, 10s; Revenue stamps: 3d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 2s6d, 5s, 10s, £1, £5, £10, and £25.

The following was reported in *The SA Philatelist* in March 1939: "SWA



Fig. 3: Enlargement of the die proof of the 1d Union King's Head dated '22 NOV 12' illustrating the inscription 'REVENUE' and 'INKOMST'.

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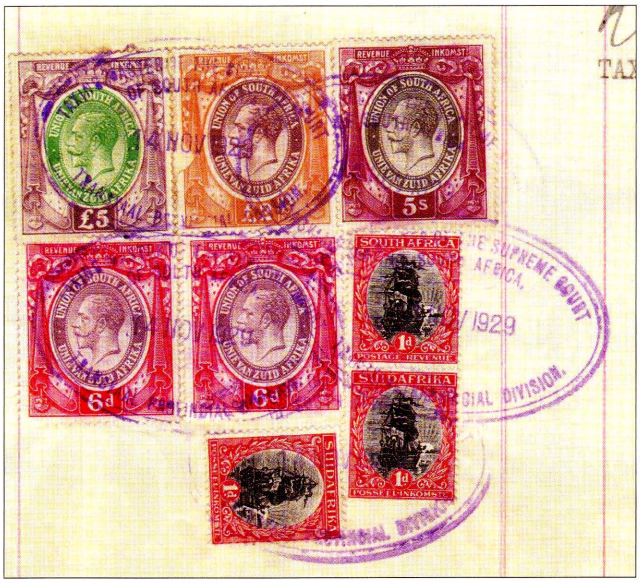

Fig. 4: Postage/revenue 1d stamps used with revenue stamps and cancelled 14 November 1929. It was indicated in the Stamp Duties Handbook that because the Union half-penny and penny stamps are valid for 'postage and revenue' purposes they could be used to denote duty on any instrument.

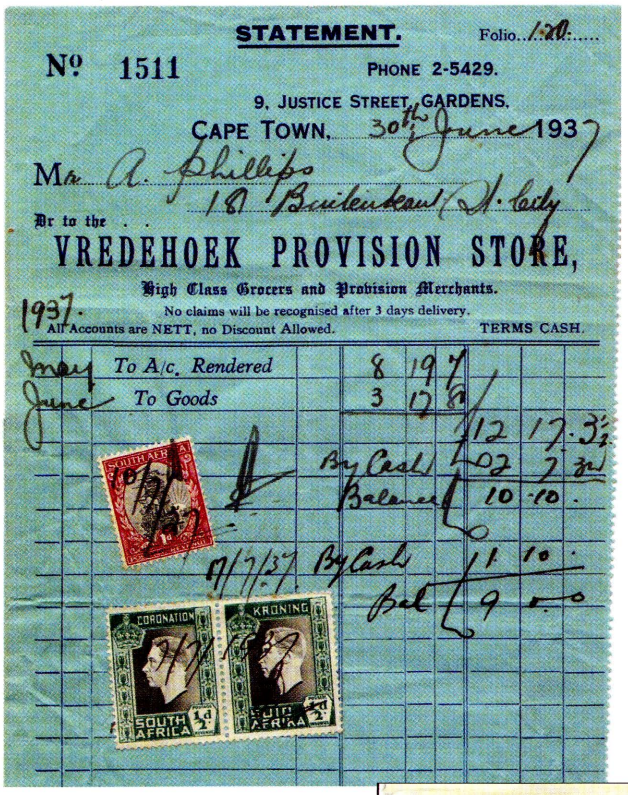

Fig. 5: Two half-penny stamps of the Coronation issue of 1937 used as revenue stamps together with a 1d stamp. On this statement dated 30 June 1937, the 1d stamp was cancelled on 10 July 1937 and the two half-penny stamps defaced in the correct way on 17 July 1937.

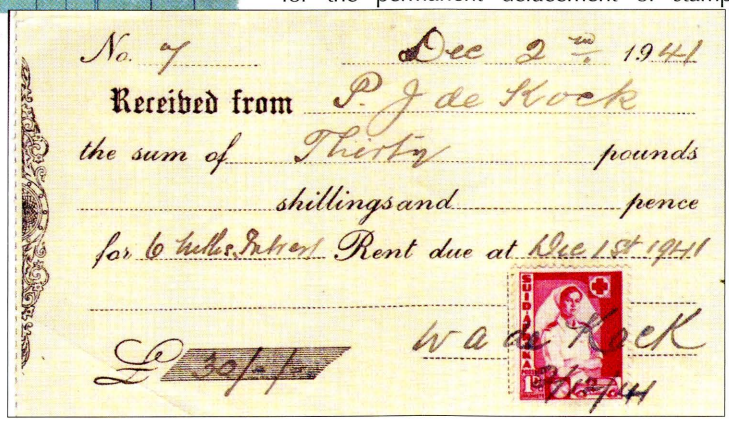

Fig. 6: The War Effort 1d stamp inscribed 'Posseël / Inkomste' correctly used as a revenue stamp on a receipt dated 2 December 1941.

REVENUES USED POSTALLY. Mr. W. Fraser records in *Stamp Collecting* that a shortage of 5s postage stamps at Windhoek last December was met by the use of Fiscal stamps as a stopgap. These are, of course, the ordinary postage stamps overprinted in red with 'Revenue' or 'Inkomste'. The high value stamps are used mainly on parcels of furs going overseas."

Manner of Denoting Payment of Duty

In the terms of the use of stamps in payment of duty, the payment of any duty or fee payable by law shall, save as is otherwise in the Stamp Duties and Fees Act specially provided, be denoted by means of an adhesive stamp or stamps of not less than the required value, affixed to the instrument chargeable and defaced as prescibed by the Act provided that:

- In the case of any instrument liable to the duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting the duty;
- Payment of duty may be denoted by means of impressed stamps in respect of 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 class of instrument to which the Minister of Finance may from time to time by notice in the gazette apply this proviso....

In the Fourth Edition of the *Stamp Duties Handbook* issued in 1940 the following notes regarding the use of postage stamps as revenue stamps were added:

"**Note 1**: Under proviso (a) to sub-section (1) of section six, a postage stamp of, or exceeding, the requisite value may be used to denote duty on any instrument liable to the duty of one penny.

Note 2: 'Voortrekker' or other commemoration issues of postage stamps may be used for the purpose of denoting payment of duty of one penny referred to in the above note. It should be noted, however, that such stamps can be used to denote the payment only to the extent to which they are available for postage purposes. Any such stamps which are available for postage purposes only to the extent of two-thirds or one-half of their their face value would be similarly restricted in their use for revenue purposes.

Note 3: As the Union half-penny and penny stamps are 'postage and revenue' stamps, a sufficient number thereof may be used to denote the duty on any instrument.

Except as indicated in Notes 1 – 3 above, postage stamps may not be used for payment of stamp duties. Instruments so stamped are invalid and subject to the penalties payable on unstamped instruments.

Defacement of Adhesive Stamps

Subject to the provisions of the Act, an instrument, the duty on which is required to be denoted by an adhesive stamp, shall not be deemed duly stamped, unless the person required by law to deface the stamp defaces the same by writing or impressing in ink on or across the stamp his name or initials, or the name or title of his firm or company or his business name, together with the true date of the defacement in such manner as effectually and permanently to deface the stamp and render the same incapable of being used for any other instrument or for any postal purpose".

It is interesting that it is stated in the *Stamp Duties Handbook* that the ink commonly used on office dating stamps, though styled 'indelible' and so-called 'indelible' pencils are not effective for the permanent defacement of stamps as required by law in this section. Therefore it is required that the true date of defacement, together with the name or initials of the person required to effect such defacement should be written or impressed on each stamp (figs. 12-14).

Dispute from revenue derived from the sale of stamps for revenue and postal purposes

The fact that the 1d postage stamp was also

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HERENIGDE NASIONALE PARTY
(Finansiële Sekretaris: Dr. A. J. R. van Rhyn) 294
REPUBLIKEINSE STRYDFONDS
Op die 7de dag van Junie 19 44
het mnr. S. G. du Plessis van Klein Drakenstein
sy deel bygedra tot stywing van die HNP-Republikeinse Strydfonds en
£ 25 : 0 : 0 gestort
ONTVANG NAMENS DIE H N P-FEDERALE RAAD
N.P.—4305/2/44/10x1c

Fig. 7: Two half-penny Bantam stamps used as Revenue Stamps on a receipt dated 7 June 1944 and cancelled according to the prescripts.

available for revenue purposes caused an interesting problem in the 1950s. In August 1952 the Commissioner for Inland Revenue wrote a letter to The Secretary to the Treasury regarding "Stamp Duty: Apportionment of revenue derived from the sale of stamps available for revenue and postal services". He indicated the following in the letter:

"As you are aware the existing 1d adhesive stamp sold by the Post Office serves the dual purpose of denoting postage and stamp duty on instruments liable to duty under the Stamp Duty and Fees Act, 1911. The question of allocation to Inland Revenue of a share of the revenue derived from the sale of these stamps has been considered from time to time, but, having regard to the services rendered by the Postal Department in carrying out sales and distribution of revenue stamps and the issue of certain face value licenses, the arrangement made in 1912 in terms of which the Postal Department was allowed to retain the whole of the revenue derived from the sale of the combined 1d postage stamps was not disturbed".

He also indicated that since 1928 the position has changed as a result of the holders of postal franking machines being authorised to use their machines for revenue purposes. He proposed that the existing arrangement be discontinued whereby the whole of the proceeds from the sale of 1d stamps and the collections in respect of the postal franking machines are retained for the benefit of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

In his response to the Secretary of the Treasury the Postmaster-General indicated that the impressions of franking machines are not only for a penny but vary from one penny up to 30/- in some machines. He also indicated that penny stamps are largely used by the public for postage purposes and that it would be impossible to estimate the value of the penny stamps used for revenue purposes without taking statistics of various articles over a long period.

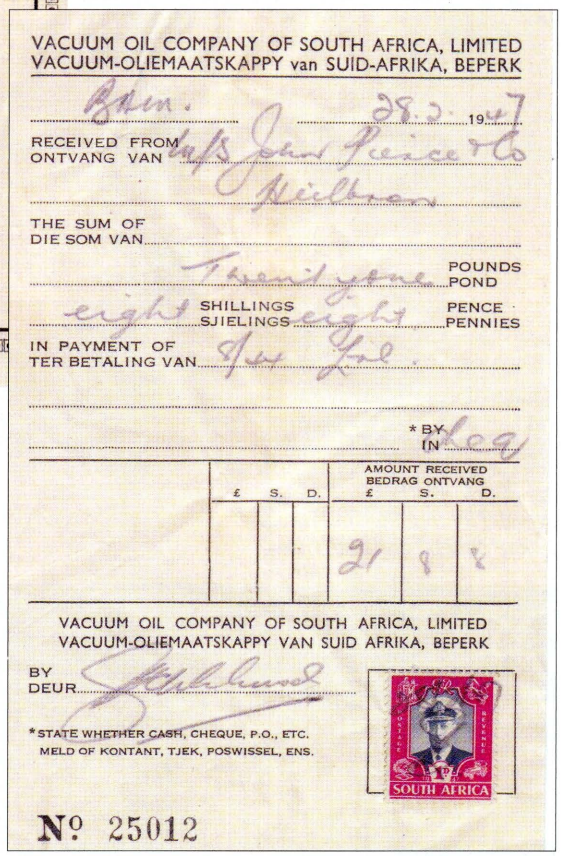
VACUUM OIL COMPANY OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED
VACUUM-OLIEMAATSKAPPY van SUID-AFRIKA, BEPERK
RECEIVED FROM ONTVANG VAN
THE SUM OF DIE SOM VAN
POUNDS POND
SHILLINGS SJIELINGS
PENCE PENNIES
IN PAYMENT OF TER BETALING VAN
* BY IN
AMOUNT RECEIVED BEDRAG ONTVANG
£ S. D.
VACUUM OIL COMPANY OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED
VACUUM-OLIEMAATSKAPPY VAN SUID AFRIKA, BEPERK
BY DEUR
*STATE WHETHER CASH, CHEQUE, P.O., ETC.
MELD OF KONTANT, TJEK, POSWISSEL, ENS.
SOUTH AFRICA
Nº 25012

Fig. 8: The Royal Visit of 1947 1d stamp with the inscription 'Postage/Revenue' used as a revenue stamp on a receipt dated 28 February 1947.

In conclusion one can say that this dual purpose – postage and revenue - of these stamps, were common in many countries and that a similar practice was followed in the Union of South Africa. However, the


DURBAN
22 I 38—6:00
SOUTH AFRICA
SUID-AFRIKA
T
20c
Messrs. H.P. Inniss & Company, Inc.,
24 State Street,
NEW YORK:
INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID FOR TRANSMISSION BY AIR MAIL

Fig.9: Cover dated 22 January 1938 posted from Durban to New York and taxed because of the incorrect use use of revenue stamps as postage stamps.

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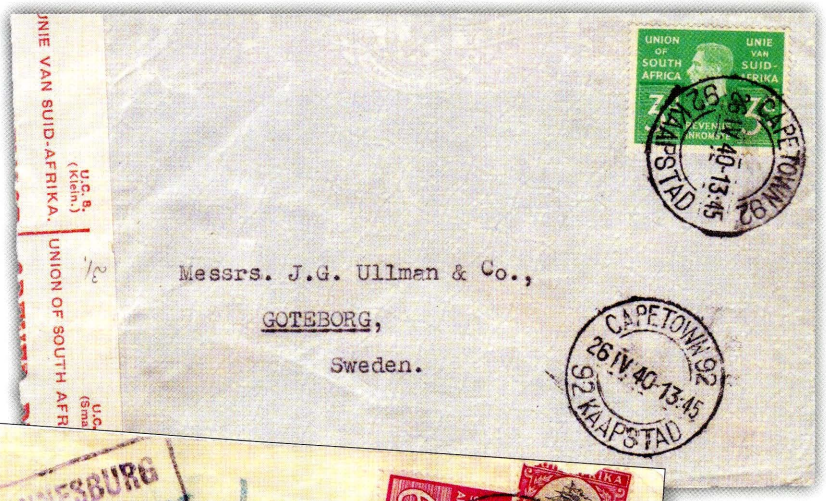

Fig.10: Cover posted from Cape Town on 26 April 1940 and franked incorrectly with a 3d revenue stamp. As the use of revenue stamps for postal purposes was not allowed, this cover should have been taxed.

postal use of revenue stamps was generally contrary to regulations. Furthermore there are also a number of similarities between these two classes of stamps: same printers were used, there were common design elements, common printing processes and common plate and production varieties.

Fig. 11: Registered cover posted from Johannesburg on 20 March 1939 where the postal official allowed the incorrect usage of a 6d revenue stamp for postal purposes.



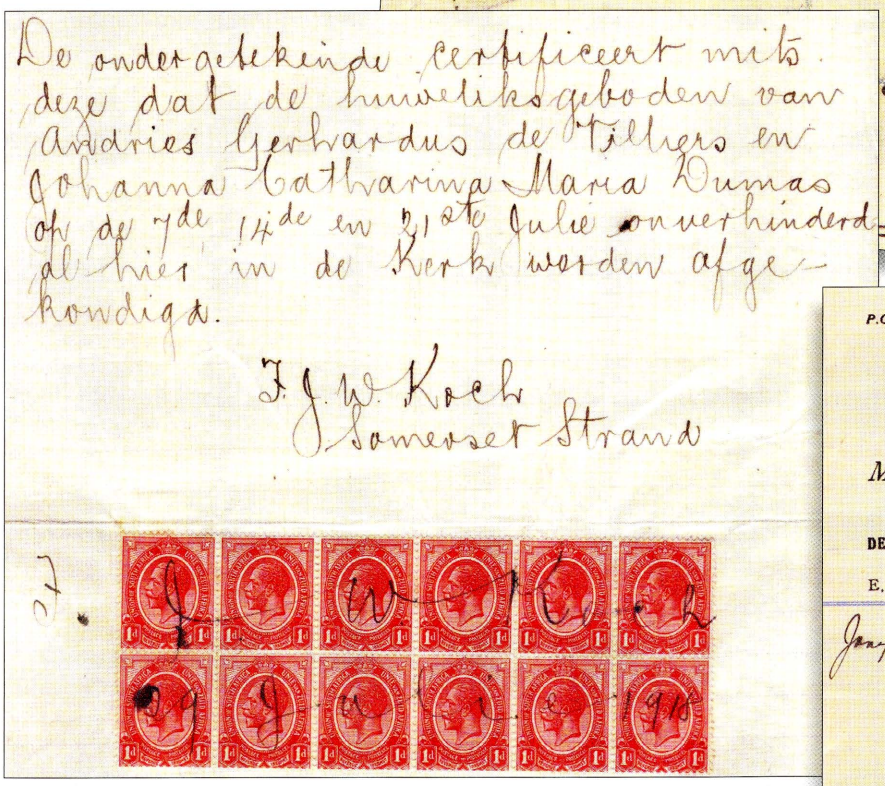

Fig. 12: Twelve one penny King's Head stamps used on a document whereby notice is given of a couple to be married. This document is regarded as duly stamped because the stamps are correctly defaced according to the Stamp Duties Handbook.

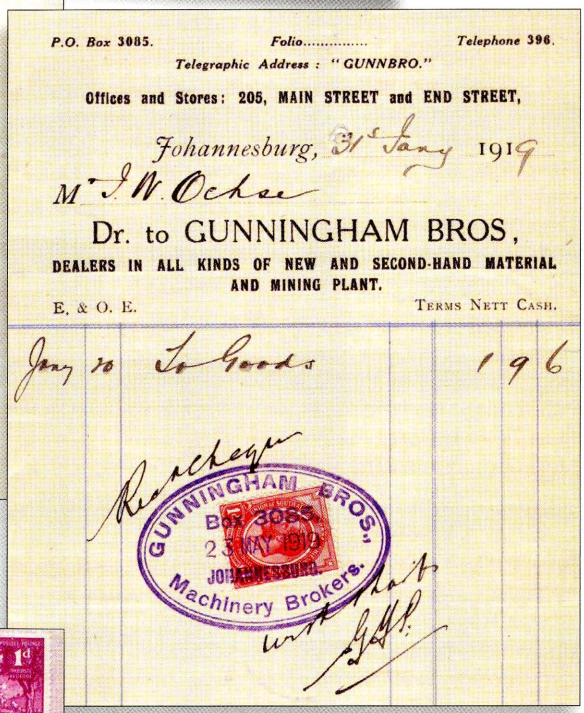

Fig. 13: A one-penny stamp used on a receipt dated 31 January 1919 and correctly defaced.



Fig. 14: One penny stamp used as a revenue stamp on a cheque dated 19 January 1950.

Sources:

- H.E. Lobdell, *The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa*, The Collectors Club, 1944.
- S.J. Hagger, *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa*, Cape Town, 1986.
- *Union of South Africa, Stamp Duties Handbook*, Fourth Edition, Pretoria, 1940.
- State Archives, Pretoria, Commissioner for Inland Revenue documents.

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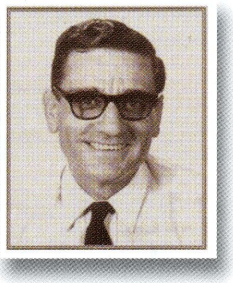
John Arthur Walters



6.10.1924 – 16.11.2014

Another esteemed philatelist has passed on. John Walters was born in Wickford, England and was educated at Winchester House and Stowe School and completed an Engineering degree at Imperial College. Upon demobilisation after World War II he worked as an engineer in Rhodesia.

John Walters was not only an engineer of note, but he also loved philately. He joined the Mashonaland Philatelic Society in about 1950 and served on the committee in various positons, including that of Chairman. He was elected an Honorary Life Member in 1962. In August 1972, the Mashonaland Philatelic Society hosted the 34th Congress of Federation, where a non-competitive exhibition, RHOPHIL'72, was held, all under the competent leadership of John and his team. He remained a member until his retirement and emigration to George, South Africa in 1981.

In George, John Walters became involved in re-establishing the George Philatelic Society and at the 1982 AGM was elected Honorary Secretary, a post that he held for many years. He also assumed responsibility for organizing the exchange circuit. In October 1987 John became the George Philatelic Society's first delegate to a PFSA Congress, the 49th, which was held in Paarl.

John was a talented and 'busy' philatelist with a thorough knowledge of his broad field of interest, which included Persia, early GB, BSA, Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Federation and UDI, and thematic collections of the Argentine, flowers and British Railway Stamps.

The George and Mashonaland Philatelic Societies salute this humble man who enriched our lives as both a friend and fellow philatelist.

Compiled by Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Philatelic Society, from memories by:

- Ian Johnstone (Mashonaland Philatelic Society, Harare)
- Charles Deacon (George PS)
- His son, Bruce Walters.

Smalls

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

WANTED: A retired philatelist and collector looking for used and commemorative stamps . Also possible connections to purchase or exchange, as he can no longer find packets of used SA stamps in Hungary. Contact: Dr Bösze Zoltán. Budapest, Breznò Lepscö 3.II.9. Hungary. Europe. H-1124.

EXCHANGE: An Argentine collector looking for information and local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Alois Filipan, Mendoza №.560, Lanus. C.P. 1824, Prov. Bs Airs. Argentina.

EXCHANGE: Modern Railway postcards x346 different. Mainly from SA but also overseas. Price negotiable or to swop for vintage SA cards. Contact: B Brummer 0437262858 or brummerb@hawcweb.co.za

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier Street, Auckland Park.
For further information contact the President : Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604.

Dates for Society Meetings for 2015 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

12 August	*- Favourite Cover/s*
9 September	*- Annual Auction*
14 October	*- One Frame Evening*
11 November	*- 2nd Competitive Evening*
2 December	*- President's Evening*

Eurocircle Stamp Study

Meetings for 2015 in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December)

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme for meetings to March 2016:-
Aug 19 : Southern Africa
Sep 16 : Preview of National Exhibits, World at war & back of the book.
Sep 30 : 5th Wednesday. To be arranged.
Oct 21 : My favourite (Max of one frame) and thematic exhibits.
Nov 18 : Intersociety quiz, invited exhibits and end of year function.
Jan 20 : Africa and its islands.
Feb 17 : General.
Mar 16 : AGM and invited exhibits.

Please note : The postal address for the PS of J is now P O Box 131037, Bryanston,2021, South Africa.

MAJOR Philatelic Events

14 - 19 August '15
SINGAPORE 2015.
World Stamp Exhibition
www.singapore2015.com
Commissioner:
Emil Minnaar RDPSA.
FIP *Patronage Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of Singapore (1965-2015)*

20 to 23 November '15
HONG KONG
International Exhibition
FIAP International Exhibition.
Commissioner : Jim Findlay RDPSA.

29 May - 04 June '16
NEW YORK 2016
USA www.ny2016.org
Commissioner:
Peter van der Molen RDPSA
FIP Patronage

STAMP FAIRS: all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations & contact persons/detail are:

- **WESTERN CAPE STAMP FAIR:** Durbanville 1st Saturday each month from 09h00 at the Durbanville Library, Cnr Oxford & Koeberg Roads, Durbanville, Western Cape. Contact Ken Joseph on 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.
- **PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:** 1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.
- **TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:** 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Rev Cassie Carstens: 012 653 2279.
- **SANDTON STAMP FAIR:** 2nd Saturday of every month; at the Kyalami Country Club, ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin: 083 272 9367.
- **KZN STAMP FAIR:** Last Sunday of all months, except December; Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. Contact: Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, mcnd@telkomsa.net
- **EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:** **CHANGE OF VENUE.** Last Saturday of all months, except December; at Edenvale Bowling Club.
- **BLUFF STAMP FAIR:** 1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. Contact: John Bracey Tel.: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za
- **DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:**

Future 2015 meeting dates: 8 Aug, 5 Sep, 3 Oct, 7 Nov & 12 Dec. *Venue*: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287..

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Alistair Mackenzie (*Chairman*)
Tel: 011 768 7565 or Ian Walker (*Secretary*)
Tel: 011 4721161

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

FOUNDED IN 1911 THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 - **2nd Thursday** of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban *(January meeting held on the 3rd Thursday)*
Contacts: ***'All are welcome'***

- Trevor Harris *(President)*
- Ted Brown *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
- Harald Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123
- Bev McNaught-Davis *(Zone Representative)* 031 904 1522

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

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club.
Open invitation to members of all the Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.
President: Ian McMurray. mail:ianjarvismcm@gmail.com

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg

- Thematics Group Meeting 09h00
- Executive Committee Meeting 11h00

Third Monday of every month: St Mathews Parish Hall, Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Monthly Club Meeting. 16h00
President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za
Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net
Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net

- Tony Evans: *Competitions & Events Manager.*
- Mike O'Connor: *New Issues* • Val de Jager: *Catering Officer*
- Joyce Hulse: *Library Assistant* • Julia Evans: *Liaison Officer*
- Gordon Bennett. *Stamp Circuit Book Manager.*

EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Graham Bruce: *Librarian.* • Heather Wyllie: *Stamp Sales Table.*

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:
Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Board of your **FUTURE MEETING** programme so that the information can be published **timeously**.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

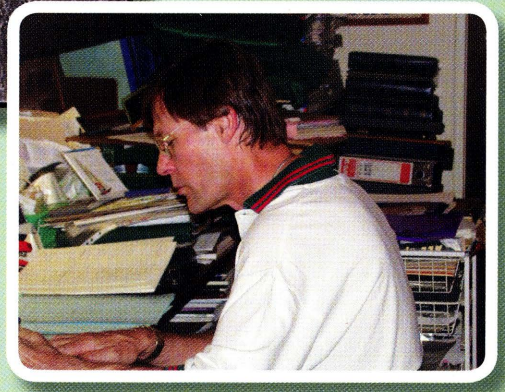
STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00.
Venue- Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch.
Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly Newsletter *with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*
Visitors are welcome at all meetings

This is a glimpse of our BEAUTIFUL WORLD...



SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION



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PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMPS
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* stamps, postal history and stationery, postmarks, postcards, documents and literature

For the whole collecting continuum, from beginner-collectors to well-seasoned philatelists!

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QSA AUCTIONS

Ullman Recreation Centre, SANDTON

All the QSA auctions are held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. ***Directions*** *- from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.*

Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. email: info.fhps@info
Website: www.fhps.info
Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

- *President:* Robert Cummings. Tel: 041 961 0645. Cell: 083 326 7294.
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. ***This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.***

PROPOSED MEETING DATES
all on Monday evenings, 2015:
3 Aug; 7 Sep; 5 Oct; 9 Nov; and 30 November (President's Night).

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
* Alex Visser *(President)* 012 803 1881
* Steve Marsh *(Vice-President)* 012 656 0493
Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history. Monthly newsletter.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them.
Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046.
email: eugene@umalusi.org.za.
Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. jacoli@mweb.co.za

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. Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm
Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November
President: Jack Visser (082 332 5353)
Tel / Faks: 044 6903030
E-pos: jackvisser@yahoo.com
Sekretarise: Gerrie Conradie (082 952 6700)
Tel / Faks 044 6981074 E-pos: gajcon@gmail.com

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE. ZIMBABWE

Meetings at 9am on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare.
Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. Contact: Ian Johnstone,
email: kupas@mweb.co.zw
landline 308950; cellphone 0772 859 759


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SAPDA members visiting BLOEMFONTEIN 21-22 August 2015

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South Africa
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email: steve@edenstamps.com
www.edenstamps.com

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082 836 9746
jacqueskuunstamps@gmail.com

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Atlas Auctioneers
atlasauctioneers@lantic.net
• contact: Clinton Goslin
Tel +27 83272 9367

WESTERN CAPE
Alan Macgregor
alan@rhodesia.co.za
• contact: Alan MacGregor
Tel +27 21 786 1931

NORTH WEST PROVINCE
Alcrem Stamps
fjarce@global.co.za
• contact:Francisco Arce
Tel +27 18 771 6656

WESTERN CAPE
Andy Kriegler Stamps
landy@global.co.za
• contact: Andy Kriegler
Tel +27 28 754 1425

GAUTENG
ARCADE STAMPS
10 Van Riebeeck Ave. Edenvale
• contact: Coen Slagt
Tel +27 11 454 2026

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Argyll Etkin Ltd
argylletkin@yahoo.co.uk
Tel +44 20 7930 6100

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David Morrison
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www.forpostalhistory.com
Tel +44 476 591 791

WESTERN CAPE
De Postboom
jackvisser@telkomsa.net
• contact: Jack Visser
Tel +27 44 690 3030

GAUTENG
DM Philatelics
dmphilatelics@gmail.com
• contact: Dom Martino
Tel +27 86 697 8717

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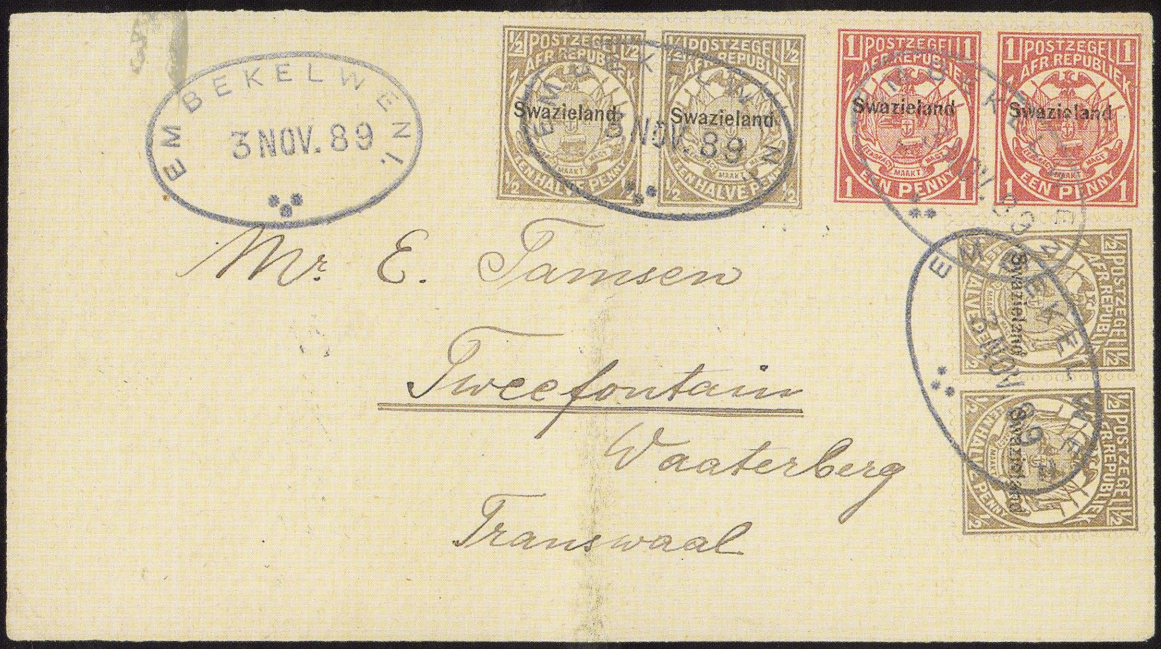

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OCTOBER
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The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

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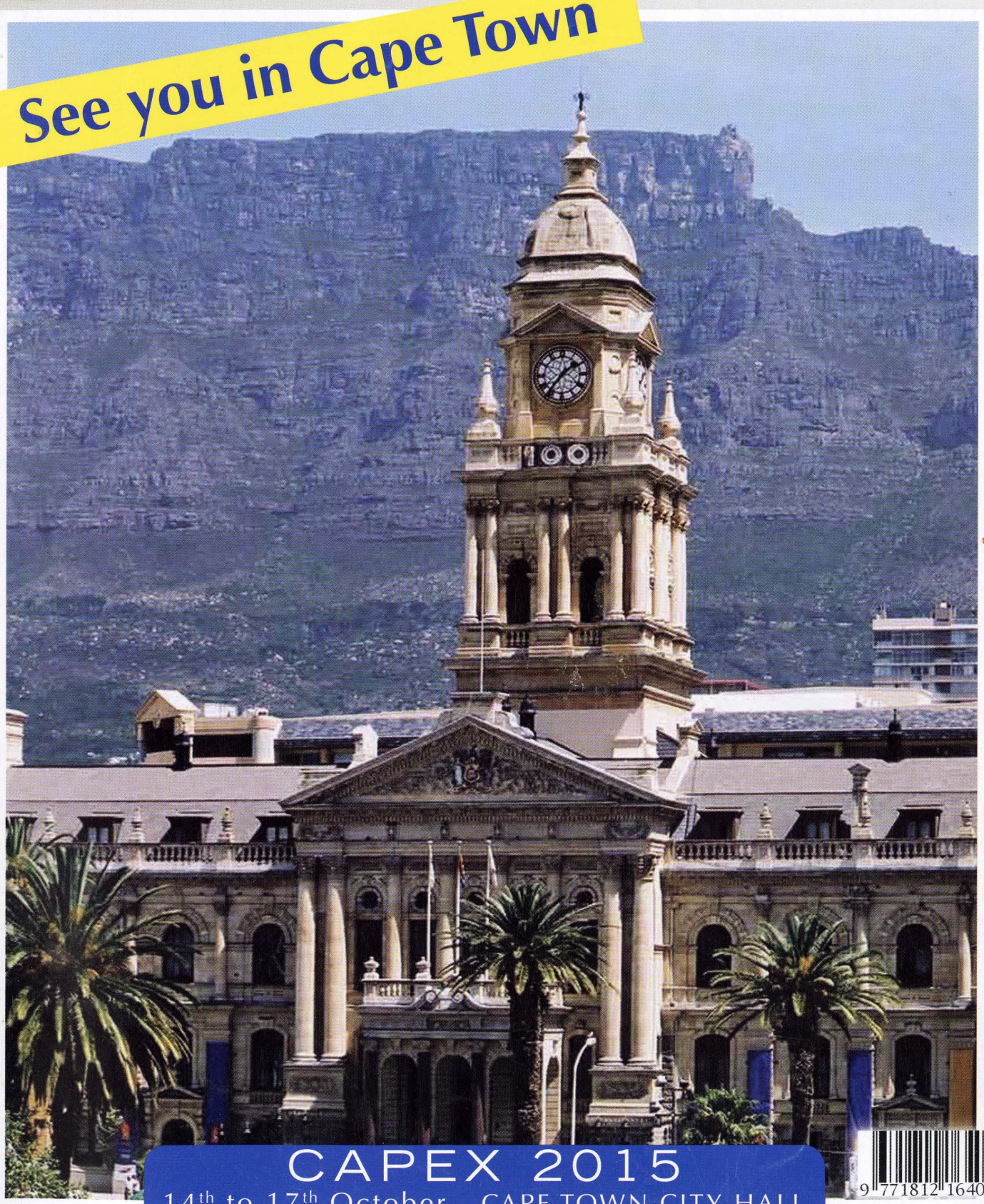

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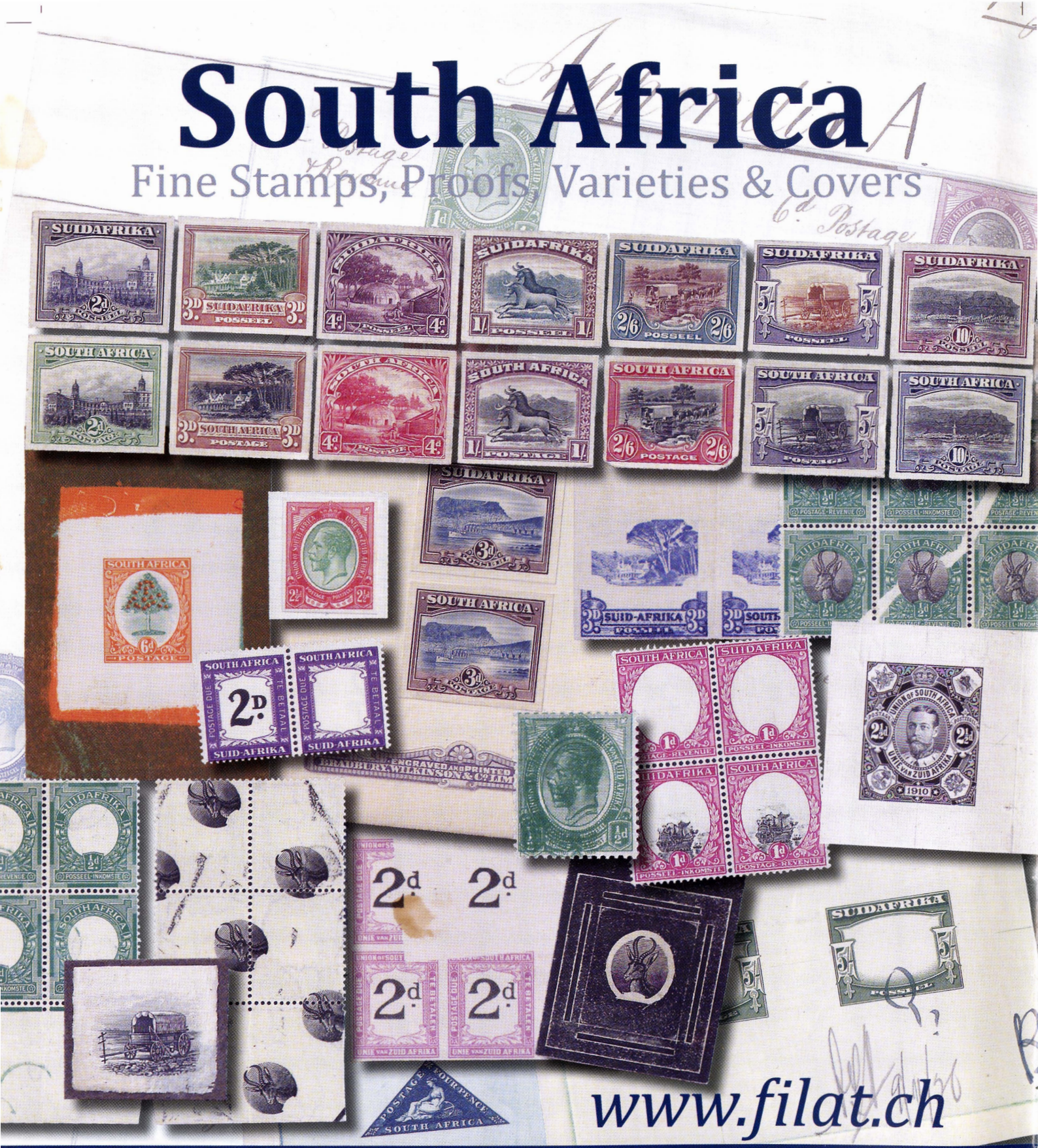

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The South African Philatelist

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Post Office
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A SPECIAL MENTION AND 'THANKS' TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE FOR THE COMPLIMENTARY MAILING OF THIS ISSUE TO LOCAL READERS. WE APPRECIATE THEIR SUPPORT.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD



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

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NEW CACHET?

It's the first time I've seen this cachet, so it could be a new one. There was a report in a recent *Sunday Times* that the PO needs to save R150-million a month. Is this one way of generating income? Anyone know anything about the cachet? Where was it applied? What's it really for? Is it because there is no permit mail printed on the envelope? An enigma.

David Wigston



Editorial Board's choice

Winning Contributor

This issue's award of the **PILOT** pen goes to Garry Osthoff for his ongoing series of Post Office Art.

WHO KNOWS?

Surprise, surprise, when I happened to be looking through old issues, I came across two varieties on the Weather Station issued 19.1.83.

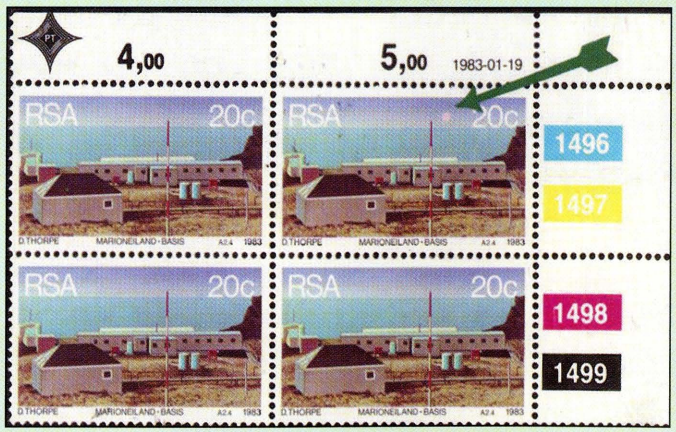
The 'Moon' on corner block of the 20c, and the 'Star' on corner block of 8c

Does anyone know about this? I have several copies, so it is consistent.

Anne Southwood

<annedeltiologist@telkomsa.net>





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COMMENT on the article - 'Return to Sender' by Mervyn Wood -

from Hank Bieniecki, Polonus Philatelic Society, Maryville IL, USA.

"I enjoyed reading your article in the August issue of *The SA Philatelist*, regarding the much-travelled cover from Poland.

I think I can identify the indistinct '... RSZAV...' backstamp on the cover which is the subject of your article. This was evidently applied at Warsaw, the Polish name for which is WARSZAWA. Rzeszow is a town some 70km. from Przemyśl where the letter had been posted, and it may have been the mail sorting centre for the district.

By the way, I just wonder about the sub-title to your article: *'A study of cancels and notations'*, and other references to 'cancels' instead of 'postmarks' etc. I personally would have chosen the word 'markings' instead of 'cancels'. The fact is that the word 'cancel' is a verb, not a noun. The somewhat aberrant use of the word 'cancel' as a noun began in the USA and spread from there.

If the word 'cancel' is appropriate for the BRONBERG and '..RSZAV..' postmarks, then what did they cancel?! But as you rightly suggest, it's all good fun!"

FURTHER comment

by Philip Robinson:

'When is a Cancel NOT a Cancel?'

"Having proof-read *The London Philatelist* for what seems an age, I might be old-fashioned, but I do believe in correct English. I refer to the title of what I am sure is an excellent book by Richard Arudel, *Brunswick Star Cancels*.

The word cancel is not a noun - it is a verb.

The habit of referring to cancellations as 'cancels' seems to have started in America and (of course) has spread to this side of the Atlantic. I have even heard of censors' cachets, for example, being referred to as 'cancels'. Apart from the incorrect word usage, what do they cancel? All cancellations are postmarks; not all postmarks are cancellations.

But no postmarks are 'cancels'."

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The SA Philatelist on the PFSA website:

Starting with the August 2015 edition, the *SAP* will be placed on PFSA's new website **www.stamps.org.za**

Home members of PFSA affiliated societies, after entering their membership number, will have the facility to read and print this issue wholly or in part as they require. Collectors not affiliated to the PFSA will be able to read but cannot print from the website. It is intended that a total of 6 issues (i.e. one year) will remain on the website on a revolving basis. The printed version of *The SA Philatelist* will continue to be sent to Home members affiliated to the PFSA.

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Entries have now closed for this World Exhibition. From South Africa, a record 88 frames + 2 literature exhibits have been entered. Acceptances are expected to be advised during October 2015.

For anyone planning to attend the exhibition, a wealth of information together with an extensive 'social programme' is being compiled and published on their website

www.ny2016.org

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

Episode 32 of : Errors on Stamps...

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

WRONG ZEPPELIN NAVIGATION

The Principality of Liechtenstein issued this EUROPA stamp on 8 March 1979. It shows the *'LZ127 Graf Zeppelin'* flying over the Prince's Castle in Vaduz.

The error is that it would have been impossible for the Zeppelin to fly in such low altitude in this part of the Swiss Alps, unless it would have been flying backwards which is technically impossible. Only years later was the error detected.



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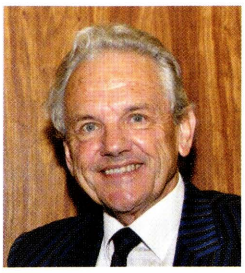
JAPAN ~ "Birds of a Feather"

by Chris Mobsby RDPSA FRPSL RNCP, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



Although today Japan is widely recognised as one of the foremost industrialised countries in the world, there is perhaps food for thought in the fact that, for nearly 700 years, it was a strictly feudal society under the *de facto* rule of the Shogun, the hereditary commander-in-chief of the army, who wielded power through the formidable Samurai warriors. Incidentally, a mass *hara-kiri* was the order of the day when an edict forbade those fanatical troops from carrying the traditional Samurai sword in public.

Imperial rule was restored to the country in 1868 by the Emperor Mutsuhito. This was to have a significant effect on the philately of Japan. Since 1864, stamps of Hong Kong had been used on Japanese external mail, particularly from the British Consular Post Offices in Yokohama and Nagasaki and it was only in 1871 that the first distinctive Japanese postage stamps were introduced.

Even these innovative issues, the so-called 'Dragon' series as well as the subsequent 'Cherry Blossom' set, were invalid for overseas mail as it was not until 1877 that Japan joined the Universal Postal Union whereby it was enabled to enjoy international postal recognition.

In my own world collection, a collection in which an attempt is made to represent each and every authority that has ever issued postage stamps and that by means of a single stamp or a cover, Japan was represented originally by a copy of the 1872 *30-sen* black of the 'Cherry Blossom' series. This is the top value of a set that is not particularly common today due in part, one would imagine, to the fact that many of the issues were printed on exceptionally delicate paper, in some cases less than 0.07mm in thickness! When, subsequently, I acquired the postcard illustrated with this article, my first thought was that I would be faced with the problem of choosing which of the two items available I should select to represent Japan – a decent copy of a fairly elusive stamp of 1872 or an undeniably attractive illustrated card that had been used in 1907? However, fate, or rather history, was on my side. A little research revealed that, in 1895, Japan had emerged victorious from a war with China, a war that was fought largely on the Korean peninsula. Not only that, but, in the aftermath of the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05), from which, once again and much to the surprise of the West, Japan came out on top, there was a temporary amalgamation of the postal services of Japan and Korea. This, perhaps, could provide a solution to my dilemma; the existence of an additional issuing authority in the form of the United Postal Service of Japan and Korea. However, at first glance it seemed that my hopes were to be dashed. The three stamps on the postcard shown on this card are from the 'Chrysanthemum' series that appeared sporadically between 1899 and 1908, largely before the merger of the two services, but fortune was again on my side when I discovered that the *½-sen* value, the grey stamp on the right of the three, was only issued in 1906 and would therefore have been valid in Korea.

QED: The single stamp and the postcard represent two different authorities, even if that difference is only marginal, and both would therefore qualify as valid inclusions in my collection.

The postcard itself was addressed to a Mrs de Barry in South Africa and was posted in Yokohama on 3 December 1907. It received the transit mark of Victoria in Hong Kong on 12 December and reached Dundee in Natal on 14 January 1908, a total journey of six weeks. For the purposes of display in a philatelic collection, it is fortunate that the sender decided to place both the stamps and his, or, quite possibly, her message on the picture side of the postcard using the reverse merely for the address, even though that side is designed to accommodate both the franking and a brief communication as well as the address of the recipient. Incidentally, the picture on the card appears to be an aquatint of a lady playing a Japanese instrument called, I believe, a shamisen.

We can only guess at the intention behind the message that reads, in, or so I imagine, a westernised version of the original Japanese script *'Ushi wa ushi-zure, uma wa uma-zure'*. This translates, according to the sender, as *'Cows consort with cows, and horses with horses'*.





Japan 1872 30-sen Black.. S.G. 60.

In turn, this would equate to the well-known English proverb - "Birds of a feather flock together".

Conceivably, this may have been intended as a reprimand for some unmentioned misdemeanour on the part of Mrs de Barry. I doubt if we will ever know for sure but … what do you think?

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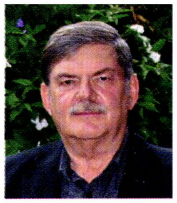

LABORATORY AND ONDERSTEPOORT POST OFFICES (1924 – 1950)

by Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Background

The first bacteriological laboratory for veterinary purposes was founded in 1891 at Grahamstown by the Cape Colony Government. Six years later a laboratory was established by the Government of Natal at Pietermaritzburg. About the same time, and as a result of the rinderpest outbreak, a laboratory was established by the Government of the *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR)*. In the period 1896-98 Dr. Arnold Theiler, who was employed by the Kruger government, was studying and combating the rinderpest disease. After the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) this laboratory, located at Daspoort, was taken over by the Public Health Department, chiefly for the preparation of rinderpest serum.

In July 1906 the Transvaal Crown Colony Government set aside funds for the founding of a new laboratory. The farm *De Onderstepoort* was purchased for this purpose and in the following year when responsible government came to the Transvaal and General Louis Botha became the first Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture, he immediately gave full support to the new scheme. The buildings were erected without delay and were ready for occupation on 1 October 1908. The name of the farm led to the use of the name Onderstepoort for the Institute. On 8 October 2008, the South African Post Office celebrated the centenary of Onderstepoort by issuing a miniature sheet and commemorative cover (fig.1).

With the Act of Union, the laboratories at Grahamstown and Pietermaritzburg were incorporated in the newly-formed Department of Agriculture, and as the laboratories at Onderstepoort were the most recent and up-to-date, the headquarters of the new Division was established at Onderstepoort under the leadership of Dr. Arnold Theiler CMG. Since then, Onderstepoort and the many generations of scientists since Theiler have made the facility a household name (fig. 2).

At the end of 1919 the Union Government decided to establish a School of Veterinary Science, and an agreement was reached for the Veterinary College to be an integral part of the Transvaal University College, later called the University of Pretoria (fig. 1).

The Veterinary Research Institute established in 1908 by Sir Arnold Theiler, its first Director, had grown by the time of his retirement in 1927, to be the best equipped establishment in the world, devoted to the investigation of sub-tropical and tropical diseases of animals. At the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference in London in 1927 it was decided that the Research Institute at Onderstepoort should in future become a Central Research Station in the chain of research stations throughout the British Empire.

By 1925 the laboratory products issued by the Veterinary Institute comprised the following: horse-sickness serum for the prevention of horse-sickness in horses and mules, anthrax vaccine for the prevention of anthrax in all classes of stock, redwater and gall-sickness vaccine and blue-tongue vaccine, etc.

Extensive work was undertaken by both field officers and research officers at the Veterinary Institute and consisted of correspondence, personal visits to farmers, popular lectures at farmers' meetings and demonstrations on a specially fitted Veterinary Coach attached to the Railway Demonstration Train of the Department of Agriculture. Articles were also published in various journals of the Department of Agriculture. Since 17 March 1924 the Railway Administration had held a demonstration train at the disposal of the Department of Agriculture. The demonstration carriages of the train were consequently equipped to represent all the principal branches of farming and when the train was on the road it was accompanied by fully qualified lecturers. The train made eight journeys between March 1924 and the end of April 1926 which meant that with the exception of a few districts the whole of the Union had been visited (fig. 4).

The establishment of a post office at Onderstepoort in 1924

A Post Office called LABORATORY was opened in 1924 where amongst other services, parcels could be posted and received (fig. 3). The postal address was as follows: Director of Veterinary Services, P.O. Laboratory, Pretoria and the railway parcels address: Pretoria North Station. The Post Office was renamed ONDERSTEPOORT on 3 February 1930 (figs. 5-7).

The main business of the post office was to despatch parcels with serums and vaccines on a large scale (fig. 9). Furthermore, the post office was also responsible for receiving samples of blood-smears and pathological specimens, etc. Farmers all



Fig.1 - Miniature sheet and commemorative cover issued by the South African Post Office on 8 October 2008 commemorating the centenary of the founding of Onderstepoort in 1908.

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over South Africa made use of the Research Institute at Onderstepoort.

Union postage stamps overprinted 'Official/ Offisieel' for the use of Government departments' correspondence addressed to territories outside the Southern African Postal Union were first brought into use on 1 December 1926. Their sale to the general public was authorised in April 1929. The use of these stamps was terminated in January 1955 (figs.6-7).

A post office regulation applicable at that time required that postage be paid on any letter of inquiry and on any parcel of specimens sent by the general public to a Government department for a report, if the object in view was to secure information for private advantage. Donations of specimens could, however, be sent without postage to the Division when labelled O.H.M.S. and described as 'Natural History Specimens'. This was also applicable to specimens forwarded to Onderstepoort when the specimen forwarded was for the public good.

Furthermore, the postal rules and regulations regarding parcels or packets containing perishable biological substances were also applicable to parcels forwarded to and from Onderstepoort. Parcels or packets containing perishable biological substances were accepted by the post office provided they complied with the provisions of Postal Regulation 17(2), whereby it was stipulated: "that perishable biological substances consisting of living pathogenic micro-organisms or of living pathogenic viruses shall be enclosed in a bottle or tube of thick glass or plastic material well stoppered, or in a sealed phial".

In addition to a violet coloured PP42 label, a red P1/184 label with a signed declararation by the sender that the contents were packed in accordance with Regulation 17(2) was required (fig. 9). Both labels were obtainable from any post office. One can just imagine that many such parcels were forwarded to the Onderstepoort Post Office from all over South Africa. It is highly unlikely that any such used labels would have survived under the strict conditions of handling these perishable biological substances.

Correspondence between the Angola Boers or Thirstland Trekkers and personnel at the Veterinary Research Institute at Onderstepoort

The term 'Angola Boers' or Dorsland Trekkers is used in reference to a considerable number of one-time ZAR

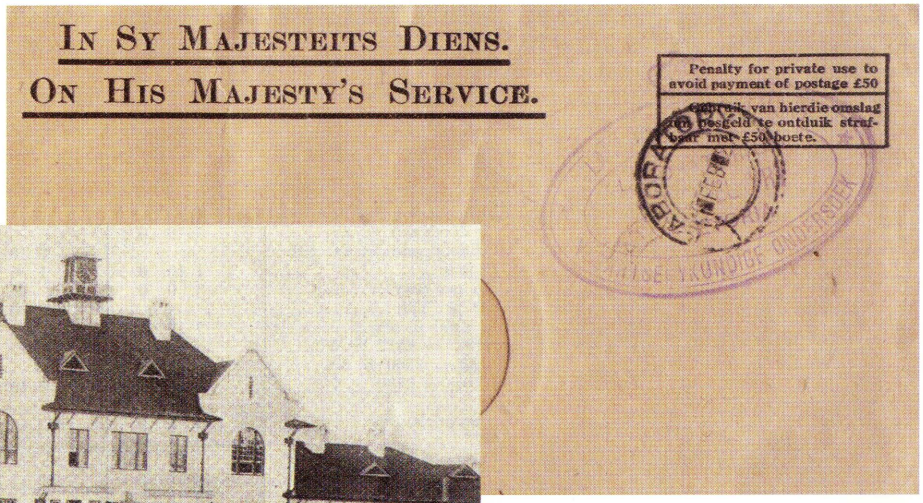

Fig.3 - Official cover posted from Laboratory during February 1927 with oval cachet: 'Departement van Landbou Veeartsenykundige Ondersoek'.



Fig.2 - The main building at Onderstepoort built in the 1920s. Photo was published in 'Boerdery in Suid-Afrika' in 1932.

Fig.4 - (below) The Railway Demonstration Train which toured the country also included a Veterinary Coach from the Research Institute. (Huisgenoot, 29 May 1924).



DIE LANDBOUTREIN, AAN DIE HOOF WAARVAN KOL. HEINRICH DU TOIT STAAN.
Dit is feitlik 'n reisende landbouskool, wat by elke stasie kan stilhou en demonstrasies aan die omliggende boere gee. Kol. Du Toit staan derde van links, en is die hoof van die Uitbreidingsafdeling van die Landboudepartement.

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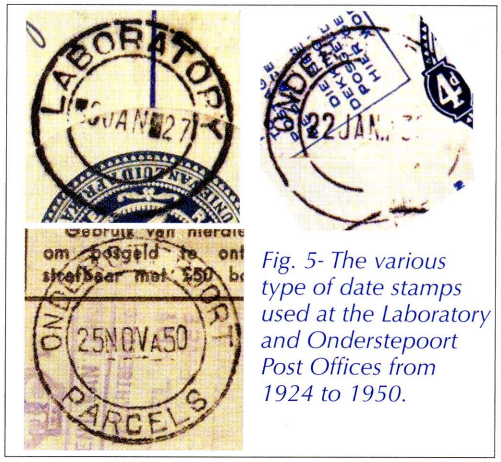


Fig. 5- The various type of date stamps used at the Laboratory and Onderstepoort Post Offices from 1924 to 1950.

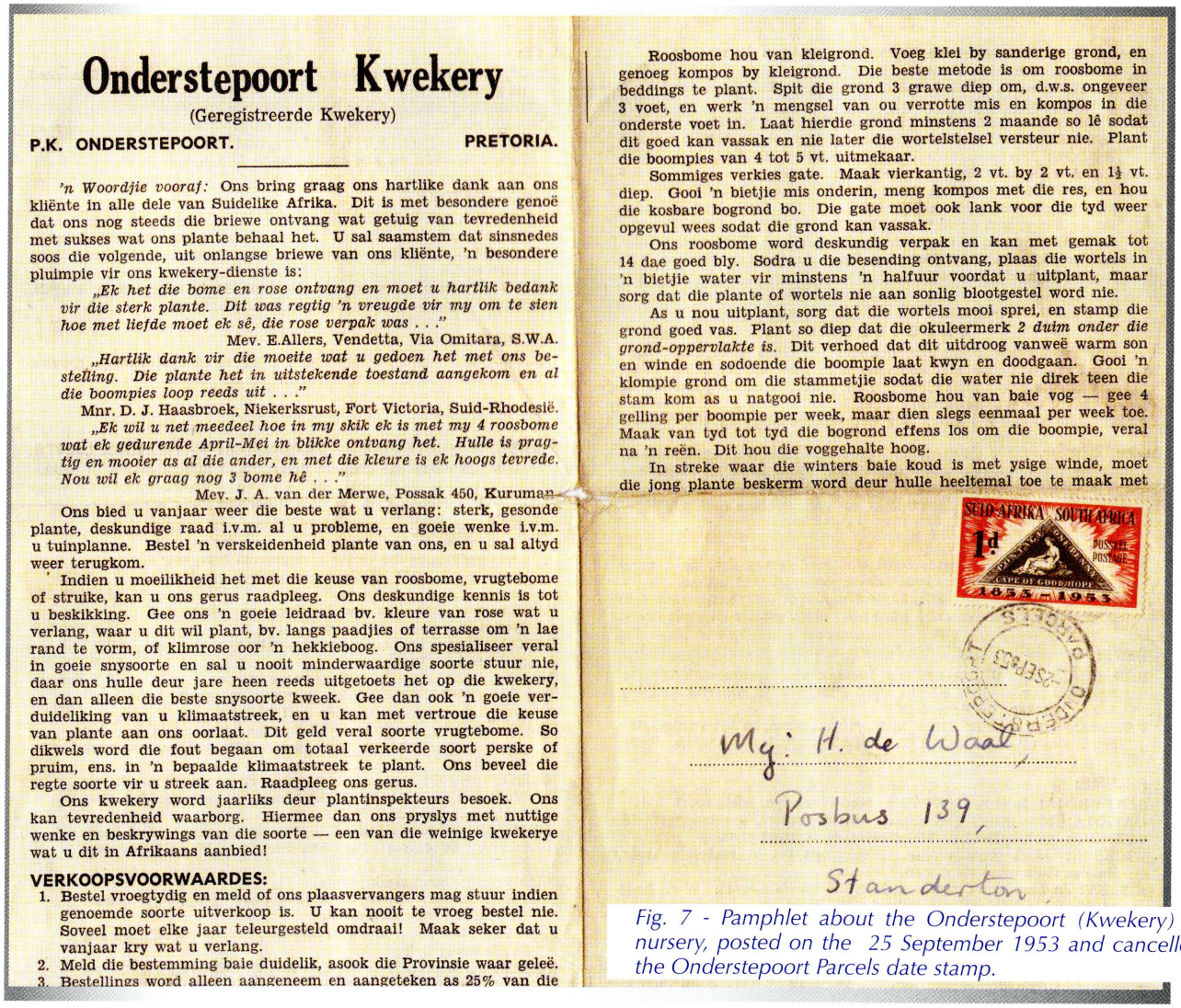


Fig.6 - Registered cover from Onderstepoort on 22 January 1930 to Bahamas. The arrival backstamp, Nassau / Bahamas, is dated 22 February 1930. The office was renamed in 1930 hence manuscript registration 'Onderstepoort 0704' prior to issue of official cachets.

or Transvaal Republic nationals who at intervals, commencing in 1874, had left for Angola. They settled principally at Humpata where they started farming. The Boers taught cattle breeding to the Portuguese, how to drive ox-wagons and marksmanship.

According to a letter from the Prime Minister's Office dated 16 April 1926, Ernst Johann Meyer was earmarked to be appointed as Commissioner for the Union of South Africa in Angola. His address would be as follows: Namba, Mombolo, PK Luimbale, Angola. Ernst Meyer had been living a good number of years in Angola, had learned the Portuguese language and was well acquainted with the history of the Boers in Angola (figs 10,11).

Eventually the relationship between the Boers and the Portuguese authorities deteriorated, leading to separation of the parties. For various reasons, the Boers chose to return to South Africa and a deputation met with the Administrator of South West Africa and the Minister of Lands for the Union, to discuss details of the terms of their re-entry into SWA. The repatriation was made possible by large-scale financial and logistical aid from the Union government under General JBM Hertzog. From 22 August 1928 to 27 February 1929 a total of



Onderstepoort Kwekery

(Geregistreerde Kwekery)

P.K. ONDERSTEPOORT. **PRETORIA.**

'n Woordjie vooraf: Ons bring graag ons hartlike dank aan ons kliënte in alle dele van Suidelike Afrika. Dit is met besondere genoë dat ons nog steeds die briewe ontvang wat getuig van tevredenheid met sukses wat ons plante behaal het. U sal saamstem dat sinsnedes soos die volgende, uit onlangse briewe van ons kliënte, 'n besondere pluimpie vir ons kwekery-dienste is:

„Ek het die bome en rose ontvang en moet u hartlik bedank vir die sterk plante. Dit was regtig 'n vreugde vir my om te sien hoe met liefde moet ek sê, die rose verpak was . . ."

Mev. E.Allers, Vendetta, Via Omitara, S.W.A.

„Hartlik dank vir die moeite wat u gedoen het met ons bestelling. Die plante het in uitstekende toestand aangekom en al die boompies loop reeds uit . . ."

Mnr. D. J. Haasbroek, Niekerksrust, Fort Victoria, Suid-Rhodesië.

„Ek wil u net meedeel hoe in my skik ek is met my 4 roosbome wat ek gedurende April-Mei in blikke ontvang het. Hulle is pragtig en mooier as al die ander, en met die kleure is ek hoogs tevrede. Nou wil ek graag nog 3 bome hê . . ."

Mev. J. A. van der Merwe, Possak 450, Kuruman.

Ons bied u vanjaar weer die beste wat u verlang: sterk, gesonde plante, deskundige raad i.v.m. al u probleme, en goeie wenke i.v.m. u tuinplanne. Bestel 'n verskeidenheid plante van ons, en u sal altyd weer terugkom.

Indien u moeilikheid het met die keuse van roosbome, vrugtebome of struike, kan u ons gerus raadpleeg. Ons deskundige kennis is tot u beskikking. Gee ons 'n goeie leidraad bv. kleure van rose wat u verlang, waar u dit wil plant, bv. langs paadjies of terrasse om 'n lae rand te vorm, of klimrose oor 'n hekkieboog. Ons spesialiseer veral in goeie snysoorte en sal u nooit minderwaardige soorte stuur nie, daar ons hulle deur jare heen reeds uitgetoets het op die kwekery, en dan alleen die beste snysoorte kweek. Gee dan ook 'n goeie verduideliking van u klimaatstreek, en u kan met vertroue die keuse van plante aan ons oorlaat. Dit geld veral soorte vrugtebome. So dikwels word die fout begaan om totaal verkeerde soort perske of pruim, ens. in 'n bepaalde klimaatstreek te plant. Ons beveel die regte soorte vir u streek aan. Raadpleeg ons gerus.

Ons kwekery word jaarliks deur plantinspekteurs besoek. Ons kan tevredenheid waarborg. Hiermee dan ons prysljs met nuttige wenke en beskrywings van die soorte — een van die weinige kwekerye wat u dit in Afrikaans aanbied!

VERKOOPSVOORWAARDES:

1. Bestel vroegtydig en meld of ons plaasvervangers mag stuur indien genoemde soorte uitverkoop is. U kan nooit te vroeg bestel nie. Soveel moet elke jaar teleurgesteld omdraai! Maak seker dat u vanjaar kry wat u verlang.
2. Meld die bestemming baie duidelik, asook die Provinsie waar geleë.
3. Bestellings word alleen aangeneem en aangeteken as 25% van die

Roosbome hou van kleigrond. Voeg klei by sanderige grond, en genoeg kompos by kleigrond. Die beste metode is om roosbome in beddings te plant. Spit die grond 3 grawe diep om, d.w.s. ongeveer 3 voet, en werk 'n mengsel van ou verrotte mis en kompos in die onderste voet in. Laat hierdie grond minstens 2 maande so lê sodat dit goed kan vassak en nie later die wortelstelsel versteur nie. Plant die boompies van 4 tot 5 vt. uitmekaar.

Sommiges verkies gate. Maak vierkantig, 2 vt. by 2 vt. en 1½ vt. diep. Gooi 'n bietjie mis onderin, meng kompos met die res, en hou die kosbare bogrond bo. Die gate moet ook lank voor die tyd weer opgevul wees sodat die grond kan vassak.

Ons roosbome word deskundig verpak en kan met gemak tot 14 dae goed bly. Sodra u die besending ontvang, plaas die wortels in 'n bietjie water vir minstens 'n halfuur voordat u uitplant, maar sorg dat die plante of wortels nie aan sonlig blootgestel word nie.

As u nou uitplant, sorg dat die wortels mooi sprei, en stamp die grond goed vas. Plant so diep dat die okuleermerk *2 duim onder die grond-oppervlakte is.* Dit verhoed dat dit uitdroog vanweë warm son en winde en sodoende die boompie laat kwyn en doodgaan. Gooi 'n klompie grond om die stammetjie sodat die water nie direk teen die stam kom as u natgooi nie. Roosbome hou van baie vog — gee 4 gelling per boompie per week, maar dien slegs eenmaal per week toe. Maak van tyd tot tyd die bogrond effens los om die boompie, veral na 'n reën. Dit hou die voggehalte hoog.

In streke waar die winters baie koud is met ysige winde, moet die jong plante beskerm word deur hulle heeltemal toe te maak met

Fig. 7 - Pamphlet about the Onderstepoort (Kwekery) plant nursery, posted on the 25 September 1953 and cancelled by the Onderstepoort Parcels date stamp.

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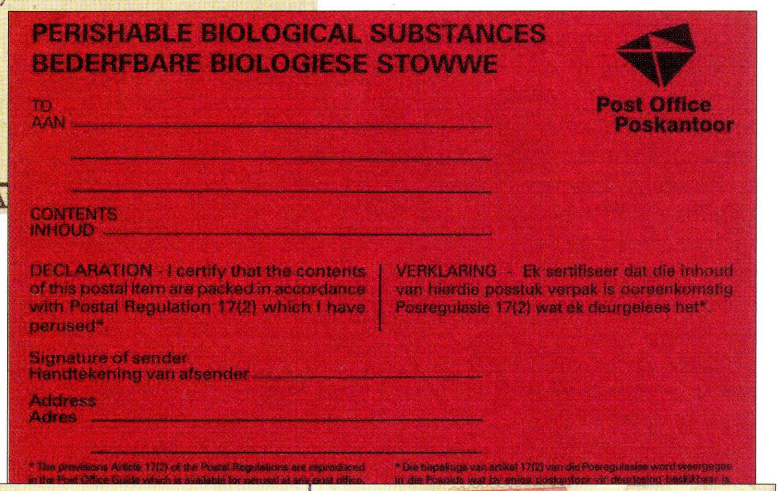
Fig. 8 - Official cover with Onderstepoort Parcels and Pretoria cds, both 3 January 1952.



Below - Fig. 9 - Label P1/184 for perishable biological materials showing the declaration to be signed by the sender.

1,922 people (about 373 families) were repatriated to South West Africa.

Practically all the immigrants were accommodated in four different settlements; in the districts of Gibeon, Gobabis, Otjiwarongo and Grootfontein. Each settlement was placed under the supervision of a Superintendent especially appointed to that office. In order to meet their demands for cattle, buildings and agricultural and dairy material, the Administration of South West Africa accommodated them with advances.

Conclusion

The post office at Onderstepoort was operational under the name LABORATORY from 1924 to 1929 and the usage of the 26mm double circle date stamp during this period can be regarded as extremely rare. The Post Office was renamed ONDERSTEPOORT on 3 February 1930. This was followed by the ONDERSTEPOORT PARCELS 27mm double ring date stamp used up to the 1950s.



Fig. 10 - Cover from Laboratory on 6 January 1927 to Luimbale. Arrival stamps on the reverse: Benguella, 13 January 1927 and Lobito, 14 January 1927.



Fig. 11 - Postcard from Lobito, 30 January 1920 to the Government Veterinary Research Laboratory, Pretoria.

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Thematically Yours

by **Rev Cassie Carstens,**
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria



Get Collecting - it's fun!

This issue represents the 81st of the Series!

* Violence against children

Violence against children and adolescents occurs everywhere – at home, in families, at schools, in communities and public places. It occurs during conflict and even in times of peace. It manifests itself in its most prevalent forms of domestic and sexual violence. Violence also occurs in the form of child marriage, denying girls formal education, forced labour and trafficking. Just because we can't see violence, it doesn't mean it isn't there. *We must make the invisible, visible.* Under this banner we must aim to raise awareness as a first step toward modifying attitudes, behaviour and policies. Violence can be prevented!



* Small creatures on a small island

The tiny island of Alderney offers a truly diverse range of flora and fauna. Within the island's 2000 acres lies a mixture of woodland, shrub, wetland, grassland and heathland, not to mention beautiful gardens, sandy beaches and rocky shores. Thanks to its wide raging habitats and favourable climate, Alderney is home to a rich selection of wildlife not normally found in the British Isles.



* Netball World Cup, Sydney 2015

This was held from 7 to 16 August 2015 at the Sydney Olympic Park with 16 nations from around the globe competing over ten days. The event, held every four years since 1963, is a celebration of the sport of netball, which is the most popular women's team sport in Australia. The teams were from Australia, Barbados, England, Fiji, Jamaica, Malawi, New Zealand, Samoa, Swaziland, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Wales and Zambia.



* Weather wonders

Sunny, cloudy, pleasant or miserable – we feel the weather deeply. There's no escaping it.... but who would want to? The intense beauty of good, bad or even dangerous weather captures imaginations, sparks conversations and inspires artists. From brilliant flashes of lightning to crystal-clear ice veneers, the incredible variety of weather can be experienced, especially in Canada.



* EUROPA: Old Toys

The origin of toys dates back to prehistoric times. In fact dolls representing infants, animals and soldiers, as well as copies of tools used by adults are often found at archaeological sites. Guernsey's 2015 Europa stamp issue depicts the toys of the Royal Family. A trip to Buckingham Palace and a chance to view a selection of toys belonging to the Royal family galvanized the design process. Many of the toys have been popular with children of all generations.



* Management of lighthouses

On 1 July 1915 the Commonwealth of Australia accepted responsibility for all landfall and coastal lights from State Governments. Today the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is responsible for maintaining navigation aids at some 3,888 sites around the 59,735 kilometres of coastline. Depicted is the North Reef Lighthouse (1878) - built on a reef in the Capricorn Group off the Queensland coast. Over the years sand has accumulated around the structure, forming a small island.



* Alice Munro, Nobel Prize in Literature

She is one of Canada's most celebrated and beloved writers. She was born in 1931 in Wingham, south-western Ontario, the region that inspired the setting of many of her stories. Regarded as an author who renewed the short-story genre, her work was published in Canada and the USA, which brought her a broader, international audience. The highlight of her accolades was achieved in 2013 when she became the first Canadian woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.



* Tolaga Bay, New Zealand

New Zealand has stunning natural environments – a 'must-see' destination for almost 2,5 million visitors each year. Tolaga Bay is located on North Island's east coast. It is well known for its wharf – the longest in New Zealand, at 660 meters. The wharf was built in 1929 to accommodate large coastal trading vessels, but fell into disuse as improved roads and motor vehicles offered more efficient transport options.



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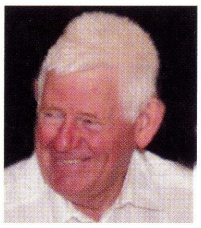

BORDERS, yet another look ...

by Jan Bakker RDPSA, East Rand Philatelic Society

As you know, a border is a line, the division between two different things; hence we speak about borderline cases. Often when we use the word 'border' it means the boundary between two different countries. But what do we call the point where three different countries meet? There must be a geographical name for such a place. It is not an uncommon occurrence, there are five such places in South Africa.

The first is the point where South Africa meets Botswana and Namibia in the Kalahari Gemsbok Park, known in the old days as 'Union's End'. Then we have the place where South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe meet, west of Messina. The next place is near Punda Maria in the Kruger Park where South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique meet and finally there are two places where South Africa, Mozambique and Swaziland meet, one near the site where Samora Michel's plane crashed and the other near Pointo de Oro. Two such places where the same three countries meet must be rare or even unique. Strangely Lesotho has no three country meeting point.

I was thinking about this when I found a picture postcard in a dealer's box the other day; a card showing where three empires met some years ago. Due to border changes over the past 100 years, the place is now somewhere in a country which did not even exist 100 years ago - Poland, whilst none of the three countries borders the spot any more.

One hundred years ago the Empires of Germany, Austria and Russia had a common border point.

Thus we have three Heads of State on the card: the Emperors of Germany and Austria, Wilhelm and Franz Joseph, and Nicholas, the Tsar of Russia.

The stamps of all three countries are on the back of the card, each cancelled in the nearest town.

Wouldn't it be interesting if we had something similar here in South Africa?

The Trans-border stamps of the extended Kalahari-Gemsbok Park come close.



The border point at Myslowitz where Germany, Austria and Russia met. The reverse shows frankings and cancels from all three countries: a 5pf Germania issue cancelled at Ratibor, three Austrian Jubilee stamps with Szezakowa cds and a Russian 1k Arms issue with Granitsa cds.



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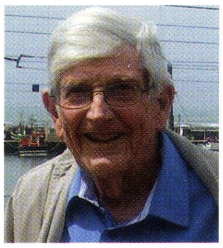
Unusual Postmarking Machine at Capemail



by David Allison, Postmark & Postal History Society

In 2008, a new kind of postmarking machine was introduced at Capemail, alongside the types already in use. The more one studies the following postmarks, the more unusual this machine seems to be. I have been unable to find anything about it - perhaps it was unique to Capemail - I have no idea. The notes that follow are based simply on a pile of envelopes in my possession.

Figure 1 illustrates the earliest impression I have. In four straight lines, the inscription reads CAPEMAIL/2008/SEP/8. To the left and right of this there are four wavy lines. This is a single-impression machine, i.e. the postmark is placed at the top right corner of the envelope and does not continue along the whole of its length.

Most of my specimens have the four lines of the inscription in this same order. But variations occur, and figs. 2, 3 and 4 illustrate this. Figure 4 also shows another feature; there are five wavy lines instead of four. Many of the examples between 2008 OCT 14 and 2009 JAN 19 have these five wavy lines.

Another variation, with more space vertically between the four lines, occurred in (at least) September and November 2009 - see fig. 3.

These things suggest that letters passing through this machine go past a rotating cylinder, on the circumference of which the wavy lines are engraved. Into each of the four slots one piece of type (slug) is placed, reading for example CAPEMAIL or 2008 or SEP or 8. It is very likely that more than one of these machines was in use; on 23 January 2009 for instance, three quite easily distinguishable CAPEMAIL slugs were used.

However, if one looks at figs. 5 and 6, are these postmarks being produced using a cylinder with four or five pairs of wavy lines engraved on it? The bottom one or two wavy lines seem too far to the right and this occurs from time to time. Is it possible that, instead of a rotating cylinder, we are dealing with four (or sometimes five) rotating discs, fastened together to form something like the rotating cylinder we first thought of, but not fastened together quite as well as the designer intended? Or is this idea too far-fetched? Far-fetched or not, we need some explanation for these extraordinary postmarks. Comments to the author (allisond@netactive.co.za) would be most welcome.

(All examples in this article are from author's own collection.)

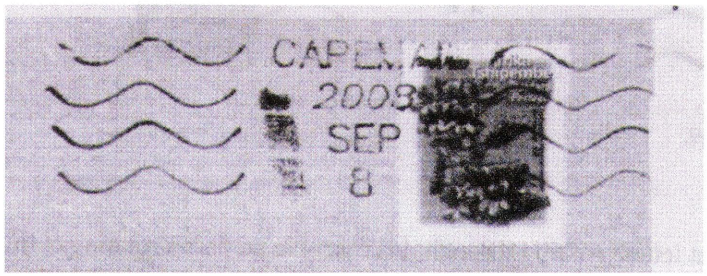


Fig.1



Fig.2

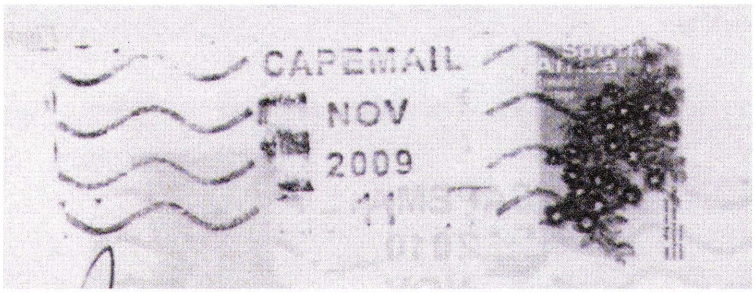


Fig.3

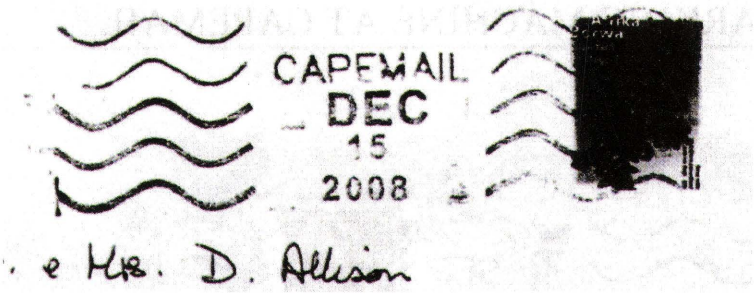


Fig.4

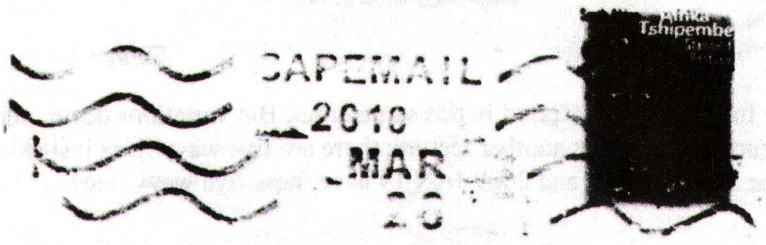


Fig.5

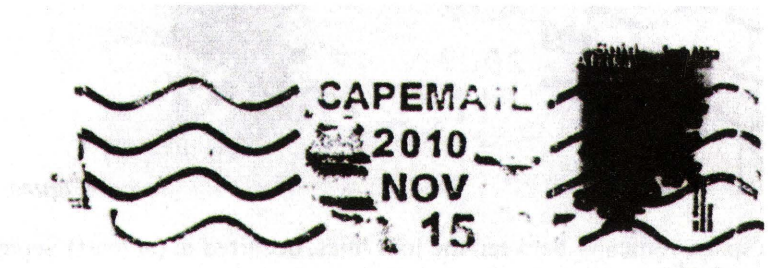


Fig.6

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

CAPEX 2015
14th to 17th October
CAPE TOWN CITY HALL

by Alan Rogers, Organising Committee Chairman.
021 558 2662, 072 9500 466, alanrs@telkomsa.net

The senior exhibition is fully subscribed with 400 competitive frames filling the impressive ground floor auditorium of the City Hall. Thirty six selected artworks by Charles Davidson Bell will also be on display in The Auditorium.

The JUNASS exhibits and Court of Honour will be housed within the dealers room on the first floor and Congress, specialist society meetings and potentially, an auction on Thursday 15th, will all be accommodated on the second floor.

There is access to all levels for visitors with restricted mobility.

In addition to the City Hall's on-site 24 hour security personnel, the Organising Committee have engaged a specialised event security company on a 24 hour basis for the duration of the exhibition.

In-house catering is available for visitors in a designated restaurant area.

Ample parking is available on the Grand Parade as well as in a multi storey carpark behind the Parade.

The Palmares will be held at the Tsogo Cape Sun Hotel. Cost per person is R400, which includes a three course meal and wine. Reservations for the dinner must be made in advance as final figures have to be confirmed with the hotel by Wednesday 14 October.

Illustrated catalogues at R10 as well as a special edition postcard depicting the City Hall will be on sale at the entrance.

The Organising Committee looks forward to welcoming you to our fair City.

CAPE TOWN CITY HALL, DARLING STREET, CAPE TOWN

Exhibition Opening Times and Programme

Wednesday 14th
Thursday 15th – 10h00 to 18h00
Friday 16th
Saturday 17th – 09h00 to 16h00

Programme of events

Wednesday 14th October
-10h30 • Official Opening by Alderman Ian Nielson, Deputy Executive Mayor of Cape Town

Thursday 15th October
- 14h00 • Auction (provisional)
- 19h30 • Jury/Dealers/Committee dinner at Western Province Cricket Club, Avenue de Mist, Rondebosch (by invitation only)

Friday 16th October
- 08h30 • 77th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (2nd Floor, Room 15)

Saturday 17th October
- 11h00 • JUNASS Prizegiving

Specialist Society Meetings and Workshops

- 10h00 – 12h00 • Rhodesian Study Circle – Adrian de Bourbon
- 11h00 • ABW/Tvl Study Circle/OFS Study Circle/ Cape & Natal Study Circle – Joh Groenewald
- 12h00 • Thematics – Robert Harm
- 13h00 • Overprints – Dr. David Stotter (UK)
- 14h00 • Postcards Audio Visual workshop – David Figg (Australia)
- 14h00 • A.F.V. – Joh Groenewald
- 19h30 • Palmares Dinner – Tsogo Cape Sun Hotel, corner of Strand and St. George's Streets **(Advance booking essential)**

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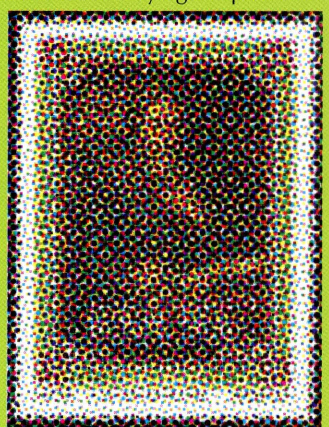

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*an image - enlarged so far that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, the enlargement having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

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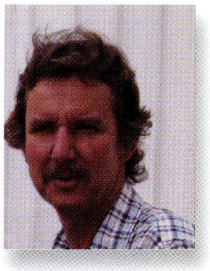


Part 15

DECORATED POST OFFICES

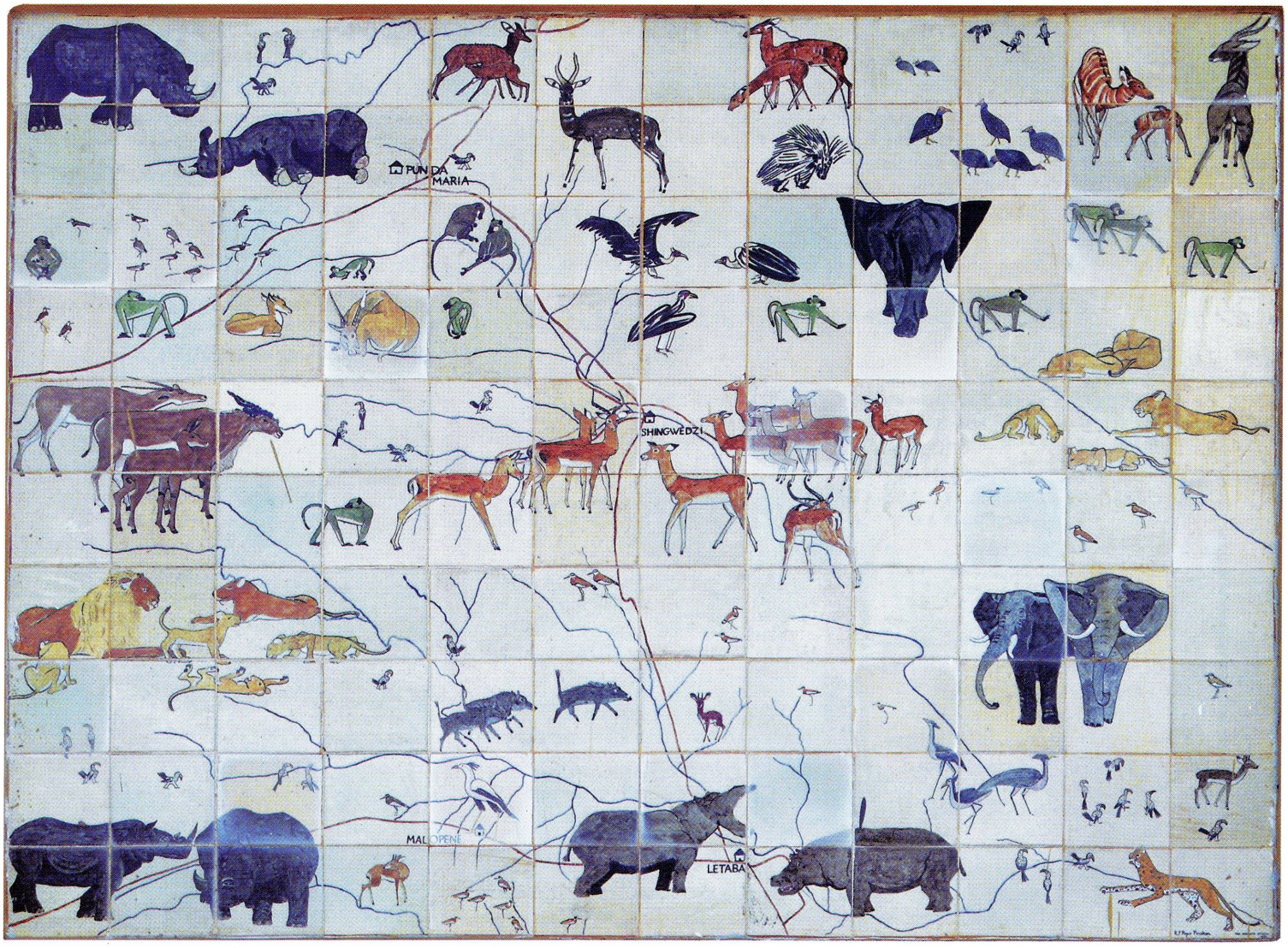
by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

SABIE

Sabie originated when HT Glynn and JC Ingle found gold there and formed the Glynns-Lydenburg Gold Mining Company. The town is situated on the banks of the Sabie River in Mpumalanga. The name is derived from the Tsonga Shangaan word 'Ulusaba' which means fearful, because the river was once teeming with dangerous Nile crocodiles. The post office was built by the Public Works Department in 1937. The building fills a block between 7th and 8th Avenues, with its entrance facing Trichardt Street. It is in the Baker style, but deviates from other post offices described in this series by having squared entrances instead of arched ones, with a ledge atop. At the entrances are pots manufactured by J Kirkness Ltd, Pretoria. On each side of the entrances are large ceramic tile panels depicting maps of the Kruger National Park with major rivers and also roads. A plethora of animals is shown as singles or in family groups and in several states of activity. All are drawn with exact features. Bushbuck, nyala, eland, kudu, impala, steenbok, klipspringer, duiker, blesbok, hippopotamus, warthog, cheetah, porcupine, baboon and vervet monkey may be spotted, and the big five cannot be overlooked; being rhinoceros, elephant, Cape buffalo, lion and leopard. The birds are not drawn to the same realism, but guinea fowl, bustard, ostrich, vulture, plover and hornbills may be identified. The tiles were created by Mrs RJ Pope-Ficken, whose maiden name was Pope-Ellis, born at Hilton Road in Natal. She trained at the Berlin Academy of Fine Arts and The Slade in London. Enjoy the game spotting!



Acknowledgements: Artefacts.co.za for the photograph of the post office. Zane Wilsnach for photo editing.



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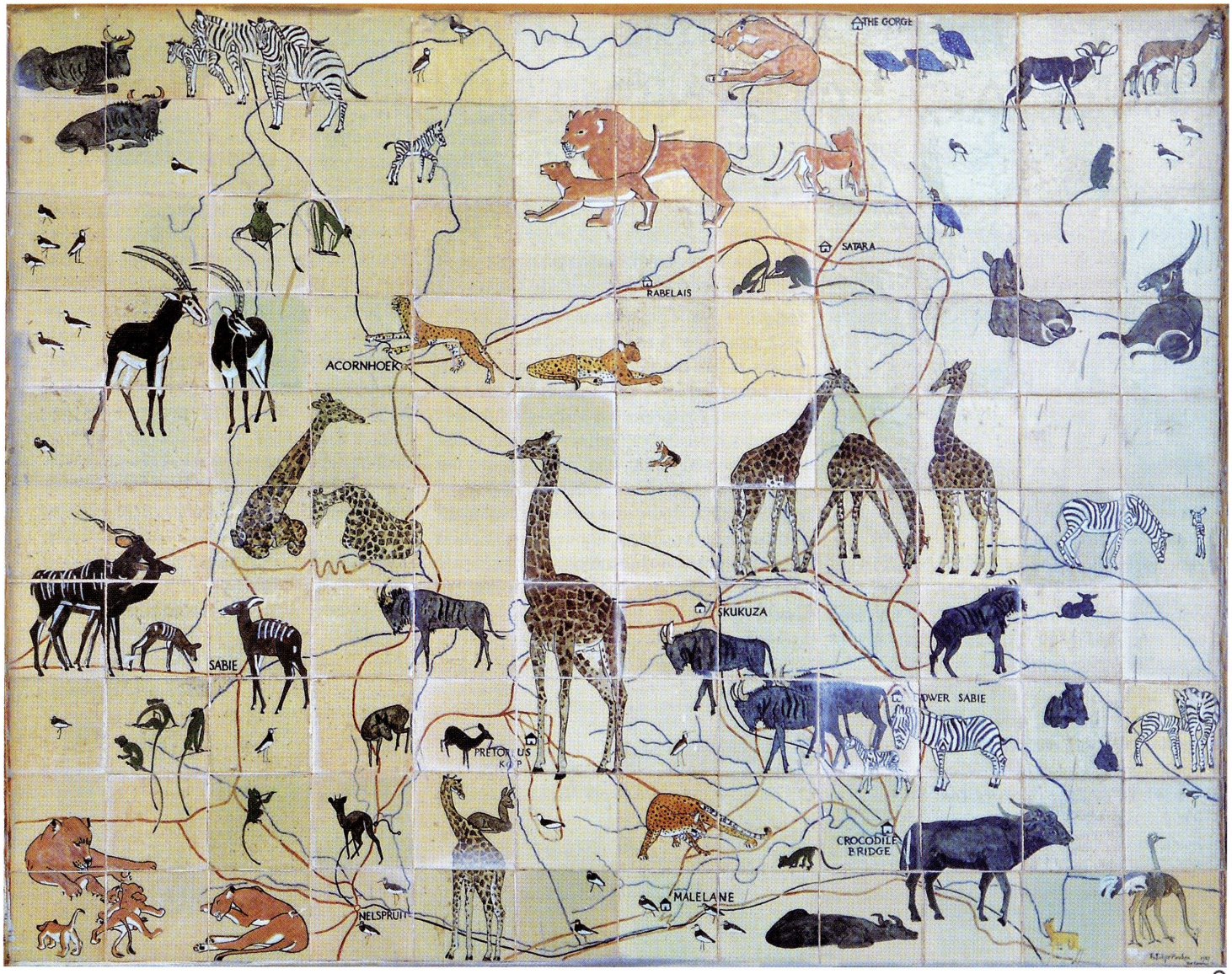


SINGAPORE 2015 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION

REPORT BACK: 14 - 19 August 2015

www.singapore2015.com

Commissioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA.

The exhibition was held under the patronage of FIP to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of Singapore (1965-2015).



The venue was the Sands Expo® and Convention Centre and over 2,000 frames by 450 exhibitors from 66 countries were on display. Key highlights included a Court of Honour with award-winning material from 27 FIP Grand Prix Members, local and international collectors. Some gems on display were an 1854 *Ten Queens in Singapore* cover, Siam First Issue on cover and archival material relating to the manufacture of Hong Kong's 1877 16c postage stamp. Other exhibits showed the development of Singapore's postal history including its earliest stamps, to celebrate fifty years of independence.

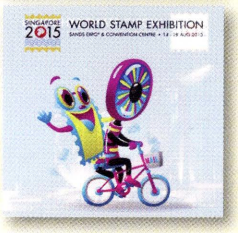
An extensive range of philatelic disciplines, including the class of Modern Philately was offered. Special collections from the Singapore Philatelic Museum commemorated the Golden Jubilee, while the General Post Office featured a 50-year timeline of key Singaporean milestones highlighted with stamps. The world famous Mauritius POST OFFICE printing plate was on public display – for the very first time in Asia and only the second time in the world.

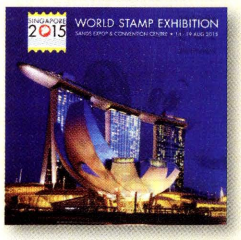
The Grand Prix D'Honneur Award winner was Jan Berg of Sweden who exhibited *Samoa 1836-1895*, while the Grand Prix International Award went to Jorgen Jorgensen of Denmark who showed *Danish Mail to Foreign Destinations 1854-1874*. The winner of the Grand Prix National Award was Tan Ah Ee of Singapore for his *Straits Settlements Classics*.

Exhibition results for our South African exhibitors were:

•	Emil Bührmann	97 Large Gold + Special Prize
•	Herbie Schaffler	90 Gold
•	Ian Matheson	88 Large Vermeil
•	John Friend	83 Vermeil
•	Gila Barit	73 (One Frame)
•	Avi Barit	69 (One Frame)







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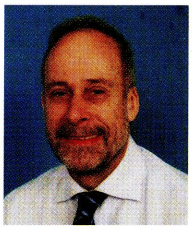

NAMAQUALAND 1855

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

In the early 1850s, the price of copper rose dramatically in Europe, and South Africa experienced a mining boom based upon speculative reports of the mineral wealth to be found in central Namaqualand.

In 1852, the company of Phillips & King began copper mining at Springbok Fontein and chose Hondeklip Bay as the most convenient location where loading ore onto a ship was possible. The first eleven tons of copper ore were shipped from Hondeklip Bay by the steamship *Bosphorus* on 31 August 1852.

News of this shipment confirmed the opinion of the respected geologist and road engineer Andrew Geddes Bain, who had conducted a preliminary survey of the area and declared in the *Commercial Advertiser* a few months earlier:

"Let the farms be cultivated and the mines opened, and it will be found that Namaqualand contains more real wealth than the whole colony put together; for I have little doubt that all the country from the Oliphant's River to the Orange River abounds in mineral wealth, and only wants to be thoroughly explored to develop its riches."

The publication of Bain's opinion coincided with reports of the fortunes made in the Australian and Californian gold-rushes, and inspired what later became known as 'copper mania'. Fortune hunters hurried to Namaqualand on Cape carts and wagons, and rumours of gold as well as copper fuelled speculation on the Cape Town stock exchange. Entrepreneurs sought investors who were not hard to find. In 1853 and 1854, approximately 35 mining companies were formed by various groups of investors, many inspired by reports based on little more than 'surface scratching or hearsay.' The boom did not last long. By the middle of 1855, it became clear that transporting copper to the coast was a far greater challenge than digging it from the ground. The richest copper veins were situated near Springbok, only 50 miles from the sea, but an arduous trek by ox wagon through the rugged mountain terrain and then across soft desert sand to Hondeklip Bay followed. By the end of 1855, 'copper mania' had passed its peak, and most investors were intent on cutting their losses. The illustrated letter bears witness to these difficult times.

The Grahamstown Namaqualand Mining Company

This company had been formed in 1853, by a group of investors inspired by the reports of Bain and others. Their ambition was not only to mine copper, but also to assess the prospects for mining minerals throughout the entire Namaqualand region. In November 1854, the directors of the company engaged the services of Robert Moffat junior to be their managing agent and surveyor on a two year contract. Robert Moffat junior was the son of the missionary Robert Moffat, and the brother-in-law of David Livingstone, the missionary explorer. In 1848, at the age of 21, he had qualified as a land surveyor in the Cape Colony, and had some experience of surveying the land south of the Orange River basin when working in the Orange River Sovereignty.

On 6 December 1854, Moffat junior set out to Namaqualand from Colesberg and proceeded through Gamiep to Springbok Fontein, which he reached on 17 February 1855. From there he travelled widely through Namaqualand, visiting Pella, Steinkopf, Komaggas, Hondeklip Bay, Steinkopf again, Gudous (Goodhouse), and back to Steinkopf on 4 July. It was during this survey, in March/April 1855, that the market became nervous as the costs of copper mining and transport became apparent, and demand for copper also slackened in Europe.

By September 1855, Moffat was aware that the directors of the company had lost interest in continuing the venture, and in October, he made a proposal for the compromise or early termination of the surveying contract. The illustrated letter is the official response to Moffat's proposal. It was written by WM Jaffray, Secretary to the Grahamstown Namaqualand Mining Company, and dated 1 December 1855. The letter informed Moffat that the directors had accepted his proposal for a compromise, and "they will consequently allow you on account of your second years engagement £125 in cash, and the larger wagon and 12 oxen and two horses belonging to the Company in discharge of all your claims on the Company ..... All Charts, Reports & Papers of every description belonging to the Company, you are requested to forward to the Company's Agents in Cape Town ..."



1855 to Namaqualand 'per overland route'

The postal aspect of the letter

The letter was posted in Grahamstown on 1 December 1855, and prepaid with a 4d triangular adhesive (which was cut from the letter and then restored). Since Moffat's precise whereabouts were unknown to the directors, the letter was addressed to

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Moffat care of H.E. Rutherfoord & Co, his agent in Cape Town. On 8 December, the letter was received by Rutherfoord, who redirected it on the same day to Springbok, Namaqualand. A charge of 4d was raised by the Cape Town Post Office for this redirection.

From a postal history perspective, the most interesting aspect of the letter is the endorsement 'per overland route' which Rutherfoord added to the address panel before it was redirected. Howson Edwards Rutherfoord was an established merchant and shipping agent in Cape Town; a pious man who assisted missionary societies in both America and Britain by – amongst other things – forwarding mail from headquarters overseas to mission stations located throughout southern Africa. Rutherfoord was well informed of the various routes and opportunities for sending letters to the interior.

The administrative division of Namaqualand was not established until the following year, 1856. At the time when the illustrated letter was forwarded, Namaqualand was still part of the district of Clanwilliam. By December 1855, four post offices had been established in Namaqualand: two on the coast, at Hondeklip Bay (opened on 24 February, 1855) and further north at Port Nolloth (31 October, 1855). The first inland office had been opened at Kamiesberg (also known as Lilyfontein) on 4 December 1854, followed on 3 December, 1855, by the office at Springbok Fontein.

In December 1855, there were three postal routes into Namaqualand. The oldest and most reliable was the weekly overland route from Cape Town, via Malmesbury and Clanwilliam, and then by horseback to Kamiesburg, where the field-cornet also acted as postmaster, and was responsible for arranging delivery to settlements in the local wards including Springbok Fontein. Mail by this route was contracted to leave Cape Town every Saturday at 10 am, for arrival at Springbok the following Thursday at 6 pm.

The Post Office also occasionally entrusted Namaqualand mail to the masters of coastal vessels leaving Cape Town for Hondeklip Bay or Port Nolloth. These services were irregular, utilised as and when an appropriate opportunity arose, in accordance with section 16 of the 1846 Postal Ordinance, which provided that "the Postmaster General may forward letters between places within this colony, by any ships or vessels which he shall deem it expedient to employ for that purpose, and all letters so forwarded shall be considered as forwarded by the post between such places, and be charged accordingly."

When Moffat received the letter, he endorsed it on the side flap 'Secretary's letter on subject of compromise.'

Unfortunately, the date of receipt is not stated, but the letter was surely handed to Moffat by Mr Roper, the first Postmaster of Springbok, and as such may be the earliest surviving example of a letter handled by the Springbok Post Office, which had opened on 3 December 1855.

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- Franco Frescura, *The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope, 1792-1910*, the Archetype Press, Pretoria, 2002.
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- J.M. Smalberger, *Aspects of the History of Copper Mining in Namaqualand, 1846-1931*, Struik, Cape Town, 1975.
- Cape Almanacs.

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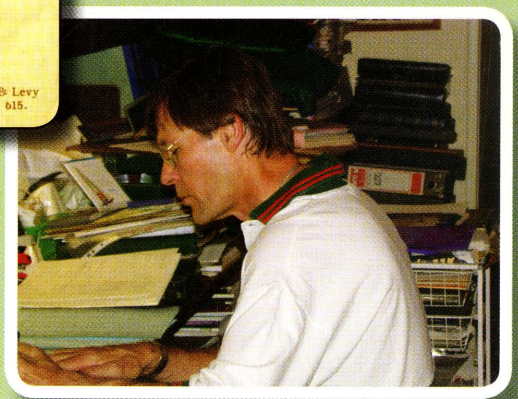

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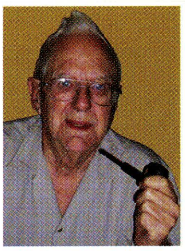
RJ LAWRENCE'S DISCOVERIES

by M.J.H. Tonking, SA Stamp Study Circle.



Revisiting the RJ Lawrence Discoveries

The student of Union Philately owes a great deal to Sydow, Gilbert, Hagger and a number of others, who solved many Union philatelic puzzles. Amongst them is a name few today may be aware of. This was a certain RJ Lawrence of the UK, who died in 1975.

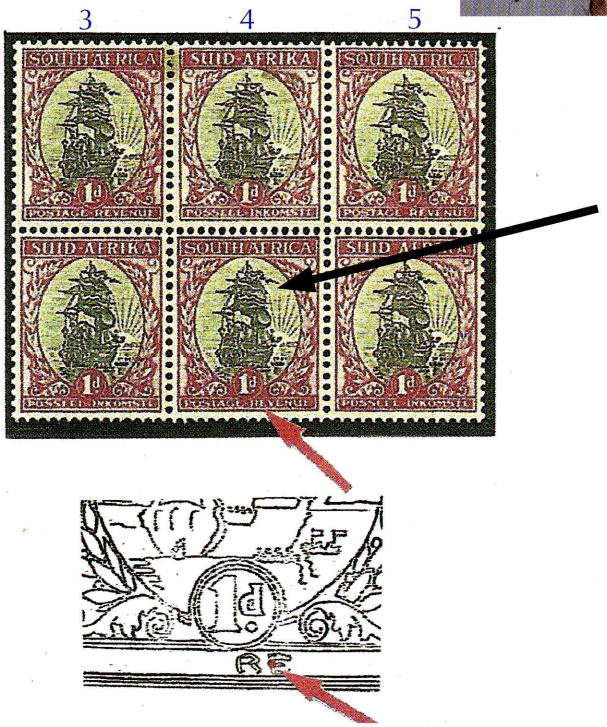
He was a fine philatelist who was responsible for two major discoveries. He made the first in 1961, which was the only known three row transposition found in the sheet of 1d roll stamp issued in sheet form R20S. The second made in 1963 was the discovery of the ½d roll stamp issue R16A, some 24 years after its issue in 1939. Had he not been so observant we may never have been aware of either of these issues. (Reference; *The South African Philatelist*, February 1963. SJ Hagger RDPSA *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa*.

The First Discovery - the Three Row Transposition of Roll R 13S

In the sheet issue with correctly aligned printing cylinders, the interior cylinder flaw, a thickened black line of shading and tiny dot is on row 22/4, whereas in the block of six stamps it is on row 3/4. This three row transposition changed the language of the stamp from Afrikaans to English.

The exterior cylinder flaw, a tiny red dot in the 'E' of REVENUE is on row 3/4.

To date this is the only example of the three row transposition that has come to light. It was originally in a block of ten stamps which was divided into a block of six and a block of four.



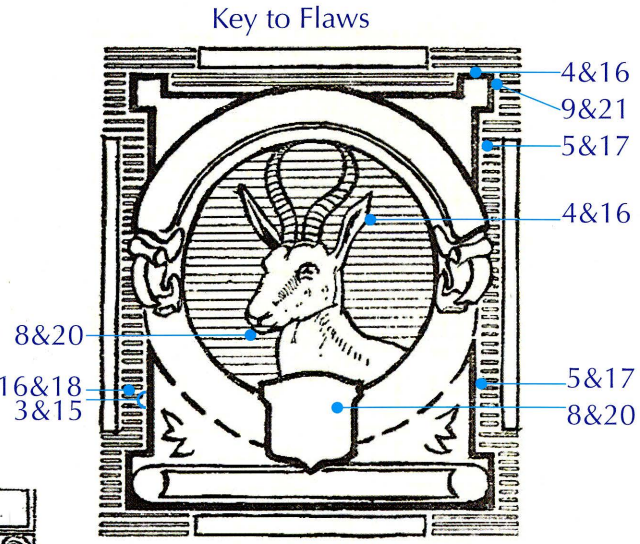
Exterior Cylinder Row 3/4 Tiny red dot in 'E' of REVENUE.



RJ Lawrence's Second Discovery

Without this fine example of philatelic detective work, we may never have known that there was a roll stamp issue number R16A. The stamps were originally thought to be an early shade of the previous 1937 issue of R16, until he discovered that the exterior frame cylinder was made up of two 11 row blocks from the same multi-positive (M-P), namely rows 13-3 and 2-12 inclusive to make up 22 rows.

The exterior cylinder was 7020 which was again used for the next issue 17. No cylinder transpositions are known. This was the only instance when printing cylinders were prepared in this way, the reason for which is unknown.



For an explanation of the flaws see p 73 in *'The Stamps of the Union of South Africa, 1910-1961'* edited by SJ Hagger RDPSA

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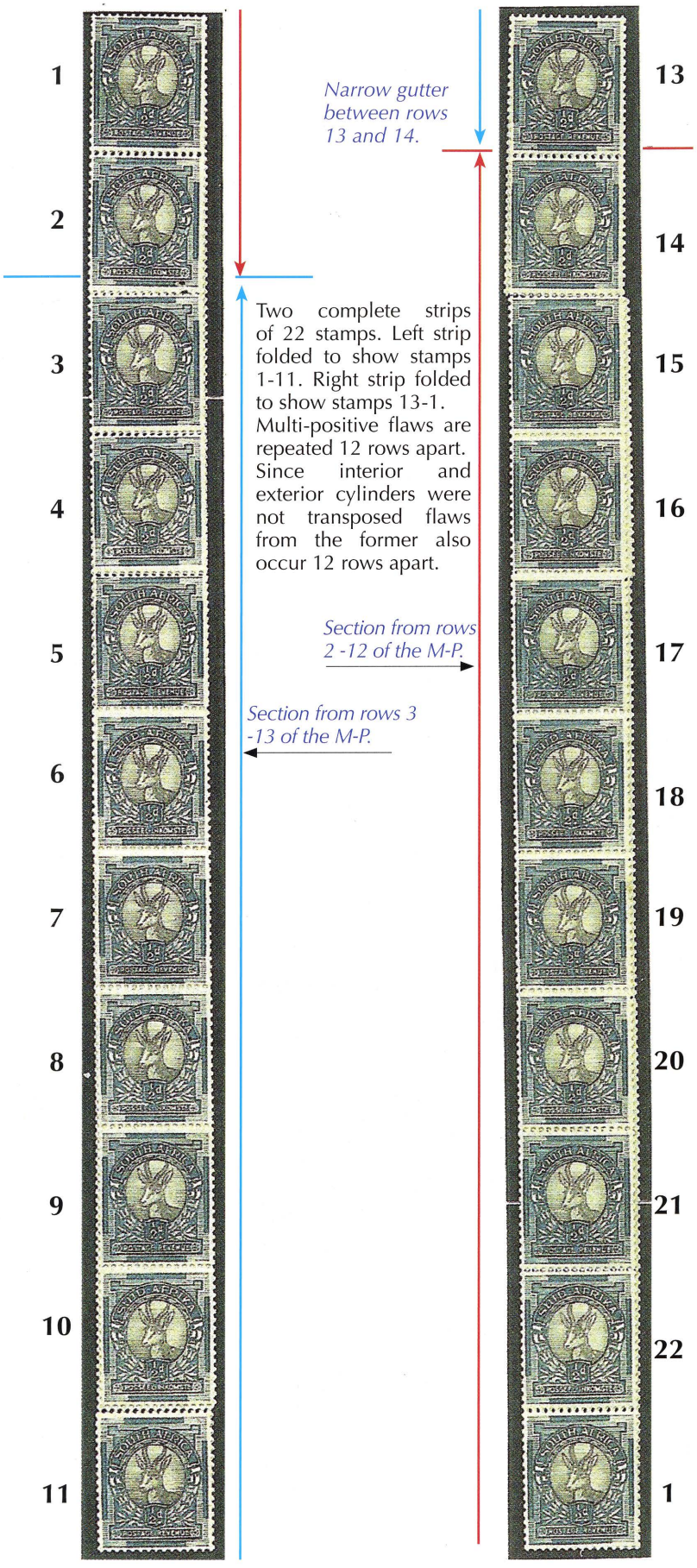
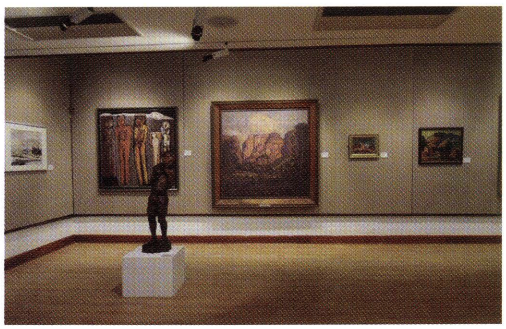
½d. Roll Stamp R16A



SAPDA BLOEMFONTEIN VISIT



Oliewenhuis Art Museum, the 'before'!

SAPDA dealers from Gauteng and Port Elizabeth descended on Bloemfontein on the 4th weekend of August 2015 bearing loads of philatelic goodies. The enchanting Oliewenhuis Art Museum was set up by local philatelists to facilitate the presentation of the wide range of stamp & postal history material the dealers - Kenny Napier, Steve van den Hurk, François Friend, Chris Bennett, Jacques Kuun, Clinton Goslin and Paul van Zeyl - brought with them. The take-aways were mostly thematic stamps (some boxes of specially priced sets were in great demand!) and collections, post cards and Anglo-Boer War covers and documents. As before, the sleep-over venue was well-utilised by unusually relaxed dealers for the sharing of future opportunities and personal challenges, and a first SAPDA ExCo meeting was held next to a roaring braai. Reach-outs can be so pleasant and rewarding in a whole array of ways. The City of Roses will hopefully host us again next year.

SAPDA communiqué



A Bloemies sleep-over venue fully fit for an African stamp dealer!



Kenny adding fuel to the braai!

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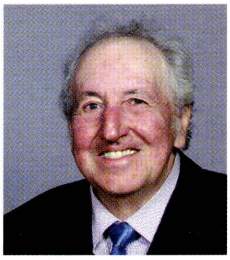

Basutoland: The 1954 Queen Elizabeth 2d Stamp and its Surcharges

by Dr Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Introduction

On 18 October 1954, Basutoland issued a set of 11 stamps. Each featured the Queen's Head as well as depicting some scene in Basutoland. The 2d stamp (deep bright blue and orange) depicted a 'Mosuto horseman' (fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - The Mosuto horseman design.

This stamp was subjected to both a same currency surcharge as well as being part of the 1961 Basutoland decimal surcharge set. Further, it later became a '2c' stamp, as part of the new Basutoland decimal currency definitive issue.

The Surcharges

• The ½d on 2d

On 1 August 1959, Basutoland issued a ½d surcharge on this 2d stamp (fig. 2). This stamp was the result of an overstock of the 2d value whilst a shortage emerged of the ½d stamp. The overprinting was done by the South African Government Printer in Pretoria.



Fig. 2- The ½d on 2d surcharge.

Unusually, there are only minor variations known in the surcharge positioning.

• The 2c on 2d Surcharge

On 14 February 1961, Basutoland issued a set of 11 decimal surcharged stamps. The lowest value was ½c and the highest value was R1. This was the result of Basutoland following the South African switch from the Sterling currency of Pounds Shillings and Pence to the new decimal currency of Rands and Cents, at the conversion rate of £1 = R2. The new value of 2c was surcharged onto the 2d stamp (fig. 3) with 360,000 stamps (6,000 sheets of 60 stamps) issued. Two printings of this overprint occurred. The surcharge was done in 18 point Tempo Bold (6.00 x 4.50mm). All the surcharging of these 1961 values also took place in Pretoria at the South African Government Printer.



Fig. 3 - The 2c on 2d surcharge.

Major Shifts

Some spectacular shifts of the surcharge are known, such as down to the bottom perforation (fig. 4), or even a complete 'straddle' (fig. 5).



Fig. 4 - Surcharge shift 'down'.



Fig. 5 - Straddle 'shift' of the surcharge.

Horizontal shifts are also known, one of the most spectacular is shown in fig. 6.



Fig. 6 - Horizontal shift of surcharge.

Minor Varieties

There are a number of 2c on 2d surcharges showing minor positional shifts. This is a result of the trim on the sheets that were surcharged, not being even with respect to the distance between the perforation and where the sheets were trimmed.The result is the slight shifts in the overprinting process not because of any error but rather because of the original trim of the sheets.

2c on 2d inverted surcharge

A sheet with this error (fig. 7) was reported in *The SA Philatelist* of March 1963, as having been discovered in Mohaleshoek.



Fig. 7 - Inverted 2c surcharge.

This was some two years after the overprinting and a number of months after the new definitive 2c Basutoland stamp was issued issued on 25 September 1962. Some two months after the report of this discovery, a further two sheets of this error were reported in London.

The 1978 *Robemark Catalogue Handbook of the Stamps of Basutoland – Lesotho,* stated on p 23:

"This (new discovery of a further two sheets) made it unlikely that the locally reported sheet had originated from Mohaleshoek as originally claimed but rather that this major error is in fact a further example of "printers waste ... it is highly unlikely that this item was ever sold openly over the counter to the public".

There does not appear to be any question with respect to the genuiness of this surcharge, as the slightly rounded curl of the '2', which is present on the surcharged sheets (row 3 no 1) also exist on these inverted surcharge sheets. Robemark went on to state that: *"In the stamp trade it has been accepted that more than three sheets have been available".*

Large 'multiple' pieces of this error are known, such as shown in fig. 8.

The Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Southern and Central Africa 2nd Ed 2014 values the stamp at £200.

A top marginal piece of the 2c inverted surcharge, placed alongside the normal 2c on 2d surcharge, in fig. 9, shows how and why the error occurred. It appears that the sheet of 60 stamps was placed in the overprinting press up-side down, thus resulting in the invert of the surcharge. The line-up results in the overprint being in the identical position, taking into account the trim of the original sheet as well as the fact that the sheet was inserted the wrong way around.

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Fig. 8 - Large multiple of the inverted surcharge (reduced).

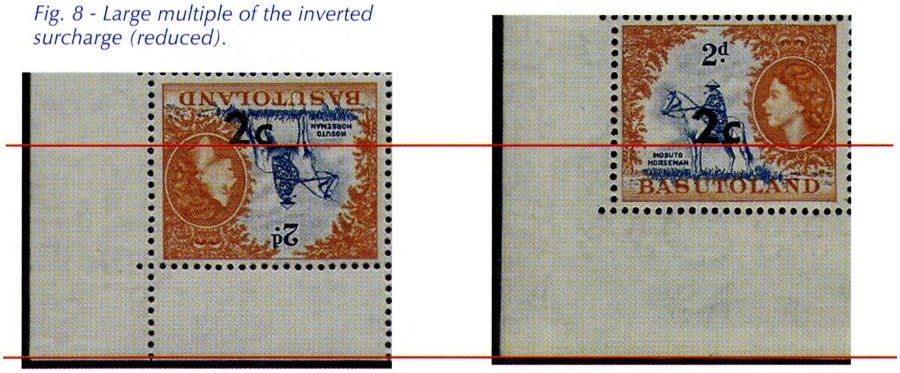

Fig. 9 - At left, the base of the '2c' inverted surcharge is at an equal distance from the lower sheet edge as at right for the normal surcharge.

2c on 2d 'Large' Surcharge In July 1963 (some 3 months after the report of the 2c inverted surcharge) *'Stamp Collecting'*, a Philatelic Magazine, had an article announcing the discovery of 1 sheet of the 2c on 2d surcharge, but with an unknown type face (fig. 10). This is some 2 years after the overprints went on sale. The surcharge was in 30 point Tempo Bold Condensed. It is the identical type face as that of the 1c on 1d Basutoland surcharge.



Fig. 10 - The 'large' 2c surcharge.

The 1978 *Robemark Catalogue Handbook of the Stamps of Basutoland – Lesotho,* notes on p 24 "The owner, a Maseru resident stated that he had purchased it over the counter at a local post office quite some time ago" (sic). It is interesting to note the reticence of the owner of this major variety and the previously described invert (2c on 2d inverted surcharge) to make these important discoveries known until well after the issue had appeared. ...yet here we have the case of... full sheets of important varieties appearing out of the blue years after issue:".

It is believed today that three sheets of this large 2c eventually made it to the market. The explanation appears to be that in the same way as there is a 1c with a large overprint (yet there was never the 1c surcharge with a small print), that experimentation in the surcharging process took place with this large font, prior to a decision being made to use the smaller font for the 2c overprint. Stanley Gibbons, in their *Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Southern and Central Africa* 2nd Ed 2014, state: "Examples of the 2c surcharge are known in a font similar to the 1c on 1d (grey-black and bluish-green). Price £250 unused".



Fig. 11 - The 2c definitive.

Change of Currency Definitive

On 17 December 1962, the new 2c definitive was issued (fig. 11). This was the same design as the original 2d stamp, but with a 2c value as part of the new decimal definitive series.

This was followed by a further variant on the Mosuto horseman design, where all duties of that series were overprinted with 'LESOTHO' when the territory achieved independence on 4 October 1966.

Summing-Up

The 2d Basutoland 1954 stamp, taken from the original set of 11 stamps as issued on 18 October of that year, can be seen to have undergone a more detailed journey than virtually any other stamp in this 1954 set. Hence, of the surcharges, it appears to be one of the most interesting stamps to be studied.

The question remains as to why, with this particular surcharge, were sheets some two years after issue discovered with two major 'errors'. The 2c inverted is a distinct error whereas the 2c with a large font, is either an error with respect to an original printing in a different style or, what seems more likely, an experimentation prior to the printing. The answer could be that all sheets sent to the Government Printer in Pretoria had to be accounted for and 'waste' was separated out at a later stage. With the rush and workload of surcharging, this later stage appears to have been poorly actioned and sheets with errors found their way back to the Basutoland Post Offices. One aspect is that these errors have never been questioned with respect to their genuiness.

Conclusion

The 2c on 2d decimal surcharge which was part of the Basutoland issue of 11 stamps on decimalisation on 14 February 1961, provides for an interesting study with respect to surcharging. In addition to a change of value, it portrays the actual decimalisation process whilst at the same time illustrating an error (the inverted overprint) a mysterious large font and varieties of the bisecting of the perforations. These errors are ones which do not have to be searched for but which stand out on the stamp itself.

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UPDATE on *Christmas Seals*

by Eddie Bridges, SA Collectors Society, UK

Further to the article written by Franco Frescura in *The SAP* of April 2015 pages 60-63, I would like to add some information.

I have been studying and collecting the Christmas Fund seals for about 30 years.

The first 3 issues of 1929-1931 have been poorly documented. I have made some observations, based on material in my collection, on the printings of these issues and would like to share these with the readers of *The SAP*.

1929 Issue

Frescura states on p 61 that due to limitations of rouletting, it seemed likely that the sheet sizes did not exceed 60 labels, laid out in a 6x10 format. This is not so. The sheet size was at least 120 or 240. Based on a large part sheet (fig.1) the sheet had at least 12 rows with possibly 10 or 20 labels across.

The part sheet in fig.1 shows the central marginal mark which indicates the half sheet size. Large part sheets or complete sheets are not known to have survived. If any reader has a large sheet in a wider format than fig.1, I would be interested to hear at <e.bridges@krohne.com>

These sheets were rouletted gauge 6x6 and appeared in an alternating language format.

1930 Issue

This issue was again printed by John Singleton-Williams Ltd of Durban as stated by Frescura. However, there was a change in sheet layout is evidenced by the part sheet in fig.2. This was printed in a two pane format with one pane printed *tête-bêche* to the other. The size of the sheet is again a question but I would hazard a guess and say the panes were 120 labels each. What is interesting as well is that the labels were rouletted horizontally and pin perforated vertically. This does not appear to be noted in any of the earlier *Union Handbooks* where these stamps have been listed. The same



Fig 1



Fig 3

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alternating language format was followed.

1931 Issue

Based on compelling evidence, these stamps were printed by the Government printer in Pretoria and not by Robinson and Co. in Durban as the current literature states. Frescura alluded to the perforating being done in Pretoria as this security feature was not available to private printers. Based on pieces in my collection, these stamps were printed on the Goebels 830 press exhibiting identical features to the contemporary 1d and 3d stamps printed at this time. Here the A control letter in the margin is the clue (fig. 3). This was a short lived cylinder identification mark. Measurements taken on the sheet margins show that the distance between the control letter A and the sheet numbers is to all intents and purposes identical, allowing for paper tolerances (fig. 3). A further clue is the four figure sheet number which is unique to the Goebels machine then in use.

The points of similarity are tabled below:

- The font of the letter 'A' and the serial numbers are the same for all three issues.
- The extra perf hole in the margin indicates the same perforating device used.
- The perforation gauge of the Christmas seal and the 3d pictorial is 14.
- The distance between the letter A and the serial numbers is 11.3mm for all three printings.

As far as known, Goebels had by this time only supplied Italy and South Africa with this type of printing press. I have visited the Darmstadt University in Germany, where remnants of the old Goebels archive are kept, and could find no evidence that further machines were supplied to private companies.

With this information, I am convinced the readership will agree that it is highly likely that the 1931 issue was printed by the Government Printer. It is an established fact that all subsequent issues were printed in a 120 pane format similar to the then current pictorial definitive in a 21.5x26.5mm label size to accommodate the perforating apparatus.

I hope this update is useful to those still out there collecting these labels and booklets.

A publication on these Christmas seals is in the pipeline.

Note: A short article proposing that the 1931 Christmas seals were printed by the Government Printer appeared in *The Springbok* Vol 60 Issue 4 Dec. 2012 with illustrations. This drew no response. Hopefully this article will elicit some comment.



Fig. 2

Faroe Islands Stamps
28 September 2015

SEPAC 2015: Knitted Art
sepac
FØROYAR 17 KR
Randi Samsonsen 2015
FO 817

The Christmas Gospel 3
FØROYAR 8,50 KR
FØROYAR 17,00 KR
FO 820-821

H.N.J. Bookstore 150 Years
FØROYAR 17 KR
FØROYAR 26 KR
H. N. JACOBSENS BÓKAHANDIL 150 ÁR
FO 818-819

Religion in the Viking Age
12 KR
FØROYAR
ÁTRÚNAÐUR Í VÍKINGAØLD
FO 814-816

/faroestamps

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FAROE ISLANDS

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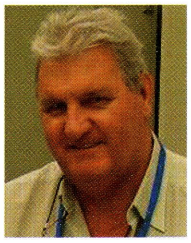
1930 - 41 South African Christmas Stamps on Cover

by Otto Peetoom, South Africa Collector's Society, UK Email: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com



Introduction

The article in the April 2015 edition of *The SAP,* entitled *Christmas Stamp Fund* by Franco Frescura, I found fascinating and informative. I assume that there are several comprehensive collections of SA Christmas Labels around. I enjoy accumulating labels and the main challenge is to find them on cover, properly tied.

I have a stock book full of SA Christmas labels which includes stamps, booklets and covers, it is in reality only a modest holding, but I would like to share some of the items with you.

The earlier pre-WWII Christmas issues on cover appear to be elusive and I have several gaps.

1929 - 1930 First Issue - In my experience 1930 is much more elusive than 1929, I only have a mint pair of 1930. Below, 1929 on cover, two labels on the front and one on the reverse posted from Amanzimtoti in DEC 30 to England (one label is tied).

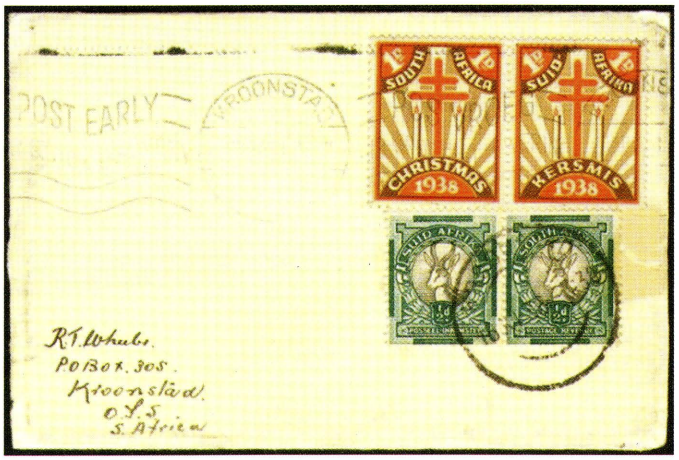


1931 On Airmail Covers to SWA - A series of envelopes, all addressed to Wyndham posted from UPINGTON 21 DEC 31, each Christmas label next to the postage stamp, none are tied.



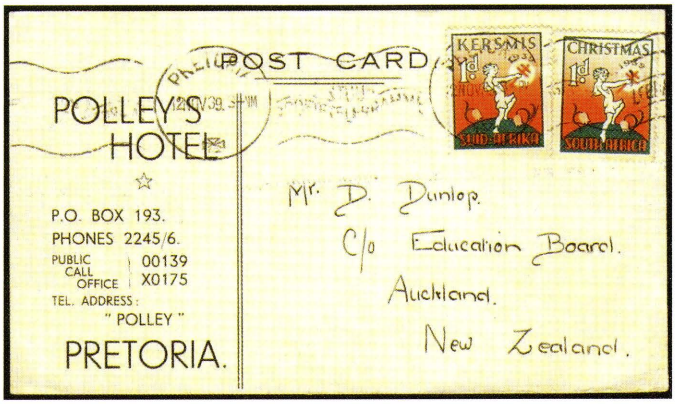
1933 - Two covers, both single labels, tied by a machine cancel. (not illustrated).

1936 - A bilingual pair tied by a PORT ELIZABETH 24 NOV 36 machine cancel.



1938 - Two covers, a single and a pair, both tied, from Johannesburg and Kroonstad. (not illustrated).

1939 - The design and colours of this label create a happy and bright scene and I have a delightful Postcard from Polley's Hotel[1] in Pretoria to New Zealand, using two labels for postage and sent without any penalties raised. Cancelled 12 NOV 39 with a manuscript note: *This is first day of issue.*



I have another envelope with the same labels dated KROONSTAD 13 NOV 39 and wonder if this was a first day for that town?

1940 - A pair of labels on the reverse, Johannesburg to USA, opened and passed by censor.



1941 - This is one of my favourites from Cape Town to the unusual destination of the Gold Coast (Ghana). A **'V'** for Victory envelope with a strip of four labels used as postage, surcharged and paid with Gold Coast 3d Postage due cancelled ACCRA 24 NOV 41.

The East London, Burmeister & Co. hoard of covers

Starting from the early 1940s, I have many envelopes addressed to the above firm. Commercial envelopes to Burmeister are a source for hundreds of South African labels which include the Christmas issues. Burmeister received a great deal of mail from smaller towns, mainly in the Cape Province. Besides being an excellent source for labels, there is the added bonus of postmarks.

On cover a 1941 Christmas label from AUSTIN'S POST (OFS)

Later items include Dewetsdrop, Kowie West, Maclear, Molteno, Ryno, Saaifontein (Arundel), Sandflats and Ugie.

(1) Polley's Hotel, Pretorius Street, Pretoria was a hotel since the early 1890s. It features in the 1936 *Year Book* offering a room at 17s 6d. Demolished in 1950 and in its place, the *Wachthuis*, the headquarters of the South African Police, was erected. The naming of Polley's arcade was to commemorate the Hotel which once stood at its place.

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Tulbagh Double Oval handstamp

by Jake Shepherd, Society for Israel Philately (jake.shepherd@gmail.com)



Personal Triumph

I have been collecting Cape Triangulars for the last 25 years or so and during that time I have always thought that should I ever come across an item with my 'name' on it then I would just buy it. I must admit that after spending many years keeping an eye out for my name on a cover and never even coming close I was resigned to the fact that it was highly unlikely that such a cover might exist. For starters my family only arrived in South Africa in the 1890s and while my surname is not that uncommon the odds are that there may not have been any 'Shepherd' families in the Cape at the time and even if there were, the chances that any of their correspondence survived was highly unlikely.

You can imagine my surprise and delight when I saw in the 22-25 June 2015 David Feldman British Empire sale (including the Tatiana Collection) an item (fig. 1) addressed to a Mrs Shepherd care of J. Shepherd Esq. Handel Maatskappy, Cape Town (Lot 50704).

It was only after I found out that I won the item and the initial euphoria wore off that I realised that this item is not just important to me, but also assists to shed some light on a very interesting period of Cape philately, namely the introduction of the Double Oval (DO) handstamp.

It turns out that the most interesting aspect of this cover is the VERY early usage of the Tulbagh DO handstamp. In addition if this turns out to be the earliest known cover from Tulbagh, then it bears the earliest known usage of the Barred Triangular Obliterator in Tulbagh.

Design of the Double Oval handstamp



The DO handstamps were the first dated handstamps to be distributed throughout the Cape Colony. The design of the DO handstamp is made up of two ovals (actually they are ellipses) touching at the base where the larger oval has dimensions of 36mm by 22mm and the inner oval 26mm by 16mm.

The town name occupies the curved gap between the ovals at the top leaving the central area of the inner oval open for the use of manually adjusted Month, Day and Year slugs. I have only ever seen examples where the Month and Day slugs are above the Year slug.

Before the Double Oval Date Stamp

The iconic Cape Triangular stamps were introduced on 1 September 1853 and I am sure some First Day Cover (FDC) collectors would love to have the distinction of owning a Cape Triangular FDC. The problem with this particular fantasy is that the Cape postal service only introduced dated handstamps about 3 months later in December 1853 and therefore the earliest covers actually have no date stamps applied and therefore cannot be definitively dated.

The cover (fig. 3) illustrates this point in that the cover is addressed to London and bears a London date stamp, but a Cape date stamp is conspicuous by its absence.



Fig.2 - Closeup of arrival date stamp on cover in fig 3.

Looking closer at the arrival date in London (fig. 2) it is just possible to make out the date: **12 December 1853** (December is difficult to read, but it does correspond with what is known about the movement of the steamer *Victoria* (Todd [4]).

The steamer *Victoria* had set the steamer record the previous year for a trip of 70 days from England to Australia (Foster [2] p 435). This means it would have taken about five weeks to make the trip from the Cape to London. We can therefore assume that the letter would have been dispatched about the beginning of November 1853. This was before the DO handstamps were introduced and therefore it is no surprise that no dispatch date stamps appear on this cover.



Fig. 1 - After all these years I had found an item with my name on it.

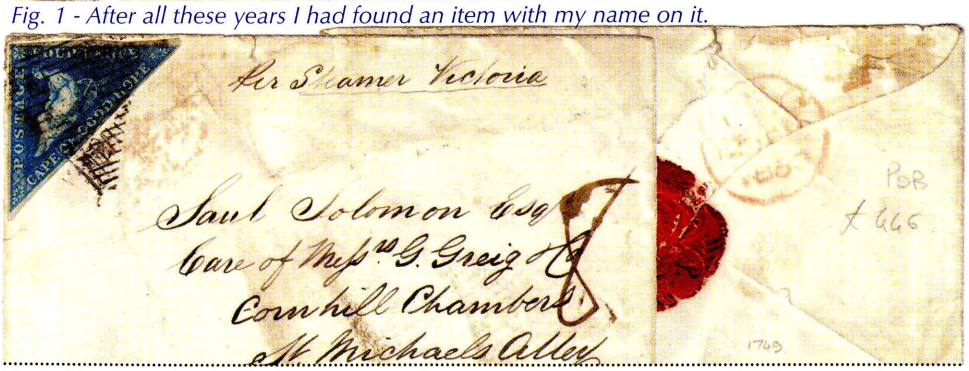

Fig.3 - This letter, sent per steamer Victoria, happens to be addressed to Saul Solomon while he was in England on business in 1853 (Solomon [5] p. 57). Saul Solomon was the Cape Government Printer and would later be responsible for printing the famous 'woodblock' provisional issues of 1861.

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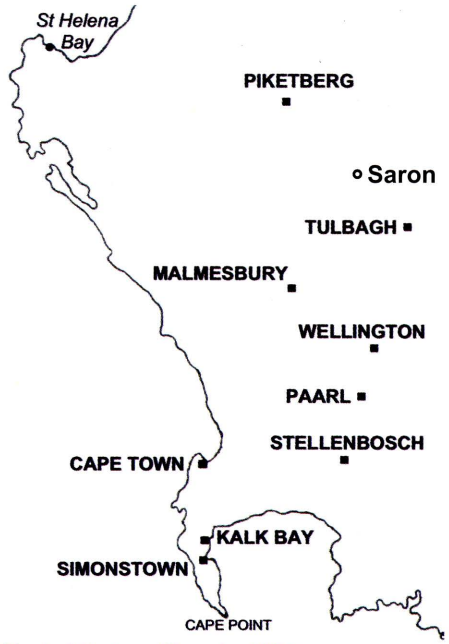

Fig.4 - Western Cape in 1853

Tulbagh and its Neighbourhood in 1853

Tulbagh has a history that goes back to 1699 when the Governor Willem van der Stel began to allocate loan farms to landless Dutch families in a valley at the foot of the Winterhoek mountains. By the mid-1700s the area had become a prosperous farming district more commonly known as Roodezand and in 1743 the Roodezand Dutch Reformed congregation was established. The village that inevitably developed around the church was formally established in 1795 and was named in honour of Ryk Tulbagh the former Governor of the Cape (1751-71). The postmaster of Tulbagh in 1853 was Mr HA Zinn (Frescura [1] p 718).

In 1846 the town of Saron was established on the farm of Aan de Leeuweklip. The name, Afrikaans for Sharon, is of biblical origin (1 Chronicles 27:29, Song of Solomon 2:1), meaning 'flats' or 'plain'. (Raper[7] p 397) The Reverend JF Butler acted as the Postmaster of Saron from 1853 to 1857 and rendered his service gratis (Frescura [1] p 632).

The area of Piketberg was inhabited by the Khoikhoi and the San before the arrival of Dutch settlers and there is still well-preserved San rock art in the mountains. The Dutch established a small military outpost on the foothills of the Piketberg mountains to protect the livestock of farmers against the Khoikhoi. The name is derived from the Dutch 'piket' or the French 'piquet', meaning a military post.

The post office in Piketberg was opened on 22 April 1848. In 1853 the appointed Postmaster at Piketberg was Mrs PJ Truter (Frescura [1] p 557).

The towns of Saron and Piketberg are about 30km and 70km north-west of Tulbagh respectively.

Introduction of the Tulbagh Double Oval Date Stamp of 1853

It is not known exactly when the DO handstamps were delivered to the Cape Town General Post office, but the earliest recorded use of the Cape Town DO is on 14 November 1853. The DO date stamps were distributed to the other post offices from about Thursday, 15 December onwards (Goldblatt[3] p 83).

The Cape Archives contain letters from a number of town postmasters acknowledging the receipt of their DO stamps. Fortunately for the purposes of this article the towns of Saron and Piketberg acknowledged receipt of the DO date stamps on Monday 19 December and Tulbagh acknowledged receipt on Friday, 23 December (Frescura [1] pp 632, 557 and 718).

It is strange that both Saron and Piketberg, towns further away from Cape Town than Tulbagh, acknowledged receipt of their implements four days before Tulbagh. It is even more puzzling in the case of Saron, which did not have its own mail route, but instead its mail was sent together with the mail to Tulbagh (Goldblatt[6]). It is a stretch to think that the Cape Town General Post Office delayed sending the DO to Tulbagh while prioritising a less significant post office like Saron. It is far more likely to assume that Tulbagh actually received its DO handstamp by Monday 19th as well, but only sent the acknowledgement later on in the week.

Based on the above analysis alone we could pin the introduction date of the Tulbagh DO to Monday, 19 December 1853. The existence of the Shepherd cover with the dispatch date of 19th proves this point.

Examination of the Shepherd Cover

The Shepherd cover has a number of fairly interesting features including 3 impressions of the Tulbagh DO stamp dated 19 December 1853, an impression of the Cape Town DO stamp dated 20 December 1853 and red ink stains on the front of the cover revealing some fingerprints.

The first impression of the Tulbagh DO can just be made out as a debossed imprint in the paper slightly offset from the inked impression on the back. It is almost as if the date stamp was struck once with very little or no ink followed by a subsequent impression made with ink. I would imagine that the first impression might have been made either as a means to push the date slugs into place or as an initial attempt to check the orientation of the slugs.

There is a curious feature of both the Tulbagh DO impressions on the back of the cover - the month and day slugs are inverted! This is not something that I have seen before, but it is certainly possible if the slug is inserted incorrectly relative to the rest of the stamp (fig. 6).

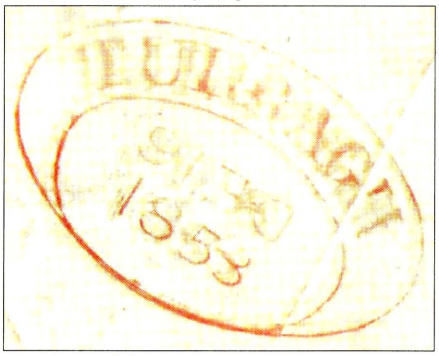

Fig.6. Double impression showing inverted month and day

This is possible since the instrument used date slugs which were pushed into the 'socket' and there was no single position by use of a slot or key. *(Visser, personal correspondence)*. The third impression (fig. 7) of the Tulbagh DO on the front of the cover has the month/day slug in its correct orientation. It is entirely reasonable to assume that the postmaster realising his mistake removed and replaced the slug thereby getting ink on his hands. It is therefore hardly surprising that the

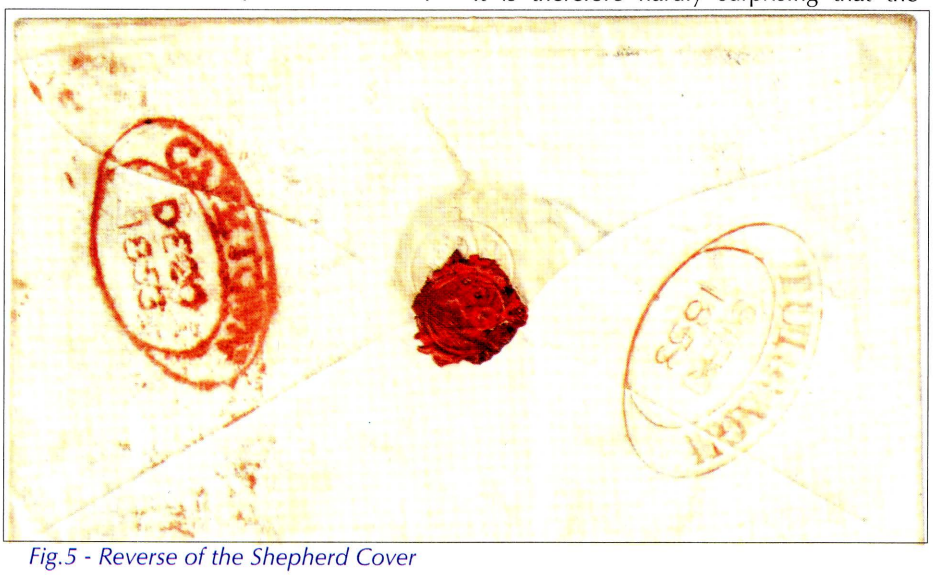

Fig.5 - Reverse of the Shepherd Cover

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Tulbagh DO on the front of the cover is accompanied by ink stains caused by ink covered fingers.

Jumping to conclusions (Inspired by Sherlock Holmes)

The above features have led me to suspect that this cover is not only a very early use of the Tulbagh DO handstamp, but is actually the VERY FIRST use of the date stamp!

Some may say that such a claim is preposterous. I would say, "Elementary my dear Watson! Let's look at the evidence before us."



Fig.7 - Impression showing the correctly oriented month and day

Is the 19th the first day of use of this Tulbagh DO? This is actually highly probable given that 19 December seems to be the earliest date that post offices in the vicinity of Tulbagh acknowledged receipt of their DO implement. In addition if the DO handstamps were only distributed to the post offices from about Thursday,15 December onwards (Goldblatt[3] p 83) then we may expect Tulbagh to have received the implement some time on the Saturday or Sunday. It is not an extreme stretch to believe that Monday, 19th would be the first day of use given the fact that the weekends in the Cape were not traditional work days.

Was this the first cover of the day?

This cover is actually graced with three impressions of the Tulbagh DO. The reason for the multiple strikes seems to be that the initial strikes on the back of the cover had the month and day slugs inverted and therefore a third strike with the correctly oriented date needed to be made on the front of the cover. Given the fact that date slugs need only be inserted once at the beginning of the day any subsequent covers stamped on the 19th would only bear a strike with the correctly oriented date.

The oval portions of the first strike (that do not overlap with the second strike) debossed on the back show no ink that I can see (fig. 8). It is almost as if the implement had never come into contact with any ink before the impression was made. This seems to bolster the impression that it was the first time that the Tulbagh DO stamp had ever been used.

Finally, it is important to point out that we humans generally have a difficult time getting the concept of inverted images right the first time (as needed to be done when setting the slugs). Once we have done it a few times it becomes easier. If this was indeed the first time that the Tulbagh postmaster handled the implement then it is hardly surprising to see inverted month and day slugs.

Given the above evidence I feel confident claiming that this cover bears the first ever use of the Tulbagh DO handstamp. I do however acknowledge that short of a signed affidavit, by Mr HA Zinn - the Tulbagh postmaster at the time, stating this point explicitly, there is no way to know for certain. That being said I suspect less compelling circumstantial evidence has been accepted as proof in the past.

Acknowledgements

The substance of this article owes much to Professor Franco Frescura who shared with me material from his unpublished works relating to the double oval date stamps. Specifically it is thanks to his research that I had access to information from the Cape Archives upon which much of this article is based.

In addition I would like to thank Professor Alex Visser for reviewing this article and providing valuable feedback.

Research Project

I am currently putting together an online archive of the DO date stamp type for the specific purpose of identifying earliest and latest recorded dates of use. As part of this process I encourage fellow collectors to look through their collections for particularly early or late usages and to upload scans of legible strikes. This project builds on the work already undertaken by Robert Goldblatt, Franco Frescura, Alex Visser and many others.

https://sites.google.com/site/doubleovaldatestamp/

The above is the link to an open online archive that will be accessible to the general public.

I hope that this initiative will overcome the disadvantages of the earlier formats, namely 1) they were not accompanied by proving images and 2) that the archive was offline and could not be easily updated by the general public.

References

1] F. Frescura, *The Post Offices Of The Cape Of Good Hope 1792-1910*, (Archetype Press, 2nd printing 2003)

2] W. Foster, *The Mercantile Marine Magazine and Nautical Record: Vol I January - December 1854* (London, 1854)

3] R. Goldblatt, *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope* (Cape Town, 1984)

4] J.B. Todd, *Shipping News* (Otago Witness from March 5 1853)

5] W.E.C. Solomon, *Saul Solomon – The Member for Cape Town*. (Oxford University Press, 1948)

6] Post Office Guide of 1859, R. Goldblatt, *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope* (Cape Town, 1984) - Pages 204-210

7] P.E. Raper, *Dictionary of Southern African Place Names*. (Jonathan Ball Publishers, 1989)



Fig.8 - 200x magnification with arrows pointing to the first debossed impression

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An Expert Committee Insurance Claim?

by Michael Wigmore RDPSA, Chairman, PFSA Expert Committee



So they thought I should write something for you about the Expert Committee and its work. I can do the usual and tell you about research, ratification and accuracy; safety and security; assurance and insurance; added value and asset protection; and on and on. How's the attention span doing?

This is meant to be 'light-hearted.' Don't think for one moment that we don't take our work very, very seriously. We are more than aware that time taken in assessment can be a problem for some, but work is always focussed towards arriving at the most beneficial outcome for every item and this just takes a while, sometimes. In giving opinions on the correct identification of a philatelic item, its status and its condition, we are dealing with your babies, your treasures, your beloveds. Possibly even your hopes and dreams? As a Committee, we bring to the task way more than a century of combined philatelic experience and our unseen efforts focus on arriving at an opinion of accurate and fair assessment.

We recognise our responsibilities and are duly solemn but there are lighter moments. We sometimes decline a request for certification - often as it is not really warranted and, in all honesty, to save our time and the owner's money. But some of the approaches are worth recalling. You must have all come across the 'funny insurance claims' that do the rounds every so often? The 'I drove into the wrong drive and collided with a tree I haven't got' type. In roughly the same genre, here is our 'insurance claim' selection from serious comments (verbatim) to the Expert Committee, saved over the years:-

"I'm sending this in but it doesn't really need a certificate as I bought it on an auction." Will the auctioneer tell you what to do?

"I bought this at the club as USA, but I'm fairly sure it isn't."

"Would be grateful if you would take a close look at this one for me. It was orange when I bought it and now it isn't."

"When you say you assess a stamp, do you weigh it?"

"Is this the good shade? It isn't the right colour but the chap at the society told me it's the same, just purple. "

"Is the gum on this stamp inverted?"

"I've been warned this may be a reprint. If it is, what are you going to do about it? "

"Do you take a punch out of the stamp to put it in a machine? "

"I need certificates on twenty identical stamps. Do I have to pay for all of them or just one? "

"Do you do jewellery?"

"Please certify this stamp as the right colour. If you won't do that, do you give me my money back?"

"I want a certificate that this stamp is OK. (I've been told it is a bantam but I looked this up and it only talks about chickens). How come it's so small, could it have shrunk when it got soaked off years ago? "

"Is 'certification' like they do at the police station where they put a big, pink stamp thing on it? Won't that spoil my stamp? "

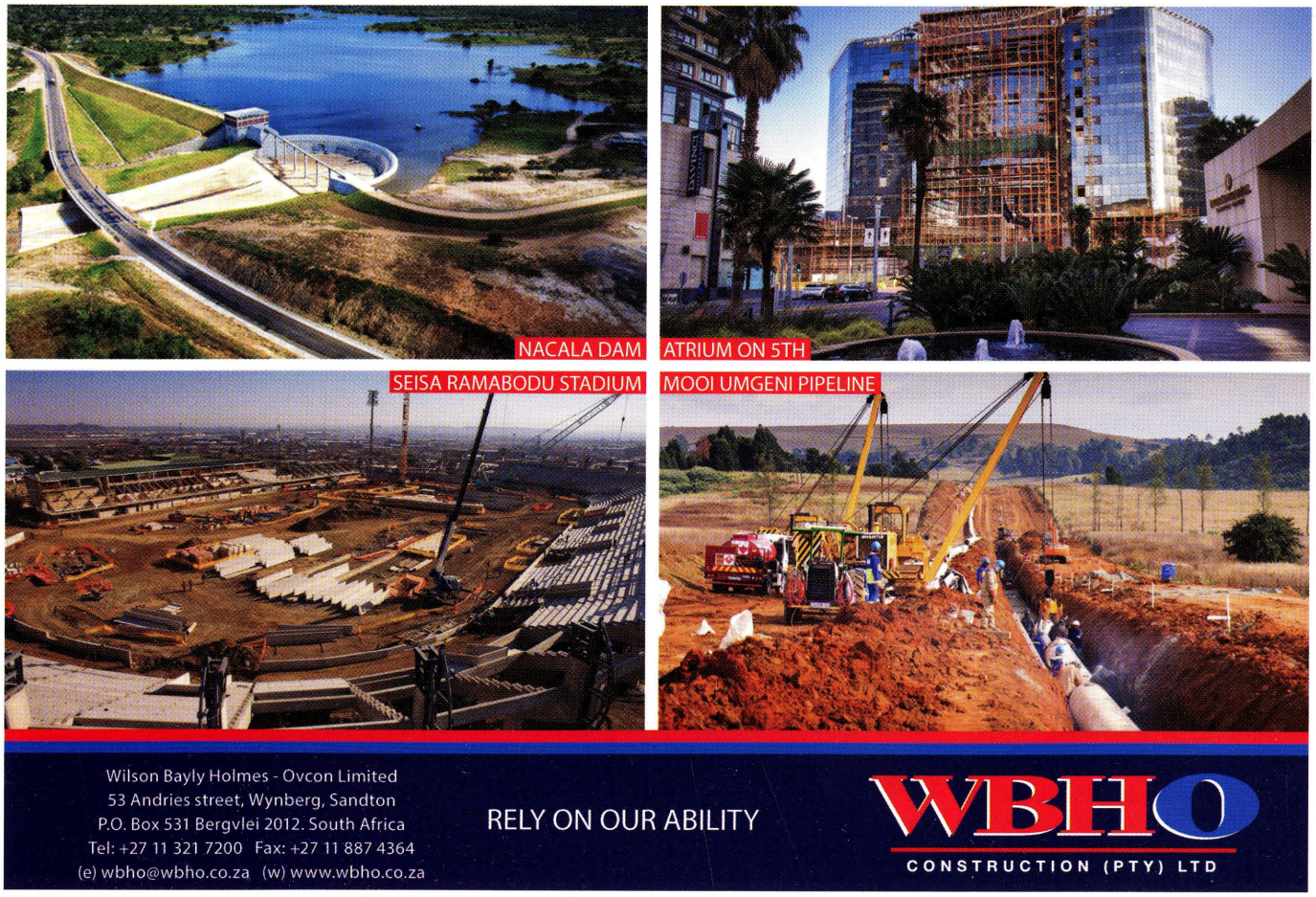
"My friend wants to buy this but only if it has a certificate. Please send one immediately. (PS: do you need to see the stamp)?"

"I'm not prepared to send you this stamp as you may lose it. My son can send you a picture through his computer which will be good enough for you. Please remember not to charge me postage."

If you recognise one of the above as yours then apologies - we're not being judgemental, you just brightened our day briefly and, not to worry, your anonymity is safe.

I'm still worried about that 'inverted gum' one though – no owner follow-up to the initial approach. Probably 'printed on the gummed side,' but suggestions on a postcard, please, to the Editor.

Not to me if you don't mind - that little headache seems to be coming back.



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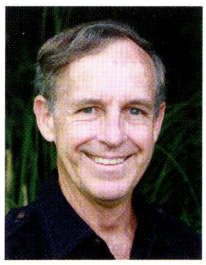
Phun with postmarks

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



History on our doorstep

Most of us would never have heard of a small Post Office Agency 'Ginkelsrus', let alone have any idea where it was located. I am indebted to Chris van Ginkel, who provided a personal insight into the history of this Agency, and to Marge Viljoen who brought this to my attention.

This Post Office Agency was renamed from Detour (4.3.1929 – 20.3.1933) and operated until 28.12.1936 where the Moses River and the Groblersdal - Marble Hall Road intersected in the Transvaal (Lat: 25° 0'13.98"S, Long: 29°20'42.80"E). It was located on the farm Wolvekraal. The Postmaster of 'Detour' postal agency was Boudewijn (Bou) van Ginkel and it became 'Ginkelsrus' only after his death on 7 June 1932. Thereafter the proprieters of the mill, a shop and the Agency were Maximilliaan Boudewijn and Erna Hermine (Sachse) Van Ginkel. So Detour had two Postmasters; Bou van Ginkel and after his death his daughter in law, Erna Van Ginkel, who was the grandmother of Chris. Figure 1 shows the agency in 1935.



Figure 1. The Ginkelsrus Agency with greatgrandmother Kète Sachse, grandmother Erna Van Ginkel (Sachse) (Postmistress and shopkeeper) and greatgrandfather Philipp Christiaan Sachse.

Maximiliaan Boudewijn (Max) Van Ginkel inherited the property from his father Boudewijn (Bou) Van Ginkel. Bou was trained as a pharmacist in Amsterdam and his father owned the well-known 'Jacob Hooy Apotheek/Drogist en Kruidenwinkel' which still exists in Amsterdam. Philipp Christiaan Sachse was an artist and Anglo-Boer War volunteer as photographer and heliographer. Due to the serious national drought and the artificial international banker's depression the mill as well as the Agency was closed in 1936.

Two postmarks of Ginkelsrus are in Chris' collection and are the first to be recorded. Figure 2 shows the postmark for Detour as well as for Ginkelsrus.

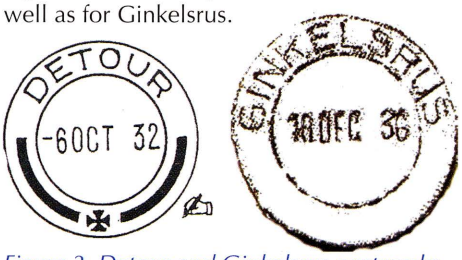


Figure 2. Detour and Ginkelsrus postmarks.

Is it Stone Towers or Amatole Valley?

Recently I received a WebRePost PAT label issued by the Amathole Valley Post Office with a Stone Towers self-inking date stamp, shown in Figure 3. This perpetuates the confusion that exists around this office. This office opened on 22.6.2007 as Amatole Valley, but is located in the Stone Towers Centre in East London. The first date stamp recorded, presumed to having been issued at opening, is inscribed Stone Towers and is shown in Figure 4. This is evidently the same one that is shown in Figure 3 which is in a worn state and has lost the postal code. As an aside, the life of 8 years for a self-inking canceller is remarkable as they normally last up to 4 years, but this would depend on the care and extent of use. The Branch Manager's cachet, also shown in Figure 4, is inscribed Amatole Valley, which is a different spelling to that on the PAT label. It will be interesting to see what name the replacement date stamp will have, and I wish to encourage readers who frequent this office to keep me informed.



Figure 3. Amathole Valley PAT label and Stone Towers date stamp.

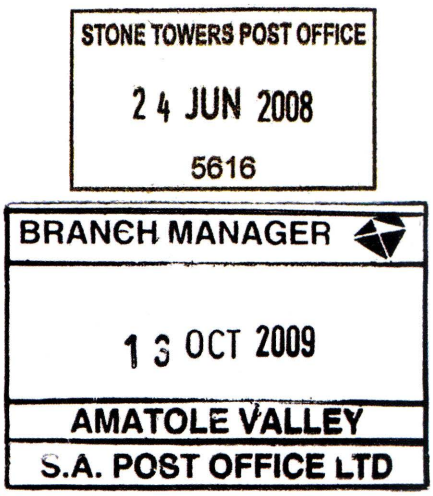


Figure 4. First Stone Towers date stamp and Amatole Valley Branch Manager's cachet.

Ons is nie altyd bewus van die wonderlike eietydse geskiedenis wat in ons midde beskikbaar is nie, soos die inligting oor die Ginkelsrus posagentskap weereens aantoon. Ek hoor graag van lesers wat 'n bydrae kan lewer oor ander kleiner kantore. Die verwarring oor poskantoorname bly maar 'n tameletjie, en dit is belangrik dat ons die verklarende inligting bekom en dokumenteer, want oor 50 jaar sal dit bykans onmoontlik wees. Weereens wil ek 'n beroep doen op die lesers om sluitingsinligting van poskantore aan my deur te gee aangesien ek toenemend bewus word van die groot aantal kantore wat gesluit word, soos Melville in Johannesburg wat onverwags in Julie gesluit het.

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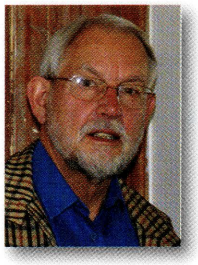
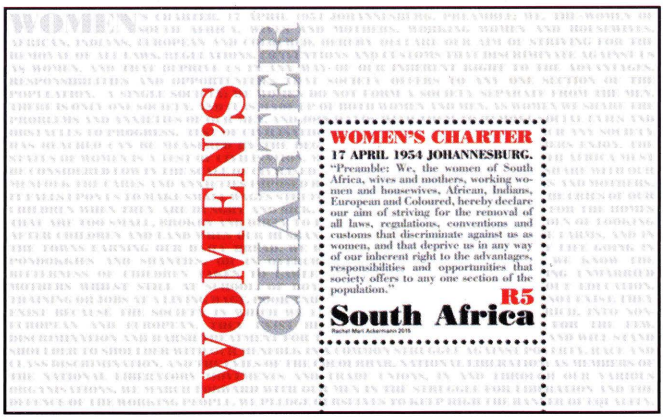


South African Stamp Issues - 2015 - part IV

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.



• 7 August 2015 – 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CHARTER

Denomination: R 5.00.
Designer: Rachel-Mari Ackermann.
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 36mm square incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm.
Perforation: 13.3 extending downwards to bottom margin of sheet.
Gum: PVA.
Paper: Phosphor coated.
Quantity: 15,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Printing sheet size: The printers did not send the uncut sheets with the stock, so this information is not yet available.
Canceller: No. 8.68 – 'WOMEN'S / CHARTER JOHANNESBURG 07·08·2015'.

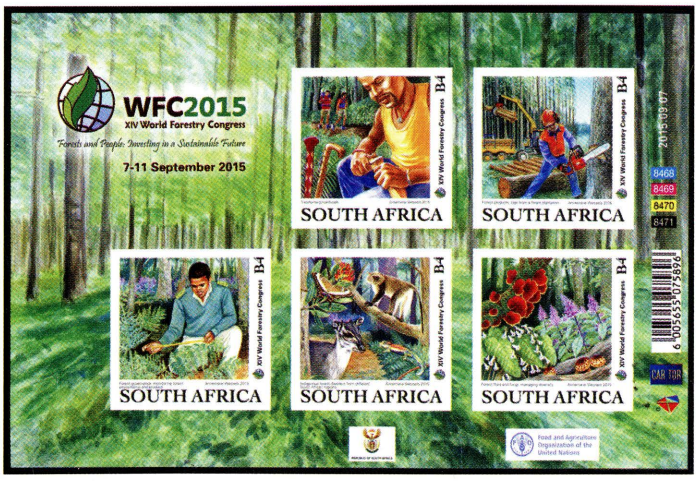


• 12 August 2015 – JELLYFISH IN SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS

Denominations: 10 x B5 (R6.55).
Designer: Sheila Collins.
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: Five in horizontal format 41 x 31mm. and five in vertical format 31 x 41mm.
Perforation: Die cut simulated.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow-green band at bottom and left of horizontal stamps or bottom and right of vertical stamps.
Gum: Self adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 140 x 195mm.
Quantity: 50,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8464 (blue), 8465 (red), 8465 (yellow) and 8466 (black).
Printing sheet size: Not yet examined.
Canceller: No. 8.73 – '12-08-2015 / Waterfront'.

• 7 September 2015 – 14th WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS
held in Durban from 7 to 11 September 2015

Denominations: 5 x B4 (R8.00).
Designer: Annemarie Wessels.
Printer: Cartor Security Printers, France.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 37mm square arranged in two rows as shown in the illustration.
Perforation: Die cut simulated. Stamps are separated by 6mm gutters, in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of individual stamps. These roulettes extend to the top, bottom and right-hand margins of the sheetlet and also through the backing paper.
Phosphor: Over the white areas of the design in a frame.
Gum: Self Adhesive.
Sheetlet size: 165 x 110mm.
Quantity: 50,000 sheetlets.
Cylinder numbers: 8468 (blue), 8469 (red), 8470 (yellow) and 8471 (black).
Printing sheet size: Not yet examined.
Canceller: No. 8.74 – '07-09-2015 / DURBAN'.



THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WERE SCHEDULED FOR THE DATES INDICATED BUT HAVE NOT YET APPEARED.

• 2 July 2015 – SOUTH AFRICAN POPULAR MUSIC LEGENDS (Part 2)

• 24 July 2015 – KINGFISHERS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Acknowledgement: The above information was supplied by Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, with images supplied by Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services, together with personal observations.

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Smalls

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

WANTED: Philatelist looking TO BUY – 500 Ring 22 Album Sheets. Please contact Mike North, north@waterfallhillsestate.co.za

EXCHANGE: An Argentine collector looking for information and local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Alois Filipan, Mendoza №.560, Lanus. C.P. 1824, Prov. Bs Airs. Argentina.

EXCHANGE: Modern Railway postcards x346 different. Mainly from SA but also overseas. Price negotiable or to swop for vintage SA cards. Contact: B Brummer 0437262858 or brummerb@hawcweb.co.za

WANTED: Oleg Novoselov's father, a High school teacher of 40 years, now he retired, has a small philatelic club. In an attempt to grow and revive the hobby - asking for South African stamps. Contact: Oleg Novoselov. Rudneva St 61a-26. Tula. Russia. 300026.

International Philatelic Events

20 to 23 November '15
HONG KONG
International Exhibition
FIAP International Exhibition.
Commissioner : Jim Findlay RDPSA.

29 May - 04 June '16
NEW YORK 2016 FIP Patronage
USA www.ny2016.org
Commissioner:
Peter van der Molen RDPSA



STAMP FAIRS: *all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations and contact persons/ detail are:*

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR: 1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.
- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS: 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Rev Cassie Carstens: 012 653 2279.
- SANDTON STAMP FAIR: 2nd Saturday of every month; ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin: 083 272 9367. also known as the Kyalami stamp fair.
- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR: 10 Oct, 14 Nov 2015. From the N1:Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.
- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR: **NOTE THE VENUE.** Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**. 31 October, 28 November.
- KZN STAMP FAIR: Last Sunday of all months, except December; Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. Contact: Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, mcnd@telkomsa.net
- BLUFF STAMP FAIR: 1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. Contact: John Bracey Tel.: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za
- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR: 2015 meeting dates: 7 Nov & 12 Dec. *Venue*: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

QSA AUCTIONS
Ullman Recreation Centre, SANDTON

All the QSA auctions are held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. ***Directions*** - *from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.*

Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

Society News

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:
Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Board of your **FUTURE MEETING** programme so that the information can be published **timeously**.



WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Dates for Society Meetings for 2015 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

14 October - One Frame Evening
11 November - 2nd Competitive Evening
2 December - President's Evening

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716.
Contact: Alistair Mackenzie *(Chairman)*
Tel: 011 768 7565
or Ian Walker *(Secretary)* Tel: 011 4721161

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel. 011 789 6357.
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie.
Exhibit programme for meetings to March 2016:-
Oct 21 : My favourite (Max of one frame) and thematic exhibits.
Nov 18 : Intersociety quiz, invited exhibits and end of year function.
2016: Jan 20 : Africa and its islands.
Feb 17 : General.
Mar 16 : AGM and invited exhibits.

Please note : The postal address for the PS of J is now P O Box 131037, Bryanston,2021, South Africa.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.
- Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393
- Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927

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

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them. Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00. *Venue*- Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch. *Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly* Newsletter *with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*

Visitors are welcome at all meetings

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. email: info.fhps@info. Website: www.fhps.info

Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

- *President:* Robert Cummings. Tel: 041 961 0645. Cell: 083 326 7294.
- Dave Brown *(Vice President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409.

This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.

MEETING DATES all on Monday evenings: 5 October;9 November; 30 November (President's Night).

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday of each month at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. Contact: Ian Johnstone, landline 308950; email: kupas@mweb.co.zw cellphone 0772 859 759

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 - **2nd Thursday** of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban *(January meeting held on the 3rd Thursday)*

Contacts: ***'All are welcome'***

- Trevor Harris *(President)*
- Ted Brown *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
- Harald Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123
- Bev McNaught-Davis *(Zone Representative)* 031 904 1522

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

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club.

Open invitation to members of all the Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.

President: Ian McMurray. mail:ianjarvismcm@gmail.com

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg

- Thematics Group Meeting 09h00
- Executive Committee Meeting 11h00

3rd Monday of every month: St Mathews Parish Hall, Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Monthly Club Meeting. 16h00

President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net

President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za

Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za

Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net

Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net

- Tony Evans: *Competitions & Events Manager.*
- Mike O'Connor: *New Issues*
- Val de Jager: *Catering Officer*
- Joyce Hulse: *Library Assistant*
- Julia Evans: *Liaison Officer*
- Gordon Bennett. *Stamp Circuit Book Manager.*

EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Graham Bruce: *Librarian.*
- Heather Wyllie: *Stamp Sales Table.*

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510

Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November

President: Jack Visser (082 332 5353)

Tel / Faks: 044 6903030

E-pos: jackvisser@yahoo.com

Sekretarise: Gerrie Conradie (082 952 6700)

Tel / Faks 044 6981074

E-pos: gajcon@gmail.com

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings for 2015 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; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. 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. or Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. email: jacoli@mweb.co.za

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.

Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

VACANCY:

Are You Interested ? Youth Organiser

The Philatelic Federation has a vacancy for a volunteer youth organiser who is

- committed
- prepared to work
- conversant with social media

The role of the youth organiser is to –

- Maintain a database on youth topics promotion, techniques and guidelines for youth leaders, and youth development abroad
- Maintain a database of youth clubs and their members
- Solicit unwanted stamps and prepare and distribute small gift packets to youth leaders, for the youngsters
- Handle the administrative work in respect of organising and running JUNASS (the junior national stamp show)
- Promote the formation of youth groups, encourage youth leaders, visit youth groups where feasible
- Liaise with youth organisations which have chapters for stamp collecting
- Optimise the potential for youth communication on stamps via social media
- Provide input to kiddie pages of newspapers/journals which cater for youngsters/youth radio and TV programmes
- Periodically report to the Federation's management on progress

Applications may be submitted to the Federation Secretary at pfsasec@mweb.co.za or PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463. Based on a work plan developed with the youth organiser, a budget will be made available.

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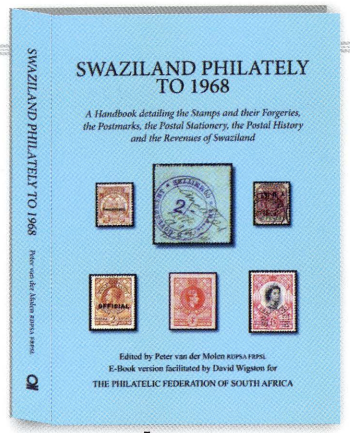

E-Book version of 'Swaziland Philately to 1968'

A Handbook, edited by Peter van der Molen and the E-book version facilitated by David Wigston, with over 500 pages of information on most philatelic aspects of that country, published in printed book format in 2013 by the Royal Philatelic Society London, now out of print.

Ordering and payment details were regrettably incorrectly stated on p 79 of the June 2015 edition. For shipping within RSA : the details remain unchanged: Remit R120 by EFT into PFSA a/c 023 304 669 with Standard Bank, other payment forms add R15 for bank charges. Shipping will be by Registered Mail.

For shipping outside RSA as a direct order:
Transfer US $ 20 to PayPal account molens@pixie.co.za, for shipping by Registered Airmail.



Jacques Kuun Stamps
Uncle Tim's Centre, 40 High Rd, Brentwood Park, Benoni.
082 836 9746
jacqueskuunstamps@gmail.com

GAUTENG
Atlas Auctioneers
atlasauctioneers@lantic.net
• contact: Clinton Goslin
Tel +27 83272 9367

WESTERN CAPE
Alan Macgregor
alan@rhodesia.co.za
• contact: Alan MacGregor
Tel +27 21 786 1931

NORTH WEST PROVINCE
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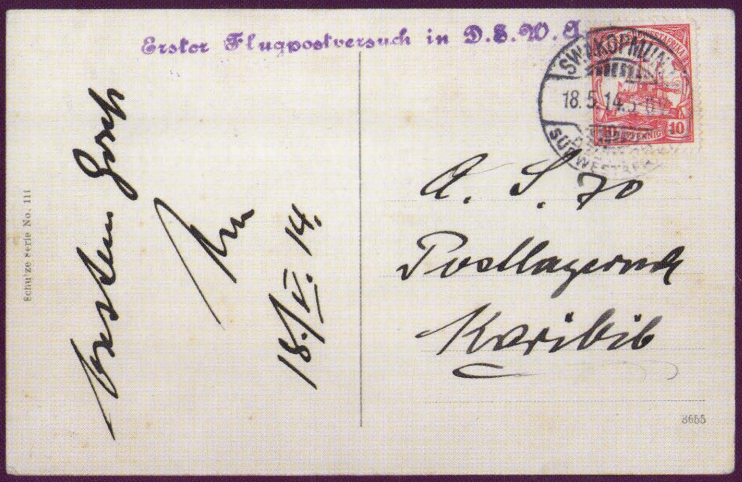

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DECEMBER
2015

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 91:6. 933

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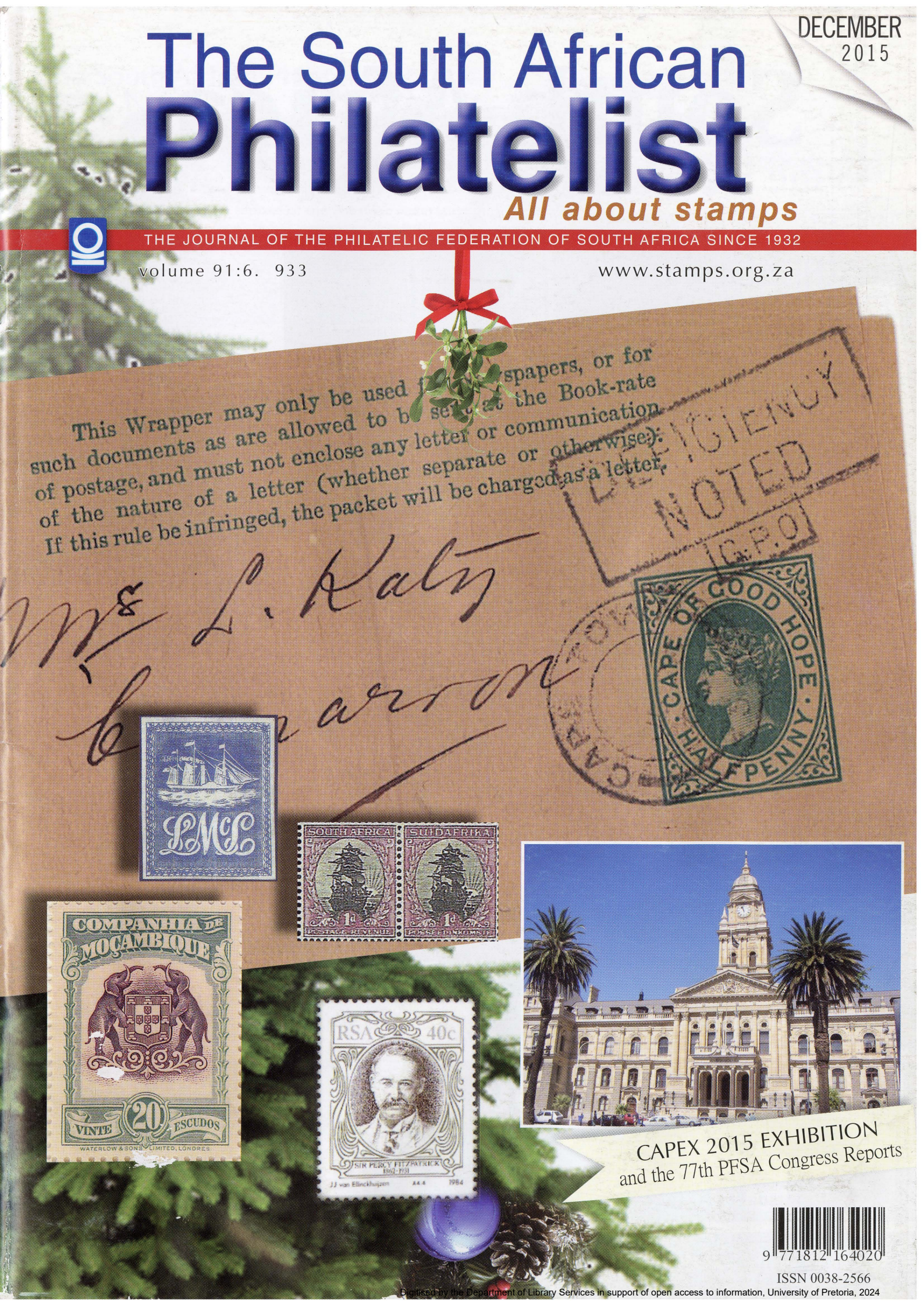

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and the 77th PFSA Congress Reports

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The South African Philatelist

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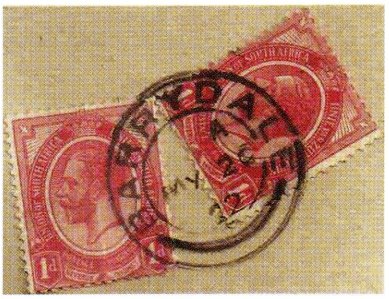

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A SPECIAL MENTION AND 'THANKS' TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE FOR THE COMPLIMENTARY MAILING OF THIS ISSUE TO LOCAL READERS. WE APPRECIATE THEIR SUPPORT.

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Wishing our readers a Happy Festive Season and a Prosperous New Year

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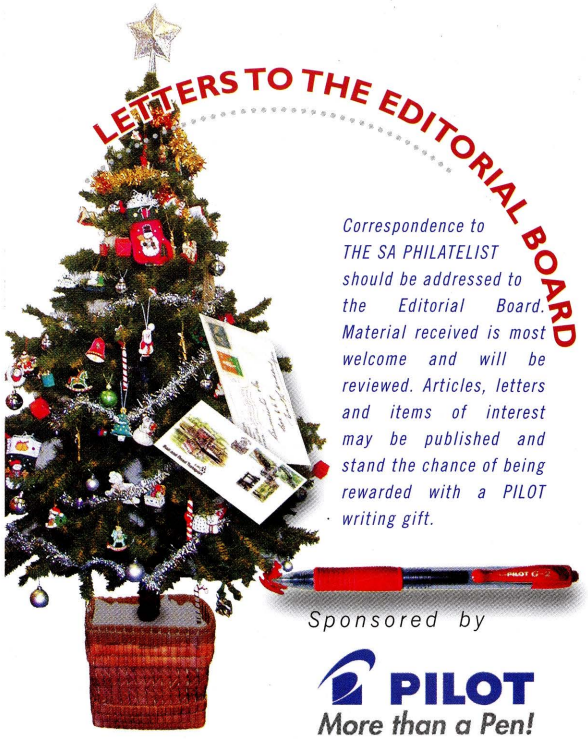

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Correspondence to THE SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed. Articles, letters and items of interest may be published and stand the chance of being rewarded with a PILOT writing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

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Winning Contributor

This issue's award of the **PILOT** pen goes to Andrew Fischer for his Mozambique series

The SA Philatelist Publication

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South Africa or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

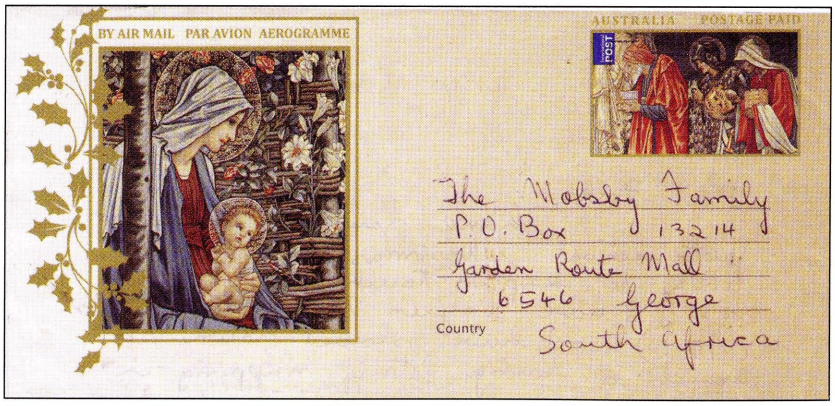
WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON

What is more mouth-watering than the smell of freshly-baked honey cakes? For many people, the festive season only starts when bakers make space in their display for the festively iced cakes for Christmas. PostNord has issued three stamps featuring images of a traditional Christmas honey cake man, honey cake woman and a honey cake heart. The popular Danish honey cake, baked using a mix of wheat and rye flour with honey and dark brown muscovado sugar, various dried fruits and different herbs and spices, is part of a shared European cultural heritage. Many families come together before Christmas to bake cakes.





Royal Mail has issued Christmas stamps since 1966. From 2005 it introduced a policy of alternating secular with religious designs each year, and 2015 is a religious year. The stamps tell the traditional Nativity story in an impressionistic style, from the Annunciation, through to the Nativity and journey of the Magi. As is usual, separate stamps at 1st and 2nd class rate of the Madonna and Child will also be available from Post Offices.



An aerogramme received from Australia in 2013 - it is quite appropriate for this time of year and a nice example of what our Post Office could perhaps produce at Christmas time.

Chris Mobsby.

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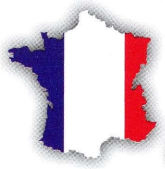


Postage Stamps worth more than €1.4 Million stolen in France

Postage stamps worth more than £1 million have been stolen from a French warehouse. Brazen thieves used a 'Mission: Impossible'-style method to lower themselves into the interior of the suburban Paris building on ropes. They then allegedly hauled 75 boxes packed full of stamps back up to the roof and escaped.

Workers were stunned to arrive at the Seine-et-Marne building on Monday morning to find the ropes dangling from the ceiling. Police were called and an investigation has been launched.

The total amount of stamps stolen has not yet been confirmed, but a police source said it was currently estimated to be around €1.4 million (£1 million). It comes in the same month that a British man avoided jail for stealing £13,000 worth of postage stamps from his workplace. Scott Winterton recruited colleague Terence Roberts-Richards to sell them on, but they were caught after falsely reporting the stamps were missing from a delivery by the Royal Mail. The duo, who worked at Office Depot in Leicester, were both given suspended jail sentences.

(published 8 Oct 2015. World Stamp News)

ROYAL MAIL CELEBRATES THE END OF RUGBY WORLD CUP 2015 WITH A SPECIAL POSTMARK



Andrew Hammond from Royal Mail, said: "Postmarks are used to commemorate significant moments in the country's history. England being chosen as the hosts for Rugby World Cup 2015 is certainly something to remember."

New Zealand were crowned RWC 2015 champions of the 44 day contest.

England played host to the tournament for the second time with matches taking place at 13 venues around the country, including Cardiff. The postmark will be applied to stamped mail from Saturday 31 October to Wednesday 4 November 2015. The postmark says '**Congratulations to New Zealand Rugby World Cup 2015 winners**'.

South Africa placed third.



BOTSWANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

I collect mineral stamps and am trying to gather information on the Botswana new currency surcharges issues between 1976 - 77. I have only very basic data on dates and printers available in UK and would appreciate a link or contact where I might learn more about these fascinating varieties

Ken Gibb
ken_gibb54@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Ken
Thank you for your enquiry which I think would make an interesting item for our house journal, The SA Philatelist. Hopefully a number of people will reply and assist with your research.
Jill Redmond,
Secretary: Philatelic Federation of SA

HELP NEEDED



Dear reader,

I am a member of the Highway Philatelic club and am doing some research on the shipwreck stamps of South West Africa. The stamps were issued on 15 October 1987 and are numbered 498 to 501 in the *South African Stamp Colour Catalogue*.

The ships mentioned are *The Hope*, *The Tilly*, *The Eduard Bohlen* and the *Dunedin Star*. I cannot find any information on the *HOPE* and *TILLY* as to where they were built, in what year, what type of ship were they, did they belong to a shipping company and where did the voyage start and where was the ship's destination when it was wrecked.

Is there any reader who can help?

As I have a hearing problem can the information be sent by email to

liebfam@mweb.co.za
Laurence Liebbrandt

Thanks and References

Dear Editor

Thanks for another copy of *SAP* jam packed with interesting articles. I wish to thank the editorial board for the Pilot pen and pencil set, awarded for my series on DECORATED POST OFFICES, announced in the *SAP* of October 2015. They found permanent employment on my desk.

In this series on 'Decorated Post Offices' I try to combine a few aspects: To relate the correctness of the artwork to the historical background. Also to provide some information on the artist, the building and the location. I acknowledge sources with references and also acknowledge contributions from people for information or other assistance.

Recently I was accosted by a fellow philatelist who accused me of plagiarism. I have to admit that, in the specific article, I erred during the proof reading and missed the absence of a reference. The episode was particularly appalling because it came through official channels of my employer and my scientific competence was taken to task.

Currently the *SAP* has no guidelines with regard to referencing facts. Has the time come that the *SAP* requests references? What should be referenced: philatelic facts only? Should non-philatelic, but historical, facts be excluded from referencing? Which of the many styles of referencing should be followed? Perhaps the editorial board could discuss this and comment. Comments from readers would also be valuable.

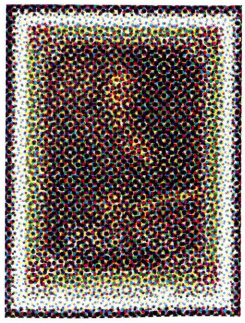
Prof G. Osthoff, OFS Philatelic Society

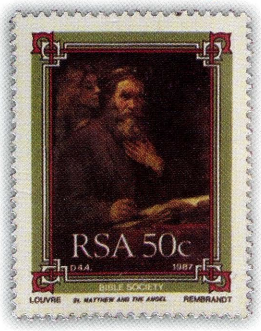
Letters continue on page 232

GUESS THE STAMP -WHAT IS THIS?

YES - Mr Neville Smith from the Bellville Philatelic Society was the winning entry drawn; he correctly guessed the stamp quiz in October issue of *The SA Philatelist* as S. Nowers' 50c design reflecting paintings by Rembrandt, from the Bible Society issue of November 1987. We had a response of eight correct enrties submitted.

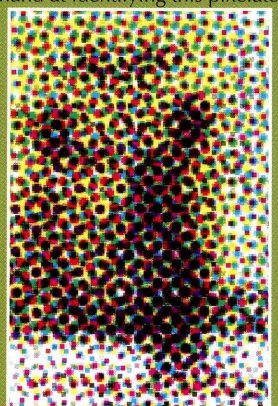
Now try and guess our second stamp at far right ...





GUESS THE STAMP

Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image



WHAT IS THIS?

*an image - enlarged so far that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, the enlargement having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

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Send your answer to janice @gdb.co.za by 10 January 2016

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LETTER FROM LONDON

by Dr JR FRANK RDPSA, FRPSL
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.



After the summer break, September started up well for philatelists, in spite of Great Britain's eight (!) Rugby World Cup commemorative stamps.

Attendance at Autumn Stampex was good, although the exhibits were not as strong as in previous years. This does not mean that there were no notable highlights. Dr.Woo's Large Gold exhibit of *'Guatemala, 1879-'81'*, with its superb proof material, inverted centres and remarkable array of covers was most impressive. A Penny Black exhibit also caught the eye, as did two exhibits of the Gibraltar Post Office's activities in Morocco. The Great Britain Overprint Society showed exhibits of Bechuanaland and Zululand. The Open Class featured an incredible twenty frame exhibit of Great Britain Army Officials.

September also brought the Queen's opening exhibit of the 'season' at the Royal Philatelic Society. This year it was 52 frames of the West African Colonies. The material was notable for the many blocks of four, rare varieties and the freshness of its colours. The latter is due to the fact that it is really is a 'one owner' collection, without having passed through dealers' windows and stock books, auction examinations as well as adverse storage conditions.

The spectacular item was the pristine mint plate block of four of the Northern Nigeria 1904 £25 value, probably a unique item.

The attractive Gambia Cameos were well-represented, including the rare 1880 1d maroon with CC watermark and also the one shilling aniline violet. The King George V issues were impressive, as were the die proofs of the 1938 definitives.

In the Sierra Leone section early die and plate proofs were shown, but the outstanding item was the double overprint variety of the 1897 2½d on 1d Fiscal stamp. Plate blocks of the King George V £2 and £5 were striking, as was the complete set of Die proofs of the 1933 Wilberforce issue.

In the Niger Coast Protectorate material there was an astonishing array of overprints, with some on covers. It was a wonderful exhibit of rare material from what is probably the largest collection in private ownership, valued at £49 million by Bloomberg Billionaire Index.

The next meeting was completely different. Dr John Horsey presented an 80-page exhibit of the iconic Great Britain Victoria £5 orange. The didactic display covered everything from essays and proofs to the issued stamps in multiples and their usages.

These stamps were primarily used on dockets for internal accounting and



Great Britain £5. Rare postal use

were subsequently destroyed. However, "fewer than five provable postal use pieces" have been recorded. This display forms the basis for the definitive handbook on the subject.

On the auction scene Cavendish had some interesting Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp items in the Manning Sale of Indian Postal History. A franked 1830 (Goldblatt DLS3) cover from Cape Town to Daventry with both *St Ives/Ship Letter* and the unique *India Letter/St. Ives Com.* markings realised £4,200, while a Port Elizabeth to Poole 1838 cover with the only recorded *Ship Letter/Poole* strike was sold for £2,200.

Spink's sale of a West Indies section of the Vesty collection included some real gems, which proved to appeal to the buyers. Die proofs of the Britannia issue for Barbados and Trinidad sold for £2,300 and £4,000 respectively. A superb corner marginal example of the Barbados 1861 ½d grass-green 'prepared for use, but not issued' was sold for £19,000, against an upper estimate of £15,000. In Jamaica the very rare 1932 2d black and green in an *'imperforate between'* mint pair fetched £13,000, against an upper estimate of £6,000. A marvellous unused Trinidad 1847 5cts *Lady McLeod* stamp reached £34,000,



1847 - Trinidad 'Lady McLeod' local.

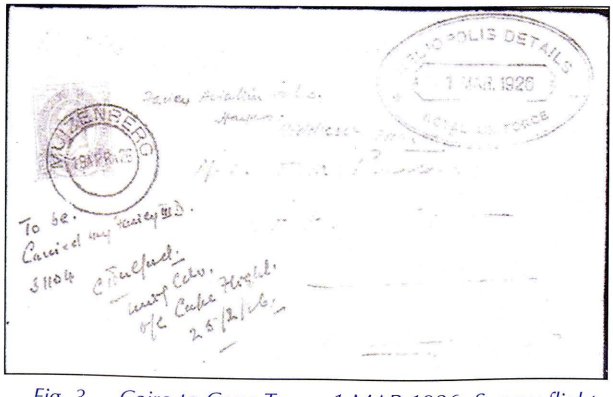

Fig. 3. - Cairo to Cape Town, 1 MAR 1926. Survey flight by Royal Air Force and returned to England. Endorsed 'Per Trans African Air-Mail'

where the upper estimate had been £20,000.

A 1918 Cairo to Delhi First Flight cover with an upper estimate of £1,800, realised £3,500. Two Marc Pourpe Cairo toKhartoum and return flights of 1913-'14, which are ex-Rudi Jeidel, realised £2,000 and £3,400 respectively.

A rare Survey Flight cover from Cairo to Cape Town with an oval *Heliopolis Details 1 MAR.1926 Royal Air Force* cachet, and an upper estimate of £1,000, found a new owner at £2,200.

Another surprise was the 1933 proof of the Iraq Airmail letter card with a Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd dummy label, estimate at £250-300, reaching £1,600.

The auction houses all charge a ± 20% buyer's premium, although I have noticed some easing of late by some smaller firms.

A new local development is the appearance of the journal *Southern Africa Philately.* Its pedigree is good, as it is the outcome of an initiative mooted at the Annual Southern African Conference at Royal Leamington Spa. Brian Trotter, Otto and Simon Peetoom are the driving force behind this endeavour. The initial 41-page publication consists mainly of survey articles covering topics ranging from the Cape and Stellaland to Northern Rhodesia in World War I. The standard augurs well for the future. However, the editors of the journals of many of the small specialist societies struggle to find material for publication. There is a shortage of contributors and many of those are 'greying'. Editors are compelled to rely on the same authors. Many of these contributors have limited philatelic interests, which reduces the spectrum of articles available.

On a positive note, the Club de Monte Carlo, which organises Monacophil 2015 in December, has come up with a novel approach. Named *Action Young Philatelists*, it suggests that it "would like to do a very special effort for young philatelists with high potential. They propose to assist philatelists under the age of 35 and are looking for sponsors to cover the travel expenses to Monte Carlo of these 'young people'. An interesting approach indeed, if it works as intended.

With this happy thought, I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and Joyous 2016.

JRF

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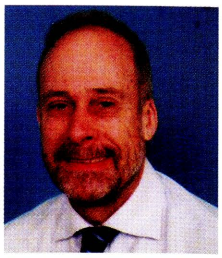
ITEM OF INTEREST

DEFICIENCY NOTED

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



The illustrated wrapper bears a weak strike of a CAPE TOWN date stamp applied in June 1905, and an unusual handstamp which has puzzled me since I acquired the wrapper several years ago. The DEFICIENCY NOTED mark is not listed in Robert Goldblatt's *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*, published in 1984, nor in the *Supplement* published four years later. There is, however, an incomplete strike of this mark, apparently cut from a newspaper wrapper privately-printed for use by the *Cape Times Weekly Edition,* illustrated in the Cape Town section of Ralph Putzel's *Postmarks of South Africa* (vol 2, page 120). Putzel lists this mark under 'PO Cachets' and states "It is not clear how this [mark] was used".

DEFICIENCY NOTED is an explanatory mark which may be unique to the Cape of Good Hope. Since acquiring the wrapper, I have searched for similarly worded handstamps used by English-speaking postal authorities throughout the world, but discovered none.

A comparable, but significantly different, marking is the two line handstamp reading 'DEFICIENT POSTAGE ..... / FINE .....' which was utilised in Britain, from approximately 1865 to 1900. This stamp was applied to underpaid mail, mostly letters, where insufficient postage had been prepaid by the sender. The stamp imposed a surcharge to be paid by the addressee, and also provided an explanation for the surcharge. There are many variations in the wording and format of the information provided by this type of handstamp, which typically allowed the amount of surcharge or fine to be inserted in manuscript by the post officer who had identified the deficit. Similarly worded handstamps were also utilised in some of the Australian States, including Queensland and Tasmania.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Cape DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp is that it is merely an explanatory mark. It does not impose a surcharge for the postage underpaid. The wording of the handstamp suggests that a postal officer has observed and noted that the postal item was underpaid, but decided not to raise a surcharge. The illustrated newspaper wrapper therefore bears no accompanying mark or notation to indicate that the addressee was required to make good the deficit.

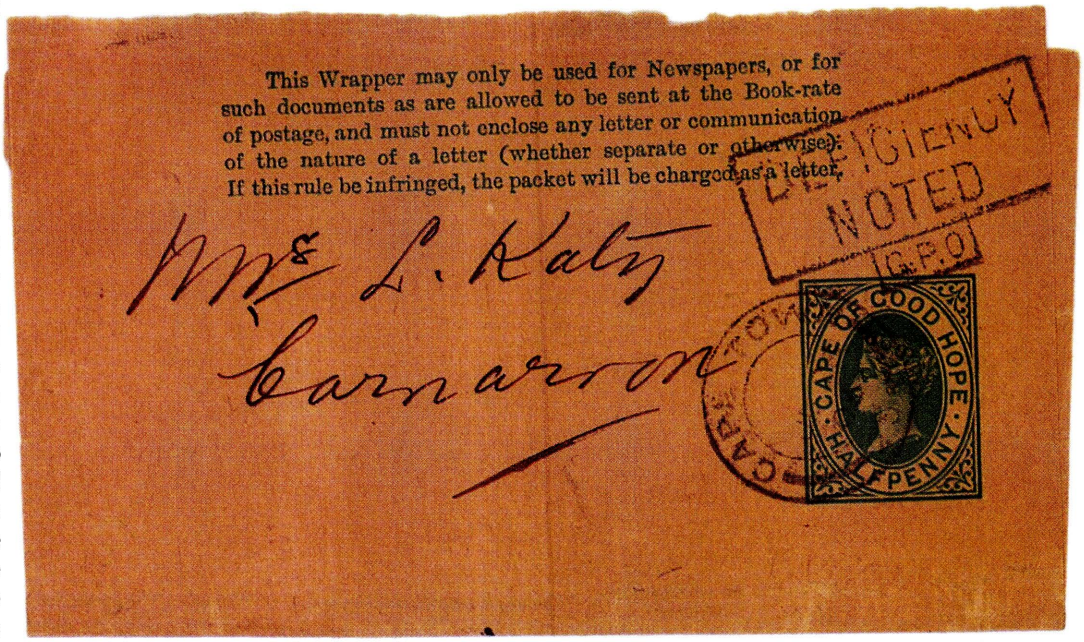
The practice of noting a deficit but failing to raise a surcharge is peculiar in as much as it defeats one of the basic premises upon which a postal system is founded. In trying to understand how this practice arose at the Cape, I have found no explanation in the Cape postal records, but research on the operations of the London Post Office has yielded a possible explanation.

Procedures Followed at the London Parcel Office

In Britain, a new parcel post service was introduced in 1883. In order to provide a better service for the larger mail order businesses, the Post Office soon began to collect parcels from such business premises rather than require the business customer to deliver them to the parcel depot. However, a problem emerged regarding parcels subsequently discovered at the depot to be insufficiently prepaid. Under the normal Post Office procedure, such items would be marked as underpaid, and surcharged at double the deficiency upon delivery to the addressee. Officials at the parcels office appreciated the potential loss of goodwill which mail order businesses would suffer under this procedure, and agreed instead to an alternative arrangement whereby underpaid parcels were delayed at the depot until the deficient amount was collected from the sender.

The resulting delay in delivering such parcels was of course also problematic for mail order businesses and a further concessionary arrangement was then introduced, as described by Edward Sanderson, Vice Controller of the London Postal Service, to the Secretary of the Post Office in a report dated 6 November 1895: "To obviate this delay, the Inspectors at the Depots where such collections are principally received have held postage stamps to the value of 10 shillings or £1, so as to enable them to make good an occasional deficiency of postage on parcels from firms who have asked that this might be done, undertaking to repay the amount. This has worked admirably for many years, and is much appreciated by the firms who make a large use of the Parcel Post, and who say that when their parcels are collected direct into a Post Office they have not the control which they have over the counter, of paying deficient postage caused by an error in weight at the time, and so avoiding delay. There will be no difficulty in making a uniform and satisfactory arrangement by simply advancing a few shillings' worth of stamps to the Inspectors in charge of the duty, who will, of course, have to account for the use of them, and if the Secretary approve, instructions will be given accordingly."

The postal historian James A. Mackay records that on 9 November 1895, the Secretary of the Post Office gave formal approval to this practice, and a Deficiency Form was introduced for recording the deficiency when a business firm utilising the scheme was found to have insufficiently prepaid postage on a parcel. Instead of being delayed, the parcel was forwarded immediately, and the deficiency was made



Newspaper Wrapper of June, 1905.

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up in postage stamps affixed to the form, which was then delivered to the sender, and returned with payment to the parcel office the following day. This arrangement apparently worked well, and cases of dispute were rare. If a firm despatched a large number of underpaid parcels, an officer from the postal depot would visit the firm and check their scales in order to remedy the problem.

Although this concession initially applied only to parcels, it appears that from around 1903, officials employed in other branches of the London Post Office were also, in exceptional circumstances, prepared to be flexible as regards underpaid letters and newspapers posted by their largest business customers. If a batch of such mail from a clearly identifiable source was discovered to have been posted underpaid, the local post office detained the relevant mail while a form was delivered to the sender informing him of the circumstances, and requesting immediate payment of the postage deficit. This practice was significantly different to that followed at the parcel office, in that the mail was delayed until the deficit was paid by the sender.

Mackay also records an incident which arose in January 1903 when some 25 urgent letters from Thomas Cook and Sons were found to have been accidentally posted underpaid, and consequently delayed whilst the deficiency was recovered, thereby missing the night, midnight and early day mails. Thomas Cook then made a formal request to the Controller of the London Postal Service that in future, such mail might be sent forward without delay, and the deficiency recovered later. The Controller instructed his Assistant, Mr Hunter, to investigate this request, and Hunter discovered that a similar concession had already been granted to three large organisations including *The Times* newspaper. Hunter was unable to find any authority or regulation to justify the concession, but recommended that it be extended to Thomas Cook: "It is desirable that the concession should be carefully guarded, but I think it might be extended to Messrs Cook and Co. It would be less trouble to the Department to send the correspondence rather than retain it, and a great boon to the senders and addressees in obviating delay." The concession already granted to *The Times* newspaper incorporated a slightly different procedure to that operated at the Parcel Office. If underpaid *Times* newspapers were discovered by the newspaper branch, they were marked with a PAID handstamp, and forwarded without delay; the deficiency was then added to *The Times'* weekly postage account. Although the Controller expressed concern about the lack of authority for these concessionary arrangements, the privilege was subsequently extended to Thomas Cook and Co.

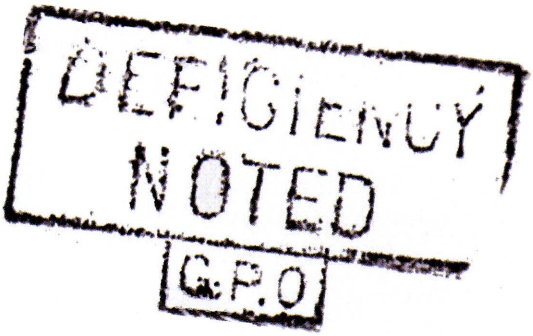
Mackay also reports that the London Post Office Archives contain an extensive dossier on subsequent developments in the concessionary arrangements and its extension to the underpaid mail posted by four or five additional large mail order companies. However, in 1925, the Controller became concerned that these special arrangements were being availed to the concessionaires on virtually every underpaid item which they posted. He noted that the concession "has been regarded as covering all short-paid items, whether in batches or individual loose items .... The collection of deficient postage in respect of isolated items involves trouble and clerical work out of proportion to the benefits gained, and it is thought that the Secretary may wish to confine the special arrangement in future to cases where not less than, say, 20 short-paid items posted by the firms in question come under notice at the same time."

This recommendation was initially accepted by the Postmaster General, but its implementation led to an immediate complaint from the subscription department of *The Times* who protested at the decision to send forward underpaid copies of the newspaper with a surcharge raised, instead of endorsing the packets with the PAID handstamp as happened previously: "To us, the surcharging of a newspaper addressed to a subscriber (who pays his postage charges to us in advance) has always been viewed with apprehension, but the concession which you have granted for the past 20 years has been a safeguard and has relieved us of this anxiety. Should you still find it necessary to adhere to this decision, would you agree to accept a supply of stamps from us for the purpose of meeting deficiencies in postage, and so obviate the necessity of special book-keeping which we understand you wish to avoid?" As a result of this and other protests, the Post Office subsequently reversed its decision, and allowed the concession to continue unchanged for the benefit of those organisations which had already been granted the privilege. Care was however taken not to extend the benefit of the concession to other postal users.

The Cape handstamp

The likely explanation for the usage of the DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp in Cape


THE TIMES



Town is that the General Post Office for a while operated concessionary procedures for some of its large business customers similar to those developed in London. Since the only two reported surviving examples of the mark are to be found on newspaper wrappers, it is possible that these special arrangements applied only for the benefit of newspaper proprietors.

If this explanation is correct, it may also account for the scarcity of the mark. The law applicable to underpaid postal items at the Cape in 1905 was provided by section 15 of the Post Office Act of 1882:
"Any inland letter, inland packet, or inland newspaper, or any parcel posted with an unobliterated postage stamp of any denomination shall be regularly transmitted and delivered although the stamp be insufficient, but before delivery in this Colony there shall be paid in money double the amount of postage omitted to be prepaid, and the sum so to be paid shall be written or stamped on such letter, packet, newspaper, or parcel, by the postmaster who transmits or delivers the same."

Section 15 clearly requires mail insufficiency prepaid to be charged before delivery with double the deficient postage. The usage of the word 'shall' in this section means that this was obligatory. The Post Office and its employees had no authority or discretion to make other arrangements such as transmitting or delivering an underpaid newspaper without raising a surcharge. In fact, by applying the DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp to an item of mail and not indicating the sum to be paid upon delivery of the item, the relevant officer was not only committing an unlawful act, but also providing compelling evidence of his misconduct! It is therefore likely that the concessionary procedure was terminated as soon as the relevant authorities became aware it was unlawful, and the handstamp was thereupon withdrawn.

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Nasionale Seëldag 2015 National Stamp Day

Smaller societies show enthusiasm and energy in promoting our hobby

While smaller societies were happy with their stamp day efforts, misgivings about the unserviced National Stamp Day envelopes were expressed by the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

The Pretoria society was the only one of the country's six largest societies which staged a stamp day promotion.

The Philatelic Federation made free 2015 National Stamp Day envelopes available for all club members registered with the Federation, and the envelopes were provided in advance to secretaries for their club members.

It had been suggested that collectors could frank the envelopes with their preferred stamps, and have the items cancelled at their local postal offices, preferably on the stamp day, 10 October 2015.

The Federation also provided free individualised preprinted shop window posters to advertise stamp day events. "The posters were beautiful and stood out," said Prof Mike Dove of Pretoria, "but the lack of a proper serviced souvenir cover was really disappointing."

George sien glaskas vol seëlboeke

George - "Ons het 'n goeie klompie navrae hanteer en dit geniet om met mense te gesels," sê dr Charles Deacon, wat die George Philatelic Society se seëldag in die groot voorportaal van die George-biblioteek gereël het.

Met die samewerking van die biblioteekmense is die drie staanrame vanjaar so geplaas dat al ses kante gebruik kon word vir toonstukke.

Baie aandag is getrek deur Ken Coetzee se kleurryke versameling Soogdiere (2 rame) en Victor von Grutter se Transkei. Terry Walton, voorsitter van die klub, het Voëls gewys en van Chris Mobsby was daar Issuing authorities of Europe. Laastens het Charles self Kaapse inkomsteseëls gewys.

Elmine Vorster, die bibliotekaresse, het 'n groot glaskas na die voorportaal gebring vir 'n mooi uitstalling van katalogusse en seëlboeke uit die bibklioteek se naslaanafdeling.

Daar was inligting en seëlpakkies vir belangstellendes. "Ons lede het heelhartig kon hand gee, so veel so dat op geen tydstip daar meer navraers as lede was nie," sê Charles.



Klein Ruth Muller (5) wys na 'n seël waarvan sy hou. Sy en haar sussies het elkeen 'n pakkie seëls by oom Charles Deacon gekry toe hulle George se biblioteek besoek het.

Mosselbaai laat touwys-video heeldag draai

Mosselbaai – Die wind het woes gewaai en die uitstalrame moes na 'n kalmer plek in die Langeberg Mall verskuif word, maar "alles was oor en oor die moeite werd", sê Gerrie Conradie, sekretaris van die Posboom-Filatelieklub.

Daar was die hele tyd 'n stroom mense, verbygangers en mense wat spesiaal gekom het nadat hulle in die koerant van die seëldag gelees of oor die radio gehoor het. Een nuwe lid is dadelik gewerf, en 'n vrou het besonderhede gevra om by 'n seëlklub in Pretoria aan te sluit.

"'n Tiental mense wou ou eerstedagkoeverte verkoop, en ons het hulle probeer aanspoor om weer te versamel," vertel Gerrie.

Daar was 'n uitstalling van koerantberigte geïllustreer met seëls (soos Mandela se vrylating), 'n junior versameling "Hiervan hou ek" (speletjies en pret), en 'n onderwerpversameling oor Churchhill. Japie de Vos se DVD van 15 minute oor seëls en versameling, met kommentaar en klassieke musiek, is deurlopend gespeel op 'n skerm wat Game verskaf het.

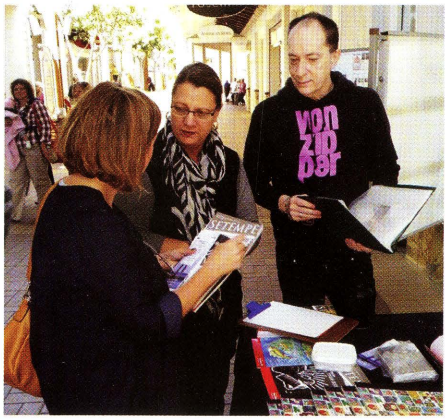
Ander lede wat deur die dag gehelp het, was François Conradie, Nico de Bruin en voorsitter Jack Visser.

Many Maritzburg helpers radiate stamp happiness

Pietermaritzburg – The Maritzburg Philatelic Society had quite a large stand and many willing helpers at the Hayfields Mall in Pietermaritzburg.

Aubrey Bowles says there was a steady flow of people who expressed an interest mainly because they had collected in the past or knew somebody who did collect stamps.

One lady told the helpers that her son was an avid collector, so she was given a donation of stamps and invited to bring the son to the regular Monday afternoon club meetings.



Posboom-bestuurslede Gerrie Conradie (sek-retaris) en Jack Visser (voorsitter) gesels met 'n besoeker wat by 'n seëlklub in Pretoria wil aansluit.



Energetic stamp friends – Maritzburg Philatelic Society members enjoyed the day at their stand in the Hayfields Mall.

"Our club enjoys the get-together and fellowship which is shared by our members at events such as this, so we will definitely continue to celebrate National Stamp Day in future. Our club also benefits from the exposure at this event in a major shopping centre," Aubrey says.

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Fish tank of stamps hooks viewers in Pinelands

Pinelands – "Please can we see a Penny Black?" Sure, and Marilyn Crawford opened one of her albums to reveal an array of Penny Blacks to the amazement – and delight – of onlookers in the Howard Place mall, where the Pinelands Stamp Circle had an information table for National Stamp Day.

Actually Marilyn had a few mounted and bound collections which onlookers could page through, for instance 'Circus', 'Fairy Tales' and 'Valentine's Day'.

She and husband Martin had a variety of stamps and items on display. Being an information table, they could not sell envelopes but handed out leaflets and brochures, and took e-mail addresses and later e-mailed the Pinelands stamp newsletter plus invitations to forthcoming meetings to a number of enquirers.

"Our fish tank scratch box was an eye catcher. It was a friendly atmosphere, and we were kept busy chatting to people all the time," she says. "All in all, it was a successful morning."



Martin and Marilyn Crawford flew the philatelic flag at the Howard Place mall in Pinelands. The passer-by was intrigued by the fish tank full of stamps.



Die Mosselbaaiers het die uitstalruimte in die Langeberg Mall goed benut om seëlversameling bekend te stel.

Good exhibits but dismay about 'mint' envelopes

Pretoria – This year's National Stamp Day was a 'damp squib' - this was the report-back which Prof Mike Dove gave to the committee of the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

The society, with the Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging van Pretoria, held a stamp day promotion on Saturday 3 October 2015 to coincide with the regular Pretoria stamp fair in Queenswood.

It was a good effort with a special enquiries table and 20 frames with exhibits – *Bloemfontein, Fountain of Flowers* (M. Dove), *South Africa 1925 Airmail* (André du Plessis), *Postcards of Cape Town Ladies, Church Square, Hungarian Trains and New Zealand Natural Disasters* (Terry Lynne Harris), *Porsche* and *Shapes and Sizes of Stamps* (Marge Viljoen), *Kremetartbome* (Cassie Carstens), *Pilanesberg* (Petra Heath), *Facebook Jan van Riebeeck* (Gina Wilgenbus), *Etosha* (Pieter Wilgenbus) and *Stamps of Africa* (Centurion Club). "The Federation provided commemorative envelopes, but there was no issue of stamps for World Post Day, and no special postmark. This was disappointing. One had to use ones own stamps and have the item postmarked elsewhere," Mike says.

"People were not interested, and in the end we had to give away envelopes.

"Marge Viljoen took a number of envelopes, affixed standard postage stamps and had these cancelled by Philatelic Services. Altogether less than satisfactory, Stamp Day is an event that should be supported by the postal authorities."

Hierdie poskantoor gee sonskyn-samewerking

Stellenbosch – Pragtige samewerking van die posmeesteres van Soneike het 'n kenmerk geword van die Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging se Nasionale Seëldag-promosie by die Soneike-winkelsentrum, een van die bedrywigste koopsentrums in die Kaap. "Vinanda Burger het ons met raad en daad bygestaan," sê Robert Harm, die Federasie se vise-president vir Wes-Kaapland. "Dit is 'n plesier om met so 'n poskantoor saam te werk."

Die vereniging het twee tafels gehad, beman deur Ida Potgieter, Leon Smith, Elliot Swart en Robert, met 'n verskeidenheid promosiemateriaal. "Soos maar die geval is, was daar heelwat navrae van mense wat 'n seëlversameling of EDKs geërf het en nou nie weet wat om daarmee te doen nie. Daar was ook navrae van mense wat wil versamel, en gawe gesprekke is met hulle gevoer. Aan die hand van die uitstallings kon ons ook wys met wat met seëls en posmateriaal gedoen kan word," vertel Robert.

Daar was drie uit-stallings, elk in 'n raam, naamlik 'Slagskepe', 'Chocolate, drink of the gods' en 'Audi Philately'.

"Almal is dit eens dat dit 'n heel bevredigende oggend was," sê Robert.



Leon Smith en Robert Harm was twee van die Stellenbossers by die inligtingstafels in die Soneike-sentrum.

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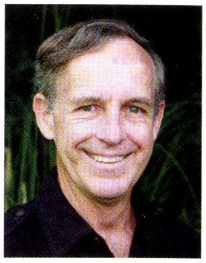
Phun with postmarks



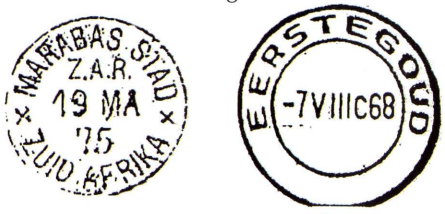
by Alex Visser, Pretoria Philatelic Society. Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za

Where is Marabastad?

Dave Young from Fish Hoek recently sent me a 1904 cover posted from Marabastad. He had shown this at his society meeting, and no one was able to place Marabastad. If one were to ask any Pretorianer they would immediately locate it just north of the CBD in Pretoria. On the city map it is called Asian Bazaar. But this area did not have a post office.

Marabastad was situated on the Pretoria – Pietersburg railway 14 km southwest of Pietersburg and was named after a local chief Maraba. It was one of the earliest post offices in the Transvaal having opened in 1868 but it was renamed Eerstegoud in 1955 at the request of the inhabitants to commemorate Edward Button's discovery of the first Transvaal gold at Eersteling in 1871. When Schoemansdal was evacuated in 1867 the magistracy was moved to Marabastad. On 31 July 1886 the magistrate's office was moved to Pietersburg and the importance of Marabastad started to decline. Eerstegoud appeared on the 1999 list of post offices, but not on later lists. Evidently it was closed shortly after 1999. Any additional information is welcome.

A total of 5 date stamps have been recorded for Marabastad, including the earliest type of date stamp shown in Figure 1a. Eerstegoud also had 5 date stamps, and the first one is shown in fig 1b.

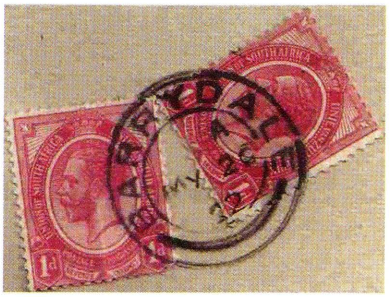


a b

Fig. 1.First date stamps of Marabastad, and its successor Eerstegoud.

Caveat emptor

I recently obtained a nice strike of Barrydale, shown in fig. 2a. Clear impressions are always popular. However, on closer inspection it did not match the Cape style of a double circle with a cross at the base enclosed by curved bars, shown in fig. 2b. Someone had taken two partial impressions on stamps, stuck them on a piece of paper and filled in the missing parts. The pencil lines were evident once one knew what to look for. This is a primitive fake, but professionals make date stamps that look exactly like the original, and the only indication is a fixed date as the forgers do not make rotating dates. More about this in a future column. It is obvious that knowledge of your collecting field is crucial to avoid mishaps that are occurring regularly with internet purchases.



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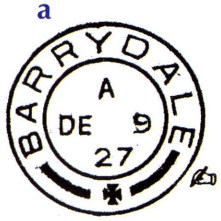

b

Fig. 2. Doctored and correct impressions of Barrydale.

A recent telegram impression

Telegrams formed a fundamental means of rapid communication in the previous century. I had not heard of telegrams being used nowadays because of all the modern means of communication, such as cell phones and email. Great was my surprise to receive a fastmail envelope that originated in Milnerton in the Cape with a telegram date stamp shown in fig. 3. The letter was addressed to Johannesburg, hence the Witspos transit mark. Perhaps our readers in the Cape can explore the use and origin of the telegram date stamp.



Fig. 3. Telegram date stamp on fastmail letter originating from Milnerton.

Eertydse belangrike sentra verloor hulle status as gevolg van veranderde ekonomiese en sosiale omstandighede. Marabastad, naby Pietersburg, gestig in 1868 is so 'n sentrum. Dit was voorheen 'n bekende punt op die spoorlyn na die noorde maar deesdae heeltemal vergete, waarskynlik ook as gevolg van die naamsveradnering na Eerstegoud in 1955. Die voorbeeld van 'n gedokterde stempel van Barrydale bewys weereens hoe kundig en oplettend mens moet wees, veral met internethandel.

Kan iemand asseblief in die Kaap help met die bepaling van oorsprong en gebruik van die telegram datumstempel wat skynbaar in Milnerton sy oorsprong het?

DAVID MORRISON

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- 07 Jan - Shackleton and the Endurance Expedition
- 17 Feb - Royal Mail 500
- 15 Mar - British Humanitarians
- 05 Apr - Shakespeare
- 21 Apr - HM The Queen's 90th Birthday
- 17 May - Animail
- 21 June - First World War - 1916
- 07 July - Music Giants
- 28 July - Beatrix Potter
- 16 Aug - Landscape Gardens
- 02 Sept - The Great Fire of London
- 15 Sept - Agatha Christie
- 20 Oct - To be announced
- 08 Nov - Christmas

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29 May - 04 June '16

NEW YORK 2016 USA - FIP Patronage

SOUTH AFRICAN EXHIBITS ACCEPTED FOR NY2016

Class 2A

1. *The development and use of the 3c Washington of the United States: 1861-69.* Jan Hofmeyr, 5 frames

Class 2D

2. *Israel First Airmails 1950.* Brian Gruzd, 5 frames

3. *The Rhodesia George V Admiral 1913-1922 Issue – The Geneses of the bi-coloured Stamps of the Issue.* Patrick Flanagan, 8 frames

Class 3C

4.*Germany-Mail Postilion on Postcards used from May 1921 to April 1924..* Herwig Kussing, 5 frames

5. *The Netherlands – Postage Due Stamps of 1912.* Jan A. Bakker, 5 frames

Class 3D

6. *Official Mail of the Cape Colony.* Hugh Amoore, 8 frames

Class 7C

7. *The Allure of Diamonds.* Frank Friedman, 5 frames

Class 9

8. *South West African Revenues and Allied Tax Stamps.* Howard Green. 8 frames

World Stamp Show NY 2016

Class 11

9. *Swaziland Philately to 1968* ('E' Book Edition). Peter van der Molen, Author

10. *Swaziland Philately to 1968* (printed book edition). Peter van der Molen, Author

Class 12A

11. *The 1961 Decimal Overprints of Basutoland.* Avi Barit, 1 frame

Class 12B

12. *World War I: The 1914 Rebellion in South Africa.* James Findlay, 1 frame

Class 14

13. *The South African Border War, Including the Involvement of the Cubans, 1966-1989.*Gawie Van der Walt, 5 frames

www.ny2016.org



COLIN EWELS
1930 - 2015

It is with deep regret that we have been informed that Colin Ewels has passed away. Our deepest sympathies go to his widow, Patricia, and his family on their sad loss.

Colin Edgar Ewels, was a member of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society for over 30 years. He passed away from leukaemia on Wednesday, 28 October 2015, at the age of 85. He and his wife, Patricia were married for 58 years. They had three daughters - Lynette (Cape Town), Myrtle (Bryanston) and Deanne (Australia). A private cremation was held for the close family only.

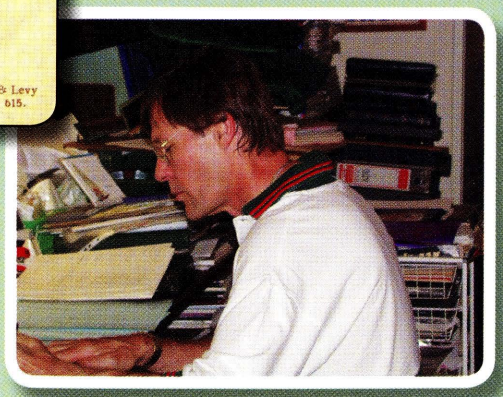
Colin had been the official photographer of the Society and was always available to say grace at banquets and dinners. Colin joined the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society as a home member in 1994 when the Society relocated to the Country Club Johannesburg, but was a member at the old Wanderers Philatelic Society many years before then. He very seldom missed a meeting and as the official photographer of the Society, Colin always showed up at meetings with his cameras and distributed many of the photos he took. We shall definitely miss him.

Herbie Schaffler

This is a glimpse of our BEAUTIFUL WORLD...



SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION



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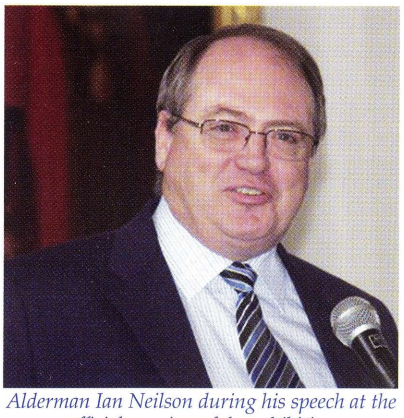
NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
CAPE TOWN CITY HALL, DARLING STREET, CAPE TOWN



The Auditorium showing the magnificent setting of the exhibtion in the City Hall

The exhibition venue.

The CAPEX 2015 National Stamp Exhibition, organised by the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town with assistance from other local societies, was held from 14 to 17 October 2015 in the City Hall at Cape Town. That historically significant building erected in 1905, which featured on the cover of our October 2015 issue, was kindly made available by the City of Cape Town and its Auditorium provided a magnificent setting for the exhibition, as shown with the impressive organ comprising 3165 pipes in the background. In other parts of the building still being restored, the absence of furnishings did somewhat affect the acoustics.



Alderman Ian Neilson during his speech at the official opening of the exhibition

The Official Opening

This was performed on Wednesday 14 October, by Alderman Ian Neilson, in the magnificent Mayor's Parlour in the City Hall, lined with paintings of Mayors and Aldermen of years past.

Very interesting refreshments were served afterwards and an 'official' Capex cake went down well.

His principal comments were "We live in a changing world – a world of instant communication and short messaging, of the expectation of immediate gratification and limited attention spans.

It is therefore quite wonderful that an age-old activity, like philately is still thriving in our city.

And so it is a great opportunity for this community to come together at this exhibition in our historical city and marvel

It is also encouraging that philately is not just for the more mature person. There are some budding young philatelists at this exhibition, the youngest of whom, Isabella, is just eight years old.

Today, at the opening of the Philatelic Federation's National exhibition, we are lucky to bear witness to some truly valuable and praiseworthy stamps.

I would like to wish you well for the rest of the exhibition. I'm sure that events like this give you a much-needed chance to exchange thoughts around philately and to view each other's collections.

Thank you again for the opportunity to address you today and enjoy the exhibition."



Mrs. Lydia Smith, inhouse caterer with the specially decorated cakes made for the official opening.



An attentive audience during the Official Opening speach by Alderman Ian Neilson

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A guided tour of the exhibition and its highlights for Alderman Ian Neilson by President Keith Brodovky



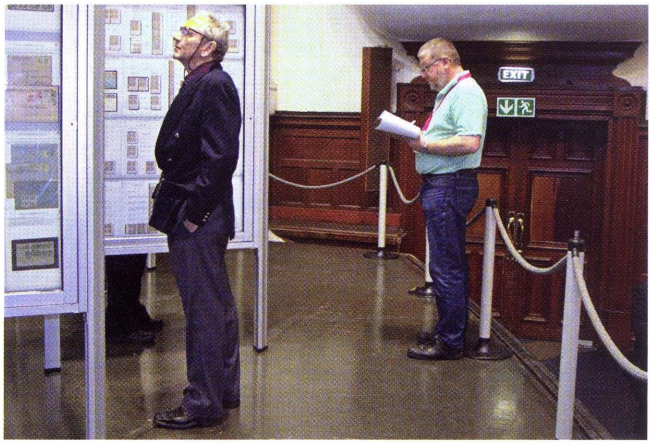
Garry Brown and David Figg with their spouses

Exhibition Medals

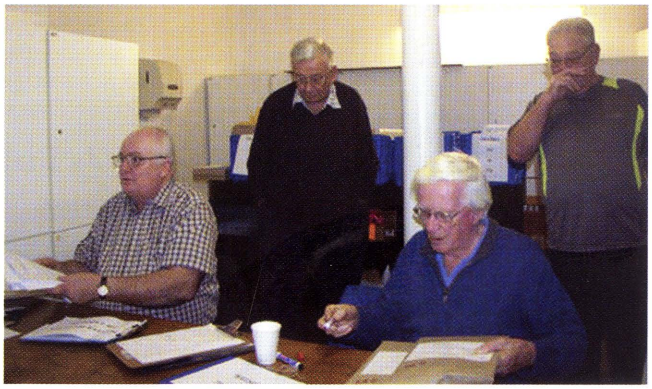
All competitors and Jury Members were issued with a handsome 50mm diameter medal, with colour appropriate to qualification (for the Jury was 'Bronze'), and inscribed with name and award level / reason



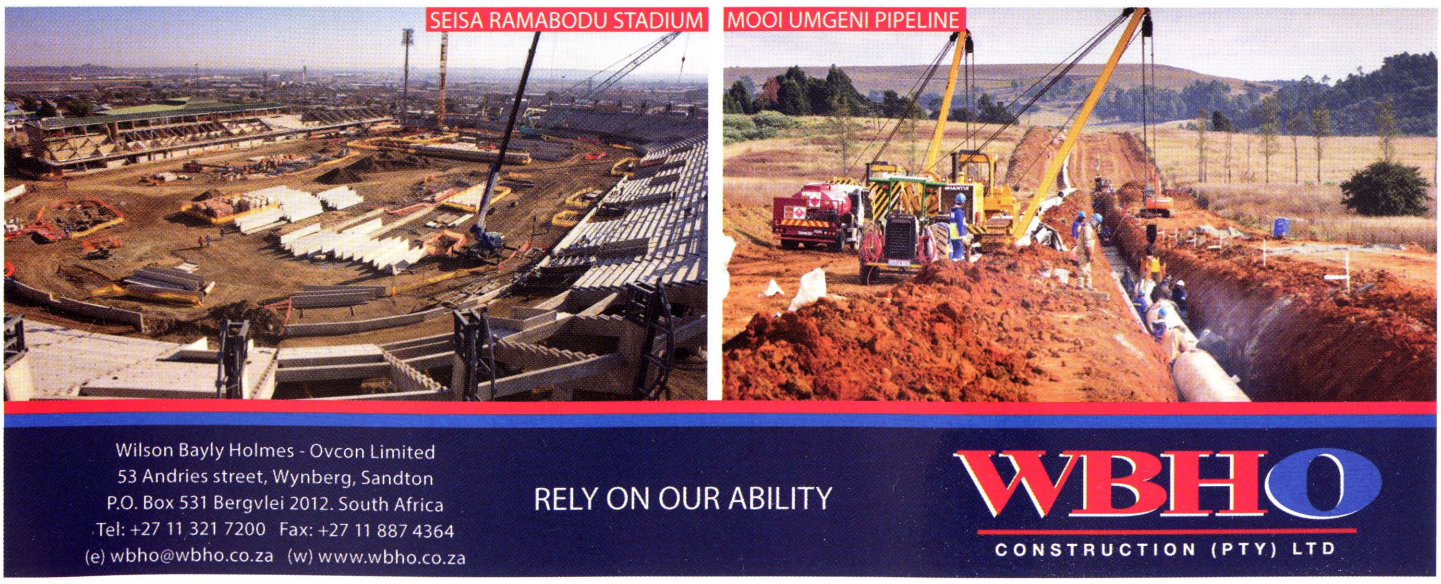
Mike Walker and Andrew McLaren manning the entrance table



The Judges doing their job - Emil Minnaar RDPSA and Michael Wigmore RDPSA



Adrian de Bourbon, John Carter, Brian Dennis and Malcolm Suttill clearing the exhibits in the Bin Room



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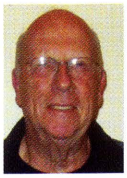
The Organising Committee



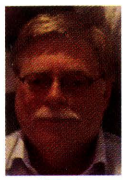
Chairman: Alan Rogers



Keith Brodovcky.



Henk de Lange.



Emil Bührmann



Volker Janssen.



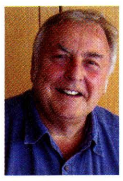
Verena Mary Rogers.



Kevin Lodge.



Charl Poole (SAPO).



Brian Fenemore.



Ida Potgieter.



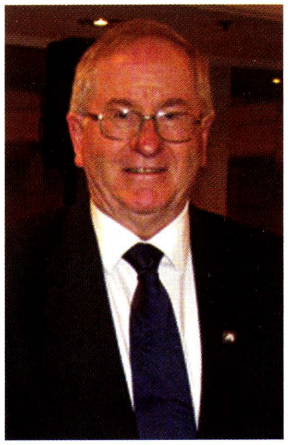
Marlies Stephan.



Malcolm Suttill.



Neil Matthee.



David Figg, Australian member of the Jury. On Saturday 17 October David conducted a well attended workshop on exhibiting of Picture Postcards.

The Jury and Dealers Function

The Jury dinner was held at the Western Province Cricket Club and was attended by members of the Jury, Dealers and members of the Organising Committee together with partners. Rather than a formal dinner, guests were able to make selections from an extensive buffet table.



Western Province Cricket Club

Emil Bührmann thanked the members of the jury for the willingness to form part of the jury and for their balanced assessments of the exhibits.
It was a relaxed and informal evening, enjoyed by all present. No formal photographs were taken.



The 'Senior' Jury comprised 17 persons: *Front row, L to R: Mervyn Rosenberg, Emil Bührmann (Chairman), David Figg (Australia); Middle row: Neil Cronjé, Hugh Amoore, Howard Green, Mrs Jill Redmond, Emil Minnaar; Back row: Alan McGreor, Richard Bodily (UK), Henk de Lange, Steven Gardiner (Learner), Andrew Fisher, David Parsons (UK), Colin Hoffman (UK). Not in picture: Chris*

Dealers in Attendance at Capex 2015

DEALERS AND POSTAL AUTHORITIES

1 Janssen Stamps - Volker Janssen
2 Spink - David Parsons
3 Henk de Lange Philatelist
4 John & Mark Taylor
5 Gerald Bodily
6 Alan MacGregor / Michael Deverell
7 Crocker & Wigmore
8 Andy Kriegler Stamps
9 Filat AG, Zurich - Johnson Philatelics
10 Namibia Post
11 Chris Rainey / David Morrison
12 Doreen Royan & Associates (Pty) Ltd
13 Argyll Etkin - Adam Cooke
14 Paul van Zeyl t/a Rand Stamps
15 SAPDA
16 Eden Stamps - Steve van den Hurk
17 Stamp's Friend - Francois Friend
18 South African Post Office

Awards Listing of Senior Exhibits

LARGE GOLD

• *The Development and use of the 3c Washington; 1861- 1869.*
Dr. J.H. Hofmeyr Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Grand Prix Award (Best Exhibit in Show)*

• *The Road to Democracy In South Africa 1850 – 1994.*
Dr. H.J.G. Kamffer RDPSA Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *SA Post Office Trophy (Best Exhibit in SA Philately)*

• *The British South Africa Company Rhodesia - The Small Arms Issues - 1892 to 1898.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
* *The Total Stampex 95 Trophy (Best Exhibit from area outside SA) and * The Rhodesia Award (Best Rhodesia Exhibit)*

• *Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.*
Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
* *The Royal Medallion (Best British Commonwealth)*

• *Anglo Boer War: Boer Prisoners of War Camps in India.*
Dr. N.J. Zerbst RDPSA Orange Free State Philatelic Society
* *The Stampcor Award (Best Pre-Union Exhibit)*
* *The Anglo-Boer War Society Cup (Best Anglo-Boer War Exhibit)*

• *1900 Paris Exhibition.*
Mrs. J.L. Roland Australian Philatelic Society
* *The Picture Postcard Thematic Cup (Best Picture Postcard Exhibit not Southern Africa)*

GOLD

• *British South Africa Company Rhodesia: The Double Head Issue of 1910.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
* *The Ilsapex '98 Award (At the Discretion of the Jury)*

• *Cape of Good Hope 1853 - 1910.*
R. Debney Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Pilot Pen Award (At the Discretion of the Jury)*

• *Postal History of the Original George District (c. 1777 – 1911).*
Ds. J.P. Steyl RDPSA George Philatelic Society
* *The D.G. Crocker Cup (Best Postal History Exhibit)*

• *Patent and Proprietary Tax Stamps of CoGH.*
Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
* *The Vrijstaat Trophy (Best One Frame Exhibit)*

• *Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika: The George VI Definitive Issue.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *GB - The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge 1871 - 1885.*
M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *A Day Out in Aden.*
G. Brown Australian Philatelic Society
* *The David Figg Award (Best Postcard Title Page)*

• *Australian Philanthropic Organisations with the Forces in World War II.*
M.J. Roland Australian Philatelic Society

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• *The First Five Years: Southern African and Related Picture Postcards 1896 - 1940.*
G.V.H. Flack — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Archie Atkinson Trophy (Best Picture Postcard Exhibit of Southern Africa)*

• *Southern Rhodesia: King George V and VI Definitive Series: 1924-1953.*
K. Brodovcky — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *Die AFV Eretoekenning (At the Discretion of the Jury)*

• *Germany: The Postilion on Postcards used during the Inflation Period May 1921 - April 1924.*
H Kussing RDPSA — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
* *The Terence Radue Shield (Best Foreign Exhibit)*

• *Transvaal.*
C.F. Welling — Oilphilat Sasolburg
* *The Tony Chilton Transvaal Award (Best ZAR/ Transvaal Exhibit)*

• *Selection of Postal Rates and Regulations of the Republic of South Africa (1961-1994).*
Dr. H.J.G. Kamffer RDPSA — Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *The Potch 78 Award (Best Exhibit Post-WW II)*
* *The C.E.D. Enoch Trophy (Best Philatelic Research)*

• *The Pursuit of Butterflies and Moths.*
Prof. H. Geertsema — Stellenbosch Philatelic Society
* *The Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup (Best Thematic Exhibit)*

• *Natal Postal Stationery.*
G. Brown — Australian Philatelic Society

• *Revenues of Southern Rhodesia 1924 - 1953.*
A.P. de Bourbon — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *Dawie de Villiers Display Trophy (Best Presented Exhibit)*

• *The 'Bittereinder' Rebellion and Union's Entry into WWI in German SWA.*
P. van Zeyl — South West Africa Study Circle
* *The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Trophy (Best Open Class Exhibit)*

• *Art Nouveau and Art Deco.*
Mrs. A.V. Broodryk — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

LARGE VERMEIL

• *Great Britain: The Low Values of 1879 to the Penny Lilacs.*
M.I. Suttill — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *1910 Union of South Africa number 1.*
R.A.W. Boezak — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

• *Made in the Union of South Africa. Stamps and Varieties of the Unhyphenated stamps of 1925 - 1933.*
A. du Plessis — Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *The South African Stamp Study Circle Award (Best SA Exhibit after 1910)*

• *IBM - The History of International Business Machines.*
W.O. Vegter — Belville Philatelic Society
* *Australian Philatelic Federation - Open Class (Best in Class)*

• *The Stamps of St. Helena (1884-1935).*
J.F.C. Friend — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Oranje Vrij Staat & Orange River Colony - Aspects of Postal History Oct 1899 - May 1902.*
J.A. Cheminais RDPSA — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *The Western Campaign of the Anglo Boer War.*
R.J.A. Sparks — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *GB - The Circular Delivery Companies.*
M.I. Suttill — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Story of a Swiss Mountain, The Rigi 1850 - 1912.*
S. van den Hurk — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Malta, 1863 - 1936.*
B.A. Franklin — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Federal Duck Stamps of the USA: 1934 - 2015.*
A.H. Putter — Oilphilat Sasolburg

• *Flaws Galore of Northern Rhodesia.*
P.A. Evans — Maritzburg Philatelic Society

• *Postcards made of different materials.*
Mrs. P. Edwards — Para Hills, Australia

• *Picture Postcards of Swaziland.*
P. van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL — East Rand P S

VERMEIL

• *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek/Transvaal Postal Stationery.*
P. van Zeyl — South West Africa Study Circle

• *Union Commemorative Stamp of South Africa – 1910.*
W. Barnard — Belville Philatelic Society
* *The Arie Bakker Trophy (Best First-time One Frame Exhibit)*

• *Stellaland to the Bechuanalands.*
M.I. Suttill — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *South Africa's Postage Dues, its Usage and Aftermath.*
W.O. Vegter — Belville Philatelic Society

• *Local Stamps in Germany 1945 - 1946.*
A.P. de Bourbon — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *GB- Wensleydale with Bedale, it's Post Town.*
M.I. Suttill — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *South African Postcards of the Anglo Boer War.*
R.J.A. Sparks — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *A Cornish Tour.*
A.G. Downes — Australian Philatelic Society

• *Zambian Booklets & Coils: 1964 – 1981.*
K. Brodovcky — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *The Stamps of German South West Africa & the Mandated issues of South West Africa 1889 - 1945.*
P.J. Siebert — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy (Best First-time Exhibitor) and *The Rose Mary Crocker Bowl (Best SWA Exhibit)*

• *British Honduras Postal Stationery.*
Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA — P S of Johannesburg

• *Springbok Shuttle: South African Air Force in WWII.*
Dr. J.B.R. Findlay RDPSA — P S of Johannesburg

• *North Terrace, Adelaide.*
Mrs. P. Edwards — Para Hills, Australia

• *Great Britain: George V.*
A. Rogers — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Cairns – Kuranda Scenic Railway.*
Mrs. P. Edwards — Para Hills, Australia

• *Look Closely.*
D.J. Edwards — Salisbury Philatelic Society (Australia)

• *With a Camera down memory lane.*
Ds. J.P. Steyl RDPSA — George Philatelic Society

LARGE SILVER

• *Tafelberg, op die Agtergrond.*
G.J. Hugo — Paarlse Filateliste
* *The F.A.K. Trophy (Best write-up in Afrikaans)*

• *The High Inflation In Germany 1923.*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Union of SA: Christmas Seals, the South African Post Office and the Government Printer – A Partnership in fighting child tuberculosis.*
P.S. Coetzee — West Rand Philatelic Society

• *The Stamps, Postmarks & Postal History of the Bechuanalands (1861 – 1966).*
B. Fenemore — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *The A-Z Overprinted Postage, Revenue and Surcharged Stamps of GB from Abu Dhabi (Das Island) - Zululand*
B. Fenemore — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Egypt's Cassette Post.*
W.O. Vegter — Belville Philatelic Society

• *The Mystifying and Unexplained.*
Mev. R. De Villiers — Belville Philatelic Society

• *The Extended Compulsory Military Service of 1977.*
W.P. Venter — Paarlse Filateliste

• *Colonial Hong Kong & The Treaty Ports of China 1862-1997.*
J.G. Kilroe — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Cape of Good Hope.*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Value Errors on Queen Elizabeth II Stamps.*
Dr. A. Barit — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Stamp Booklets of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and UDI Rhodesia.*
P.S. Coetzee — West Rand Philatelic Society

• *Cape Government Railways Postcards Third Series.*
M.D. Murphy — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Cecil John Rhodes ... "A Good Story To Be Told".*
P.J.J. Meyer — Mossel Bay Philatelic Society

SILVER

• *1c Kafferboom Flower.*
N.C. Smith — Belville Philatelic Society

• *Air Letter Forms of Rhodesia 1941 - 1963.*
A.P. De Bourbon — Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *South Africa - the 'Official/Offisieel' Overprints.*
W.O. Vegter — Belville Philatelic Society

• *Southern Rhodesia 1924-1964.*
D. Viljoen — Belville Philatelic Society

• *GB King George Typographed & Photogravure Postage Stamps 1911 - 1936.*
M.J.H. Tonking — South African Stamp Study Circle

• *Animal Farm.*
Thematics SA Cape Chapter

• *Great Britain: Missing Queen Heads.*
Dr. S. Barit — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *South African Stamp Exhibitions 1961 - 1987.*
V.J. Mitchell — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

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• *South African Stamp Exhibitions 1988 - 2014.*
V.J. Mitchell — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

SILVER BRONZE

• *The Formula Registered Envelopes of Eastern Africa.*
B.P. Beston — Australia

• *Lighter than Air - A History of Balloon Flights.*
D. Viljoen — Belville Philatelic Society

• *Slesvig – Plebiscite 1920.*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Stamps and mail of the Union's Experimental Air Mail Service 1924.*
A. Du Plessis — Pretoria Philatelic Society

• *Domestic Dogs - Origins of the Various Breeds.*
G.J. Butcher — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

• *Cape of Good Hope: Postal Stationery 1878 - 1910.*
D. Viljoen — Belville Philatelic Society

• *The Funeral.*
Dr. C.J. Molyneux — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Early Architects of Cape Town and a Selection of their Buildings in South Africa.*
M.J. Walker — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *I, Robot - the story of the young robot Kiddo talking to his Mom.*
W.O. Vegter — Belville Philatelic Society

• *Kurland.*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Postmarks and Postal History of Grahamstown – Cape of Good Hope Period.*
Dr. J.M. Haigh — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

BRONZE

• *Wyn en Wyngerd.*
Dr. N.J. Zerbst RDPSA — OFS Philatelic Society

• *The South African 5th Definitive issue (1988 -1993).*
J.F.C. Friend — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Mourning Stamps..*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *South Africa's Political Shifting Identity.*
Mrs. D. Kapp — Port Elizabethl Philatelic Society

• *Agricultural Crops in South Africa.*
Maritzburg Philatelic Society

• *Livestock Farming in South Africa.*
Maritzburg Philatelic Society

• *TIBET.*
F-V. Janssen — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *The South African Medical Corps in World War I.*
D.G. Young — Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *'Doen Dit Self'.*
Mev. H.H Botha — Orange Free State Philatelic Society

• *Handstempels lyk soms anders.*
Mev. H.H Botha — Orange Free State Philatelic Society

• *Captain James Cook – an introduction.*
Mrs. M. Stephan — Stellenbosch Philatelic Society

•*Beautiful Bodies.*
A.W. Bowles — Maritzburg Philatelic Society

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

• *The Centenary of the Anglo Boer War.*
R.J. Wood — Highway Philatelic Society

THE 77TH NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION

Welcoming delegates to this Congress, President Keith Brodovky announced the election of Peter van der Molen RDPSA FRPSL as Honorary Life President of the Philatelic Federation. Peter expressed his appreciation for this great honour and was thankful for the confidence expressed in him. (See Citation on page 202.)

In his 'In Memoriam', the President then mentioned many philatelic friends who had closed their albums since the 2014 Congress.



Peter van der Molen, photo taken at the Palmares.

The Official Opening of Congress

Congress was opened by Ian Shapiro of Spink who was most appreciative of the honour.

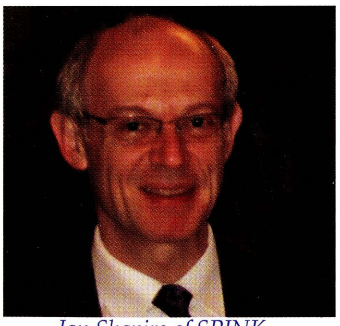
Ian said "I grew up in Cape Town and was a junior member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town. I thought I would give you a brief view of the philatelic world as I see it from my vantage point in London, where I am involved in both the retail and auction business, and now associated with Spink.

The philatelic world is healthy at a certain level. The demand is strong for rare stamps, proofs, essays, postal history and the unusual. But the way of collecting is changing. Many choose not to attend shows or to join societies and acquire new material in other ways. On-line auctions including E-bay are highly significant stimulants to the market. Having a daily auction in one's home is the greatest boost to collecting in recent times – and it is made so easy.

However, the role of the dealer must not be underestimated, not only as the repository of stock for sale but the source of information and guidance. I lament the absence of the old fashioned relationships that existed between dealer and collector, and it isn't all about money; friendship and trust are so important.

With regard to youth philately I am pessimistic. The definition of a pessimist is an experienced optimist. Youngsters today have other distractions and South Africa is no different to the rest of the world in this regard. JUNASS is to be commended for continued excellent work against tough odds. The encouragement of new collectors is imperative. Here I must highlight the mentoring programme being undertaken by the American Philatelic Society, whereby young collectors are guided by their seniors, and have even been brought on philatelic tours to the UK and Europe.

Turning to national exhibitions in South Africa, and I have attended all 25 in the past quarter of a century, I urge you to concentrate on greater publicity for these shows. There is no point in going to the immense effort in staging annual exhibitions when they appear to be held in secret. Find commercial sponsorships and engage a professional company to deal with publicity.



Ian Shapiro of SPINK

Philately has never been short of politics and I trust you will approach today in a spirit of unity of purpose in your deliberations. Healthy debate is good, but in a shrinking philatelic market in South Africa there has to be closer cooperation within organised philately. I hope that as Congress comes to an end, you all have a sense of satisfaction at being part of the philatelic future of the country. I too will do my best to help promote the hobby in SA because this is where my heart still belongs.

South Africa has a proud philatelic tradition to uphold and I wish you well today. I declare the 2015 Congress now open. Thank you".

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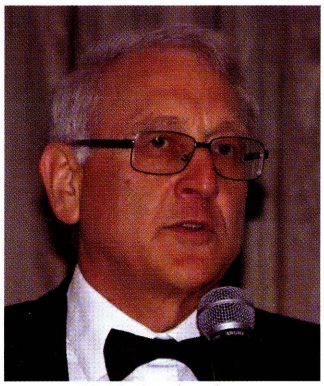
Presidential Address

Philatelic Federation of South Africa Congress: Oct 2015, Cape Town, by Keith Brodovcky who welcomed all to the 77th Congress of the PFSA.

"Organised philately, Federation and the affiliated societies are indeed fortunate to have so many dedicated people working for our hobby. The Management Committee under the Chairmanship of Vernon Mitchell, Secretary and Membership Secretary Jill Redmond RDPSA and Treasurer Emil Minnaar RDPSA form the core of the administration of Federation, ably supported by the Chairmen of the various committees and the Regional Vice-Presidents. Every contribution is crucial to the smooth and effective running of Federation.



Keith Brodovcky

Unfortunately two key members of the Management Committee have resigned; Vernon Mitchell after 3 years in the Chair and Emil Minnaar as Treasurer, a position he has held for 11 years. It is not easy to chair a large and diverse Committee when the members are scattered throughout South Africa and Vernon has gone about this task with great dedication. As treasurer, Emil has played a major role in ensuring that Federation's finances have been kept on a sound footing. Emil has agreed to complete the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2015 and his expertise will not be lost, as he continues as Chairman of the FIP/FIAP Standing Committee. To both gentlemen, many thanks - your contributions are immeasurable.

A welcome was extended to Andrew Fischer as Treasurer, to the Management Committee.

The SA Philatelist is paramount in promoting our hobby and the study of all its facets, with special emphasis on Southern Africa. Under Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL, Chairman of the Editorial Board, the journal has gone from strength to strength. I applaud the steps taken to cater for a wide range of philatelic interests, whilst retaining its pre-eminence as one of the top publications on South African philately.

Internationally, Emil Minnaar RDPSA who serves on the Board of FIAP, acted as Commissioner for *Singapore 2015 World Stamp Exhibition* for the six South African exhibitors who participated with much success. Congratulations to all, especially to Emil Bührmann RDPSA who received a Large Gold and special prize.

Later this year a number of South African exhibitors will be taking part in Hong Kong 2015 with Jim Findlay as commissioner. We wish them every success.

The Publicity Committee chaired by Joh Groenewald RDPSA continues to expand the hobby through promotional pamphlets, highlighting National Stamp Day and publicising the National Stamp Exhibition Cape Town 2015.

The new website, not as yet fully operational, is a key component in promoting Federation and our affiliated societies, and in addressing members' needs. Included in the website is a section to which members only, will have access.

As part of the programme to promote the benefits of belonging to Federation, membership cards, kindly sponsored by Eden Stamps, were distributed to society members in August.

The Task Team, under Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL continues to provide valuable insight and recommendations to the Management Committee and Congress on the challenges facing our hobby. At the 2014 Pretoria Congress the team recommended streamlining Federation's' operations. One of their proposals was that the May Management Meeting be held via teleconference, which proved a great success and will certainly form part of future meetings.

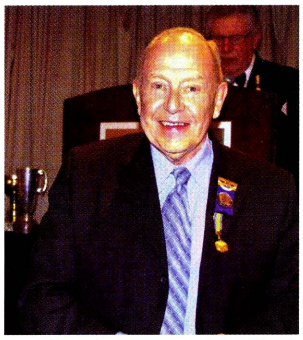
The Heritage Committee chaired by Gawie van der Walt RDPSA, plans to set up a Philatelic Heritage Trust to oversee the preservation of philatelic material and related items owned by the PFSA.

Earlier this year a dispute between the Bellville Philatelic Society and the Management Committee was resolved by Adjudication. The Adjudicator, Advocate Adrian de Bourbon SC, noted some shortcomings in 'Article 24 – Dispute Resolution' of the Constitution, and recommended that the by-laws provide for procedures regarding dispute resolution. There is a motion before this Congress to address these shortcomings and I would like to thank Adrian for his professional and comprehensive report and recommendations.

Cape Town has a tradition of hosting National Exhibitions of the highest standard and CAPEX 2015 is no exception. Thanks go to Alan Rogers, Chairman of the Organising Committee and his team from the Western Cape societies on a job well done.

Declining society membership is the most important challenge facing philately. Divergent views, vigorous debate and exchange of ideas will enable us to find solutions to the various issues and I have no doubt that as a group with a common goal we will find solutions to the many challenges facing our hobby." He concluded by saying *"There is no music having a single sound. Different sounds are needed to give music harmony."*

Congress Nominations & Awards



Howard Green RDPSA read the Citations

- **Roll of Honour**: Richard Stroud (UK) and Mike Tonking were elected to sign the Roll.

- **Skinner Cup**: Alex Visser was elected to receive this prestigious award.

- **Manfred Weinstein** Memorial Medallion awarded to Dr Chris Board OBE FRPSL for his outstanding research into aspects of Transvaal Philately.

- **J Harvey Pirie Memorial Award** to David Wigston for his work in compiling PFSA's first E-book, the electronic version of *Swaziland Philately to 1968.*

- **W E Lea Cup** awarded to Mrs Connie Liebenberg for 15 years' meticulous checking and recording of the printing and appearance of SA stamps and with publication thereof in the monthly *Newsletter of the RSA Study Group.*

- **Jack Hagger Award** to Dr Jim Findlay RDPSA for his articles in the SAP on *World War II SA Censor Types & Numbers and their Allocation.*

- **Federation Plaque** to Kevin Price of Australia for his research relating to the philately of the Orange Free State.

- **Congress Award Certificate** to Vernon Mitchell in recognition of three years as Chairman of the Management Committee and the Exhibitions Committee.

- **Long Service Award** of a desk clock to Emil Minnaar in recognition of his dedicated and meticulous service to the PFSA as Treasurer for eleven years.

- **Congress Awards** were also extended to authors of significant or serialised articles in *The South African Philatelist* for articles in*the issues from* October 2014 to August 2015:

Robin Messenger - New issues
Ds Cassie Carstens - Thematically Yours
Dr JR Frank - Letter from London

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Ds Cassie Carstens receiving his Congress Award from President Keith Brodovcky

Volker Janssen - Comic Corner
Chris Mobsby - Cinderellas
Garry Osthoff - Decorated Post Offices
Alex Visser - Phun with Postmarks

Principal Congress Debates and Decisions

Many topics were debated, with much attention given to dwindling memberships and the need for effective promotion of the hobby. Only an overview of some are given here; those members who require further detail should request their Societies to provide them with a copy of the Congress Minutes.

Motions Debated At Congress

1 - The present prohibition on members of the Management Committee being also an office bearer of a non-affiliated Society was debated. The original rationale for this prohibition was that such members ought to be fully committed to Federation and should not have such a conflict of interest. This prohibition was lifted and replaced by a requirement to disclose such interests.

2 - On capitation fees, there was a motion to confirm the standing arrangement that each Society shall declare all members to Federation and that capitation fees shall be payable for all home members. Another motion proposed to introduce a dual level capitation fee, the lower level giving a reduced level of benefits. The former motion was carried; the dual capitation fee motion was defeated.

3 - A series of motions concerning the Constitution were proposed, originating from the Task Team to streamline PFSA operations. Many of the original motions had not been carried at the Management Committee level, most of the remaining motions concerned minor operational amendments and were carried.

4 - Concerning the affiliation fee for 2016, Management proposed that it remain unchanged at R150 p.a. for each and every 'home' member, to which there were no objections.



Andrew Fischer receiving his Congress Award from President Keith Brodovcky

5 - Under the heading of 'Restructuring Operation and Services of PFSA' there was lively discussion. Two previous recommendations of the Task team, introducing membership cards and teleconferencing, had proven successful. A series of other proposals were mentioned which resulted in three action points being minuted: (a) instigate research by an independent research company, (b) collect more feedback, and (c) consider feedback for implementation.

Incoming Management Committee

This was advised as:
Chairman – to be elected after conclusion of Congress, as had been decided at the preceding Management Meeting.
Treasurer: Andrew Fisher
Secretary: Mrs Jill Redmond RDPSA
Foundation Representative: Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL
Exhibitions: Herwig Kussing
Expert: Michael Wigmore RDPSA
FIP/FIAP: Emil Minnaar RDPSA
Heritage: Gawie van der Walt RDPSA
Judging & Ethics: Neil Cronjé RDPSA
Promotions: Joh Groenewald RDPSA
Publications: Emil Minnaar RDPSA and Joh Groenewald RDPSA
SAP : Peter van der Molen RDPSA
Youth: Mrs Jill Redmond to continue as Consultant.
Other functions:
Awards Custodian – Peter van der Molen;
Archivist: vacant.

Elections at Congress

Steven van den Hurk (SAPDA) was elected as President for the coming year. There was no nomination for the position of Deputy President since the venue for the 2017 National Exhibition had as yet not been agreed.

Regional Vice Presidents

Region 1: Gauteng & North-West:
to be advised
Region 2: Eastern Gauteng:
Jimmy Mitchell
Region 3: Pretoria, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo: Ds Cassie Carstens
Region 4: Free State & Northern Cape:
Dr Leon Jacobson
Region 5: KwaZulu Natal:
Mrs Bev McNaught-Davis
Region 6: Western Cape:
Robert Harm
Region 7: Eastern Cape:
Vernon Mitchell
Region 8: Outside Areas:
Andrew Higson (UK).



Happy Congress Delegates

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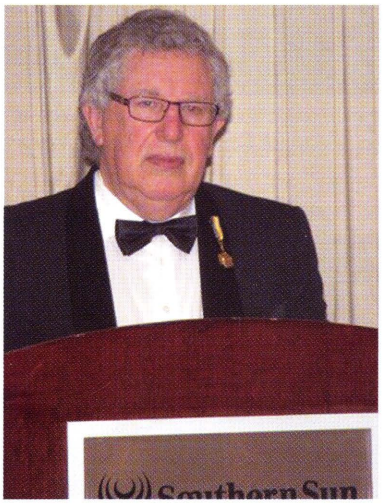
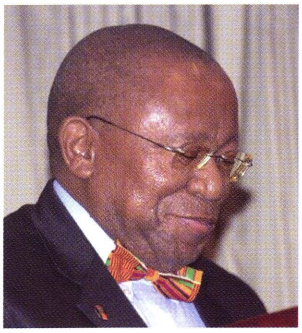
The Palmares Dinner, held at the Tsogo Cape Sun Hotel, was attended by 87 guests. The Master of Ceremonies was Hugh Amoore RDPSA and the Guest Speaker Mr. Twiggs Xiphu – Group Executive Publc Affairs at the South African Post Office. Organising Chairman Alan Rogers and President Keith Brodovcky both gave short speeches of thanks to all who helped to make this Exhibition a success

Awards from Vermeil to Large Gold plus the Grand Prix were presented on the evening. Howard Green RDPSA read the Citations for the two persons elected at Congress to sign the Roll. As neither of the gentlemen were present, the official signing would be carried out at a later date.

Outgoing President of Federation, Keith Brodovcky handed over the Chain of Office to Steve van den Hurk.



Hugh Amoore RDPSA – Master of Ceremonies at the Palmares Dinner



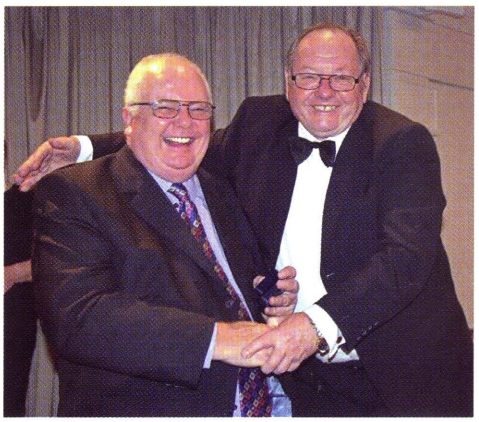
Guest Speaker Mr. Twiggs Xiphu – Group Executive Publc Affairs at the South African Post Office.



Dr Gerhard Kamffer, Pretoria with The SA Post Office Trophy. He was also awarded 'The Potch 78 Trophy' for the Best Exhibit Post WWII and the The C.E.D. trophy for Best Philatelic Research for his exhibit: 'A Selection of Postal Rates and Regulations of the Republic of South Africa 1961-1994'.



Vernon Mitchell, outgoing Chairman of the Management Committee, collecting the Terence Radue Shield on behalf of Herwig Kussing.



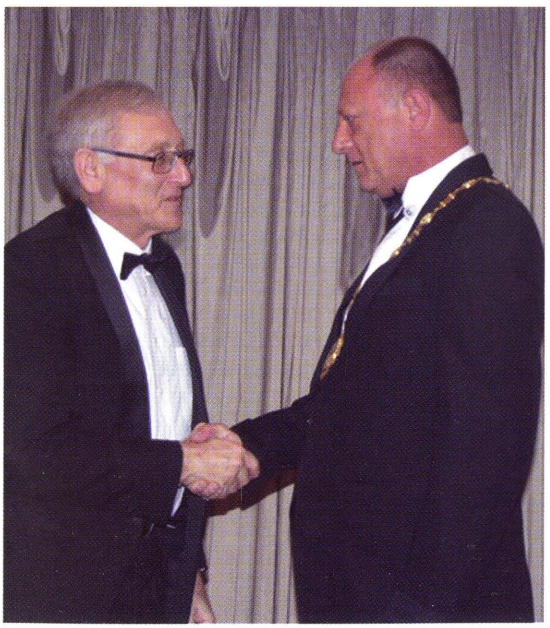
Adrian de Bourbon (at left) receiving his medal from Alan Rogers, Chairman of the Organising Committee.



Dr. Jannie Hofmeyr, Grand Prix Winner, for his maiden exhibit titled 'The Development and Use of the 3c Washington, 1861-1869'.



Mrs Charlotte Welling-Botha of Cape Town, collecting the Tony Chilton Transvaal Award on behalf of her father, Carl Welling.



Outgoing President Keith Brodovcky (at left) congratulating Steve van den Hurk after handing over the Presidential Chain of Office.

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Signatories to the Roll in attendance at the CAPEX 2015 Palmares Front row; left to right - Neil Cronjé, Howard Green, Richard Johnson, Jill Redmond, Colin Hoffman, Pauw Steyl, Gawie van der Walt, Back row - Emil Minnaar, Joh Groenewald, Patrick Flanagan, Michael Wigmore, Hugh Amoore, Ian Matheson, Emil Bürhmann, Gerhard Kamffer and Peter van der Molen.

Welcome to the New PFSA Honorary Life President



Two great men of philateliy, Hon. Life Presidents - the late Harry Birkhead and newly elected Peter van der Molen.

PETER VAN DER MOLEN RDPSA, FRPSL

Peter is one of the most dedicated and meticulous workers for our hobby. If you need advice or assistance in setting up a national exhibition, Peter is the man. He can drive one scatty with his insistence on doing things right, but his heart is in the hobby and he can be kindness itself. His history tells all.

Peter has given extensive support to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA). He was President of PFSA for the year 200I-2002, after which he was Chairman of the PFSA Management Committee from 2002 to 2006 and chaired the ad hoc Committee to review and update PFSA's Constitution.

He chaired the Organising Committee for the very successful Benoni '94, afterwards writing up extensive guidelines on running a national exhibition, used to this day. He served as Chairman of the Organising Committee for Egoli 2001 in Sandton. Exhibitions would not have been the same without Peter and friend, Harry Birkhead, organising the frames, giving much-needed advice and transporting frames, exhibits and trophies.

For some years to 2010 he was Chairman of PFSA's Exhibitions Committee. He has been PFSA's Awards Custodian for a number of years, even replacing two prestigious trophies that were stolen from his car whilst assisting with Jomapex 2013. He now chairs the Editorial Board which publishes *The SA Philatelist* six times a year. Peter chaired PFSA's FIP Committee dealing with international exhibiting for some time and acted as Commissioner for various international exhibitions; he will again act as Commissioner to the New York 2016 Exhibition.

He has also served on the Board of the Philatelic Foundation, as President in 2000, and subsequently broadened the independence of Foundation by restructuring its relationship with the Post Office which had declined, and by according a trustee role to the signatories of the PFSA Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Peter has been the Honorary Secretary of Foundation for six out of the last eight years.

In the field of exhibiting he has formed notable collections of the Southern African 'Protectorates' of Swaziland, Bechuanaland and Basutoland. Starting with a Gold medal at Stamps l50 in 1990, he has participated in every S.A. National since, either as an exhibitor showing variously Traditional Philately, Revenues, Postal Stationery, Open Class and Postcards, or as a national judge after he qualified in 1994. In 1999 he received the President's Award (Best in Show) for Swaziland. He has exhibited extensively at international exhibitions, gaining high awards.

Peter has published quite extensively in *The South African Philatelist*, *The Transvaal Philatelist* and *The Runner Post* and was awarded the Tapling Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society London for his article in *The London Philatelist* published in June 1998. Many years of research into the philately of Swaziland culminated in the publication by the Royal Philatelic Society London in February 2013 of the book *Swaziland Philately to 1968*, edited and largely written by Peter. The publication immediately sold out and is now published as an e-book. For his literary achievement The Royal Philatelic Society of London awarded him the Crawford Medal for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period.

He is an active member of the East Rand Philatelic Society, the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society and a member of the Royal Philatelic Society London since 1992, a Fellow from 2001. In 2000 he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa.

It would be difficult to find someone more qualified and able to fill the position as PFSA's Honorary Life President. Congratulations to you Peter from all your friends in PFSA.

JDR:24.11.2015

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Senior Awards Ceremonies for Persons Not Present at The Palamres

CITATIONS FOR NOMINEES TO SIGN THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

MICHAEL TONKING

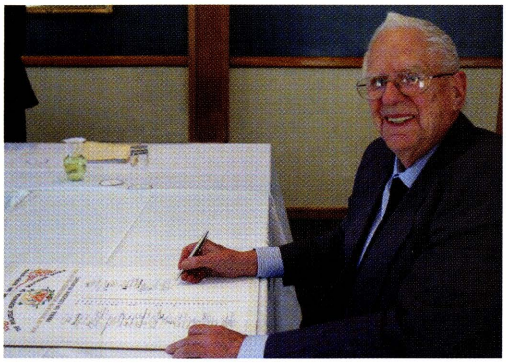
Mike Tonking is one of the longest serving members of the SA Collectors' Society and probably the most knowledgeable on matters concerning the Union and Republic of SA, as well as the De La Rue Georgians and official stamps of South West Africa. He is also an active member of both the South African Stamp Study Circle and the RSA Stamp Study Group.

Collecting Interests

His interests extend across the whole of the Union, Republic and South West Africa and Mike is an expert on how stamps are manufactured, from the preparation of plates, then cylinders, to their perforation. He has published high level research and amassed a vast collection with in-depth studies on a wide range of subjects; sections of which have become reference material for others. He also maintains the records of the Jack Hagger Collection, an important reference point for Union collectors.

Publications

Mike has been a regular contributor to *The South African Philatelist* and the *Springbok* where his contributions are always erudite and well researched. He generously shares



Michael Tonking RDPSA, Signing the Roll at the Foundation AGM on 26 November 2015

his knowledge and material with members of the SACS in the form of copies of his collections which are bound and archived for study purposes. These now total 13 collections ranging from his favourite 2d London Pictorials, the 2d Rotogravure Pictorials, Union and RSA Roll Stamps, RSA and SWA Postage Dues, the ½d and 1d Unhyphenated Rotogravure as well as the Hyphenated Pictorials.

Awards

He was awarded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion at the October 2014 Congress in Pretoria. He has exhibited at the vast majority of national exhibitions; in fact, 42 exhibits in 35 years since 1979. All were awarded medals ranging from Silver to Large Gold, with 16 of them receiving additional awards. He won the 'Rand 77' Award in 1977 for his *Unhyphenated ½d and 1d Rotogravure* and the 'Jo'burg 100' Award in 2004 for *The ½d and 1d Rotogravure*. He won the Enoch Trophy three times - in 1984 for his *De La Rue Georgians*, in 1986 for his *2d London Pictorials* and in 2011 for his *RSA Postage Dues*. He has won the RM Crocker Award four times - in 1992 and 2005 for his *SWA De La Rue Georgians* and in 1995 and 2007 for his *SWA Postage Dues*. As if these achievements weren't enough, he also won the SASSC Award in 1999 for his *RSA Rolls*, in 2002 for his *2d Union Rolls* and in 2003 for his *Union Rolls*.

Mike is a great ambassador for South African philately and is a worthy candidate to be invited by the PFSA Congress to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. This citation has been prepared in consultation with the South African Collectors' Society and carries theirs, and my, full endorsement.

Dr A J Howgrave-Graham
Chairman,
South African Collectors' Society

J R (RICHARD) STROUD

Richard has shown dedication to the study of Southern Africa philately for over 40 years. He has recorded his research and ensured his books and articles have been published for the benefit of all. In addition, he has promoted both Orange Free State and Anglo-Boer War philatelic interest to a wide audience by the countless displays he has given to societies and study groups throughout the United Kingdom, including the RPSL.

Richard joined the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society in 1974. He became the Editor of the Society journal *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist* in 1985, a post he held for 22 years and was elected Vice-Chairman in 2013. He joined the OFS Study Circle in 1976 and was elected Honorary Secretary in 1978, a post he still holds today. From 2002-2012 he served as Editor of their quarterly journal the *OFS Bulletin* and in 2013 he became President.

Richard was also a founder member of the Cape & Natal Study Circle. Although he has formed superb collections of both the Anglo Boer War and the Orange Free State, Richard has not exhibited competitively for many years, preferring to share his knowledge with fellow collectors through displays, where he is best able to explain the material and place it in context with reference to the historical circumstances.

His research articles in the Society journals are too numerous to list individually and in addition, he was the author of the following major philatelic publications, all of which are the recognised standard works:

- *Ceylon: The Camps for Boer Prisoners of War 1900 to 1902 – Their Postal History* (1989)
- *Rossiter Postal History Journal Vol 3: The Impact of the Anglo-Boer war on the Orange Free State – The First Six Months* (2002)
- *The Postal History of the Burgher, Refugee and Concentration Camps of the Anglo-Boer War 1900-1903* (2014)

Richard is currently working on a new publication about the impact of the Anglo Boer War on postal services, with emphasis on the dates when individual post offices across South Africa closed and subsequently re-opened.

As well as being heavily involved in South African philately, Richard has also taken a keen interest in philately in the United Kingdom. He is a past President of the Somerset & District Philatelic Federation and was presented with a Merit Award for service to British Philately by the Association of British Philatelic Societies in 2007. Richard is also a member of the Society of Postal Historians and was President in 1998.

Richard's service to South African philately was recognised by the PFSA in 1998 with the award of a Federation Plaque and in 2002 with the Skinner Cup. This was followed by the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion in 2005 for philatelic excellence.



Richard Stroud RDPSA, Signing the Roll at Leamington Spa on 7 November 2015. The ceremony was attended by RDPSAs Alan Drysdall, Colin Hoffman and Patrick Flanagan, together with RDPs Brian Trotter and Robert Johnson.

Richard has made a major contribution to the philately of Southern Africa, most notably through his research, writings and displays relating to the philately of the Anglo Boer War. Leading members of the OFS Study Circle and the Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society recommend that now is the time for the ultimate recognition of Richard's efforts and outstanding achievements.

Michael Smith FRPSL.
Chairman OFSSC
Tony Meacher Chairman ABWPS

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Award of the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medalion to Dr Chris Board OBE, FRPSL.

This award was made in recognition of Chris Board's research into many aspects of Transvaal Philately.



Chris Board (at left) receiving the Award (with certificate) at the Leamington Spa Conference in England on 7 November 2015 from Dr Andrew Higston FRPSL, Federation's Regional Vice-President for outside areas.

Presentation of The Skinner Cup

Citation



Peter van der Molen (at left) presenting the Skinner Cup Award to Alex Visser in Pretoria on 15 November 2015.

The Skinner Cup is the Federation's highest award for exceptional services to organised philately, especially during the last 3 years. It may be awarded to a person only once.

Prof. Alex Visser, who has been personally involved with successful National Stamp Exhibitions in Pretoria since 2000, has provided outstanding service to South African philately.

In 2013 he needed to step in as acting President of the Federation due to the sudden resignation of the then President. In 2014 he served his full term as Federation President and has fulfilled a pivotal role as immediate past-president this year.

Over and above these services, he was Chairman and Principal Organiser of the successful Stamp Show Pretoria 2014. Due to his influence, the exhibition was held free of charge in a superb venue within the University of Pretoria. As a member of the task team with the undertaking to modernise the workings of the Federation, he has worked tirelessly during the past year and a half to make stamp collecting more enjoyable for all.

His successful negotiations with the senior management of the Post Office has led to a new approach regarding the issue of stamps - far fewer issues and stamp values that represent standard postal tariffs. We shall witness the fruits of his efforts in 2017. Bravo Alex.

Alex Visser is a worthy recipient of the Skinner Cup.

The W E Lea Trophy

Awarded to Mrs Connie Liebenberg for 15 years of meticulous checking and recording of details of the printing and appearance of South African stamps, and the publication thereof in the monthly newsletter of the RSA Studiegroep/RSA Study Circle.

The Trophy was presented by ds. Cassie Carstens PFSA Vice- President Region1, to Mrs. Liebenberg in Pretoria on 15 November 2015.





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w Competitive Exhibits

- One Penny Drommedaris Ship. 79 - Vermeil
  Keanu Barnard - Bellville Philatelic Society. *Winner of:*
  Sam Legator Trophy - Grand Prix - Best exhibit on show.
  Conradie Trophy - Best Traditional Exhibit
  East London PS Cup - Best SA Exhibit including Homelands
- Cat Family Story. 67 - Silver
  Sara Knight
  - *winner of the Setempe 2000 Trophy* - Best Thematic Exhibit *and the Wobbe Vegter Special Prize*
- Stamps from SWA from 1947-1989. 69 - Silver
  Jaluca Bester - *winner of the Fanie Vermaak Bronze Medal* - Best exhibit 10-12 years old Silver or higher. *And the winner of the Ratcliffe Trophy* - An Exhibit having Outstanding Merit
- The 1961 Decimal Overprints of Swaziland.
  Chavah Barit - Silver
- Ek leer. 79 - Vermeil
  Vihan Horn *winner of the Wigmore Cup* - Best Exhibit 9 years and under *and the Derek Brown Centurion Shield* - Best Exhibit by a first time National Exhibitor *as well as the Rapportryerkorps Wierdapark Trofee* - Best Exhibit written up in Afrikaans
- Succulents.
  58 - Silver Bronze - by Alicia Niehaus of Paarl, *Special Award* - and the *Fanie Vermaak Silver Medal*, Best in her age group.
- Italian Stamps.
  Giamaria Prati 59 - Silver Bronze
- South Africa from 1910.
  Roniah Anderson 41 - Bronze
- Scouting Around the World.
  Roniah Anderson 53 - Silver Bronze

Star Class Exhibits

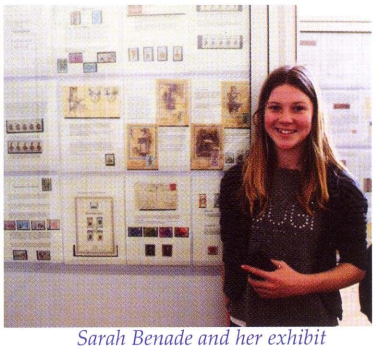
- *Buildings of Germany.* 3 Star
  Simeon Davies
- *South African Stamps.* 2 Star
  Isabella Prati
- Birds. 1 Star
  Asher Anderson
- The Telephone. 2 Star
  Sarah Benade & Sofia Mayward
- Waterfalls. 3 Star
  Lelethu Quvile
- Woof. 2 Star
  Abi Benade & Jaime Haakonsen
- Flowers. 1 Star
  Jordan English
- The Dino Park. 2 Star
  Armand van Tonder

Club Exibit and Award

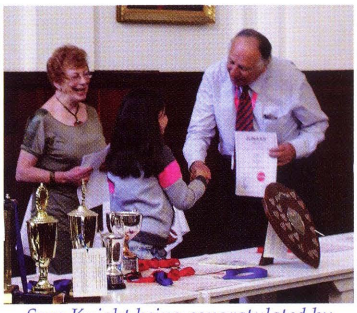
- World Flora. **Leponoland Philately**
  winners of the David Stern SIP Club Award - Best Club Exhibit



Keanu Barnard of the Bellville Youth Club – Grand Prix winner with his many awards



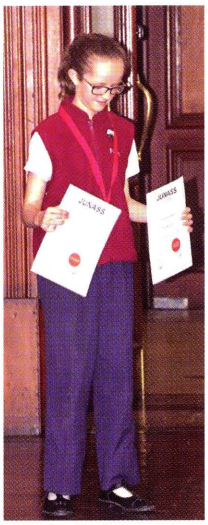
Sarah Benade and her exhibit



Sara Knight being congratulated by Peter van der Molen



Vihan Horn, member of Die Kuilen, Stellenbosch and winner of the Wigmore Cup and the Derek Brown Centurion Shield and Rapportryerkorps Wierdapark Trofee.



Ronia Anderson of the Penny Black Club



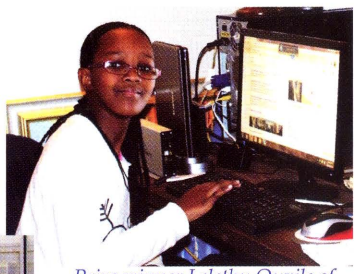
Jaime Haakonsen and Abi Benade



Wobbe Vegter congratulating Sara Knight



At left, David Sinclair, Penny Black Club, as the Youth Leader of the Year for his dedication to young collectors through all of his trials and tribulations.



Prize winner Lelethu Quvile of Fish Hoek, doing research. (The photographer Jim Knight)



The organizer of our Juniors, Chantal Benade, bending (rather unflattering but hard at work) and Des Haakonsen and kids from Fishhoek club.



Members of the Fishhoek Club and friends on the stairs of the City Hall

A comment from Jill Redmond: "Having attended all but one Junior National Stamp Show since it started in 1984 in Johannesburg, Pinegowrie, this has been the very best for a long time. Except for one, all the exhibitors were showing their exhibits for the very first time and there were some delightful displays on show. The prize-giving was the best attended in many years which was heartening for everyone concerned. Well done to the youngsters and their Youth Leaders. I hope the hobby will continue to fascinate the new generation of collectors."

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Back row: Giamaria Prati, Ronia Anderson, D.J.Sinclair (holding Youth Leader of the Year Award) Front row: Jaluca Bester (holding Ratcliffe Trophy awarded for an exhibit of outstanding merit): Isabella Prati; Asher Anderson; Simeon Davies.

JUNASS prize-giving was in the same room where the official opening took place and the turnout was excellent. There was good attendance of exhibitors, parents, grandparents and well wishers at the JUNASS prizegiving on Saturday 17 October.

Special thanks to the official photographer, Marlies, partner to Malcolm Suttill as well as images for JUNASS by photographer Jim Knight. We are also grateful to Emil Minnaar for his submission of photo's and to everyone who contributed and assisted in putting together this summary of events of CAPEX 2015.

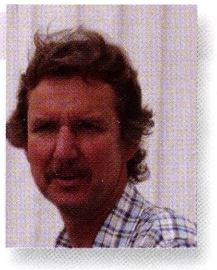
POST OFFICE ART

Part 16

DECORATED POST OFFICES

by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

ESCOURT



The first inhabitants in Southern Africa were the Khoisan. Around the 15th century offshoots of the Karonga arrived as the first settlers to KZN Natal, and were followed by the aba-Nguni from Mozambique at the beginning of the 17th century. The first European settlers were hunter/traders who arrived in 1824 and established themselves around the Bay at Port Natal. Other Englishmen drifted into Natal before its annexation by the British in 1843, mostly from the Eastern Cape. Voortrekkers arrived in 1837, and after defeating King Dingane's impis at Blood River in December 1838, began to settle down in the territory they had conquered for themselves as Natalia Republic. The British used the prior existence of the Port Natal Colony as justification to extend British jurisdiction. When the British defeated the Voortrekkers in 1842, Natal was proclaimed a British Colony in 1843, and administered from the Cape Colony in 1844. Many Voortrekkers trekked back over the mountains. German settlers were brought out in 1848 from the areas around Osnabrück and Bremen. The greatest number of settlers arrived from the United Kingdom between 1849 and 1851. Great Britain was in the midst of a depression in the 1840s, causing many millions to emigrate to the United States, Canada and Australia. Only a small percentage came to Natal. Finally Dutch settlers came between 1857 and 1860.

There were various schemes under which the British settlers came to the Colony.

The main idea behind the granting of land to emigrants was to establish a solid agricultural population. Emigration on a large scale began as a result of the efforts of Joseph Charles Byrne.

For the payment of £10, a 'statute adult' (i.e. someone over the age of 14) could get a steerage passage and 20 acres of land.

With the neat patchwork of rolling countryside of England in mind, owning 20 acres seemed an attractive proposition.



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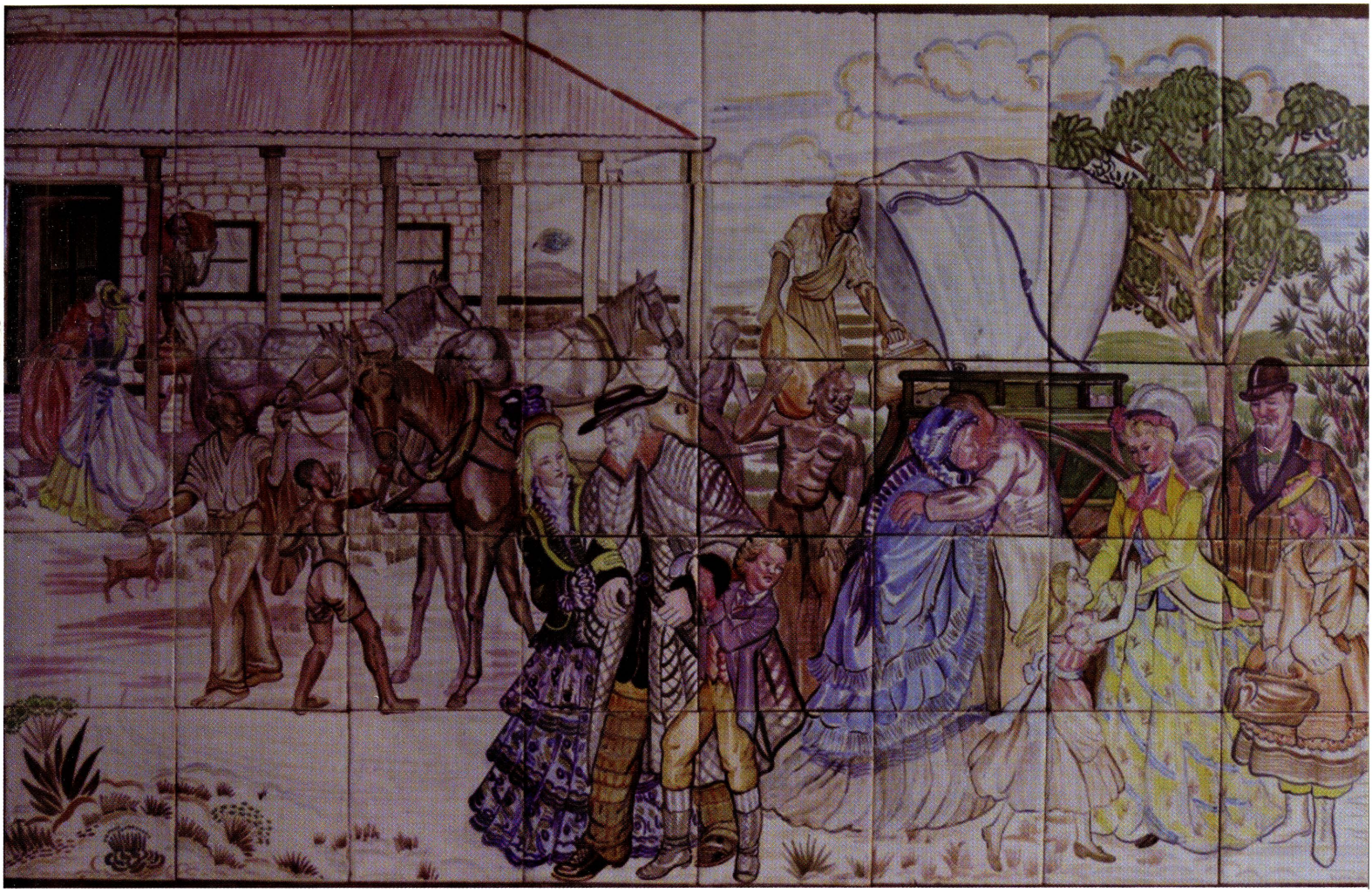

Only people in certain occupations, for example, farmers, farm labourers, millers, blacksmiths, wagon makers, carpenters and wheelwrights, etc., were approved by Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners as settlers to take advantage of the land grants. This led to many prospective emigrants 'changing' their occupations overnight. A hairdresser and perfumer was turned into an experienced agriculturalist or a lady's maid became an experienced cook or dairy maid. While most emigrants came from the large cities in the UK, only about 2% were from the country areas. The nature of the emigrants plus the general unsuitability of the land being too rugged for cultivation, low rainfall, general absence of water etc. led, in most cases, to the abandoning of allotments and congregating in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. Settler who had a bit of capital, but no occupation of use, became shopkeepers. Only Richmond seemed to have prospered from the beginning.

The post office at Estcourt was built in 1936 on the corner of Harding and Connor streets. It is of red face brick while the arches of the entrances and windows are of black bricks. The main entrance has a double arch supported by a pillar. The building is U-shaped with more windows and smaller entrances on the Eastern and Western sides. The buttresses on the sides are detailed with a 'tumbled-in' brickwork and it bears a red shingled roof. The fence of black granite complements the building.

One ceramic tile panel by Wilgy Vann Hall is situated on the right hand wall of the main entrance porch portraying the arrival of settlers on a farm. Estcourt was not an area where the British settlers were established. It was named after a British member of parliament, Thomas HS Estcourt, who sponsored the settlement of immigrants, hence the connection. The village was laid out in 1863 and was named Bushmans River Post or Bushmans Drift.

When the seat of magistracy was moved from Weenen in 1904, it became a township and reached borough status in 1914.

The theme shows a horse cart being off loaded. The dress, head dress and hair style of the new arrivals are excellently detailed. Judged by the sparse luggage, this was probably the best they possessed. The artist portrayed a sense of anxiety and tension in these people by the body postures and facial expressions. The host family, in turn, is clad less extravagantly in every day working clothes and seems very friendly by greeting with kisses and hugs. Not only were settled English farmers providing temporary shelter to new arrivals, but the remainder of the Voortrekker families also helped. While the cart is being off loaded another pair of horses is led away in the background. This action, as well as the number of new arrivals, suggest that at least two carriages were involved. The paintwork of the cart was characteristic of the time. The farm house is shown as a sturdy building, possibly of sand stone, which would have been a welcome haven for the travellers, after a journey at sea and uncomfortable temporary housing in the barracks at Durban. The farm hands are sparsely clad and in hand down clothes. This was not unusual for the time, as many of the workers found this environment to provide a more secure living than the bush.

Currently this building is used by the KZN Natal provincial government. It is not well maintained and when I visited I was told that some people wished the tiled panel could be removed for safety.

References.

- Bulpin, T.V. (1966). *Natal and the Zulu Country*.
- Raper, P.E. (2004). *South African place names*.
- Schmidt, W. (1955). *Deutsche Wanderung nach Südafrika*.

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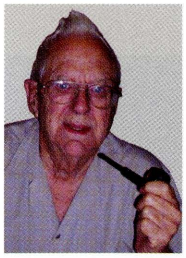
REVISITING THE 'DRAGON' FLAW

by M.J.H. Tonking RDPSA, SA Stamp Study Circle.



The introduction of the rotogravure printing process for the production of Union postage stamps in 1930 caused the Government Printers a number of problems which were largely due to a lack of experience with the new process. These problems were well illustrated in the case of the B8 and B9 booklet issues.

The well known interior cylinder multi-positive 'dragon' flaw found on row 17/9 of the 1d stamps was first noted on the 1930 B8 and B9 booklet issues and in various other forms ending with the 1932 sheet issue 7a. During the two year period the Government Printer attempted a number of retouches in a vain attempt to eliminate the flaw. The original cause of the flaw was due to damage to the multi-positive at that position.

During the two year period, the row 17/9 flaw developed as follows:

STAGE	ISSUE	FLAW DESCRIPTION
1	Booklet B8/9	'Dragon'
2	4	'Buckle or Imp'
3	4 and Roll 11	Blob retouched
4	5	White spot in retouch
5	6	Black Blob
6	7/7a	'Rigging on fire'

It should be noted that the row 17/9 flaw was not present on Issue 2 and only first appeared on the booklet B8/9 issues.

Issue 2 with no flaw present on row 17/9.



STAGE 1 - B8/9 BOOKLETS - 'DRAGON FLAW'

Booklet B8/9





B9 ECONOMY STRIP



STAGE 2 - ISSUE 4 - 'BUCKLE or IMP FLAW'





STAGE 3 - ISSUE 4 and ROLL R11 - 'BLOBE retouched'

COIL ROW 9



SHEET ISSUE 4





STAGE 4 - ISSUE 5 - 'White Spot in retouch'



STAGE 5 - ISSUE 6 - 'BLACK BLOB'



STAGE 6 - ISSUES 7/7a - 'RIGGING on FIRE'

Although previously eliminated the flaw returns in a new format

ISSUE 7





ISSUE 7a - Deep carmine shade



By the time the Government Printer had managed to eliminate the row 17/9 flaw in stage 6 it must have been frustrating to see it return in a new form on Issue 7/7a. The problem was finally resolved when Issue 8 was printed from a new set of cylinders.

References:

- *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa* - S.J. Hagger RDPSA, 1986.
- *The SA Philatelist*, August 1958.
- *The Springbok*, November / December 1970.

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Part 1: Postage stamps, Postage due labels, Officials and Customs Duty stamps

TYPES OF STAMPS AND LABELS PRINTED, OVERPRINTED AND SURCHARGED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER IN PRETORIA OVER THE PERIOD 1949 TO 1961

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Research that was done a few years back in the Post Office Archives revealed some interesting types of stamps and labels that were printed and overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria. These were discovered in the inventory records of loose pages received from the Government Printer to which sheets of postage stamps, revenue stamps, Christmas stamps, stamped stationery and postal orders and similar items had been affixed. There are also items not proper to the Post Office which had been included e.g. stamps and labels used by other Government Departments such as External Affairs, Assize Department and the South African Railways etc. It was, however, not possible to separate and return these pages to the Government Printer for the reason that in many instances they could not be removed without damage to the sheets the property of the Post Office. These records cover the period from 1949 to 1964. For the purpose of this article mainly the period 1949 to 1961 till the end of the Union, will be covered.

From a philatelic point of view these sheets of stamps in the inventory records of the Government Printer in Pretoria, provide valuable information for research purposes. Philately as a hobby has developed internationally over the last number of years to not only include, postage stamps, but provision is also made for other categories such as Revenue stamps, Christmas stamps, Railway stamps and various types of Cinderellas etc. Revenue stamps and other Cinderellas illustrated in this article have been part and parcel of stamp collecting for many years and are legitimate collecting fields in the world of philately. In this series of articles a variety of these types of stamps and labels will be illustrated.

In 1927 the plates which had been used by Waterlow in London passed to the Government Printer at Pretoria where the stamps were produced in the same colour and on paper with the same multiple Springbok's Head watermark. The perforator used at Pretoria was again a single comb appliance, with the same gauge of 14½ x 14.

In 1929, following a series of tests and a satisfactory report from their agents in Britain, Messrs Hunter Penrose Ltd, the South African Government decided to purchase a Goebel A.G. machine for the printing of postage and other stamps by rotogravure. As a result the Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931.

S.J. Hagger RDPSA indicated that after this date right up to 1961 all the Union's stamps, with the exception of the re-issue of the ½d, in July 1948, were printed by the rotary process.

The stamps of the Union and other similar requirements were printed by the photogravure, or as the technique is more commonly termed by collectors, rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria for the period covered in this article. A second machine was bought later and two rotary machines were doing duty. These machines were also equipped with cyclometers which printed each sheet number, spaced and placed in such a way that the number appeared twice on one margin of a sheet. The larger but slower machine was capable of printing in three colours and registered a five-figure black sheet number whilst the smaller but faster machine printed in two colours and the sheet number consisted of four figure red numerals.

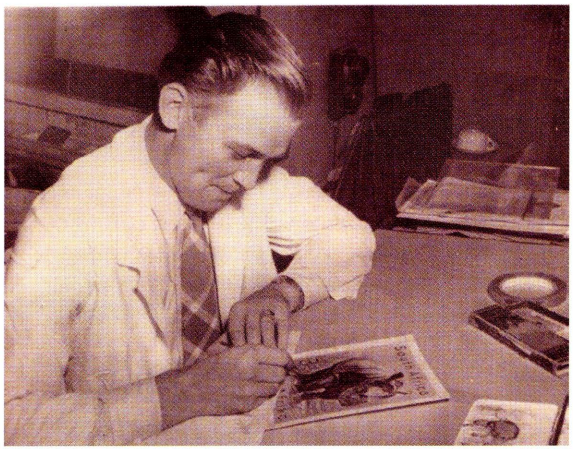

Fig.1: Hans Kumpf employed as a graphic artist by the Government Printing Works in October 1951, busy preparing the art work for the 3d Rhinoceros stamp of the Definitive issue.

From March 1937 onward *The South African Philatelist* published details supplied by the Government Printer of the quantities of stamps (postage, officials, douane etc) and the numbers of the cylinders used to produce them.

Stamps and labels for South West Africa and the High Commission Territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland were also printed and overprinted from time to time by the Government Printer in Pretoria. Some of these examples will also be illustrated.

The Department of Treasury was involved with the Government Printer to provide the necessary authority for the printing of these various types of stamps. Also in the case where stamps have been removed from a sheet, for example for exhibition or auditing purposes, the necessary receipt was issued. Stamps were distributed by the Controller of Stamps and postmasters were responsible for the requisition of postage, revenue and cigarette labels.

In the Post Office Circular distributed in April 1950 it was indicated that the post office was selling: Postage stamps, Booklets containing postage stamps, Reply Coupons, Stamped stationery, Revenue stamps that were obtainable at the majority of Money Order Offices, Cigarette Duty Labels, Cigarette Tobacco Duty Labels, Postage Due Labels and 'Cape' Entertainment Duty Labels.

THE PRODUCTION AND PRINTING OF POSTAGE STAMPS

During the 1950s the Government Printer in Pretoria printed more than 800 million postage stamps every year in fourteen denominations. The first stage was the preparation of the Master Design for the vignette and frame, usually an artist's drawing. The first step during this stage was for an artist to make up the intended design much larger than life. In the case of the Union separate panels were designed for the wording in English and Afrikaans.

The Government Printing Works employed a number of artists throughout these years. The Unhyphenated Rotogravure Pictorials consisted of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, and 2/6 denominations, all with designs similar to those of the London Pictorials. The ½d. and 6d. were redrawn by J.L. Booysen and the other values by J. Prentice.

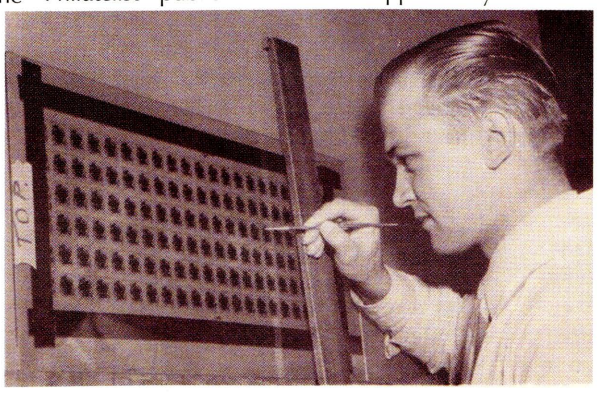

Fig. 2: The artists carefully scrutinising the multi-positive in order that any minor flaws can be corrected.

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These two artists were joined by Johan Josef (Hans) Kumpf who was employed by the Government Printer in 1951. On 14 October 1954 a new series of definitive postage stamps were placed on sale portraying animals found in the national parks in South Africa. All the designs were drawn by Hans Kumpf from photographs which J.L. Booysen had taken at the Pretoria Zoo, with the exception of the 4d (elephant) which was based on a photograph by Dick Wolff and the 6d. (lion) which was based on an engraving by an unknown artist. In this case the well-known Rhinoceros 3d. stamp which would be used to illustrate the process.(fig.1).

With the 'step and repeat' camera the one photograph was transferred over and over again in miniature on a glass plate known as the multi-positive. Each image was then spaced out as it was intended to have them on a sheet. By means of carefully scrutinising the multi-positive any minor flaws could be corrected. If a flaw was detected it could have been retouched out by hand by means of a very delicate process (fig. 2). Having achieved as far as possible a flawless multipositive, the next step was to take a 'print' from it through a fine screen on to a gelatine-coated carbon tissue. The screening process was to enable gradations of tone to be faithfully reproduced when printing.

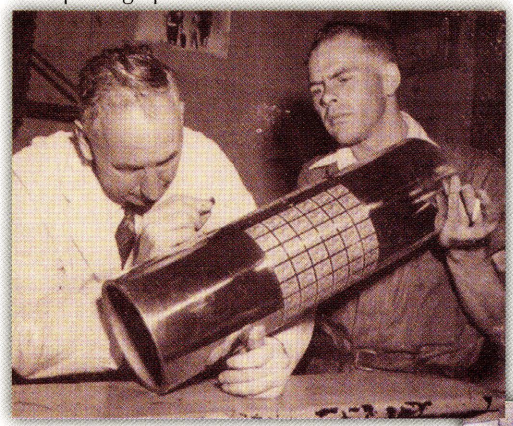

Fig. 4: An official of the Government Printer inspecting the copper cylinder with the design etched in to a depth of about three-thousandths of an inch.

The next step was the process of wrapping the tissue round a smooth copper cylinder (fig. 3). This was a delicate operation because as it has to be perfectly aligned without any damage to the tissue which carries the stamp images. Once the transfer to the cylinder was successfully achieved, the coated cylinder was immersed in hot water, where the untreated part of gelatin, corresponding with the actual stamp design, melts away and leaves the copper surfacebeneath exposed, while the plain parts of the design remain protected (fig. 4).

When the coated cylinder was transferred to an acid bath, the design was etched in to a depth of about three-thousandths of an inch. When the desired etching was completed,

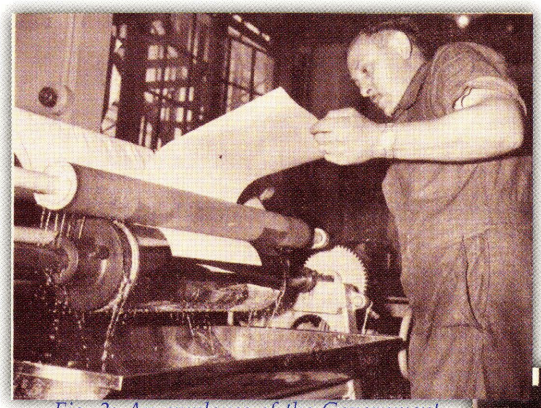

Fig. 3: An employee of the Government Printer busy with the process of wrapping the tissue round a smooth copper cylinder.

the cylinder was ready for use to print a few sheets. A copper cylinder was used because this metal gave the best results in etching, but it does not make a durable surface when millions of postage stamps were to be printed. To get the advantage of a copper etching without its liability to wear. The next step was to chromium plate the cylinder. The thinnest coating of chromium would increase the wearing properties of the cylinder to such an extent that as many as five million sheets could be printed.

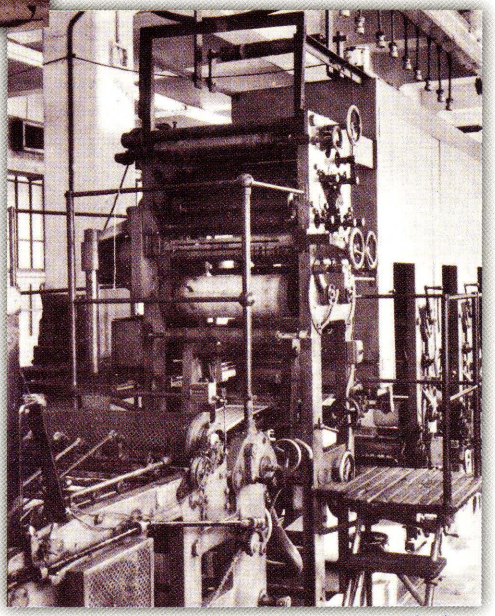

Fig. 5 : The Goebel 840 printing machine. The first Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931. After this date and right up to 1961 all the Union's stamps, with the exception of the re-issue of the ½d, were printed by the rotary process.

From the chromium plated cylinder the Government Printer could proceed to run off sheets of stamps at high speed where the finished sheets came off the continuous roll of paper and were guillotined into separate sheets ready for distribution to the various post offices (fig. 6).

The stamps from 3d to 1/6 inclusive, were bi-coloured and portray animals more in the entire and not just their heads as in the ½d. to 2d. denominations. The paper used varied from time to time in texture however all printings to appear after September 1959 were on a different paper, watermarked with a reproduction of the Union Coat of Arms in skeleton form. Some colour trials were also printed for the 3d value (figs. 7 & 9). Once a selection has been made of the preferred colour, after the colour trial printing, printing commenced of the stamps (fig. 10).



Fig. 6: Officials busy inspecting sheets of stamps. Mr. Johnny Booysen was responsible for the quality control of the printed postage stamps at the Government Printer by certifying that the printed sheets were up to standard before they could commence with the printing of the bulk of sheets of a particular issue.

Mr Johnny Booysen was the official in charge of the stamp printing section of the Government Printer for many years. He was sent overseas to study stamp printing many years ago and as a result the Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931. He was responsible for the quality control of the printed postage stamps by certifying that the printed sheets were up to standard before they could commence with the printing of the bulk of the sheets of a particular issue.



Fig. 7: Part of a sheet of colour trials printed in a light green for the 3d value.

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Fig. 8: Part of a sheet affixed in the Government Printer's inventory records of the 3d value in the approved colours of Red-brown and Sky Blue and made up in sheets of 120 stamps. Printed by a rotary cylinder Interior 16 and Exterior 107. Note the inscription in the left bottom corner: Page 00420, Job no. 12509, June 1955.



Fig. 9: Colour trial in green with the stamp of the 'Ondersekretaris: Poswese' (Under secretary of the postal service) who was probably responsible to decide on the final colour to be used for this stamp.

POSTAGE DUE/TE BETAAL STAMPS

Postage due stamps were used for bringing to account surcharges collected on unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence. They were not valid for postage but they were however available for philatelic purposes at any Post Office (fig. 10).

OFFICIAL/OFFISIËLE STAMPS

Union postage stamps were overprinted for the use of Government departments' correspondence addressed to territories outside the Southern African Postal Union and were first brought to use on 1 December 1926. In April 1929 their sale for general purposes was authorised. From that date, therefore, they served little purpose, and their overprinting was terminated in January 1955. During the whole period of use the overprints always in black, consisted of only two words '**OFFICIAL**' and its Afrikaans equivalent, '**OFFISIEËL**', mostly without, but sometimes with the diaeresis over the second 'E' in Afrikaans (fig. 11)

Right throughout this period the overprinting was done by the Government Printer in Pretoria on the required number of sheets of each value supplied from post office stocks and approved by Treasury. Until 1949 the method of production was by flat bed letter press, and from 1950 onward by stereotype blocks.

CUSTOMS DUTY / DOUANE STAMPS

Customs Duty stamps were introduced to enable overseas business concerns to prepay the customs on packets containing printed advertising matter with the exclusion of catalogues and price lists. The duty was charged on the nett weight in terms of the Customs Tariff. The stamps were produced by initially overprinting selected values of the different former colonies with the words 'CUSTOMS DUTY'. After 1913 the Union's postage stamps were overprinted 'CUSTOMS DUTY' and since 1931 'DOUANE'. These stamps were available at the offices of the Union High Commissioner in London and New York. It was requested that the stamps should be placed at the bottom left hand corner of the label or cover of the packet containing the dutiable material (fig. 12).

Sources:

- S.J. Hagger RDPSA, *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961*, Reijger Publishers (Pty) Limited, Cape Town, 1986.
- The Post Office Archives Philatelic Services, Silverton, Pretoria.
- *The SA Philatelist*, June 1957. Article: *The story behind our stamps*, pp. 88- 91. The original illustrations were from a feature article in *Die Vaderland* newspaper issue of 15 March 1957.
- *The SA Philatelist*, March 1969.
- Gert Nel, *Stamp Artists of South Africa*, 2008.

The author is truly indebted to Talita Fourie, Curator of the Post Office Museum, at Philatelic Services in Silverton in Pretoria, for her support in compiling this series of articles.



Fig. 10: An example of a sheet of the 4d postage due stamps certified correct by Mr. J.L Booysen of the Government Printer in Pretoria.

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The author is also indebted to Connie Liebenberg, the Editor of the *RSA Stamp Study Group* Newsletter, for her support in terms of research and encouragement in the writing of this article.

The author is also indebted to Werner Barnard from Cape Town for taking some of the photos in the archives.

Photo's in figs. 1-7: *The SA Philatelist, June 1957.*



Fig. 11: at right - Part of a sheet of 240 x 6d stamps overprinted Official/Offisieel in March 1952.



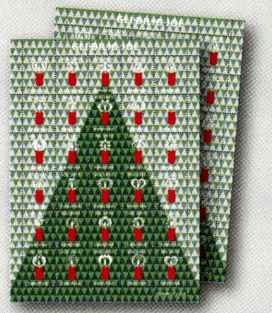
Fig. 12: Part of a sheet of 120 x 1/- stamps overprinted Douane affixed in the 'day books' of the Government Printer. Note the inscription in the top left corner of the page: Job no. 8516, Dec 1950.

In part 2 of this series further stamps printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria to be discussed and illustrated: Revenue, Penalty, Assize stamps, Entertainment Duty stamps, Cigarette labels, Consular, Native Tax stamps and Medicine Fee stamps.

Faroe Islands Stamps

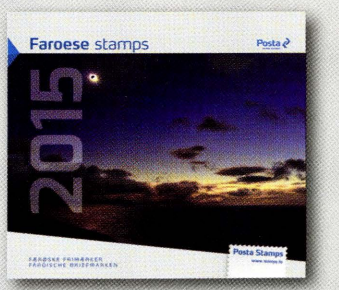
- November 2015

/faroestamps



Christmas Seals

This year's Christmas Seals illustrate a beautiful Christmas tree with candles. Desing: Edward Fuglø. Price: 30,- KK.



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Illustrated Printing Processes for the production of South West Africa 1929 Cigarette Tax Stamps

by Jan van Beukering, OFS Philatelic Society



The 1927 Union 2d Postage Due stamp, (SACC 19), and the 6d definitive postage stamp (SACC 31P) both typograph printed in Pretoria, were overprinted during 1928 for use in South West Africa with the S.W.A. overprint, the 6d also for Official use. These in turn were further overprinted for use as 1½d Cigarette and Tobacco Tax labels in South West Africa.

To create these labels six steps were required, which in turn required careful alignment when setting up the panes. What is illustrated here are the steps in the printing processes necessary to produce the Cigarette Tax labels using the 2d postage due and 6d Pretoria definitive.



Fig. 1. R1/7 right of vertical gutter no jubilee line Top margin perforated base stamp

THE 1½ CIGARETTE TAX OVERPRINT ON THE UNION 2d POSTAGE DUE STAMP :

Unwatermarked paper was used for this stamp issue, guillotined to the correct size and loaded into the printing machine tray. Then the base colour – mauve for the 2d value - using frame plate 1 was applied in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6 each) separated by a narrow vertical gutter. The panes were surrounded by jubilee lines, but these were absent in the vertical gutter.

Step 1 : Guillotining of the unperforated unwatermarked paper

Step 2 : Typograph printed mauve frame in two panes of 60 with jubilee lines all around (not in vertical gutter)

Step 3: Black '2d' value tabs – printed from stereos in rows of 6 only

Step 4: Perforating the sheets by single comb perforator fed in from the top edge leaving perforated top margins

Step 5: S.W.A. overprint by the Government Printers at Pretoria for postal use in South West Africa

Step 6: Supplies of the above postage due stamps (SWA CC 7) overprinted in Red with CIGARETTE TOBACCO TAX 1½d / SIGARETTE TABAK BELASTING 1½d Afrikaans and English. Quantity unknown. *Barefoot* cat. No. '2'

THE 1½ CIGARETTE TAX OVERPRINT ON THE 1927 UNION 6d PRETORIA DEFINITIVE :

Multiple Springbok head watermarked paper was used for the 6d Pretoria Typograph printed stamp, guillotined to the correct size and loaded into the printing machine tray.

Step 1 : Guillotining of the unperforated watermarked paper

Step 2 : Orange frame printed using Plate '2x' in single panes of 240 stamps (20 rows of 12) with orange jubilee lines all around with 3mm gaps at top and bottom

Step 3: Green centre printed from interior Plate 2

Step 4: Perforating the sheets by single comb perforator fed in from the right side margin

Step 5: OFFICIAL S.W.A. overprint by the Government Printers at Pretoria for 'official' postage postal use in South West Africa

Step 6: Supplies of the above official stamps (SWA CC 12) overprinted in Red with CIGARETTE TOBACCO TAX 1½d / SIGARETTE TABAK BELASTING 1½d Afrikaans and English.

Quantity unknown. Not listed in *Barefoot*



Fig. 2.

Frame imperf | *+ Value tab* | *Perforated* | *Overprint SWA* | *Tax Overprint* | *Final stamp*



Fig. 3

Frame imperf | *Frame and centres imperf* | *Perforated*



OFFICIAL SWA overprint. | *SWA Official CC 12* | *Tax Overprint* | *Final stamps*

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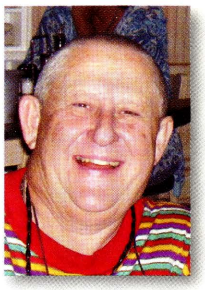
Thematically Yours

by **Rev Cassie Carstens**,
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

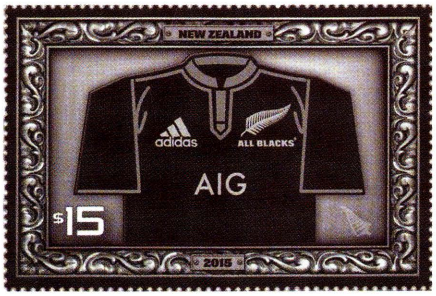


Get Collecting - it's fun!

This is the 82nd of the Series!

*** World Rugby Cup 2015**

As expected, the winning team was the fearsome All Blacks – for a historical third time. For a few nail-biting minutes on the previous Saturday (24/11) we all thought (hoped / prayed) that the Springboks would conquer the terrible Haka-Haka's, but to no avail. Our comeback after the Japan-disaster (*Tora! Tora! Tora!*) was a miracle. In the end the bronze medal – not bad, I think. And perhaps, in four year's time – there will be new blood and new young faces, who still want to play rugby and do not rest on their laurels!



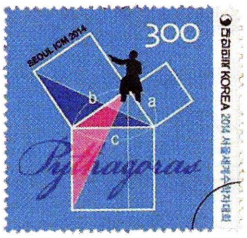
*** The longest reigning monarch**

Did you know? Queen Elizabeth II has given regular audiences to 12 Prime Ministers. There have been 6 Roman Catholic Popes during her reign. She has personally held over 610 investitures She has answered around three and a half million items of correspondence and has sent over 175,000 telegrams to centenarians in the UK and Commonwealth. She has taken 261 official overseas visits to 116 different countries. She is now 88 years old, and the longest British reigning monarch. She is also addressed as the Duke of Normandy!



*** Congress of Mathematicians Seoul 2014**

First convened in Zurich in 1897, the International Congress of Mathematicians is held every four years. The Fields Medal, often described as the 'Nobel Prize of Mathematics' is awarded to mathematicians under 40 years of age who have accomplished a remarkable mathematical achievement. The Congress in Seoul attended by more than 5,000 mathematicians from around the world. 'All is number', Pythagoras, a Greek mathematician said. The film 'Beautiful Mind' is based on the life of mathematical genius John Neale, the Nobel Laureate in Economics, who suffered from schizophrenia.



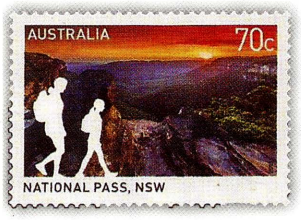
*** The Franklin Expedition**

When Sir John Franklin and his expedition entered Arctic waters in 1845, he and 128 sailors hoped to find the sea link between Europe and Asia, the Northwest Passage. In command of the HMS *Erebus* and the HMS *Terror* – two state-of-the-art ships equipped with reinforced hulls, auxiliary steam engines and supplies for three years – Franklin had every reason to believe his mission would succeed. By the fall of 1846, however, both ships were trapped in the ice. By 1848, conditions were dire and the ships were abandoned. No one survived.



*** Great Australian Walks**

The varied and spectacular terrain of Australia is a bush walker's paradise. The six-kilometre long national Pass in the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Area of New South Wales lies 1,000 km from Sydney and is easily accessible by car or train. The trail was built with picks, shovels, crowbars and dynamite between 1906 and 1907 and was officially opened in 1908.



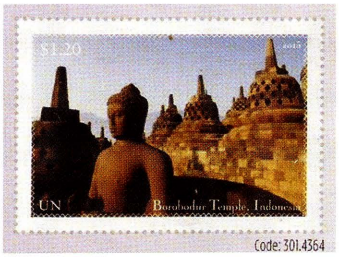
***Heroes of the Korean War**

The freedom, peace and prosperity of the Republic of South Korea were enabled by the sacrifice of countless heroes during the Korean War who gave their lives in the name of democracy. And some of them were American! William Hamilton Shaw (Marine Corps captain) was born in Pyongyang and spent his childhood in Korea. Upon hearing about the war in Korea, his 'second home', while attending Harvard University, he voluntarily joined the US Navy and played a crucial role in the success of the Inchen Landing Operation. Sadly he lost his life during the Seoul Recapturing Operation.



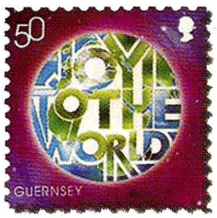
*** World Heritage : Borobudur Temple, Indonesia**

The Borobudur Temple is one of the greatest Buddhist monuments in the world. The temple is located in the Kedu Valley in Central Java, Indonesia. It was built during the 8th and 9th Centuries AD, during the reign of the Syailendra Dynasty. The Borobudur Temple is truly a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture and monumental art. The site was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1991.



*** Joy to the World!**

This is my special Christmas wish for you in 2015 – and may this message of joy resound in the year to come. Make some time to share fellowship with your family and friends, and even with your pets!



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- Korean Stamp Review, Spring/Summer 2014
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- United Nations : Fascination No 345 -- 2015
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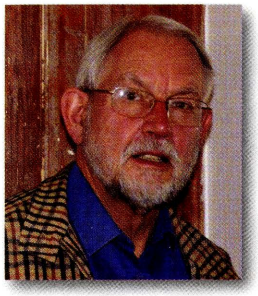


South African Stamp Issues - 2015 - part V

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

Additional information on issues reported on in Part IV, page 176 of October 2015 issue of *The South African Philatelist*

• 26 June 2015 – 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER

• 7 August 2015 – 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CHARTER

Printer's sheets for the above two issues were not supplied. However, Cartor provided Philatelic Services with a print-out of the layout. Both issues were printed together on the same sheet.

Printing sheet size: 597 x 475mm comprising 24 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of four, the top three rows being FREEDOM CHARTER and the bottom three rows being WOMEN'S CHARTER.

• 12 August 2015 – JELLYFISH IN SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS

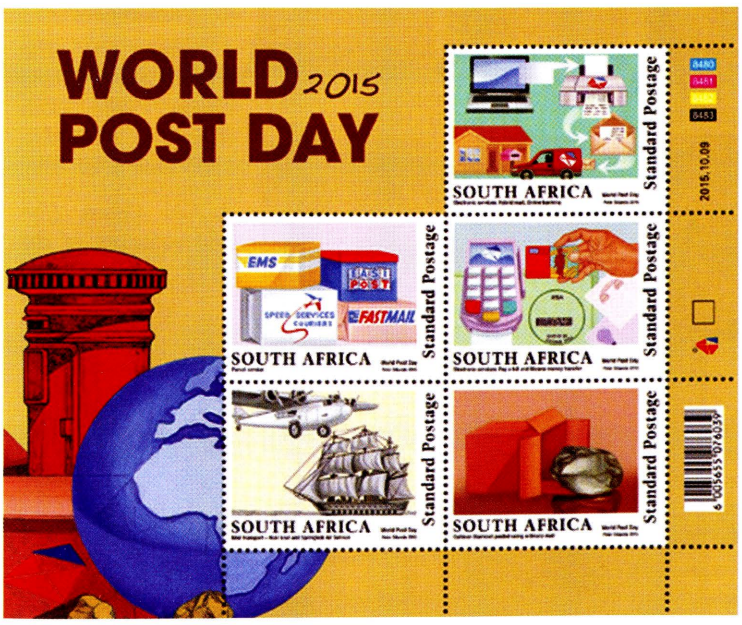
Printing sheet size: 600 x 440mm comprising eight sheetlets arranged in two rows of four.
First Day Covers: Nos. 8.86, bearing the horizontal stamps, and 8.87, bearing the vertical stamps, both of standard size (190 x 102mm) of which 2,000 of each were produced'

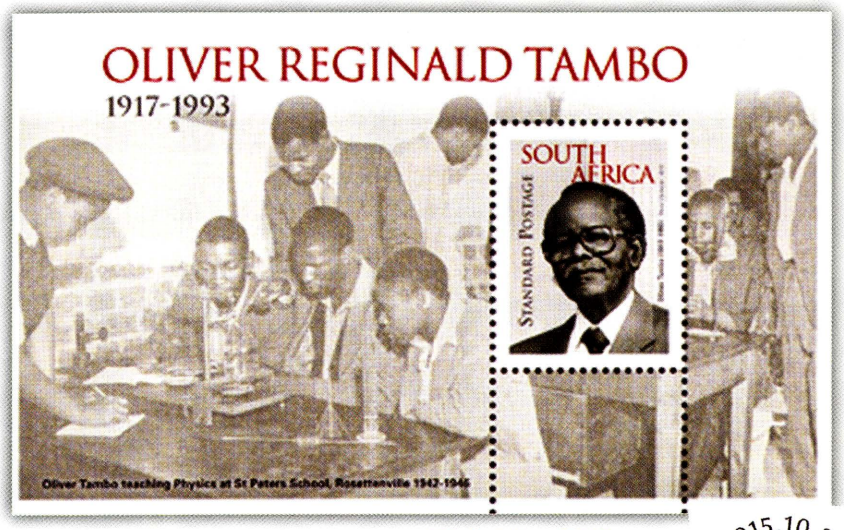
• 7 September 2015 – 14th WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS

Printing sheet size: 610 x 500mm comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in four rows of three.
First Day Cover: No. 8.88 of standard size of which 2,000 were produced.

• 9 October 2015 – WORLD POST DAY

(Due to operational reasons, this issue was only available from 11 November 2015)
Denominations: 5 x Standard Postage (R3.30)





Designer: Peter Sibanda, highlighting some of SA Post Office's historical milestones, as well as current services. They include, anti-clockwise from bottom left:
(i) Mail transport - Mail boat (1815) and Springbok Air Service (1945);
(ii) Cullinan Diamond posted to London as an ordinary, registered mail article (1905);
(iii) Electronic services - pay a bill and money transfer;
(iv) Electronic Services - Hybrid mail and on-line banking;
(v) Parcel service.
Printer: Thai-British Security Printers
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp sizes: 38 x 29mm
Perforation: Gauge 13 extending through top, right and bottom sheetlet selvedges
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: Yellow bands at base (6mm) and right (5mm) of design, on each stamp
Quantity: 20,000 sheetlets
Cylinder numbers: 8480 (blue), 8481 (red), 8482 (yellow) and 8483 (black)
Printing sheet size: 430 x 255mm comprising six sheetlets arranged in two rows of three.
Canceller: No. 8.77 – 'PRETORIA 2015:10:09', depicting postboxes over a globe with an open carton at the base.



• 27 October 2015 – HONOURING OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO 1917-1993

(Also, only available from 11 November 2015)



Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.30)
Designer: Thea Clemons. Stamp features a portrait of OR Tambo, superimposed on a photograph of himself as a science teacher at St Peter's School, Rosettenville, Johannesburg.
Printer: Thai-British Security Printers
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: 24 x 30mm incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm
Gum: PVA
Perforation: 14 x 14.3 extending downwards to bottom margin of miniature sheet.
Phosphor: 3mm yellow bands at base and left on stamp
Quantity: 20,000 miniature sheets.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Printing sheet size: 465 x 315mm comprising 16 miniature sheets arranged in four rows of four.
Canceller: No. 8.78 – '2015.10.27 / OLIVER / REGINALD / TAMBO / WATTVILLE'

The following issues from the 2015 programme have been deferred to 2016:

- KINGFISHERS OF SOUTH AFRICA;
- SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS;
- SOUTH AFRICAN BIOSPHERES; and
- 21ST ROUTE DEVELOPMENT FORUM.

Acknowledgement: The above information was supplied by Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, Philatelic Services e-mail newsletter, *WHAT'S NEWS* and personal observations.

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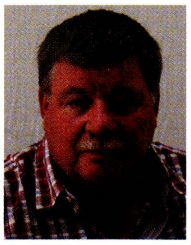
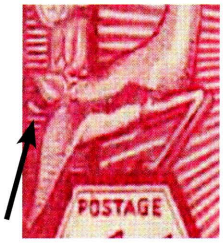
The Union 1935 KG V Silver Jubilee Issue: Frameplate Characteristics of the 1d stamp

by Andre du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society



When collecting stamps, especially the older ones, one might think that most work and research has been done and there may not be something new. Maybe if all research and findings had been stored in one central data base, it might have been so. Fortunately this is not the case with stamps, there will always be something new to discover and explore. This is the second article discussing characteristics of the Union's Silver Jubilee stamps. **Characteristic:** Peculiarity on a stamp originating during the design process. *(My definition)*

Smaller portion of white below tail of both springbok's. (All 3 printings).



This characteristic was listed over time in publications such as *The SA Philatelist*[1,2] and *South Africa Silver Jubilee Stamps of 1935:* Neil Donen (www.philatel2.com) [5]

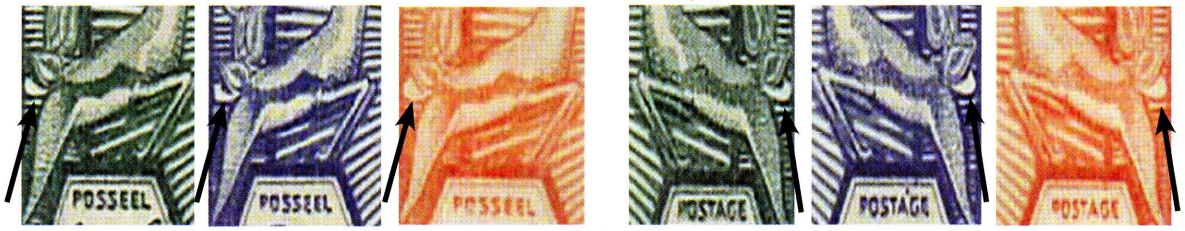
LEFT VALUE TABLET RIGHT VALUE TABLET

A marked white patch appears in all denominations behind both springboks where the tail should be

- There is practically no white to be seen behind the left springbok
- The white patch behind the right springbok is far smaller than in the other denominations



½d 3d 6d ½d 3d 6d



Scans shown here of other denominations for comparison of the white tail

Different number of lines between left '1' and right '1' of 1d. (All 3 printings).

R P Jonas[4] described this only to be present on the English headed stamp. The reality is that it is the same on both language headed stamps.

- This characteristic was discussed under the heading *'The Union of South Africa 1935 Silver Jubilee: Further observations'* on page 23 of *The SA Philatelist*, February 2015.

The following Frameplate characteristics were identified of which no previous descriptions could be found.

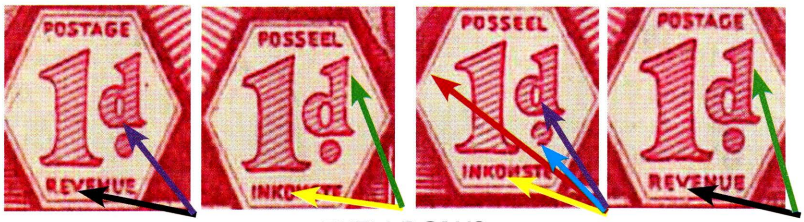
As the language setting of 'SOUTH AFRICA' and 'SUID-AFRIKA' appear alternately at the top of the stamps, they are respectively referred to as English and Afrikaans headed stamps.

Only with the ½d and 1d values some characteristics of the same character, especially in the two value tablets, occur on both values.

At right are scans that constitute a block of 4 stamps. The value tablets are inscribed in English and Afrikaans, in this sequence from the first stamp on the first row on the sheet. On the English headed stamps, English appears in the left value tablet with Afrikaans in the right tablet and vica versa for the Afrikaans headed stamps.

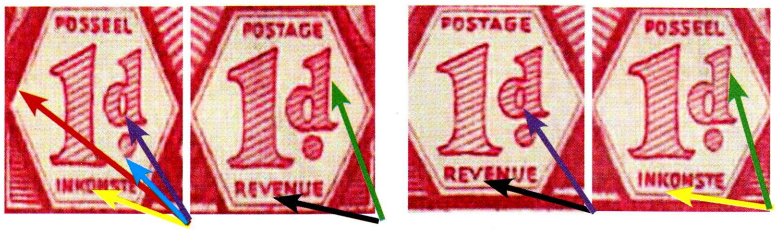
UNEVEN ROWS

ENGLISH HEADED AFRIKAANS HEADED



EVEN ROWS

AFRIKAANS HEADED ENGLISH HEADED



- The sheet layout of the 1d value is different from those of the other values. 'SOUTH AFRICA' at the top of the first stamp of the sheet and POSTAGE/REVENUE in left value tablet.

1. The 'V' of 'REVENUE', where it appears in both value tablets, does not come down to be level with the other letters. In fact the word 'REVENUE' looks the same in all printings (Black arrow).

- This characteristic was described by Gilbert[2,3] and RP Jonas[5] to be present only on Afrikaans headed stamps of the 1d value. It also appears on the ½d stamp. *(See my comments regarding the ½d in The SA Philatelist of August 2015, page 116/7).*

2. The 'INK' of 'INKOMSTE' is shaved at the bottom where it appears in all value tablets. *(Yellow arrow)*. This is also the case with the ½d stamp. *(See my remarks in The SAP of August 2015 on page 116/7 regarding the ½d stamp)*

3. The dot under the 'd' of 1d on all Afrikaans headed stamps, where it appears in the left value tablet, have a break in the bottom left at 8 o'clock. *(Blue arrow)*

4. The 'd' of 1d in the right value tablet has nine lines inside the outline against 8 in the left value tablet, irrespective of the language setting. *(Green arrow)*

5. The appearance of the 'd' of 1d in the two value tablets are different from each other. The one in the left value tablet is shorter and the middle of the 'd' is smaller. *(Purple arrow)*

6. A thinning of the line in the inner left frame-line of the left value tablet is present on all Afrikaans headed stamps. *(Red arrow)*

COMMENTS

Both value tablets on every alternate stamp have the same characteristics and look exactly the same. It seems that the same die was used to print POSTAGE/REVENUE and POSSEEL/INKOMSTE in the different value tablets. The value figure however remains in the same value tablet throughout.

References

1. Gilbert GN. *'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union' - The South African Philatelist.* 1935 June p. 87

2. GN. Gilbert. *'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union - The South African Philatelist.* 1935 September p. 133

3.G.N. Gilbert. *'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union'- The SA Philatelist.* 1935 October p. 154

4. R.P. Jonas. *'A study meeting in London on the Silver Jubilee Issue' - The Springbok.* 1966 Nov/Dec p. 118

5. King George V Silver Jubilee: www.philatel2.com/jubilee/id32.htm. Accessed various times

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COLLECT MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY STAMPS

by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Introduction

This article is a continuation of my previous article entitled *Collect Mozambique Stamps* (Published in *The SA Philatelist* of June 2015). With a bit of luck my previous article tempted you into a new collecting field. Hopefully this article will now entice you to expand your interest in Portuguese East Africa! Much of the comments regarding the stamps of Mozambique in my previous article can be equally applied to the issues of the Companhia.

The Companhia de Moçambique came into being in March 1888, founded by French investors, with the purpose of exploiting concessions in the regions south of the Zambezi River. Curiously there was initially no Portuguese interest in the Companhia.

The granting of a charter to the British South Africa Company over Mashonaland in 1890 galvanised the Companhia to push for a charter of its own over the territories of Manica and Sofala. The charter agreement was made with the government of Portugal in February 1892 for an initial period of twenty five years (in 1897 the charter was extended to 1942).

The charter gave the Companhia the right to, amongst other things, issue postage stamps and operate its own postal administration.

Why the Stamps of Mozambique Company?

The stamps of the Companhia came about directly as a result of the 'Scramble for Africa' by the powers of Europe, and in particular the expansion of the British Empire into what became Southern Rhodesia.

The stamps of the Companhia provide a rich source of interesting material to collect and research. Most of the stamps of the Companhia are readily obtainable at reasonable prices and, with a few exceptions, are also available in both mint and used condition. Again it is the early postal history that attracts higher prices, later issues being much easier to purchase on cover.

In addition, as most of the duties issued by the Companhia after World War I were printed by British printers, proof material is easier to come by for the Companhia than for other territories of Mozambique.

Set out below is a summary of the definitive stamp issues of the Companhia from its inception until the termination of the charter in 1942.



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3

The Currency used in Mozambique Company

While the Companhia issued its own currency distinct from Mozambique, it issued its stamps in the currency of Mozambique. The Milréis and réis were used until decimalisation of the currency in 1913. The Mozambique Escudo, equivalent to 100 centavos, replaced the Milréis thereafter.

The First Postage Stamps

The first postage stamps issued by the Companhia were duties of Mozambique overprinted 'Comp. de Moçambique' in two lines in red or black. This issue was authorised by a Decree dated 8 August 1892 (fig. 1).

A total of nine duties were issued between September 1892 and late 1894. The stamps were issued on two papers in three different perforations - 11½, 12½ and 13½, and are found with a total of three different overprints.

The issue was withdrawn on 31 December 1894.

However, in 1895 50,000 of the 50r duty of this issue was overprinted 'Provisorio' in red due to a shortage of this value. The duty went on sale on 25 May 1895 for about fifteen months (fig. 2).

The Elephant Issue

This issue bore the Coat of Arms of the Companhia, two elephants bearing the shield of the Companhia – thus this issue is known as the 'Elephant' issue (fig. 3).

First issued on 1 January 1895, this issue comprised fifteen duties printed on two different kinds of paper and again being variously perforated 11½, 12½ or 13½.

On 30 April 1895, due to a shortage of 25r duties, 75r stamps were surcharged locally. Being on sale for only six days, these duties are rare used on cover.

In 1898 thirteen duties were overprinted to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Voyage of Vasco da Gama (fig. 4). The duties went on sale on 16 May 1898 for just over three months. Again, usage on cover is scarce. Please note that forgeries of this issue do exist.

A further surcharge issue was done in 1899, again due to a lack of 25r duties. 3,000 80r stamps were surcharged locally and issued on 20 February 1899 (fig. 5). As the stamps were withdrawn on 15 March 1899, usage on cover is rare.

Faced with yet another shortage of low value duties in 1900, the authorities of the Companhia issued further surcharged issues. On 8 June 1900, 15,000 50r on 20r and



Fig.4



Fig.5



Fig.6



Fig.7

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22,000 25r on 5r duties were issued. In addition, the 50r on 20r duties were perforated down the middle – thereby doubling the number of duties available (fig. 6). Although the duties remained on sale for thirteen months, covers are very hard to come by. On 17 October 1904 four new values were issued to meet postal requirements.

This issue was in service until its withdrawal in 1907.

The 'New Colours' Elephant Issue

On 1 April 1907 the same design was used again, belatedly this time to provide new values and colours in keeping with certain resolutions passed at the Universal Postal union Congress of 1902. A total of thirteen duties – all perforated 11½ - were issued (fig. 7).

This issue was withdrawn in 1911 after the revolution in Portugal replaced the monarchy with a republic.

The Elephant 'Republica' Issue

In early February 1911 the Companhia authorised the overprinting of the local stocks of the 1907 Elephant issue – the duties were overprinted 'Republica' in red and green. The overprint slopes downwards from left to right (fig. 8). There are two types of overprints known.

In addition, the stock of duties held by the Casa da Moeda (the printers in Portugal) were also overprinted 'Republica' in red and green. This overprint slopes upwards from left to right.

The duties were withdrawn on 15 December 1918 when the new definitive issue was put on sale.

The New Currency Surcharges Issue

During late 1916 certain stocks of the Elephant 'Republica' issue were surcharged in the decimal currency (100 centavos = 1 Escudo) (fig. 9). The duties were issued on 25 October 1916.

The Local Pictorials Definitive Issue

This issue was the first Companhia issue not printed by the Casa da Moeda in Lisbon. Waterlow & Sons of London won the contract for this issue. Sixteen duties were issued on 16 December 1918 and remained in issue until 15 June 1937 (fig. 10).

The issue is listed with in two perforations – 14 by 15 and 12½ - in most catalogues.

However, this issue is found with at least three further perforations.

Once again, due to a shortage of certain low value duties, seven values were surcharged locally and



Fig.8



Fig.9

issued on 1 June 1920. Due to the low quantities surcharged, these duties are difficult to find on cover.

On 14 July 1921 a further two duties were surcharged locally to increase the stock of ½c duties available for sale. A total of 20,000 duties were surcharged; again finding these on cover is not easy.

During April 1921, two new values – 4c and 6c – were issued due to recent changes in the postal rates. Waterlow & Sons also printed these duties.

During late 1923, the Companhia issued seven new duties, again printed by Waterlow & Sons. Again these duties were necessary due to changes in the postal rates applicable in the territory.

Unlike the issues printed by the Casa da Moeda, there is plenty of archival material ex the printer's archive available for this issue at reasonable prices, thus enabling collectors to explore a fascinating adjunct to the collection of stamps and postal history.

This issue had a very long circulation, with the duties remaining in circulation until 15 June 1937.



Fig.10

The 1925 Local Pictorials New Colours Definitive Issue

With stocks of the existing definitive issue dwindling by late 1924, the Companhia decided to re-issue the definitive issue in different colours. Using many of the same dies as for the 1918 definitive issue to save costs, fourteen new duties were printed by Waterlow & Sons. The duties were line perforated 12½.

In addition, a contract was given to another British printer, Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co for further five new values (fig. 11). These duties were line perforated 12.

On 1 December 1925, the new definitive issue was put on sale at post offices in the territory.



Fig.11

Again due to changes in the postal rates, five new values were issued in the middle of 1931. Waterlow & Sons printed the 30c duty, and Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co printed the 85c and 1E40 duties. However, the 45c and 70c duties were printed by a third London based printer, De la Rue & Co.

This issue remained in circulation until 15 June 1937, and was used in conjunction with the original 1918 issue.

The 1937 Local Pictorials Definitive Issue

This is arguably the most beautiful set of stamps issued by any authority in all of Mozambique. The contract for this issue was awarded to Waterlow & Sons.

On 16 May 1937 the nineteen duties of this issue went on sale. All of the duties were line perforated 12½ (fig. 12).

Again there is plenty of archival material ex the printer's archive available for this issue at reasonable prices.

In July 1939 to commemorate the visit of President Carmona to the territory, the seven triangular duties of the definitive issue

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Fig.12

were locally overprinted '28 VII 1939 Visita Presidensial' in two lines in red and black.

The issue remained in service until the termination of the Companhia's charter on 19 July 1942.

The 1935 Airmail Definitive Issue

On 1 November 1935 a definitive airmail issue consisting of fifteen duties was issued. The purpose of these duties was to prepay airmail postage for mail sent via airmail. Postage stamps intended for the prepayment of surface mail rates were invalid for airmail postage.

The duties were printed by Waterlow & Sons and line perforated 12½ (fig. 13). The issue remained in service until the termination of the



Fig.13

Companhia's charter on 19 July 1942.

Conclusion

I hope that this glimpse into the stamps issued by the Companhia de Moçambique encourages new collectors of the Companhia and inspires collectors who have dipped their toes into Portuguese East Africa to expand their interest to the issues of the Mozambique Company.

The Steinberg Covers

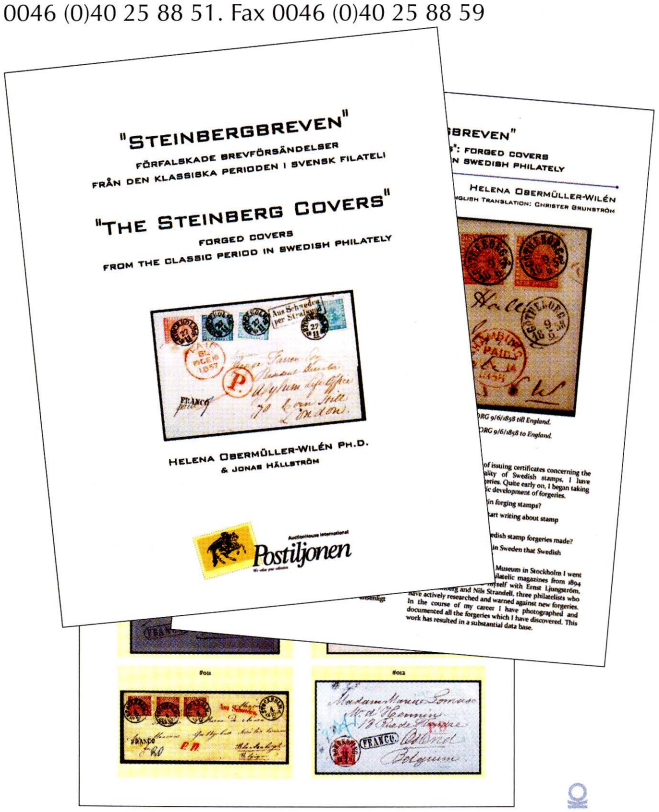
A new book about forgeries by author and expert Helena Obermüller-Wilén has been published. The book is in both Swedish and English, issued by Postiljonen and edited by Jonas Hällström.

Helena Obermüller-Wilén is the leading expert in classic Swedish philately until 1920 and a member of AIEP since 1996. Between 2004 and 2012, she was secretary of the FIP Commission for the 'Fight against Forgeries'. Her work to document forgeries has been extensive and especially interesting is her registration of the so-called *Steinberg Covers*.

The *Steinberg Covers* came to Sweden in the early 1970s with whom we think was the international forger Robert Steinberg. The man in Sweden who called himself Mr. Steinberg sold a lot of Swedish covers, many in very fine or exceptional quality. Many of these covers received certificates as the forgeries were expertly made.

Helena Obermüller-Wilén, together with the Expert Committee of the Swedish Philatelic Federation, have until today documented 207 of these forged covers and the work continues. In the book *The Steinberg Covers*, these 207 covers are described and in most cases illustrated. The aim is to broaden the knowledge of these covers both in Sweden and internationally.

In case you need further information or pictures please do not hesitate to contact us at anna.johnsson@postiljonen.se > Postiljonen AB. Anna Johnsson Winqvist
Box 537. SE-201 25 Malmö. Sweden.
0046 (0)40 25 88 51. Fax 0046 (0)40 25 88 59



SAPDA
THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION
Organisers of the SAPDAPEX 2016 National are proud to announce that Mr Emil Minnaar has been appointed Head of Jury for next years October event.

As all planning and arranging for this Exhibition, which takes place at the Italian Club in Bedfordview, is on track, you are now welcome to submit applications for exhibits. Please contact the committee secretary, Paul van Zeyl or myself with any queries you may have.

Steve van den Hurk
PRESIDENT OF SAPDA
and PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION

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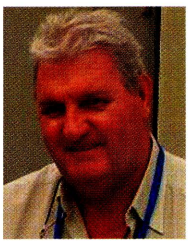

The Half-Penny Springbok - Part II 1949 - 54 Screened Printings

by Otto Peetoom, South Africa Collector's Society, UK mail: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com

1949 - 54 Screened ½d Springbok Printings

Ward[1] classifies the *All screened* issues as Group - *E3* and remarks: *This is a very mixed group and one full of interest.*
It differs from the other sub-groups in that it is neither cross hatched nor yet does it have any R + P sets.

E3 is Ward Set 39 to 43. Set 42 being the June 1951 ½d Booklet Stamps. Listed in the 1986 UHB as Issues 19 to 22.

These *All Screened* stamps are grouped as SG 114c and were produced from four sets of cylinders. Certain confusion that arises from these four groups of cylinders is not immediately apparent. In the 1952 to 1986 Union handbooks - these printings are referred to as *All Screened* which is essentially correct.

Ward on the other hand defines two methods of screening and uses the abbreviations P = Photo screened and R = Roto screened. For instance, SG 114 (Ward 35 - 38), the frame is
P = Photo screened. On the four groups in E3 (SG 114c) the first and the fourth are P + P and the other two are unique printings being P + R (second) and R + R (third).

Comments and observations published in the 1949 - 1954 editions of *The South African Philatelist* confirm that UHB issues 19 and 22 are similar and issues 20 & 21 are different.

Unfortunately none of the 1952 - 1986 UHB editions mentions that or clarifies the situation.

It appears that Ward's classification of Photo or Roto screening is very relevant to the four groups of ½d printings.

Extensive notes on cylinder 31/70 appeared during 1952 in the *SAP* on pages 43, 61 and 177. T.B. Davie of Cape Town intimates that cylinder 31/70 and 7020A/B were both printed using *cross-lined or mesh screening* and this corresponds to Ward calling it Photo screening. Which of these phrases are thought to be technically correct I cannot say.

Screened Issue I - January 1949

Cylinders 7020A (Head) and 7020B (Frame)
Ward 39 - Both P = Photo screened - Issue 19 (1986 UHB)



Ward 39 - UHB Issue 19

Job 8218 Order for one million sheets
Previous Cylinder 86/82 - 355,000 sheets
Cylinder 7020A/B - 238,000 sheets - First delivery 14-12-48[2]
Job 8218 - 593,000 to date

The South African Philatelist February 1949 page 21
Union Notes - *Sheets of the ½d denomination bearing the marginal imprints 'Cylinder No 7020A' and 'Cylinder No 7020B' appeared on sale at the GPO Johannesburg during the first week of January... Examination through a magnifying glass, however, will show one change in the fact that both the vignette and the frame of the new issue have been produced through a screen whereas only the frame was screened in the previous issue. The sheet numbers are in red, as before...*

The SA Philatelist **March 1949** page 39
Correspondents have noted the new ½d stamps, with marginal cylinder numbers, as now being generally available throughout the Union, and Mr A.H. Sydow records their appearance at the Ysterplaat Post Office on 7 January 1949; which is about the same date as on the Rand.

Screened Issue II - April 1949
Cylinders 7020A (Head) and 11B (Frame)
Ward 40 - Head P = Photo screened - Frame R = Roto screened. Remarks ***The only P + R issue.*** Issue 20 (1986 UHB)
Job 8218 continued - 199,000 sheets - First delivery 3-3-49[2]
Delivery up to 8.8.49 - 96,750 Sheets = Total 295,750[3]
Delivery up to 21.11.49 - 20,606 = Total 316,356 sheets[4]
Job 8218 - 909,356 complete

The SA Philatelist May 1949 page 75
Union Notes - A new printing of the ½d postage stamp with the sheets bearing the old vignette cylinder '7020A' in the left-hand bottom corner and a new frame number '11B' in the right-hand bottom corner, appeared on sale at post offices on the Reef about the 12th April...*The frames also appear to have been produced through a slightly finer, or different type of, screen to that employed for the 7020B cylinder and in consequence the frame portion of the stamps is not so well defined as in the last printing.* This, however, may only be due to factors arising in the process of printing the stamps. **Note the underlined comment** above clearly points out that the printing from this set of cylinders is different, that is because they are Ward P + R instead of P + P.

Comments on this issue continues in the May 49 SAP and occupies a full page, the relevant remarks clarify that the frame on the stamps is quite different to the previous printing.

Observations - On 7020B the Green frame lines are clearly defined. On 11B the lines of shading are almost fusing together and the colour is bluish-green. Held up to the light, both frames are shiny. This is in sharp contrast to the next two issues as their frames, by comparison, appear dull or matt.

I also examined the four sets of cylinder issues under an ultra violet lamp, but that failed to produce any significant differences. - I thought it may be of interest to the readers to quote Ward's notes on his CS 40.

Ward abbreviation CS = Cylinder Set.

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Ward 40 - UHB Issue 20

Ward 40 - Cylinder Set 40 (Plate 20 H/C)

This C.S. is remarkable in that it uses the same head cylinder as before (i.e. cylinder 7020A) but the new frame cylinder uses rows 2-21 of the multipositives instead of rows 1-20 as had been the case previously. The result of this is that the well-known multipositives flaws appear one row higher than before, and correspond to different head flaws (where there are any).

For example, the line between the horns on 1/3 is still in that position, since it is a head cylinder flaw, but is associated with a frame which was formerly 2/3 but has now been moved up. In the same way the multipositive flaws which are so obvious on 9/12, 14/1, etc., have now to be looked for in the 8th and 13th rows.

The first issue was in April, 1949, and the cylinders were 7020A & 11B. The first has a photo screen, the other roto. This is the only photo-roto C.S. in the whole springbok series, so that specimens from this C.S. are easy to identify. Serial numbers are in red and have four figures. The heads are usually in brown. This C.S. has been overprinted DOUANE and also in the third type of OFFICIAL. This type is described on page 2615 of the Handbook/Catalogue.*

There are no varieties peculiar to this C.S. since the head cylinder has already been used in a previous set (39) and the frame cylinders occurs again in set 41, where its varieties are discussed.

***OFFICIAL overprints on Cylinder 7020A/11B** is noted in the April 1951 *SAP* on page 50...*Sheets of the half-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders numbered 7020A and 11B have been overprinted "Official-Offisieel" (small type)*

Source - March 1951 *Philatelic Bulletin*

The South African Philatelist June 1949 page 91

Notes on the New ½d printing Cylinder No 7020A/11B

A.H. Sydow wrote...*that Cylinder No 11B was prepared from a carbon tissue sheet printed from a 264-set Diapositive, i.e. 22 rows x 12 instead of 20 rows x 12. The two surplus rows not required in the finished sheets of stamps, were either varnished out after having been etched onto the cylinder, or the 264-set carbon tissue obtained from the Diapositive was reduced to a 240-set by cutting off the two extra rows of images.*

In the August 1949 *SAP* there are further extensive notes on this issue by Sydow mainly to do with the flaws on the sheet.

Screened Issue III - August 1949

Cylinder No 11A (Head) and Cylinder No 11B (Frame) The first head inscription (Cylinder No. 11A) now reads up and on Issues I & II it read downwards.

Ward 41 - Head R = Roto screened - Frame R = Roto screened. Remarks The only R + R issue. Issue 21 (1986 UHB)

Job 5134 Order for one million sheets

Delivered since 29.11.49 - 215,950 sheets[6]

Delivered by 14.6.50 - 153,370 = 369,320 sheets so far[7]

Delivered by 4.1.51 - 74,972 = 444,292 sheets to date[8]

Delivered by 4.1.51 - 54,990 = 499,282 sheets to date[9]

Job 5134 - 499,282 to date

In the September 1949 *SAP* Sydow reported this issue was for sale at Ysterplaat Post Office on 4 August and provides details of the different layout of the sheet. Sydow concluded: *The new sheets were noted on sale in Johannesburg on 10 August and may have been available a few days earlier than this date.*

February 1950 *SAP* page 26 ½d Cylinder 11A/B

Under a heading ***Change in Colour and Form of the Cyclometer Numbers on Recent ½d Pictorials.***

Another report by Sydow reads...*It may not be generally known, but the five-figure sheet numbers in black indicate that this latest printing of the ½d stamps has been carried out on the larger of the two printing machines in use at the Government printing works in Pretoria.*

It is a three-colour machine as compared with the two-colour type generally used for the printing of the postage stamps and is fitted with a single comb perforator instead of the eleven-row multiple-comb equipment installed on the smaller, but faster machine. In consequence...a complete absence of 'narrow row' of stamps frequently found at the centre of the sheets printed on the multiple-comb perforating machine.

An additional point of interest in this latest printing of the ½d pictorial stamp is that the lines of the Springbok's Head on the vignette portion of the design stand out with a distinct charcoal black appearance and in strong contrast to the frame, when the stamps are held up to a suitable position and viewed against the light.

Ward dates this issue as January 1950 which is clearly incorrect and comments:

Cylinder Set 41...Cylinder No. 11A reads upwards instead of down...*This is the only cylinder set in this sub-group to have the formula R + R and it is therefore easy to identify stamps of this issue. The fact that the heads are seldom if ever in a brown shade is also of assistance...cylinder 11B is peculiar in that it was prepared from rows 2-21 of the multipositives...all flaws on either cylinder are one row up. The old top row with the vertical line between horns on 1/3 is missing and a new bottom row, both head and frame, appears.*

Charcoal Centre - Ward stated:

Somewhere about the middle of the life of this C.S. an experimental or emergency printing was made on a machine not hitherto used for the half penny value. This printing differed from the normal in the following particulars:

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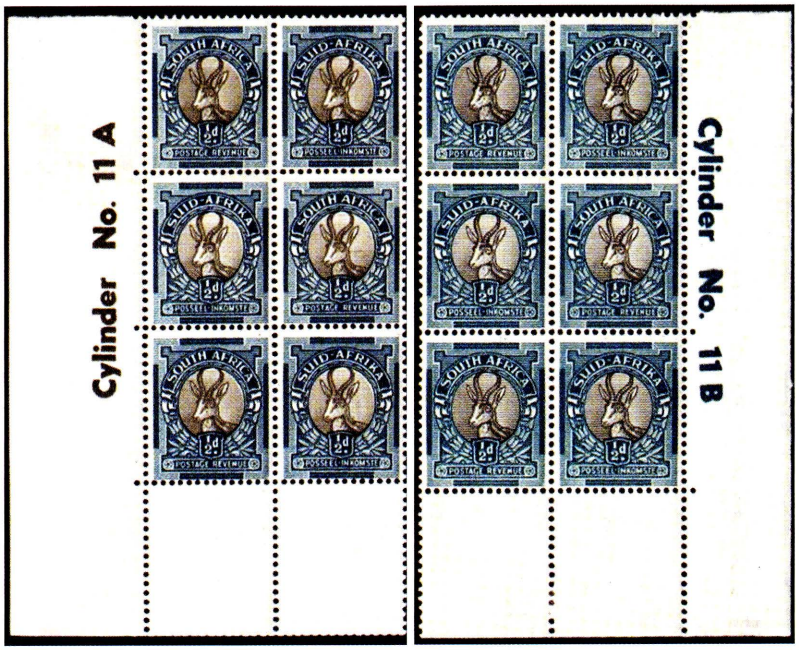
1. The head was printed in a very dark ink which was absolutely 'matt', i.e., when held up to light it appears not in the least shiny (as is usually the case) but remains dull and black. This is the easiest way of detecting what are well called "charcoal prints".



Ward 41 - UHB Issue 21

The illustrated No. 11A is from the Charcoal Printing, the No. 11B is not.

2. The perforation is as usual (14.7 by 14) but there is no perforation over-lapping at the centre of the sheet. This points to a difference of technique and it may be that a comb perforator of more up-to-date type was now available.

3. The serial numbers differ from the usual in that (a) have five figure numerals, (b) are provided with serifs and (c) are printed in black.

These charcoal sheets were otherwise normal in design, flaws, etc. They are not uncommon. Sheets from cylinder-set 41 were overprinted DOUANE and also with type 11 of the OFFICIAL* series.

***OFFICIAL overprints on Cylinder 11A/11B** is noted in the June 1951 *SAP* on page 94... *Sheets of the half-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders 11A and 11B have been overprinted "Official-Offisieel" (large type - reading down)*

Source - Philatelic Bulletin & July *SAP* page 110.

In the October 1950 *SAP* on page 154 W.N. Sheffield produced a summary of printings and noted Cylinder 11A/B as August 1949 - First Printing. December 1949, second printing with five figure sheet numbers in black (Charcoal effect) February 1950 third printing, return to four-figure sheet numbers in red and printing similar in all respects to the August 1949 issue.

Note - Although the Author does not say so, it implies that the initial printing also had four-figure sheet numbers in red.
From the ***Quantities Printed***, it suggests there were more than three printings and not as stated by Sheffield.

Observations on 11A/B - The vignette is very different to issue I & II and held to the light, the frame appears dull compared to the previous two cylinders. I have a nice large multiple of the charcoal printing on an album page that is described as 'Raised heads' - this is an appropriate description. When holding the stamps to the light in order to observe the charcoal effect. The Springbok does appear to be proud of its surrounding.

Illustrated at right Cylinder No. 11B with a five figure sheet number in black - from the ***Charcoal Printing***.

The difference of the vignette between the four figure red serial number printing and the charcoal effect on the five figure black serial number printing is essentially a good reason to classify them separately, but then I came across a report in a 1955 *SAP* that provides food for thought.



A Controversial Claim
Fact or Fiction?

According to Sydow and Ward the so called **Charcoal Printing** was confined to having been produced on a different printing machine that included a five figure sheet No in black.

I extended my search for contemporary information in the *The South African Philatelist* to 1970. To my surprise I came across a report in the April 1955 *SAP* entitled:

Charcoal Centre ½d
Springbok Stamps - Red Serial Numbers

A matter mentioned some three years or so ago by Mr A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein and Dr C.L. Faerber of Germiston, and unfortunately not recorded at the time, has recently been brought to light again by Mr R.T. Lilley, Johannesburg, showing us a portion of a sheet of the ½d Plate XXI Springbok stamps with the dull charcoal centres and four-figure red serial numbers in the margin instead of the five-figure black numerals.

At the time of its issue, the dull charcoal ('Rough') centres of the ½d Plate XXI printing was believed to be confined to those sheets bearing only the five-figure black serial numbers and notes to this effect were published on page 114 of the Union Handbook of Postage Stamps.[10] *From information and examples that have since come to hand it is evident that the dull charcoal centre stamp was produced with both four-figure red and five-figure black serial numbers printed twice on the right hand margin of the sheets.*

Mr Lilley also notes that the frames of these particular stamps appeared in three quite distinct shades of green light, medium and dark - and that the cylinder flaws on R17/5, 19/4 and 20/3 are constant on all three shades.

For the moment, the above report can only be taken as read.

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Screened Issue IV - December 1951
The final Cylinders for the ½d Springbok

Cylinder 31 (Head) and Cylinder 70 (Frame) Ward 43 - Head **and** Frame P + P = Both Photo screened.
Issue 22 (1986 UHB)

Job 5134 continued - Order for one million sheets
The first part of this Job was 499,282 sheets of Cylinder 11A/B 31/70 Commenced on 13.11.51 - 105,371 sheets delivered[11]
No further deliveries for Job 5134 appeared in the *SAP*
Job 5134 - 604,653 in total

Job 6112 Order for 25,000 sheets x 240 stamps - 16,500 sheets delivered on 20.1.53[12]
8,700 delivered by 22.1.53 = Total 25,200 sheets[13]
Job 14150/3 Order for 14,000 sheets- 14,500 sheets delivered on 11.3.54[14]
Job 106069 Order for 10,000 sheets - 14,200 sheets delivered on 27.7.54[15] **Total No of sheets for Cylinder 31/70 = 159,271**

January 1952 *SAP* under Union Notes by W.N. Sheffield
New printing of ½d Postage Stamps from Cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior
A new printing of the ½d pictorial postage stamps from cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior appeared on the post office counters early in December.

The new issue shows a change in the language setting and the first stamp on the sheet is now inscribed in English instead of Afrikaans as in the 11A/11B printing...the reappearance of the vertical black line in between the horns of the Springbok on the third stamp of the top row indicates that the images for cylinder 31 have been taken from one row higher up on the glass plate than was the case in the 11A/11B printing.

In addition the movement of the green flaw in the top right hand corner of the frame design, from stamp No 12 in the 8th row of the 11A/11B issue to the same position in the 9th row of this latest printing, shows that the same procedure has been adopted for the transference of the frame images on to cylinder 70 and these factors, together with the language change , brings the setting of the stamps on the sheet back to the same position as that of the 7021A/7020B printing, issued in February 1949.



***The Colour** is described as a deeper if duller and more bluish-green frame and a distinct olive-grey centre compared to the previous 11A/11B with a more vivid deep green frame - usual red sheet numbers.*

Extensive notes on this issue appeared during 1952 in the *SAP* on pages 43, 61 and 177. T.B. Davie of Cape Town intimates that cylinder 31/70 and 7020A/B were both printed using cross-lined or mesh screening and this corresponds to Ward calling it Photo screening.

In April 1952 Davie devoted half a page in the *SAP* in an attempt to provide guidance between the two sets of cylinders.

My own simple observation is that Issues I & II compared to III & IV, held to the light, the frames of the first two are shiny and the latter two are dull.

Ward in his Booklet also made a string of remarks and one comment provides a clue as to when he made his notes...The sheets from this set were brought into use in December 1951 are still current... DOUANE and OFFICIAL (Type 10) overprints are recorded.

Ward - *Three States of C.S. 43*

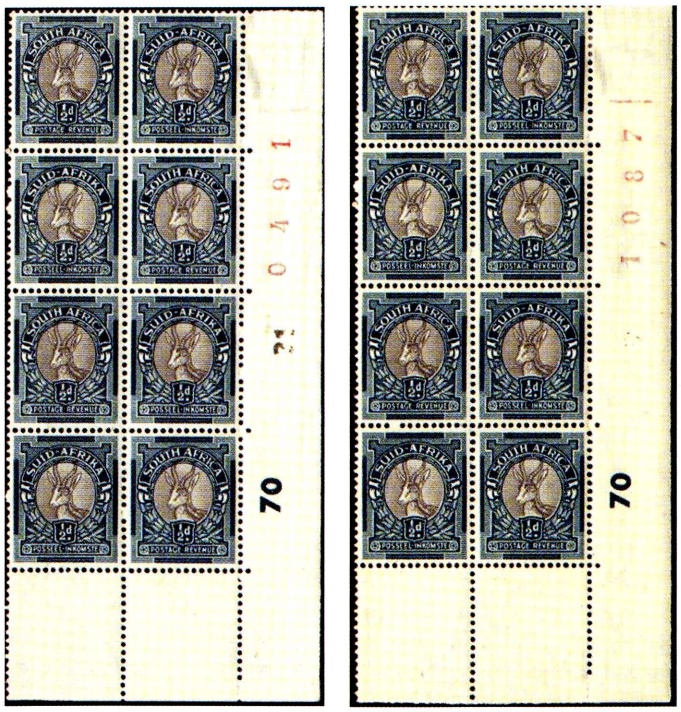
Three states may be discovered in printings from this C.S. In the first state there are serious defects in the head cylinder. A very large black mark appears at the bottom of the sheet below stamps 4 and 5 and a small dot is present above the top left corner of 20/12. A small smudge has already been noted close to the cylinder number 31 and a much larger smudge covers much of the right side of stamp 17/12. It was perhaps this large smudge which made some repair essential and the second state shows it completely removed. The third state appeared in 1954 and shows the cylinder number 31 missing, except for a very small dot. The adjacent smudge has also vanished, but the black dot above still remains.

Cylinder 31- Faded or Omitted?

From my own observations the number 31 gradually faded away, whereas some of the contemporary comments indicate that it was considered as ***'missing'***.

A paragraph - *Missing Cylinder Number Variety*, accompanied by an illustration, on the foregoing appeared in the October 1953 *SAP* and a similar report followed in May 1954.

Union ½d Cylinder 70-31



Cylinder No 31 fading on Sheet No 0491 and almost completely vanished on sheet No 1087

The above illustrations suggest that the contention of a 'missing 31' is somehow flawed. I have four blocks ranging from sheet No's 0445 to 0491 that show various stages of fading and another four No's 1084 to 1088 with faint traces of the number remaining.

Union ½d Cylinder 70-31 continued

Mr Sam Legator informs us that he has made a study of the ½d, Cylinder 70-31 with the '31' missing, and has found there are *hundreds more such items than collectors imagine.*

He has traced them with sheet numbers 0116 up to 1158 (which would mean at least 1000 sheets). He has been reliably informed that the '31' did not wear off from the cylinder but missed picking up the ink through a 'wobble'. Presumably it could start working again correctly after having been missing for a bit.

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The last comment on the above subject appeared in the June 1954 SAP reporting an example of a cylinder block overprinted OFFICIAL with the number '31 missing'.

Quantities Printed

1986 UHB	Cylinders	Sheets Printed
Issue 19	7020A/7020B	238,000
Issue 20	7020A/11B	316,356
Issue 21	11A/11B	499,282
Issue 22	31/70	159,271

Regarding the quantities printed, the 1986 UHB includes the following notes

Issue 20...The quantity printed was small compared to the other productions of this group.

Issue 22...like No 21, was also a very large one.

Oh Dear, Oh Dear, Oh Dear!

Notes:

[1]Articles by Dr Gordon Ward - Reported in *SAP* November 1955 page 191.
The South African Philatelist Union Notes - Recent Printings.
[2]June 1949 page 89, [3]October 1949 page 153, [4]February 1950 page 24 . [5]This is an incorrect page reference (261) and is 272 No 089 - 1952 UHB, [6]April 1950 page 49, [7]August 1950, page 118, [8]March 1951 page 34, [9]June 1951 page 92 [10]Page reference to the 1952 U.H.B., [11]March 1952 page 42, [12]March 1953 page 37, [13]July 1953 page 113, [14]July 1954 page 117, [15]February 1955 page 13.

Varieties on the Screened Issues

The majority of flaws are minor and often mere fly specks.
Cylinder 7020A/B UHB V4 - 10 list seven and Ward added another three. **Cylinder 7020a/11B** UHB V11 - 15 (Five).
UHB V16 - 18 found on Issues 20 & 21.

Cylinder 11A/B - UHB V19 (1) and Ward added another four

Cylinder 31/70 UHB V20 - 24 (5) and Ward added another 13.



Issue 19 R3/3 & 3/4 Flaws



Issue 21 R2/4 Corrected Bush Tick

Some of the better variations include a line between the horns on R1/3 UHB V1 on Issues 19 & 22. A white dart in the vignette (See illustration below) The most prominent variety is the Bush Tick Flaw, also listed as **SG 114cb** found on R3/4, Issues 19 and 20 and R2/4 on Issue 21 and was partly corrected during the use of these cylinders (See illustration below).
It was completely removed on Issue 22.

THE 2015 SASOLBURG INTERCLUB COMPETITION

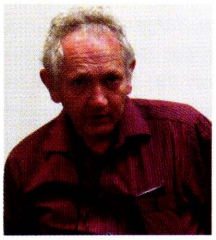
This annual event was once again held at the Sasolburg Library with the Jury being Jill Redmond and Emil Minnaar.

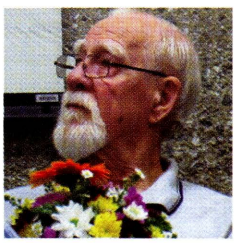
With the usual friendly rivalry between Sasolburg and East Rand Philatelic Societies - this year saw East Rand winning the Interclub competition. Jimmy Mitchell won the Grand Prix, but there were a number of splendid exhibits as well. The judging took place on 1 November and prize giving on 7 November 2015.

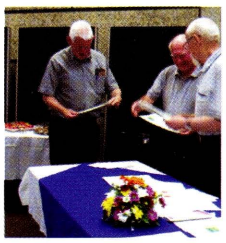
The only junior to enter was Abigail Mitchell, Jimmy's granddaughter, with an exhibit called *Meaow and Roar*.

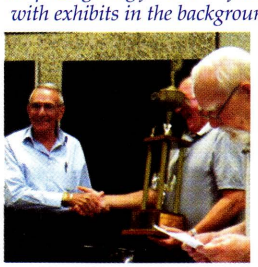
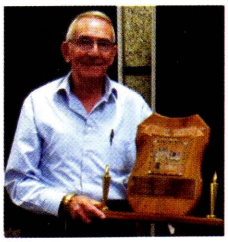
Dr Eddie Pretorius, President of Sasolburg Philatelic Society, thanked everone for their participation and as usual, the hospitality extended by the Sasolburg PS was appreciated by all, as can be seen from this gallery of photos.

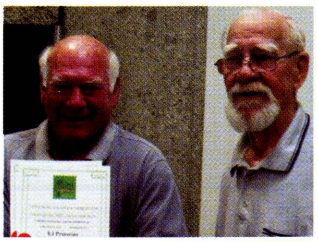

Exhibitors and non-exhibitors at the prize giving function - frames with exhibits in the background.

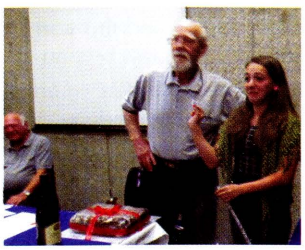

Emil Minaar sharing the judges' comments on the exhibition.

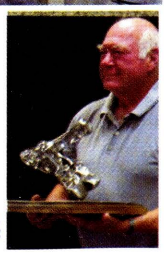

Dr.Eddie Pretorius (Chairman of Oilfilat) listening to Emil's talk.


Jan Bakker receiving certificates for his entries


Jimmy Mitchell receiving the trophy for the best exhibit overall and at right receiving the trophy for the winning club at the exhibition - ERPS


Abigail and Dr.Eddie doing the draw for the Christmas cake and above, Abigail receiving the trophy for the best exhibit by a junior philatelist


Johan van Wyk showing the certificates he received for his entries, and below - receiving the trophy for the 2nd best exhibit overall

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The CHALLENGE for 2016

MPS Challenges ALL Societies in South Africa by Aubrey Bowles

The Maritzburg Philatelic Society, established over ninety year ago and still going strong, would like to challenge ALL Societies in South Africa to enter an *Open Class - One to three frame - Club Competition* at the **National Stamp Exhibition** in Edenvale, Gauteng, during October 2016 based on the changing face of their town or city.

SAPDA, the organisers of the 2016 National, have welcomed this initiative as it will give every Society (Club) an opportunity to compete at national level and win an awesome trophy!

Recently, the MPS compiled two 16 page (one frame) exhibits based on 'Farming in South Africa' and competed against Bellvillle and Centurion in Cape Town. The Belliville society were awarded Silver as apposed the Bronze medal achieved by the MPS and consequently emerged as victors! Bellville were also awarded the Sykes Memorial Cup for their efforts which they, in turn, will hand over to the winner of the 2016 challenge.

What is important is the fact that all members of a society get an opportunity to work on a project together and, if there are say, 16 members participating, then each member would be responsible for writing and compiling one page. Clubs in the UK held a *The Changing Face of London* competition some time ago which was a huge success.

Every town in South Africa has a history and we challenge you to enter an exhibit in the Open Class and compete for the awesome floating trophy, THE SYKES MEMORIAL CUP.

Remember that the Open Class allows you to make use of both philatelic and non-philatelic material.

Come on, give it a go - start working on your 2016 *The Changing Face of.....* exhibit now!

SAPDA'S VIEWPOINT

SAPDA will be promoting joint exhibits as an important 'society growth' element at next year's National in Edenvale. You might be aware that the Japanese are able to write poetry jointly ... something else they can teach us! Joint production not only demonstrates the 'how to' part of doing something like an exhibit, but within a positive/practical/constructive group, it is also capable of bringing out the best in each one of us; old or young, rich or poor. Nothing breeds success like joint/communal success. We're back at hands-on encouragement, of the type where all benefit in the process. Go on, try out this growth truth in your home Society!

Paul van Zeyl

The South African Philatelist
All about stamps
www.stamps.org
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

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

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

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

To celebrate the Tokyo Olympics in 1964, Pilot's engineers created many new products, the greatest of their achievements being the Pilot Capless fountain pen. Known as the *Vanishing Point* in the US, the Pilot Capless is 'the perfect combination of luxury and technology'. A simple push-button withdraws the nib into the body, closing an air-tight seal behind it, to prevent it from drying out. The Capless can be used with ink cartridges and is also supplied with a converter to allow use of bottled ink. Available in a range of finishes and colours, all come supplied in a luxury gift box and are available from leading stationers

PILOT
More than a Pen!



Timelessly elegant, prestigious writing instrument, highly collectable and proud to be associated with achievers in philately. A premium award for R. Debney of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, well deserved by the recipient.



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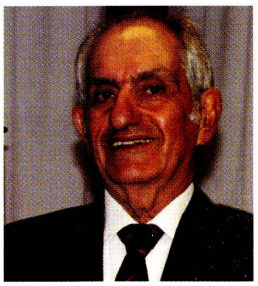
2c Protea

by Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



There were two issues of the 2c stamp, with the design, *Protea punctata*, printed by photogravure.

Issue	Date	Cylinders	Suffix	Perf	Cyl 722	Printer	Perforator
1	30 September 1976	722, 727-30	-0	12.5	State 2	De-La-Rue	Internal
2	24 March 1977*	722, 727-30	-0	12.5	State 4	De-La-Rue	Internal

Table 1. 2c Protea

*The date on these sheets is 30 September 1976 and the suffix is -0, the same as in Issue 1. However this was a new Issue, because a different 722 cylinder was used. Cylinder 722 State 2 (Government Printer No 32) was used for Issue 1 and Cylinder 722 State 4 (Government Printer No 66) was used for Issue 2. In spite of this, the Government Printer regarded it as a 'Supplementary' print and did not change the date or suffix (1).

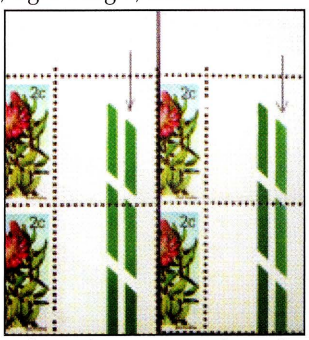
The differences between the Issues 1 and 2

Although the cylinder numbers are identical in the two issues, Cylinder 722 State 2 was used in Issue 1, while Cylinder 722 State 4 was used in Issue 2. The two issues can be identified by

1. Marginal bars

The marginal bars in Issue 1 are all the same colour. In Issue 2 the outer marginal bar is a lighter shade of green at

Pane A, left margin, rows 1-7 and
Pane B, right margin, rows 1 – 10



Issue 1. Issue 2.

Fig. 2. Pane B. The lighter outer bar.

2. Sheet numbers

a. In Issue 1 the sheet numbers are even on Pane A and odd on Pane B.

In Issue 2 the reverse is true.

b. Sheets from Issue 1 have either a low or a very high sheet number.

In Issue 2 the sheet numbers fall between the two limits of Issue 1.

Issue 1 sheet numbers run from 247,394 to 968,704. Issue 2 sheet numbers run from 916,786 to 453,331. Dr H. J. Raubenheimer (2) explained how the cyclometer worked in the De-La-Rue Printing Machine. "The numbers run in cycles of one million, starting at 999,999 and ending at 000,000. When the cycle is completed, and these cycles are run continuously and consecutively, irrespective of what the printing has been." In the case of the 2c the run would have started at about 247,000 and continued through 000,000 and stopped at about 968,257. Issue 2 would have commenced at approximately 916,000 and continued to 453,000.



Fig.1. 2c stamp

3. Identification Varieties

Many collectors only collect the control blocks. The following summary will help in the identification of the control blocks.

Identification of Cylinder Blocks.

Control blocks can be identified - as Issue 1 or 2 by:

i. Sheet numbers are even on Pane A and odd on Pane B in Issue 1.

The reverse is true in Issue 2

ii. Sheet numbers range between 247,000 and 960,000 in Issue 1 and between 916,000 to 453,000 in Issue 2.

iii. There is dot above the A in Issue 1.(Fig. 4)

iv. In Issue 2, Pane B. there is

a. dot in the B and 2 dots to the left of the B (Fig. 9 and 11)

b. dot between the 7 and 22 in 722. (Fig. 10)

c. a dot above the 'A' of 'RSA' on R8/1. (Fig. 8)

Pane	Position	Description	Issue
A	R5/1	A green mark after 'Findlay'	1
	R10/1	Tiny green dot above the 'A'	1
B	R1/10	Dot below right leg of 'A' of 'RSA'	2
	R1/10	'Lightning' flaw outer marginal bar	2
	R2/10	Two white spots outer marginal bar	1
	R8/1	Green dot above 'A' of 'RSA'	2
	R10/1	Tiny green dot in top loop of 'B'	2
		Tiny green dot between '7' & '2' of '722'	2
		Two green dots 4 and 8 mm to left of 'B'	2

Table 2. Issue Identification Varieties.

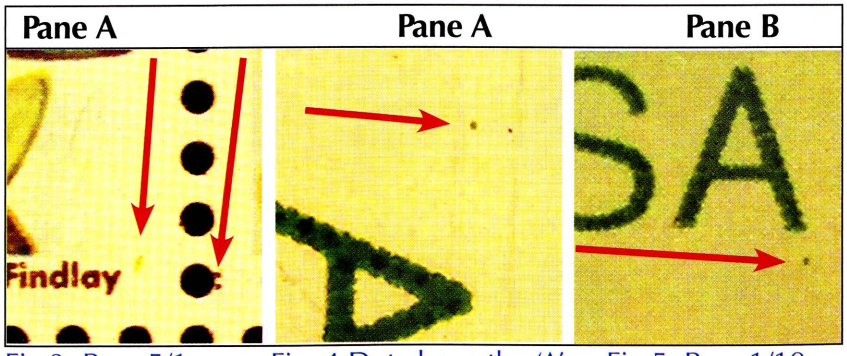


Fig.3. Row 5/1 Fig. 4.Dot above the 'A' Fig.5. Row 1/10

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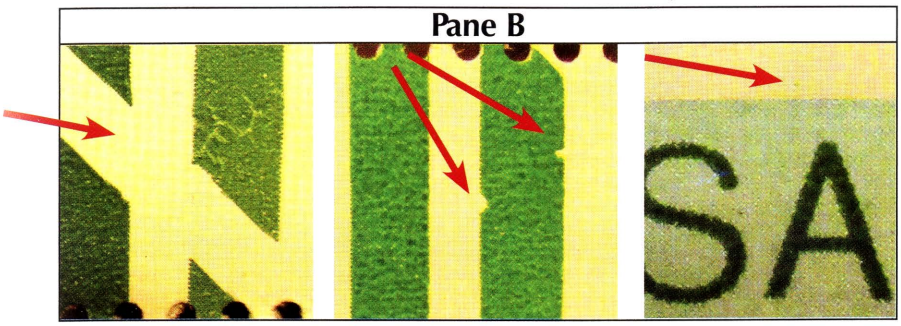


Fig. 6. 'Lightning flaw'. Fig. 7. Two white spots. Fig. 8. Dot above 'A' of 'RSA'.

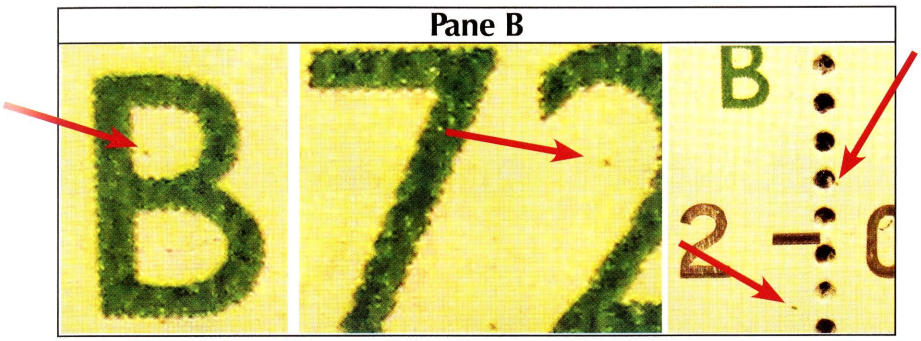
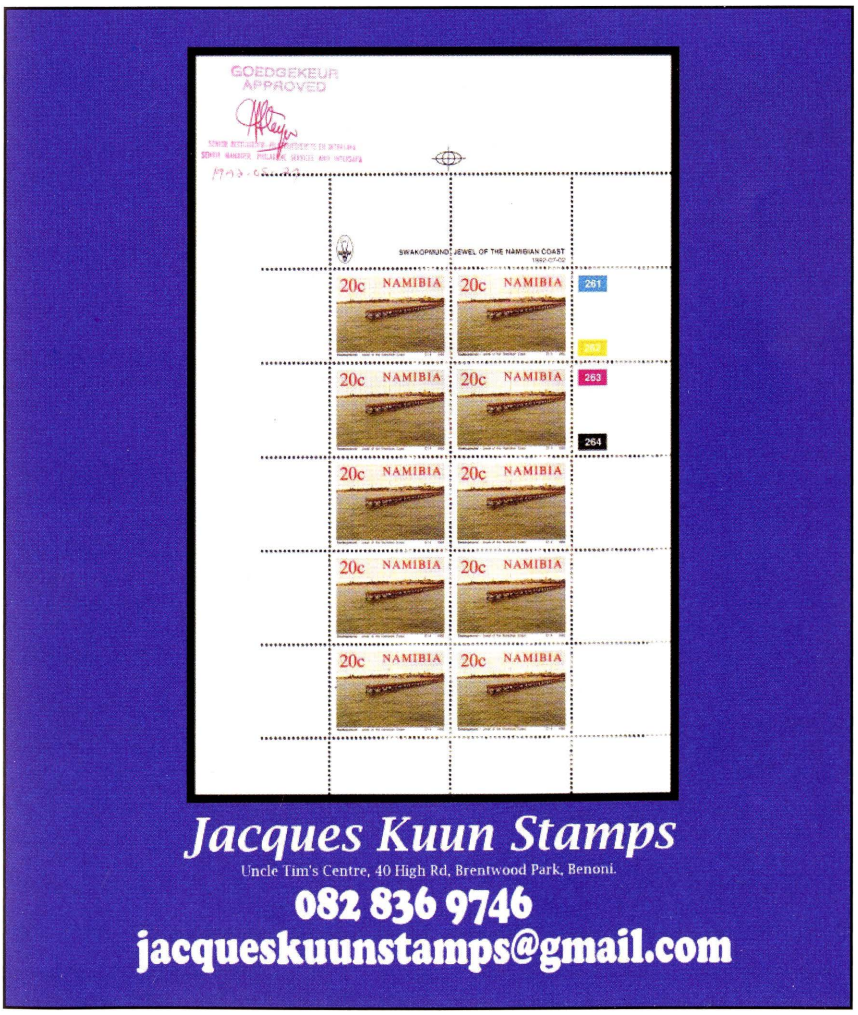


Fig. 9. Dot in th.e 'B'. Fig.10. Dot in '722'. Fig. 11. Two dots below B.

References

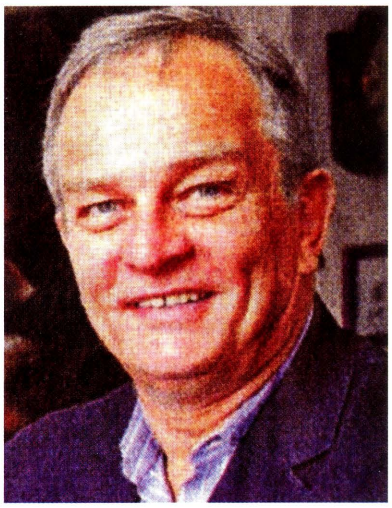
1. Reinders F., The Bars over the 'blank' Protea Stamps, *The South African Philatelist.* 1978 June p152.

2. Raubenheimer H.J, The Cyclometer, *South African Study Circle Newsletter.* 1977 February p3.



Mark Barnes named new Post Office CEO

The Telecommunications & Postal Services Department has confirmed his appointment.



Last month, acting CEO Mlu Mathonsi stepped down for personal reasons.

The Telecommunications and Postal Services Department has confirmed Mark Barnes' appointment, saying it will bring much needed leadership to the embattled parastatal.

The Post Office has been embroiled in financial and maladministration scandals, with Minister Siyabonga Cwele revealing in July that it owes about R245 million to creditors.

The SA Post Office was put under administration in November 2014 after a protracted four-month illegal strike.

Cabinet has approved the appointment of Mark Barnes as the Group Chief Executive Officer of SAPO on Thursday, 19 November 2015.

Barnes has been appointed for a five-year period, starting from 15 January 2016. There is expected to be a handover from Trevor Ndlazi who was appointed as acting group chief executive officer in October.

Barnes graduated from UCT with an Honours Degree in Actuarial Science and attended Harvard Business School. He is also the single biggest shareholder and executive chairperson in investing and trading solutions company Purple Group.

He also has leadership experience in financial services at Standard Bank, Capital Alliance and Brait, according to the Purple Group website.

Barnes told Fin24 that he sees the Post Office as "delivering more than just letters" as he plans to evolve its role in the internet age. He also sees the Post Office as standing on its own two feet.

"I expect to see evidence of a turnaround strategy probably within 6 to 18 months," Barnes told Fin24. "In three years' time I would hope that we have an established different way of doing business".

The Editorial Board and Organised Philately wish Mark Barnes much success in his appointment.

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Smalls

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

WANTED: Philatelist looking TO BUY – 500 Ring 22 Album Sheets. Please contact Mike North, north@waterfallhillsestate.co.za

EXCHANGE: An Argentine collector looking for information and local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Alois Filipan, Mendoza №.560, Lanus. C.P. 1824, Prov. Bs Airs. Argentina.

EXCHANGE: Modern Railway postcards x346 different. Mainly from SA but also overseas. Price negotiable or to swop for vintage SA cards. Contact: B Brummer 0437262858 or brummerb@hawcweb.co.za

WANTED: Oleg Novoselov's father, a High school teacher of 40 years, now he retired, has a small philatelic club. In an attempt to grow and revive the hobby - asking for South African stamps. Contact: Oleg Novoselov. Rudneva St 61a-26. Tula. Russia. 300026.

International Philatelic Event

29 May - 04 June '16

NEW YORK 2016 FIP Patronage
USA www.ny2016.org
Commissioner:
Peter van der Molen RDPSA



STAMP FAIRS: *all featuring 'mini-auctions' as well, are run by SAPDA members in the Gauteng area. Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new member and collector growth. Dates, locations and contact persons/detail are:*

- PRETORIA STAMP FAIR: 1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.
- TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS: 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Rev Cassie Carstens: 012 653 2279.
- SANDTON STAMP FAIR: 2nd Saturday of every month; ***433 Maple Road, Kyalami.*** Contact Clinton Goslin: 083 272 9367. also known as the Kyalami stamp fair.
- KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:

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

- EAST RAND STAMP FAIR: **NOTE THE VENUE.**

Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**.

- KZN STAMP FAIR: Last Sunday of all months, except December; Kloof Country Club, Victory Rd (off Abrey Rd), Kloof. Contact: Beverley McNaught-Davis 031 904 1522, 081 270 2873, mcnd@telkomsa.net
- BLUFF STAMP FAIR: 1st Saturday of the month at the N.G. Church Hall, Lighthouse Road, Bluff, Durban, from 08h00 to 13h00. Contact: John Bracey Tel.: 031 266 1020 Cell: 079 465 7468 email: bracon@eastcoast.co.za
- DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR: Meeting 12 Dec. *Venue*: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

QSA AUCTIONS
Ullman Recreation Centre, SANDTON

All the QSA auctions are held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. ***Directions*** - *from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.*

Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

Society News

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:

Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Board of your **FUTURE MEETING** programme so that the information can be published **timeously**.

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P O BOX 61166 MARSHALLTOWN 2107

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For further info-contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604. ***Dates for Society Meetings 2016*** **always on a Wednesday at 20h00**

13 January	Annual General Meeting
10 February	Visit by East Rand PS
09 March	One to Five Page Exhibits
13 April	First Competitive Evening
11 May	Modern Philatelic Exhibits
08 June	Grand Challenge Match
13 July	Open Class Exhibit Evening
10 August	One Frame Evening
14 September	Annual Auction

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. *Contact*: Alistair Mackenzie (*Chairman*) Tel: 011 768 7565 or Ian Walker (*Secretary*) Tel: 011 4721161

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

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

Exhibit programme for meetings 2016:-

2016: Jan 20 : Africa and its islands.
Feb 17 : General.
Mar 16 : AGM and invited exhibits.

and then - 20/4, 18/5, 15/6, 20/7, 17/8, 21/9, 19/10 & 16/11. No meeting in December. We have not yet agreed on the exhibit programme.

Please note : The postal address for the PS of J is P O Box 131037, Bryanston,2021, South Africa.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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

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

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them. Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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Exhibition news invited for all future local events

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00. *Venue*- Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch. *Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly* Newsletter *with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*

Visitors are welcome at all meetings

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 is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. email: info.fhps@info.
Website: www.fhps.info
Volker Janssen *FHPS Secretary*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

- Dave Brown *(Acting President)*. 041 360 4025.
- Rodney Maclachlan *(Secretary Treasurer)* 072 619 5409. *This society meets at* ***Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.***

MEETINGS *always on Monday evenings:* 11 Jan, 1 Feb, 7 March - AGM, 4 April, 9 May *(Public holiday on 2 May)*, 6 June, 4 July, 1 Aug, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 31 Oct *(Nov. meeting as Venue not available on 7 November).* 28 Nov or 5 Dec. *NB School's already closed by 7 Dec and members involved with year end activities. Committee to decide.*

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday of each month at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. Contact: Ian Johnstone, landline 308950;
email: kupas@mweb.co.zw cellphone 0772 859 759

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meets at 19h30 - **2nd Thursday** of the month at the Berea Bowling Club, Corner Brand & Furguson Rds, Glenwood Durban *(January meeting held on the* ***3rd Thursday****)*
Contacts: ***'All are welcome'***

- Trevor Harris *(President)*
- Ted Brown *(Vice-President)* 083 284 6554
- Harald Deg *(Secretary)* 084 222 1123
- Bev McNaught-Davis *(Zone Representative)* 031 904 1522

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

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Westville Round Table Hall, on the corner of Siringa Road and Maryvale Road, next to the Westville Athletics Club. *Open invitation to members of all the Philatelic Societies and members of the public to join us for our meetings held on the SECOND Saturday of every month.*
President: Ian McMurray. mail:ianjarvismcm@gmail.com

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Established in 1924

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg

- Thematics Group Meeting 09h00
- Executive Committee Meeting 11h00

3rd Monday of every month: St Mathews Parish Hall, Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Monthly Club Meeting. 16h00
President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
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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; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. 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. or Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. email: jacoli@mweb.co.za

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.
Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

Comic Corner

Stamps that make us SMILE

Episode 33 of :

Errors on Stamps...

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

This commemorative stamp of the British Virgin Islands was issued in 1987 for the 200th Anniversary of the postal services on the islands.

The 35c stamp shows a Post Office building of the 1930s together with the four Pence stamp of Virgin Islands issued in 1867, showing a statue of St. Ursula, the patron Saint of the islands.



The error is in the symbolic postmark: 'TORTOLA / DE 30 / 61' which means the stamp is cancelled on the main island Tortola on 30 December 1861. This is impossible because this date is almost five years before the first stamps of the Virgin Islands were issued.

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ANSWERS TO THE QUESTION: 'Who Knows?'

SAP 91:5 932 October 2015. Letter, page 148, titled "Who Knows?" refers:

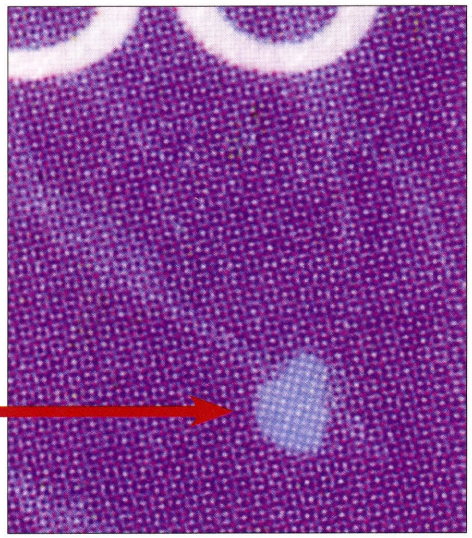
Seeking out printing flaws is part of the fun of philately and Anne Southwood's sharp-eyed spot of her 'star and moon' flaws on the 1983 8c and 20c 'Weather Stations' issue (reported October 2015 SAP (p.148)) is a great example of introducing 'depth' to your stamp collection - advancing it beyond assembly of a basic catalogue listing.

These stamps were printed lithographically and occurrence of such flaws (frequently termed 'ring flaws') would probably have been transitory as the cylinders / inking blankets were periodically wiped during the course of printing. Cause of the flaw was most likely some third party interference such as a fleck of dust or a spot of moisture. The flaws would not be consistent - lasting just as long as the offending cause took to fall off or be wiped away. For this reason they are referred to as 'batch flaws.' A logical explanation for one owner having the same flaw repeated more than once within their stocks is that original source was most likely a new issues multiple purchase – thus from the same 'batch.' Q.E.D.

Case in point is from a stock book on my desk at the moment. The 1983 Gough Island weather station 8c has a similar 'ring (moon) flaw' but this one located far right, below the face value. The original collector obviously bought 'three of everything' and all three 8c cylinder blocks here show the same flaw.

If you want to be a bit creative, the 'moon' is not quite round - shadowy in places - so why not an 'eclipse' flaw!





"Who Knows?" - not a mystery...

In response to Anne Southwood's query iro RSA Weather Station varieties in the October *SA Philatelist* (P148)..... yes, those 'moon' varieties she shows are constant and known.

In addition, I have scanned some other varieties on these two stamps that I believe are also constant. Many take the form of additional small 'moons', but on the 8c there is also a 'blue streak' on the right above the weather station's weather balloon hut's doorway. Their sheet positions can be determined as most are marginal copies!

Martin Crawford
Pinelands Stamp Circle



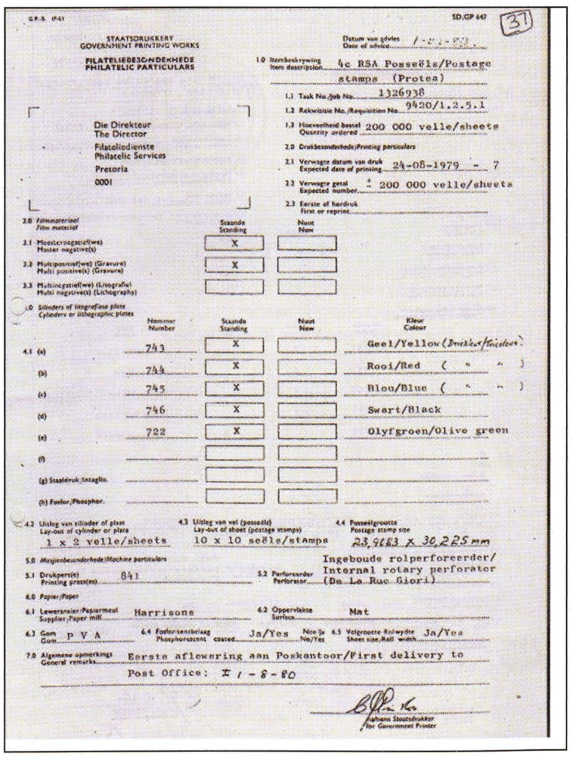
A reprint of the 4c Protea? A mystery...

I have recently seen a 'Philatelic Particulars' form, reproduced below, from the Government Printing Works dated 1 February 1980 and signed by Mr C. Prinsloo. It informs of a reprint of the 4c Protea on 24 August 1979 with a suffix of (-7). 200,000 sheets were printed.

This is a mystery. Nobody I have spoken to has any knowledge of this 'mystery printing'. The 200,000 sheets seem to have disappeared into thin air!

Has any other collector come across this printing.

Vic Sorour



STAATSDRUKKERY
GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS
FILATELIEBESONDERHEDE
PHILATELIC PARTICULARS

Die Direkteur
The Director
Filateliedienste
Philatelic Services
Pretoria
0001

Datum van advies / Date of advice: 1-2-80

1.0 Itembeskrywing / Item description: 4c RSA Posseëls/Postage stamps (Protea)

1.1 Taak No./Job No.: 1326938
1.2 Rekwisitie No./Requisition No.: 9420/1.2.5.1
1.3 Hoeveelheid bestel / Quantity ordered: 200 000 velle/sheets
2.0 Drukbesonderhede/Printing particulars
2.1 Verwagte datum van druk / Expected date of printing: 24-08-1979 - 7
2.2 Verwagte getal / Expected number: ± 200 000 velle/sheets
2.3 Eerste of herdruk / First or reprint:

3.0 Filmmateriaal / Film material	Staande / Standing	Nuut / New
3.1 Meesterregatief(we) / Master negative(s)	X	
3.2 Multipositief(we) (Gravure) / Multi positive(s) (Gravure)	X	
3.3 Multinegatief(we) (Litografie) / Multi negative(s) (Lithography)		

4.0 Silinders of litografiese plate / Cylinders or lithographic plates	Nommer / Number	Staande / Standing	Nuut / New	Kleur / Colour
4.1 (a)	743	X		Geel/Yellow (Drukkers/Kleurkoor)
(b)	744	X		Rooi/Red (" ")
(c)	745	X		Blou/Blue (" ")
(d)	746	X		Swart/Black
(e)	722	X		Olyfgroen/Olive green
(f)				
(g) Staaldruk/Intaglio.				
(h) Fosfor/Phosphor.				

4.2 Uitleg van silinder of plaat / Lay-out of cylinder or plate: 1 x 2 velle/sheets
4.3 Uitleg van vel (posseëls) / Lay-out of sheet (postage stamps): 10 x 10 seëls/stamps
4.4 Posseëlgrootte / Postage stamp size: 23,9683 x 30,225 mm

5.0 Masjienbesonderhede/Machine particulars
5.1 Drukpers(e) / Printing press(es): 841
5.2 Perforeerder / Perforator: Ingeboude rolperforeerder/ Internal rotary perforator (De La Rue Giori)
6.0 Papier/Paper
6.1 Lewersnaier/Papiermeul / Supplier/Paper mill: Harrisons
6.2 Oppervlakte / Surface: Mat
6.3 Gom / Gum: P V A
6.4 Fosforisentbelaag / Phosphorescent coated: Ja/Yes
6.5 Volgrootte Rolwydte / Sheet size/Roll width: Ja/Yes
7.0 Algemene opmerkings / General remarks: Eerste aflewering aan Poskantoor/First delivery to Post Office: 1-8-80

Afgehaald Staatsdrukker / for Government Printer

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May the closeness of friends, the comfort of home and the unity of our nation, renew your spirits this holiday season. Here's to a joyful present and a well remembered past.

Best wishes for blessed Christmas, Happy Holidays and a magnificent New Year.

Steve van den Hurk
PRESIDENT OF SAPDA
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- *Immediate Past President:* Kenny Napier.
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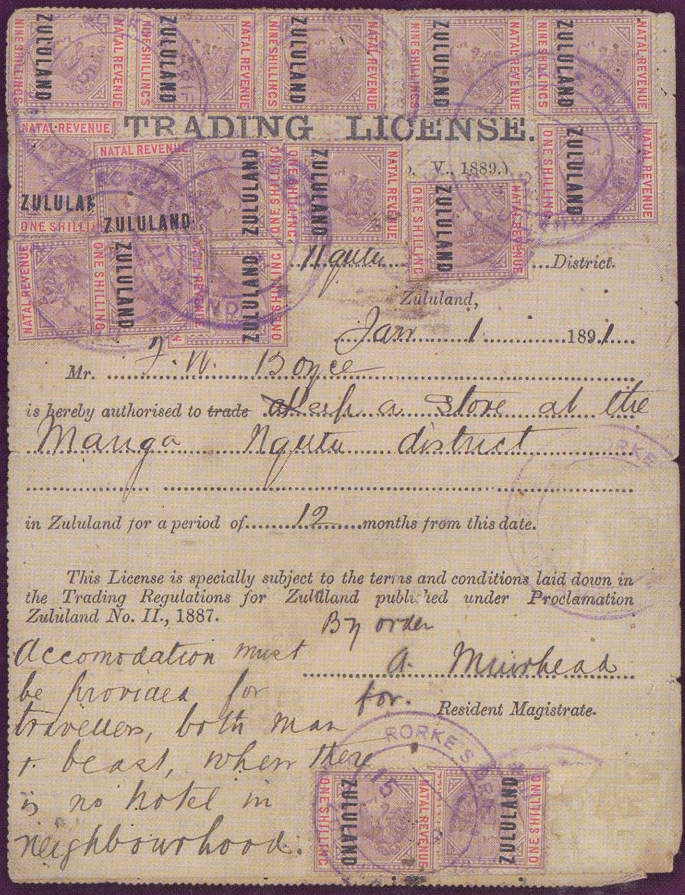



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