February 2008

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE
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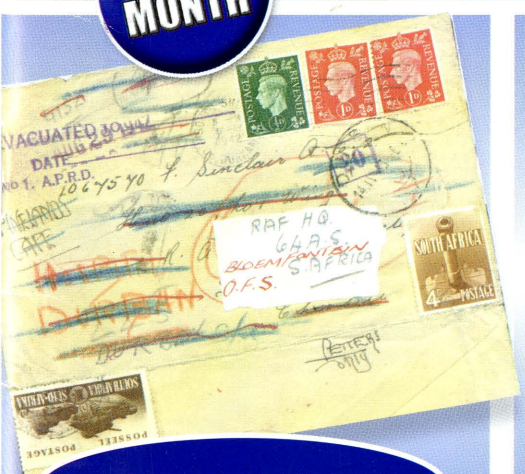
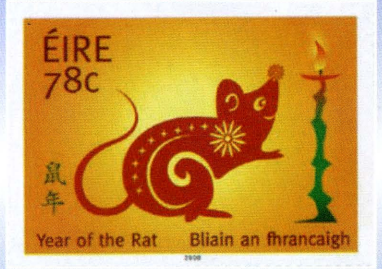


WW 2 Postal History



James Berry - stamp designer



Year of the Rat

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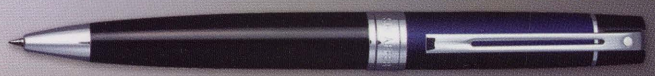

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February 2008 Vol 84 No 1 Whole No 886

- Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
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- Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
- Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- Federation Plaque 2004,
- Silver España'06 Literature Award 2006.
- Large Silver 10th NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhib 2007.

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From the Editorial desk



The *South African Philatelist* is experiencing something of a hiatus. As you will have read in the December, 2007 edition of the journal, Alan Rose has found it necessary to vacate the position as Editor in order to spend more time on personal commitments, commitments that I can imagine may well have been somewhat neglected over the past four years. Not surprisingly, it has proved to be extremely difficult to find a suitable replacement in the position although there are indications that just such a candidate will be available by the end of the year.

It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to Alan. Whether wearing the hat of Editor, in which position he was tact personified, or of the Chairman of the Editorial Board where he led an admittedly dedicated team with good humour and a great deal of insight, he was always at pains to put the requirements of the journal high on his list of priorities. I doubt if there are many readers who would dispute the fact that philately in South Africa now has a journal of which it can be justifiably proud. Thankyou, Alan.

I am writing these notes from Wilderness in the Southern Cape. Not, please note, "The Wilderness" of biblical repute, which is where some people seem to think I am. Mind you, my first impression on settling here was that it could be something of a philatelic wilderness. However, in the nine months that I have been living here on the Garden Route, I have met or heard of fellow enthusiasts in Knysna, Sedgefield, Mossel Bay, Still Bay, Oudtshoorn and George. Had I been aware of the fact that I wouldn't be cutting myself off entirely from the hobby, I might have moved here many years ago! However, I do miss the vibrant philatelic whirl of Johannesburg. Having said that, I was of course handily placed to catch a bus up the road to visit the National Exhibition in Port Elizabeth in October last year. May I add my congratulations to Neville Polakow and his team for an event that was immaculately organised and admirably supported by you, the exhibitors, as well as the members of the trade and the visiting public. It was also encouraging to see that there was a high volume and quality of entries in the junior section. I imagine that Alex Visser will have taken a sheaf of notes back with him to Pretoria to assist him in the organisation of **Stampshow 2008**, now only nine months away.

In closing, let me reiterate Alan Rose's closing plea – that you, as members of Federation, make full use of your journal, whether as the contributors of articles, as letter-writers, as the reporters of philatelic events and discoveries, the seekers of information or, so importantly, as advertisers. We look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Mobsby.



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Closing dates for future issues

April issue	Vol. 84: 2.	887 : 10 March 2008
June issue	Vol. 84: 3.	888 : 13 May 2008
August issue	Vol. 84: 4.	889 : 14 July 2008
October issue	Vol. 84: 5.	890 : 15 September 2008
December issue	Vol. 84: 6.	891 : 11 November 2008

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TAIPEI 2008 International.
7-11 March
Contact Cedric Roché RDPSA
Box 11058, Hatfield, 0028
012 460 2044
083 456 9167
email: croche@mweb.co.za

MARCH 2008

BLOEM ONE-FRAME 2008.
14-16 March - preliminary
Bloemfontein
Contact: Gerda van Zyl - gerdavanzyll@hotmail.com

MAY 2008

ISRAEL 2008
14 – 21 May
Tel Aviv, Israel
Dr JR Frank as Commissioner
Contact: 011 646 4920.

JUNE 2008

EFIRO 2008
20 – 28 June
Bucharest, Romania
www.efiro2008.ro
Emil Minnaar as Commissioner
Contact: 083 230 5430.

OCTOBER 2008

INDONESIA 2008
Jakarta, Indonesia National Exhibition
23 - 28 October

OCTOBER 2008

PRETORIA, STAMPSHOW 2008
National Exhibition and Congress
23 - 25 October
Pretoria. Submission date for entries to be confirmed.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

RHODESIA STUDY CIRCLE
Diamond Jubilee Celebration
31 October - 3 November
Cape Town

JANUARY 2009

HONG KONG 2009
FIAP Asian International Exhibition
30 January - 3 February

APRIL 2009

CHINA 2009
FIP General World Stamp Exhibition
10 - 16 April

MAY 2010

LONDON 2010
International Exhibition (FIP Patronage)
8 - 15 May
Islington. UK.

OCTOBER 2010

JO'BURG 2010
International Stamp Show
27 - 31 October
Contact: Howard Green
tel: 011880 3125/9
email:joburg2010@gdb.co.za
Submission date for entries to be confirmed.

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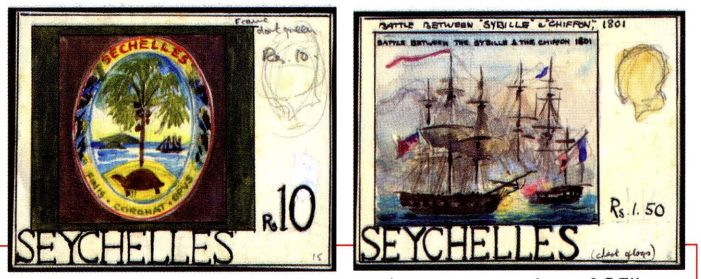

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From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus





Police Frank Stamp

Sirs

I respond to the enquiry of Sarel Wessels (Philatelist December 2007) about the Police Frank Stamp not because I have expert knowledge -the reason why I ask that this letter at best be published under the name 'name withheld'- but because I realise the desperation of needing information and having nowhere to go to. The most recent research of which I know, is an article that appeared in '*The Blue Lamp*' in summer 1986. Relying on research of Dr R M Allison (whom the editor may ask to write an article), the following can be said:

1 The Wessels copy (yellow paper) is from the third issue.

2 The article claimed ownership of many mint copies

3 The printing was done with a stereotype with two columns of six, repeated three times to produce a sheet setting of six horizontal by four vertical. There would therefore not be a 'row 1 stamp 3' error without the same error in stamps 1 and 5. The content of the expert committee certificate and another certificate from that source, suggests more knowledge since 1986.

4 The article mentions eight errors on the eight stamps.

It may be of interest to mention the claim in the article stating that it was possible to tie the BE cancellation to frank stamps coming from Bloemfontein, Jacobsdal, Kroonstad, Ladybrand and Smaldeel.

name withheld

Die Vrystaatse polisieseël

Geagte Redakteur

U vra kommentaar op Sarel Wessels se aanmelding van die frankeerseël van die Vrystaatse berede polisiemag (*The SA Philatelist*, Desember 2007, bl 377).

Die drie uitgawes van die frankeerseëls, en die kenmerke van elke individuele seël, is volledig beskryf en geïllustreer deur dr Harry Gottschalk in sy artikel 'Some new facts about Rijdende Dienst Macht official franks', *The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1978, bl 321-322.

Daarná het André Bezuidenhout die geskiedenis van die berede polisie vertel en gestempelde eksemplare gelys in 'Die Rijdende Diensmacht', *The SA Philatelist*, Mei 1986, bl 111-113.

Die twee artikels saam vorm die volledigste rekord wat oor die RDM-frank geboekstaaf is.

Joh Groenewald

Journey to the Mailbox is a Disappointing Trek

Call me nostalgic, but I miss receiving handwritten personal notes and letters in my daily mail. Has it finally gotten to the point where it's futile to reach into the mailbox looking for a handwritten letter from a friend or relative?

I'm talking about letters handwritten on stationery, in which thoughts and greetings are exchanged. Yes, they did take longer to arrive - but I miss them!

Today's mailboxes are stuffed with circulars, ads, requests for donations from every conceivable charity or conservation organization, etc. But where is the simple handwritten note from a grandchild, son, daughter or distant nephew?

With the dominance of e-mail, we have lost touch with the elegance of personal contact. Too many inane e-mail messages are immediately forwarded to half a dozen people - who forward them to another half-dozen people who aren't interested in receiving them in the first place. How impersonal can you get?

Wouldn't it be great to institute a Handwritten Letter Week? It would be one week a year during which we would forgo e-mail and sit with pen in hand to jot a few personal notes on stationery to friends and relatives across the country. Don't you agree?

Abigail Van Buren

*Editorial team Comment: ...and use **postage stamps** as opposed to machine vended labels. Couldn't agree more with your sentiment.*

South African Army Post Office 24

In the December *SA Philatelist*, an update on the whereabouts of the recorded examples of APO 24, was published.

I have now had a response from a collector in Somerset West confirming that the two items that I had recorded as "SJ Hagger - sold", and could not confirm their whereabouts, are in her possession. I have now been able to locate all the "known" examples of this scarce APO datestamp.

Jim Findlay

Thank you

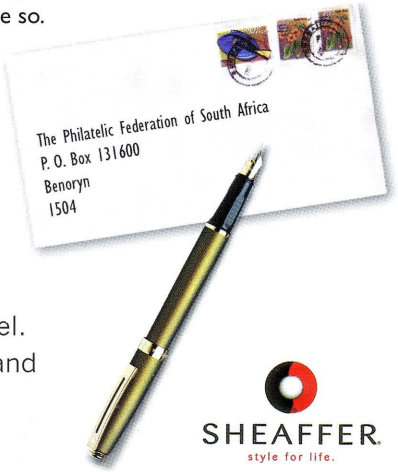
I received a very pleasant surprise with the arrival of a parcel containing a Certificate as well as a magnificent writing set for an article I wrote last year which was published in an issue of the *S A Philatelist*.

Needless to say I appreciate the gesture very much and thank you and your team for honouring me so.

This was my second article published in the magazine and I hope that I can again offer something of merit in the future.

Maurice Daniels

Editorial team Comment: Mr Daniels was awarded the sponsors gift for his article on 'Pre-printed, Pre-adhesive Mail of Great Britain'.



Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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James Berry Essays - 1954 Definitive issue

Dear Sir

I was very grateful for the article by Robin Messenger in the December issue of the SAP - indeed I am also grateful that I received this issue somewhere near to its publication date, as usually I get this in England several weeks after all the events announced in the SAP have passed!

I was able recently to acquire a handpainted essay showing the Impala at the Waterhole, as illustrated by one of the pictures which accompanied the article. The design was painted in a dullish colour, somewhere between red and orange red. The item I acquired also has attached to it outline drafts of 3 other designs, one showing a building and the other two showing landscape scenes (one a tree), all seemingly unfinished and not nearly as sophisticated as the completed design, which is as near to the photographic example accompanying Mr Messenger's article as makes no difference.

One piece of information which may be of assistance is that the actual size of the essay is 31mm x 24, not quite the 30mm x 24mm that Mr Messenger estimates, and this is also the actual size of the outlines of the uncoloured designs. I await further articles on this subject with interest.

Nicholas Arrow, Musbury, Devon, England



Additional Item of Interest relating to these Essays:

At a recent Witwatersrand Philatelic Society meeting, at which I showed the James Berry Essays, Danny Swart pointed out that one of the essays had been auctioned by Stephan Welz in July 1998 - this is the description reproduced from their catalogue:

Lot 481: **1954 Definitive Series Essay** by James Berry O.B.E. the leading New Zealand stamp and coin design artist of the time being the proposal **for a 1½d value** in sepia with lettering highlighted in Chinese white, **Cogman's Kloof,** Montagu on thin board of overall size 235 x 285mm and showing border with simulated perfs together with a smaller watercolour essay (24 x 30mm) and two photographic essays taken from the original to size 30 x 35mm (stuck onto same board) submitted under the non-de-plume 'Silverleaf/Witteblaar', also included with the item the book '*The Image Maker - The Art of James Berry*' by J.R. Tye (1984) wherein this design together with other proposals from Berry appear on pages 133/35, very attractive and ideal for framing estimate R2000-R3000.

R. Messenger (the larger image illutrated is part of my private collection)

See also new article on page 432 - Ed.

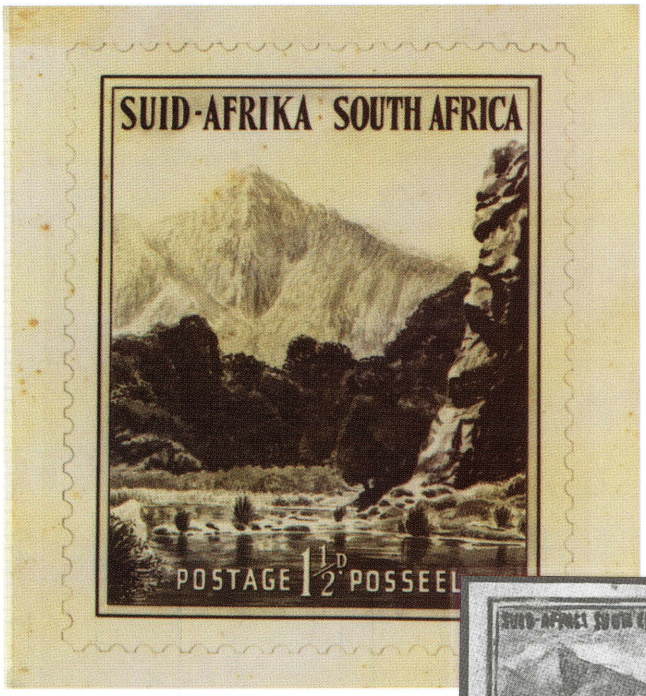
Reply to letter from Nicholas Arrow, with regards to James Berry Essays for SA 1954 issue:

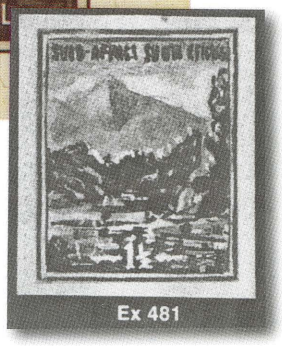
Berry accompanied his large size black and white designs (six times stamp size) with issued stamp size renderings in colour. Reproduced below are six such as illustrated in 'The Image Maker'. These seem to be quite crude when compared to the photographs.

The size 'estimate' in my article was merely the actual size of the issued 1954 animal definitives from 3d. to 10s., which are more precisely 30.5 x 24.5mm for the horizontal designs. My estimate was the 'ratio' between the large submitted design to the intended size of the issued stamps, i.e. six to one.

Robin Messenger.



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Letters to Editor - continues on page 429

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President's Column

There is a little story about a trapeze artist who strung a cable over the Niagara Falls, and promptly walked across the falls using only his balancing bar. On the other side he found a wheelbarrow and loaded it with bricks, and asked the swelling audience whether they believed that he could walk over the cable pushing the wheelbarrow. In unison they agreed, and he promptly proved them right by walking over the cable. On the other side he then posed the question "Can I push the wheelbarrow with someone in place of the bricks?". Again there was unanimous agreement, and then the trapeze artist tried to find a volunteer. No one was willing although they all believed that he could do it.

It brings me to the issue of contribution and commitment. This is what the chicken and the pig considered when they were discussing breakfast menus. The chicken claimed that she made a contribution, as and when she wanted. The pig made a commitment!

In my previous column I lauded the many volunteers who selflessly ensured that the different committees functioned with greased wheels. As we are approaching that time of the year when club committees are elected, I would like to encourage each one of you not involved to make a commitment, and join the committees to bring a fresh perspective, and to ensure that the membership's needs are fulfilled. This is also one way to ensure that we involve our younger members. Ensuring continuity is not only attracting the youth, but also involving novices, as I pointed out in my previous column.

Enclosed in this issue is the prospectus and provisional entry form for both the senior and junior national exhibition, **Stampshow 2008**, to be held in Pretoria in October 2008. The exhibition will form part of the centenary celebrations of the University of Pretoria, and promises many novelties. One such novelty is that the prospectus and entry form are also available on the Federation website **www.philatelysa.co.za**. We have been promised some interesting exhibits, so why not join the gang and enter your pride and joy, and share with a wide audience.

To remind you of the challenges, I am continuing with the checklist by adding to them. I trust that you are working on these challenges:

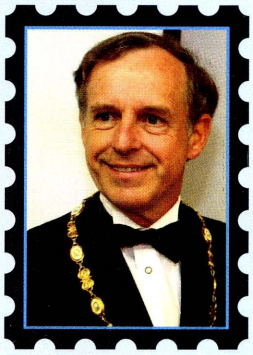
1. Write a letter, and repeat it regularly; and

2. Share your special collecting interest with a wider audience.

3. Make a commitment towards organized philately.

I trust you will have an enthralling time with your philatelic material until the next column.

Alec Visser



Exhibition News

Report:

It had been five years since the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society hosted a National exhibition. The same venue as in 2002 was selected by the organising committee. It was decided that the opulent Tsisikamma Conference Centre at the Boardwalk in Summerstrand provided the ideal venue for the Exhibition.

The foyer and ambience further enhanced the experience and the venue provided adequate space for seventeen philatelic dealers, (representing both overseas and local trade) as well as three postal administrations; SA Post Office, Namibia and Botswana.

The cost of the venue had increased to almost sixfold since our previous Exhibition. Without the generous support of Spink (London), Vodacom and the SA Post Office and further support from the Philatelic Federation of SA and SA Philatelic Dealers Association - the exhibition would not have been possible.

We are most fortunate to have sponsors who wish to partner the PE Philatelic Society with our Exhibitions, as we have attained a certain standard which we will maintain. It has been suggested by some of the visitors that the venue is the best in South Africa for a philatelic exhibition.

The 505 frames contained some of the very best philatelic material in private collections in South Africa, including many new entries. 109 Frames were allocated to the Championship Class. These being previously Large Gold and Gold medal awards. Fourteen participants took part in this category. The winner of this Class was Mr Alan Uria with his exhibit '*Rhodesian Double Heads*'. Runner-up was Mr Clive Sergay with '*Zululand*'. Both are members of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society. Special prizes for this category were flown in from Switzerland for the occasion.

In view of the outstanding response from all exhibitors, the **Junass** Exhibition had to be relocated to the Bayworld Museum situated about a kilometre away. At first this was assumed to be a potential problem, but it turned out to be more suitable as the number of young visitors and scholars visiting the Museum far exceeded those at the Boardwalk. Fifty frames were erected for the junior exhibitors. The Sam Legator Grand prix Trophy was awarded to Master

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Pezapex 2007 National Philatelic Exhibition Port Elizabeth 18-21 October 2007

- by Neville Polakow RDPSA, FRPSL



S Barit for his exhibit '*Great Britain - Queen Elizabeth II Head Errors*'.

The senior jury consisted of nineteen jurors, including two apprentice judges, under the chairmanship of Richard Johnson, RDPSA. These included two members from the United Kingdom and two from Australia. One of the apprentices came from Namibia. The junior jury of three was under the chairmanship of Danie Scheepers, RDPSA.

The opening ceremony took place on Thursday, the 18th. This coincided with a helicopter mail flight to the Donkin Reserve and back to the boardwalk. Two children from '*Reach for a Dream*' were invited to travel on the Robinson R44 helicopter with their doctor who carried the 500 covers in a Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism carry-bag. The pilot, John Huddlestone of Helicopter Charter cc, personally signed every cover. These covers were cancelled at the Tourism office of the Donkin and flown back to the Exhibition where they were made available.

Special thanks to Pick 'n Pay for sponsoring this aspect of the event. A rouletted sheetlet, A5 size, was printed with all the logo's of previous Port Elizabeth exhibitions. Logo's designed by Prof Franco Frescura on the 75th Anniversary of the PEPS, in 1987, also appear on this sheetlet. The helicopter flown covers, sheetlets and the 100 page catalogue were made available at **Pezapex 2007**. Copies may be purchased from the PE Philatelic Society.

At 10h00, the organising Chairman, Neville Polakow, RDPSA, welcomed those present, many of whom had come from far and wide. The Chairman then introduced Mr Sandile Keswa, SA Post Office Business Development Manager, Philatelic Services, who then officially opened the exhibition. This was done by cutting a purple ribbon that had been used to close off the exhibition area. No results were made known to the public until the doors had been opened.

A complimentary luncheon followed, sponsored by the SA Post Office, for all the attendees of the opening ceremony. This generous gesture was sincerely appreciated by all.

The Grand Prix was awarded to Barry Smith, for his exhibition '*South African Airmails*'. The SA Post Office Trophy, awarded for the first time in its current format, was awarded to Dr JR Frank, RDPSA, for '*Canadian Participation in the South African War 1899-1902*'. The number of medals awarded included six Large Gold; Golds - 12; Large Vermeil - 15; Vermeil - 15; Large Silver - 7; Silver - 7; Silver Bronze - 4; Bronze - 4. There were two changes to the floating trophies; the Vrystaat Trofee is now awarded for the best one-frame exhibit, and the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Trophy is awarded to the best exhibit in the Open Class. The complete list of awards appeared in the December issue of the *SA Philatelist*.

The 69th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of SA took place at the Tudor room, Beach Hotel, on the 19th. David Parsons of Spink Auctioneers, UK, (Stamp Division), opened congress. In his opening address, David discussed aspects of the Royal Philatelic Collection, divulging interesting facts about its treasures. Prince Albert, second son of Queen Victoria had begun the Collection. Prince George, later King George V, shared his uncle's enthusiasm for philately and it was he who built up the Collection to largely what it is today.

The Skinner cup for meritorious service to SA philately, was awarded to John Cheminais. A former president of the *SA Dealers Association*, George Cafetzoglou, was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa. Certificates of attendance have been issued to all delegates.

On the Saturday, judging Seminars and talks were held in the Koi Gallery. Two of the invited judges from Australia, Bernard Beston FAP and Gary Brown held a Postal Stationery seminar. The Major Ian Matthews Memorial Lecture, '*In Praise of Telegraph Material*'', by Dr Andrew Higson, UK, took place in the afternoon. '*Collecting Rhodesia*' a talk and PowerPoint presentation with reference to the Rhodesian Arms issue was presented by Colin Hoffman, RDPSA, (UK) and Patrick Flanagan. Two further seminars, '*Aerophilately*' by Neville Polakow RDPSA and '*Revenues*' by Cedric Roché RDPSA also took place.

A meeting, for members of the South West African Stamp Study Group, was arranged by Dr Uli Bantz.

The Palmares prize giving and Banquet took place at the Summerstrand Inn Hotel on Saturday night. The starting time was brought forward by an hour to accommodate the television transmission of the World Cup Rugby final between South Africa and England. By popular request (or demand), it was decided by the organising committee to provide the facility of a large screen in order for all those at the function to view the game. As South Africa was triumphant, it is thought that this Palmares will never be forgotten! Mr Ingomar Walter was invited as guest speaker. He is currently President of the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Associations (IFSDA). His talk and PowerPoint presentation concerned the analysis of the international philatelic market with special reference to the issuing policies of the administrations.

The fund raising competition winning ticket was drawn by Mrs Walter. Mr Ron Rong was the happy recipient of the one ounce Swiss Gold Bullion Bar.

A special thanks to all those who gave so generously in support of **Pezapex 2007**. The new president of the PFSA, Prof Alex Visser was then inducted by receiving the chain of office from the outgoing President. Dr Neil Cronjé received the regalia of Deputy President from the new President. Mrs Anne Southwood was congratulated on being nominated Youth Leader of the Year.

It is apparent from what we have heard that those who attended were well-satisfied with the exhibition. In conclusion, may I add that we certainly did try our best to please all exhibitors, dealers, jury members, members of the public, advertisers, delegates to congress, philatelists and stamp collectors in general. I believe our objective has been achieved and that the hobby of philately has been the overall winner. We meet again in Port Elizabeth in 2012, the Centenary year of the PE Philatelic Society.

Organising Chairman,
Pezapex 2007 National Philatelic Exhibition.

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World War 2: No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot, Durban.

By Jim Findlay, Johannesburg Philatelic Society.

Introduction

When Italy entered World War 2 on the side of the Axis forces on 11 June 1940, the Allies no longer had the freedom to operate in the Mediterranean Sea. This necessitated all shipping from the United Kingdom (UK) destined for the Indian Ocean, Middle East and the Far East areas to be routed via South Africa. The Imperial forces were widespread from North and East Africa, the Middle East, Indian Ocean Islands, India, and later to Malaya, the East Indies and South East Asia. There were numerous formations and units on the move all the time in this vast theatre of the war and it was a major job to keep track of where the units were located for the delivery of mail.

There were a number of well established air mail routes such as 'The Horseshoe Route' through Central and North Africa, the Middle East, India to Australia; the West Africa route linking places such as Khartoum or Nairobi/ Kisumu or Ndola to Brazzaville and on to Lagos/ Accra and north along the west coast of Africa to Gibraltar to the United Kingdom; the South African Air Force 'Shuttle Service' from Zwartkop Air Station, Pretoria, to Nairobi and Cairo. The RAF flying boat squadrons flew mainly along the African east coast and along the Nile River; both South African Airways and British Airways (British Overseas Airways Corporation) had civilian flights linking a number of African territories. The air transport priorities were not bags of mail and the above flight routes had limitations placed on the weight of mail permitted, as well as the frequency of carrying the mail items.

Bulk transport of mail from the UK to Imperial forces spread, as indicated above, and became a morale-boosting priority as the decision was made to establish No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot at Durban, South Africa, where mail would be received, re-sorted and directed as appropriate. All mail, including air mail, would be transported by ship from the UK to Durban where it would then be forwarded either by air or ship to the unit's nearest base postal depot or APO for re-distribution. Similarly, mail from the numerous units was consolidated at their base post offices and then forwarded to 1 APRD where it was sorted and despatched accordingly.

No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot (1 APRD) arrives in Durban

1 APRD under the command of Capt. G.G.D. Coleman, Royal Engineers Postal Services (REPS), were on board the ship "H.M.T. Y1" in the "W.S. 15 Convoy" from the UK that berthed in Durban on 13 February 1942. 1 APRD disembarked on 14 February and were accommodated at the Imperial Transit Camp, Clairwood, Durban, until 18 February. (This camp is also referred to as the Imperial Forces Transit Camp, IFTC). Early in March 1 APRD moved into its new headquarters on the ground floor at 184, Smith Street, Durban, with the Fleet Mail Office on the same floor. The first floor of the building was occupied by the Union Defence Force Base Army Post Office (SA APO 1) (Coleman, 1942a). APO 1 was moved from Pretoria and opened in Durban on 2 November 1940 and closed on 15 February 1947.

During March and April the unit was compiling the enormous database required of all the military units that would have mail passing through this depot. Capt. Coleman visited various units such as the Imperial Movement Control, 203 Military Liaison Mission, Pretoria, military hospitals (Springfield, Addington, Oribi), UDF Director of Army Postal Services and the civilian postal authorities to ensure that the postal systems were functional.

Figure 1 is a cover from South Shields, UK, originally addressed to RAF West Kirby, UK. It was re-directed to (i) '225 Durban', (ii) 'Hospital Durban', (iii) 'No. 1 A.P.R.D.' (16 July 1942), (iv) 'No. 1 A.P.R.D.' (29 August 1942), (v) 'Base Postal Office Bombay' (16 September 1942), (vi) 'Home Postal Centre R.E. A.P.O.' (4 February 1943), (vii) 'Durban' (14 April 1943) and finally (viii) 'No. 64 Air School, Bloemfontein. This illustrates the role of No. 1 APRD in re-directing mail.

British Field Post Office 543

British FPO 543 was allocated to 1 APRD on 5 January 1942 but was unlikely to have been in use before the end of April. Ted Proud records the use of the APO 543 datestamp from 3 July 1942 to 1 January 1944. Illustrations 1 to 3 are dated 3 July 1942 (the earliest recorded date), 16 July and 29 August 1942 and 17 December 1942.

Figure 2 illustrates a cover posted at No. 1 APRD that received the FPO 543 datestamp. It also received the oval unit cachet with the endorsing signature of Capt. G.G.D. Coleman, the commanding officer of 1 APRD, on the reverse.

Figure 3 illustrates a cover from Coberley, UK, addressed to Oribi Military Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, that was redirected from (i) Pietermaritzburg Camp (29 June 1942) to (ii) the SA APO 1 Durban to (iii) FPO 543 at 1 APRD (3 July 1942) to (iv) Home Depot APO (22 September 1942) to (v) Sidcup Kent (2 October 1942) to (vi) Putney (3 October 1942). Putney post office serves Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton. The addressee had been discharged from the hospital and the cover was again redirected to Ayrshire in Scotland.

FPO 544 was also allocated to 1 APRD but was apparently never used in Durban (Proud).

The First Despatches

All mail despatches from the UK originated or were controlled by the Home Depot, R.E.P.S., at Nottingham.

Despatch No. 1, consisting of 8 bags of mail,



Figure 1: A cover with the No 1 APRD cachet indicating that the addressee has been evacuated to the UK dated 16 July and again 29 August 1942.

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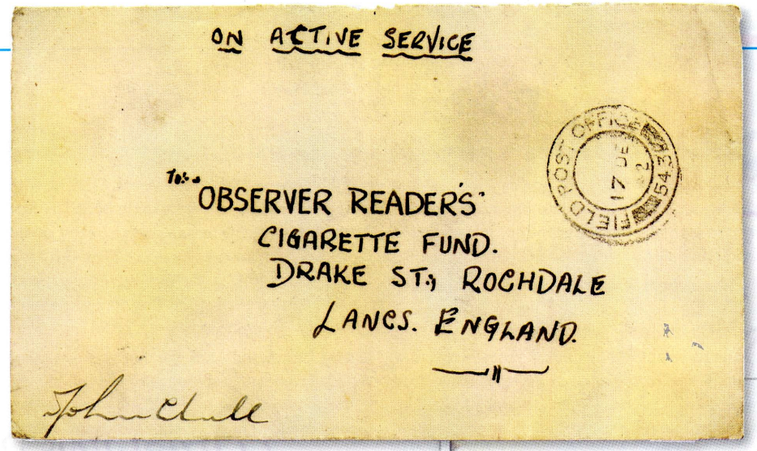

Figure 2: A postage free (surface mail) cover from APO 543 attached to No. 1 APRD to England.

was sent from the Home Depot, UK, on 19 March 1942 and arrived in Durban on 29 April 1942. Of these, one bag was forwarded by HMT (sea) to Bombay, India, on 4 May and the other 7 bags were for RAF units at the IFTC, Clairwood. A further 5 despatches consisting of a total of 237 bags of mail were received during May 1942 and disposed of by surface mail to Bombay and Diego Suarez, Madagascar (Coleman, 1942b).

A summary report from 1 APRD from 1 April to 31 May 1942 indicates a considerably larger volume of mail from all sources. The number of mail bags received in April is 88 by surface mail and 7 by air mail and those received in May are 798 by surface mail and 11 by air mail. The numbers of bags despatched in April is 122 by surface mail and 23 by air mail and those despatched in May are 782 by surface mail and 70 by air mail. Most bags were from the Home Depot and Far East for 1 APRD and most despatches were for the Home Depot, BAPO 4 (Cairo), 121 Force (Madagascar), Basra, Bombay, Mauritius, Nairobi (EA APO 53) and Durban civilian mails.

From the above it can be concluded that 1 APRD was fully functional during April 1942 and this probably included FPO 543.

Further Postal Developments

By June 1942 bags of mail from the UK were arriving on ships berthing at Cape Town and Port Elizabeth which were then forwarded to 1 APRD by rail.

Mail routes existed in many cases but consolidation was necessary to avoid duplication of effort. For example, mail from the Belgium Congo could go via EA BAPO 53 at East Africa Command, Nairobi, to 1 APRD or via Elizabethville to Bulawayo Station to 1 APRD; Mail from EA APO 52 at Lusaka could go directly to EA APO 64 in Madagascar or via 1 APRD to EA BAPO 53 and then to EA APO 64. (Coleman, 1942c). Bulawayo Station was the central postal office for the air training scheme in Southern Rhodesia.

'Casualty' correspondence became a problem in that there were a number of hospitals and convalescent homes in South Africa initially for Imperial and South African troops. However, as casualties increased on the battlefields and were sent to South Africa so did their mail. 1 APRD was tasked with tracing correspondence to and from Rhodesian, Mauritian, Free French and other casualties. These destinations included Oribi Military Hospital and the Imperial Convalescent Hospital in Pietermaritzburg, Addington and Springfield Hospitals in Durban, Baragwanath Hospital Johannesburg, Wynberg Hospital and Nelspoort Sanatorium Cape Province.



Figure 3: A cover from England to the Oribi Military Hospital in Pietermaritzburg that was redirected by SA APO 1 and FPO 543 and other post offices (See text).

As from 1 September 1942, 1 APRD moved to 172 Smith Street, Durban.

Another problem reported in July 1942 was "The Air Shuttle Service to and from Diego Suarez via Pretoria has not been available recently for mail purposes owing to space being required for other purposes". This was compounded by the lack of available shipping and resulted in a period of 38 days without mail disposal to Diego Suarez. (Coleman, 1942d).

With the end of the campaign in Madagascar regular flights and ships from Durban were terminated, although a defensive force remained on the island together with the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration (OETA). The volume of mail was greatly reduced and the decision was taken that all mail for Madagascar would be routed through EA APO 66 at Mombasa and not 1 APRD or SA APO 1 in Durban for BPO 53 at Diego Suarez, APO 59 at Tananarive, and BPO 80 at Tamatave (Piper). From 21 February 1943 BOAC operated a service once a week from Durban to Lindi (Moçambique) to Madagascar that carried air mail.

On 16 July 1943 mail was no longer sent from 1 APRD to EA APO 66 at Mombasa but was directed to EA APO 2 at Nairobi. (Coleman, 1943a).

The closing of 1 APRD

With the Allied victories in North Africa and the capitulation of Italy on 8 September 1943 the Mediterranean Sea was opened for Allied shipping. Air routes via North Africa had been open for some time. These developments made for the introduction of more efficient mail handling and delivery systems, which resulted in the role of 1 APRD becoming largely obsolete.

In a communication to the Director of Army Postal Services, Headquarters Buildings, G.P.O., London, dated 12 November 1943, Capt. Coleman stated "The necessary steps for ceasing all inward mail work from West Africa, East Africa, Paiforce, India and Ceylon Commands, and Khartoum, were taken on 23 October 1943. Final despatches from this Office to Indian Base P.O. 7, Baghdad, and West Africa have already been made: the final surface despatch to A.P.O. 2 E.A. Command is being made today. The remaining points to which despatches are made, i.e. Base A.P.O. 4, Base P.D. Bombay and Base A.P.O. Colombo will, it is anticipated, be ceased on or about 30th November 43." (Coleman, 1943b).

In a secret cipher telegram dated 30 December 1943 from Imperial Movement Control Durban to the War Office and Commanders in Chief for Middle East, Persia/Iraq, East Africa and West Africa it is stated "1 APRD ceases operation Durban 2359 hours 31 Dec. 43. W.e.f. first Jan 44 Hospital Section will be administered by South African Army postal Corps under OC S A APO 1 Durban".

The last day of 1 APRD and FPO 543 operations in Durban was 31 December 1943.

Acknowledgements

The information from the original war time Army Post Office files is reproduced by kind permission of the Director of the British Forces Postal Service. The support given by John Daynes is greatly appreciated.

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My Philippine Experience

– by Howard Green RDPSA– FIP Accredited Judge





JOBURG 2010 took a step forward on 9 January 2008 when the agreement with Inter Asian Philately Executive Committee was finalised. Howard Green, RDPSA, co-chairman of the Exhibition Organising Committee, represented Federation.

Howard offers a view of this experience:

"I departed from Johannesburg, my final destination being Manila in the Philippines. The actual flying time was about 14 hours plus transit time in Hong Kong. For me the trip comprised two firsts, my first trip to the Philippines and my first FIAP Executive Committee Meeting. The country is an archipelago of 7107 islands and has a population of about 90 million.

My initial experience of efficiency was the speedy pick up at the airport and delivery to the five star Dusit Nikko Hotel in Makati, one of the 17 cities making up the greater Manila. Security is evident everywhere, police presence on streets, in shops and at the hotel, together with sniffer dogs at the hotel entrances.

The Filipino's are warm, friendly and very courteous. Our host for the four day visit being Mr. Robert Tan, President of the Philippine Philatelic Federation. Everything that Robert arranged for us was organised 100 percent. We thank him for his hospitality, generosity and excellent organisation.

The most important business arrangements affecting South African philately were made at private meetings with Mr Tay Peng Hian, the FIP Director and Mr Surajit Gongvatana, the FIAP President.

Decisions were made and confirmed at the FIAP EXCO Meeting, held on 12 January 2008. Arrangements included the appointment of jurors, apprentices and commissioners at FIAP International Exhibitions and the finalisation of the agreement for **JOBURG 2010** with the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately Executive Committee.

Negotiations were conducted in a constructive and very friendly manner. The official signing of the contract took place at a dinner hosted by Mr Stanley Chan.

The hospitality of our hosts included a dinner in the garden of Mr Mario Que's beautiful home, the dinner hosted by Mr Stanley Chan, lunch hosted by Mr Tan at the Saisaki restaurant, a visit to the Assistant Postmaster General of the Philippines Post, a half day city tour and shooting rapids at the Pagsanjan Falls during a whole day excursion in the countryside.

During our tours we saw the walled City of Old Manila, learning about the Spanish history since Magellan's discovery of the islands in 1521 and the Spanish Colonial rule for 333 years, which ended in 1898. Americans replaced the Spanish and continued to colonise the country for another 48 years. On 4 July 1946 the Americans recognised Philippine independence. The country is considered one of the largest English speaking countries in the world, the religion of 80% of the population being Roman Catholic.

Other memories of my trip included the United States Memorial and Cemetary, a result of the Second World War conflict with Japan, the large land reclamation in Manila, the local mass transport in jeepneys, the hot water springs, rice fields and unfortunately, the very heavy traffic congestion.

Dinner on the final evening was hosted by Mr & Mrs Wiliam Kwan of Hong Kong. In all it has been a fruitful and enjoyable trip and my special thanks once again go to Mr Robert Tan for his excellent organisation, hospitality and generosity.



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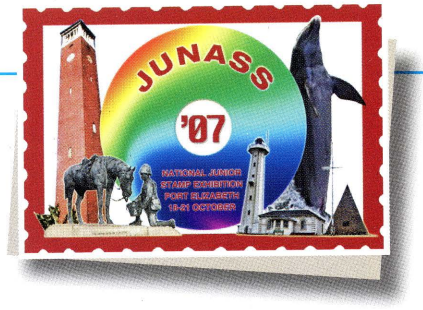
Junass 2007 - by Danie Scheepers. RDPSA



Junass 2007 was very successfully staged as part of the Pezapex 2007 National exhibition. The original intention had been to include it at the same time as the seniors, but due to constraints of space it was held at the Bayworld Museum. This proved to be a good venue as many children were bussed in to see the museum and as an unexpected bonus they were also able to see the junior stamp exhibits. There were 50 frames on show, consisting of one Open Class, 8 Traditional and 18 Thematic exhibits. The overall standard was satisfactory, with some of the exhibits being exceptionally good. It was apparent that there was enthusiasm for their hobby and that there are still some competent youth leaders giving them good guidance. Their efforts should be applauded. The most pleasing conclusion was that if these youngsters continued and heeded the constructive criticism and advice given to them, we could expect a good crop of philatelists in the future. Sincere thanks to Gerrie Conradie and Neil Cronjé who assisted with the judging and once again demonstrated their immense value to youth philately. Sincere thanks also go to the organising committee for not only having made the event possible, but especially for the very competent way in which it was done. The results were as follows:

MEDAL CLASS

Vermeil

Harris K – Penny Black
Osthoff M – OFS Youth
Sergay G – WPS
Thomas S – Penny Black
Barit A – ERPS
Barit S – ERPS

Silver

Strydom C – OFS Youth
Alexander B – Penny Black
Barit C – ERPS
Zazini L – Penny Black
Barit A – ERPS
Barit A – ERPS
Britz N – Penny Black
Britz N – Penny Black

Silver Bronze

Tanganelli G – Penny Black
Thomas D – Penny Black
De Beer I – OFS Youth
Alexander B – Penny Black
van Tonder Keagan – OFS Youth
Wood C – Maritzburg
Barit G – ERPS
van Tonder Kyle – OFS Youth

Bronze

van Tonder C – OFS Youth

This exhibit was of such merit that it was moved from Star Class to Medal Class

Lewis Y – Penny Black
Lemprereur M – Penny Black

STAR CLASS

Four Star

Koen H – OFS Youth
Koen J – OFS Youth

Club Class

1st – PE Stamp Junior Club
2nd – Lepono Land of Philately

Junass 2007 – 10 - 17
Trophies and Awards

- **Sam Legator Grand prix:**
  Best exhibit of the show

S Barit – Great Britian: Queen Elizabeth II Head Errors (ERPS)

- **Danie Scheepers Trophy:**
  Best exhibit 19-21 years Not Awarded
- **Stamp Mates:**
  Best Exhibit 16- 18 years

A Barit – Errors on Stamps (ERPS)

- **Fanie Vermaak Bronze Grand Prix:**
  Best Exhibit 10- 12 years

K Harris – Machin Stamps of Great Britain (Penny Black Stamp Club)

- **Fanie Vermaak Silver Grand Prix:**
  Best Exhibit 13 – 15 years

G Sergay – George VI Definitive issues (WPS)

- **Wigmore Trophy:**
  Best exhibit 9 years and under.

C Strydom – Sports vir leder en Elk (OFS Youth Philatelic Society)

- **Conradie Trophy:**
  Best Traditional exhibit

B Alexander – Australian Kings Heads 1914 – 1936 (Penny Black Stamp Club)

- **Setempe 2000 Trophy:**
  Best Thematic exhibit

M Osthoff - Vlinders en Motte (OFS Youth Philatelic Society)

- **East London Philatelic Society Award**
  Best South African exhibit

Not awarded

- **Aero Philatelic Society Award:**
  Best Aero Philatelic Award

Not Awarded

- **Derek Brown Centurion Shield:**
  Best exhibit – First time exhibitor

D Thomas – 100 years of Powered Flight (Penny Black Stamp Club)

- **Herman Steyn Trophy:**
  Best research shown

Not awarded

- **David Stern Society of Israel Philately Cup**
  Best club exhibit and cash award

Port Elizabeth Junior Stamp club

- **Rapportryerskorps Wierdapark Troffee**
  Best exhibit in Afrikaans

I de Beer – Treine (OFS Youth Philatelic Society)

- **Ratcliffe Cup Award**
  at the discretion of the jury for outstanding merit

S Thomas – Ponderous Pachyderms (Penny Black Stamp Club)



Colin Bousfield appointed Youth Leader



BONUS - a helicopter flip in PE at JUNASS'07 for junior collectors



Gabriella Sergay being congratulated for her Philatelic achievement by Dr Neil Cronjé, the newly appointed Deputy - Chairman

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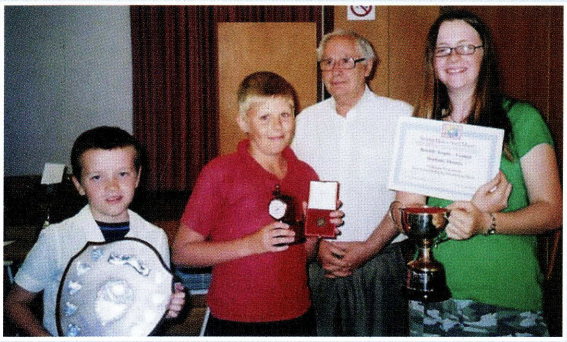

Above: Dave Sinclair with some of his club members receiving their awards at Pinelands.
Left: OFS Juniors with Prof Garry Osthoff showing their certiciates and awards

A Further Comment on Junass 2007

Junass 2007, Port Elizabeth, at the Bayworld Museum along the beachfront, attracted exhibitors from the Penny Black Club in Cape Town, OFS Youth Philatelic Society, Maritzburg Junior Club, the Barit children and Gabby Sergay. Also the P.E. Junior Club and Lepono Land of Philately entered club exhibits. The venue proved most suitable as the senior exhibition at the Boardwalk Casino complex was over subscribed so we had to find this alternative venue for the youth.

Many school children are bussed in daily to Bayworld museum to visit the dolphin show, museum, snake park and are provided with meals as part of the package deals offered.

Judges of Junass 2007, chaired by Danie Scheepers RDPSA, were Dr Neil Cronje and Mrs Gerrie Conradie. They found the exhibits to be of a good/high standard and Lizette Dohmen assisted them as a learner judge.

The writer, Rodney Maclachlan, a novice in the ranks of Junior, and with no Youth Leader support from Federation, was solely responsible for the arrangements for Junass 2007, although without the assistance of a Youth Leader from Federation, he was ably supported by Ron Cleland and other members of PEPS, Jill Redmond as usual as well as Dave Sinclair. Lizette Dohmen, who resigned as Youth Leader for Federation when relocating to Cape Town, did a sterling job in persuading most Youth Leaders throughout South Africa to support and participate at Junass 2007 despite the Pretoria Zoo debacle in 2006. Our thanks go to Garry Osthoff, Dave Sinclair and Anne Southwood for their support in getting juniors in their respective clubs to participate. Trophies and awards winners - we are proud to announce that all these were sent to exhibitors timeously and presented at various functions. The only trophy still missing and lost by the Post Office is the David Stern Society of Israel Philately Cup.

Everyone was a winner and we thank all those children and clubs that participated.

Rodney Maclachlan. Secretary/Treasurer
PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Tel: 041-360 5737

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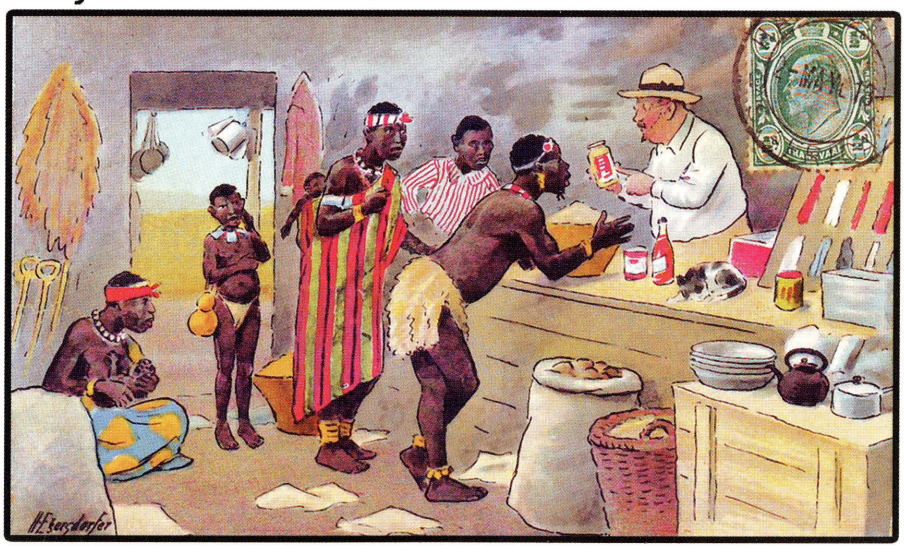

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The Fournier Archive: Documents of Modern Stamp Printing

by Damien Läge (reprinted with kind permission from Auktionhaus Christoph Gärtner)

Introduction:

The dissolution of the printers archive – an opportunity for philatelists all over the world

Whenever a postal administration, a post museum or a stamp printers company dissolves its archives, the world of philately celebrates. Such break-ups have occurred several times in the last decades, above all in the private printing sector in England and the USA and subsequently even with some postal administrations. The philatelic material which comes into collectors' hands by these means documents the stamp development process starting with sketches and drafts right up to the final proofs of the printing plate. Due to their scarcity, their philatelic significance and last but not least their aesthetic appeal, these items enrich most top exhibits of traditional and thematic philately. (These are the two exhibition classes that primarily build up on the stamp and are therefore the 'target groups' for using proof material.)

The early part of the 21st century offers no less than five large archives to which philatelists from all over the world now have access. Two postal administrations, the U.N and that of Tonga, put up their archives at disposal. Through the Versailles Collection the largest accumulation of material from the French government printers came onto the market and with Courvoisier and FOURNIER the year 2007 opens the complete archives of worldwide contracted stamp printers to collectors.

The U.N archives (the issues for New York, Geneva and Vienna) was sold as one lot through auction in Switzerland for several million dollars. The original artwork as well as a small part of the proofs were sold through auction as single lots in 2003 by an American auction house in a special sale whereas the largest part of the proofs are probably slumbering in bank safes somewhere in the world. As the drawings are usually oversize and not particularly suitable for exhibition pages, little of this material has yet been seen at the large exhibitions.

In contrast, the archive of Tonga and the politically annexed island of Niuafo´ou including all artwork and proofs is practically all in private collections and in many high class thematic exhibits. In addition to personal contacts the sale took place mainly through the internet giving collectors direct access to the material. The lots were mainly made up of single items splitting larger prints and plates by cutting them down to individual stamps. This radical separation was useful above all for the thematic collector yet the reconstruction of the whole printing process can only be done as a mosaic.

The Versailles collection was not an archive as such but more of a huge accumulation of drawings, proofs, and presentation issues from the French government printers. Over a period of 50 years a private collector, as is said with personal contacts to the majority of engravers, built up this gigantic collection. The collection was put on sale in the USA in two special sales. Whereas only a small part was offered in smaller 'collector suitable' lots, the greater majority was offered as large lots for the retail trade.

Also the archive of the private Swiss printing company Courvoisier, which was put up for auction in spring 2007, was mainly divided up into large lots. Although Courvoisier had printed many thousand stamps over the last 50 years for a multitude of postal administrations, surprisingly the archive was not very extensive: The printer had only kept one set of colour plate proofs of each issue (nicely mounted onto exhibition sheets as one would expect from a Swiss company). These sheets show the colour plate proofs (in all colour phases) for each stamp and include proofs of four to five stamps per page. As nearly all auction lots included either all phase trials of a large definitives issue or even all the stamps printed for one country, only a very small percentage would have been sold to collectors. The greater part was taken over by dealers who had come from all over the world or by those who bid over the phone. These items should now come onto the market piece by piece.

The archive of the Spanish company FOURNIER is much more extensive than that of Courvoisier. Whilst on the whole Courvoisier probably printed slightly more stamps than Fournier, they only kept one set of phase trials of the finished printing plate. Fournier however, who nonetheless printed many thousands of stamps for about 40 postal administrations, took all stages of the stamp production process into its archives, from the artwork up to the finished printing plates. Not only can the whole production process be comprehended but also documented in private collections due to the dissolving of the archive. The company Gärtner, who will be dissolving the archive, kindly gave me the opportunity for a random viewing of this extensive stock so that I was able to get an excellent overview of the FOURNIER production process. It is my pleasure to present my conclusions in the following report.

The chosen images should help to correctly classify the enormous variety of proofs from the multiple stage production process. It is important to generally differentiate between three stages: the stage of artwork, the stage of proofs for the individual vignettes (sometime called "die proofs") and the stage of the plate proofs.

The artwork

From the sketch to the final drawing

Before a printer can actually print stamps a long way has to be covered. This starts off with an agreement between the postal administration and the printers regarding the subject matter to be used. Postal administrations (or contracted agencies) might already have a very precise idea of the motive design or they might only come with a general idea. In all cases, an artist (or several artists) will be commissioned either by the postal administration, an agency or through the printers to present a design for a stamp in form of an enlarged artwork. The artwork phase is thus the first important stage in the production of a stamp.

This process has a typical procedure. The artist comes up with the first ideas, makes sketches and designs parts of the stamp. Such sketches can also be found within philately. The majority originated from the estates of deceased stamp designers which at one point or other was sold and reached collectors hands. Likewise, one finds sketches of complete designs, usually from the same source, which had not been developed to a stage that the artist would have handed them in to the postal administration or printers. These sketches of the complete stamp are known as preliminary drawings. To a certain point these kinds of sketches already belong to the evolutionary history of a stamp, but only in an exceptional case will sketches and preliminary drawings be taken into an exhibit. They are just too far off from the finished stamp and thus of little philatelic importance.

It starts to get interesting as soon as the artwork is submitted to the postal administration or printers. The artist competes for the project with such a drawing ('submitted artwork'). The submitted artwork can be accepted or rejected (accepted artwork vs. rejected artwork). Rejected artwork usually goes back to the artist. In a number of cases they are still bought and stay in the archives of the postal administration or the printers.

SUBMITTED ARTWORK/DRAWING

The artwork for the miniature sheet with whales was submitted to the postal administration of Niue as a stamp sized drawing on a preprint card. Some of these nine illustrations were accepted, others substituted by different motives. The overlay (in this case opened) contains a suggestion for the distribution of face values.

The accepted artwork usually requires a slight revision so that the illustration can display the desired visual effect on a small stamp.

Sometimes typographical modifications have to be made. All this occurs in accord with the artist. At the end of this process the artist presents a reviewed version, the so-called final artwork. This final artwork is the basis from which the first proofs originate.

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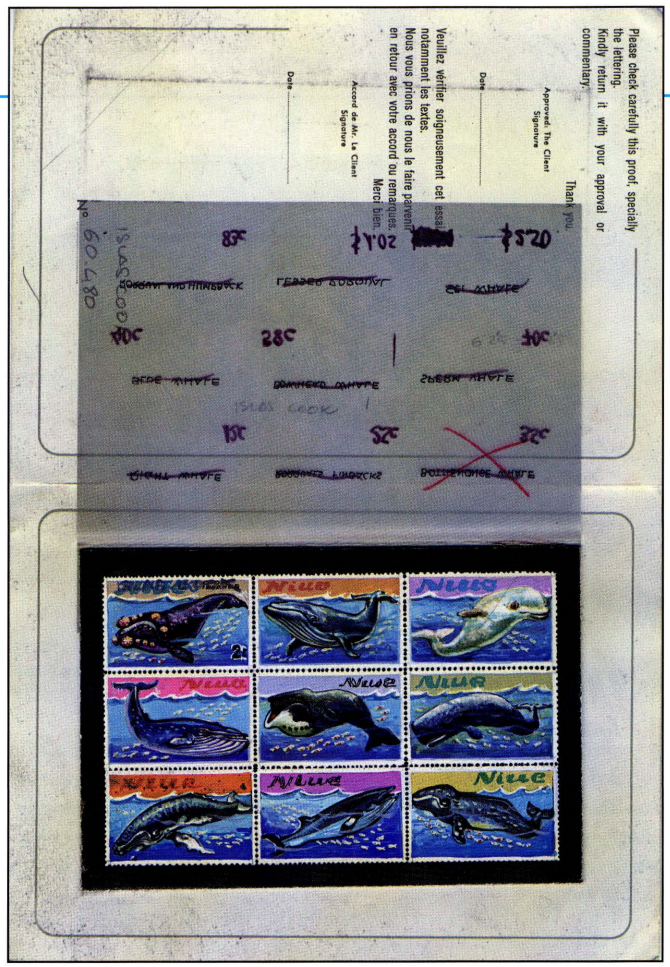
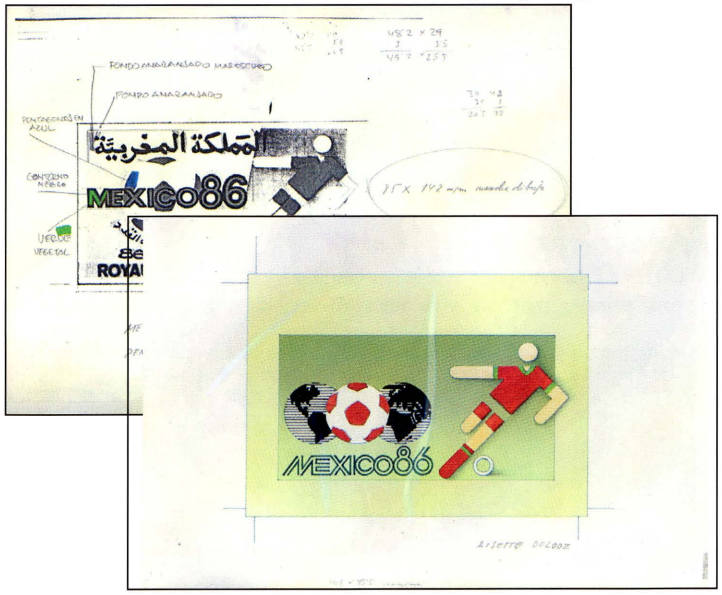


FINAL ARTWORK + OVERLAY

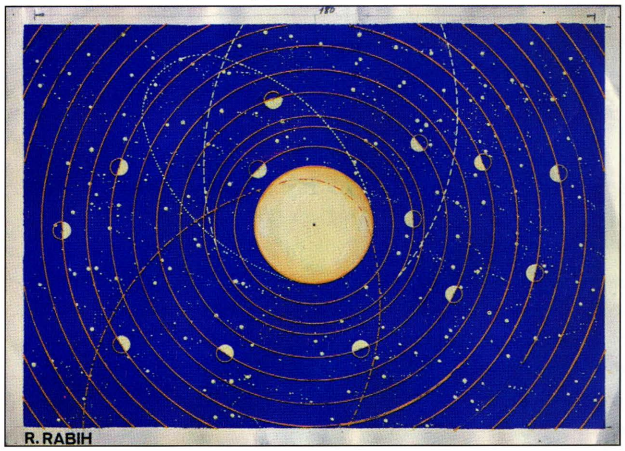
The final artwork of the illustration is without the black parts. These were produced in a separate printing stage. Such print technological requirements are to be taken into account by the artist so that the final drawing can differ considerably from the submitted artwork.

The five phases of drawings which have just been mentioned also define the philatelic importance of the proofs: The final artwork ranks the highest as it is the direct draft for the proofs. Followed by that is the accepted artwork which in turn is more important in the creation of the stamp than rejected artwork. In terms of philatelic importance there is a gaping breach to non submitted preliminary drafts whereas sketches are usually of no importance.

This scale is rather general. The FOURNIER archive includes a majority of final artwork and at least the accepted drawings (To distinguish one from the other it is necessary to compare them to the issued stamp). In few cases rejected artwork was archived as well whereas preliminary designs and sketches seem to be completely missing. Practically all the artwork from the Fournier Archive is therefore of higher grading.



The artwork phase still has some interesting details to mention. The first thing would be that the final artwork of the actual illustration is nearly always separated from the part with inscriptions. The reason is simple. As soon as the first essays of a final artwork are made, the design is defined. Subsequent changes are mainly possible with the colouring whereas shape can only be changed with great effort (if need be back to a new final drawing). This is the reason why printers like to work with an overlay, a separate printing layer in which all text components are located. This overlay is separately produced (mainly monochrome as a covering colour) and it is not until the production print that it is included in the actual illustration of the stamp. In order to see how the stamp will look like with the final artwork sometimes a transparency with the overlay or with a design is laid onto the archived final drawing. (The essays for the final artwork and overlay are naturally made separately.)



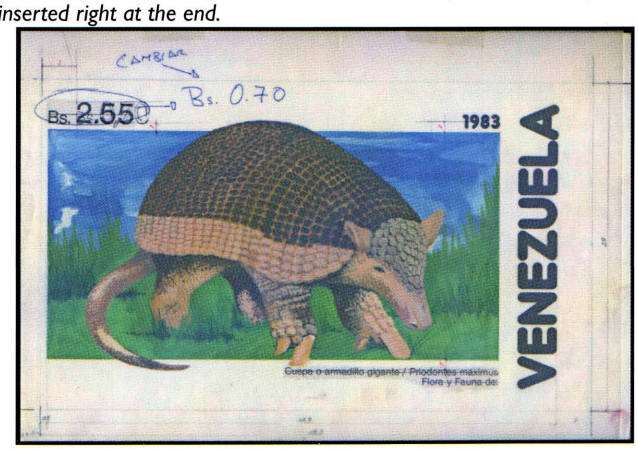
FINAL ARTWORK

Final drawing of the illustration without text



OVERLAY

Draft for a text overlay. The face value is still 0.00 – these figures get inserted right at the end.



FINAL ARTWORK

Final drawing with placed overlay

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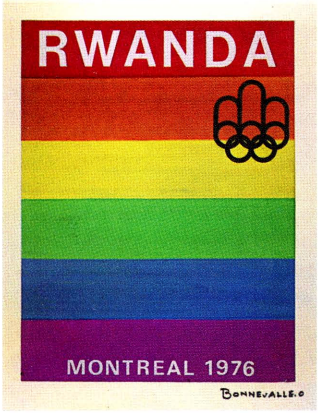
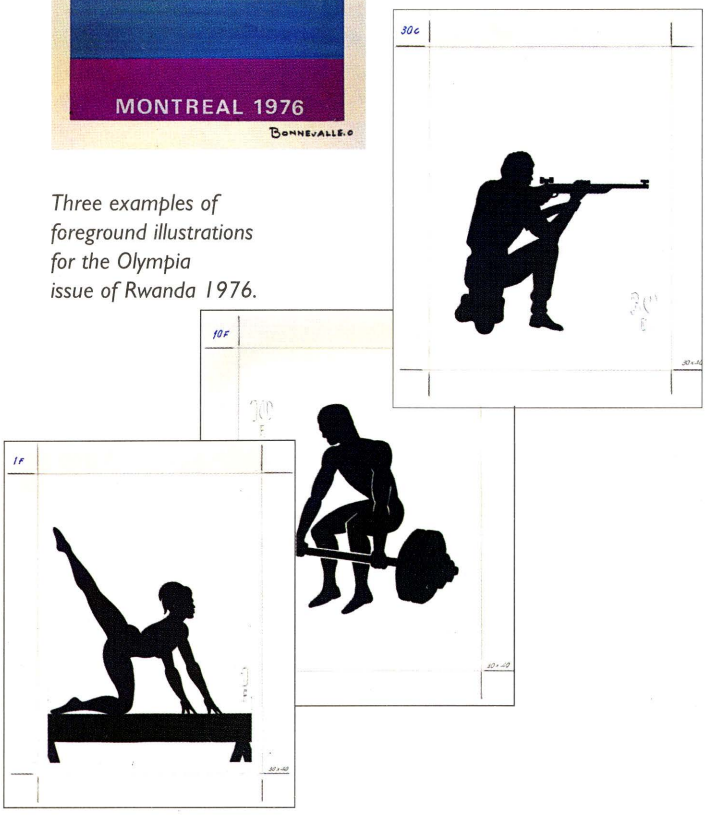
FINAL ARTWORK

When illustrations and text parts are produced separately this can lead to to certain reusability if a stamp is to be reissued with the same illustration. This was the case for the definitive series of Aitutaki when the final artwork of the bird stamps was simply furnished with a new overlay for the changed face values and frames.

One must also mention those stamp sets whose single stamps make up a basic outlay on which an additional illustration can be projected. Generally there is only one final artwork for the basic outlay whereas additional illustrations are treated technically like an overlay. A separate final drawing would then be necessary. The Rwanda issue for the Olympic Games 1976 are a fine example for this procedure.



FINAL ARTWORK
(Joint background)
Joint background for the Olympia issue of Rwanda 1976.



Three examples of foreground illustrations for the Olympia issue of Rwanda 1976.



Colour definitions were already decided upon in the draft phase. The illustrations show a card with designs for the planned Olympia series of Burundi. The series includes 10 values whereas in part some have the same illustration. Six drafts are carried out as complete submitted artworks the other four have just been obscured. The bottom of the card suggests how the 10 colours are to be distributed on the 10 nominal values.

The individual die proofs

Defining the colour composition

The first colour trials are taken from the final drawing. The *colour rates (* also known as colour *seperations*) are divided into yellow, blue and magenta. (Nowadays this is done by computers, at the beginning it had to be done by a skilled and experienced hand). Black, gold and silver are used as covering colour. Additional printing colours can be mixed and added in individual cases if necessary. This colouring must be properly controlled. Does the composition of the colour rate correspond to the illustration? And is the colour intensity correct?

These two questions have to be answered separately by means of proof printing. To do this, prints of single designs are made by a special machine called a proof printing machine. These are done alternatively for all colours together (complete colouring test), for single colours (colour intensity) and for two or more colour combinations (e.g. combining blue and yellow to obtain the correct green tone). These single prints are also known as die proofs, single die proofs or single dies (and strictly to be distinguished from the plate proofs which are done in a later stage).

A few special characteristics have to be kept in mind with these single prints. Covering colours (black, gold, silver) for example, have to be printed in a way that they are shifted in order to enable control of the underlying colouring (yellow, blue and magenta). As a second detail, a colour bar is printed for the colours used for the single prints (in order to have better control of the colour intensity and if necessary make adjustments). Finally, if the stamp edge cannot be recognised correctly by the testing colours, then a perforation simulation is of help. The selection of examples shows how flexible the proof printing machine could be adjusted to the different requirements.

COMPOSITE DIE PROOF /
COLLECTIVE DIE PROOF

The proof printing machine was adjusted very flexibly. If, for example, the



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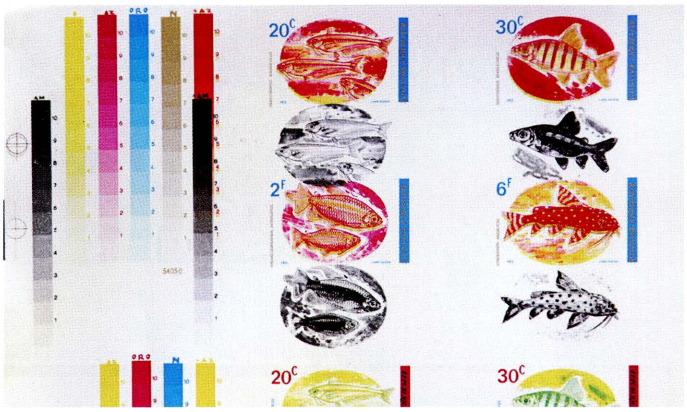
same colour adjustment was used for several stamps then single prints could be made for all the stamps of a set on the same plate. Here is such a composite die proof, also called collective die proof, for a stamp issue from Aitutaki which portrays the birth of Jesus from the annunciation scene up to the flight into Egypt.



COLOUR BARS

The colour bars show the percentage rate of saturation. In addition to the three primary colours there are two more colours (ochre and red). In order to control this colour rate the covering colour is shifted down by four fields.



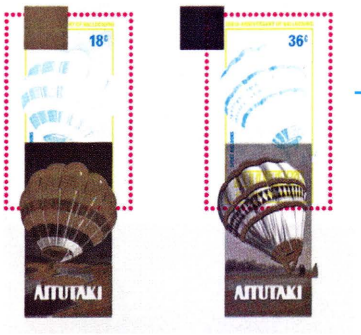
SINGLE DIE PROOF (*colours shifted*)

Single prints for the Einstein issue of Aitutaki. The stamps were printed as pairs with the same face value so that the final drawing and the first trial prints were pairs already. In order to control the primary colours (yellow, blue and magenta) intensity of the single prints the covering colour silver was printed far off. The special proof printing machine was adjusted accordingly. The colour bars of the colours used are found on the edge. The shifting of the silver colour is very distinguishable.



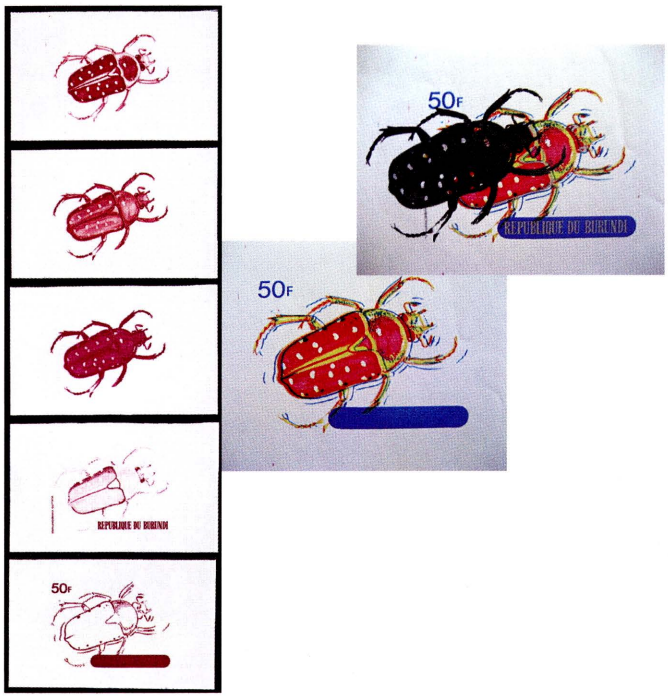
SINGLE DIE PROOF (overlay)

A black overlay was made separately from the actual illustration and for which single prints were necessary as well. In order to control that everything is correct a simulated perforation using the colour black was printed around the overlay.

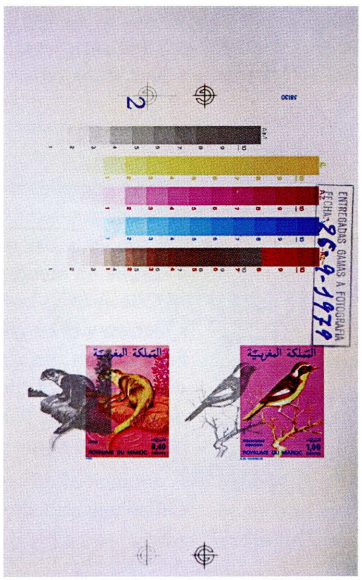


SINGLE DIE PROOF (*simulated perforation*)

If the stamp edge was not clear as with the single prints the perforation would be simulated using one of the printing colours (in this case magenta). Both the covering colours gold and silver were shifted in order to test the blue and yellow part of the colour.



In order to control the pixelation of each colour component printers prefer to use the colour magenta. Here you can see a composite die proof for all single colour components but using red in each case. Equally illustrated is the three colour combination as well as a combination with the black covering colour.



COLOUR TEST

Moreover red was chosen as an additional colour to the three primary colours. In order to control their effect the covering colour silver was shifted three steps to the left.

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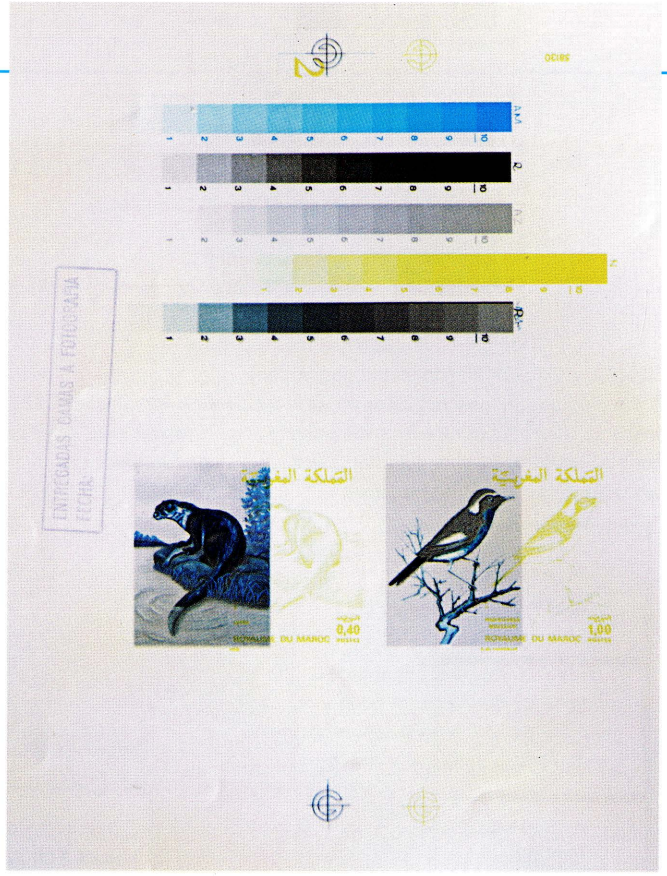


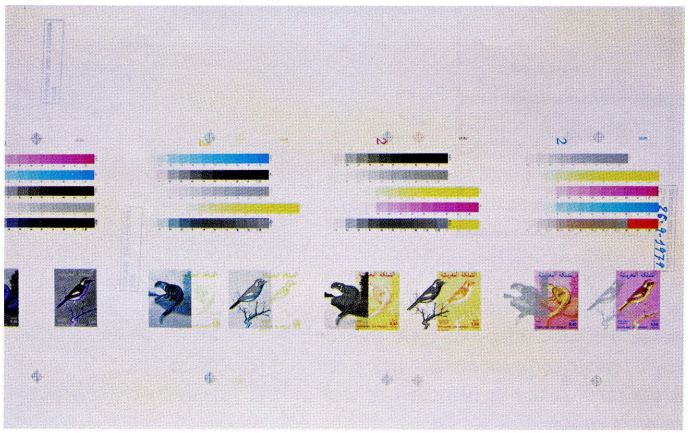
PROGRESSIVE DIE PROOFS

When the different colours are tested for the same stamp with single prints this is called "progressive die proofs".



COLOUR TEST

This is where the yellow printing colour is tested. Due to this it is shifted to the right.



PROOF PRINTING MACHINE

The testing of the printing colours could be realised in one single step. For this purpose paper sheets of the same size were used as was done subsequently with the plate proof prints. As soon as the sheet was finished (as is the case on the left), the print stopped abruptly. This happens very often with the single prints and is not to be considered as damage to the trial print but as a normal part of the technical process.

PLATE PROOFS (*colour separations*)

Fournier, as well as other printers, modernized the dieing of stamps around 1970. Up to that point all colours were mixed individually while a new computer based machine divided the colours into their aspects of yellow, blue and magenta. Here one can see plate proofs from the "old" printing procedure with specially mixed colours. As Fournier only printed a few stamps following this procedure, this will not be treated in depth in this article. However, the colour prints from the old procedure are noteworthy as the stamp is actually divided into the differently coloured parts of the design.

continues in the next issue ... PRINTING PLATE
in the APRIL issue of the SA Philatelist

ONE FRAME EXHIBITION 2008 BLOEMFONTEIN

12 - 16 MARCH 2008

The arrangements for this One Frame Exhibition are going according to plan and quite a number of entries have been received. We do however need more entries to support this exhibition further. We would especially like to ask Novice collectors to participate, but we also need some of the big guns to show. There are certain societies from which we have not received any exhibits as yet.

On the Thursday night before the opening a combined meeting with the "Friends of Oliewenhuis" will take place where a lecture will be given by Prof. Franco Frescura on the artistic design and further development of the art work to the final postage stamp. This will be illustrated with photo's and some original art works.

A number of other collectors and the Post Office will also show some original art work.

A number of dealers will be present at the Exhibition and the Post Office will also participate with a special canceller illustrating some of the carousel's pieces of art.

A list of accommodation is available on request and special rates have been negotiated

PLEASE motivate your members to exhibit in Bloemfontein.

Please contact us at
gerdavanzyll@hotmail.com
for further information.

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SAPDA MEMBERS SERVE THEIR CLIENTS WITH REGULAR STAMP FAIRS AND AUCTIONS

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* our website is currently being update and we respectfully request your patience during this process

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Achievements



Patrick Flanagan FRPSL

has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. In addition he has also been selected as an Apprencite Juror to the Taipei 2008 FIAP International Stamp Exhibition. 7 - 11 March



Michael Wigmore RDPSA

has accepted the invitation to serve as Jury Secretary for Joburg 2010 International Stamp Show



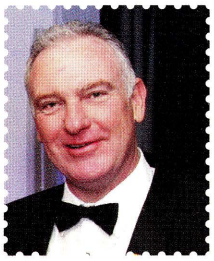
Howard Green RDPSA

has been appointed to the Execitive Committee of the FIAP Board - Federation of Inter - Asian Philatelists



Neil Cronjé

has been selected as an Apprentice Juror to the FIAP International Stamp Show to be held in Jakata, Indonesia, 23 - 28 October 2008.



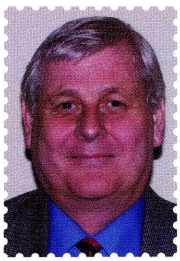
Richard Johnson RDPSA

has been appointed to the Board of IFSDA - the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association. The objectives of IFSDA are to promote and maintain a high standard of professional integrity among Philatelic dealers throughout the world.



Cedric Roché RDPSA

has been appointed as a Board Member of the FIP Commission for Revenues.



Coen Slagt RDPSA

celebrates the completion of 40 years as a respected local Stamp Dealer



Jimmy Mitchell

President of Boksburg-Germiston Philatelic Society, has been elected an Honary Life Member of Sasolburg Philatelic Society, in recognition of 23 years of participation in Sasolburg's Annual Stamp Exhibitions.



Moira Bleazard

joins the Editorial Board of the *SA Philatelist*. Her interest in all things philatelic as well as her keen sense of attention to detail, will add value to this publication. Experienced National Thematic Juror since 1997 and Federation Representative for the FIP Commission on Thematics.

Note to Society Chairpersons: you are invited to submit significant achievements of your members to this column for the Editorial Boards consideration

Management Meeting Highlights

The meeting held on the 25 January at Benoni Lake Club was well attended with members travelling from as far afield as Port Elizabeth, Durban, Bloemfontein and Klerksdorp.

Being the first meeting of the year, budgets for 2008 were discussed in depth, with much lively input from all members. It was exciting to learn that quotes have been received for the digitisation of all past volumes of the *SA Philatelist*, with index, and is expected to take around two years to complete. The suggested process is at present being technically assessed.

Participation of South Africans in international philatelic exhibitions is doing wonders for our image abroad. As we accumulate more internationally accredited judges, they are able to fulfil dual capacities as juror and commissioners. Jurors' costs for travel and accommodation are paid by organising bodies of international exhibitions. Some commissioners pay their own fares, a remarkably generous gesture.

For the **Joburg 2010** International Stamp Show, seven South African internationally accredited jurors are anticipated, thereby lessening the need to for jurors from overseas. Michael Wigmore RDPSA, residing in Montagu, is the Secretary of the Jury.

Grants to exhibitions, both regional and national, were debated lengthily. Local and regional exhibitions are a very important element in the promotion of the hobby, but it was agreed that the sponsorship by Federation should be publicly recognised. Promotion at stamp fairs to encourage collectors to join clubs was discussed, fully supported by Clinton Goslin, Chairman of SAPDA.

Federation's website was again up and running after a change of host. Tony Lancaster, the new Webmaster, would be dealing with the creative and programming elements, whilst Johnson Philatelics, at no cost, would cope with routine matters. Appreciation was expressed for all the effort put in by Ron Rong to upgrade Federation's website.

Gawie van der Walt and members of the stamp trade are making little headway with the Heritage Agency. Nevertheless Gawie will be visiting the Agency in Cape Town, yet again, to plead our cause. In countries like Australia the heritage requirements on stamps are being liberalised.

The Anglo-Boer War publication sales are excellent, thanks to the unstinting efforts of Joh Groenewald RDPSA to promote sales. Funds were allocated to the Postmark and Postal History Society for the publication of an occasional paper on the Swaziland Commando. Peter van der Molen, who is at present writing a book on philately of Swaziland and Pauw Steyl has written a publication on the George and Knysna District. Some funding is being considered.

Youth has been redefined as Novice Collectors under the aegis of Colin Bousfield, the new Chairman of the Youth Committee, a very enthusiastic and energetic young man.

JDR: 5 Feb 08

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'Inverted Jenny' Record Sale

The rare "Inverted Jenny" stamp, one of the most coveted stamps among philatelists sold for $825,000 in December through a Texas auction Company – Heritage Auction Galleries. The 24 cent denomination, a US red, white and blue misprint (Scott #C3a) which shows upside-down Curtis 4-N ("Jenny") biplane, was position 84 on the original sheet of 100. Heritage recently bought the stamp for $750,000 and sold it to a senior Wall Street executive who is a long-time coin collector. Greg Rohan of Heritage had been the under bidder on the same executive's behalf at Siegel's auction in November where another "Inverted Jenny" sold for $977,500 (including buyers premium). "We have tens of thousands of rare coin clients who are ready to buy stamps now that they know we're in the market. This stamp was purchased by one of them," commented Greg Rohan, Heritage's President.



The mint condition of the stamp is one of the finest known and one of no more that half a dozen never-hinged specimens. It is certified by Professional Stamp Experts as PSE 75 NH. The anonymous new owner of number 84 issued a statement through Heritage: "Since I was a kid I have wanted to own an 'Inverted Jenny.' I consider it to be a cultural icon , and to have the opportunity to buy one of thenever-hinged specimens is the realisation of a lifelong dream come true."

The stamp is from the sheet of 100 misprinted airmail stamps purchased at a Washington DC post office on May 14, 1918 by William T. Robey. Less than a week later Robey sold the sheet to Philadelphia dealer Eugene Klein for $15,000. It was subsequently sold intact by Klein to gregarious multi-millionaire collector, Col HR Green, for $20,000. Green later allowed Klein to separate the stamps and sell individual examples and blocks. Klein wrote the sheet position number in pencil on the back of each stamp. The history of stamp position 84 is recorded in a book by George Amrick- *The Inverted Jenny: Money, Mystery, Mania.*

NP

Information from Internet websites.

Letters to Editor - continued from page 413

letters may be emailed to: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

To the Editor

In the December Issue was an article by F. Frescura on the Beira and Mashonaland Railways.

An interesting subject, but due to errors by the author regarding printing, apt to lead readers astray.

He states "Screening is ... limited to the litho printing processes." This will come as a surprise to the GPO which printed stamps by screened gravure for many years on their Goebel presses. Screening also has been used in letterpress for many years, vide early newspaper photos. Further, screening is a photographic procedure, which is not used in stone lithography, but came into use only with offset lithography in the middle of the 20th century, long after this 1904 issue.

He seems to confound 'die proofs' with 'proofs'. Proofs are very normal in stone lithography, e.g. the Vaasa litho issue of Finland. What he purchased was almost certainly a proof, but not a die proof.

As to the engraved look of the stamps but the litho micro appearance, there is no mystery. The most common method for producing illustrated mail covers was to make an engraving on metal, then to print this engraving on a transfer paper from which the image was transferred to the litho stone. Proofs would normally be taken here to ensure all was well. This image was then used to make further images, etc, until the full pane was on the stone. The reason is simple, engraving was the cheapest method to obtain a detailed image, but stone litho was far and away cheaper for production at this time.

As to the dotted appearance, this can be obtained by surface treatment of the stone. It is not proof of screening. This is all well explained in the literature, such as "How to identify Prints" by Bamber Gascoigne, published by Thames and Hudson in 1986. This book is written for the non-professional and is easy to follow.

Respectfully
Robert W. Hisey
7227 Sparta Rd
Sebring FL 33875, USA

"May I thank Mr Hisey for his contribution. As stated in the article, I was and will continue to be grateful to readers for any comments on this subject". - Franco Frescura.





From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus





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Distribution of Stamps to South African Post Offices: Bar Codes tell a Story

- Dr. Angus Pringle: Highway Philatelic Society: RSA Study Group

A decision was taken in 1998 by the Post Office to use bar codes to record the sale of stamps. The first Definitive stamps with a bar code on the sheet selvedge were the Tawny Eagle (R1.50) and Cape Vulture (R2.30) stamps issued on 5th May 2000. The RSA 7th Definitives were issued in November 2000. All the values had bar codes. These were on the vertical or the horizontal selvedge of the top left corner and the bottom right corner of the sheet. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

This investigation began with an e-mail from Connie Liebenberg (Editor of the RSA Study Group Newsletter which records the plating details of all RSA new issues) late in April 2007. Only a few of the 7th Definitive 70c reprint Control Blocks dated 2006-06-28 had been located. She, and other RSA definitive collectors (so scarce that they could find their way into the Endangered Species Red Data Book) had repeatedly phoned Philatelic Services to enquire whether they had control blocks in stock. Philatelic Services staff repeatedly told them that they had not been supplied with sheets of 70c stamps dated 2006-06-28. Post offices had been visited and a few sheets could be found. She requested the author to visit post offices in his area.

The second post office I visited had stocks of sheets. The Manager obligingly supplied me with 20 control blocks. The third Post Office I visited was one of the smallest in the area. The counter clerk showed me her sheets of 70c stamps. They were dated 2006-06-28. However, to my horror, the selvedge with the bar code had been torn off. (Fig. 2) I asked why she had torn off the bar code. No she hadn't, the Manager had. The reason had something to do with "Philatelic…. something".



Fig. 2

The next day, I met with the Manager who then appraised me of the facts. If he orders sheets of stamps to replenish his stock from Philatelic Services, his Post Office is credited with a higher sales commission on stamp sales than if he is supplied by the Stamp Distribution Centre (SDC). The bar code used for sheets of stamps purchased from Philatelic Services is different to the bar code printed on the sheet selvedge and which is used by the SDC. He therefore personally tears the bar code off the sheets. Philatelic Services supply separate bar code tags that the Counter Clerks use (Fig 2, 3 & 4).

Value	SDC Bar Codes	Phil. Services Bar Codes
5c	6 005655-028502	6 005655-053740
10c	6 005655-028519	6 005655-049378
20c	6 005655-028526	6 005655-054051
30c	6 005655-028533	6 005655-051784
50c	6 005655-028557	6 005655-051906
60c	6 005655-028564	6 005655-046261
70c	6 005655-028571	6 005655-054631
90c	6 005655-028595	6 005655-051432
R1	6 005655-028601	6 005655-053081
R2,00	6 005655-028618	6 005655-054174
R2,30	6 005655-028694	6 005655-056703
R3	6 005655-028625	6 005655-054235
R20	6 005655-028656	6 005655-057601

Table 1.

I was allowed to go through the post office stock. The bar codes in the right hand column of the values detailed in Table 1 had been supplied by Philatelic Services: the Manager had bar code tags for all these values. There were two groups:

1. Sheets from which the control block had not been removed before delivery (Fig.2): 5c, 10c, 30c, 60c, 70c, 90c, R1, R2, R3, R20.

2. Sheets from which the control block had been removed before delivery to the post office (Fig.3): 20c, 30c, 50c.



Fig. 3

The balance of the sheets in stock had been supplied by the SDC.

The irrefutable conclusion is that Philatelic Services had been supplied with sheets of the 70c reprint dated 2006-06-28. These had **all** been supplied directly to various post offices, without first removing the control block (as had been done with the 20c, 30c and 50c). An artificial scarcity has been created. The author's estimation is that not more than fifty of these control blocks are in possession of collectors.

The 2006 New Issues programme included Christmas stamps to be issued in October. However, during the year, the Post Office announced a change of policy. In future no Christmas stamps would be issued. Having perused the now infamous 2007 schedule of RSA Commemorative Issues, and noted that no Christmas stamps were included, I was nonplussed when I received a call at the end of November from a collector in Pietermaritzburg. He informed me that Christmas stamps were being sold at a Postal Agency. Further

concluded at the foot of page 431

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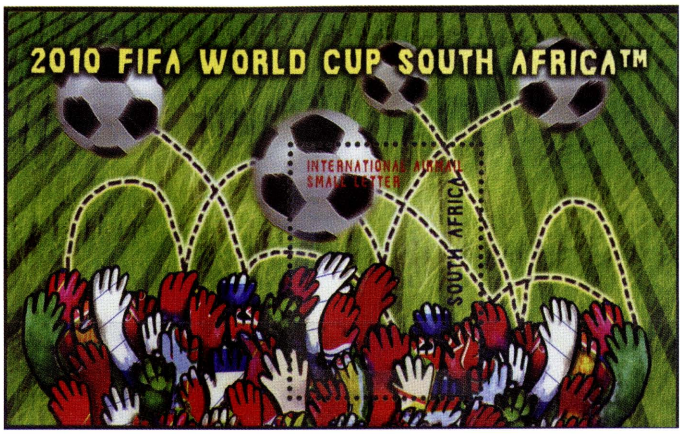
New South African Stamp Issues - 2007

– Part III - by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

23 November 2007 – 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP SOUTH AFRICA.

Denomination: International (Airmail) Small Letter (R4.64).
Designer: Tamarin Skead.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Format/Stamp size: Miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm incorporating a single vertical format stamp of size 30 x 38mm.
Perforation: 13.3 x 13.5 by Wista Bickel Closed perforator.
Phosphor: 4mm bands on left and bottom margins of stamp.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: none.
Printing sheet size: 740 x 660mm comprising 35 miniature sheets arranged in 7 rows of 5.
Quantity: 60 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.124 in standard size of which 4000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.110, MAMELODI – 23.11.2007.





5 December 2007 – 150TH Anniversary of Union Castle Line.

Denomination: 5 x International Postcard Rate (R4.01).
Designer: Peter Bilas.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Horizontal format of size 37.5 x 28.5mm; five different designs, showing Union Castle ships, printed in vertical *se tenant* strips.
Sheetlet size: 95 x 164mm comprising ten stamps arranged in five rows of two, i.e. two vertical strips printed side by side.
Perforation: 14.3 x 14.5mm by Double Gammerler S perforator.
Phosphor: 4mm bands on top and left margins of stamp.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: 710215, 710216, 710217 & 710218.
Printing sheet size: 704 x 609mm comprising 18 sheetlets arranged in 3 rows of 6.
Quantity: 40 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.125 in standard size of which 5000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.111, CAPE TOWN – 05.12.2007



Additional information to Part I on page 370 of October 2007 issue.

22 August 2007 - CENTENARY OF SCOUTING.

Printing sheet size: 607 x 325mm comprising 20 miniature sheets arranged in four rows of five.

Acknowledgement:
The above stamp information was collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria.

concluded from page 430.

investigation revealed that they were the Christmas stamps issued in November 1997. The sheetlets were supplied by Philatelic Services in packets of 100 with the bar code tag attached to the packet.(Fig.4) They have been available only at post offices which are regularly supplied by Philatelic Services as described above.

	SDC Bar Code	Phil. Services Bar Code
Std. Mail		6 005655-058776



Fig.4

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James Berry O.B.E. (1906-1979)
– New Zealand Stamp Designer

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philaltelic Society

Reginald George James Berry was born in London on 20 June 1906. At the age of 5 his father, a clerk in the 'City', died of a brain tumour. In January 1913 young James Berry, fatherless, was admitted as a boarder to Russell Hill School, established in 1863 for children in a similar situation to his.

Berry was not a gifted scholar except in drawing, in which he was regularly awarded the school prize. His one academic achievement was in passing the Cambridge Local School Certificate, and he was a keen sportsman. As a member of the Boy Scouts, he twice crossed the Channel on cycling and camping expeditions. All these things were to stand him in good stead as a potential migrant.

At the age of 16, Berry left Russell Hill in search of a job. His small stature, 5ft 3½in (1.61m) was a disadvantage when banking and insurance companies required employees to be at least 5ft 4in (1.63m). Nevertheless, he did gain employment, probably through family influence, with the Eagle Star and British Insurance Co. Ltd. He found the dullness of office routine and its poor prospects less and less attractive. Accordingly he began a series of applications for other jobs, all producing humiliation on the grounds of size. He then turned to the Colonies, which were chronically short of man-power. Again, the Australians were unimpressed by his lack of robust physique but the New Zealand High Commission was more accommodating.

The New Zealand Government had instituted a scheme for assisting boys who had been educated at British Public Schools to emigrate and serve a probationary period on farms. As an independent school, Russell Hill had the courtesy title of Public School and Berry was encouraged to apply under the scheme by his former headmaster. He was accepted as an assisted emigrant and on 8 January 1925 he boarded the Shaw Savill liner SS *Ionic* bound for Wellington, New Zealand.



Fig.1 - 1931 Airmail stamp designed by L C Mitchell.

He was assigned to a dairy farm at Gisborne, on the east coast of North Island about 400km north-east of Wellington. On the completion of his year's apprenticeship he was free to move elsewhere and he undertook a variety of jobs still in the farming industry and in the vicinity of Gisborne. Free of the rigours of his apprenticeship he began to practice his art in the form of black and white sketches of the landscape, caricatures of his cricketing friends and notices for social gatherings. Life on the land was not the occupation for James Berry and fate kindly took a hand. At the moment of decision to move on, he was invited to visit the mother of an old school friend who had settled in Wellington.

Mrs Collins, the mother of his school friend was on the staff of James Smith, the oldest department store in Wellington. She also offered him comfortable lodgings. Within days of Berry's arrival he was introduced to the Goldberg Advertising Agency, responsible for the store's advertising. On the strength of his skill in lettering he was offered a position on three months probation.

By the end of his probation he had proved himself and was promoted to full-time copywriter. In his spare time he followed an interest in 'wireless', then in its infancy and made extra money constructing crystal receivers and designing circuitry. With the assurance of a steady income he felt justified in buying a piece of land and becoming engaged to Miriel, a young typist in the office. Ironically his engagement was followed almost immediately by the onset of the Depression. Nevertheless the couple were married on 3 February 1932.

As the depression advanced, staff at the Goldberg Agency were laid off and Berry was reduced to piece work. He was fortunate in obtaining employment with the New Zealand *Radio Record*, the *Radio Times* and the *Dairy Exporter*.

During the 1920s communication between New Zealand and the outside world by airmail developed rapidly and on 10 November 1931 the first airmail stamps were issued (Fig.1). These were designed by L C Mitchell, the man who was to be James Berry's great but friendly rival. Mitchell's first accepted stamp design was the famous 'Smiling Boy' health issue of ten days earlier. These two stamps were printed by typography, as had all previous New Zealand commemorative stamp issues.

The airmail stamps proved unpopular and inconvenient and in 1932 a competition for a further series was advertised. Berry was one of 75 competitors and although unsuccessful, he made the acquaintance of a Post Office official who gave him valuable advice and encouragement. Berry submitted further unsolicited airmail stamp designs in March 1933, two of which are illustrated (Fig.2. above). His early designs were executed in India ink and approximated the methods suitable for line engraving. He submitted prints taken from line blocks, a practice derived from his commercial art work at the very beginning of his career.

Berry submitted four designs in a competition for the 1933 Health issue, printed from line- engraved zinc blocks, from which his



Fig.2 – 1933 unsolicited essays for airmail stamps, submitted by James Berry.

'Pathway to Health' was chosen (Fig.3). This was Berry's first accepted stamp design. Unfortunately, the production at the Government Printing Office, Wellington didn't do it justice. The printed stamp was disappointing – the family rechristened it 'The Pathway to Hell'. Within a month of issue, he submitted designs for the 1934 Health stamp without awaiting an invitation. His 'Crusader' design was accepted (Fig.4) but this time the engraving and printing were undertaken by De La Rue & Co. Ltd. of London.



Fig.3 – 1933 Health stamp 'Pathway to Health'.



Fig.4 – 1934 Health stamp 'Crusader'.

The airmail stamps for which the competition was held in 1932 never materialized but a photograph of the first official airmail from Australia landing at New Plymouth on 12 April 1934, was supplied to Berry. He embellished the original with a tree fern, a robed Maori and a snow-clad Mount Egmont. His design was



Fig.5 – 1935 Airmail stamp 'Bell Block Aerodrome'.

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accepted and three values were issued on 4 May 1935 (Fig.5), the engraving being done by the Stamp Printing Office, Melbourne, Australia and the printing by the Government Printing Office, Wellington.

In February 1934, James Berry, along with seven other artists, was invited to submit designs for a new series of stamps for the New Zealand administered colony of Western Samoa. The subject matter of each value was prescribed and photographs were supplied. Berry was successful with six of the nine designs and with the frame of a seventh. The style of this issue was similar in concept to the 1932 stamps of another New Zealand dependency, Cook Islands, designed by L C Mitchell. That is, a central subject or 'vignette' surrounded by a relatively complex frame printed in a different colour (Fig.6).



Fig.6 – 1935 Western Samoa Definite Issue, 3 of James Berry's designs.

In late 1934, Berry was also invited to submit designs for an issue commemorating the Silver Jubilee of King George V. His design for the frame was accepted. Bradbury Wilkinson of London engraved and printed the issue, the portraits of Queen Mary and the King being taken from photographs (Fig.7). The stamps, ½d., 1d. and 6d. in a common design, were issued on 7 May 1935.



Fig.7 – 1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V.

This period also saw Berry commencing his career as the designer of medals and coins. He was asked to submit a design symbolising the most important event in the history of modern New Zealand, the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. After two trial designs had been rejected, his third was accepted. The Waitangi Crown piece was minted in 1935 and is now a much sought after collectors' item.

Fate was again kind to the Berry's, as in 1935 a vacancy arose on the advertising staff of the *Dominion*, Wellington's morning newspaper. Berry applied and was appointed. It proved to be the most secure job of his life, and there he remained from 1935 until 1942.

Berry was responsible for the designs of health stamps for 1936, 1937 (in collaboration with G Bull) and 1938 (Fig.8) and also for the 1939 six-penny Express Delivery stamp (Fig.9).



Fig.8 – Health stamps for 1936 'Life Belt', 1937 'Climber' and 1938 'Children playing'.

However his outstanding achievement as a stamp designer, in the pre-war period, was the design of nine of the twelve stamps issued to celebrate the Centennial of New Zealand in 1940 (Fig.10). Although 19 artists had been approached, the honours were shared between Berry and L C Mitchell. These designs set a pattern which can be found in much of the artist's subsequent work, the use of Maori designs and themes in decorative frames and panels surrounding the main design.

Berry did much of the research for design subjects himself rather than relying on assistants or a prepared précis and thus frequently uncovered facts that led to the introduction of some original approach to the subject. Over the years it is possible to trace a refreshingly unashamed patriotism in the Berry designs; Maori war clubs, tattoo patterns and decorative panels were cunningly introduced as sub-designs supplementing the main theme. In the 1943 triangular Health stamps, *kowhai*, the national flower and *manuka* are prominent in framing the Princesses (Fig.11).



Fig.10 – 1940 Centennial of New Zealand, 3 of James Berry's designs.



Fig.9 – 1939 Express Delivery stamp 'Chrysler coupé'.

With the outbreak of World War II, as a married man with three children, Berry was exempt from conscription. Nevertheless he was very active in the Emergency Precautions Service, dealing with wartime emergencies: first aid, fire fighting, night patrols, enemy observation, shelter construction, etc. in addition to his work at the *Dominion*.

In mid-1942 he was compelled to leave the *Dominion* and take up 'essential' work which could hardly have been better suited to his talents. He joined the staff of Mayer and Kean, the medalists who produced large numbers of badges and buttons for the armed forces.

In May 1944, Berry was released from his essential work in order to become a free-lance commercial artist.



Fig.11 – 1940 Centennial of New Zealand, 3 of James Berry's designs.

The greatest success for which philatelists will always remember James Berry, is undoubtedly the New Zealand 1946 Peace series for which he designed all 11 values. In 1947, Stanley Gibbons Ltd. ran a competition to determine the best 12 designs used on postage stamps in the preceding two years. Berry's 9d. stamp, showing the Franz Josef Glacier through the Waiho Gorge chapel window was judged best, while the ½d., 1½d. and 1s. values (Fig.12) each secured a place in the top 12. The 1½d. value, originally planned as a Winston Churchill portrait, rejected because it featured a living person other than the monarch, was subsequently changed to show St. Paul's Cathedral within a large 'V' for victory. The bells of the Carillon shown on the 1 shilling stamp played for some months in Hyde Park, London before being shipped to Wellington. Because of their popularity overseas, the designs for this series earned many thousands of pounds in foreign currency, for New Zealand at that time. These two designs represent a breakaway from tradition as they have no ornate frames and were printed by the photogravure process whereas Berry's designs up to this time had all

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Fig.12 – 1946 Peace issue, 4 award winning designs.

been recess printed.

During the 1940s and 1950s, James Berry and L C Mitchell retained their pre-eminence as designers of New Zealand and island dependencies (Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau Islands and Western Samoa) postage stamps. The tendency, however, was for the abandonment of ornate frames and the changeover to the less expensive photogravure printing process and even the use of lithography. A definitive issue for Cook Islands (1965) printed by the latter process was not particularly memorable.

Further afield Berry had little success in having his stamp designs accepted. He submitted designs for Australia in 1934, 1947, 1952 and 1963 which were all rejected, as were the designs for South Africa in 1954 (see *SA Philatelist* for December 2007). In 1952 Berry submitted ten designs in a competition for a new definitive series for Bermuda. Four of these were eventually used in the 1953 issue bearing the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II (Fig.13).

Tonga was never politically associated with New Zealand but its geographical position close to Western Samoa makes it a 'natural' for James Berry designed postage stamps but this didn't happen until 1950 with a three value issue celebrating Queen Salote's 50th birthday. These were printed in photogravure and were not entirely successful. A further set issued in 1951 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship with Great Britain was recess printed and much more typical of Berry's designs for the Pacific island dependencies (Fig.14). The 14 value definitive issue of 1953 was in his borderless style, recess printed and very attractive (Fig.15).

In later years, James Berry concentrated more on the designing of coins and medals. He commented that a design to fit into a round frame required a different technique, which is more difficult than that for stamps; which are in a square or oblong design. In this field he was much more successful in gaining acceptance in countries other than New Zealand and Dependencies. He also designed coins and medals for Australia, Fiji, Great Britain, Ireland and quite prolifically for the United States of America.

In 1968, James Berry was awarded the Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) for 'valuable services as the designer of some 150 postage stamps and coins for New Zealand and Pacific Island territories, especially for the design of decimal currency coins'.



Fig.13 – 1953 Bermuda, essays and issued stamps.

References:

'*The Image Maker – The Art of James Berry*', by J R Tye, 1984.

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue – New Zealand, 2nd Edition 2006.



Fig.14 – 1951 Tonga, 50th Anniversary of Treaty of Friendship with Great Britain.



Fig.15 – 1953 Tonga, definitive issue.

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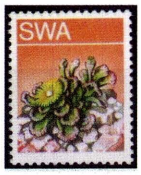




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World War II : Focus on East Africa

Two leading South African military postal historians, Rory Ryan and Jim Findlay, have embarked on a thorough study of each of the East African Army postal offices of World War II.

This follows the extensive listing of covers known with East African APO postmarks, prepared by the South African military mail study group some years ago.

Jim Findlay says they will combine new information with details recorded by authors such as Henning, Rossiter, Harvey Pirie and others, into comprehensive studies on each individual EA APO.

The data will include dates and locations of use, and the types and numbers of censor marks associated with the office. Some censor marks can be used to identify specific Army units.

They have invited collectors to assist with full information about covers with EA APO marks, including the name and unit of the sender. The e-mail address for Rory is: rryan@uj.ac.za <mailto:rryan@uj.ac.za> and for Jim: agrecon@telkomsa.net <mailto:agrecon@telkomsa.net> . Images of items should preferably be in jpeg format.

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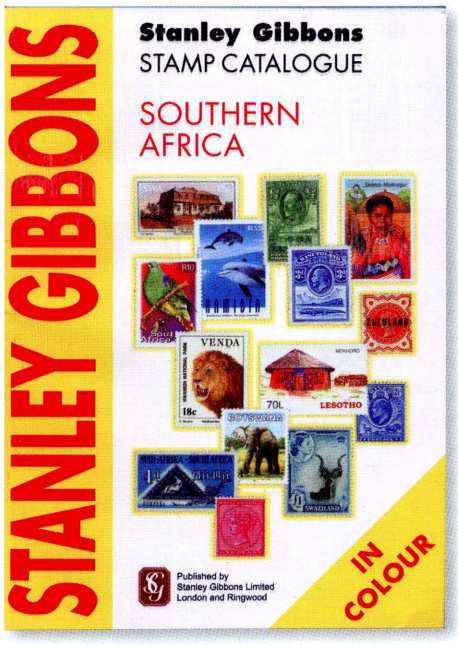

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The Southern Africa catalogue covers South Africa, with the pre-Union issues of the Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West, Natal, New Republic, Orange Free State, Transvaal and Zululand and the Homelands issue of Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda. Also included are Botswana (Bechuanaland) Lesotho (Basutoland), Namibia (South West Africa) and Swaziland. The listings are complete to late 2006.
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THEMATICALLY Yours



by Rev Cassie Carstens, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

BLOEM ONE-FRAME 2008

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THEMES ON STAMPS

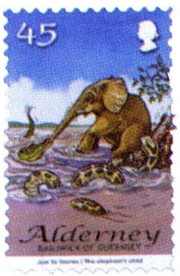
* **Year of the Rat**: this year 2008 is the Year of the Rat. The sign of the rodent is far from being a harbinger of rat-like qualities. In fact, those born in the Year of the Rat (1996, 1984, 1972, 1960, 1948, 1936, 1924, 1912) are considered to be brave and very entrepreneurial! Why? Because rats know exactly where to find solutions and can thrive and survive in any environment. These people are thought to be very demanding, hate being bored and want constant stimulation. This particular attribute sometimes causes them to over-reach themselves; and that's the downside, their drive to reach for success in love, in life and in business can be their undoing. But because of the characteristics of these Rat-people and their sharp intellect, they can often see disaster coming so they can avoid it. #1



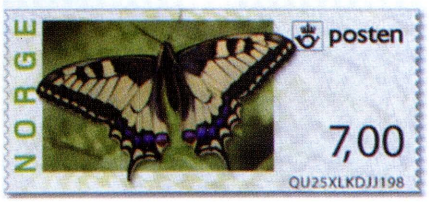
* On **kissing**: Respect kisses the forehead. Humility touches the lips by hand. Admiration chooses the cheek. Friendship kisses all over, while Love is well known for kissing straight on the mouth. (Eria Guofmna Porsteindotter, 1891-1972 - "*Frostflowers*", 1937). #2



* **How did the elephant get a trunk?** Rudyard Kipling (born in India) has the answer '*There were days when elephants didn't have trunks, and one young, very inquisitive elephant asked what a crocodile ate for breakfast. He met a crocodile at the Limpopo River who grabbed him by the nose and, in his determination to pull him into the river, stretched it until it became a trunk*". Now there you have it! #3



* The **Old World Swallowtail** (*Papilio Machaon*) is common in coastal areas in southern and eastern Norway, but has been found as far north as Finnmark. It often occurs in moist, flowery meadows and near marshlands, streams, rivers and lakes. This species is declining, and is therefore not seen very often. Its flight time is from May to June, but a rare second brood can appear in August and September. #4





* **Going underwater**: New Zealand is famous for the unspoilt beauty of its forests, beaches and mountains. With more than 15,000 kilometres of coastline, the underwater reefs offer surprisingly colourful images from New Zealand's deepest waters. The $1.50 stamp features red coral, which is not a true coral but a related type of animal - a hydro coral. The image comes from the lens of acclaimed underwater photographer Kim Westerkov. #5



* **A remarkable gift**! By donating your organs, you can give the gift-of-life to several other people. Each gift of organ or tissue donation means a second chance to someone else. Organs that can be donated include the kidneys, heart, lungs, liver and pancreas, and also bone tissue, eye tissue and skin tissue. Organ and tissue donation primarily occurs after death. Most commonly organ donation is only considered after brain death has been established i.e. when the brain stops functioning with no possibilty of recovery. When someone suffers a cardiac death the blood immediately stops flowing, damaging the organs and making them unfit for transplantation. If the person suffers brain death while on 'ventilation', the blood will continue to supply oxygen to the organs and keep them in a state suitable for transplantation. #6

* **Flag and Lighthouse**: "As the eye moves across the panel from left to right, you can almost hear the sound of the flag flapping in the wind. It really brings out that deep sense of national pride." Liz Wong, Manager Stamps Designs, Canadian Post. (Wish we could have more of this in South Africa!) The lighthouse at Warren Landing, Manitoba was built in 1908 and is found on the west bank of the Nelson River just below Lake Winnipeg..#7



* **Where is Liechtenstein**? This stamp depicts the small state Liechtenstein (26km) at full length. In the foreground extends the Rhine Valley and at the centre stands Liechtenstein's alpine mountain landscape with the striking Three Sisters massif (Drei-Schwestern-Massiv). In the distance one can see Vorarlberg in Austria. #8





* May 2008 be a year of-**sharing-and-caring**, not only at home and in your personal life but also amongst your philatelic friends. Let us enjoy our wonderful hobby and make the most of it! #9

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Onlangse Spoorwegseëls ontdekkings.

-deur Gawie van der Walt, Postmark and Postal History Society of SA.

Vandat die gesaghebbende boek oor Suid-Afrikaanse spoorwegseëls van Hagen en Naylor** in 1985 verskyn het, is nie veel nuwe seëls of variante wat nie in die boek verskyn het nie gerapporteer nie. Die afgelope sowat vyf jaar het egter twee nuwes ter voorskyn gekom wat die moeite werd is om van kennis te neem:

1. **Variant in stasieoordruk van Uitgawe PS 6** (Fig 1).
Die uitgawe van die SA Spoorweg pakket-seël wat die eerste keer in 1929 verskyn het en ook die eerste tweetalige uitgawe van die SAS was, het 'n stasieoordruk in 'n enkel lyn gehad met 'n stasiekode wat uit twee of drie letters bestaan het (soos in gebruik tot 1981).

Nou is twee seëls van die uitgawe ontdek wat 'n twee ry kode bevat , naamlik: P R R asook P R R
P & T T & P
P R R was die stasiekode vir Pretoria.
Die twee seëls is geplak op 'n tipe S.A. 51. geleibrief en afgestempel met 'n dubbelring ovaal stempel TOURIST OFFICE PRETORIA 12 FEB 34. Die twee seëls is onderskeidelik die 1/- rooi (PS 6.8) en 3d. liggroen (PS 6.3) volgens die Hagen en Naylor klassifisering van die seëls. Naas die seëls kom daar ook 'n afdruk in pers van 'n rubberhandstempel G.R.F. MARKGRAFF GUARD/KONDUKTEUR VOLKSRUST voor. Ongelukkig is die geleibrief nie meer volledig nie en kan 'n mens maar net spekuleer oor die gebruik van hierdie seëls. Is die pakkie wat saam met hierdie geleibrief gegaan het iewers op die roete by 'n klein stoppunt deur die kondukteur aangeneem en het die pakkie uiteindelik sy weg gevind na die toeristekantoor in Pretoria waar die seëls bygevoeg is en dit afgestempel is? Of is die pakkie by die toeristekantoor aangeneem (dit mag selfs vir die toeristekantoor self gewees het) die seëls opgeplak en afgestempel met bestemming iewers op die roete na Volkrsrust (of Volksrust self) en onder die toesig van die kondukteur?

2. **Seëls van die Siekefonds van die SAS & H.** (Fig 2)
Gedurende Februarie 2002 is die akkumulasie van spoorwegitems van Wyle Dennis Spengler in Johannesburg opgeveil ‡. Drie lotte (663, 664 en 665) het saam 'n dertigtal geleibriewe bevat wat in plek van die normale pakketseëls, seëls van die siekefonds van die SAS & H op gehad het. Alle spoorwegpersoneel moes hulle medisyne verkry het vanaf 'n apteek van die SAS & H mediesefonds. Net groot sentra het sulke apteke gehad en lede elders se medisyne is per pakketdiens van die spoorweg na hulle gestuur. Dit is bekend dat lede 'n sekere bybetaling (heffing, 'levy') per item moes maak. Gewoonlik het die lid sommer die betaling direk aan die apteek gemaak waar hy die medisyne gekry het. Die volgende word gespekuleer: Die heffing is op die voorskrif (of 'n ander dokument) aangebring d.m.v. seëls van die mediesefonds. In die geval waar die medisyne per pakketdiens aangestuur is, is die seëls van die mediesefonds by die stasie van ontvangs op die geleibrief aangebring en gekanselleer met die stempel van daardie stasie. Bewys hiervoor is u rubberstempel afdruk wat op 'n geleibrief van Augustus 1971 aangebring is en as figuur 3 geillustreer word. Dit is ook duidelik hieruit dat op daardie stadium die bybetaling 25c per item was. Die skrywer van hierdie artikel het een van die lotte op die veiling gekoop. Die is gedeel met 'n ander versamelaar. Die dokumente is sy besit suggereer bogenoemde. Die waarde van die seëls op sy dokumente is die volgende:

25c – pers
50c – blou
R 1.00 – groen

Vir al die waardes is die seëls geroulette. Die ontwerp bestaan uit **Siekefonds van die SAS & H** bo-aan. In die middle groot is die waarde van die seëls asook die wapen van die spoorweg en onder-aan "**SAR & H Sick Fund**". Die tydperk van gebruik in die dokumente in besit is vanaf 1971 tot 1981.
Ongelukkig is nie aantekening gemaak van die waardes van die seëls in die ander twee lotte voordat dit verkoop is nie.

Die laaste oor bogenoemde seëls van die mediesefonds is beslis nog nie gesê nie. Wat saak maak is dat dit 'n moet is vir 'n versameling van die spoorwegseëls van Suid-Afrika.

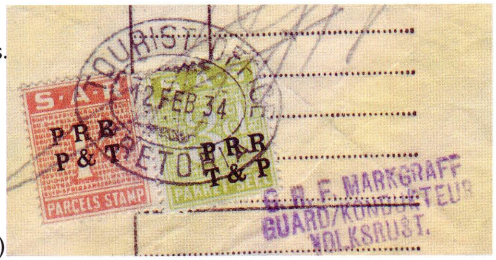

Fig. 1



Fig 2

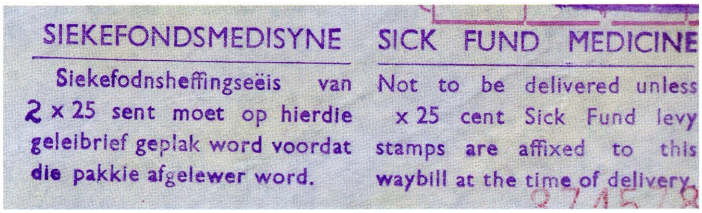

Fig. 3

An ENGLISH summary of this article is available from the author

** HS Hagen & SP Naylor: *Railway Stamps of South Africa*, 1985, Philatelic Federation of SA, Johannesburg.
‡ 'Cederberg' veiling van seëls en posgeskiedenis van die wéreld, Stephan Welz en Kie, Rosebank, Johannesbueg.27 Februarie 2002.

QUIZ

PHILATELIC ELIMINATION.

Readers may well be familiar with a type of competition run by a number of newspapers in which you are required to find pairs of words from a list of thirty-seven that will fit eighteen clues. The remaining word from the list is thus the required answer. This is a similar quiz but all the questions and answers have a philatelic bent. Try it! Answers next month.

a. Printers in the American … Company.	1	Prix	20	Silver
b. Colourful facial feature of Canadian design.	2	Post	21	Sheets
c. A couple of street kids.	3	Good	22	Arthur
d. Not Waterlow or Harrison.	4	Fuss	23	Gutter
e. Desirable Australian views.	5	Blue	24	Blocks
f. Austria marked his assassination in the 30's.	6	Wood	25	Sydney
g. Red and blue varieties from the Cape.	7	Port	26	Indian
h. Mail needed for TV reception.	8	Hole	27	Thread
i. Marine inclusion in British … Territory.	9	Stan	28	Ribbon
j. Unlikely name for an Asian tribesman.	10	Pair	29	Aerial
k. An early omnibus.	11	Bank	30	Afghani
l. Purchasing power in the old Rhodesia.	12	Nose	31	Harbour
m. Philatelically associated with Darien in China.	13	Doll	32	Jubilee
n. Safety line used in Switzerland and elsewhere.	14	Note	33	Bradbury
o. German pre-war charity stamps.	15	Ocean	34	Security
p. Motor race provides top award at stamp show.	16	Print	35	Marshall
q. Not now what it was in 1840.	17	Brown	36	Miniature
r. Tiny bedclothes a source of post office revenue.	18	Black	37	Wilkinson
	19	Grand		

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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 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

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Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed

1 - 'In praise of telegraph material', by Andrew Higson, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.64, November 2007, p95 – 103. This was the twelfth Major Ian Mathews Memorial Lecture, presented by the author at the South African National Stamp Exhibition at Port Elizabeth on 20 October 2007.

2 - 'Davis printings of (ZAR) adhesive stamps' by Jeff Woolgar, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.64, November 2007, p105 - 106.

3 - 'Fournier's Transvaal "Facsimiles"', by Andrew Higson, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.64, November 2007, p.107 - 109.

4 - 'The Use of Raman Spectroscopy in Philately', by Garth Kruger, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.64, November 2007, p111 – 113.

5 - 'Snippets from the Cape Archives Part 2', by Brian Fenemore and Neville Midwood, '*The Runner Post*', no. 70, November 2007, p.1702 - 1703.

6- 'Bechuanaland Past and Present – Part 4 of 4' by Barry Ronan (published in the '*Bechuanaland News*', Vryburg, Saturday December 23, 1893, '*The Runner Post*', no. 70, November 2007, p.1706 - 1711.

7- 'Official Free Markings Part 3 –Straight Line Markings (Instalment 1)', by Dennis Firth, '*The Runner Post*' no.70, November 2007, p.1711 - 1718.

8 - 'Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (Second Series) Part Nine' for Offices beginning 'SAT- SERO', '*The Runner Post*' no. 70, November 2007, p.1719 - 1729.

9 - 'New and Old postmark Discoveries', by Werner Seeba, '*Forerunners*', no.59, July – October 2007, p.4 – 6.

10 - 'More Circular Tax Marks', by Jan Stolk, '*Forerunners*', no.59, July – October 2007, p.7 – 11.

11 - 'The British Association for the Advancement of Science: Tour of South Africa, 1905', by Ashley Cotter-Cairns, 'Forerunners', no.59, July – October 2007, p.14 - 17.

12 - 'Combination Usages of Natal and New republic Stamps, 1886 – 1888 (Part 1)', by Keth P. Klugman, '*Forerunners*', no.59, July – October 2007, p.19 – 31.

Specialist Societies

- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK; Journal: *'The Transvaal Philatelist'*. The S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: *'Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal'*. The S.A. representatives Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: *'The Springbok'*. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. Journal: *'OFS Bulletin'*. Contact: J Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: *'The London Philatelist'*. The S.A. representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: *'Forerunners'*. SA representative: Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: *'Journal of RSC'*. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: *'The Runner Post'* the S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keithp@dbthermal.co.za
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za

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by Prof Franco Frescura

(articles subject to availability)

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Book Review

'The Postage Stamps of the Pao Tzu Ku Bandit Post'

written by Wolfgang Baldus.

- Reviewed by Chris Mobsby



Readers may remember that in an article on local posts under the heading "**Back of the Book**" that appeared in the June 2006 edition of this journal, mention was made of a little-known emergency post that arose in China in 1923 in order to serve the needs of a group of American, Mexican and European hostages who were being held on a remote mountain top in the Shantung province after the luxury Blue Express had been derailed by a bunch of desperadoes. It was hinted in that article that there was quite a story behind the incident, an incident that at the time had grabbed the headlines around the world and for a while appeared likely to threaten the international relations between China and the West. Now that story has been told and a fascinating tale has been unravelled in the fields both of social history and of Cinderella philately. Wolfgang Baldus has produced a well-researched and extensively illustrated monograph that firstly sets the scene for the incident and hints at the appalling social conditions in China at the time, conditions that were the cause of the formation of such gangs as that of several hundred bandits involved in the "Lincheng Incident". The author goes on to describe the hostages and their captors as well as the negotiations between Sun Mei-yao, leader of the bandit army, and the Chinese government. Numerous contemporary photographs complement the text. The meat of the booklet concerns the two stamps that were issued for use on mail both to and from the prisoners. It is known that the stamps were reprinted a number of times to meet demand and Baldus has identified eight types of the 10-cent and six of the 50-cent of which that illustrated above is Type 1. It was intended that this stamp should have been a 5-cent value – the text at the foot translates as "5 cents silver dollar" – but the Chinese printer was evidently not conversant with Arabic figures. There are also a number of illustrations of the stamps genuinely used on cover as well as various forgeries and a mysterious third issue of doubtful authenticity. A comprehensive bibliography lists three books and no fewer than twenty-five articles as sources of reference and the comment is made that much of the historical data was obtained from the Internet. This is the sixth in a series of monographs by the same author with previous editions dealing with the stamps of the Principality of Trinidad, the Independent State of Acre, the Republic of Independent Guyana, the Kingdom of Sedang and Clipperton Island.

The 64-page booklet is staple bound. Both printing and text are of a high standard with numerous illustrations in both black-and-white and full colour.

The book is priced at €25 or $35, plus p&p, and is obtainable from the author at Heilwigstr 85, D-81827 Munich, Germany. He may be contacted by email at artworkbaldus@smp-munich.de

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Margaret Reynolds

Margaret Reynolds, the long time Secretary of Fish Hoek Philatelic Society, passed away on 22 Nov 2007.

Gladys Margaret Reynolds, nee Perry, was born in New Zealand on 9 May 1933. After leaving school she worked in Australia and made some extensive hiking tours ending in England. Here she met her husband, Norman, and they were married in Aden in 1962. After postings to various countries they settled in Fish Hoek in 1975.

Margaret has been a member of Fish Hoek Philatelic Society for almost 30 years. Her collecting interests covered Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain and South Africa. She was also interested in thematic subjects such as Books, Authors, Libraries, Mysteries and Food, to name a few. Although she may have been considered retiring and a lady of few words, she was keen to enter the club competitions as well as showing her collections at meetings when asked.

She was enthusiastic about promoting the hobby among the younger generation and ran the junior section for a number of years. Her enthusiasm did not stop there as she organised the display cabinet in the Fish Hoek Library. Also, through her library connection she established our present meeting place.

Margaret was always enthusiastic about the annual Stamp Day. Her scratch boxes have become legendary! These have also provided members with material when brought to stamp meetings.

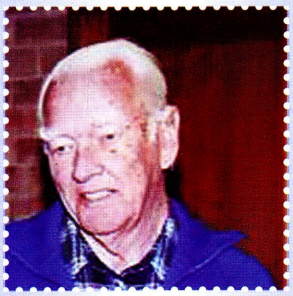
Margaret's greatest contribution to the Society has been her unselfish service on the committee. She will always be remembered for the long time she has served as Secretary. First elected to this office in 1983, and served for 2 years. Next elected in 1993 and serving till her sudden, unexpected passing, a total of 17 years. However, this is not all, as she also served as President for 5 years from 1985 to 1990.

Thus, we as members will miss her guidance and enthusiasm but this cannot be compared to that of her children, Kay and David, their families and Norman especially. To them, all of us at the Society extend our heartfelt condolences at this tragic loss and pray they will be given inner strength to overcome their grief. Recalling memories of Margaret will be like turning the pages of a stamp album.

Brian Franklin.
President, FHPS.

27 November, 2007

Loek van Riet



Loek van Riet was born in Leiden, Holland on 19 August 1928 and passed away very suddenly on 5 December 2007 at home in Benoni.

He emigrated to South Africa in the fifties with his wife Riet and settled in Benoni, where he worked at the Benoni Municipality. He retired in 1993 and then had time to enjoy his hobbies of wild life (he was an honorary game ranger at the KNP) and stamp collecting. His collection interests were, among others, Holland and colonies, Hong Kong, Straits Settlements and South Africa. Together with his wife, he collected birds and other animals.

He showed his "Birds of Benoni" several times indicating all the places they had been spotted. The exhibit was an eye opener to all of us. He had a well known collection on the post offices of Benoni since the beginning of the town. He was an active member of the ERPS (where he served on the committee for many years, including as President) since the early sixties and always brought something of interest. He was also an active member of the AFV until 2003, when the drive to Johannesburg became too much. For years he was the section head of the AFV exchange packet circuit in Benoni.

Loek was married to Riet for more than 50 years and had 2 daughters and four grand-children, all of whom are stamp collectors. On the day he passed away he was to have been told that he would be great-grandfather in 2008. His gracious, affable person will be sorely missed by us all.

Jan Bakker



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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a 'Word' document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Edenvale, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.



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JUNASS PROSPECTUS

HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH STAMPSHOW 2008 NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

1. STATUS OF EXHIBITION

The exhibition shall be both competitive and non-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 years on 1 January 2008. Exhibits which have attained a gold award within the last year at a Junior National or higher level will not be eligible for competitive entry.

2. SCOPE OF THE EXHIBITION

2.1 NON-COMPETITIVE (by invitation only): a) Court of Honour b) Invited exhibits

2.2 COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES FOR INDIVIDUALS

- Star Class for beginners (open only to South African exhibitors, limited to one frame – 15 pages)
- Medal Class (FIP rules) with the following Categories: (A) Country (B) Thematic (C) Other (D) Literature (Newsletters, articles, other publications by entrants under 21)

2.3 AGE GROUPS
Each of the above categories is sub-divided into the following age groups (as at 1 January 2008)

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 18 years of age.
e) From 19 up to and including 20 years of age.

2.4 CLUB EXHIBIT: COMPETITIVE
One frame (15 pages) per club allowed, including introductory page, theme to be **"Our Heritage"**.

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

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

3.2 A charge of R50.00 per entry will be due on submission of the Entry Form. This fee is not refundable. The ENTRY FORM, PHOTOGRAPH and FEES for each exhibit must be received before 30 April 2008 (to enable the Organising Committee to allocate frames) together with a DESCRIPTION of the exhibit for inclusion in the exhibition brochure. The description in English or Afrikaans must not exceed fifty words.

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, that the exhibit belongs to the entrant and that the work has been done by the entrant. (Youth Leaders and/or parents are expected to give guidance but not to write/type up the exhibit.)

3.4 A maximum of four frames will be allocated per entry in the MEDAL CLASS (minimum – one frame) and a maximum of two entries per exhibitor will be considered. If two entries are submitted, the exhibitor must signify his or her preference if only one is accepted.

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3.5 A maximum of one frame (15 pages) will be allocated per entry in the STAR CLASS. Entries in this class must have a minimum of 6 pages, but could also have 9 or 12 pages. Every exhibit must include an introductory page.

3.6 Envelope labels will be sent to entrants for dispatch of their exhibits to the Organising Committee.

3.7 Exhibits must reach the Organising Committee not later than **15th October 2008**.

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

4. EXHIBITION FRAMES

One frame holds 15 sheets each with a maximum height of 30 cm and width of 23 cm. Sheets must be protected with acetate or plastic sleeves in order to be accepted. The minimum stiffness of sheets must be 120 g/m^2 .

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 for the oldest age group will only be made to an exhibit attaining Vermeil or Gold standard.

The MEDAL awards will be 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 to the Jury. No entry should be eligible for more than one special award if at all possible.

6.4 All previous awards attained by an exhibit to be entered 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 that is not covered by these rules.

8. ENTRY FORMS AND ORGANISING COMMITTEE'S ADDRESS

Entry Forms are enclosed. Copies of the prospectus and Entry Forms are available from this Committee but photocopies of the Entry Form are acceptable. All correspondence to the address listed on the Entry Form
Further copies of the Exhibition Guidelines and provisional entry forms may be obtained from:
Stampshow 2008 Pretoria
PO Box 36473 MENLOPARK, 0102

DEADLINES

Provisional Entry	30 April 2008
Deliver Exhibit	15 October 2008

100 1908 - 2008 UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

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STAMPSHOW 2008
National Philatelic Exhibition

23 – 25 OCTOBER 2008

RAUTENBACH HALL,
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY
The South African Post Office
The University of Pretoria
The Philatelic Federation of South Africa
Hosted by:
Pretoria Philatelic Society &
South African Philatelic Dealers Association

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 l'Asie Philatelique* (FIAP).
1.2 Any collection which has since 1 July 2005
(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;
(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.

2. SCOPE OF EXHIBITION

Group A : Non-competitive & Special Competitive
Class 1 : Court of Honour
Class 2 : Invited exhibits
Group B : Competitive Philately
Class 3 : Traditional Philately
(a) Southern Africa, all periods
(b) Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c) Rest of the World
Class 4 : Postal History
(a) Southern Africa, all periods
(b) Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c) Rest of the World
Class 5: Thematic
Class 6: Aerophilately, Maritime and Disaster Mails
Class 7(a): Revenues, Cinderellas
Class 7(b): First Day/Commemorative Covers, Postal Stationery
Class 8: Literature, including Electronic Media
Group C: Competitive -- Other
Class 9: Open Class -- see clause 9
Class 10: Picture Postcards
Class 11: 'One Frame' exhibits – see clause 10

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1 A charge of R50 per entry to cover handling costs will be due on submission of the Provisional Entry Form. This fee is not refundable.
3.2 The fee per frame or per Literature entry is R50 payable on submission of the Final Entry form.
3.3 There is no maximum number of frames for each exhibitor, however, if more than one provisional 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.
3.4 A provisional 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 A Provisional Entry Form, with the handling fee for each exhibit, must be received before **30 April 2008** to enable the Organising Committee to allocate frames. .
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 before **31 July 2008** (a) the Final Entry Form, (b) the prescribed frame fees (Clause 3.2), (c) a description of the exhibit in English or Afrikaans not exceeding 100 words for inclusion in the exhibition catalogue, (d) a photocopy 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) and (e) a Synopsis page.
3.9 After receipt by the Organising Committee of the Final Entry Form, special labels or envelopes for submission of the exhibit will be forwarded to all prospective exhibitors.
3.10 Exhibits must be received by the Organising Committee not later than **15 October 2008**, except for Literature (Class 8), where entries are required by 1 September 2008 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.

4. EXHIBITIONS FRAMES

4.1 Exhibition frames accommodate 15 sheets, each with a maximum height of 305mm. The width of the frame is 1120mm. Sheets will be mounted in the sequence of 3 *horizontal* columns of 5 sheets each. The minimum stiffness of the sheets must be 120 g/m^2.
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 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 60.
4.3 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. 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 the Stampshow, 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.

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6. JURY AND JUDGING FOR AWARDS

6.1 The Organising Committee has invited a philatelist to appoint and chair the jury, which will be 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.
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. Colour 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.
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.
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, except for Class 7(a) Cinderellas and (b) First Day/ Commemorative Covers only, Class 9 Open and Class 10 Picture Postcards. Where exhibitors are not clear about FIP rules, please contact the Organising Committee stating the Class of interest.

7. AWARDS (except for one frame exhibits)

7.1 Exhibition Awards will be:

Large Gold
Gold
Large Vermeil (Silver-gilt)
Vermeil (Silver-gilt)
Large Silver
Silver
Silver-Bronze
Bronze
Certificate of Merit

Vermeil and Silver awards may be given with the Felicitations of the Jury.
7.2 Each entry that is not given an Exhibition Award will receive a Certificate of Participation.
7.3 All Exhibition Awards and Certificates awarded to exhibits in Group C will clearly state for which Class they were awarded. .

8. SPECIAL AWARDS

8.1 In addition to the Exhibition Awards, various Special Awards may be made available to the jury to be awarded within each Exhibition Group.
8.2 Within the Competitive Philately 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 2005 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 other exhibit will be eligible for more than two Special Awards.
8.5 Any Award presented to an exhibit in Group C will clearly state that for which Class it was awarded.

9. THE 'OPEN' CLASS

9.1 The objectives of the Open Class are to provide interesting exhibits which stimulate both the committed and the new collector, to provide a competition for those who wish to exhibit outside the FIP 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 3mm 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.
9.2 Entries in the Open Class will NOT be eligible for any of the Special Awards and Trophies unless specifically designated for the Open Class.

10. THE 'ONE FRAME' CLASS

10.1 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.
10.2 The criteria to be applied in judging such exhibits may be obtained on request from the Organising Committee.
10.3 The 'One frame' Class will have 5 awards in the form of a certificate:

Diamond	90 - 100 points
Emerald	80 - 89 points
Ruby	70 - 79 points
Sapphire	60 - 69 points
Aquamarine	50 - 59 points

10.4. Entries in the 'One frame' class will not 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.

11. 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.

12. EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Each exhibit 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.

Further copies of the Exhibition Guidelines and provisional entry forms may be obtained from:
Stampshow 2008 Pretoria
PO Box 36473 MENLOPARK, 0102

DEADLINES

Provisional Entry	30 April 2008
Final Entry	31 July 2008
Deliver Exhibit	15 October 2008

100 1906 - 2006 UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
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JUNASS 2008

ENTRY FORM /INSKRYWINGSVORM

In accordance with the rules and regulations of JUNASS with which I agree to be bound, I wish to enter the exhibit described below: *Ek wil die volgende uitstalling inskryf in ooreenstemming met die reëls en regulasies vir JUNASS waarby ek my neerlê:*

Title of Exhibit / *Naam van Uitstalling* (Please print / *Blokletters asb*)

.....

Class / *Klas* : STAR / *STER* ☐ MEDAL / *MEDALJE* ☐ CLUB / *KLUB* ☐

Category/*Afdeling* : ..... Age on 1st Jan. 2008/*Ouderdom op 1 Jan. 2008* : .....

Number of Frames/*Aantal Rame* : .....

MY ENTRY WILL BE / *MY UITSTALLING SAL* : (Mark the square applicable / *Merk die toepaslike blokkie)*

- sent by post ☐ delivered by hand ☐ delivered by Courier ☐
- *gepos word* ☐ *per hand afgelewer word* ☐ *afgelewer word deur koerier* ☐
- returned by post ☐ collected by hand ☐ returned by courier ☐
- *teruggepos word* ☐ *afgehaal word* ☐ *teruggestuur word per koerier* ☐ (Costs for courier must be included with entry fees / *Onkoste vir koerier moet ingesluit wees by inskrywingsfooie*)

MY ENTRY HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING AWARDS IN THE LAST THREE YEARS AT JUNASS EXHIBITIONS OR HIGHER LEVEL : *MY UITSTALLING HET IN DIE AFGELOPE 3 JAAR DIE VOLGENDE TOEKENNINGS BY JUNASS OF OP HOËR VLAK ONTVANG* :

Date / Datum : Occasion / Geleentheid : Award / Toekenning :

1.....

2.....

3.....

Name /*Naam* :.....

Club / *Klub* :.....

Address/*Adres*

.....

.....Code.....

Telephone number / *Telefoonnommer* :.....Fax / *Faks* :.....

Signature of exhibitor / *Handtekening van uitstaller* .....

⏩ Signature of parent/guardian/Youth Leader : I CONFIRM THAT THE ENTRY IS THE WORK AND PROPERTY OF THE ENTRANT AND ALSO THAT THE AGE IS CORRECT ☐

I CONFIRM THAT THE CLUB ENTRY IS THE WORK OF THE JUNIOR MEMBERS ☐

⏩ *Handtekening van ouer, voog of Jeugleier : EK BEVESTIG DAT DIE UITSTALLING DIE WERK EN EIENDOM VAN DIE UITSTALLER IS EN DAT DIE OUDERDOM KORREK IS* ☐

EK BEVESTIG DAT DIE KLUBUITSTALLING DIE WERK VAN DIE JUNIORLEDE IS ☐

Signature / *Handtekening* .....

IMPORTANT / *BELANGRIK!!*

⏩ THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY 30th APRIL 2008 AND ACCOMPANIED BY / *HIERDIE VORM MOET TEEN 30 APRIL 2008 TERUGGESTUUR WEES EN VERGESEL WEES VAN* :

a) DESCRIPTION OF THE EXHIBIT in a maximum of 50 words / *BESKRYWING VAN DIE UITSTALLING in hoogstens 50 woorde.*

b) FEE of / *FOOI van* R50.00 (cheque made out to/ *tjek/posorder uitgemaak aan* STAMPSHOW 2008 or/of direct deposit/direkte inbetaling account/rekening 40 6966 3510, Brooklyn ABSA Code 335-345*)*

c) A PHOTO of entrant with details of school, interests, etc. (3-5 sentences) / *'n FOTO van deelnemer met beskrywing van skool, belangstellings ens. (3-5 sinnetjies)*

⏩ ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 15TH OCTOBER 2008 / *ALLE UITSTALLINGS MOET ONTVANG WORD VOOR 15 OKTOBER 2008).*

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STAMPSHOW 2008
NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM

Section "A" - Personal Details		
TITLE	INITIALS	OFFICE USE
SURNAME		
ADDRESS		TEL: H: W: Fax: Cell: Email:
POSTCODE	SOCIETY	

SECTION "B" - PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM

I wish to enter for STAMPSHOW 2008 the exhibit described below.
I agree to abide by the rules of Stampshow 2008.
I enclose the sum of R50 in payment of the exhibit handling fee.
Cheque payable to STAMPSHOW 2008 or
Deposit to 40 6966 3510 at Brooklyn ABSA Branch Code 335-345 – please mail copy of deposit advice.

Signature _____ Date _____

This Entry Form must reach the Secretary, STAMPSHOW 2008, PO Box 36473, MENLOPARK 0102, SOUTH AFRICA not later than 30 April 2008.

TITLE OF EXHIBIT:	
CLASS	NUMBER OF FRAMES REQUIRED

PREVIOUS AWARDS received by this exhibit since 1st July 2003 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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April 2008

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE
www.philatelysa.co.za

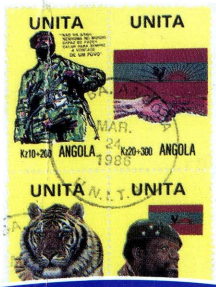
THIS MONTH



Exhibition Reports: Taipei



'n Wêreld van filatelie in een oorlog

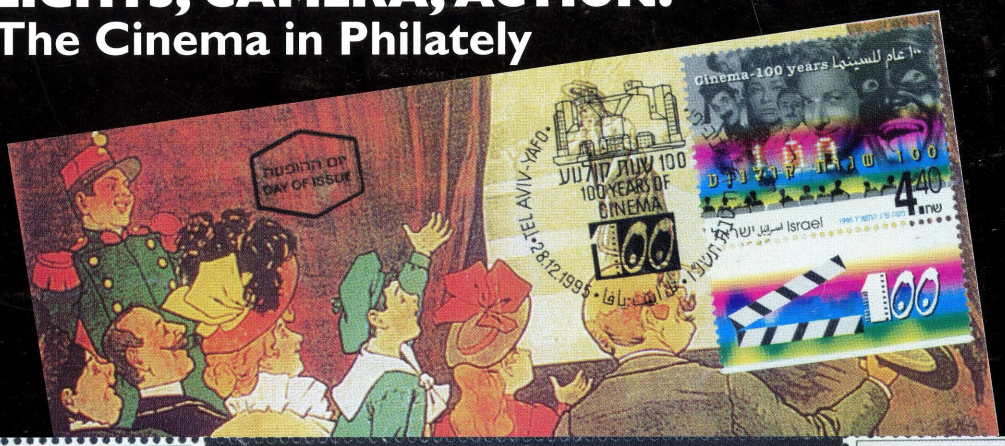


Cinderellas
'... Another Man's Poison'



1839 Cape Town to Bermuda

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!
The Cinema in Philately











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- *Part Two:* The Fournier Archive Documents of Modern Stamp Printing
- Exhibitions: Taipei 2008, Israel 2008, Jo'burg 2010
- RSA New issues

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April 2008 Vol 84 No 2 Whole No 887

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

www.philatelysa.co.za

• Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
• Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
• Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
• Large Silver Egoli 2001,
• Federation Plaque 2004,
• Silver España'06 Literature Award 2006.
• Large Silver 10th NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhib 2007.

R30.00 per copy
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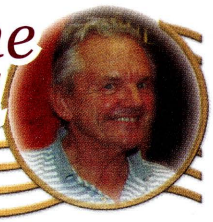
ISSN 0038-2566

From the Editorial desk



Good Heavens! I have been the makeshift editor of this journal for only one edition and already I am picking up flak from here, there and everywhere. Mind you, there have been one or two bouquets to go with the brickbats so I guess, as they say, it goes with the territory.

One of the more exciting items of news on the local philatelic front is that there is an investigation under way into the feasibility of producing a digitised version of the *'SAPhilatelist'* covering the eighty or so years of its existence to date. The first edition of the present journal appeared in February 1923 but the identical name had been used previously for a typewritten production that ran for six issues from November 1895. The title was resurrected in November 1910 but was to cease publication in February 1912. Two other magazines of national interest were the '*Union Philatelist*' and the '*Quarterly Review of Philately*', both of which were incorporated in the present journal. Mention of these various journals was made in a short article entitled "Pioneers" that appeared in the April 2005 edition of the SAP. There must surely have been some interesting and indeed valuable articles in those early magazines and one wonders how desirable it might be to include a selection in the digitised version of the journal now under consideration. Should the initiative shown by Federation reach fruition, it would be following in the footsteps of *'The London Philatelist'*, the monthly publication of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. In their case, the complete run of journals for the 114 years from 1892 until 2005, some 32 000 pages in all, was recently made available on a mere twelve "user friendly" CDs at a cost of £180 (less 10 per cent to members of the Society). Importantly, it includes a search facility so that, by tapping in a keyword, the user can access every reference to their chosen topic, be it Buenos Aires or Bicycles, Union Definitives or Ulan Bator. Like ourselves, it was only in recent years that *'The London Philatelist'* embraced the use of colour on its pages and this is faithfully reproduced on the digitised version. On the other hand, all advertising has been excluded although, just possibly, the trade might be prepared to subsidise production costs in return for a little exposure? To judge from those reports available, it does appear to have generated an extremely enthusiastic response. Given the popularity of Southern Africa, on the philatelic front at least, it would seem that such a version of the '*SAPhilatelist*' could meet a widespread demand. Perhaps this might prove an added incentive for you, the reader, to submit that piece that you have been promising to complete for ages and thus earn for yourself immortality on a compact disc! This is a serious invitation to you to contribute to your journal either full-scale articles on any aspect of philately or perhaps a brief account of any item that you might feel could be of interest. May I thank you in anticipation?

Chris Mobsby.







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Closing dates for future issues

June issue	Vol. 84: 3.	888 : 13 May 2008
August issue	Vol. 84: 4.	889 : 14 July 2008
October issue	Vol. 84: 5.	890 : 15 September 2008
December issue	Vol. 84: 6.	891 : 11 November 2008
February issue	Vol. 85: 1.	892 : 13 January 2009

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email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com
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email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za. Tel: 011 917 5304
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E-pos: saphilatelist@iafrica.com
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FUTURE EVENTS

MAY 2008

ISRAEL 2008
14 – 21 May
Tel Aviv, Israel
Dr JR Frank as Commissioner
Contact: 011 646 4920.

JUNE 2008

EFIRO 2008
20 – 28 June
Bucharest, Romania
www.efiro2008.ro
Emil Minnaar as Commissioner
Contact: 083 230 5430.

OCTOBER 2008

INDONESIA 2008
Jakarta, Indonesia National Exhibition
23 - 28 October

OCTOBER 2008

PRETORIA, STAMPSHOW 2008
National Exhibition and Congress
23 - 25 October
Pretoria. Submission date for entries to be confirmed.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

RHODESIA STUDY CIRCLE
Diamond Jubilee Celebration
31 October - 3 November
Cape Town

JANUARY 2009

HONG KONG 2009
FIAP Asian International Exhibition
30 January - 3 February

APRIL 2009

CHINA 2009
FIP General World Stamp Exhibition
10 - 16 April
Emil Minnaar as Commissioner
Contact: 083 230 5430.

MAY 2010

LONDON 2010
International Exhibition (FIP Patronage)
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Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email: saphilatelist@iafrica.com

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From the Mailbox

Uit die Posbus



Material Stolen in Transit

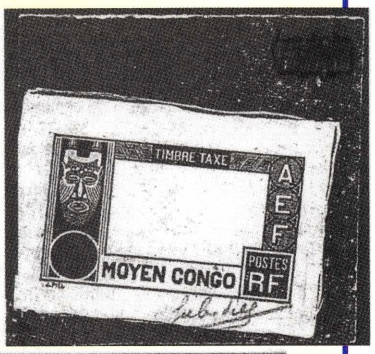
The following material has gone missing in transit between Great Britain and South Africa. There are good reasons to believe that the theft took place in South Africa, possibly in Durban.

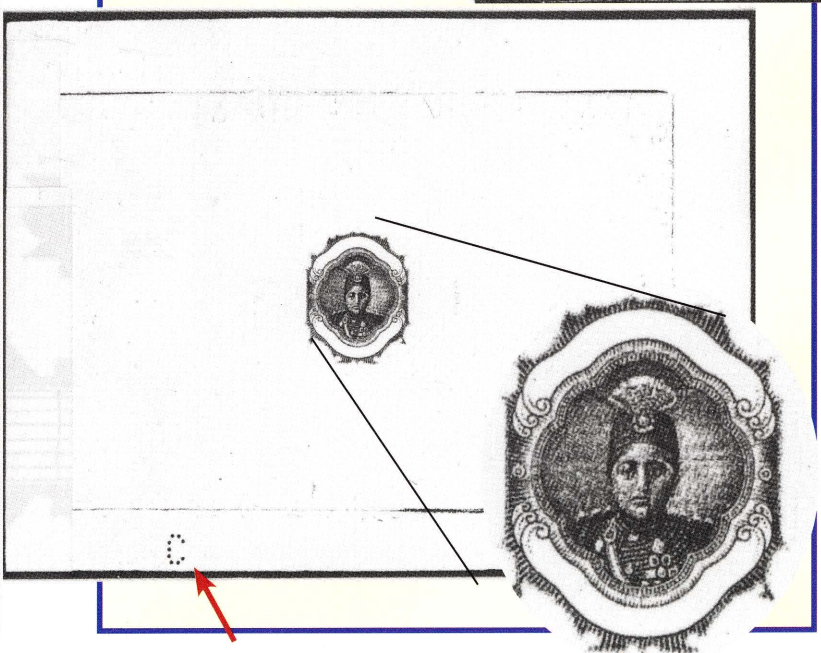
1. Iran 1911. Ahmed Mirza, die proof of the vignette, without inscriptions, in black on cream paper (140 x 100 mm) perforated C in the margin.
2. Middle Congo 1930. Postage due "Mask and Village" design, master die proof in black of the frame only, roughly cut on shining paper, and signed by the designer, J. Piel.
3. French Somali Coast 1902-3. Varieties, including 3 x vertical imperf pairs, 40c blue and orange imperf with central vignette printed on gummed side, and eight values with inverted centres.

I would be grateful if collectors and dealers could keep an eye out for this material and notify me should they surface on the philatelic market.

Prof Franco Frescura

*Editor's comment: this is one of **many** incidence of material going missing in Transit.*





magnified view

Save the environment

I would like to raise some concerns about the production of self adhesive stamps.

I feel it is an issue that should be raised at the UPU.

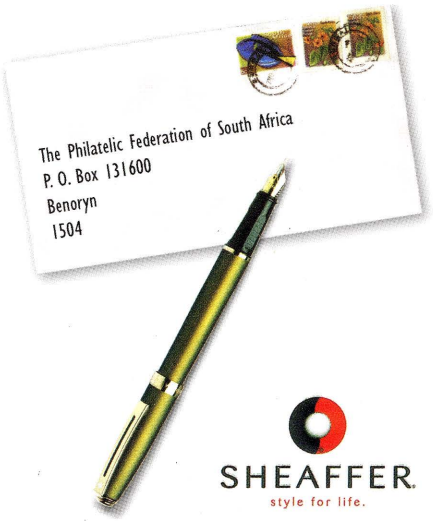
My main complaint is the enormous amount of wasted paper that is created.

Take any booklet or stamp sheet with Self adhesive stamps and you will see that at least 70 % of it is waste that gets thrown away (except those collected in mint condition by collectors).

I feel that all postal authorities should issue stamps in the old format of paper with gum only.

This would reduce the felling of countless trees, reduce pollution due to less paper being produced and reduce global warming even though a small amount.
Save the environment.

Marten Klaver
P.O.Box 1043 Gillitts 3603



Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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Philatelic Elimination.

Readers who tried the Elimination quiz in the February edition of the journal, should have arrived at "Good" as the only word of the thirty-seven that was not eliminated by the eighteen clues. Here is the way in which we paired off the other thirty-six words.

a. Printers in the American … Company.	Bank	Note
b. Colourful facial feature of Canadian design.	Blue	Nose
c. A couple of street kids.	Gutter	Pair
d. Not Waterlow or Harrison.	Bradbury	Wilkinson
e. Desirable Australian views.	Sydney	Harbour
f. Austria marked his assassination in the 30's.	Doll	Fuss
g. Red and blue varieties from the Cape.	Wood	Blocks
h. Mail needed for TV reception.	Aerial	Post
i. Marine inclusion in British … Territory.	Indian	Ocean
j. Unlikely name for an Asian tribesman.	Afghani	Stan
k. An early omnibus.	Silver	Jubilee
l. Purchasing power in the old Rhodesia.	Marshall	Hole
m. Philatelically associated with Darien in China.	Port	Arthur
n. Safety line used in Switzerland and elsewhere.	Security	Thread
o. German pre-war charity stamps.	Brown	Ribbon
p. Motor race provides top award at stamp show.	Grand	Prix
q. Not now what it was in 1840.	Black	Print
r. Tiny bedclothes a source of post office revenue.	Miniature	Sheets

The South African Philatelist

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

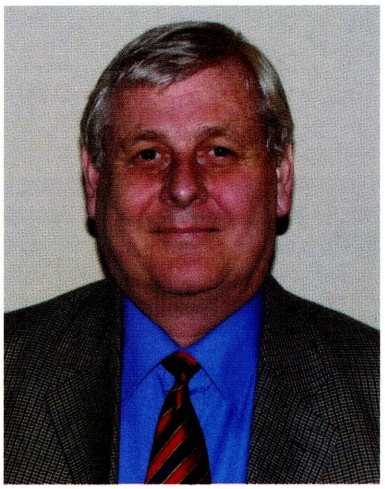
All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- *a printed proof copy of the text as well as a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.*
- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'Word' document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Edenvale, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.*



South African Philatelic Dealers Association



Several faces have reappeared in SAPDA's management team to face 2008 challenges. The March AGM election yielded Messrs Coen Slagt, Richard Johnson, George Cofetzoglou (all RDPSAs!) and Paul van Zeyl in, respectively, the key positions of President, V-P, Treasurer and Secretary. Messrs Cedric Roche, RDPSA, Ken Wright and Clinton Goslin remain to complete the team and provide contuinity.

Urgent projects are:

1. The traditional Rosebank/ SAPDA Show for which both a suitable hall and backing environment must be finalised; and
2. Upgrading and updating the new website, namely **www.sapda.co.za.** Try Google it!

SAPDA has undertaken to keep philatelists abreast of all important and interesting developments, including the proposed 2010 International Stamp Show by means of *The SA Philatelist.*

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President's Column

Topical Time, the Journal of the American Topical Association, used to carry a column "25 years ago…" and "… 25 years later". It was fascinating to note that today's concerns are nothing new. It also gave insight into what many of us had forgotten.

I recently read an article '*First day covers in Swaziland*' by CF Skinner, published in the June 1937 *SA Philatelist*. In this article it appears as if Mr Skinner was an active dealer, and he described the logistics associated with the 12 May 1937 issue of the Coronation and the preparation of first day covers.

The post office in Mbabane only opened for one hour from 09:00. Mr Skinner and his team arranged a hotel room opposite the post office. Helpers were trained the previous day to tear up the sheets, and a helper was charged with sticking onto covers each of the three values. Exactly at 09:55 a siren was let off, signaling that the post office would close. While waiting in line to hand in the registered covers, one of the helpers would run from the hotel room with a few more covers that had been completed. There were at least two other dealers doing the same. At the time the postmaster calculated that between 1500 and 2000 covers were prepared.

The article gives us an interesting perspective of philately and stamp dealers at that time. It furthermore illustrates that first day covers are exactly that - material prepared and date stamped on the day. What Mr Skinner did not know at that time was that the postmaster was probably in a hurry to get home and join in the festivities. He did not have sufficient date stamp instruments, and also used a skeleton type relief canceller. This relief canceller may have been used before this date, but at present the 12th May 1937 is the earliest recorded date. The latest recorded date of the date stamp that was replaced was March 1937. So all the small pieces help make up the bigger picture.

Mr Skinner was clearly not a journalist or professional writer, but his description helps future collectors understand the environment at that time. If he had not documented his experiences we would have been poorer. Each one of the readers of the *SAP* encounters some interesting aspects, whether it be anecdotes of life in a post office, or what the post office managed to do with your mail, or whatever philatelic. I would like to encourage you to share this knowledge with your peers, but more importantly, document it for posterity. You do not have to be like Moses in the Old Testament when he complained that he could not speak publicly, and Aaron was the solution. Your Editorial Committee is available to assist to panel beat articles if you feel uncomfortable about writing. It is far easier for them to do the panel beating than to generate articles from the beginning. Even letters to the Editor assist with this documentation if you do not have enough material for an article.

The challenge I wish to pose is for you to share your knowledge, your research and your experience and assist in capturing current activities and actions. Please assist us, and your Editorial Committee will be absolutely delighted. This will also assist in maintaining the high standard the *SAP* has achieved and the international recognition it enjoys.

To remind you of the challenges, I am continuing with the check list by adding to them. I trust that you are working on these challenges:

1. Write a letter, and repeat it regularly (I have practiced what I preach and sent our first grandson who was born in London recently his first letter, and I plan to do so monthly!);
2. Share your special collecting interest with a wider audience;
3. Make a commitment towards organized philately; and
4. Document your philatelic knowledge and experience.

Enjoy your stamps and philatelic material until the next column.



Alec Visser

Book Review

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Anglo-Boer War Society achieves 50-year milestone

From a modest beginning at the end of 1957 it has grown into one of the most respected specialist philatelic societies in the world, and now the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society is celebrating its 50th birthday.

The society is unusual in that it focuses on a tiny time span - the years 1899 to 1902 - yet in this period it deals with a tremendously wide philatelic scope. In fact, the Anglo-Boer War has been described as yielding "a world of philately in one war".

It also keeps yielding new postal history discoveries, to this day, more than 100 years after it all happened.

The decision to start a society of collectors with a shared interest, was that of three enthusiasts, with John Rathbone meeting with Neil Snowden in Manchester and then meeting with Herbert Pearson in London. As a first step, they invited others in the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and South Africa to join.

So, in March 1958 the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society was constituted with 30 members.

Pearson, Rathbone and Snowden served the society in various capacities, for many years. The Philatelic Federation awarded the Skinner Cup for meritorious service to organised philately, on wider than local or regional level, to longtime secretary Neil Snowden in 1992, when Neil was 80.

Two of those original members of 1958 are still members, after 50 years. They are Fred Stephens of West Yorkshire, England, and Carl F Hegardt of Cape Town (84). As part of the 50-year celebration, they have been elected to life membership, together with Bob Holdeman of Bognor Regis, England, who joined in 1959.

Today the society has 160 members, spread over the world. Most are resident in the United Kingdom, where the committee is based. There are 25 members in South Africa.

The medium for the interchange of information is *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, published quarterly. To date 200 issues have been produced by five editors, the longest serving being Richard Stroud (22 years), who was awarded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Mediallion for philatelic achievement by the Philatelic Federation in 2005.

A feature of the journal is the "*For the record*" section which records items reported by members, questions and responses. E-mail correspondence has proved to be an effective medium and is often reproduced in full.

It was a major objective of the founders of the society to build up a body of knowledge on aspects of the war, and a series of handbooks came into being on the philately of Boer and British prisoner of war camps, also the camps in St Helena and Ceylon; censor seals used during the war; the British Army postal cancellations; wartime travelling post offices; philately related to medical and hospital services; Rhodesia's role in the war, etc.

Books in preparation include one on the town censor marks within South Africa and another on the postal history of the Burgher, Refugee and Concentration Camps.

The Anglo-Boer War books published by the Philatelic Federation are also made available to members.

The society has an extensive library which includes copies of articles from other journals. Regional meetings are periodically held in the United Kingdom, the major event being the annual weekend get-together in May at Royal Leamington Spa.

The society's floating award at South African national exhibitions, the Anglo-Boer War Cup, was instituted in 1974. Meetings are occasionally held in South Africa, to coincide with the annual philatelic exhibition and concurrent congress.

Enquiries about membership may be directed to the secretary of the ABWPS, Nick Harris, 3 Mermaid Way, Maldon, Essex CM9 5LA, UK, or e-mail mrnphboer@aol.com . (Note: the first letters of the e-mail address are m r n p h)

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Government Gazette

Yearly Subscriptions Salisbury, 26s. Rhodesia, 26s.; South Africa, 36s. England, 32s.

Salisbury, Friday, December 8, 1911. *Price Sixpence.*

By command of His Honour the Administrator.
H. Marshall Hole,
Secretary,
5994 Department of Administrator.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE
No. 367 of 1911.

Administrator's Office,
Salisbury, 7th December, 1911.

IT is hereby notified for public information that His Honour the Administrator, with the consent of His Excellency the High Commissioner, has been

No. 370 of 1911.

Administrator's Office,
Salisbury, 7th December, 1911.

THE accompanying Schedule, containing numerical statistics (corrected) of the population of Southern Rhodesia, as ascertained by the census taken on the night of 7th May, 1911, together with comparative figures from the censuses of 1907 and 1904, is published for general information.

By command of His Honour the Administrator.
H. Marshall Hole,
Director of Census.

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The Philately of Italy and the Italian States 1848-1866

by Franco Frescura, KwaZulu-Natal Philatelic Society

PART ONE

INTRODUCTION

The interesting but often convoluted history of Italy prior to 1866, when most of its disparate parts were united into one nation, has acted as a deterrent to many postal historians and philatelists not familiar with its fragmented origins. In reality the Florentine Renaissance postal services on the Italian peninsula had been organised along clear and pragmatic lines of communication which cut across most of its complex political boundaries. Despite the existence of some notable philatelic rarities, it is still possible today to put together a representative collection of stamps describing this key area of European postal history, and given the paucity of collector interest in this subject in Anglophone countries, there must still be a number of rewarding discoveries to be made in southern Africa.

This series of articles is not intended to present a definitive account of Italian social or postal history, but merely to introduce the subject to a readership raised on a staple diet of Commonwealth issues, London printings, King's Heads, and comparatively few illegal practices. I shall also be suggesting a framework for the early Italian states that collectors may wish to adopt. This is not to say that other frameworks may not be possible, merely that this is the one I have found to be the most convenient. Obviously, increased familiarity with the subject should bring further specialisation, at which stage the critical philatelist may want to look to more advanced historical models.

Because the Kingdom of Sardegna eventually became the focus of the new Italian state, I have used their Lira as a basis for comparative postal values. In addition, given the fact that the Anglophone world has finally recognised the indigenous spelling of such cities as Beijing and Mumbai, I have used, wherever practical within the text, the original Italian spelling of place names, eschewing such appalling Anglicisms as Leghorn for Livorno, Mantua for Mantova, and Sardinia for Sardegna. On the other hand, it is difficult in an English article to (correctly) refer to a "*Sardo stamp*", or worse, to a "*Sardegnian stamp*", both of which sound too nasty for words, leaving me no option but to use the English code and call it a "*Sardinian stamp*". Inconsistent? - perhaps, but it sounds right.

Originally, I had intended to introduce this article with a brief summary of events in the region between 1796 and 1870. Unfortunately, the convoluted series of events that it described could not be explained in a manner that was both philatelic and succinct. Instead,



I have replaced this with a diary of key dates, and those readers interested enough in my own idiosyncratic interpretation of Italian history during the 19th Century are addressed to my website francofrescura.co.za. A comprehensive listing of post offices open during this time in the various Italian states may be found in the "Catalogo Enciclopedico Italiano".

SOME KEY DATES

1707. Victor Amadeus, Duke of Savoy, entered into an alliance with the Austrians, in their war against the French. At the Peace of Utrecht in **1713,** he was rewarded with the title of King and the island of Sicilia (Sicily) was ceded to Piemonte (Piedmont).

1717. Following a series of Spanish raids on Sicily, Austria offered to exchange Sardegna for Sicily. Victor Amadeus became King of Sardegna, but with its capital in Torino (Turin). Sicily was then ceded to Austrian-controlled Napoli (Naples), which henceforth became known as the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

1792. Republican France declared war on Austria. In the spring of 1794 French troops Italy. On 2 March 1796, Napoleon Bonaparte was appointed Commander-in-chief of the French army in Italy, and by October **1797**, the Austrians had been driven out of northern Italy.

1797. Having been welcomed into Venezia (Venice), in an act of uncommon treachery the French promptly ceded it to Austria in exchange for Lombardia(Lombardy), thus bringing to an end over one thousand years of Republican rule. Lombardy, Modena, Parma, Mantova and Toscana (Tuscany)

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were consolidated into the Cisalpine Republic, while other French-sponsored republics were established at Genova, Roma (Rome) and Naples.

1799. England, Austria, Russia and Turkey declared war on France. Austrian and Russian troops invaded northern Italy. The following year they were routed by the French.

1803. The Cisalpine Republic was renamed the Italian Republic, with Napoleon as its President.

1804. After the defeat of Austrian and Russian forces at the battle of Austerlitz on 2 December 1804, Venice was ceded to the Italian Republic. Early in 1806, French troops marched into Naples and deposed its ruler, Ferdinand II. The Kingdom of Italy was then proclaimed, under a French-appointed viceroy reporting to the French Emperor.

1813. The French army was defeated at Leipzig, on 16-19 October 1813. Thereafter the French Empire began to disintegrate. After a brief exile at Elba, Napoleon was finally defeated at Waterloo on 18 June 1814.

1815. The Congress of Vienna disbanded the French Empire, and returned most of its territories to their original ruling houses. Italy was partitioned into eight states, the Kingdom of Sardegna, including Piedmont, Savoy and Genova; the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, incorporating the former Kingdom of Naples and Sicily; the Duchies of Tuscany, Parma, Lucca and Modena; and the Papal State in central Italy. Lombardy, Venice and Dalmazia were restored to Austria.

1831. Charles Albert succeeded his father, Victor Emmanuel I as King of Sardegna.

1848. In March 1848, Sardegna declared war upon Austria and invaded Lombardy, in what became known as the First War of Liberation. They were rapidly defeated, and Charles Albert was forced to abdicate in favour of his son, Victor Emmanuel II. However, the invasion sparked popular uprisings in Venice, Rome and Firenze (Florence). The Pope and Grand Duke Ferdinand of Tuscany both fled to Naples. Garibaldi returned from exile and set about raising an army of volunteers.

1858. In a secret pact, Piedmont agreed to cede Savoy and Nizza (Niece) to France in exchange for its support in driving Austria out of Italy.

1859. On 29 April Piedmont declared war on Austria in what became known as the Second War of Liberation. Popular uprisings took place in Tuscany, Parma, Lucca, Mantova, Modena, the Romagna and Sicily. On 11 May 1860, Garibaldi's army of irregular troops, wearing their distinctive red shirts, landed in Sicily, took Palermo, and by August had marched unopposed into Naples. Piedmontese troops marched into Umbria.

1860. During the course of 1860, Tuscany, Parma, Modena, Mantova, Romagna, Umbria, Naples and Sicily were annexed to the Kingdom of Sardegna.

1861. The Kingdom of Italy was proclaimed on 18 February 1861, and on 17 March Victor Emmanuel II accepted the crown of the new kingdom from its newly elected parliament. In 1865, its capital was moved to Florence in expectation of an eventual move to Rome.

1866. Italy declared war upon Austria in what became known as the Third War of Liberation, and succeeded in taking Venice and its mainland territories.

1870. After an abortive attempt by Garibaldi to take Rome in 1867, Italian troops finally stormed the city on 20 September 1870, and the Pope went into self-imposed exile in the Vatican.

1915. Italy declared war on Austria and on 3 November 1918 signed an armistice, which saw the annexation to Italy of the Trentino, South Tirolo, Trieste, and, eventually, Istria in **1920** and Fiume in 1924. Although the latter two were subsequently ceded to Yugoslavia in 1946, this effectively set the boundaries of the modern Italian state.

The Veneto and the Province of Mantova

After 1859, the Austrian Kingdom in northern Italy was reduced to the Venetian territories and Mantova. Therefore, the distribution of the third definitive issue of 1861-2 was limited to this area, although stamps from the second definitive issue continued to be valid postal tender. It consisted of three values, bearing the effigy of Frantz-Joseph, but was followed soon after, on 1 July 1863, by a fourth definitive issue of five stamps bearing the Austrian seal. This was reprinted in 1864-5 using a different perforation. Austrian newspaper stamps, which bore no value, could be used freely in the Kingdom before and after 1859. Mixed frankings involving Austrian stamps used alongside those from the Lombardo-Veneto have been recorded.

It is interesting to note that the now-reduced Kingdom was the only Italian state to issue postal stationery, consisting of a set of eight prepaid envelopes bearing the embossed effigy of Frantz-Joseph, issued in 1861, and a second set of five bearing the Austrian imperial seal, issued in 1864.

In 1866 the newly-declared Italian state, in alliance with the French, attempted to free remaining Italian territory under Austrian control, but could only manage to occupy the Veneto, leaving the Trentino, Istria and Dalmatia under Austrian control for a further 52 years. However, Austrian postal cancellers continued to be used in the territory until 1879, and those employed in registered post until 1885, at which time they were finally replaced by office date stamps of Italian design.

"THE PHILATELY OF ITALY AND THE ITALIAN STATES 1848-1866"

Part Two continues in the next issue of the *SA Philatelist*. (June issue)

Exhibition News

Bloem One Framer

The "Bloem One Framer" Exhibition held in Bloemfontein from 14 to 17 March 2008, was well supported with 45 Competitive entries and 23 invited frames. A detailed report will be included in the June issue of the *SA Philatelist*.





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1839 Cape Town to Bermuda

- by Andrew Briscoe, Wits Philatelic Society

The letter illustrated above was despatched on 17 December 1839 from Cape Town to Bermuda. The letter was written by William Graham to his nephew William Burgess. The contents indicate that William Graham was an officer of the British forces garrisoned in Cape Town, and that his nephew William Burgess had recently joined a 'mercantile institution' in Bermuda. The Bermuda Islands are situated in the North Atlantic Ocean, far away from the main shipping lines between Europe and the Americas, and remained fairly isolated from the rest of the world until 1842, when the Royal West Indian Steamship Company introduced a monthly Mail Packet Service from England to the Gulf of Mexico which sailed directly to the Caribbean on the outward journey and returned on a more northerly route via Bermuda, thereby establishing a direct mail link between the islands and Europe. Bermuda is an unusual destination for Cape mail of this period, and the contents of the letter suggest that it was probably the only letter which William Graham wrote to William Burgess from Cape Town, because Graham himself was about to return to England. From a postal history perspective, the letter's main interest lies in the rate markings, and their interpretation.

Perhaps because this was a family letter, the recipient did not think it necessary to note the date of receipt on the letter itself. Part of the back flap is missing, but the section that remains indicates that the letter was forwarded some time in February 1840, presumably from Boston USA. The front of the cover bears an unclear transit date stamp of Halifax Nova Scotia which appears to have a date slug MR, suggesting that it was applied some time in March 1840. The rate markings indicate that the letter definitely did reach Bermuda.

The letter itself is dated 17 December 1839, and begins "As there is a mail making up for Boston USA, I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines". On the address panel, Graham added the endorsement "By way of Boston U.S.A." The ship for which the mail was being prepared must have been the General Scott, because the Cape Almanac for 1841 indicates that she was the only ship bound for Boston anchored in Table Bay in December 1839. The Almanac also records that the General Scott was an American bark of 360 tons which had arrived in the Bay on 11 December from Calcutta captained by W.H. Amsingham. The General Scott had left Calcutta on 15 October 1839, escorted by two English ships, the Roxburgh Castle, and the Ranger, which also arrived in Table Bay on 11 December.

William Graham's letter was entrusted to the post on 17 December and stamped with the dated letter stamp of the General Post Office. Ship letters despatched overseas from the post office in Cape Town at this time were charged 4d for a single sheet letter, and 8d for a double sheet. Prepayment was optional. The postal clerk appears to have made a mistake in assessing the correct charge for Graham's double letter, and wrote a large fancy '4' in black ink to the right of the GPO date stamp. The use of black ink rather than red indicates that William Graham had elected not to prepay the ship letter fee.



Cape to Bermuda 1839.

We can only speculate as to what happened when the letter reached Boston, because the letter bears no markings associated with the Boston Post Office. Instead, there is a partial endorsement on the flap which reads ".... Feby 1840 R'd & for'd by Y.M.O.S. W.J Skinner." The writer of this endorsement, 'your most obedient servant' W.J. Skinner, was a forwarding agent, perhaps the first such agent to board the General Scott when she moored in Boston. By giving the letter direct to a forwarding agent, the ship's captain evaded payment of the ship letter fee of 2c which was due to the Boston Post Office on all ship letters landed at Boston in 1840. The forwarding agent W.J. Skinner was presumably known to the commercial firm in Bermuda that employed William Burgess and instructed to intercept letters addressed to the firm or its employees, and arrange for their onward transmission to Bermuda by the most favourable means. He therefore forwarded the letter to a second agent in Halifax Nova Scotia, presumably enclosing it in a covering letter.

In Hamilton, Graham's letter was handed to the Post Office for carriage to Bermuda. At this time, mails to and from Bermuda were transported from Halifax by sailing ships belonging to Samuel Cunard of Halifax. Cunard had been contracted by the British Admiralty to provide this service by connecting with the Falmouth packets from England. Each month, one of Cunard's schooners waited in Halifax for the Falmouth packet to arrive before sailing to Bermuda. The trip normally took approximately eight days, and each letter thus carried was subject to a sea postage charge of fourpence sterling, raised by the post office in Halifax. This rate of '4', applied in a light black ink, can be seen at the top right hand corner of William Graham's letter. The same light black ink was also used to cancel the large fancy '4' applied in Cape Town, and thus avoid any confusion regarding the charge to be levied when the letter arrived in Bermuda.

The final rate of "7d stg", cancelled with a horizontal line, applied at the top of the letter, is the most problematic but also the most interesting marking on the letter. In 1840, Bermuda had its own currency, which was nominally the same as that of Great Britain, but actually worth much less. For example, £1 sterling equated to £1. 13s. 4d Bermuda currency.

In 1840, the Bermuda mails carried by Samuel Cunard's schooners were put ashore at the northern port of St George's, where the post office separated the letters for Hamilton and the main island, and despatched them via the inland post, utilising the public ferry which connected St George's Island with Main Island. The charge for inland postage from St George's to Hamilton was fivepence currency, divided between the forwarding postmaster who was paid threepence, and the receiving postmaster whose share was twopence. At the rate of exchange quoted above, fivepence currency was equal to 3d sterling. At the post office in Hamilton, this charge of 3d sterling was added to the sea postage of 4d sterling raised in Halifax, and the postmaster therefore wrote "7d stg" at the top of the letter.

Although Bermuda postal notices requested that postage be paid in sterling, payment in currency was optional. The marking on Graham's letter suggests that William Burgess opted to pay in currency because the charge of "7d stg" was cancelled with a horizontal line. The postmaster was now obliged to convert 7d sterling to local currency, which was calculated by multiplying 7d by one and two thirds, equalling twelve pence or one shilling in currency. This currency amount was sometimes written alongside the cancelled sterling sum, but not on this occasion.

The "7d stg" charge on Graham's letter was probably written by William Bennett Perot, who served as Postmaster of Hamilton from 1818 to 1862. In 1848, Perot achieved philatelic immortality by issuing the first of the famous postmasters' stamps, of which only eleven copies are known today.

Works consulted:

This explanation of Bermuda postal rates is put forward without full knowledge of the relevant postal regulations, and assumes that William Burgess lived in or near Hamilton, and collected his mail from the Hamilton post office. It is based primarily upon the summary of Bermuda postal rates contained in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps [volume V, North America, published in 1973]. Some of the information contained in the Encyclopaedia differs from that given in M.H. Ludington's Bermuda: The Post Office, Postal Markings and Adhesive Stamps, published in 1962, and Ludington's Supplement to Bermuda published in 1968.

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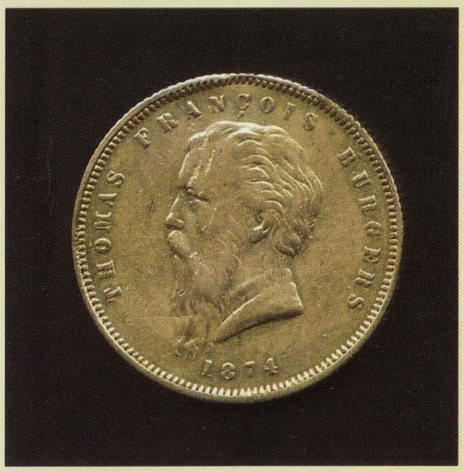

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The Fournier Archive: Documents of Modern Stamp Printing

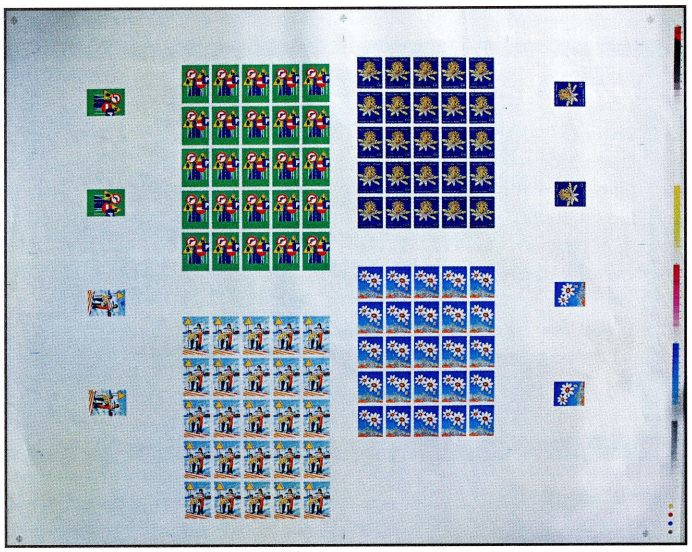
by Damien Läge (reprinted with kind permission from Auktionhaus Christoph Gärtner)

Part 2: continues from Vol 84:1 886, February 2008 issue.
The dissolution of the printers archive – an opportunity for philatelists all over the world

The printing plate

The last test before the production print

As soon as the colouring was determined, the next step was to transfer the single plate to a printing plate. There was room enough for various stamp sheets (usually 5 x 5 stamps per pane) or blocks. Using plate proofs all 25 stamp fields were examined for errors. This was done by means of phase prints in which the single colours were printed in each case as well as in combination. The yellow / blue combination was important in order to check the resultant green fraction. As soon as all errors had been corrected the printing plate was prepared and a press proof was made.



PRINTING PLATE
The plate had enough space for various stamp sheets. Every now and then single designs were added.



PLATE PROOF
By means of printing single colours (phase prints in printing language) plate errors could be detected and corrected.

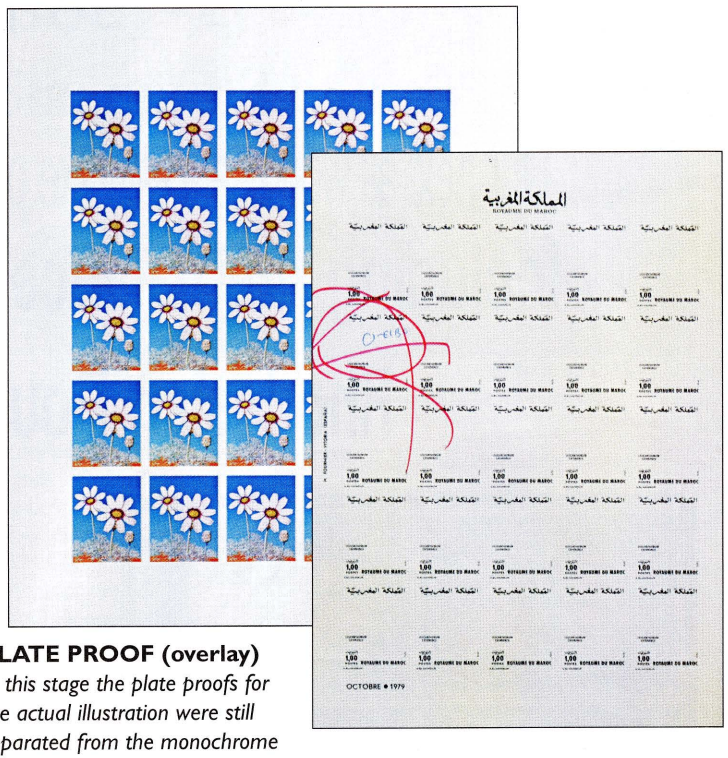
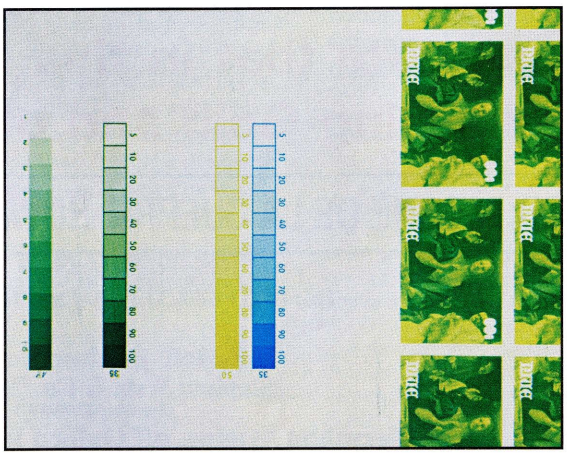


PLATE PROOF (overlay)
In this stage the plate proofs for the actual illustration were still separated from the monochrome (mainly black) overlay with the text information.



PROGRESSIVE PLATE PROOFS
Printing of the single colours, also known as colour separations. Yellow / green were printed as a combination by default in order to test the green impression. An alignment error? Yes. The black colour should actually be at the top because the multicoloured proof is composed of the three primary colours. Not until the last printing run was black added as an overlay.



PROGRESSIVE PLATE PROOFS (colour test)
Green was tested by combining blue and yellow.

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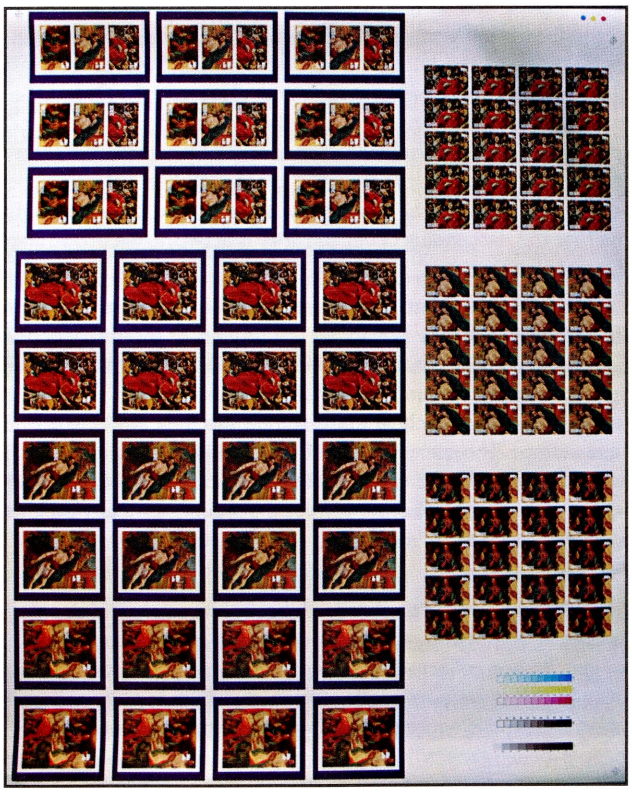
PROGRESSIVE PLATE PROOFS (colour test)
When a covering colour was used (in this case silver) the colours of the plate proofs could only be controlled by shifting the covering colour a complete stamp field (in this case downwards). By this one could see all colours in the top row of stamps other than the covering colour as well the complete colour effect underneath.



PRINTING PLATE
The finished plate for stamp panes and blocks. Apart from single production the colour bars only appear one more time in the print plates. At the top right hand side one can see the "traffic lights" which in the printing stage will be responsible for the automated control. The overlay with the black colour is still missing and is added in a separate printing procedure.



PRINTING PLATE (gutter pairs)
Finished plates offer a series of unique combinations that are not usually found on issued stamps and blocks after the cutting of the plates. If white paper appears between the stamps or the blocks this is called a gutter pair. These gutter pairs can be vertical or horizontal. If this is exactly at the cutting site of four different stamps then the centre part of a printing plate is called a "central gutter block".



PRINTING PLATE
(gutter pairs)
One can also find gutter pairs in the plate proof prints of miniature sheets.

Presentation issues

At Fournier only by special request

The French government printers are known to have garnished their stamp issues with several presentation issues. A presentation issue is an issue that compared to the stamp offers special aesthetic characteristics. It is prepared as a limited edition after the actual production procedure of the stamp is already concluded. This is the reason why they are not proofs but have their own category within philately.

The best known presentation issues are épreuves de luxe. These decorative issues were originally printed by the French government printers with a limited edition of 300 and then distributed through the postal administration. As the stamps of the French colonies and the independent countries created from these colonies were printed in France, these épreuves de luxe belonged to the popular extras of the postal administration. As more and more states deviated to other printers to print their stamps, some of the states still required such presentation issues. It was quite common to print 1000 or more épreuves de luxe for each stamp.

Fournier also printed for a range of French speaking countries. However épreuves de luxe are a very rare side issue and evidently limited to few stamp issues and in much smaller number. This bestows the Fournier presentation issues a special appeal so that one should pay special attention to the few cards with the inscription "H. FOURNIER - VITORIA (ESPAÑA)".

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EPREUVE DE LUXE. *One of the very few épreuves de luxe which is found in the Fournier archive.*

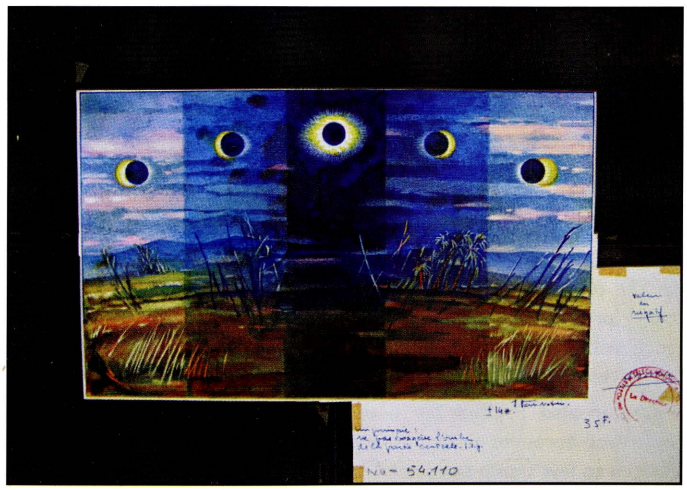
The philatelic classification of archive material according to degrees of importance

The philatelic rating of artwork, proofs and presentation issues is significantly linked to the following four factors: The role of the respective piece within the production process, the amount of existing copies, demand by collectors as well as the general philatelic importance of the respective stamp issue.

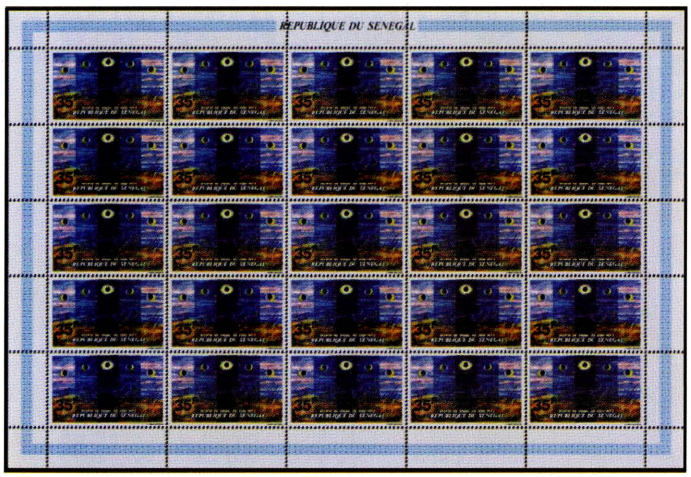
The role of the stamp in the production process: We have learnt that the importance of a drawing depends on how close it is to the subsequently issued stamp. The final artwork is the most important followed by accepted and rejected submitted designs. Drawings or even sketches which the artist did not submit to the postal administration (or the printers) will only be of importance in exceptional cases and are generally dispensable in an exhibit.

Die proofs are as a principle more important than plate proofs. The single prints (die proofs) are the most important step in the production of a stamp. Plate proofs however reproduce the single die to the number of times the stamp is found in a sheet and are only used to control that each printing colour is adequately adjusted in each position of the sheet. This is also necessary for the production process but the creation of the design by die proofs ranks higher in the scale of importance. (The way I see it, the correct description of the general hierarchy would be die proofs – artwork/essays – plate proofs – presentation issues, but it is debatable to which extent certain types of essays of older stamp production procedures are above die proofs.)

At this point it must be indicated that additional notations (colour scale, plate and sheets numbers, manuscript instructional markings and obviously 'ready to print' annotations) help to distinguish the role of the respective piece within the production process. Such individual print elements, markings or hand written notations increase the philatelic importance of a piece.



FINAL ARTWORK *(with instructional markings.)*
An impressive final artwork for a stamp from Senegal with image of solar eclipse. The additional markings and production annotations give this design an additional appeal.



ISSUED STAMP *The stamp was issued as a 5 x 5 sheet.*

The amount of existing copies: Scarcity is always a major factor with collecting (and not only in the eyes of philatelists). This is why the amount of available copies also significantly influences the philatelic importance. If there is only one copy (for example final artwork or certain core positions from a sheet printed only in one copy) these are always much sought after. After all, every collector is proud to claim one or the other unique piece in his collection.

However plate proofs as a rule are available in greater numbers which arises from the fact that they were printed in complete sheets. If the pane is divided up, this will create a certain amount of copies. They are still much scarcer than the issued stamps however do not match the scarcity of single prints or even the artwork. (In terms of scarcity it is quite different having a complete sheet of plate proofs because usually very few such full sheets are available).

When it comes to the number of available items, die proofs usually range somewhere between artwork and plate proofs. Only a few copies were made according to need and are thus substantially scarcer than plate proofs. It can also happen that only one copy was archived; thus making it unique. Only in very few cases are plate proofs scarcer than die proofs. This is why in terms of scarcity one can confidently assume that the descending order of rarity is artwork, die proof, plate proof, presentation issue.

One must not ignore that plate proofs can be very scarce due to specific circumstances. As previously mentioned in the introduction, the Courvoisier archive had only one set of phase prints (in other words plate proofs) for each stamp. As long as no additional pieces are released by a post archive these will be the only available proofs of these stamps. The auction sale of this archive in spring of 2007 showed that the philatelic world reacted euphorically to the scarcity of these pieces although from a technical printing point of view they were "only" plate proofs.

Demand by collectors: In addition to supply, demand is also a significant factor in order to classify philatelic importance of drawings and proofs. If the stamp was produced for a postal administration whose stamps are collected by many collectors by country, demand for these proofs is proportionally much higher than for less collected countries. Demand is equally dependant on the total amount drawings and proofs being generally available from this country. When state printers basically hand over all their artwork and proofs to post museums, then any available proof is a gem for the collector. When, however, a large archive is put up for auction, collectors of this country can accordingly choose their degree of specialisation amongst the available pieces.

A second factor which has frequently been underestimated is the classification of a stamp within a specific topic. For many postal administrations thematic collectors have in the meantime become far more important than country collectors thus the thematic

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attractiveness of a design defines the demand for the proofs of this stamp. This is true for themes as a whole (ships and roses are much more sought after than carriages and strawberries) but also for specific details: If the stamp design is carried out in an exceptional way or if a thematic subject is depicted which is normally difficult to find, then many collectors will want the proofs of this stamp. Also, if there is an especially attractive small detail in the stamp design, demand for the original artwork (which shows every detail of a stamp design on large scale) is extremely high.



COMPOSITE DIE PROOF / COLLECTIVE DIE PROOF
Excerpt from a sheet with die proofs (different colour combinations tests with overlay colour shifted). Bhutan is not a very collected country whereas scouts belong to one of the most collected topics.

General philatelic importance: This fourth and most general facet of philatelic classification is sometimes seen as identical with the previously mentioned demand by collectors: What everyone wants is important, what is hardly collected is of no importance. Even if this is a good general rule it is not enough in order to fully understand the philatelic importance of a piece. In fact one has to consider how philately developed: From the classic stamp. This is the reason why the early periods are generally more important than modern periods. And anything directly related to stamps is more important than postal documents without stamps. The first appearance of a technical variety or a new aspect in postal history is of particular importance, e.g. the Basel Dove was the first multicoloured stamp (new technical variety) or many of the first flight covers of a new postal route (new aspect in postal history). Modern philately plays a less important role even though there are far more collectors for stamps issued in the last decades than for the very small English and French colonies of the 19th century. Nonetheless the latter gain higher general philatelic importance than modern stamps.

All this has an effect on the proofs: Proofs of classic stamps are, as a rule, more important than those of modern stamps as well as the old and elaborate printing processes (above all line engraving) are, in comparison to modern printing techniques, more prestigious. This is also reflected in pricing: Classic proofs have much higher estimates at auction than modern day proofs even in cases where they are more common and less collected. This price structure however considerably reduces the circle of collectors willing to venture into collecting a classical area. Modern proofs however, are affordable for the committed collector with an average budget and there are as many rarities and technically interesting pieces as in classic philately. It is for this reason, as either a thematic collector or country collector that it is worth engaging in modern proofs. The FOURNIER archive offers in terms of abundance a unique overview.



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"…..Another Man's Poison."

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

This is now the twelfth episode of an irregular series of articles devoted to the local posts of the World. Readers may recall that the eleventh was entitled "**One Man's Meat…..**" and in it I tried to justify my own fixation with stamps of admittedly limited validity and, at the same time, made the claim that certain local stamps might well be both appropriate and acceptable in regular collections. On the other side of the coin, I do have to admit that many stamps that are classified as "locals" are, at best no more than publicity labels and at worst an attempt to dupe unsuspecting members of the stamp-collecting public. For inclusion in my own collection - "Issuing Authorities of the World" - I require that stamps should have been issued to prepay at least part of a genuine mail delivery service. Thus, I exclude the issues of a number of the British offshore islands, of some of the Arab states and of such phantom authorities as Nova Potuca, Sedang, Occussi-Ambeno or the Republic of Capacua.

I do, however, include various shipping companies around the world, several of which were quite prolific in their stamp-issuing policies in the late 19th and early part of the 20th Centuries. Many of the issued stamps could add interest to quite a range of thematic collections. Towards the end of the 19th Century, Denmark, essentially a maritime nation, was host to a plethora of steamship companies, each running its own mail service. Just such a one of these was the Nykjobing Steamship Company from which I own what I believe to be a complete set from 10-ore to 100-ore, the highest value being illustrated in Fig.1. In my set, one value, the 30-ore, appears to have been cancelled with two vertical pencil lines while the 10-ore seems to have been struck with an indecipherable hand-stamped signature. This lowest value was evidently intended for use on parcels. It is of a larger size than the other values in the set, approximately 43 x 45mm compared with 31 x 31mm of the remainder, and also indicates a weight limit of five kilograms.



Fig.1

Staying in Scandinavia but moving to Sweden, we come to the category of town posts. As was also the case in Stockholm and Gothenburg, the coastal town of Malmo in south-west Sweden has enjoyed three periods of local postal activity - in the 1880s, the 1920s and again in 1945/46. The Malmo Gamla Stadsbudsexpedition established the first of these in 1888 and issued a handsome set of seven stamps, each printed in two colours and displaying the coat-of-arms of the town. The 25-ore value is shown in Fig.2. A second set in a similar design was produced in the following year but in a smaller format and with only the top two values, the 75-ore and the 1-krona, in two colours. This was possibly an economy measure; it appears that the post was but little used and catalogue values for mint copies only of the stamps in both sets are quoted in the authoritative "*Handbook of the Private Local Posts*" by Hurt & Williams, a work that first appeared in four instalments in 1943 and 1944.



Fig.2

Between August 1941 and 1944, German forces occupied the Western Russian town of Pleskau, or Pskov in Russian. Initially, the current 1-pfennig Hitler head issue was released with the overprint "Pleskau" and surcharged for use as a 20-kopeck stamp. Hindenburg stamps with a similar overprint and a 60-kopeck surcharge were prepared at the same time but not authorised for use. Subsequently, various stamps of the Soviet Union were overprinted and surcharged for use as 20- and 60-kopeck values. In October 1941, distinctive stamps in the same two values were printed for the town. The 20-kopeck featured the local coat-of-arms while the higher value showed Pleskau cathedral. Shortly thereafter, there appeared a semi-postal 60-kopeck value bearing a 40-kopeck premium in order to finance a civic nursery centre. The lower value is shown in Fig.3 on a bilingual postcard that required a resident of the town to present himself at the Labour Department for an interview. Note that the name of the town appears in Cyrillic script alone in the January 1942 postmark. These issues were discontinued in April 1942 and replaced by German stamps with the overprint "Ostland" meaning, literally, East Land, but, in 1944, the Soviet Army recaptured the town and Russian stamps were reintroduced.

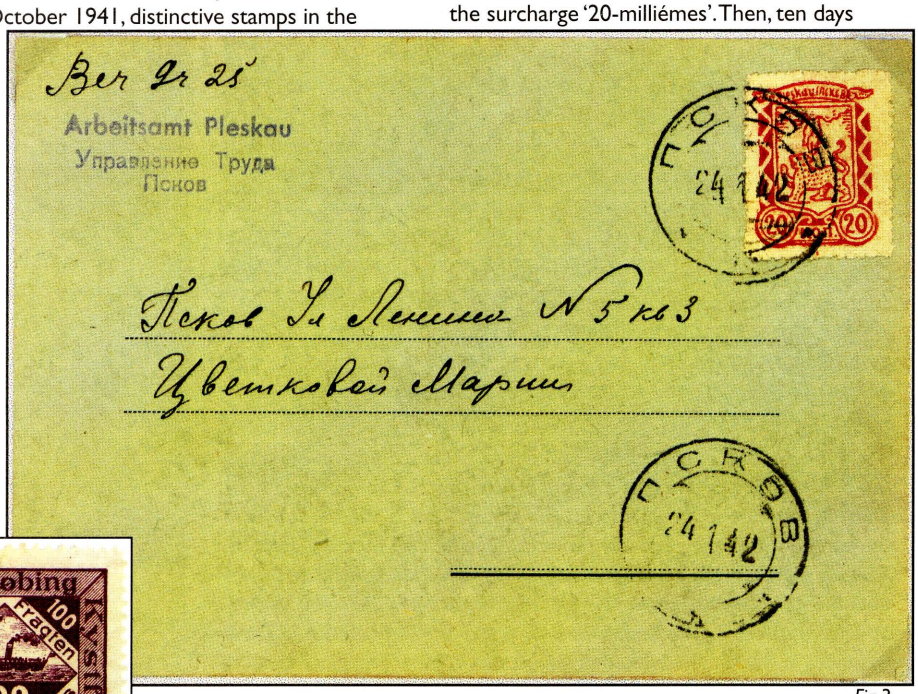

Fig.3

In previous articles I have discussed the so-called Interim Period - the hiatus that existed between the effectual end of the British mandate over Palestine and the declaration of the independent state of Israel. A further issuing authority that arose during this interregnum was the French Consulate in Jerusalem. This post was authorised by the Consul, M.Rene Neuville, and utilised initially the "Gratis" (Free) stamps of the Foreign Affairs Department with the overprint "Jerusalem Postes Françaises' and the surcharge of 6-francs for surface mail or 10-francs for airmail. Ten days later, that is to say on 15 May 1948, Consular Agency stamps were overprinted in a similar fashion but with the surcharge '20-milliémes'. Then, ten days after the first issue of the 'Doar Ivri' stamps of Israel on 16 May 1948, a third overprint appeared for the Consulate, on this occasion the 6-franc 'Marianne' stamp of France with the added legend reading 'Jerusalem 20 milliémes'. Sale of this last stamp continued until the end of July 1948 but the cover shown in Fig.4 with a postmark of 1 September 1948 is suggestive of either late usage or a "cancellation by favour".

The mailship company, T.B.Morton & Co., was founded in 1855 and was based in Constantinople from where it carried the post and cargo to ports on the River Danube and on the Black Sea. Stamps for the line were first issued in 1869 and bore the legend 'Constantinople and Danube Line of Steamers' although the terminal "s" of the word 'steamers' appears to have been added as an afterthought. They were also inscribed

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Fig.4

with the words 'Letter Post' but bore no denomination. However, a printing in blue ink denoted a ½-piastre or 20-paras, as shown in Fig.5, while red ink indicated 1-piastre or 40-paras. Some authorities maintain that in fact these values were the other way about - red for 20-paras and blue for 40 paras. The colour of the paper represented the destination of the letter: - blue for Braila, the terminus of the Danube route, white for Burgas, Kustendje and Varna, yellow for Sulima and magenta for Galatz and Tulsaha.

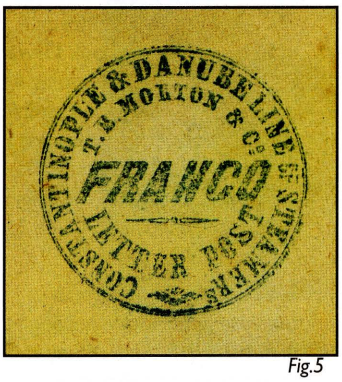

Fig.5

The earliest stamp to be attributed to Trinidad was the 5-cent issue of David Bryce of April 1847 for mail carried by his steamer, the "*Lady McLeod*", between Port of Spain and San Fernando, two of the ports on the island. Although of only local validity, this is an item that has acquired catalogue status and would take pride of place in any collection of the stamps of the Caribbean island. Also finding a place in Stanley Gibbons is the label shown in Fig.6 that was authorised for internal postal use on one day only – 18 September 1914 – in order to raise funds for the Trinidad Red Cross Society. The indicated denomination of "One Fraction" was intended to express a selling price of a halfpenny. A similar label for the island of Grenada failed to achieve even fleeting postal validity and is therefore ignored by the catalogues.



Fig.6



Fig.7



Fig.8

By a decree of the Bolivian Government in March 1863, one Justiniano Garcia was granted a contract to carry the mails. Stamps were duly printed in values of ½-, 1-, 2- and 4-reales in preparation for issue on 1 June but a Government Order dated 29 April cancelled the contract. Thus, the stamps were authorised but never issued although their use has been reported on a few covers of dubious authenticity. The stamps, of which the design owed a great deal to contemporary French issues, were printed firstly in black and then in blue as illustrated in the 4-reales value in Fig.7. In favourable lighting conditions, my copy shows traces of the bronze dust that was used by the printers to dry the ink, a practice that was apparently not uncommon in the trade at the time. It was a further four years before the celebrated "Condor" design made its appearance on the first stamp actually issued for Bolivia.

There are people who might well query the inclusion of the stamps of the Feudatory or Native States of India in the category of "locals". After all, they have, as a group, appeared in the "red" Gibbons for over a century. In the very first article in this series, published in August 2004, I attempted to justify this classification on the grounds that the stamps were valid only within the boundaries of the state in which they were issued and illustrated this limitation with a cover to Lahore on which postage due of 1-anna was raised because the franking was only by way of a ½-anna stamp of Jammu and Kashmir. Another state of which the stamps enjoyed but restricted usage was Jasdan. Perhaps that should read "stamp" because Jasdan issued only a single, 1-anna stamp between 1942 and 1947. It is known in a variety of shades from deep blue-green to light yellow-green and with perforations varying from 8½ to 10½. The copy in Fig.8, imperf at the foot, is from a booklet pane of four. Jasdan was one of 222 different principalities that formed the Union of Saurashtra in 1948 and subsequently merged with Bombay State becoming part of Maharashtra, known since 1960 as Gujarat. The stamps of the states of India were suppressed by the Republic in 1950.

The first of my customary pair of contributions from Southern Africa is the newspaper wrapper from 1983 shown in Fig.9. The wrapper, with its correct franking of 25 cents, was used to send a copy of *Die Volksblad*, the Afrikaans daily paper, from Bloemfontein to a Mr. J.E. Mostert, the Stationmaster at Eensgevonden. The 1-cent newspaper stamp replaced the penny stamp in 1961 when the South African currency was decimalised but the copy on the cover shown is from the later, 1977 printing as witness the fact that the height of the design measures 31,5 mm as compared with the 32 mm of the earlier issue. With the escalation of costs, the 4-cent stamp became necessary in 1978 followed by the 10-cent in 1980. A 20-cent version appeared in 1982. The onus was on the senders of newspapers to purchase the appropriate stamps from their local railway station and to affix them personally prior to submitting the item for delivery.



Fig.9

The declaration of the independence of Angola by Portugal in 1975 led to bitter conflict between Agostino Neto's soviet-backed MPLA based in Luanda and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA which had the backing of South Africa and had its headquarters in Huambo. Although used in part to raise funds, the stamps issued by the anti-Marxist UNITA movement in 1986 and shown on the cover in Fig.10 were deemed acceptable as prepayment of postage both in the USA and Great Britain. It was stated that, if such letters arrived in Britain without tax markings, they would be delivered without question. If marked "unpaid" or

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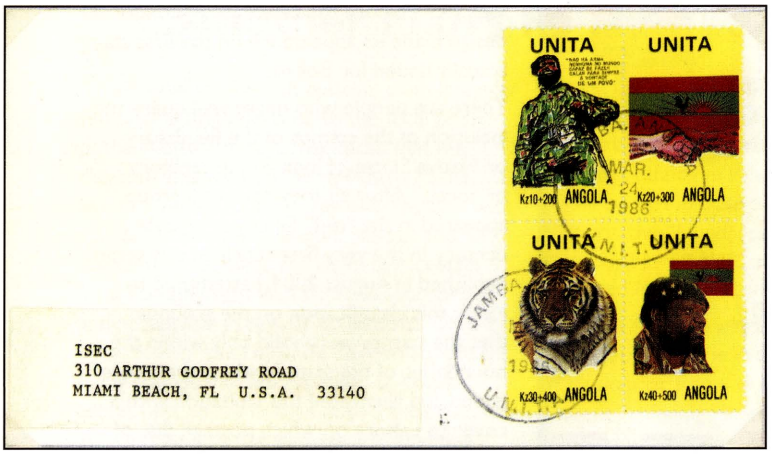

Fig.10

"underpaid", then a surcharge would be raised. The Americans likened the UNITA issue to the stamps of Turkish Cyprus that were favourably received in the States despite lacking universal recognition.

Politically, the Channel Islands comprise two separate Bailiwicks – Jersey on the one hand and Guernsey together with the smaller islands including Alderney, Sark, Herm, Lihou & Brecqhou on the other. In 1969 the Guernsey Postal Administration banned the use of local carriage labels, including those of various shipping posts.

Amongst those banned were the stamps of Lihou of 1966 that had been issued by Lt.-Col. P.A. Wootton, founder and leader of the Lihou Youth Project through which young people were encouraged to take an active interest in spiritual, scientific and sociological problems. As well as publicising and raising funds for the project, the sale of the stamps was intended to cover the "expense and trouble of conveying post to and from the G.P.O." It is only an island at high water, the dotted line on the 2d value illustrated in Fig.11 showing the causeway that is traversable at low tide.

As well as bearing a railway cancellation of Turin Station and an apparent injunction to use a postal code, the Italian 40-centesimi stamp on the portion of a postcard illustrated in Fig.12 bears the overprint "B.L.P." The letters stood for "Buste Lettere Postali" and were applied to stamps that were sold at a discount of five percent to "The National Federation for Assisting War Invalids" for use on letter-cards or envelopes carrying advertisements, hence their popular categorization as "Publicity Stamps". The stamps were issued between January and July 1921; "19-20" in the postmark is evidently the time of posting, not the year. The actual date of the strike is indistinct but appears to read 14:11 1922, well after the last date of issue. Profits for the use of the charity came in part from the premium on the purchase price of the stamps but in the main from the sale of the advertising space. These might, perhaps, be classified as "semi-postal" stamps rather than "locals" but the dividing line is, I feel, a fine one.

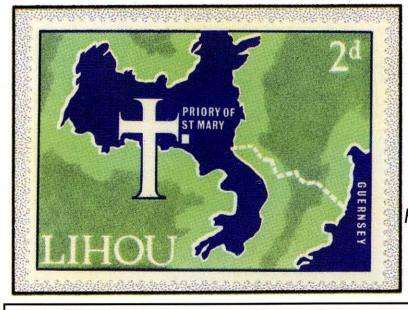

Fig.11



Fig.12

Highlights from Management Meeting, 7 March 2008

We did manage a quorum, even with so many of our members attending overseas exhibitions, and those attending made up in animated discussion that which we lacked in numbers. It was most pleasing to welcome Johan van Wyk from Philatelic Services - his first visit to the Benoni venue but he finally found us and said it was well worth the effort.

Johan expressed his concern about the allegedly misappropriated material from Philatelic Services and in due course will be writing a press release and black list on the items in question. The list will enable collectors and dealers to shun buying material from a suspect source. Should anyone have that type of material in their exhibits, jurors would not judge the display.

Peter van der Molen is writing quite a tome on the philately of Swaziland and hopes for its completion towards the end of the year. As Peter is an extremely thorough and meticulous person in all he tackles, we look forward to an excellent publication. With Joh Groenewald doing wonders on the promotion and marketing of Federation's publications, sales are leaping ahead and hopefully the readers will have secured copies in goodly time. The latest edition is *The Riddle of Rustenburg*, another saga in the history of the Anglo-Boer War. Okkie de Jager's occasional paper on *SA Late Fees* received an excellent critique in the *London Philatelist*.

Emil Bührmann, Chairman of Judging and Ethics, is prepared to organise at least one judging seminar annually, possibly at the national exhibitions should there be sufficient interest, so gather together some support and show willing. The national one-frame exhibition is taking place in Bloemfontein at this present moment and hopefully exhibitors, dealers and attendants will be happy with the show.

News from Vice-Presidents was a little sparse so society members please remember to invite your Vice-President along to at least your AGM so that he is aware of your highs, your lows and possible needs. The Membership Secretary, Dave Morton, was congratulated on his meticulous work and we wish him a great month in Australia from where he will return end April.

At present Cedric Roché is a juror in Taipei where our South African exhibitors did very well, the top South African this time being Harry Birkhead with his Zululand exhibit for which he received a Gold. Achi Frank will be visiting Israel 2008 in the near future and is taking along a huge number of exhibits - goodness knows how he will carry them all. International organising committees cover fares and accommodation for jurors and the levy on exhibits for Israel covered all Achi's costs.

Plans for Jo'burg 2010 are forging ahead. Information Sheet No. 1 has been issued giving the dates, 27 to 30 October 2010, and the venue of the exhibition, Sandton Convention Centre. Copies have been taken by Patrick Flanagan, designer of the pamphlet, to Taipei where he is an Apprentice Juror. New frames, four rows across and four down reading horizontally, will be required to follow international rules but the frames are being donated - a marvellous gift. Clive Sergay has joined the team to assist with fund raising and all donations will be gratefully received. A website is in place and will include updated news in due course - www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za

Colin Bousfield was full of bounce regarding his plans for promotion of the hobby among our youth and also amongst novice collectors. He intends putting together a plan on his vision and strategy. He heartily supports Cassie Carsten's suggestion of promotion at stamp fairs, particularly with funding from Federation, input from SAPDA members and societies.

Members dispersed at 12.20 am. JDR: 15 Mar 08

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Taipei 2008.

by Patrick Flanagan FRPSL,*
Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

21st Asian International Stamp Exhibition

As members of FIAP (The Federation for Inter Asian Philately), South Africa participated at the 21st Asian International Stamp Exhibition held at the International Exhibition Centre in Taipei, Republic of China from 7 to 11 March.

Our participation was on a number of fronts :

- We entered 5 exhibits
- Cedric Roché, our Commissioner and a Jury Member (Revenues and Traditional)
- I was an Apprentice Juror (Postal History)
- Cedric carried Howard Green's Proxy for the FIAP Executive Meeting
- The SA Post Office had printed material available to visitors
- By default all of the above played an Ambassadorial role for South Africa.

The Exhibition was, to all intents and purposes run by Taiwan Post. The contribution of the Post Office was enormous, both tangibly and in the number of staff that were seconded to ensure the smooth running of the exhibition from day to day. The goal was to showcase Taiwan as a friendly, organised and dynamic country that plays its role fully both as far as its Postal Services are concerned and in their role in supporting and promoting philately.

Some 15 Postal administrations were booth holders, from which they promoted both philately and their respective countries.

Whilst it would be easy to write a multi page essay on Taipei 2008, allow me to share a few observations with you.

South Africa and Philately

We are extremely well received at International level. We are respected in our contributions – as members of FIAP, as Exhibitors and in our Judging competence. We were recipients of warm support for our **Joburg 2010 International Exhibition** to be held at the Sandton Convention Centre. In my view, what is necessary is for South Africa and its various representatives to build on the sound base that exists so that we may grow our hobby at ALL levels.

Taipei 2008 Overview

There is a great culture of collecting in the Far East, as we experienced. Whilst the exhibits (some 210 entries) encompassed the formal part of the Exhibition, it was clear to see that the organisers goal was to make the Exhibition a "Must Visit" attraction for the people of Taipei and Taiwan. Accordingly the Post Office had a vast array of attractions and events all day and every day, with new stamp releases and give-aways resulting in long queues both inside and outside the hall including the last day. Fashion shows, magicians, dancers, musicians and comic



characters appeared each day on the stage within the Hall. Visitors were able to make stamp and memorabilia purchases from the enormous Post Office booth, have a sheet of personalised stamps printed, visit a working mint (and strike a coin), visit a Printing works and of course fill their Philatelic passports – amongst many other happenings. Schools were bussed in and daily there would be groups of children with their teachers being guided around the exhibition by a Post Office representative.
I would go as far as to say that even those with little interest in stamp collecting would have had a worthwhile and memorable experience by visiting Taipei 2008.

The Competitive Exhibition

This was of a generally good standard, and was judged according to FIP regulations for an International exhibition. South Africa fared well and our results were as follows:

*	Harry Birkhead	*Zululand*	Gold
*	Ian Matheson	*SA Officals*	Gold
*	Howard Green	*SWA Postage Dues*	Large Vermeil
*	Emil Minnaar	*Gibraltar Stationery*	Large Vermeil
*	Carel Welling	*Transvaal*	Vermeil

Gold medals for 5 frame exhibits are difficult to attain at International level, attesting to the quality of Harry and Ian's exhibits.

There were some wonderful Asian exhibits, it being a privilege to view them. On the broader front it was very encouraging to see a great number of more modern exhibits entered and attracting good awards – some of these covered subjects such as George VI and even the QE II reign. Thematics were weak whilst the Experimental One Frame class offered a mixed bag.

Bin Room and Commissioners

Our Commissioner Cedric Roché had a trouble free exhibition. He indicated that the Bin Room was superbly set up and managed, whilst Customs formalities both in and out of South Africa and Taiwan were straight forward.

Jury

The Jury consisted of 34 members and 9 apprentices. Jury President, Mr Michael Ho (Taiwan); Jury Secretary, Dr Andrew Cheung (Hong Kong). Mr Surajit Gongvatana acted as FIAP coordinator and Mr Tay Peng Hian as FIAP Senior Consultant. A specialist Expert Team removed in excess of 40 items from the frames for detailed study. FIAP keeps meticulous records of all such items for future reference. Jury duty went on throughout the Exhibition with Judges undertaking critiques with Exhibitors on the last day of the show. The Jury was supported by a full time administrative assistant and no less than three Post Office staff were on hand to assist the Jury in a variety of tasks. Hot and cold drinks, and light snacks were always available in the Jury Room. Judging was disciplined, efficient and great fun.

Taipei 2008 has come and gone and we in South Africa turn our attention to the task of organising, with the SA Post Office, the **Joburg 2010 International Stamp Exhibition** - the 25th Asian International Stamp Exhibition. Our first official duty will be to welcome Mr Tay Peng Hian and Mr Surajit Gongvatana, both of FIAP, who will be visiting South Africa in August to undertake a site inspection of the venue and to interface with the Organisers.

Before 2010, there are three further FIAP exhibitions – Jakarta 2008 (22nd exhibition), China 2009 (23rd) and Korea 2009 (24th). May South Africa play their designated roles with commitment and passion – and a sense of fun, at each of these.





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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!
The Cinema in Philately

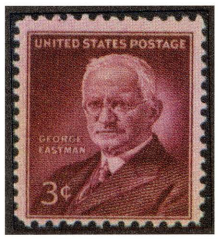
- by Moira Bleazard, Society of Israel Philately

The scope of this article covers some of the early pioneers in cinema and their inventions, the making of the modern film, including the role of the director and actors, scenes from the finished product and finally a celebration of the best in cinema through a mention of film festivals and awards. So, in the words of screenwriter and poet, Dorothy Parker:

"Oh come, my love, and join with me
The oldest infant industry.
Come seek the bourne of palm and pearl
The lovely land of Boy-meets-Girl.
Come grace this lotus-laden shore,
This Isle of Do-What's-Done-Before.
Come, curb the new, and watch the old
win, Out where the streets are paved
with Goldwyn".

EARLY INVENTORS

Cinema pioneers are well represented on postage stamps. Thomas Alva Edison (1) started working on a device, which, when spun, made a series of pictures move - a type of early animation. He was initially unsuccessful, until a fellow American, George Eastman (2) developed strips of thin, flexible celluloid film, which enabled Edison to construct a primitive movie camera. In 1892, Edison launched the kinetoscope, a peep show with a fifty-foot loop of film, which could be viewed by one person at a time.



2. George Eastman



3. Lumiére brothers

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, pioneers like the Englishman R.W. Paul and the Lumiére brothers (3) had invented projection systems for kinetoscope films and subsequently developed their own cine-camera. On 28 December 1895, at the Grand Café in Paris, Louis and Auguste Lumiére began showing films to the public on a commercial basis using a Cinematographe (4) – a camera/projector combination. In America, Edison was not far behind, and on 23 April 1896, his first motion picture was shown at a music hall in New York.

Historic moments were also captured by the early filmmakers. Vaacov Ben Dov shot the first Hebrew film called *Judah Liberated*, which consisted of 34 incidents that occurred during the first year of British military rule in Palestine.



5. General Allenby in Jerusalem

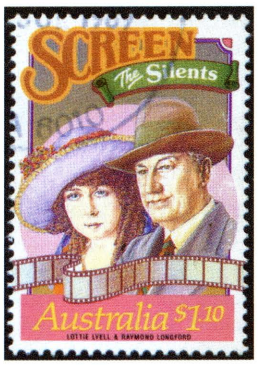


1. Thomas Alva Edison

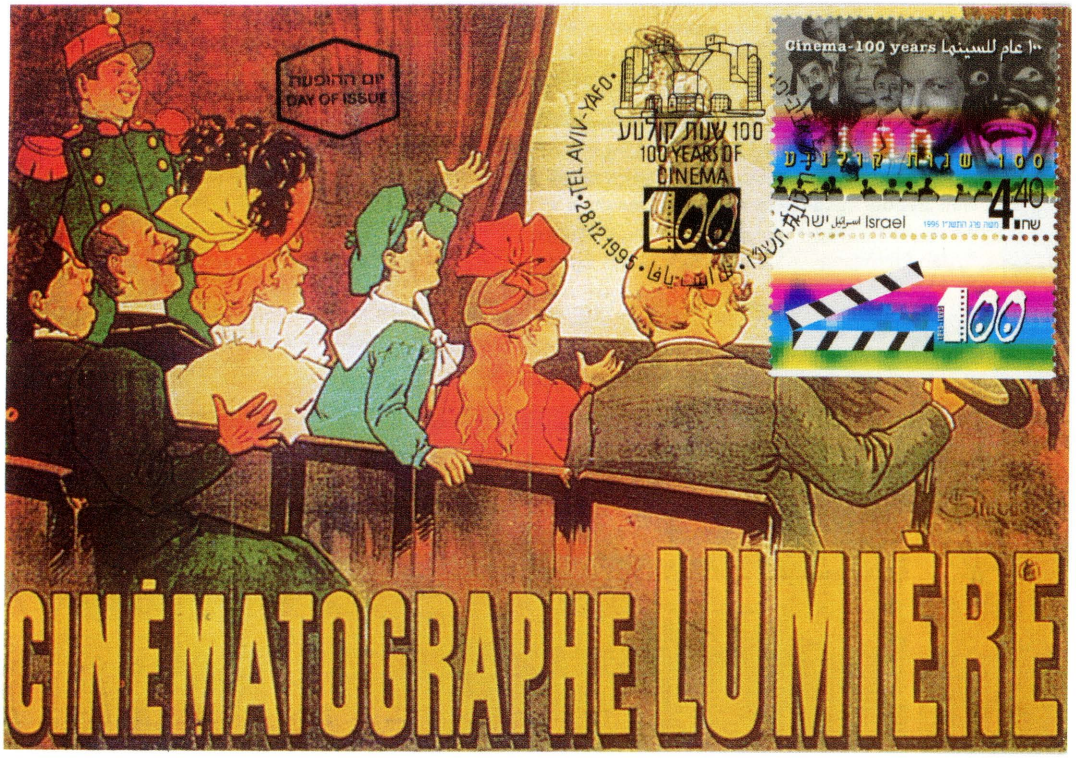
After defeating the Turks in Gaza and the surrender of Jerusalem, the British army, led by General Allenby, was filmed entering the city in December 1917. The stamp shows General Allenby being received by the Rabbis and Jewish leaders of Jerusalem, including Dr Chaim Weizmann, who is standing next to Allenby (5).

THE TALKIES

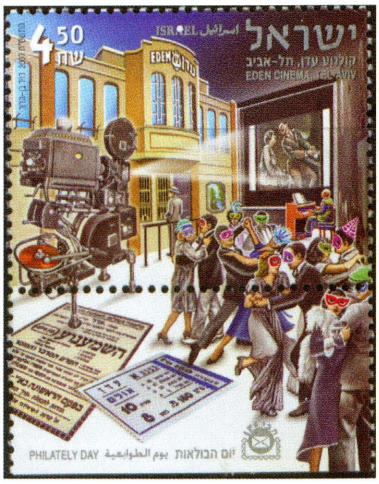
All these early films were, of course, silent movies (6) usually accompanied by off-stage noise effects and a pianist to add a dramatic 'sound track.' It took almost 30 years before the onset of talking pictures and in 1927, *The Jazz Singer* was released with the immortal words: "*You ain't heard nothin' yet*," spoken by Al Jolson. A movie theatre, the ticket sellers, an enthusiastic audience and a poster for *The Jazz Singer* are all illustrated on the Israeli stamp (7).



6. The Silents



4. A Cinematographie postcard with cinema centenary stamp



7. The Jazz Singer – first Talkie

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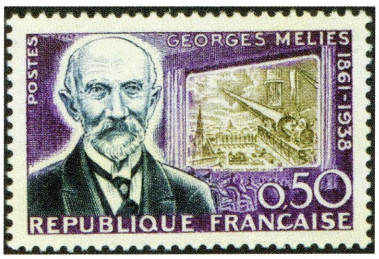
8. The Robe – first cinemascope film

Further innovation in the art of filmmaking included the introduction of the cinemascope, which was developed in the early 1950s to challenge the arrival of television – "it's always better on the big screen!" The first film to be made using this new process of compressing images during the filming, but without distortion during the projecting, was *The Robe* (8) based on the book by Lloyd C. Douglas. The movie starred Richard Burton, Jean Simmons and Victor Mature.

DIRECTORS AND PRODUCERS

With hardware alone, the cinema would not have prospered. Primitive equipment placed severe restrictions on the early filmmakers and it was the innovative use of these unsophisticated tools which distinguished the great directors. The Frenchman, Georges Melies, became a pioneer of cinema art, having been present at the premiere of the Lumiére brothers' Cinematographe Exhibition. A professional conjuror and illusionist, he took up filmmaking in 1896 and used the cinema as a medium of fantasy. He produced and directed hundreds of films, the most famous of which - *le Voyage dans*



9. Director Georges Melies

la Lune (A trip to the Moon) – is renowned for its humour and creativity. Produced in 1902 and based on the stories of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, it used elaborate sets, a large costumed cast, special effects and animation. A scene from the film is depicted alongside Melies on the stamp (9).

Another great early filmmaker was the American D.W. Griffith (10) who produced and directed a vast number of films; but quantity alone did not make for a remarkable career. He was the first to use cinematic techniques such as the close-up, fading in and out, flashbacks, clever editing and dramatic lighting. Unfortunately, Griffith also made some expensive dull melodramas that were heavily criticized and failed at the box office. Financial problems, divorce and disagreements with production houses followed, and Griffith died in 1948, poor, bitter and almost forgotten.

Across the world, a Russian magazine



10. D.W. Griffith

cartoonist and illustrator, Alexander Petrovich Dovzhenko (11), also became fascinated by this new art form. He was not a very prolific director (only making seven major feature films) and blamed the poor working conditions in the Soviet film industry, but his most memorable film *Earth* received widespread critical acclaim. In the Soviet Union however, the film was



11. Alexander Dovzhenko

denounced as 'counter-revolutionary' and some of its more realistic scenes were edited out - including the one where a group of peasants is seen urinating into the boiling radiator of their tractor.

Another outstanding director in the Russian film industry was Sergei Mikhailovich Eisenstein. His university career in engineering was interrupted by the October Revolution and he spent two years serving in the Red Army. Whilst still a student, Eisenstein had been fascinated by the theatre and in 1918 he transferred from his engineering unit into a theatrical troupe in the army's Political Directorate. After the war, Eisenstein worked in the theatre designing sets and costumes, which proved a good training ground for a later career in filmmaking. His most famous film *Battleship Potemkin* told the story of a mutiny over



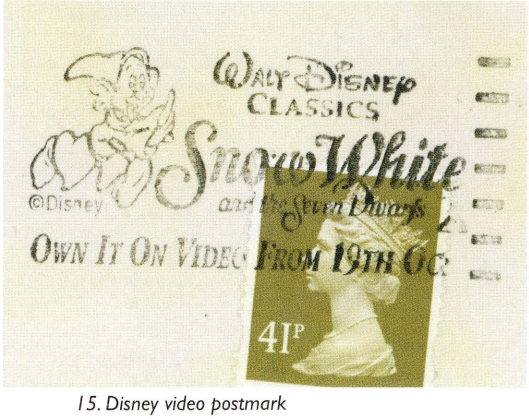
12. Battleship Potemkin

rotten food by the battleship's crew (12). One of its most famous scenes has a baby's pram careering out of control down a long flight of steps - a nail-biting cinematic technique that has been copied in other movies. Another special feature of *Potemkin* was the use of tinting - an early attempt at achieving a colour effect - usually done by hand after exposure of the film.

The big names in the movie industry would be incomplete without mention of Walt Disney, the creator of the most famous cartoon characters in animated film - Mickey Mouse (13) and Donald Duck (14). Mickey was perceived as a typical Depression hero who laughed at pomposity and defended the little man. Walt Disney's first full-length animated film *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was equally popular with the viewing public and well received by the critics. Originally a screen animator, Disney went on to produce hundreds of feature films designed for family viewing, and also entered the video market (15) founding a vast global business empire.



13 & 14. Mickey Mouse & Donald Duck



15. Disney video postmark

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CELLULOID STARS

Some of the early movie stars were stage actors, like Sarah Bernhardt (16) from France, who appeared in '*film d'art*' such as *Hamlet's Duel, La Dame aux Camelias* and *Queen Elizabeth*. This four-reel film was released in the USA in 1912 and proved immensely popular. It was obvious that audiences wanted longer films and were prepared to pay a dollar and a half to see them.

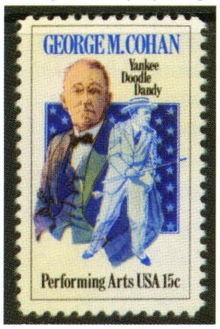


16. French stage actress, Sarah Bernhardt



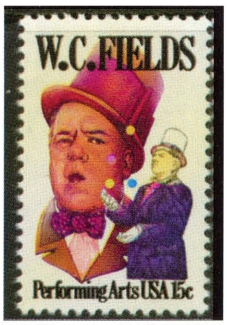
23. Grace Kelly

George M. Cohan's (17) contribution to the cinema was as an actor, singer, dancer, songwriter, playwright and screenwriter between the years 1917 and 1934. He is best remembered for the catchy songs he wrote – like *Give my Regards to Broadway* and *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. In 1942, James Cagney won an Oscar for his portrayal of Cohan in a film of the same name.



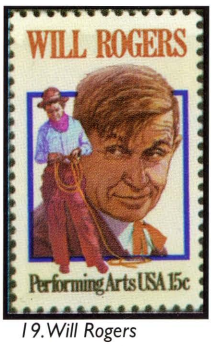
17. George M.Cohan

In the Performing Arts series of postage stamps, the United States commemorated various famous actors, including the great comic W.C. Fields (18) who first appeared in *Pool Sharks* in 1915. After running away from home at a young age to escape a violent father, he began his career as a juggler, vaudeville comedian and stage star. His acting career lasted until 1941 when he starred in *Never Give a Sucker an Even Break*. Not a sympathetic character in real life, Fields was described by the author and screenwriter, Leo Rosten, in the famous words: "Any man who hates small dogs and children can't be all bad."



18. Comedian, W.C. Fields

Another comedian honoured in the series was Will Rogers who was 'discovered' by Florenz Ziegfield cracking jokes on stage, while spinning his lariat - this familiar pose being featured on the stamp (19). An interesting snippet for local philatelists is that Will Rogers visited South Africa at the time of the Boer War and performed as an expert rider in a Wild West Show in Johannesburg.



19. Will Rogers

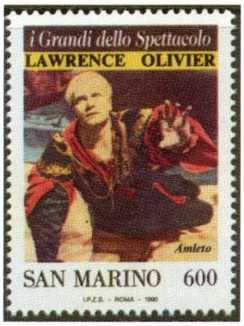
The most famous comedian of them all is of course, Charlie Chaplin. Such diverse countries as Israel, India and Monaco have honoured 'the little fellow.' Chaplin was born in London in 1889 to a music hall entertainer, but was orphaned at an early age. He was fortunate to join a children's dance troupe, through his mother's contacts, but it was as a comedian that he left his mark. On tour to the States, he was spotted by the boss of Keystone - an American film production company - where the transformation began. Wearing his trademark bowler hat and baggy trousers and carrying a cane, Chaplin soon became a universally loved tramp who championed the rights of the underdog (20).



20. Charlie Chaplin

Numerous modern actors have been recognised by philately.

Sir Laurence Olivier plays *Hamlet* (for which he won an Oscar and the film won Best Picture) on the San Marino stamp (21) - but note the incorrect spelling of his first name. The miniature sheet from Gibraltar (22) features Audrey Hepburn in *My Fair Lady*, Romy Schneider in Luchino Visconti's Ludwig, Yves Montand in the superb *Jean de Florette* and Marilyn Monroe in the comedy *Some Like it Hot*.



21. Sir Laurence Olivier

Famous Jewish actors - Peter Sellers, Simone Signoret, Al Jolson, Danny Kaye and the Marx brothers – were all honoured on a cinema centenary stamp in 1995 (4) while the exquisite Miss Kelly graces the US stamp (23).

SCREEN SCENES

The most attractive aspect of cinema philately must surely be stills from the actual films. Movie buffs enjoy scrutinizing the scene and debating why that particular one was chosen for the stamp illustration like the memorable kiss between Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in the Civil War classic *Gone with the Wind* (24).



24. Gone with the Wind



25. The Man from Snowy River



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CELLULOID STARS

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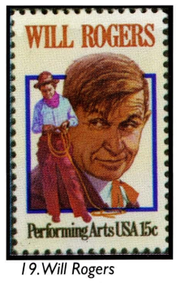

19. Will Rogers

The most famous comedian of them all is of course, Charlie Chaplin. Such diverse countries as Israel, India and Monaco have honoured 'the little fellow.' Chaplin was born in London in 1889 to a music hall entertainer, but was orphaned at an early age. He was fortunate to join a children's dance troupe, through his mother's contacts, but it was as a comedian that he left his mark. On tour to the States, he was spotted by the boss of Keystone - an American film production company - where the transformation began. Wearing his trademark bowler hat and baggy trousers and carrying a cane, Chaplin soon became a universally loved tramp who championed the rights of the underdog (20).



20. Charlie Chaplin

Numerous modern actors have been recognised by philately.



21. Sir Laurence Oliver

Sir Laurence Olivier plays *Hamlet* (for which he won an Oscar and the film won Best Picture) on the San Marino stamp (21) - but note the incorrect spelling of his first name. The miniature sheet from Gibraltar (22) features Audrey Hepburn in *My Fair Lady*, Romy Schneider in Luchino Visconti's Ludwig, Yves Montand in the superb *Jean de Florette* and Marilyn Monroe in the comedy *Some Like it Hot*.



Famous Jewish actors - Peter Sellers, Simone Signoret, Al Jolson, Danny Kaye and the Marx brothers – were all honoured on a cinema centenary stamp in 1995 (4) while the exquisite Miss Kelly graces the US stamp (23).

SCREEN SCENES

The most attractive aspect of cinema philately must surely be stills from the actual films. Movie buffs enjoy scrutinizing the scene and debating why that particular one was chosen for the stamp illustration like the memorable kiss between Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in the Civil War classic *Gone with the Wind* (24).



24. Gone with the Wind



25. The Man from Snowy River



26. Australian movie posters

Modern Australian cinema enjoys an enviable reputation and the set of five stamps depicting highlights from *The Man from Snowy River* (25), is only one example of their eclectic film industry.

The film, directed by George Miller (he of *Mad Max* fame) is based on an epic poem and tells the story of a young man's efforts to tame a wild stallion. Another series from 'Down Under' was issued to commemorate 100 Years of Cinema and shows advertising posters from some widely diverse films. *Strictly Ballroom* and *Picnic at Hanging Rock* (26) in particular, were both well received by discerning South African cinema audiences.

The Disney stamps often illustrate the actual movies too. Who could forget the evil witch offering *Snow White* a poisoned apple (27) or *Bambi's* hilarious attempts at ice-skating with Thumper the rabbit? (28) The illustrations are vivid and eye-catching and many budding young philatelists have become interested in stamp collecting because of the colourful Disney series.



27. Snow White and the seven Dwarfs



28. Bambi tries ice-skating

FILM FESTIVALS

The story of cinema would be incomplete without a mention of the film festivals, which play a vital role in the aesthetic appreciation of the cinema. Numerous countries have commemorated or publicised important film festivals on stamps – Germany, Russia, Czechoslovakia (29), France's International Tourist Film Festival (30) and the famous Cannes Film Festival (31) – to name but a few. The maximum card and stamp depict the ship from the movie *And the Ship Sails On*, by the acclaimed Italian director Federico Fellini. The film tells of a group of eccentric opera stars who set sail to bury one of their own, just prior to the start of World War I. They are unsettled by the rescue of some pre-war refugees, but the film is still "quietly nostalgic for the last great and peaceful age in Europe" (Time Out Film Guide) – an interesting choice for the French stamp.

A collection of postage stamps offers the student of cinema something different. He can display his knowledge in an illustrated history of unusual material and memorabilia and at the same time create an absorbing display that will fascinate even the non-philatelist.

(A similar article was published in *ThemNews*, April 2004. Special thanks to them for permission to reprint).



29. Czechoslovakian Film Festival



30. The French Tourist Film Festival

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31. Maximum card depicting the movie ***And the Ship Sails On***

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'nWêreld van filatelie in een oorlog

- deur Joh Groenewald, Ere-president, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society.

Vir die versamelaar van seëls en posgeskiedenis bied die Anglo-Boereoorlog van 1899-1902 'n wye veld: trouens, die posmateriaal van hierdie tyd dek feitlik die ganse spektrum van die filatelie. Kyk maar na omtrent elke faset van die stokperdjie, en die Anglo-Boereoorlog het dit.

Daar was seëls, natuurlik. Spesiale seëls, soos wat tydens die beleg van Mafeking op die dorp uitgegee is. Of oorgedruk is om 'n beleg aan te dui, soos op Kuruman en Schweizer Reneke. Seëls wat oorgedruk is, om 'n ander politieke owerheid se naam aan te dui, soos na die Britse besetting van die republikeinse hoofstede, en op verskeie dorpe.

Ook taamlik rudimentêre seëls, soos wat die Transvaalse republiek se "regering te velde" in 1901 op Pietersburg laat druk het, en dié wat op die Oostelike Hoëveld met 'n tikmasjien gemaak is. Inkomsteseëls wat op briewe gebruik is as posgeld.

'n Mens het al verneem van seëls van een land, wat in 'n ander land gebruik is. In die oorlog het dit ruimskoots gebeur. Veral Britse seëls, met koningin Victoria se kop op, is deur Britse krygsmagte gebruik, in die kolonies sowel as die besette dele van die republieke.

Seëls van die Vrystaatse en Transvaalse republieke is gebruik in besette dele van Noord-Natal, Noord- en Noordoos-Kaapland. Seëls van die lande van herkoms van Imperiale eenhede, soos Rhodesië en Kanada, word ook op oorlogpos gevind. Seël- en stempelgewys is daar 'n enorme verskeidenheid. Byvoorbeeld, ingesetenes van Klerksdorp se konsentrasiekamp het net tot 'n militêre poskantoor toegang gehad, en moes Britse seëls gebruik.

Honderde verskillende oorlogstempels

As 'n mens na 'n seël kyk, kyk jy ook na die stempel. Die posstempels van die Anglo-Boereoorlog is amper eindeloos. Daar is honderde, van alle vorms en soorte. Rondes, ovales, vierkantiges, lang lynstempels. In kleure soos swart, pers, rooi, blou en selfs groen.

Die Boere het spesiale stempels gehad, soos "Hoofdlager Kimberley" en "Hoofdlager ZAR", vir die beleg van Kimberley en Ladysmith onderskeidelik. Daar was "Veldpost Glencoe", "Veldpost New Castle" en nog ander. In party besette poskantore het die Boere die stempels wat daar was, netso gebruik. 'n Mens vind die stempels van byvoorbeeld die Noord-Kaapse dorpe Colesberg en Aliwal North netso op republikeinse seëls.

Met die eeuwending het baie poskantore se stempels nie die twee nulle gehad vir 1900 nie. Hulle het toe die jaartal geskryf as "19", of dit weggelaat.
Die Britse krygsmag het poskantore gehad wat die bewegende leër-eenhede bedien het. Daar is stempels van "Army Post Office" en "Field Post Office", party met plekname, en ander met nommers. Dit kos studie en naslaanwerk om die stempel se nommer en die datum te koppel met die plek waar die veldposkantoor op daardie dag was!

Party regimente het hul eie posstempels gehad, soos "Natal Field Force". Ander het spesiale kantoorstempels op hulle pos gebruik, soos die Kanadese kontingente.

Kantoorstempels, kasjette en endossemente op koeverte getuig van talle regimente en eenhede wat betrokke was, insluitende diensdoendes uit Australië (soos "Tasmanian Bushmen"), Nieu-Seeland en Indië, asook eenhede wat in Suid-Afrika gewerf of saamgestel is.

Diensdoende soldate kon briewe posvry stuur, of teen verlaagde tariewe. Daar is heelparty koeverte sonder seël. Diensdoende republikeinse burgers kon ook briewe posvry stuur, as hulle net bo-aan die koevert skryf "Kommandodiens" (Vrystaat) of "Velddiens" (Transvaal).

Koeverte wat na bepaalde dorps- of distrikskommando's verwys, is nie volop nie maar bestaan wel. Daar is ook posstukke wat getuig van die vrywilligers met die Boeremagte, soos die Skandinawiese korps.

Rooikruis- en hospitaalpos is 'n filateliese studieveld op sigself. Vandag word poskaarte of koeverte met die bekende Rooi Kruis-simbool hoog aangeslaan, boonop as dit van klein werkgroepies is soos die Nederlandse Rooi Kruis wat die Boere met veldambulanse kom help het.

Die oorlog het posroetes ingrypend verander. Met die begin van vyandelikhede is die posdienste tussen die republieke en kolonies dadelik opgeskort. Maar die republieke kon steeds byna 'n jaar lank pos na die buiteland stuur, en pos inkry, danksy die neutrale hawe van Lourenço Marquès in Portugees-Oos-Afrika. Dit het ook die roete geword vir die republieke se pos na en van die kolonies (Natal en Kaapland).

Die sensor van pos

Afgesien van die telegraaf, was die pos omtrent die enigste kanaal van kommunikasie tussen mense op verskillende plekke. Derhalwe het die owerhede onverwyld 'n hele proses begin om pos te sensor. Vandag sien ons aan posstukke dat party briewe op 'n hele paar plekke gesensor is.

Die sensors het spesiale stempels of kasjette gebruik, eers in hoofposkantore. Maar later, onder Britse militêre gesag, was daar 'n briewesensor op feitlik elke dorp in Suid-Afrika.
As 'n sensor 'n koevert oopgesny het en die brief klaar gelees het, hoe verseël hy weer die koevert? Die antwoord is: met 'n spesiale plakker. Daar is 'n groot verskeidenheid van hierdie plakkers.

Soos met die ander aspekte van die oorlogtydse pos, is die versameling van sensormerke en -plakkers 'n ruim studieveld.

Dis nie net diensdoendes of burgerlikes se pos wat gesensor is nie. Die owerhede het met 'n skerp oog gekyk na die pos van krygsgevangenes, en ook mense in konsentrasiekampe.

Britse krygsgevangenes wat in en buite Pretoria aangehou is, kon briewe skryf en deur Lourenço Marquès uitstuur. Volgens die stempels op sulke koeverte is die briewe deeglik gesensor, ook deur die kantoor van die kommandant-generaal.

Burgers wat gevange geneem is, is so ver weg geneem as moontlik, na Kaapstad, en ook op skepe in Simonsbaai aangehou. Daarna is hulle geneem na krygsgevangenekampe op die eilande St Helena, Ceylon en Bermuda, en in Indië. Talle stempels en merke getuig van hierdie kampe en plekke van aanhouding.

Sensormerke is vandag bekend van die meeste van die 56 konsentrasiekampe waar blanke vroue en kinders aangehou is. Kantoorstempels van die sowat 80 kampe waar Swart mense aangehou is, is egter seldsaam.

Versamelaars het al studies aangevoor van posstukke heen en weer tussen krygsgevangene- en konsentrasiekampe, plaaslik en buitelands. Weer eens 'n wye veld.

Destyds was dit die gebruik om briewe te stempel nie net by die plek van versending nie maar ook by die plek van aankoms. Sulke stempels is gewoonlik agter op 'n koevert. Soms is briewe ook tussen-in by sorteerpunte gestempel (transito-stempels). Dus kan 'n mens sien hoe lank 'n brief geneem het, en dikwels ook die roete wat gevolg is.

Party briewe is lank vertraag, omdat oorlogsgebeure die posroetes ontwrig het. Daar is ook tydelike of noodroetes ingestel. Vernuftige Vrystaters het hul briewe oorkant die Caledonrivier gaan pos en so die Kaaps-beheerde posstelsel van Basoetoland gebruik om na familie in krygsgevangenekampe te skryf.

Dit het natuurlik nie net om briewe gegaan nie. Daar was ook spesiale poskaarte ...

Ja, die posgeskiedenis van die oorlog dek feitlik die volle veld van filatelie. Daar is selfs pos uit 'n skeepsramp, want oorlogsbriewe is herwin uit die wrak van die stoomskip *Mexican* wat aan die weskus vergaan het.
Lugpos? Wel, daar bestaan posstukke wat getuig van die Britse verkenners wat met geankerde lugballonne opgestuur is om die wêreld te bespied ...

Inderdaad, 'binne' die Anglo-Boereoorlog is daar interessante versamelvelde met ruim plek vir oorspronklikheid en spesialisasie na eie keuse.

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'n Wêreld van filatelie in een oorlog

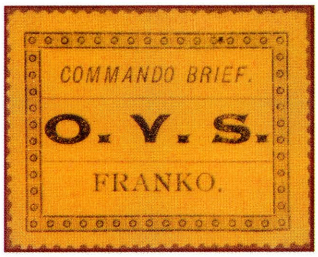




'n Possak vol briewe wat omtrent ses maande oud is, is vroeg in November 1900 gevind deur Britse soldate wat plekke by Rustenburg deursoek het. 'n Spesiale verklarende stempel is toe op die pos aangebring, die briewe is gesensor, en na die geadresseerdes gestuur.

Volksrust is op 12 Junie 1900 beset deur 'n Britse leërmag wat vanuit Natal opgeruk het. 'n Ruwe stempel is sommer daar en dan gemaak deur die ordonnanse van die veldposkantoor, terwyl krygsverrigtinge oral in die omgewing aan die gang was. Dit kanselleer 'n Britse 1d-seël (koningin Victoria). Die datum 15 Junie 1900 is die vroegste bekend.





'n Plakseël wat nie 'n waarde het nie maar die woord 'Franko' wat beteken dat dit die brief frankeer ongeag waarde van die seëls wat miskien nodig is. Dit is gebruik om briewe van Vrystaatse burgers posvry deur te laat.

'n Aantal van die spesiale posstempels wat in die oorlog gebruik is.

Links *Twee van die spesiale stempels van die Natal Field Force wat onder die bevel van sir Redvers Buller deur Natal opgeruk en na Oos-Transvaal beweeg het. Die seëls is die Britse pennieseël (standaardpos) met die kop van koningin Victoria. Bokant die datum in die onderste stempel is die letters 3 M B, wat staan vir 3rd Mounted Brigade, 'n eenheid onder die bevel van generaal-majoor die graaf van Dundonald en deel van die Natal Field Force. Op die datum, 8 Oktober 1900, was die eenheid op Lydenburg, wat 'n maand tevore deur die Natal Field Force ingeneem is.*

Middel *Dannhauser en Mount Prospect was onder 'n reeks stasies in Noord-Natal wat die Transvaalse republiek vroeg in die oorlog beset het. 'n Posdiens is hier georganiseer om die kommando's te bedien, met 'n daaglikse postrein van en na Pretoria.*

Regs bo *Die drie groot belegte waardeur die Boere die Britse leërmagte buite die grense van die republieke wou vaspen, was dié van Kimberley, Mafeking en Ladysmith. In al drie gevalle bestaan daar interessante posmateriaal van die beleërders en die beleërdes. Op Ladysmith is 'n 'Siege post office' ingerig en daar is selfs geïllustreerde poskaarte gedruk. Die stempel Hoofdlager / ZAR is gebruik by kommandant-generaal Piet Joubert se veldkantoor op 'n koppie buite Ladysmith.*

Regs onder *Metaalstempels met nommers (hierdie een is nommer 25) is gebruik deur eenhede van die Britse leër. Die seël is 'n tweepennie-seël van die Transvaalse republiek wat op Lydenburg oorgedruk is met 'n afkorting vir die Britse vors, naamlik V.R.I. (Victoria Regina Imperatrix).*



Hierdie koevert vertel 'n merkwaardige verhaal. Tydens die beleg van Mafeking het die Britse owerheid op die dorp seëls van die Kaapkolonie en van Brits-Betsjoeanaland (die seël heel regs) oorgedruk met nuwe waardes, om die draers te betaal wat die briewe in die nag uit die dorp en deur die Boerelinies moes smokkel.

Die draer van hierdie brief is doodgeskiet. Briewe is die volgende oggend deur Britse verkenners by die lyk gekry, en teruggeneem na die posmeester wat die posdraers georganiseer het. Dit is een van verskeie briewe wat op 30 Maart 1900 op Mafeking gefrankeer is met seëls vir een sjieling, die tarief vir die noordelike roete, in die rigting van Lobatsi, en dan Bulawayo, Salisbury en Beira (soos gemerk op die koevert). Adresse is met blou potlood deurstreep deur die posmeester, Howatt, wat toe die briewe aan die afsenders terugbesorg het.

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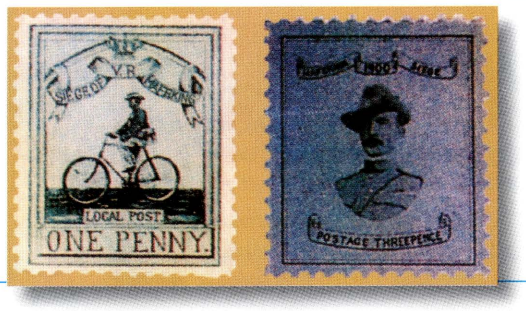
Die seëls wat plaaslik met 'n fotografiese proses tydens die beleg op Mafeking gemaak is, is steeds wêreldwyd gesog. Die seëlgeld is gebruik om die laerskoolseuns te betaal wat as boodskappers tussen die hoofkamp en die wagposte opgetree het. Die eenpennieseël toon kadet-sersant-majoor Warner Goodyear (12) met sy fiets, en op die driepennieseël is die bevelvoerder, kolonel R S S Baden-Powell. Volgens oorlewering was koningin Victoria later omgekrap omdat Baden-Powell se kop op die seël was, en nie haar kop nie.



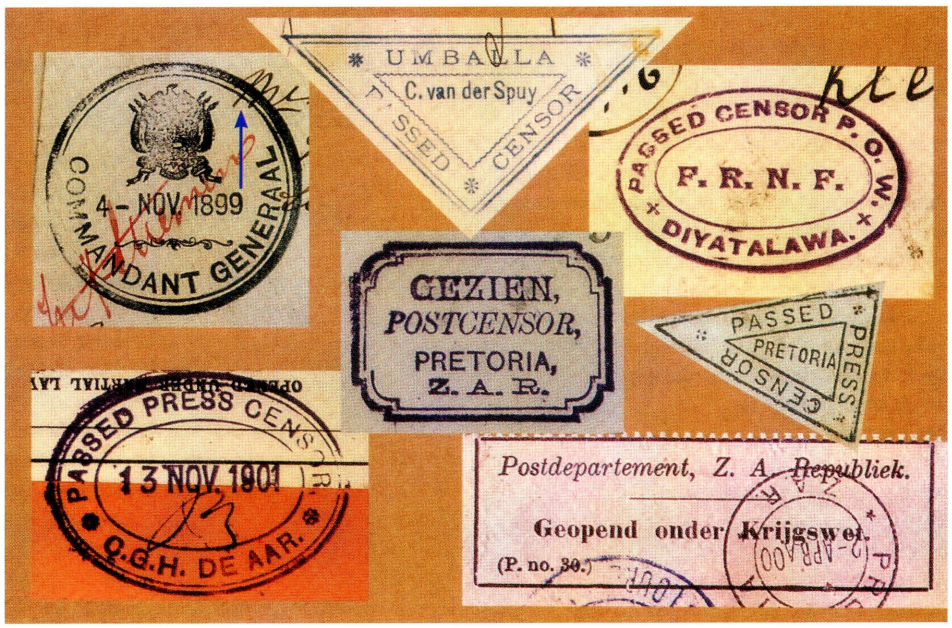
Versamelaars kyk ook na die sensormerke op posstukke, en die verskillende plakkers wat gebruik is om 'n koevert te herseël nadat die sensor dit oopgesny het om die brief te lees.

Links bo en middel *Sensormerke van die Transvaalse republiek, wat gesien word op briewe na en van die Britse krygsgevangenes wat in Pretoria aangehou is.*

Bo en regs bo *Sensorstempels van twee van die kampe, Umballa in Indië en Diyatalawa in Ceylon, waarheen gevange burgers gestuur is om hulle so ver weg as moontlik te hou.*

Links onder en middel regs *Op feitlik elke dorp, selfs in die Kaapkolonie, het sensors pos onderskep, gekeur en deurgelaat, soos hierdie "Passed"-merke getuig.*

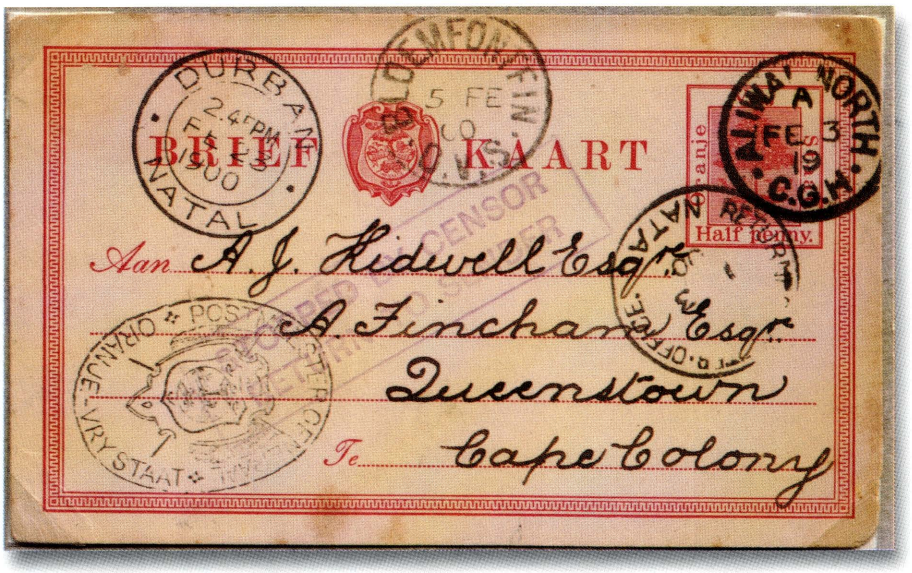
Regs onder *Die Transvaalse sensorplakker wat by die hoofposkantoor in Pretoria gebruik is om briewe na en van buitelandse bestemmings te herseël. Dit lees "Geopen onder Krygswet".*





Omdat 'n Britse aanval ook vanuit Rhodesië verwag is, het die Boere 'n kommando na die Limpoporivier gestuur, naby die destydse Fort Tuli. Slegs vier eksemplare is bekend van die posstempel wat lees Poskant Lager / Noorder Grens / *datum.*

Die verhaal van oorlogspos. 'n Halfpennie-poskaart (binnelandse tarief) van die Oranje-Vrystaat, op 3 Februarie 1900 gepos op Aliwal-Noord, wat toe onder die republieke se beheer was. Dit is geadresseer na Queenstown, destyds so 180 km daarvandaan - maar die direkte posdiens tussen die republieke en kolonies was opgeskort. Die poskaart is toe na Bloemfontein (5 Februarie 1900), waar dit die deurgangsmerk van die Vrystaatse Posmeester-generaal gekry het - die ovaalmerk met landswapen. Vanhier is die poskaart na Pretoria, toe na die neutrale hawe van Lourenço Marquès vir versending per skip na Durban en Oos-Londen, vir die ompad-reis van ruim 2 700 km na Queenstown. In Durban (23 Februarie 1900) was die Britse sensor besig om alle pos vanuit die republieke voor die voet te stop, en sy kantoormerk 'Stopped by Censor - Return to Sender' is voor op die poskaart aangebring. Die kaart is toe na die Natalse Returned Letter Office, die kantoor vir teruggestuurde briewe (1 Maart 1900). Of die poskaart inderdaad heelpad na Aliwal-Noord teruggestuur is, weet ons vandag nie.



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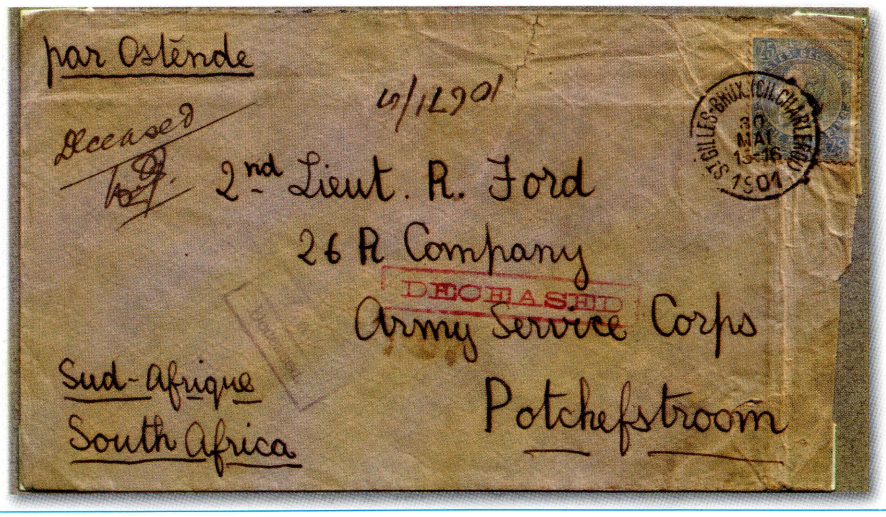
'n Wêreld van filatelie in een oorlog

Die oorlog het die hele Suid-Afrika geraak, selfs die verre Namakwaland. Trouens, in 1902 het 'n Boerekommando 'n kortstondige beleg uitgevoer by Okiep, waar heelparty mynwerkers uit Cornwall by die kopermyn werksaam was.



Britse soldate kon briewe posvry stuur na die Britse Ryk maar nie na ander lande nie. R Ford van die Transvaal Constabulary ('n oorlogtydse polisie-eenheid) se seëllose brief het toe op 26 November 1900 in Londen 'n 2½d-seël gekry vir versending na Brussel. Die vertrekstempel van 1 November 1900 is vir Army Post Office nommer 55 in Pretoria, waar briewe van Britse soldate uit omliggende gebiede ontvang is. Ford het die brief aan sy broer Hugh gerig, en links bo geskryf 'Faire suivre' - stuur asb aan. Hy het ook in Engels en Frans op die koevert verduidelik dat daar weens die oorlog nie seëls beskikbaar was nie.



'n Volgende brief van Ford se broer in België vertel 'n hartseer storie. Tweede luitenant R Ford is oorlede, soos twee kasjette 'Deceased' en 'n handskrif-endossement getuig.

Die meeste van die illustrasies is van items in die goue medalje-versameling van Harry Birkhead RDPSA.

***Editor's Note:** - Prospective authors are invited to provide a précis of material submitted, in English or Afrikaans or in both languages, which may be published as an introduction to their article or as a summary at the end thereof.*
Should you care to have a translation of the above article, please contact the author,
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PO Box 12537,
Queenswood 0121.

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by Rev Cassie Carstens, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

THEMES ON STAMPS



* **Religion**: Every year the people of Ireland celebrate the birth of a son born to two Italians called Calpurnius and Conchessa, who happened to be spending some time in Britain. They gave him the name Maewin Succat. Not exactly a name that rolls off the tongue, but perhaps that's why he used his baptismal name - Patricius. While the world normally associates the colour green with St Patrick, in fact blue was the original hue assigned to him. It wasn't until the 19th Century that he 'went green'. Green being the colour which, in Celtic mythology, is associated with immortality and mysticism.



* **Naval vessels**: Although HM The Queen and HRH Prince Philip helped design the *HMY Britannia* primarily as a Royal residence afloat, this ship had the facility to be converted into a hospital ship, should the need arise, during times of conflict. Now decommissioned and permanently moored at Leith Harbour in Edinburgh, *Britannia* is described as an exhibition ship which may be hired as a venue for conferences or functions.



* **Fauna**: Why is a wolf so fascinating? The penetrating eyes, the eerie call, the soft fur, the slight of feet - or perhaps the beautiful story of White Fang! Have you ever read it in your youth? The Grey Wolf (*Canis lupus lupus*) is a large animal and lives in many parts of Asia and Europe. Wish I could have one as a pet.



* **Music**: Inaugurated in 1908 by Dean Samuel Falle, the first Jersey Eisteddfod took place on 1st October of that year. Since 1908 the continuity of the Eisteddfod has only been disrupted by the First and Second World Wars. The Eisteddfod includes Arts and Crafts, Dance and Drama, Speech, Films and Photography, and also Music.



* **Flora**: The anemone (*Anemone coronaria L.*) belongs to the Ranunculus family. It is a Mediterranean plant, common all over Europe, growing at an altitude of 0-800m. It can be found in clearings, brushwoods, thin shrubs and even on arid land. It is a perennial grass with a short hard root, 10-30cm high. It bears a single straight floriferous shoot and complex, jagged leaves at the base. The flower is surrounded by spiny bracts and is radial, big, attractive and occurs in various colours. It blossoms from January to April.

* **Sport**: The Olympic Games is four months away (August 2008), and what a spectacular event it is going to be – especially with the Chinese flavour in Beijing. Unfortunately in South Africa it is and will be politics and quotas. What a shame and a pity! In other countries, like Germany, they are practising hard to attain gold medals.



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Perhaps the South African Olympic Committee should follow their example.



* **Pets**: Rabbits join cats and dogs as among the most popular of pets, with their friendly nature, easy care requirements and the ability to live indoors and out. The Netherlands dwarf seal point and the Dutch dwarf are among 40 species of rabbits and hares worldwide. These tiny examples weigh less than a kilogram, with round bodies and faces, short ears and big, bright eyes.

* **Religion**: Noah and his Ark – now where can you find more interesting and more variety? It brings to mind the words of the children's song: "The animals went in two by two – the elephant and the kangaroo." What a beautiful and fascinating miniature sheet!



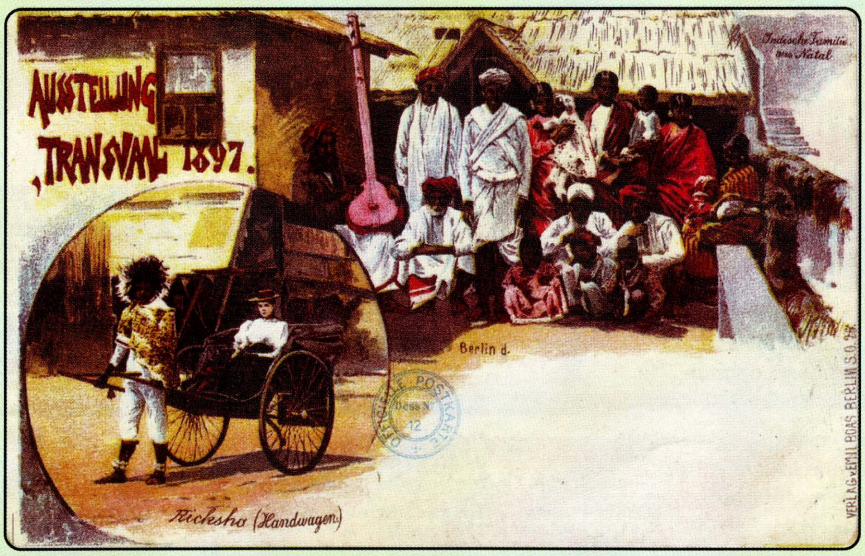
* Hearty congratulations to all the thematic exhibitors at **BLOEM ONE FRAMER** in March 2008 – you did us proud!



References

1. Irish Stamps : Collector's News : 01/08
2. Jersey Stamp Bulletin : No 144: April 2008
3. Norway Post Stamps : 01/2008
4. Jersey Stamp Bulletin : No 143 : March 2008
5. Cyprus Post : 2/2008
6. German Post : March 2008
7. New Zealand Post : February 2008
8. Israel Philatelic Service via East Rand Stamps: December 2007
9. German Post: March 2008

This is a glimpse of our BEAUTIFUL WORLD...



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website: randstamps.sixpack.co.za (NO 'www')

*Stamps, postal history and stationery, postmarks, postcards, documents and literature

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Exhibition News

ISRAEL 2008 is hosting the second 'World Stamp Championship'

"World Stamp Championship", which is the highest level of philatelic competitive exhibition, was first held at the SINGAPORE 2004 world exhibition. Following the great success and interest it raised in the philatelic world, ISRAEL 2008 was elected by the FIP to host the second WSC competition. The competition is held once every 4 years, similar to the Olympic event.
The jury of "World Stamp Championship", where the best philatelists in the world compete for awards, will elect 3 finalists that will be awarded as: The World Champion, First Runner Up and Second Runner Up.
The "World Champion" is recognized as having won the highest award in the world's stamp competitive exhibition.

What is a "World Stamp Championship" class and how does it differ from the traditional "FIP Championship" class?

FIP Championship Class is restricted to exhibits, which have received 95 or more points at FIP World Exhibitions attained in three separate years within a period of 10 years. The exhibits can be from any class.
In the present FIP Championship class, an exhibit receiving the Grand Prix d'Honneur may only be shown "out of competition" by the same owner. The World Stamp Championship Class gives the owner the opportunity to exhibit continuously, if he/she so chooses.
The ISRAEL 2008 "World Stamp Championship" Class accepts exhibits having received 90 or more points in FIP World Exhibitions within any time frame, but only from the Traditional Philately Class. A few Postal History exhibits were accepted as an experimental class.
The exhibitor participating in the "World Stamp Championship" Class must personally accompany his/her exhibit to the Exhibition.

What are the rules for judging "World Stamp Championship" class?

Voting will be performed in the same method used by the European Eurovision contest and was done successfully in Sweden National exhibition BOFILEX 07.

Each Judge will receive a voting form that will include the exhibitor and exhibit names of the six finalists that were chosen by a team of six Jurors.

The exhibit's merits and importance will be presented to the Jurors before voting.

The scores are: 10 points, 8 points, 7 points, 5 points, 3 points and 2 point.

It is mandatory to give points to all exhibits.

In case of tie scores an extra voting form that the president of the Jury has submitted, will be added to the count to break the tie.

A form marked with two similar scores and/or missing a score will be disqualified.

Counting of the votes.

The counting will be performed "live" at the Palmares dinner using a large computer display screen for all to view.

N. SARIG

Editor: South Africa will be represented in The World Championship Class by Mr. Clive Sergay's "Zululand" exhibit, which received a Large Gold Medal at "Washington 2006."

Auction News

DAVID FELDMAN SA Announces Exceptional Spring Auctions April 1-5, 2008



Rarities, extensive specialised sections from all over the world of philately, many important collections and a day-long offer of large lots and estates will be offered in six separate catalogues, comprising one of our strongest and most comprehensive series of auctions in recent times. Highlights include:

- Rarities of the World & Important Collections, 115 lots featuring the unique British Guiana '**cotton reel**' cover franked with the 'missing 1' (of '12') variety, ex Burrus (Estimate 350,000 – 400,000 Euros), as well as the newly discovered Schleswig-Holstein first issue cover franked with two strips of 3 of the 1850 1 Schillinge 'Arms' used from Ploen (Estimate 400,000 – 600,000 Euros), the famous and unique **Baden 9 Kreuzer** error of colour unused (Estimate 1,000,000 – 1,500,000 Euros), and the largest known multiple of the 1855 first issue of Norway, the '**Trondheim**' block of 39 (Estimate 1,000,000 – 1,500,000 Euros). - Specialised sections include Part II of the 'Kristall' collection of Sweden, specialised Great Britain Queen Victoria issues, Egypt, Persia, France, Germany 'Shields' and more.



- Important collections offered intact or by sections including specialised USA, Haiti, Persia Lions, and many others throughout the Rarities, the Sweden and the All-World catalogues.

To view, order or download the catalogues for this series of auction from their web site, www.davidfeldman.com. One can bid LIVE ON LINE during the sale, from wherever you may be, using our Live Internet Bidding Software.

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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 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

Wanted

RSA – "Express" mail and other unusual covers, especially from the Homelands; and FDC 6.3c – Pres Mandela Inauguration with R5 coin; paying above catalogue. Also Zimbabwe commercial covers from 2000. Offers to: Paul van Zeyl, Box 29012, Sunnyside, 0132

Wanted

A German stamp collector looking to exchange stamps from Germany, Poland, Austria for similar of Namibia, South Africa, Malawi and Botswana. Offers to: Helmut Pfannkuchen. Hauptstraße 26, D-38871 Drübeck, Deutschland
email: hpfannkuchen@arcor.de

For Sale: The East Rand Society has a number of the early wooden exhibition frames for sale. These are available for R50 each, collectable from Benoni, and are ideal for display purposes, notices etc, for schools, churches and other societies.
For details contact Dave Hunt, 082 5795793.

www.philatelysa.co.za

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

FUTURE ARTICLES

Part two : The early Philately of the Italian States
by Prof Franco Frescura

1839 Cape Town to Bermuda
by Andrew Briscoe

The Orphan Chamber of Cape Town
by Andrew Briscoe

Material published subject to availability

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed

1 - 'Some Further Thoughts Concerning the 1883-85 Celliers Printings', by Alan Drysdall and Fernando Torres, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.165, February 2008, p.10 – 14.
2 - 'Telegraph Stationery Associated with the Boer invasion of Natal 1899-1900' by Roger Porter, '*The Transvaal Philatelist*' no.165, February 2008, p20 - 23.
3 - 'Silver Jubilee Printing Methods: A Contrary View', by David E. Gillis, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1353, March 2008, p.42 - 48.
4 - 'British Bechuanaland: The First Provisional overprints of 1885-87', by Brian Hurst, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1353, March 2008, p.52 - 63.

Specialist philatelic Societies

- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK; Journal: '*The Transvaal Philatelist*'. The S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal*'. The S.A. representative is Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: '*The Springbok*'. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. Journal: '*OFS Bulletin*'. Contact: J Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: '*The London Philatelist*'. The S.A. representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: '*Forerunners*'. SA representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: '*Journal of RSC*'. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: '*The Runner Post*'. The S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keithp@dbthermal.co.za
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za

ATTENTION : *Postal Stationery Collectors.*
We wish to form a society for collectors of Postal Stationery. Those interested in joining - please contacts Emil Minnaar email: emil@minnaar.org



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New Issues

2008 Stamp Programme

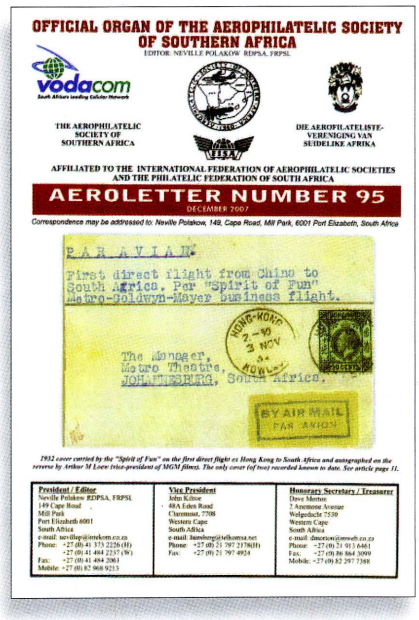
As published by the SA Post Office December 2007.
*Note: Programme subject to change

- **SA Bird series:** The Big 5 of Birds
- **Heritage sites series:** uKhahlamba - Drakensberg Park
- **Constitutional Hill series:** Architecture of the Constitutional Court
- **2010 FIFA World Cup SA™** miniature sheet
- **ICE 2008 Entomology** Conference
- **Namaqualand Flowers**
- **10 Years Diplomatic** relations with China
- **Onderstepoort Centenary**
- **World Post Day** Old Post Office buildings
- **Big 5 2008 design** Self Adhesive
- **IPU Assembly** (International Parliamentary Union)
- **Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday**

Society News

The Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa

The Society has recently published its latest Aeroletter #95 which is in full colour and covers a wide range of articles extending to both classic and modern material. This has not been previously reported on, but is now well illustrated. It includes a synopsis of the "Helderberg" disaster on 27 November 1987, the 1932 MGM Flight to South Africa, the last 747 Flight in SAA Colours, the Concord and South Africa, the direct Australia – South Africa Air Route, the 1937 Empire Air Mail Concession Labels, plus a host of other interesting information. The Aeroletter is free to all members and a limited number are available to anyone who may be interested in joining the Society. The collection of Air Mails is an affordable and interesting area of Postal History which has become very popular around the Globe.


OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETIES AND THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

AEROLETTER NUMBER 95

DECEMBER 2007

Correspondence may be addressed to: Neville Polakow, 149, Cape Road, Mill Park, 6001 Port Elizabeth, South Africa

PAR AVION

First direct flight from China to South Africa. Per "Spirit of Fun" Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer business flight.

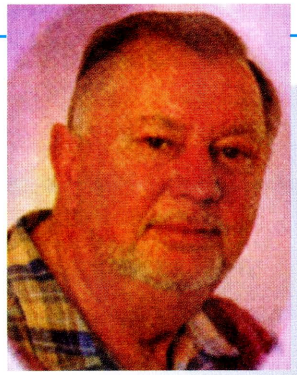
The Manager, Metro Theatre, JOHANNESBURG, South Africa.

BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION

1932 cover carried by the "Spirit of Fun" on the first direct flight ex Hong Kong to South Africa and autographed on the reverse by Arthur M Loew vice-president of MGM films. The only cover (of two) recorded known to date. See article page 11.

Contact Dave Morton: Hon Secretary if you would like further details: - E-mail: dmorton@mweb.co.za
Phone: +27 (0)21 913 6461
Fax: +27 (0)86 684 3099

Obituary



FRANK VAN RENSBURG

Frank van Rensburg was born on 24 June 1929 in Pearston Eastern Cape. His father was transferred to Durban where Frank grew up, started to work and got married. He started collecting when he was 12 years old and was active right up until his death.

At the age of 16 he joined the Durban Philatelic Society. He gave various talks over the radio during that time about stamp collecting. He worked for the then South African Railways and Harbours. In 1962 he was transferred to the SAR+H head office in Johannesburg. He lived on the West Rand for over 30 years, first in Discovery and later in Horizon. He retired from the SAR+H after 42 years service.

He then finally got more time to concentrate on his hobby, philately. Frank joined the Roodepoort Philatelic Society, were he immediately immersed himself in various aspects of philately and served on the West Rand Philatelic Society's committee as a member and, for many years as its chairman.

Frank collected Union and Republic of South Africa with specialisations on military and railway philately. He referred to him self as a FRAMA fanatic and exhibited FRAMAs at the Wanderers *101 National Exhibition* where he received a Silver-Bronze for his exhibit.

Frank also wrote a number of articles which were published in the *SA Philatelist*. The following are some of the articles Frank wrote:

- Constant markings on the emblems on FRAMA label paper
- Vroue op die seëls van Suid Africa
- Gedenkkoevert: Nationale Vloedramp
- Cape Town '91 postage label and date stamps
- FRAMA frolics at Pretoria '92

In 1986 he joined the South African Stamp Study Circle and the recently formed RSA Stamp Study Group both specialist societies where he could indulge his passion for research. Frank served as President of the former from March 1995 to March 1998, by which time he had relocated to the Kokanje Retirement Resort at Nylstroom. Thereafter he rarely attended meetings but invariably served as the SASSC representative at Congress each year until ill-health prevented his attendance.

Frank's interests were mainly of the more recent period of South African philately especially the Republican era. He certainly kept up to date with new issues and he played a very active part in the RSA Stamp Study Group and hardly a newsletter was published without an article on a great variety of aspects of philately from his pen. He is best known for his research on stamp booklets - he was affectionately known as "Mr Booklet" and he was the author of '*Stamp Booklets 1988 - 1996 - Republic of South Africa*', the definitive work on the subject and followed that up with annual updates published in both Study Group Newsletters and Setempe. Even after moving to Nylstroom, he only rarely failed to attend meetings of the Study Group, held in Pretoria, together with his wife Ella. He served as Chairman from 2002 to 2004 and on stepping down from that position he was made an Honorary Life Member of the society.

He remained a member of the West Rand Philatelic Society until 2 years ago after which he retired from the society due to his deteriorating health. He was still actively pursuing his hobby until 3 months before his death. Frank passed away on the 13 February 2008.

Frank generously shared his extensive knowledge and finds with others and his death deprives South Africa's philatelic community of a very special person. He will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

with acknowledgements to Connie Liebenberg and Ron Rong

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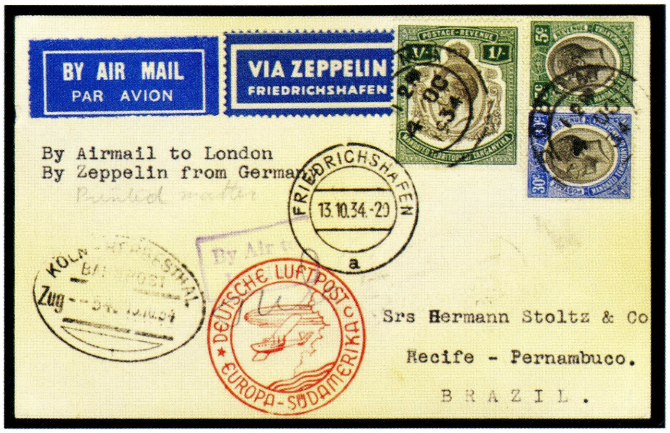

Tanganyika: *1934, Tenth Zeppelin South America flight, postcard to Recife franked 5c., 30c. and 1/- with Doboma cancellations of Oct. 4 1934, Friedrichshafen datestamp and red Air Mail cachet (code c), transit and arrival markings, fine.*



Swaziland: *1934, Eight Zeppelin South America flight, envelope Registered to Buenos Aires franked 1933 4d. and 5/- with Mbabane cancellations of Sept. 1, Friedrichshafen datestamp of Sept. 15, red Air Mail cachet (code b), transit and arrival markings on reverse; fine and rare.*

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THIS MONTH

The Swimsuit Edition



Cinderellas
'A Baker's Dozen'



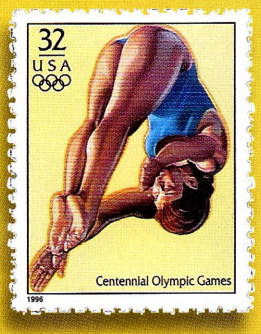
RSA New Issues

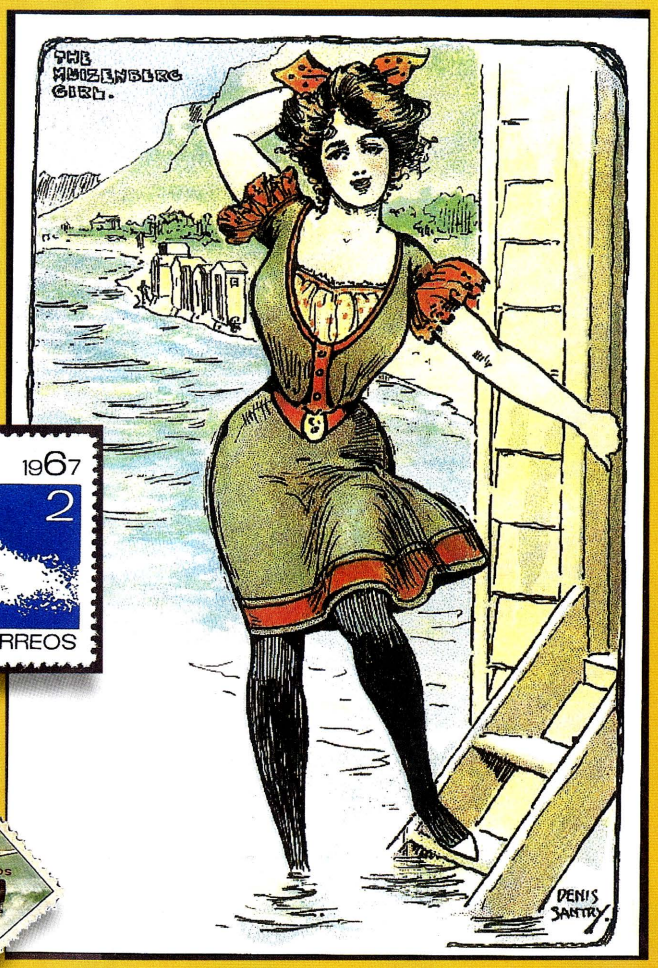


The Orphan Chamber of Cape Town



The Struggle of 'Sleepy Hollow'











INSIDE:

- The Orphan Chamber of Cape Town
- EXHIBITIONS: Israel 2008, Bloem One Framer
- RSA New issues

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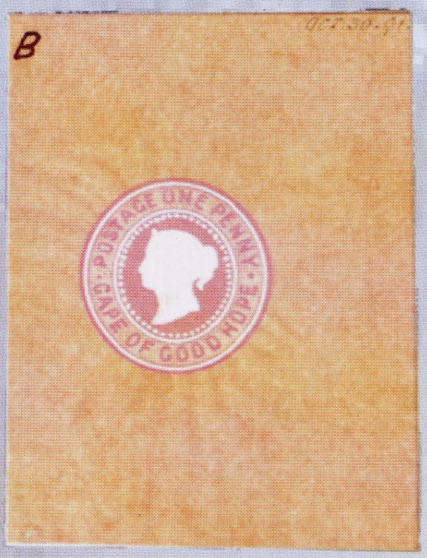


Cape of Good Hope: 1891 QV Stationery Essay Handpainted in Rose Wash and Chinese White. Magnificent. £650



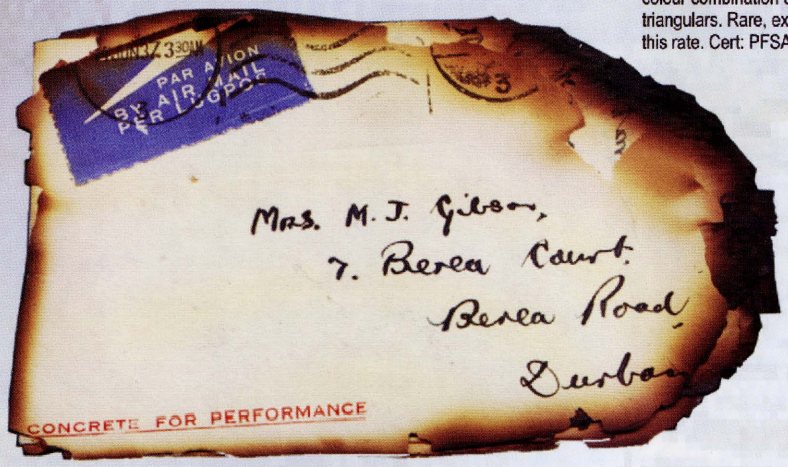
South Africa: 1927 Pretoria ½d
INTRUSION FLAW Spectacular. £650



Cape of Good Hope: 1861 Part entire franked WOODBLOCK
4d blue A pleasing example of a rare stamp on cover. Cert: PFSA. £1100



Cape of Good Hope: 1858
REGISTERED ENTIRE pleasing colour combination of 6d and 4d triangulars. Rare, example of this rate. Cert: PFSA. £1800



Crash Mail: 1937 SAA GERMISTON CRASH: Large portion charred envelope with letter contents and official GPO notice.Very rare, few survive. £850



Transvaal: 1880
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June 2008 Vol 84 No 3 Whole No 888

• Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
• Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
• Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
• Large Silver Egoli 2001,
• Federation Plaque 2004,
• Silver España'06 Literature Award 2006.
• Large Silver 10th NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhib 2007.

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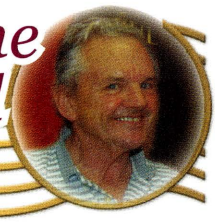
From the Editorial desk



Billboards around town and notices in the press are constantly reminding us of how many days there are until the opening of "Twenty Ten", just as they did not so many months ago for the Rugby World Cup. All the hype seemed to work for Jake White and his team although it may be asking for too much that it might do something similar for our footballers. It seems as if the year 2010 is being regarded in this country as something of a watershed, the year by which all of our shortcomings will be put to rights. The lights will come on again courtesy of Eskom, foreign capital will come flooding into the country and Bafana Bafana will get past the first round of the World Cup. Little credit, I am afraid to say, is being accorded to "Jo'burg 2010", the International Philatelic Exhibition that is scheduled for the Sandton Convention Centre from the 27th of October of that very same year. If you receive this copy of the journal on, say, the 9th of June 2008, there will be, by my reckoning, only about 870 days to go to the opening of what promises to be the most significant philatelic event to have taken place in this country in many a long year.

However, it is up to us to ensure that it is a "significant philatelic event". Even now, it is not too soon for those of you who are intending to exhibit to start the planning of your entries, not forgetting that, for the first time in this country, the frames will take four rows of four pages as opposed to the present three rows of five pages. It will not, I imagine, be too long before the prospectus for the exhibition and the preliminary entry forms are published in this journal and it is likely that the application for frames will far exceed the anticipated quantity that will be available. What is certain is that our fellow member countries of FIAP, the likes of China, Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand and Australia are extremely interested in the event. During my visit to Seoul in 2002, I was buttonholed by a number of my fellow commissioners, all of whom wanted to know when we were going to stage an "International" in South Africa. It is my bet that a large majority of them will make the trip to Johannesburg and bring a number of top class exhibits with them.

I mentioned Seoul. That was the occasion of the "Korean World Stamp Exhibition". Many of the thousands of visitors were schoolchildren who were brought in by coach and entertained right royally throughout the day. They were encouraged to design stamps, access philatelic websites on the Internet, to contribute to an enormous mural constructed out of stamps and to learn all about the hobby through a number of extremely congenial speakers, many of whom gave their young charges a conducted tour of some of the more appealing exhibits. The children also featured prominently in the daily "newspaper" that was published throughout the show. It is to be hoped that the committee that has been elected to serve "Jo'burg 2010" will appreciate that our youngsters can make a very positive contribution to the exhibition. Again, it is not too early to make a start. Perhaps the members of our junior societies could be encouraged to design a stamp or a first day cover for the event? Please give it some thought. The Editorial Board of the *SAPhilatelist* will be happy to publish any constructive ideas that you may have.

Chris Mobsby.





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Closing dates for future issues

August issue	Vol. 84: 4.	889 : 14 July 2008
October issue	Vol. 84: 5.	890 : 15 September 2008
December issue	Vol. 84: 6.	891 : 11 November 2008
February issue	Vol. 85: 1.	892 : 13 January 2009
April issue	Vol. 85: 2.	893 : 17 March 2009

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FUTURE EVENTS

JUNE 2008

20 – 28 June
EFIRO 2008
Bucharest, Romania
www.efiro2008.ro
Emil Minnaar as Commissioner
Contact: 083 230 5430.

OCTOBER 2008

23 - 28 October
INDONESIA 2008
Jakarta, Indonesia
National Exhibition
Commissioner: Neville Polakow.



OCTOBER 2008

23 - 25 October
PRETORIA, STAMPSHOW 2008
National Exhibition and Congress
Pretoria.
Submission date for entries to be confirmed.



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

31 October - 3 November
RHODESIA STUDY CIRCLE
Diamond Jubilee Celebration
Cape Town



JANUARY 2009

30 January - 3 February
HONG KONG 2009
FIAP Asian International Exhibition

APRIL 2009

10 - 16 April
CHINA 2009
FIP General World Stamp Exhibition
Emil Minnaar as Commissioner
Contact: 083 230 5430.



MAY 2010

8 - 15 May
LONDON 2010
International Exhibition (FIP Patronage)
Islington. UK.



OCTOBER 2010

27 - 31 October
JO'BURG 2010
International Stamp Show
Contact: Howard Green
tel: 011880 3125/9
email:joburg2010@gdb.co.za
Submission date for entries to be confirmed.



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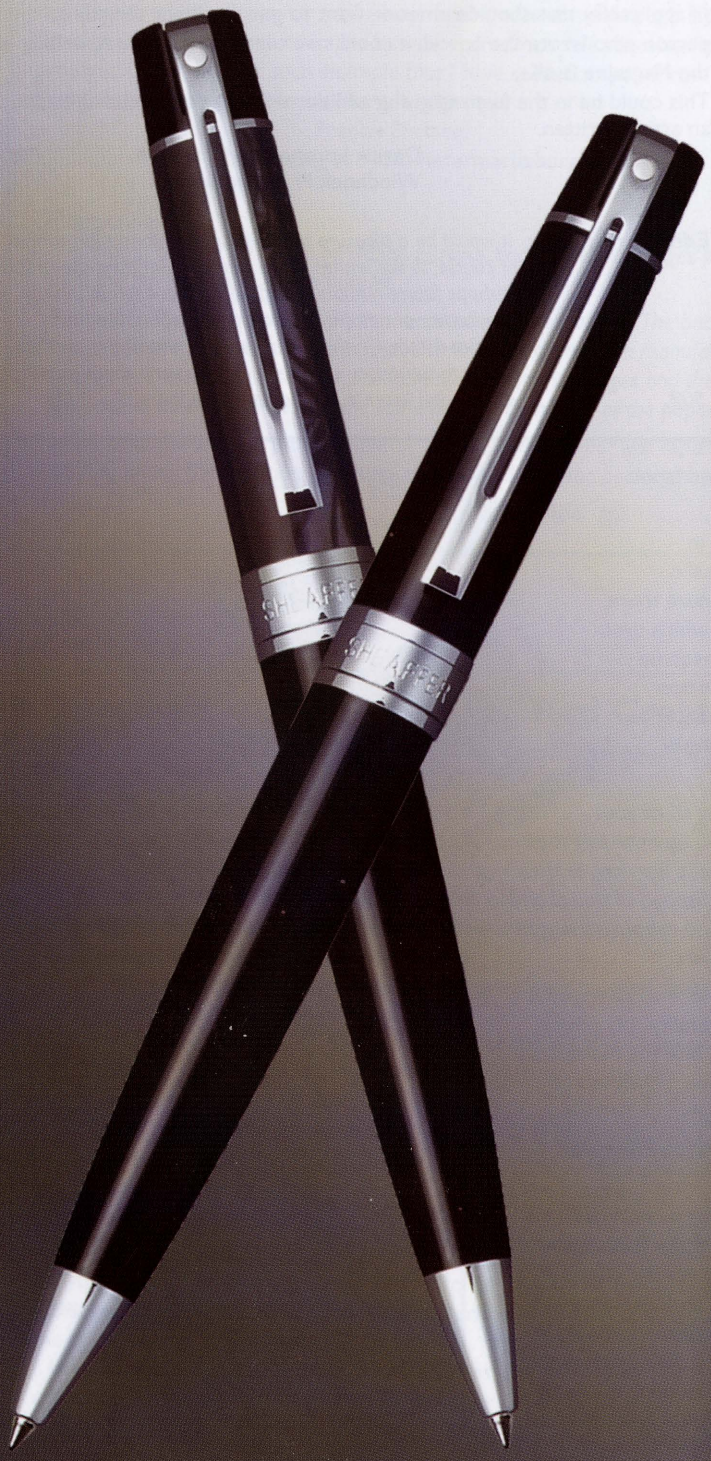



Brushed Chrome Plate Cap Red Barrel Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9307



Brushed Chrome Plate Cap Blue Barrel Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9308



Brushed Chrome Plate Finish Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9306



Iridescent Black Finish Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9309



Glossy Black Finish Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9312



Iridescent Blue Finish Featuring Nickel Plate Trim 9310



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From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



more mail on page 502.

Include an address

Dear Sir

I would like to raise this as a comment/thought only as perhaps it can be of assistance for future editions of the *SA Philatelist.*

When articles are written and published by the writer his name appears at the top of the article.
Is it not possible to include his email address alongside the said article, (if applicable) that should someone want to give feedback directly to the person who wrote the article, it could save time instead of first writing to the Magazine itself.
This could be in the form of giving additional information relating to such an article written.

Derick Loteryman, Chairman
Windhoek Philatelic Society

Editor's response: *It would be a pleasure to publish such information, subject, of course, to the wishes of the person submitting the article. Perhaps future authors would be good enough to inform us whether or not they would like us to publicise their contact details. On the other hand, we are also more than happy to reproduce comments or questions about an article as an open letter in the pages of the journal.*

Advisory Notice: INTERSAPA Packaging

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+27 (0)82 863 9036,
email galefra@mweb.co.za

I recently assisted in the disposal of a small philatelic estate, much of which consisted of RSA and TBVC issues from the 1980s. Most of the material was still housed in its original INTERSAPA packaging, and had resided, in its time, in Johannesburg, Grahamstown and latterly, in Durban.

Regrettably the FDCs had undergone damage from two separate sources :
1. Scotch Tape was used to close the glacine packets containing stamps and miniature sheets. With ageing its gum had bled and stained those papers which had been stored adjacent to it. This is not removable by any means known to me.

2. The white card used to enclose the orders prior to placing these in their Post Office envelopes does not appear to be archivally stable, and for reasons unknown to me, has undergone extensive ageing. This has, in many cases, been transferred to paper surfaces stored adjacent to it, including FDCs and the exterior of glacine packets. Fortunately the stamps inside the glacine packets were unscathed from either source.

This type of card was in extensive use at Philatelic Services during my tenure there from 1994-99, during which time no such damage had become evident, nor, for that matter did it cross my mind that the material was not archivally sound.

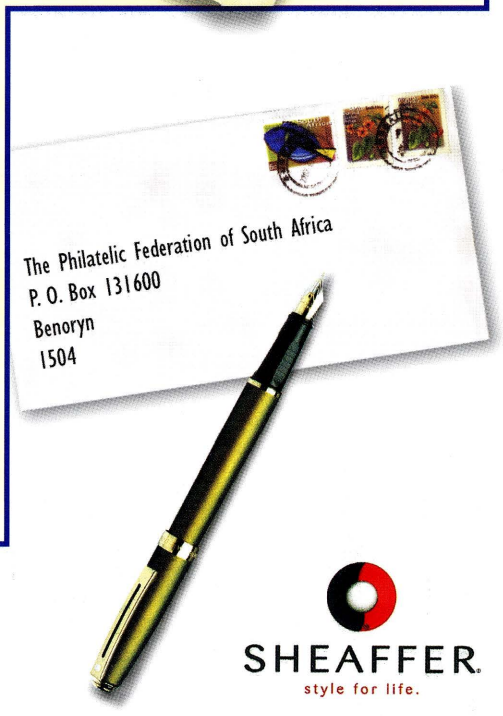
I am therefore advising all of your readers who might still be hoarding their purchases from Philatelic Services in their original packaging to dispose of this at the earliest opportunity and rehouse them in suitably stable containers.

The fate of any material thus damaged is a matter of personal morality. My advice, however, would be to bite the bullet, soak off the stamps whenever possible, and destroy the rest.

Prof Franco Frescura

Editor's comment:
"This is indeed distressing news. While I am sure that the majority of philatelists would have been aware of the adverse effects of Scotch tape in the long term, the detrimental influence of cardboard stiffeners would not have seemed particularly likely. I believe that Intersapa should be called upon to provide an official response to Professor Frescura's letter".
- Editor





Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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Stamp Booklet Error

The Editor,

An irate customer came in complaining that the self adhesive book of stamps he had purchased contained no stamps at all. On closer inspection, he was absolutely right. As can be seen from the illustration, *(simulated perforations are not present)* the ten flowers printed all right, but straight onto the booklet cover.

I am not sure how this error might have occurred, except through lack of checking. My only comment is that, over the last six years since self adhesive flower booklets came out, this is the first such example that I have seen. Can you throw some light on the matter, or indicate how prevalent it might be?

Francis Eustace,
Private Bag X 9118, Pietermaritzburg, 3200

Response:

The stamp booklet described by Francis Eustace, had the stamp images printed directly onto the backing paper of the booklet.

The paper used for printing self-adhesives is produced as follows: The backing paper and the paper on which the self adhesive stamps are printed are manufactured as one single sheet, separated by the silicone adhesive. The stamp images and the images on the booklet cover are printed at the same time on both sides of the paper.

In this case, there was a production error and the stamp paper was separated from the backing paper. The stamp images were then printed onto the backing paper.

Dr. Angus Pringle



Questions regarding the SA Red Cross

I made scans of some of the items in my collections concerning the South African Red Cross.

Some of the questions I have are:

1. When was the service of correspondence between SA and Netherlands (Occupied Europe?) set up ?
2. How was it made public (journal, post office)?
3. Where there special regulations (what not to write about, length of letters etc)?
4. How did the addressee know the reply address (nothing was ever published in the Netherlands)?
5. Why didn't the SA RC use the service of the IRCS in Geneva?
6. Why was there an address in Switzerland (Lausanne) and in Portugal?
7. Was the service terminated during the war (I have only seen items until 1942) ?
8. Did the 50 word form at any time replace the letter service and when?
9. How much mail was send to Europe (The Netherlands)?

As you see I have many questions and I so far never got the answers in Europe. So I really hope that some South African Philatelist is able to give me some of the answers.

I have also tried the South African Red Cross (to ask if they had annual reports over the year 1940 until 1945) but they never replied.

I really appreciate it very much that you will take the effort to help me and I will be waiting anxiously for the outcome.

Best regards from Holland
Hans van der Horst

Response:

As this is the second time we have published this request for help, we appeal to our readers who have any information to correspond directly with Mr van der Horst - email: cj.van.der.horst.@freeler.nl

More information please

Dear Sir,

There are many of your fellow Philatelists who live far off the beaten track. We are unable to get to the venues of the annual S.A. Competitive Exhibitions or even Club meetings. You publish lists of Jurors; lists of winners of various sections; lists of winners of special medals; etc. The description of the material judged is usually broad and overall but not detailed. We who live far away read your publication avidly, but would be most grateful if a number of Frames could be photographed and reprinted in the S.A.P. with a Juror's analysis of the marking of the work submitted. We would understand so much more. We would be able to appreciate our fellow Philatelist's great efforts. We would also be able to direct our own efforts in a more positive way

E.H.Solomon.
Tzaneen, Limpopo.

Response:

This letter will be referred to the Chairman of the Judging and Ethics Committee

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President's Column

The cry 'The Philistines are upon us' was one of anguish and distress in Biblical times. Why this opening statement in a philatelic journal? There was a little boy who could not remember the difference between the Philistines and Philatelists. And now the 'Philatelists are upon us'! What a pleasure, since at the time of writing this column entries were pouring in for Stampshow 2008, to be held at the University of Pretoria from 23 to 25 October 2008 as part of the University's centenary celebrations. This means that we will have a wonderful event, and you already need to clearly mark it on your calendar.

Having been involved with the organization of three national exhibitions in the past nine years, I have heard numerous comments about what these exhibitions should and should not be. I regularly review student papers and one of the main failings is that the papers are not written with a clearly defined objective in mind. Consequently the reader makes up his own mind about what the paper must contain, and in the end is disappointed with the result, as the paper does not deliver to the reader's expectations. Similarly it is important to review the objectives of the National Exhibition.

The PFSA Constitution and Bye-laws are silent on what we wish to achieve with the National Exhibition. Similarly the guideline document for hosting National Exhibitions gives no further guidance. I have therefore tried to formulate what we wish to achieve, and hopefully start the ball rolling for debate.

Firstly, it is a national event for exhibiting collections, sharing information and for providing philatelists with desires of competing internationally with the opportunity to achieve a minimum award to qualify for participation at an international exhibition. As such it is inward focused. International interaction is limited to exchange of jurors and exhibits from Australia.

We therefore do not need to advertise internationally.

Secondly, we do need to advertise locally, and we invariably do so. The philatelic press is used for national distribution. The important target group is however persons with a potential interest in stamp collecting who could attend the event. At previous exhibitions in Pretoria we had articles in magazines that enlighten tourists about happenings in and around Pretoria. We have had coverage in the daily press and knock-and-drop papers. The daily population on campus is in excess of 20 000 persons, and every staff member received notice through the daily news distribution in 2006. The best noticeable response though has been through radio interviews, as invariably people have to call in for more information. These background activities are not obvious to the general attendee, which leaves the impression that nothing is happening. As is generally known, good news does not sell newspapers, and in an area such as Pretoria a stamp exhibition, even when opened by a popular figure, is no competition for political pronouncements on prime time news. Television coverage, unless it is on a magazine programme, will be a non-starter. To complement our efforts, if you have access to decision-makers in this field please help us to promote philately.

Thirdly, since there is a gathering of persons with a philatelic interest the trade sees this as a wonderful opportunity, and without doubt this is a major event on the dealers' calendar. There have been calls for the exhibition to be held in a shopping centre or other major thoroughfare, where large numbers of people could view the exhibits. Apparently this is done overseas. Dealers would certainly not be thrilled if they spend all their time answering elementary questions or selling 5c stamps, and being unable to attend to serious purchasers. Furthermore, exhibiting in a major thoroughfare in South Africa also brings associated security risks.

As with all issues in life, there are advantages and disadvantages to alternative arrangements for the National Exhibitions. At the end of the day it is the responsibility of the Organizing Committee to manage the exhibition, and they need to take all factors into account in making decisions. Please let us have your comments on the above elaboration, and please assist the Organizing Committee by giving your support to the National.

To remind you of the challenges, I am continuing with the check list by adding to them. I trust that you are working on these challenges:

1. *Write a letter, and repeat it regularly;*
2. *Share your special collecting interest with a wider audience;*
3. *Make a commitment towards organized philately;*
4. *Document your philatelic knowledge and experience;*
5. *Enter into the debate on how National Exhibitions are run.*



Alex Visser



Visit the FEDERATION and SOCIETY NEWS pages on our website: www.philatelysa.co.za

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The Struggle of 'Sleepy Hollow'.

-by ds Pauw Steyl, Orange Free State Philatelic Society

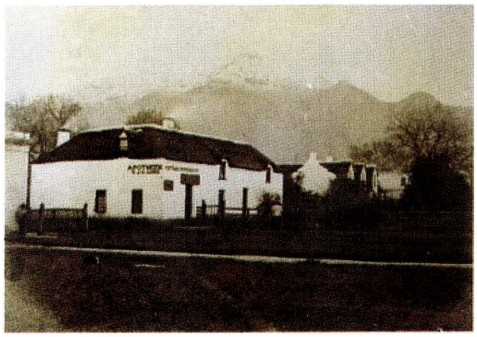
Let me immediately say this 'struggle' has nothing to do with politics.

The story I want to relate has two aspects to it. On the one hand, it relates to the struggle of postal officials doing their work under difficult circumstances and on the other, it deals with the struggle between the different authorities for the provision of new and better postal facilities for the personnel and the public.

The remote situation from Cape Town, as well as difficult geographical obstacles like the indigenous forests, numerous rivers and impassable mountains along the coastline, were responsible for George Town being called by the rather descriptive name of "Sleepy Hollow". For a long period, the town was practically cut off from the outside world and it was only when the Montagu Pass, north of George over the Outeniqua Mountains was opened on Wednesday 19 January 1848 that passable communication with the interior was established. Even the establishment of a municipality did not alter life much. The inhabitants of "Sleepy Hollow" carried on their lives in peace and tranquillity, with no streetlights and cattle roaming the streets.

After the inauguration of the Montagu Pass and the establishment of the town of Blanco, the post office of George was housed in a dwelling on the upper side of the old library. After this office was closed, the post office was re-located in a double-storey building in Courtney Street near the police station, with John McKenzie Johnson serving as postmaster from 1859 until 1863. He was followed by McKenzie Johnson who served until 1872 and then by Septimus Gird. When post offices and postal agencies were established in years gone by, they were situated in rooms in postmasters' residences (for which they received an allowance of £2 per annum), public buildings, public offices and other unusual places. Blanco's early post office was housed in the old Searle's postal stables. The entrance lobby could hardly accommodate six people and the post office functioned from behind a wooden partition. Letters, telegrams, etc. were handed out through a pigeonhole in the partition. These agencies were usually in a poor state and personnel had to work under very difficult and unpleasant circumstances. Can you perhaps already get some feeling of the 'struggle'?

In 1872, George was not situated along the main postal route. The village received its mailbags from Blanco. Postmaster Septimus Gird, the local chemist, conducted his postal duties as a sideline. The George Post Office was housed in one of the rooms of Gird's Apothecary. When business was slack at the post office, Gird had the habit of strolling down York Street. People wanting to send their letters during the postmaster's outings, simply "posted" their letters with the required postage of 4d through the half-open window. On return Gird stuck the necessary stamps on the letters, ready to be dispatched. That is what happened in those early days. It would appear tranquillity was the byword for every day life and no struggles were ever going to disturb the lives of the residents of "Sleepy Hollow".



Post Office housed in Gird's cottage dispensary in York Street. It was situated in the room on the left front corner.

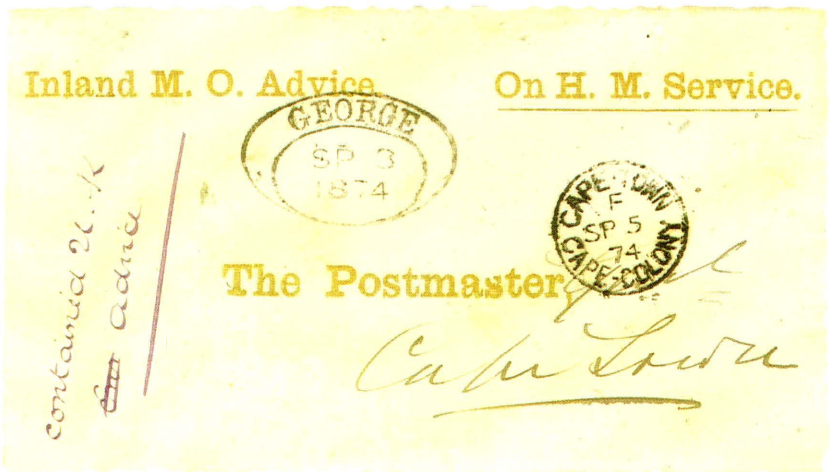
This however, was not the case! Years before Gird's restful strolls down York Street, the sparks were already flying in Postmaster Johnson's post office. Dissatisfied, unreasonable and one might even say ill-mannered customers "struggled" with the postmaster for their postal rights. They reported that he ignored their complaints of having to queue outside in the hot sun or pouring rain. On another occasion, a certain Mr Partridge refused to wait in the newly constructed lobby for his postage stamps and threatened to report Postmaster Johnson to the Postmaster General.

An important development in the postal services occurred during July 1873, when a Telegraph Office was opened. This added a new dimension to the everyday postal affairs at George. In the beginning, Posts and Telegraphs were two separate departments. While the post office operated from Postmaster Gird's cottage dispensary in York Street, the Telegraph Office was situated in Courtenay Street, around the corner from the shop of Searle Brothers at the upper end of York Street, facing Caledon Street. Telegraph lines between George and Beaufort West and George and Knysna were completed in 1875 and 1880 respectively while a second line between Cape Town and George was erected in 1882.

On 1 November 1878, Postmaster Gird was succeeded by William Farrel of the George Telegraph Office. During Farrel's tenure, the expansion of postal services accelerated and a long-felt need of the public was fulfilled when a counter for private post boxes was introduced in 1882. Post boxes, fixed to the walls of public buildings, were erected in 1882 (2), 1890 (1) and 1891 (1). The telegraph office too became a hub of activity, being a very important link in keeping communication open between Cape Town and the eastern frontier at King William's Town. The staff consisted of five men who performed their duties day and night.

With the return of Mr D A McIntyre to George on 1 March 1886, the Posts and Telegraphs departments were amalgamated and Postmaster McIntyre and his staff moved into a house owned by a Mr Hicks in York Street where the Medi Clinic stands today.

The incorporation of the Telegraph Department into the Post Office Administration, led to the need for a more spacious building. During the last week in December 1895, the post office moved to the business premises in York Street previously occupied by George Row.



3 September 1874 - Preprinted Inland Money Order Advice On H.M. Service. The words Genl. Cape Town, endorsed in manuscript, most likely by Postmaster Gird.

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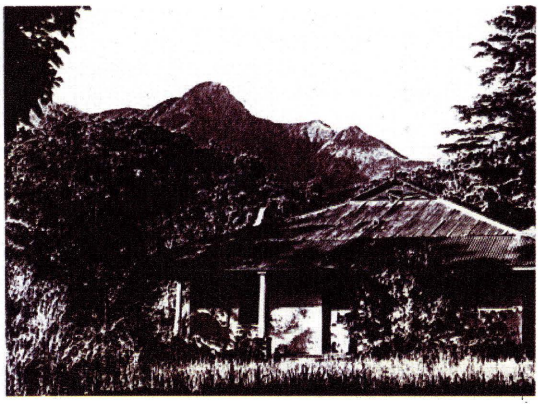
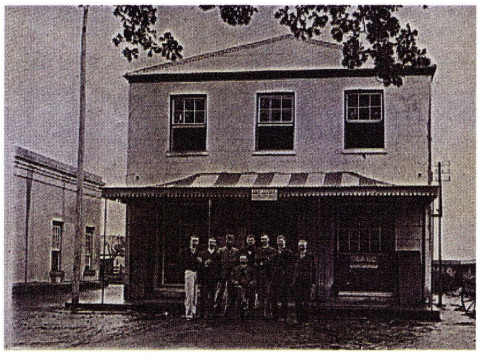


The old house where the Medi Clinic stands today was used as the George Post Office from March 1886-December 1895

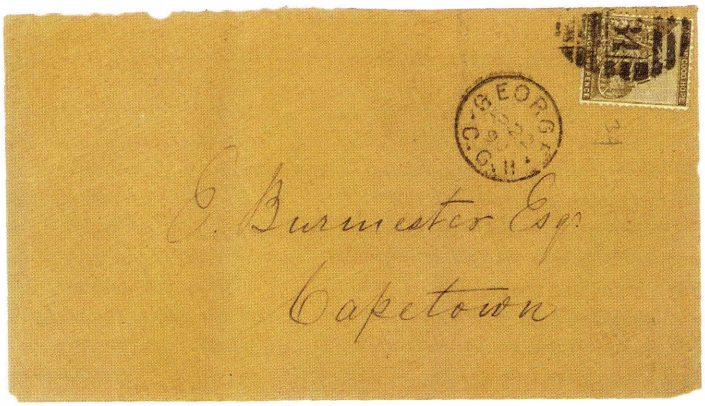
The building was converted to house the telegraph office on the upper and the post office on the ground floor.

To cope with the ever-increasing telegraphic traffic the first Quadruplex Repeater in Africa was installed. This instrument enabled the staff to send two messages in each direction on a single line.



Mr. D A McIntyre with his personnel in front of the double-storey post office in York Street. They moved in during the last week of December 1895. The wording on the veranda read: Post Office/Money Order Office/Savings Bank Office/Telegraph Office

There is some interesting history about the post office activities during the Anglo Boer War. Mr. J A Blatt joined the George Post Office personnel in 1901 as a junior assistant, when Mr. D McIntyre was postmaster. The mails were conveyed by post-cart between George and Port Elizabeth, George being the main distribution point of mails to all the post offices north of the Outeniqua Mountains. On this route, more than 120 postbags were handled every night. Even when the weather was bad and the roads were washed away, up to 300 bags were handled. Six sod forts were built at strategic places in George, e.g. Fort Parsons was built at the intersection of York and Hibernia Streets, not far from the post office. Several times during night shifts, post office personnel visited the fort for "boeretroos" (coffee) – a good way to cope with the struggle in "Sleepy Hollow".



22 April 1890 - GEORGE C.G.H. circular date stamp with BONC 34, posted George to Cape Town. This cover proves the use of BONC 34 at the George Post Office and is the only proving cover reported.

Between 1901 and 1913, Blatt worked invariably on night shift i.e. 5.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m. The office in those days was a dingy premise with a cement floor. The only forms of lighting were paraffin lamps, candles and wax pots for sealing the postbags - modern lead seals had not yet come into use. Sometimes the wax pots caught alight, putting at risk not only the mail, but also the post office and the official's appearance the following morning resembled that of a coal-miner, rather than a postal official.

On Wednesday 25 September 1907, "Sleepy Hollow" roused to activity. Every living soul headed for the little zinc-built station. That day was a milestone in the history of the chief town of the Outeniqua, when George was linked to the outside world. Once the Mossel Bay to George railway line had been built and the first train arrived, the days of slow post-cart mail came to a welcome end.

Luckily, the vision of a railway link with the interior did not stop at the little zinc station of George. The hope was expressed that the mighty Outeniqua Mountain would be conquered and a rail link established between Oudtshoorn and the Little Karoo. The work on this colossal task commenced on 1 December 1908 on the George side under the watchful eye of the engineer in charge, T H Watermeyer. The line was completed in July 1913. A railway line between George and Knysna was opened on 17 October 1928.

Another milestone was reached during 1911 with the establishment at the George Post Office of a telephone exchange and the appointment of Miss Marjorie Walcott as the first "Hello Girl".

Despite what one would have thought was a history of positive progress, there was a clear message in the George & Knysna Herald, when on 1 April 1914, the newspaper reported that a struggle had begun. The article referred to residents submitting a petition to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, urging him either to move the post office to a new building or to improve the existing one. According to the petition, the existing building was too small, dark, without ventilation, generally unhygienic and inadequate. The little struggle-seed was finally planted. From here on the columnist of the George & Knysna Herald played a leading role in keeping the residents of George informed about the problems between the local authorities and the Government/Postal Authority to ensure that the best facilities were made available at every post office.

On 15 April 1914, the George & Knysna Herald reported that the Postmaster General was due to visit George to ascertain the state of the post office. It was stated that if he could only spend one working day in the office, he would have no doubt what decision to make. On 20 April 1914, the Postmaster General made a hurried visit to the post office to acquaint himself with the conditions there. There was general discontent however, that he did not meet with any member of the Town Council and in fact, only a few individuals knew of his visit.



26 September 1901 - Cork obliterator used at the George Post Office. Damage often resulted as the steel letter stamps cut through the paper wrapping of parcels. Although against regulations, postmasters cut their own obliterators using cork or wood, to deface stamps on parcels. Only very few covers have been noted on which a cork canceller has been used.

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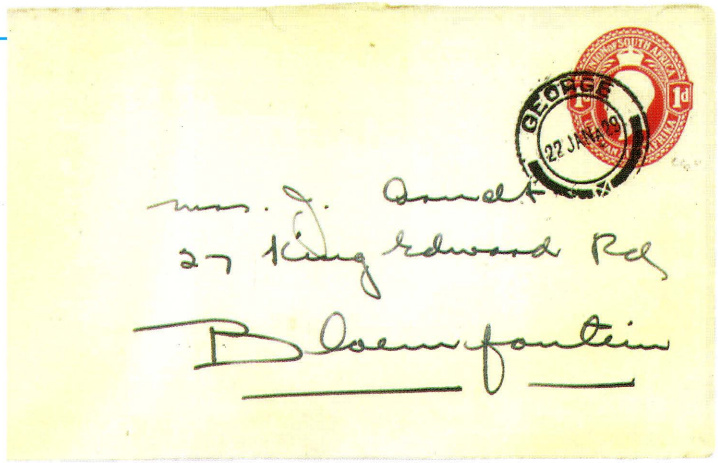

22 January 1929 - Embossed 1d red Union of South Africa / Unie van Zuid Afrika stationery envelope posted from George to Bloemfontein.

The public's patience was tried to the limit. By July 1914, nothing had happened – not even a meaningful reaction from the Postmaster General, following his hurried visit. The residents of George were upset that nothing had transpired and determined that their petition would not end up in a waste-paper basket in the Postmaster General's office. They planned an urgent appeal to the Administrator of the Cape, Sir Frederick de Waal, who was scheduled to visit George on 14 July 1914. The George & Knysna Herald of 7 October 1914 reported that the local authorities decided to join forces and sent a strong protest to the head office of the Post Office in Cape Town. This resulted in a slight improvement, at best what could be called "make shift".

It was not before 28 November 1917 that the George & Knysna Herald carried a short report saying that Inspector Harding of the General Post Office had recently visited the George Post Office and that it was trusted that he now appreciated how much the local postmaster and his staff had to toil. Furthermore, the newspaper article referred to the matter as a disgrace for the Union Government.

On 28 January 1920, the editor of the George & Knysna Herald tried to use shock tactics to open the eyes of the postal authorities. He asked: "How Government can allow the post officials to swelter this hot weather in the pestilent kennels at present used as Post Office we cannot imagine; cramped ill-ventilated rooms like these are enough to ruin any constitution and health". By 1920, the post office had been in use for 25 years and it appeared to the editor that nobody in the Postmaster General's Office realised that George was no longer, what it had been 25 years previously.

More than nine years after the petition was forwarded to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, only some progress had taken place; Oudtshoorn had a new post office, Knysna's new office was being developed and Great Brak River and Blanco had good post offices. In previous years, the mails were carried by post-carts on the main routes and post riders and even post runners on other routes. Later, the post-cart post was substituted for motor- and train post. The George & Knysna Herald of 22 August 1923 rightly stated that in the days when post-carts were still in business, the post office building sufficed. However, with the reality of a daily postal service from Cape Town, as well as the continually developing business community, it had become totally unacceptable that the post office was in such a poor state and that the personnel of 15 had to work in the same space provided 28 years previously when the personnel had been 6.

A very humorous story was reported in the George & Knysna Herald of 5 August 1925, which had occurred at the inauguration of the new Knysna Post Office during the last week of July. The mayor at the time, Mr. C W Thesen, told members present how he had to travel from 9.00 p.m. to 9.00 a.m. from Knysna to George to send a telegram. Mr. Hamill, Inspector of Posts and Telegraphs, represented his department at the occasion and one wonders what his reaction was to this comment. Constant pressure by the Knysna Chamber of Commerce convinced the postal authorities that from 1 November 1926 a daily-motorised postal service should be introduced between Knysna and George. There was also great appreciation expressed for improvements accomplished in the postal services. It was stated that there was now only one gate, at Woodville, between George and Keurbooms River!

On Wednesday 13 January 1926, nearly 12 years after the struggle had started, I am sure Georgians were left speechless when they opened their newspapers and read that the building of the new post office in Hibernia Street would commence shortly. The tender from A Rogers & Son for £2 455 had been accepted. However, for those who thought the struggle was a thing of the past, a huge disappointment awaited them. The editorial of the George & Knysna Herald of 24 February 1926 poured cold water on any enthusiasm or joy about the proposed new post office. The editor reported that the public of George had been waiting many years for a well-equipped post office. However, he pointed out that a thorough study of the plans revealed that on completion, the new building would already be inadequate for the needs of the George community.

It was reported that on 18 February 1926, despite the fact that the builders had already commenced with excavations for the new building, the Ratepayers Association, the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council of George had sent an urgent telegram (18 February 1926) to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. It read, "Public dissatisfied dimensions new post office here, space being totally inadequate. Suggest yourself or responsible official visit George immediately. Meanwhile kindly instruct building operations east side to be suspended pending final decision. Matter very urgent. Please reply".

The Minister, Mr. Madeley, replied the same day: "Your wire re new post office dimensions immediate investigations being made, will communicate with you again as soon as possible". A meeting between two officials of the Department and the local representative, Mr H.J. Raubenheimer took place on 25 February 1926.

It seemed as if the building problems were being sorted out and that the programme was making good progress. The public was informed of the good news, namely that the new post office would be provided with electricity and 100 post boxes in the entrance lobby. Then the anti climax!

The George Post Office in Hibernia Street (1926).



It is the building with the gable to the left of the lady.

When the Georgians opened their newspapers on 21 July 1926, they learned that the new post office in Hibernia Street had opened on Monday morning 19 July 1926, without any ceremony. It was reported that personnel had arrived at work that morning and had taken up their tasks where they had left off the previous Saturday, as if nothing had happened. It was further noted that when the new Knysna Post Office had recently opened, the mayor had been present and had delivered a short speech. The news report stated that in George it was as if there had been a miracle. On Monday morning, a new building had appeared in place of the pokey, dingy premises, which had been occupied the previous Saturday. The George & Knysna Herald thanked the Public Works Department for providing excellent facilities to the public

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of George. At a later stage, a modern and extended telephone exchange was put into operation on 27 April 1931 and by then the post office personnel totalled 20..

When one pages through the historical documents of George Town, one learns that there were not only individuals with personal problems in days gone by, but also persons who helped others. The George and Knysna Herald of 23 December 1931 reported how a Maj. H S Pullar bemoaned his lot. He claimed that it was really a primitive ruling that the mail between George and Blanco should be carried on foot, as the post-carrier had to carry the mail over a distance of 3½ miles in 1½ hours. This meant that Blanco residents only received their mail at approximately 2.30 p.m. "It does not seem unreasonable to advocate that modern facilities be provided even if only the provision of a carrier-tricycle for the post-bag".

Another interesting correspondent's letter was one written by one F Matzner, which appeared in the George & Knysna Herald of 25 May 1932. He wrote about the postmistress of Ronde Valley, a post office in the George district. Apparently, she was obliged to remain on duty in the post office every day for 26 years, in the event the telephone might ring. For her services, she received a daily remuneration of 8d. After 26 years of service, her monthly remuneration was therefore 20/-. The correspondent stated that every time he entered the post office, he felt ashamed. The postmistress in question made representations to the George postal authorities for an increase in wages, but did not succeed. She was told that the Post Office was prepared to close the Ronde Valley Post Office rather than to accede to her request. She was however, advised to take her case to the Postmaster General, whom it was felt would appreciate the injustice that had been done over 26 years. What happened to this struggle? I have been unable to find out. What I do know, however, is that the Rondevlei Postal Agency, as it is known today, is still functioning in the George district. Therefore, the anonymous postmistress must have won her struggle for the postal history of George.

Airmail During The Struggle

Even the Air Force had a role to play in the struggle to establish a good postal system in George. On Monday morning 26 August 1929, the first airmail flight between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth landed at George to re-fuel. On Friday 30 August 1929, Maj. Miller returned from Port Elizabeth landed at George to re-fuel and then continued his journey to Maitland, Cape Town. There were 3782 letters on board, which were destined for the mail-boat and 4015 postal articles for delivery in Cape Town.

On 11 June 1930, Mr Caspareuthus and Capt. Davenport first and second pilot of the six-seat Fokker aeroplane, landed in a ploughed field near Avontuur in the Long Kloof because of bad weather. The three passengers spent the night at Uniondale and continued their journey the next morning by motorcar to George. After the forced landing, Capt Davenport was driven to George by motorcar in the hope that, with the help of Maj. Miller piloting his Moth plane, the mail would still arrive on Friday in Cape Town in time for the mail-boat, which sailed that day. However, muddy roads and flooded rivers made this impossible and he arrived at George on Friday afternoon at 4.00 p.m. just as the mail-boat set sail from Cape Town. The 3.30 p.m. mail-train to Cape Town was also missed, with the result that the mail only left on the 8.00 a.m. train on Sunday morning. Caspareuthus and Robertson, his mechanic, successfully freed the plane from the soft soil and landed just before 1.00 p.m. at George Airport. The two men, the passengers, and the local mail left for Cape Town at 2.30 p.m.

On 26 December 1934, The George & Knysna Herald reported that because of George's weather conditions, the airport would be closed down on 4 January 1935 and on 30 January 1935, the Town Clerk received a letter in this regard. The Airways Superintendent of Durban explained that the weather, especially the low cloud conditions, often made landing conditions dangerous. He did say, however, that if the Civil Air Directorate in Pretoria could be influenced to install the necessary radio equipment, air traffic would return to George Airport. Subsequently the George & Knysna Herald reported on 9 June 1937, that considerable changes had been made to the George Airport and mail-planes started using the airport again.

On 14 July 1937, the editor of the George & Knysna Herald in his editorial entitled "George and the Airmail Service", stated that during the previous week four aeroplanes had landed at George. The distribution point of the new method by means of sea-planes to South Africa was from Durban to the interior. As George was strategically situated, the editor of the newspaper could visualise no better place than George as the mail distribution point for the South Western Districts. He then went on to name other mail-planes that had landed at George at the time, namely the Sir Benjamin D'Urban, the Sir George Grey, Air Speed Envoys the Hendrik Swellengrebel and the Jan van Riebeeck.

A number of aircraft arrived without mishap, until the Sir George Grey, with a full complement of mail on board crashed on 16 October 1937 in an unploughed field, alongside the George Airport. The plane was on its way from Durban to Cape Town. The pilot, J L van Wyk and the ground engineer, W H Hartog were killed instantly and the plane was completely wrecked. The stationmaster, Mr Grierson, stated that the mailbags were found undamaged in the wrecked mail compartment and were forwarded to Cape Town on the 1.00 p.m. mail-train.

During October 1939, the National Road



19 April 1925 - An experimental airmail service was introduced between Cape Town and Durban in each direction from 2 March 1925 - 15 June 1925. The stoppage places en route were Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth, East London and Durban. Owing to fog problems in Mossel Bay, the route was one day prior to the start rerouted to Oudtshoorn. Arrangements were however made that, weather permitting, mail could be delivered to Mossel Bay by plane. The delivery was usualyy done by means of a parachute. The cover above reached its destination most probably by means of this extraordinary way of doing and then by train from Mossel Bay to George.
Cover front shows a special Cape Town slogan postmark "AIRMAIL SAVES TIME
LUGPOS BESPAAR TYD" and special violet postmark with the words: "S.A. AIRMAIL" (above) "S.A. LUGPOS" (bottom) with the date in the middle.

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Board, on instructions from the Defence Force, gave urgent attention to the George airfield to make it possible to land under all weather conditions. The fact that George was strategically halfway between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth made it important, as the Defence Force was preparing for World War II at the time. Shortly after this communication, the Government accepted a tender for setting up an air radio station at Mossel Bay. This enabled Mossel Bay to become the main mail distribution point for the South Western Districts. When South African Airways started landing at Mossel Bay, air-traffic at the George Airport decreased drastically.

A new express train postal service was introduced between Cape Town and George on 12 June 1934. The Garden Route Express arrived from Cape Town carrying mail from England every Tuesday morning at 2.30 a.m. This mail was ready for delivery from 7.00 a.m. Mail for England was accepted daily until Thursdays at 4.30 p.m., when the express train returned to Cape Town.

In the meantime, campaigners for a new post office continued their struggle. The MPC for George, Mr S H Raubenheimer, had discussions with the office of the Postmaster General in Cape Town. He was given the assurance that provision had been made for major building improvements. The MP for George, Mr Gerdener, sent plans of the proposed changes to the Chamber of Commerce. An official of the Public Works Department visited George and concluded that the work should start immediately. It was decided that additional space would be made available in the post and telegraph office, the postmaster's office would be moved to the back of the building and new entrances would be provided. It was agreed that the additional space would assure faster handling of the mail.

By 1935, the George Post Office was paying out 381 pensions per month. On pension payment day, the post office was particularly overcrowded, resulting in discontent between pensioners and the public who could not do their normal business. The postmaster subsequently ruled that the electrician's office be used for pension payouts. There was, however, a problem with this arrangement, as there was no shelter on rainy days. An extract from the George & Knysna Herald of 27 February 1935 read as follows, "What George requires is a post office suitable for George's requirements, and not one to meet the needs of a hamlet the size of Blanco". The intensity of the struggle was mounting again.

Over the years, the Chamber of Commerce in George had been the driving force for better post office facilities. They felt that for a fast growing town like George, the post office was inadequate, the staff were working under unfair circumstances and the matter of George's "Toy" Post Office had to be investigated urgently.

Mr. H. Gerdener MP wrote from Uniondale in the first week of November 1935, stating that he had reported the inadequate George Post Office to the Postmaster General, Mr. Lenton. The latter replied that if the money could be found, he would happily arrange new postal facilities. It would appear that extensions to the existing post office, as well as the provision of better telephone exchange facilities were under consideration at that stage.

By February 1936, nothing positive had taken place. The George Chamber of Commerce again expressed its dissatisfaction with the Department of Posts. Notwithstanding previous urgent pleas to the Department, about conditions at the George Post Office, it was noted that the personnel were still working under unhappy circumstances. The indifference of the Department to improving facilities for its personnel was also an indication of a lack of business acumen.

Towards the end of August 1937, plans for the developments at the George Post Office were submitted to the Chamber of Commerce. They were found to be totally inadequate, widening the building by only eight feet. At the time, George had a heavy tourist influx and during the previous year, postal revenue amounted to £8,000 while 1,900 motorcars travelled through George. Only eight feet! Subsequently the Chamber of Commerce in co-operation with the Town Council, Divisional Council and Postmaster, drew up a plan that would provide for all the needs of a post office. On 15 September 1937, they received a message from the Postmaster General that he was willing to look at the plans. However, after discussions between the Chamber, Mr Gerdener (MP) and postal authorities, revised plans regarding the enlargement of the post office, were sent to the Public Works Department.

On Monday 25 October 1937, another delegation visited George. The Divisional Controller from the Western Cape, Mr. De Jager, received first-hand information of the urgent need for adequate postal facilities, but nothing transpired. With the growth of George at the time, the town also needed a bigger town hall. Despite this, the Town Council even went so far as to offer the site where the town hall was to be built, for the building of a new post office. However, the offer was rejected and the postal authorities continued with the planned changes for the Hibernia Street Post Office.

It appeared that nothing was ever to come of the plans for a new post office and that the struggle would continue indefinitely. The George & Knysna Herald of 1 February 1939 reported details of new plans that had been submitted for extra floor and counter space, a veranda for the post and letterboxes, a pension office, exchange, postmaster's office, cloak rooms; a sorting department; flush sanitation and sheltered seats. The editor of the paper rightly asked what the problem was and when would George receive new post office facilities.

The George & Knysna Herald of 2 August 1939 reported an interesting piece of postal news. It was stated that although a new post office had not been built, a new franking machine had been purchased. Letters were automatically cancelled with wavy lines but that it was a pity that the Post Office could not be convinced to issue George with a slogan stamp in order to give the town more publicity. Another new arrival at the post office was a "penny-in-the-slot-machine", fitted into a wooden box made of kiaat at the entrance to the veranda. The newspaper's commentary was, "We have no doubt that the machine's human colleagues welcome the arrival of their dumb wooden friend to



26 August 1929 - The first airmail flight between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth landed en route at George to re-fuel. It is unknown how many postal articles were offloaded at George, but the above one was in the historic postbag. Stamps cancelled with slogen "KOOP SUID AFRIKAANSE GOED" "BUY SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS" Vroeë gebruik van seëls - uitgegee 16 Augustus 1929.

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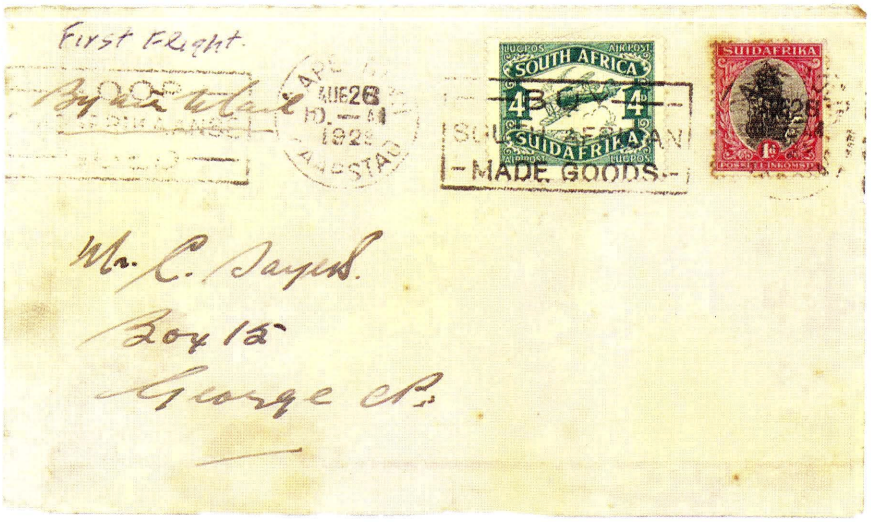
a great extent to save them their daily trial: 'penny stamp please'".

At a town council meeting in November 1940, Mayor J R Urban, reported that he had spoken to the Under-Secretary of the Department of Posts and informed him that because of the population size of George, expansion of postal facilities was imperative. The mayor proposed the erection of two sub-post offices, one in town and one at the airport. The Department of Posts was, however, not in favour of this proposal, suggesting that the developments at the existing post office would relieve the situation. On enquiry, the Department of Posts replied to the Town Council that an important part of the budget for the 1942/1943 financial year had been allocated to developments at the George Post Office. He stated that there was a strong possibility that work on the project would commence at the beginning of 1942.



7 September 1929 - Another airmail cover to George en route between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Letter shows a 1d stamp plus a new 1/- airmail stamp (issued 16.8.1929) cancelled by tow cape Town postmarks on 7.9.1929 as well as the Port Elizabeth arrival postmark (9.9.1929). Note further the deleted 20c tax mark and the airmail sticker. The airmail stickers were issued in February 1925 to coincide with the Government's experimental airmail service. Unused stock was used during August and September 1929.

The community of George received support in their struggle to get a new post office from an unexpected source, when the Cape Midlands Area Development Association held its first congress from 29 to 31 December 1941 in Port Elizabeth. The struggle of the George community was one of the most important points on the agenda. Congress decided unanimously to give the Executive power of attorney to negotiate with the Department of Posts to clarify the longstanding need of the George community.

During the 1940's World War II was in progress. An additional item, which the post office had to handle during those years, was the distribution of petrol coupons to the public. Loyalty was always the priority of the postmaster and his staff, who were prepared to go the extra mile, but it was clear that the authorities in Cape Town were not in touch with the circumstances in the George Post Office as one Georgian put it: "Our local post office is fast becoming like a cattle pen". (George & Knysna Herald of 6 March 1942).

By March 1942, the local authorities, guided by the Chamber of Commerce, decided to draw up a petition in co-operation with the Cape Midlands Area Development Association. Their aim was to collect 5,000 signatures and volunteers did duty at the post office to encourage the public to sign the petition under the banner "Your signature might help to get a new post office. Don't delay. Sign now".

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr Clarkson, visited George on Saturday 27 March 1943, to consult with representatives of the local community. It looked if this was the day of the rising sun, but we have learned from the past not to nourish high hopes from the discussions. The delegates reported that George was the tenth largest town in the Cape Province and that the planning of this very important facility must be on a large scale. An inspection in loco was held and the Minister was surprised to learn that the grading of the George Post Office was the same as the post office in Grahamstown. At the time, the population of George was 15,000 and if the district was included, then the figures could be doubled. Mr. Clarkson stated it was clear that the post office was suitable for a small rural village, but not for a growing town like George. The Minister instructed the local authorities to look for suitable stands for a new post office and inform him of their progress.

Two officials of the Public Works Department visited George in September 1943 to investigate the possibility of a suitable stand to build a new post office. Their mandate was not only to choose a stand, but also to draw up plans and make an estimate of costs for the 1944 parliamentary session. Parliament's estimate made provision of £20,000 for the new financial year for the post office at George, but the biggest delay was that no decision on a site had been made. The Postmaster General, Mr. L C Burke, and the Secretary of Public Works visited George on 2 March 1944. Together with representatives of local authorities, they inspected different stands, but still made no decision. Mr. Burke gave the town fathers the assurance that the new post office would provide for the needs of the community for 40 to 50 years.

The George & Knysna Herald of 21 December 1945 had a wonderful Christmas present for the residents of George. They reported on a letter, written by the Private Secretary of the former Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, which stated that tenders were to be invited for the erection of a new post office on the corner of York and St John Streets. On 23 May 1946, tenders were invited in the Government Gazette with a closing date of 27 June 1946. The tender was awarded to Messrs Brice Bros. for £37,025. The other costs, which were the responsibility of the government, totalled the full amount to £41,600.

Work started in November 1946 with the demolition of the Dominion Hotel. In bygone days, the site was occupied by Mr. John Urban's one-room cobbler shop, Mr. Geoff O'Connell's legal office and Miss Wimpy's cake-shop. By 29 August 1947, the building was nearing roof height and the hope was that if everything went according to plan, the roof would be completed in October. Provision was made for 310 post boxes at the new post office. By October 1947, the old post office in Hibernia Street was handling 51,000 postal articles per week compared with the 30,000 per week in 1937.

Gradually the time for the opening of the new post office drew near and the Town Council discussed arrangements for a ceremony. They decided to invite the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Dr T E Dönges, to open the George Post Office. The Mayor remarked that the occasion should be officially recognised and that the Council could ask the Chamber of Commerce, the Divisional Council and the B.B.V. (Bybel en Bid Vereniging) to be present.

The opening of the impressive new George Post Office, designed by Mr. Mitford-Barberton, took place on Monday 25 October 1948 3.30 p.m. The equipment from the old post office was transferred over the weekend 23 to 24 October 1948 and the new post office was ready for business on Monday morning the 25th.

On Monday 25 October 1948, a large crowd, estimated at over 1,000 people, gathered under the beautiful oak trees in York Street

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for the official opening ceremony. Local guests of honour included the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. G O'Connell, Dr. and Mrs. P K Albertyn, host and hostess to the Minister, Magistrate D Neethling and Capt. Joubert, the Commandant of Police. When Minister Dönges mounted the podium, cadets of the School of Industries carried out a march past. In his speech to welcome the Minister, Mayor O'Conell referred to the late Mr. A J Werth, MP for George. Mr. Werth had strived energetically and unselfishly to expedite the new Post Office and without his assistance, this purpose would not have been accomplished.

On the Monday morning when the doors of the new George Post Office opened for business, first-customers were greeted with a hearty welcome by Postmaster J F Schoultz. Mr. Bill Bailey, who was in charge of the construction, was the first to be served by Mr. J Looch. It is difficult to imagine people's feelings on that day as they, for the first time, stood in front of the counter to do business or just walked through the post office. Had I been a Georgian at the time I would have been very grateful, excited and perhaps made myself a first day cover!

The struggle had become something of the past. The old double-storey post office of Mr. McIntyre in York Street could not stand the test of time. It was demolished many years ago to make way for new developments. The post office building in Hibernia Street has thus far escaped demolition. It is today cramped in between modern business buildings and being used by a local organisation. One would hope that the Town Council of George would take good care of this "senior citizen", turning 82 this year.



The beautiful George Post office opened on 25 October 1948.

It is today 60 years later and the "new" George Post Office is still every day as the Afrikaans saying has it: "soos 'n miernes". Readers should note that George is no longer called "Sleepy Hollow" but the "Capital of the

Garden Route". You are invited to visit our town and post a letter at our beautiful post office with its white gables and shuttered windows.

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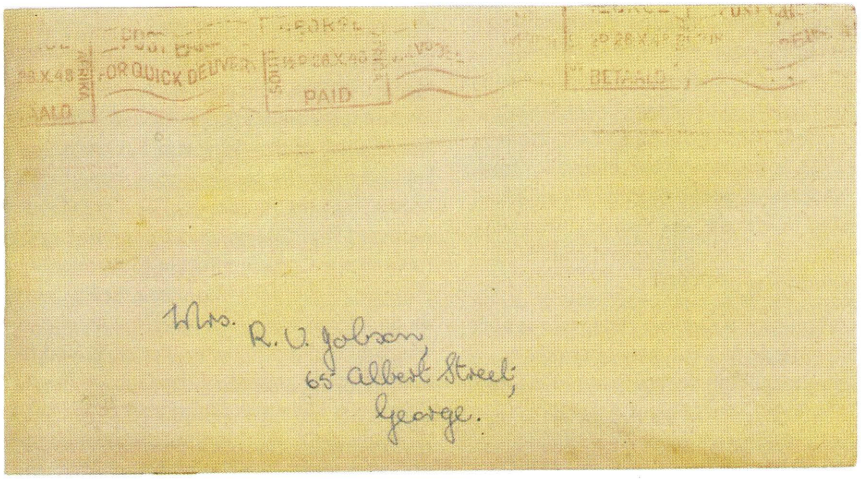
Library George Museum

Newspaper: Copies of the *George & Knysna Herald* between 1914 and 1948



The earliest known cover of the new post office, issued a day after its opening, 26.10 1948

Spink World Banknotes Sale

This June Spink Banknote department present their largest sale to date. With over 1400 lots from several private collections they have amassed a fabulous sale, highlights of which include excellent groups of Belgian Congo, South African, Irish and old Welsh Private Banks. Additional groups include a colourful collection of French Colonial issues, a wide range of Ceylon, Indian, English and Scottish notes. Individual notes of particular interest include a group of four George V 100 rupees from Calcutta, Bombay and Cawnpore, all fresh and about EF which should attract considerable interest. Also of special mention are a West Yorkshire Bank Limited specimen of a £5 note, a truly spectacular example of Waterlow engraving and two emergency issue Seychelles 5 rupees in excellent condition.



Banknotes of South East Asia go on auction in Singapore on the 5th of July. This auction includes the Steven Tan reference collection including a large selection of plate notes from Steven's book Standard Catalogue of Malaysia Singapore ~ Brunei, Coin & Paper Money.

There are also holdings from the collection of Patrick Tan and various local consignors. Highlights of the sale include a Malayan $1 & $5, 1940 both with serial number A/1 000490, possibly unique as a pair, a Straits Settlement $100, 1901, good very fine and of the greatest rarity as well as a $100 from 1898, possibly the only known note of its type and unrecorded in Tan.

Consignments are now open for the Spink October auction for which they have already amassed a superb collection of English & World banknotes. For more information on Spink auctions or if you would like to receive a catalogue please contact the banknote department.

Barnaby Faull & Tristan Chant: World Banknotes : London - 19 - 20 June.

Banknotes of South East Asia - Singapore - 5 July

World Banknotes - London -1 October.

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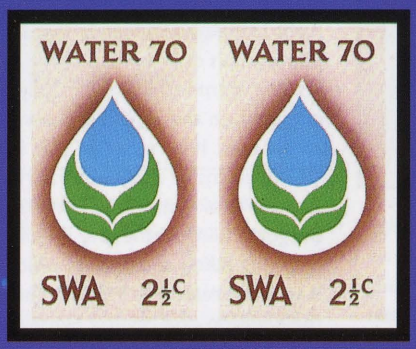













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A Baker's Dozen

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

For four years I have endeavoured to dream up meaningful titles for this series of articles on the local posts of the World, the likes of "Back of the Book", "On the Fringe" and "Neither Fish Nor Fowl". My inspiration has now dried up so the title of the present offering simply refers to the fact that it is the thirteenth episode and alludes to the fact that, in the "good old days", a baker would give the purchaser of twelve buns a thirteenth one as a bonzella or bonus. Had you read the first dozen you could have learnt about the stamps of 144 different local authorities and you now have the chance to become familiar with a further dozen.

The first local authority in this instalment is one of the first in the World. Not the very first because the Penny Black of Great Britain of 1840 has some claim to this distinction. After all, with its unique status, who else would have recognised it, so its use was at first limited to the British Isles. However, multiples are known on cover paying, for instance, transatlantic postage thereby jeopardising its local classification. However, the stamps of the Cantons of Switzerland, Zurich and Geneva in 1843 and Basle in 1845, were somewhat more local in usage. Those of Zurich were in fact the first postage stamps of any nature in mainland Europe while those of Basle were described as "*etiquettes-franco*" for the prepayment of mail within the town or, two at a time, to ensure delivery to other communes within the Cantonal Administration. The stamps of Basle were innovative in many ways. The celebrated "Basle Dove" as illustrated in Fig.1 was the first stamp to be produced in three colours and the first to be printed in one country (Germany) for use in another. In addition, it was the pioneer in the use of two separate printing processes in one stamp - embossing and lithography. The bird design was a novel idea and Basle was also the first authority to use a circular date stamp as a canceller.



Fig.1

Providing a complete contrast to the Basle Dove are the stamps that appeared during the so-called War of the Pacific (1879-1883) and the ensuing Peruvian Civil War (1881-1885). The stamps are frequently poorly produced, invariably badly overprinted and generally but little known even to the most ardent of philatelists. The War of the Pacific arose in 1879 when Chile declared war on Bolivia as a protest against the taxation of Chilean nitrates by that country. Peru, with whom the Bolivians had a treaty, was in turn invaded and Lima was captured in 1881. Thereafter, the war continued as a guerrilla action. Peru signed peace terms with the Chileans in 1883 but, with three claimants to the title of President, civil war continued up until the end of 1885. During the Chilean Occupation of Peru, stamps were issued in many towns including Arequipa, the centre of resistance after the fall of Lima, the capital, and at Puno. At the latter town as shown in Fig.2, the overprint employed consisted of the strike normally used to cancel the morning mail - 'M' for mañana - and was made on a Peruvian fiscal stamp already overprinted 'Provisional 1881-1882'. Note the '2' missing from '25' in the upper right value tablet, a listed variety. During the Civil War, identifiable provisional overprints were made at some fifteen different towns in Peru from Piura in the extreme north near the border with Ecuador to Moqueqa, the closest town to Chile in the south. Despite the comparative obscurity of the stamps, the catalogue carries the warning to "Beware of forgeries"!



Fig.2

The local airmail stamps of Switzerland fall into two categories ~ the 'Pioneer Stamps' of 1913 and the 'Semi-Official Airmails' of 1924 to 1927. During the summer of 1913, the Swiss Government sanctioned air stamps that were used in conjunction with regular postage stamps and were cancelled by the Post Office. Proceeds from the sale of stamps aided the development of aviation, particularly on the military front. The card illustrated in Fig.3 records a flight from Bern to Burgdorf on 30 March 1913, only the second official mail flight to be undertaken in Switzerland. A photograph of the pilot, Oskar Bider with his Blériot monoplane, the very machine depicted on the stamp, is shown on the face of the card. It is reported that in all some 13 000 items of mail were carried and that the trip took a mere 15 minutes. From the Burgdorf aerodrome, the 75 kilograms of mail was taken to the post office whence it was redirected as required necessitating the addition of a regular Swiss stamp. After the last of the 'pioneer' flights in September 1913 it was only in 1919 that a regular airmail service was initiated in Switzerland.



Fig.4

The Republic of Ecuador, so-called because of its position athwart the Equator, drove the occupying Spanish forces out of the country in 1822. However, it remained a part of Colombia until independence was attained in 1830. The first stamps of the country appeared in 1865. Guayaquil, capital of the province of Guayas and the chief port and largest city in the country, was the scene of a disastrous fire in 1902. Many fiscal as well as some postage stamps were looted during the conflagration. In order to prevent their usage, the provincial postmasters were ordered to handstamp stocks on hand with local control marks. Eleven districts complied with this edict using a variety of devices – signatures, abstract designs or town names as shown in Fig.4 on the fiscal stamp overprinted in Riohamba, capital of Chimborazo Province. A great number of Ecuadorian fiscal stamps were overprinted for postal purposes between 1893 and1955.

Between 1941 and 1947 but particularly in 1945 and 1946, local stamps were issued in more than forty towns in Sweden. Stockholm alone was home to half a dozen private companies, all producing their own stamps. There is a strong suspicion that a large percentage of the stamps printed were intended for sale to collectors rather than to satisfy any genuine postal requirements. The general rates charged by these private companies were 4 ore for printed matter and 8 ore for letters. The majority of companies limited their stamp issues to these two values while a few produced 12-, 15- and 24-ore denominations for the franking of



Fig.3

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Fig.5

parcels. The exceptionally high values of 50-ore and 70-ore (Fig.5) are recorded from the town of Huskvarna, the town noted for the production of motor-cycles. These triangular stamps showed a view of Huskvarna Waterfalls as seen through Ådalen Bridge. The local posts were all suppressed by the State on 1 July 1947.

In my article in the *SA Philatelist* in August 2007, I outlined the circumstances surrounding the issue of a number of local stamps during the Russian Civil War. General Dennikin commanded a force of volunteers that was raised in 1918 to counter the Bolshevists. Although he recognised the autonomy of the Cossack States, he assumed military control of the Don and Kuban Territories. However, he was driven into the Crimea by the 'Reds' and ceded his command to General Wrangel who reoccupied the district of Taurida and set up his own postal service. For this, he overprinted Russian stamps with the words 'Yug Rossiy' meaning South Russia. He was driven out of Sevastopol, his last foothold in Russia, in November 1920 and fled to Gelibolou, or Gallipoli, in Turkey. His troops and a large number of Russian civilian refugees were accommodated at camps there and in Serbia, Tunis and the Aegean Islands. For their benefit, Wrangel established the Russian Refugees Post for which Fig.6 illustrates an inverted 10000-rouble surcharge on a 1-rouble stamp, already revalued with a 10-piastre surcharge, that was used on a 1921 cover to Siberia.



Fig.6

I have commented in previous articles on the extent to which the proliferation of local posts has been accelerated in times of war. A case in point is the situation in Germany in 1945 in the aftermath of World War II when the non-availability of organised postal services gave rise to numerous provisional stamp issues. This was particularly the case in East Germany where the Soviets were ill prepared for the requirements of peacetime including the need for postal services. However, there were also towns in West Germany that found it necessary to establish temporary postal arrangements. Just such a one of these was the mountain spa of Bad Nauheim in Hesse. Between December 1945 and February 1946, the circular post office strike with the wording 'Postamt' and the town name was applied to gummed paper seals together with the handstamp 'Igebühr Bezahlt'. In March 1946, a design was first printed on the paper and featured the name and coat-of-arms of the town, a figure of value and the inscription 'Gebuhr Bezahlt' (fee paid). As shown in the transparent version in Fig.7, a circular 'Postamt' (post office) strike was still used but now as a control mark rather than the stamp itself and omitting the town name. In addition, both types of stamp were initialled by officials of the post office as a further security measure. The stamps were not recognised at Government level and were valid for local post only.



Fig.7



Fig.8

The Ukrainians capitalised on the tumult afforded by World War I to declare their independence of Russia. However, a Ukrainian Soviet government was installed later in 1918 and in 1922 the country became a founding member of the USSR although areas in the west remained part of Poland. Prior to the absorption of West Ukraine by Poland, a number of Austrian and Austro-Hungarian Military Post stamps were handstamped for local usage; the three on a piece in Fig.8 and cancelled at Stanislau on 29 December 1918 being specifically for the district of Lemberg. The town of Lemberg, or L'vov to give it its modern name, was in the Ukraine from its founding in 1256 until taken by the Poles in 1340. It was transferred to Austria in 1772 and then returned to Poland in 1918 and once more to the Ukraine as part of Russia in 1939. Ukraine declared its independence in September 1991, an act that hastened the collapse of the USSR.

The item illustrated in Fig.9 presented something of a puzzle when first acquired. Fortunately, there is still a leaflet, in French, inside the envelope that describes an illegal Canadian postal strike that was declared on 21 October 1975. It even quotes the relevant passage of the law that describes as a criminal act the abandonment of the posts or the interference with the delivery of the mail. The leaflet goes on to state that stamps to the value of $20 Canadian had been printed on the morning that the strike began and advised that, through the good graces of 'La Société Norst', a foreigner ('*une personne étrangère au Canada*') would carry the mail with him on his return to France for redirection as necessary. This was apparently done as witness the 50-cent blue label with the cancellation

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'Montreal : France' in the upper line and '1975 21 10 SME' in the lower. It would seem that regular French stamps to the value of 70-cents were added in Evian les Bains to cover the cost of forwarding the letter to London, England, this being undertaken on 23 October. There remained the problem of the meaning of the letters 'EMS' that appear both on the strike stamp itself and in the cancellation. Eventually, this was solved by reference to '*Les Timbres de Fantaisie et Non Officiels*' by A. Bourdi, where it is stated that the deliveries were undertaken by the Service de Messagerie Express or, in English, the Express Message Service – EMS.

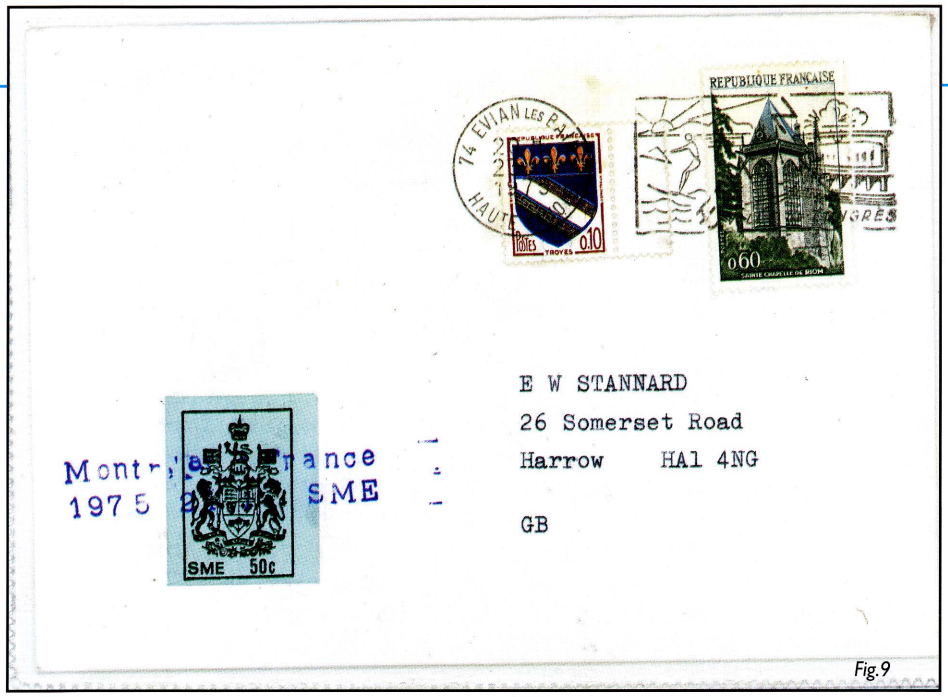

Fig.9

Despite the dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in December 1991, Russia remained by far the largest country in the World comprising more than 10% of the total landmass of the globe. Many observers believe that a number of the eleven countries other than Russia itself that now form the Commonwealth of Independent States, the likes of Georgia, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Belarus, are republics in name only and will, in all likelihood, return to the Russian fold in the not too distant future. The Russian Federation is divided into 68 administrative units including 22 autonomous 'republics', some of which have names that will already be familiar to the philatelist, the likes of Karelia, Dagestan and Tuva. There is also one autonomous region – Yevreyskaya (a Jewish Region) - as well as six territories, ten autonomous districts and two autonomous cities, – Moscow and St.Petersburg. It is possibly not surprising, therefore, that the early 1990s saw the emergence of numerous new issuing authorities in both the Commonwealth of States, particularly the Ukraine, and the Federation itself. Many of these sound extremely unlikely originating as they claim to do in such remote locales as the Kamchatka Peninsula and the Arctic Islands. I have been able to acquire at least a single stamp from most of the entries on a checklist of nearly 150 such authorities although, and perhaps significantly, each and every one is a mint copy. It is, I feel, extremely doubtful if many of them saw genuine postal service. The vast majority of stamps that were used as the basis for provisional overprints and surcharges for these local authorities were apparently drawn from surplus stocks of definitives that had been issued for the Soviet Union since 1976. An exception to this rule was provided by the Jewish Republic in western Russia where stamps were produced inscribed in Hebrew and featured the menorah (Fig.10).

The last two authorities are both South African. The majority of the provisional issues from the Anglo Boer War have achieved catalogue status despite serving what were essentially local posts. Among the exceptions are the stamps of Kuruman, Zeerust (described in an earlier article) and those of the Cape of Good Hope that were used by the British during the reoccupation of Vryburg in May 1900. A few Transvaal stamps were overprinted 'V.R.Special Post' as reported in Gibbons. These were supplemented by a number of Cape stamps which the commander of the British forces – Clifford St.Quentin – had struck with a Vryburg C.G.H. canceller and to which he added his initials in place of the date slugs, as shown in Fig.11. Finally, we move five years further back in time and to


Fig.12



Fig.10

Durban where, having exhausted his supply of halfpenny stamps, the Postmaster of the town, J.W.Coleman, was authorised by the Postmaster-General in Pietermaritzburg to endorse envelopes with his signature over his personal handstamp and the annotation 'One half penny received in money'. Thus prepared, the envelopes were on sale from 18 to 23 March 1895. The cover shown in Fig.12 is dated 22 March. Although not a local postage stamp as such, it was certainly a local authority and accordingly finds a place in this series of articles.



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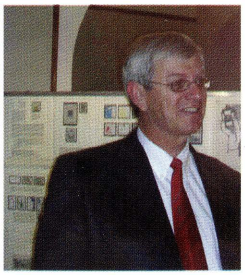

Report: Bloem One Framer 2008

The Second Bloem One Framer took place from 13th - 16th March 2008 at the Oliewenhuis Art Museum. This was an excellent venue with good security that included continuous 24 hour per day video recording of all activities taking place. The climate control resulted in excellent conditions under which one could swap and buy material from fellow collectors and dealers. Each frame had its own lighting to provide the best possible view of the material.

Four dealers attended, namely David Crocker, Dominique Martino, Mr Thematic and Dave Shone. There were 66 frames including 5 frames of original art work on view. The show was well attended and both the organizing committee and the art museum management were very happy with the attendance that was up by 300 % for the art museum's usual attendance per day. A total number of 1000 attended on Saturday and Sunday.

On the Thursday night the show was opened by Prof. Franco Frescura who gave a lecture on the art involved in stamp design and printing, with the necessary illustrations. This was well attended by philatelists and art lovers.

The stamp club's exhibits were not judged because it was impossible to fit them into any specific catagory. It was decided that they would be viewed as invited exhibits. This was an experimental class and some of the material that was shown by the clubs were really of very high quality and we were happy with the results.

The jury consisted of Neil Cronje, Emil Minnaar, Emil Buhrmann, Harry Birkhead, Herwig Kussing with David Crocker acting as consultant and Jan van Beukering acting as secretary. We would like to thank these gentlemen for the time that they spent here and for the work they have done.

A lot of discussion took place under the trees at the restaurant that provided the meals and drinks during the exhibition. We would like to thank Oliewenhuis Art Museum for their contribution towards the success of this exhibition as well as all other contributors from the philatelic field.

NEIL CRONJÉ

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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Part Two of "The Philately of Italy & the Italian States 1848-1866" *by Prof Franco Frescura....* has been withdrawn by the author

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You are most welcome to pay us a visit at any one of our Live Auctions and if you cannot be there we do take e-mail bids. Contact us for more info by Fax 018 - 7716665) or by E-mail to either goslin@lantic.net or fjarce@global.co.za.

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The Orphan Chamber of Cape Town

- by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Many Cape postal history collections include covers addressed to or from the Orphan Chamber (Weeskamer). The aim of this feature is to throw some light upon the role which the Chamber played in the colony's financial and social affairs, and also to comment upon some examples of Orphan Chamber mail.

During its 160 year existence, the Chamber fulfilled some important social functions and provided credit to both, the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and British governors. The Cape Almanac of 1833 reported that:
"*The establishment of the Orphan Chamber commenced in the year 1673 and it is one of those public institutions which has suffered the least alteration since that time.*
The business of the Chamber consists in administering and liquidating Estates of persons dying intestate, or of such persons as have appointed the Orphan Masters executors of their wills, which administration is conducted according to the laws, customs, and practice of the Colony.
All wills in which the Orphan Chamber is excluded from interference, must be produced at the Orphan Chamber immediately after the death of the Testator or Testatrix, in order to be registered; and must be called for within three months from the day of their being deposited, if the Testator or Testatrix died in Cape Town and the District thereof, including Simon's Town, or in the Stellenbosch District; or within six months, if the Testator or Testatrix died in the more remote districts, under a penalty of 50 Rds in favour of the Orphan House. The Board meets every Wednesday, and on such other days as may be found necessary."

The Weeskamer's establishment in 1673 was just twenty one years after Jan van Reebeck's expedition had arrived in Table Bay to establish a victualling station. The Weeskamer was initially governed by a board of six trustees, known as Weeshere (Orphan Masters), three of whom were VOC officials, and three chosen from the burger population of so-called "free-men" resident in the Cape who were not employed by the VOC. The main business of the Weeskamer was the administration of intestate property and of goods left to persons not resident in the Cape. The property of persons who died on the voyage to and from Europe and found on board ship was also subject to its jurisdiction until 1711. Weeshere were obliged to provide for the education of their wards, and usually employed tutors who were responsible for the day to day welfare and guidance of pupils.

Officials of the Chamber also administered corporal punishment to undisciplined wards, who could also be required to appear before the Masters of the Chamber. Although the Weeshere primarily cared for the welfare of orphans, they also had jurisdiction over all "*personae miserabilis*" (persons under disability), including the insane, the dumb and the prodigal.

In 1711, the Weeskamer was called upon to establish a Deaths Registry which provided information about the death and wills of deceased residents to their relatives. This service was of particular value to relatives residing overseas. At this time, the vast majority of VOC employees at the Cape were young, single men recruited in Europe, serving under a five year renewable contract. Many had never intended to live in the Cape, having boarded vessels destined for the East Indies, but were off-loaded in Table Bay because they were too ill to continue with the journey. After spending a few weeks or months in the VOC hospital, most decided to stay on in Cape Town, and those that died here invariably did so without heirs resident in the colony.

Following the devastating smallpox epidemic of 1713, the VOC Council of Policy empowered the Orphan Chamber to protect the transference of property of all free individuals in the colony. The Chamber was made responsible for the collection and administration of the property of all persons who died intestate, or left heirs who were minors (under 25 years of age) or who lived abroad, and also had responsibility for the administration of all estates where the will did not specifically exclude the Trustees of the Chamber from acting as executors.

Within a few days of the householder's death, an inventory of the deceased's property was taken and sent to the Master of the Orphan Chamber, and recorded by a clerk. If an auction of these possessions subsequently took place, the sales were also itemised and filed. Enforcement of these procedures was aided by a law which prohibited the burial of a deceased person until the Orphan Chamber had been notified of the death.

The Orphan Chamber's role in financial affairs was significant because it was one of the few local sources of long-term credit. The first bank (De Bank van Lening, the Lombard Bank) was not incorporated until 1793, and until this date the only other institution with funds available to provide mortgages was the church. The funds administered by the Orphan Chamber grew significantly as a result of the deaths caused by the smallpox epidemic of 1713, and stood at over 200,000 rix dollars in 1720. In three successive years, from 1721 to 1723, the Chamber was requested by M.P. de Chavonnes, the VOC Governor of the Cape, to assist the government out of financial difficulty, and duly advanced 5,000 rixdollars to the Company on each occasion. By 1780, the Chamber's fund was almost 800,000 rix dollars, and reached over a million in 1800. At the time of the fund's liquidation in 1833, the fund amounted to three million (devalued) rixdollars.

The Chamber also endured several financial crises. In 1691, less than 20 years after its foundation, the Orphan Masters issued a carefully worded apology for a serious loss of capital, attributed to the negligence of the previous president who had been "possibly prevented by great pressure of business, or other circumstances, from surrendering the accounts and property of the orphans in due

(fig 1).



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(fig 2)



form to the Board." In 1737, upon the death of the Secretary of the Chamber, a shortfall of more than 50,000 guilders was discovered in the fund. The VOC decided that the current Masters should be held responsible for the shortfall, but this decision was not implemented, and in 1752 it was agreed that the interest earned on the funds of absent heirs should be used to cover the shortfall. Although there were instances of fraud and dishonesty, some of the problems experienced in managing the Chamber's funds at this time were exacerbated by the absence of an appropriate banking institution where moneys that had not yet been invested could be deposited. Instead, such moneys were kept in an iron trunk. By 1791, public concern was again raised by rumours of mismanagement, and the Acting VOC Governor, J I Rhenius, was prompted to establish a commission of enquiry to make recommendations for the better management of the funds held by the Chamber. The main allegations were that Board Members had deliberately delayed making payments due to legitimate claimants, and invested the funds in property and the provision of cheap loans to their cronies. The commission delivered its report in 1793, following which the Board Secretary was dismissed and a shortfall of 167,000 rix-dollars was recovered from his estate.

In 1802, the new administration introduced during the first British occupation reported that although "perfect order, regularity and accuracy" had been achieved in managing the Chamber since 1793, public confidence in the Chamber had not been fully restored. And public suspicion was well-founded. In 1806, the President of the Chamber, Sir John Trutter, lent himself and his family members 51,000 rixdollars, which was never repaid. In 1820, a second commission was appointed to investigate the Chamber and found that its records were in a pitiful state of disarray. By now, the days of the Chamber were numbered. The British administration decided upon a series of legal and commercial reforms which coincided with a period of economic expansion at the Cape and the privatisation of activities such as auctioneering, banking, conveyancing, printing and estate management. On 5 July 1833, an "Ordinance for abolishing the Orphan Chamber in this Colony" was issued by the Governor Sir Lowry Cole, and responsibility for performing most of the duties previously undertaken by the Chamber was transferred to the Master of the Supreme Court of the Colony. However, the Master had neither the expertise nor legal competence to provide estate management and related services, which continued to be in demand. To meet this need, privately incorporated trust companies such as the South Africa Association for the Administration and Settlement of Estates, and the Board of Executors, were established in Cape Town in 1833 and 1838 respectively, followed by the formation of further companies in Port Elizabeth and Graaff-Reinet.

(fig 3).



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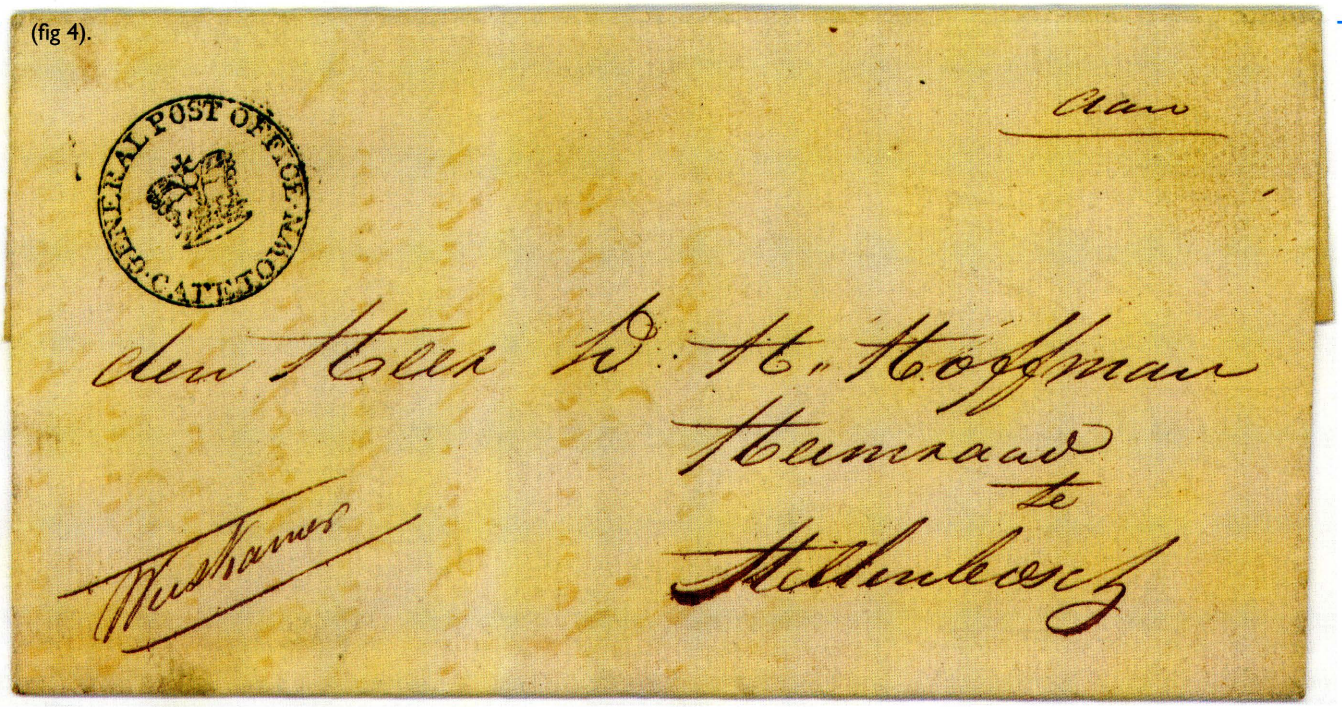
(fig 4).



Postal History

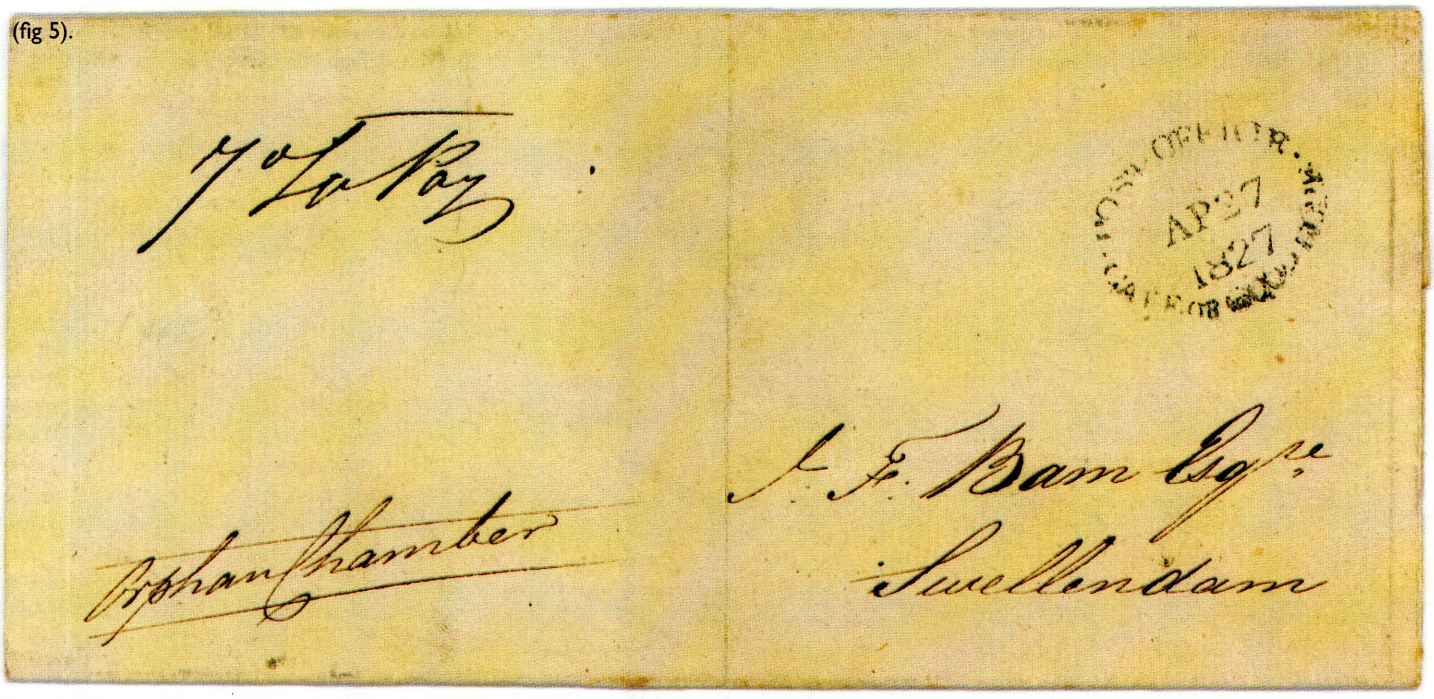
During the first 125 years of the Orphan Chamber's existence, from 1673 to 1798, correspondence between Holland and the Chamber was carried by ships belonging to the VOC. Until 1792, when the first postal proclamation was introduced, such letters were entrusted to a member of the ship's crew, or a passenger. There were no postal charges to be paid, and the covers of such letters simply record the name and town of the addressee, with or without a talismanic endorsement. An example of such a cover, addressed in 1781 to Tobias Christiaan Ronnekamp, Secretary of the Weeskamer, is illustrated (fig 1).

In 1792, the first postal officials were appointed at the Cape, and operated from a room in the Castle overlooking Table Bay. Their appointment was effected in accordance with a proclamation signed by the Acting Governor Johan Isaac Rhenius, which also specified the charges to be collected upon mail received from Holland and the East Indies. Clause 12 of this Proclamation provided that the postmaster should collect 8 stuivers for each letter bearing the mark of a stamp of 6 stuivers, and 16 stuivers for each letter with the stamp of 12 stuivers. The 'stamp' in question was a VOC handstamp applied either in Holland or the East Indies, as illustrated in figure 2. This cover bears the sender's talismanic endorsement "met Vrind die god geleijde" (per friend entrusted to God), and is addressed to N. Kervel, Secretary of the Weeskamer. It was received in Cape Town in approximately 1793. On being despatched from Holland, the cover received two strikes of the 6 stuivers VOC handstamp, which indicated to the postmaster in Cape Town that the receiver was required to pay 16 stuivers on collection of the letter.

In 1798, three years after the Cape was annexed by the British, a proclamation "Regarding Postal Affairs" was signed by the new governor, Earl Macartney. Amongst other things, the proclamation provided that all letters to and from officers under government should be excluded from the payment of postage, although it did not stipulate which specific officers were entitled to benefit from the privilege. The few examples of Orphan Chamber mail of this period which the writer has seen do not bear postal charges.

On 13 October 1807, following concern about abuse of the privilege of free postage,

(fig 5).



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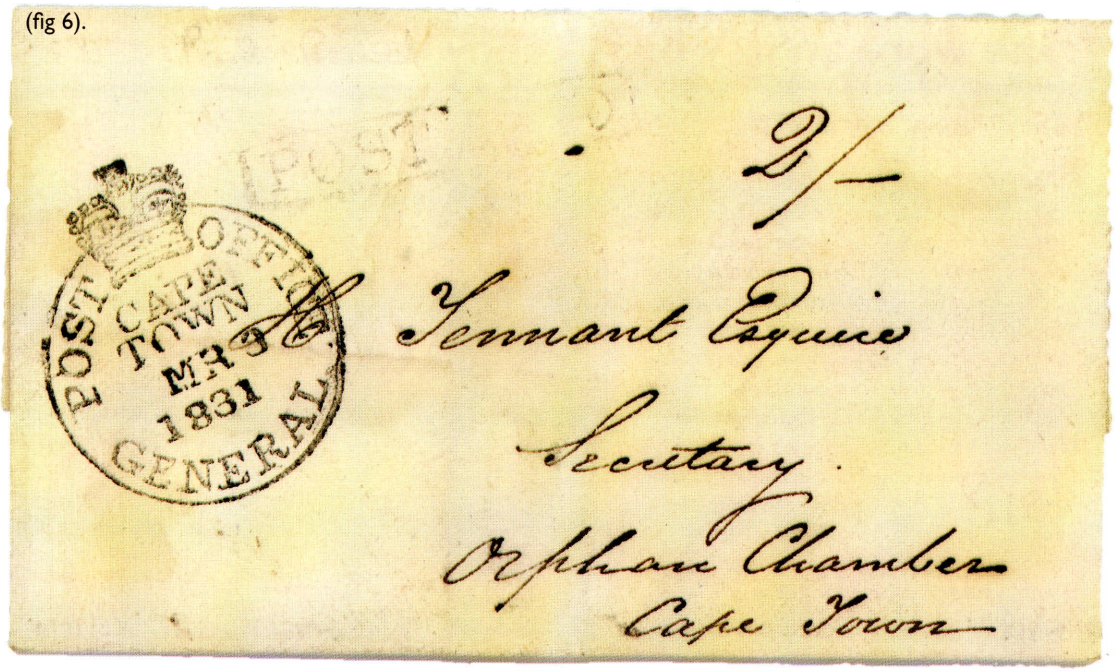
(fig 6).



a new regulation was introduced. Free postage was now limited to certain named officers of civil departments in respect of colonial letters addressed to or by them on the service of their departments. The Orphan Chamber was included in the list of departments thus privileged. The regulation also required that the front cover of outgoing official mail should be endorsed with the signature and status of the head of the relevant department. In the case of the Orphan Chamber, the Secretary Johannis Petrus Foure was regarded as head of department.

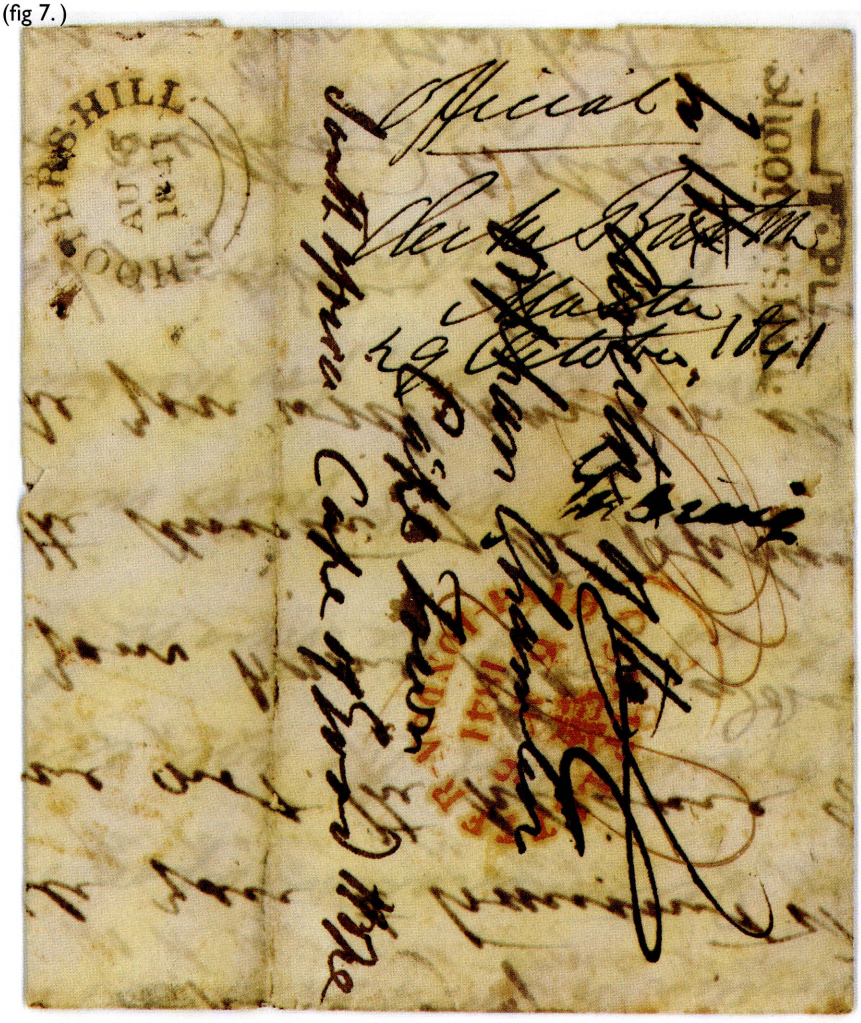
On 8 February 1817, the regulations governing official mail were again revised, and the Orphan Chamber was now excluded from the list of departments and officials entitled to free postage. However, J.P. Foure continued to endorse his mail with his signature and status, as evidenced by the cover illustrated in figure 3. This cover is undated but must have been posted between 1817 when the crowned circle handstamp was issued to the post office in Cape Town, and 1820 when Fourie left the Chamber. It bears no postal charge, which may be attributed to the status of the addressee - Pheodonius Muller, the District Secretary at Graaff Reinet - who was exempted from postal charges by the 1817 regulation. Figure 4 is another undated cover of this period, also addressed in Fourie's hand but this time endorsed only 'Weeskamer'. This cover was incorrectly treated as privileged official mail, since the addressee W.H. Hoffman, Heemraad, at Stellenbosch, was a simply a member of the heemraad, and not entitled to the privilege.

In 1820, a new secretary was appointed at the Chamber, J.J.L. Smuts, and the practice of endorsing outgoing mail with the name of the Orphan Chamber was continued. Figure 5 illustrates a cover posted in 1827 to Swellendam and charged seven pence to the recipient.

Hercules Tennant was the last secretary of the Chamber, serving from 1830 until the Chamber's abolition in 1834. Figure 6 illustrates an 1831 cover addressed to Tennant, prepaid two shillings as a double sheet letter when it was posted in Grahamstown.

For several years after the Orphan Chamber was abolished, enquiries and correspondence addressed to the Chamber were still being received in Cape Town. Figure 7 illustrates a letter posted in Shooter's Hill, London, complaining about non-payment certain moneys due from the Chamber. Sea postage of eight pence for this double ship letter was prepaid in London, and a large fancy "4" was endorsed on the address panel when the letter arrived in Cape Town, indicating the amount payable by the addressee on receipt of an overseas letter. The letter was then redirected to the Master of the Supreme Court, by addition of the words "Official, Clerke Burton, Master, 29 October 1841" written vertically across the address panel. There was no charge for redirection of mail in the Cape in 1841.

(fig 7.)



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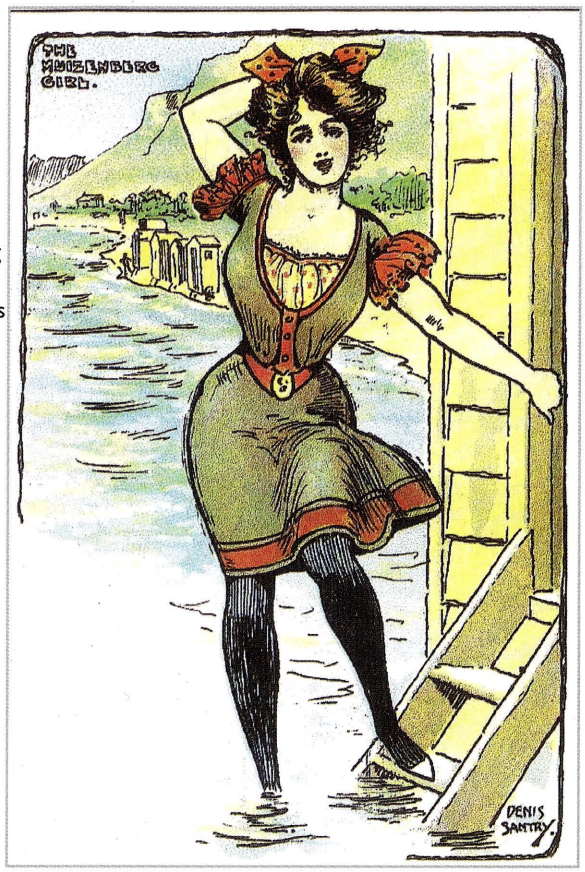
She wore an itsy bitsy teeny weenie...

- by K. von Bratt, East London Philatelic

The Philatelist Swimsuit Edition.



We do not know who designed the first swimsuit, or where they daringly dipped their toes into the water, but Minoan paintings depicting bathers in bathing costumes dating back thousands of years have been found in Crete. The Romans popularized public bathing and created their own fashions, from flowing robes to two-piece suits, but the Roman styles did not survive the end of the empire. For hundreds of years after Rome's decline and through the dark ages, public bathing - indeed, any bathing at all - was regarded as not only immoral but positively unhealthy. People tended to smell badly, and seaside property was probably cheaper than today.

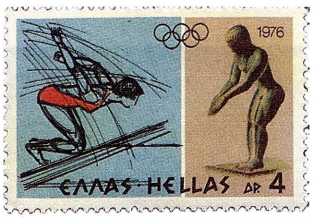
Eventually spas and seaside resorts overcame prejudices against the effects of water on good, healthy dirt. The first brave men and women to venture into the water did, however, have to make certain that they were properly covered from ankle to wrist and neck. Suits were knitted from wool and made intentionally bulky to prevent clinging, so they became enormously heavy when wet and tended to succumb to gravity, thus requiring formidable scaffolding of corsets and stays. Diving was hardly an option.

In 1907 the Australian swimmer Annette Kellerman was arrested in Boston for wearing a one-piece suit with tights that were considered too tight, but by the twenties this had become accepted fashion. Generally a dress style skirt was still required for the ladies.

The twenties were the jazz age, and the 'flappers' who flouted convention were highly visible, wearing lipstick, tights and of course swimming costumes at public baths, horrifying Americans with such immoral self-display. They started baring their shoulders, then their legs. Arrests followed, with kicking and screaming, frequently accompanied by pitched battles with the police. Women had just acquired the vote, and they did not take kindly to having their fashions dictated.

In any event, the female body was entering commercial culture in a big way. The Miss America pageant was inaugurated in 1921 as a marketing ploy for Atlantic City. Hollywood discovered that scantily clad women sold tickets. Burlesque and Vaudeville had known this for years. The one-piece maillot (from the French for '*swaddling clothes*') found it's way into English dictionaries and onto beaches circa 1928. The "Topper" for men, introduced in 1932, had a zip around the waist allowing the upper portion to be removed, although some of the first brave men to dispense with the top were charged with indecency. Shifts in popular culture were still strongly resisted.

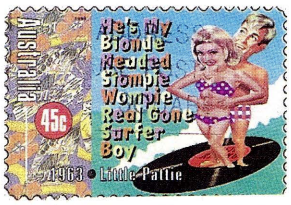


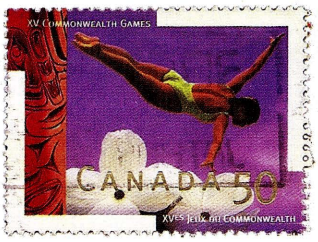




In 1946 two competing French designers shocked the world. Jacques Heim, who owned a beach shop in Cannes, produced a two-piece suit he called the 'atome' - the smallest known particle - but it was Rouis Reard who scooped the laurels with his "bikini" named for Bikini Reef in the Marshall Islands where atomic tests were underway at the time. Skywriters over the Riviera proclaimed "Smaller than the smallest bathing suit in the world". It was. Reard's creation used only 30 square inches of fabric. It was so scandalous that Parisian models refused to wear it and Michelle Bernardini, a nightclub dancer, wore the first bikini to parade down the catwalk.











No one expected this immodest fashion to progress beyond a few extrovert Frenchwomen. The wearing of bikinis was actively discouraged and they were often banned. In 1951 they were barred from the Miss World pageant so as not to create an unfair advantage with the judges. Although substantially larger than the original and now available in animal prints, resistance was strong.

It was the sixties that saw the rise of the bikini as a cultural icon. Ursula Andress emerged from the sea in a white bikini in '*Doctor No*', the first Bond movie. Then there was the '*Itsy bitsy teeny weenie yellow polka dot bikini*' to sing about. Celebrities like Bridget Bardot were seen on the world's most fashionable beaches wearing bikinis. Sunglasses, beach hats, bags, footwear and a range of other accessories made beach culture big business. The first '*Sports Illustrated*' cover to feature a bikini appeared in 1964. Swimsuits in general shrunk. The invention of Spandex made them tighter fitting and allowed shoulder straps to disappear. The topless monokini enjoyed brief popularity despite denunciation in the Vatican Press.

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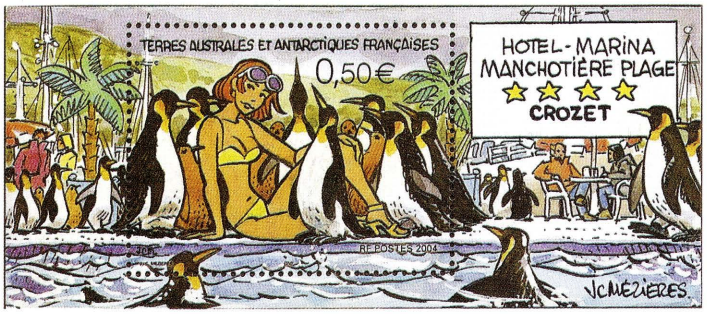

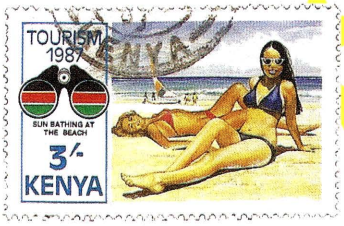







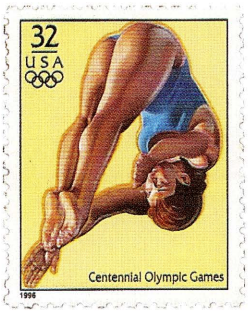





Ladies could now excel at aquatic sports, where streamlined one-piece suits enabled them to dive or swim without fear of embarrassment, yet it was only in 1993 that beach volleyball was recognized as an Olympic sport and the bikini became an official sporting uniform. It's a serious sport. Really.

The bikini went into decline in the 1980's. Carrie Fisher's gold bikini in Star Wars '*Return of the Jedi*' (still the highest earner of the original trilogy) provided another iconic moment, but sales had dropped to 30% of the market and Louis Reard's original company closed in 1988.

As to the future? We have seen swimsuits made of hair, porcupine quills, even the '*Salute to Spring*' ($1000 in the 1960's) of flesh coloured mesh and rhinestones. The infamous string bikini is not really made of string, it only looks as if it is. The monokini, trikini (separate cups connected with Velcro), tankini and many others have come, gone or adapted.

Ironically, despite the many stamps portraying nudes, swimsuits are seldom shown except on the occasional sporting commemorative. Yet if you look carefully, you may find some interesting fashion history in your album.

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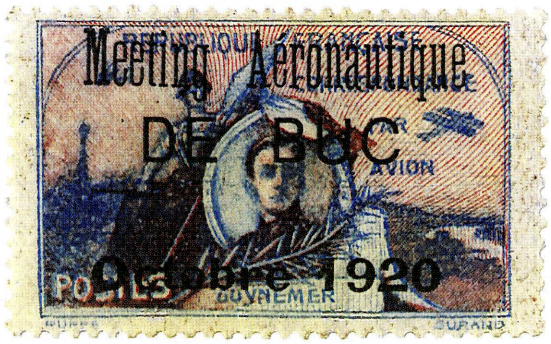
READERS QUESTIONS

"WHAT IS IT ? "

Can anyone please help me solve this puzzle?



I have a stamp; it is French; it has "Republique Francaise" inscribed across the top. It is perforated 13x14 and the same size as French "Merson" issues.
It is fully gummed though mine is lightly hinged. In the centre of this 'stamp' is a portrait of Georges Guynemer simply inscribed 'Guynemer'.
I know that Guynemer was a French flying ace in World War I, who went missing in action on the 11th September 1917. He was 22 at the time of his death. It was a profound shock to the people of France. To the right of the portrait the words 'Conveyance Par Avion' appear, however there is no monetary value on the stamp so presumably it is not a postage stamp. This then leads me to think that it is a 'Cinderella' or perhaps even an early French air-mail sticker which could be applied to any cover tied with sufficient postage to cover the cost of transport by airmail - any ideas ?.. Note that the first real airmail stamps of France only appeared in 1927. Also, to the lower left and right but outside the frame of the stamp the names 'Ruppe' and 'Surand' appear respectively. Could these be names of designer and engraver?

Now, to compound the puzzle my stamp has been over-printed 'Meeting Aeronautique, DE BUC, Octobre 1920' My questions are;
- Who attended the meeting ?
- What was discussed and what was the outcome and where is or what is DE BUC ?

I can find no reference to this item in any of the catalogues I have seen and a letter to Yvert et Tellier has met with no response. Please, can anyone throw some light on this puzzle ?



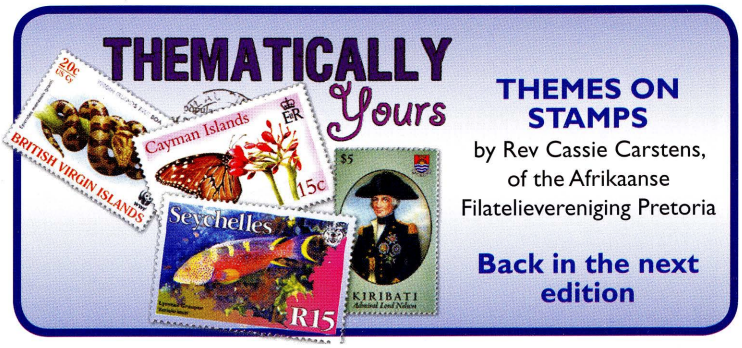
I have included an enlarged photocopy of the item in question as well as the commemorative issue of 1940 depicting Georges Guynemer. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

DV SMITH (Fish Hoek Philatelic Society)
No 21, The Glen, Silverglades, FISH HOEK, 7975.

Highlights from Management Meeting held 23.5.08

- There was a good turnout, with members travelling from Port Elizabeth, Durban, Bloemfontein and Klerksdorp.
- New Federation certificates will be produced since stocks are running low. Proposed changes for Federation's Constitution have been submitted for the next Congress.
- Financially, Federation is sound and made a contribution towards the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Rhodesia Study Circle.
- Progress is being made with the digitisation of the SA Philatelist, going back to 1923. The process will take a couple of years and the cost is quite high, but it will be worth it.
- Provisional and final entry forms for national exhibitions will be merged into one, thus saving paperwork and postage.
- South Africa gained Gold, Large Vermeil & Vermeil medals at the Taipei Exhibition.
- In Israel, South Africa entered their first exhibit into the World Champion Class. Medals won, included Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil and Silver. Michael Wigmore did excellent work on the Jury and Achi Frank, Commissioner, excelled himself, taking 11 exhibits to Israel - at no cost to Federation!
- Emil Minnaar is Commissioner for Bucharest in June, taking 7 exhibits, with exhibitors paying a levy to reduce or nullify costs. It is still to be decided who will be juror for Melbourne next year in the exchange scheme; an Australian juror will attend our national this year.
- Apprentice jurors at internationals now have to qualify twice, an expensive business as they have to pay their own costs. However, it does mean that we may just have 7 international jurors from SA for Joburg 2010, reducing the number of overseas' jurors, and useful to have our own people on the jury.
- Museum Africa houses philatelic material and the Heritage Committee is working to ensure the preservation of the collections. Some of the material may be displayed at Stampshow 2008. The same Committee is trying to dissuade the Heritage Agency from stopping the free flow of philatelic material around the world. Concern was expressed at the disappearance of archival material from the Post Office.
- Michael Wigmore has been offered use of the software used by the British Federation. which will assist juries at our exhibitions. The Judging and Ethics Committee has compiled a Code of Ethics and aspects of a Judging Manual. They will organise judging seminars if requested.
- Colin Bousfield, the new Chairman of StampMates, together with Dave Hunt, is starting a youth club, meeting at the Boksburg Stamp Fair on the last Saturday of the month. With the change in the Education Act, teachers have to put in ten hours per month on extra-curriculum activities - maybe a chance for the stamp scene!
- Franco Frescura, the new Vice-President for Natal, presented an excellent business plan to promote the hobby in his region. Some of his ideas include - a mini exhibition in 2009, smaller exhibitions at collector and stamp fairs, World Stamp Day and any other important event, such as the Comrades Marathon. Also, advertising philately, bourses, joint meetings with non-philatelic clubs, public lectures at the KZN Art Gallery, youth activities and a philatelic sales centre at the SPCA. Federation is always willing to assist with the promotion of the hobby when given such a detailed plan and has already agreed to assist with promotion at stamp fairs.

JDR:26.05.08



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New South African Stamp Issues - 2008 - Part I

-by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

13 April 2008
118th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly South Africa.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is an international organization of Parliaments that was established in 1889. It was initiated by two parliamentarians, William Randall Cremer of the United Kingdom and Frederic Passy of France. The aim of the Union was to work for peace and cooperation amongst peoples and for the firm establishment of representative institutions. The 118th IPU conference was held in CapeTown from 13 to 18 April 2008.

Denomination: Standard Postage (R2.05).
Designer: Thea Clemons, incorporating the logo, designed for the event by Lazola Zantsi, symbolizing the gathering of people from all the Parliaments of the world in order to push back the frontiers of poverty.
Printer: Joh Enschedé en Zonen, The Hague, Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Vertical format, 29 x 38mm.
Perforation: 13.6.
Phosphor: 4mm bands on right and top margins of each stamp.
Sheetlet size: 166 x 96mm comprising two rows of five stamps.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: 710339, 710340, 710341 and 710342.
Printing sheet size: 420 x 610mm containing 10 sheetlets arranged in 5 rows of 2.
Quantity: 100 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.127 in standard size (189 x 102mm) of which 4 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.113, CAPE TOWN - 13.04.2008.

****

24 April 2008
10 Years Of Diplomatic Relations South Africa & China.

Denominations: International Airmail Small Letter (R4.90) and Standard Postage (R2.05).
Designer: Layout by Thea Clemons, depicting the flags of South Africa and China.
Printer: Joh Enschedé en Zonen, The Hogue, Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm, incorporating the two values each in horizontal format, 38 x 29mm, in a *se tenant* horizontal pair.
Perforation: 13.6, with vertical perforations extending to bottom margin of sheet.
Gum: PVA.
Phosphor: 4mm bands at right and top margins of each stamp.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Printing sheet size: 610 x 420mm containing 25 miniature sheets arranged in 5 rows of 5.
Quantity: 100 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.128 in standard size of which 5 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.114, PRETORIA – 24.04.2008.3

****

Acknowledgement: *The above stamp information was collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria and inserts contained in the commemorative covers.*





POSTAL RATES
–VALID FROM 1 APRIL 2008

- by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

Domestic	New Rate, R c	Old Rate, R c	Increase %
Small DL	2.05	1.93	6.2
Medium B5	4.10	3.90	5.1
Large B4	5.15	4.89	5.3
Registered letters			
Small DL (2.05 + 12.35)	14.40	13.59	6.0
Medium B5 (4.10 + 12.40)	16.50	15.62	5.6
Large B4 (5.15 + 12.40)	17.55	16.60	5.7
International			
Registration fee	19.60	18.52	5.8
Aerograms	3.15	3.01	4.7
Postcards - Airmail	4.20	4.01	4.7
Postcards - Surface	2.55	2.43	4.9
Airmail letters - Southern Africa			
Small DL	3.70	3.48	6.3
Medium B5	13.70	12.98	5.5
Large B4	21.25	20.10	5.7
Small parcels (per 100 g)	11.95	11.29	5.8
Airmail letters - Rest of the world			
Small DL3	4.90	4.64	5.6
Medium B5	16.40	15.51	5.7
Large B4	27.90	26.38	5.8
Small parcels (per 100 g)	21.20	20.05	5.7

At last the S A Post Office have realized that having postal tariffs which are not multiples of 5 cents is impractical now that 1 cent and 2 cent coins have been withdrawn. Unfortunately this has had the effect of making the percentage increase for the domestic small letter rate (Standard Postage) significantly higher than that of other rates.

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From the Mailbox

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Change to the Titles of Exhibits

Sir,

Through your columns may I ask Federation, and the Judging and Ethics Committee in particular, whether exhibition organising committees now have the authority to change the titles of exhibits? An entry was returned from the recent Bloem One Frame 2008 Exhibition with its mark sheet and certificate carrying a title changed from that on the entry form. The change was from the specific to a generic wording and described a theme which could not possibly be covered in a one frame exhibit. As the complementary catalogue was not included, I am not aware as to how it was described there.

The title of an exhibit is it's introduction to the jury, thus it is natural that when the content does not match, an entry will be prejudiced when judged. Indeed, draft guidelines for judging one frame exhibits, published in Flash, the FIP journal, in 2007, recommend "penalization for an incorrectly chosen subject or theme…..may reach 5 points at least".

Sadlly, an explanation from the Bloem Organizing Committee has not been forthcoming.

AM Rose, (East Rand PS.)

Reply: *Dear Alan*

Unfortunately we did not receive your catalogue entry for either of these exhibits. We did have a summary on a page that we received with your entry. I am sorry that this has happened, but unfortunately it was beyond our control.

Due to time constraints a generic title was entered for the post card exhibition. A brochure and awards list will be forwarded to you.

Neil Cronjé. Chairman of the Organising Committee.

The Editor SA Philatelist,

Sir,

It was a real surprise to read your discovery of so many philatelists in Wilderness, Knysna, Mossel Bay, Oudtshoorn & George, the places I passed through on the beautiful Garden Route early this month. What a pity I did not know of the locai philatelists in all these places with whom I could have shared my interests in thematic philately : Male Headwear/ Hawks / Religion- Sikhism.

We spent a memorable time at the George Museum & the Ostrich Farm where I got a certificate for riding the largest bird.

I was fortunate to be present at the meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg by invitation, and also meet the ex-President, & Secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, who has given me a copy of your Journal which made very interesting reading and has an excellent presentation. It was a little disappointing to see there was hardiy any interest in Indian philately, & few outlets of SA stamps and stamps of Africa in general. (Like Papua New Guinea with tribal Headwear which I have been able to get from Pacific Stamps, Australia), It was through the Philatelic Federation of South Africa I could meet philatelists of Jo'burg & Cape.

My thanks to the Federation and your Journal

Yours truly

C.D.SINGH

Life Member: Philatelic Society of India

Bombay Natural History Society

2 Gulmohur Residency, 20 Gulmohur Park,

ITI Road, Aundh, Pune 41 1007. India.



Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed

1 - 'South African Army Post Offices in Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland, 1940-41' by Jim Findlay and Rory Ryan; published in *Menelik's Journal of the Ethiopian Philatelic Society*, Volume 23, No. 4, October-December 2007, pages 10 - 28.

2 - 'The 1937 King George VI Coronation issue and the Case of Northern Rhodesia', by Alan Drysdall, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1354, April 2008, p.82 - 93.

3 - 'De La Rue Duty Plates', by Peter Fernbank, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1354, April 2008, p.94 - 102.

4 - 'Snippets from the Cape Archives'(Part 3), by Neville Midwood, Brian Hirst and Brian Fenemore, '*The Runner Post*' no.71, February 2008, p1734 – 1739.

5 - 'Postal Stationery Views and News – 9', by Peter Thy, '*The Runner Post*' no.71, p1743 - 1748.

6 - 'Official Free Markings - Section 3: Boxed Markings-, by Dennis Firth, '*The Runner Post*' no.71, p1751 – 1755.

7 - 'Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (Second Series) Part 10 - Offices beginning SERU - SOW), '*The Runner Post*' no.71, p1756 - 1766

Specialist philatelic Societies

- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK; Journal: '*The Transvaal Philatelist*'. The S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal*'. The S.A. representative is Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: '*The Springbok*'. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. based in the UK. Journal: '*OFS Bulletin*'. SA Representative John Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net website: www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: '*The London Philatelist*'. The S.A. representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: '*Forerunners*'. SA representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: '*Journal of RSC*'. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: '*The Runner Post*'. The S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keithp@dbthermal.co.za
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za

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- Local (within South Africa) R30.00 per copy including postage
- SADEC Areas Airmail R47.00 per copy including postage
- Rest of World Airmail R56.00 per copy including postage

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- *a printed proof copy of the text as well as a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.*
- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'Word' document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Edenvale, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.*



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Material published subject to availability

FUTURE ARTICLES

Charity Flags - World War I
by ds Pauw Steyl

Postal History of Clanwilliam
by Andrew Briscoe

Society News



Honourary Life Membership

Photo: Krish Ranchod

Mr. Solly Starkowitz was honoured recently with "Honourary Life Membership" of the Pietersburg / Polokwane Stamp Club.
Solly has been interested in Philately for sixty years. He was a founder member and first President of the Pietersburg Philatelic Society. Seen here is the President of the Club, Mr. Krish Ranchod presenting Mr. Starkowitz with a framed certificate in recognition of his contribution to promoting the 'Hobby of Kings'.

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Society News

Rhodesian Study Circle

DIAMOND JUBILEE 2008

Conference: 31st October – 3rd November
Social Programme: 4th – 7th November

Diamond Jubilee 2008
RHODESIAN N. & S. RHODESIA & NYASALAND STUDY CIRCLE
CAPE TOWN

It is still possible for interested philatelists to attend the Society's Diamond Jubilee later this year. For logistical reasons it is necessary for everyone who wishes to attend to register and if you are considering attending and have not yet done so you can obtain a Provisional Registration Form direct from Dave Morton in Cape Town – see details below:

The event will be a truly international affair with delegates attending from as far afield as Australia, Canada the U.K., U.S.A., and Zimbabwe.

A wide range of topics will be presented on a 'show and tell' basis and it is anticipated that the conference will not only provide a platform for in-depth discussion but will also offer a unique opportunity for South African philatelists to interact with our overseas compatriots and in so doing further their knowledge base on Rhodesian philately through personal contact.

E-mail: dmorton@mweb.co.za
Phone: + 27 (0)21 913 6461 Fax: + 27 (0)86 684 3099

Exhibition News

Stampshow 2008 Pretoria
23 - 25 October 2008

Venue & dates:
The venue will be the Rautenbach Hall at the University of Pretoria.

As regards dates and times, the following were finalised:
Day 1 -Thursday, 23rdOct: 09:00 to 20:00. Official Opening will be at 16:00 (serving also as a cocktail party)
Day 2 - Friday, 24thOct: 09:00 to 20:00. Note that the PFSA Congress (in Senate Hall, Admin Building) starts an hour earlier than the Exhibition opening.
For details, contact Secretary Jill Redmond at pfsasec@mweb.co.za.
Day 3 – Saturday, 25thOct: 09:00 to 15:00. The Palmares will be held at Tuks as well, namely at the attractive and fully secure Club Hall.
Please also note that exhibits will only be taken down on the next day, commencing at 08:00.

Dealer stands
Will (SAPDA) dealers please note that that stand erection will take place on the previous Sunday, i e on 19th10, starting at 11:00. Dealer stand prices have been reduced to R1,900 (£130), conditional on SAPDA providing the structures and lights. There will be only 20 stands, made available on a "first come" basis. This is a first and, perhaps, last call to dealers! *Foreign dealers should contact me regarding payment in Pounds.*

Exhibition memorabilia
There will be a special exhibition cover, a cancellation and a 4-stamp Cinderella miniature sheet (comprising Jacarandas, the Café Riche, Ou Lettere-gebou and the Union Buildings). An exhibition brochure will also be produced. Apart from the usual data, there will also be articles on '*Kruger's Pretoria*' and '*110 years of the Pretoria Philatelic Society*'. Dealer advertising is also sought - price on request.

Extension of date for exhibit entries: Provisional entries can be submitted up to 31/05. EXTENDED to 15thJune. Applications can be forwarded via the PFSA website, philatelysa.co.za; alternatively e-mail them to Chairman Visser at alex.visser@up.ac.za.
Please note that exhibits must be received by 15thOct.

Paul van Zeyl.
Tel: ++27-12-329 2464
Cell: ++27-76 1249 055

Obituary

Sjaan le Roux

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sjaan le Roux, David Crocker's secretary, who passed away peacefully on the morning of Saturday, 26 April 2008, after suffering a long illness. Sjaan was 82 years of age and had been associated with philately for over twenty years.

The funeral was held in Montagu on Wednesday, 30 April 2008.

Our condolences go to her daughter Marina, and the Crocker and Wigmore families.



Classifieds



SMALLS ADVERTS
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 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

For Sale: The East Rand Society has a number of the early wooden exhibition frames for sale. These are available for R50 each, collectable from Benoni, and are ideal for display purposes, notices etc, for schools, churches and other societies.
For details contact
Dave Hunt, 082 5795793.

Wanted
RSA – "Express" mail and other unusual covers, especially from the Homelands; and FDC 6.3c – Pres Mandela Inauguration with R5 coin; paying above catalogue. Also Zimbabwe commercial covers from 2000.
Offers to: Paul van Zeyl,
Box 29012, Sunnyside, 0132

Wanted
1947 Royal Visit, Basutoland set, perforated "Specimen".
Details to: Chris Cordes (P S of J)
Box 41953, Craighall, 2024.

Wanted
A German stamp collector looking to exchange stamps from Germany, Poland, Austria for similar of Namibia, South Africa, Malawi and Botswana. Offers to:
Helmut Pfannkuchen. Hauptstraße 26,
D-38871 Drübeck, Deutschland
email: hpfannkuchen@arcor.de

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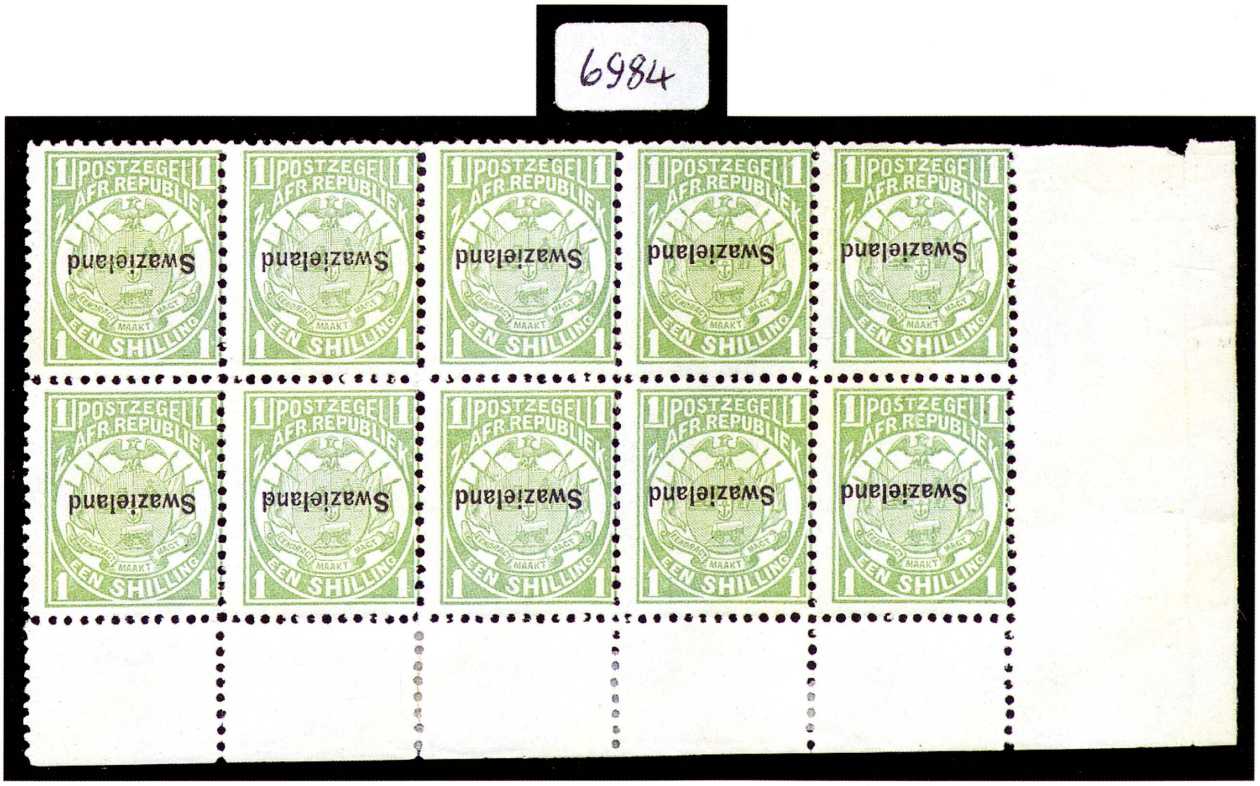

Swaziland: *1889 1/- green, variety overprint inverted, unused large part o.g., corner marginal block of ten, with B.P.A. (1981) certificate. (SG 3a).*

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August 2008

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE
www.philatelysa.co.za

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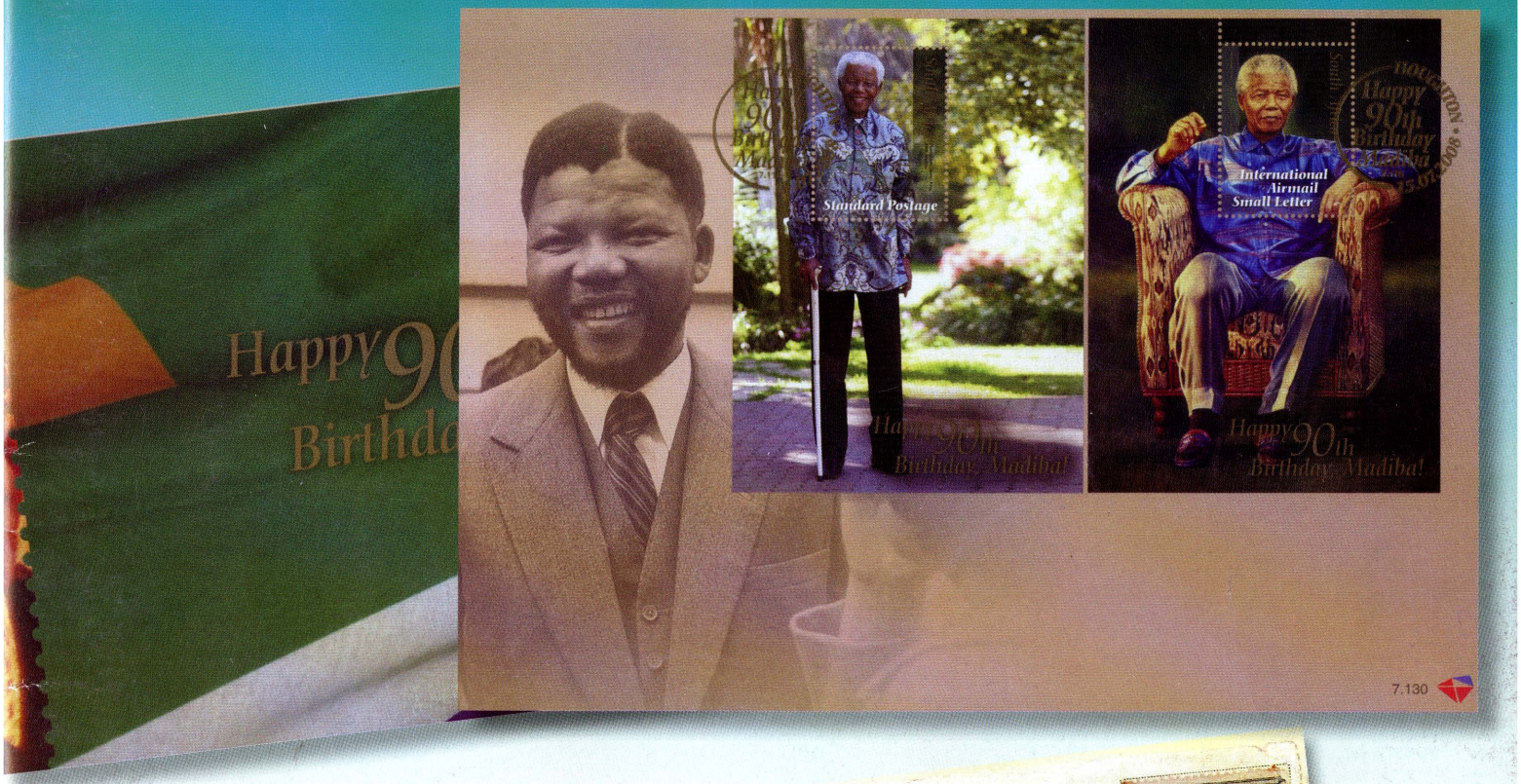
Philately celebrates Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday





BANTAM issue - Mystery resolved



Thematic interesting aspects



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SOMALILAND: 1937 KGVI PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAYS. £550.



ZULULAND: ½d OVPT DOUBLE (SG 12a). Cert: BPA. £800.



SWAZILAND: 1894 "GOVERNMENT REPRINTS" WITH STOP AFTER "SWAZIELAND": Cert: Holcombe. Ex Roth. £1200.



TRANSVAAL: VRI £5 (SG 237). Cert: PFSA. £1400.



ZULULAND: ½d OVPT INVERTED (SG 12b). Cert: BPA. £750.



SWA: OFFICIALS: 1929 2d NO STOP AFTER "OFFICIAL" & NO STOP AFTER "OFFISIEEL" (SG O11c/CC O7b). Cert: Brandon. £45.



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The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

www.philatelysa.co.za

August 2008 Vol 84 No 4 Whole No 889

- Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
- Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
- Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
- Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- Federation Plaque 2004,
- Silver España'06 Literature Award 2006.
- Large Silver 10th NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhib 2007.

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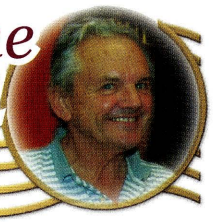
ISSN 0038-2566

From the Editorial desk



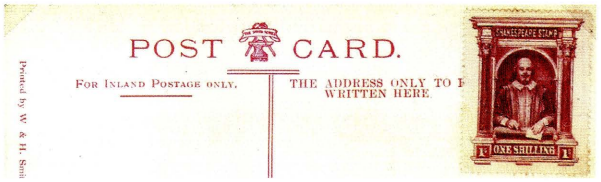
Given the pressure of the deadlines set by the printers and the requirements of the Editorial Board, I have usually found that, in the past, it was often necessary to compose this introductory article before I had even seen the final version of the previous *SAPhilatelist*. However, in the case of the last edition and by courtesy of our publishers, *GDB Promotions*, my copy arrived here in Wilderness on 5 June, the day after it was despatched from Johannesburg by *Speed Services Couriers*, truly an overnight facility. As a result, I am, on this occasion, in a position to comment on our previous offering and can firmly state that, in my opinion at least, it went a long way towards meeting the criteria that have been set for the journal. Although perhaps a little light on traditional philately, there were, amongst other items, two interesting articles on South African Postal History, an extremely eye-catching thematic contribution, information about new issues (and new postal rates), auction and exhibition reports and comments, the latest news of Federation and, not the least, an injunction to start thinking about "*Jo'burg 2010*", the international exhibition that we are to stage in little more than two years' time.

However, what was particularly pleasing about the June edition was the number of thought-provoking letters from you, our readers, with comments, queries and suggestions about our hobby. Should, for instance, authors of articles in this journal publish their contact details? A resolution was passed at Congress some years ago that contributors should indicate the name of the philatelic society of which they were a member and this is now the accepted practice. Do you think more is required? What do you know about the operations of the South African Red Cross during the Second World War? One of our readers in the Netherlands is desperately waiting for information. How can we help to take our hobby to the remoter parts of the country? The Judging and Ethics Committee is considering this problem but what suggestions do you have? Elsewhere in this publication I will attempt to answer the question from Fish Hoek about an airmail label issued in France in 1920. Another letter commented on the deterioration of material received from INTERSAPA due, apparently, to the nature of the material used for packaging. It is to be hoped that, as suggested, the authorities concerned will have published a meaningful response to this complaint for inclusion in the present edition of the journal. It was also anticipated in the June edition that in August we would feature an illustrated article by our old friend, Jamie Smith, now living in England, about the Shakespeare "labels" of Stratford upon Avon. This article started off as a letter of enquiry but grew and grew.

So you see, with these and other queries there is likely to be plenty of material in the *SA Philatelist* that might just stimulate you into providing answers to the benefit of the philatelic public at large. Alternatively, of course, you may be prompted into furnishing questions or articles of your own. The Editorial Board is eager to hear from you and will be happy to assist with the reproduction of illustrations for letters or for articles should you so require. Whatever you do, please don't let them down. The quality of the magazine depends on contributions from you.

Chris Mobsby.





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Closing dates for future issues

October issue	Vol. 84: 5.	890 : 15 September 2008
December issue	Vol. 84: 6.	891 : 11 November 2008
February issue	Vol. 85: 1.	892 : 13 January 2009
April issue	Vol. 85: 2.	893 : 17 March 2009
June issue	Vol. 85: 3.	894 : 14 May 2009

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FUTURE EVENTS - EXHIBITIONS

OCTOBER 2008

Jakarta 2008
23 - 28 October 2008
22nd Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Jakarta
Commissioner: Neville Polakow RDPSA
Contact Number: 082 968 9213
SA Jurors: Howard Green RDPSA; Neville Polakow RDPSA and Neil Cronje (Apprentice Juror)
Entries Closed

OCTOBER 2008

Stampshow 2008
Pretoria
23 - 25 October 2008

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

Rhodesia Study Circle
31 October - 3 November 2008
Cape Town - Diamond Jubilee Celebration
Contact: Dave Morton
email: dmorton@mweb.co.za

APRIL 2009

China 2009
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition
Luoyang 10 - 16 April 2009
Commissioner: Emil Minnaar
email: emil@minnaar.org
Entries Closed

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2009

Hong Kong 2009
23rd Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Hong Kong
May 2009 (tba)
Commissioner: Patrick Flanagan
email: pflan@mweb.co.za
SA Jurors: Patrick Flanagan (Apprentice Juror)
Entries Closed

JULY / AUGUST 2009

Philakorea 2009
24th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Seoul
30 July - 4 August 2009
Commissioner: Howard Green RDPSA
email: Howard.Green@swelco.co.za
SA Jurors: Howard Green RDPSA Neil Cronje (Apprentice Juror)

OCTOBER 2009

Italy 2009
FEPA International Stamp Exhibition (FIP) Recognition
Rome
21 - 25 October 2009
Commissioner: Richard Johnson RDPSA
email: RJ@johnson.co.za

MAY 2010

London 2010
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition, London
8 - 15 May 2010
Commissioner: Harry Birkhead RDPSA
email: sylvia@icon.co.za

OCTOBER 2010

Lisbon 2010
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition, Lisbon
1 - 10 October 2010
Commissioner: Andrew Fischer
email: andrewf@fischerassociates.co.za

OCTOBER 2010

Joburg 2010
25th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Johannesburg
27 - 31 October 2010
Commissioner General: Patrick Flanagan
email: pflan@mweb.co.za
email: info@joburg2010stampshow.co.za
website http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za

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From the Mailbox

Uit die Posbus



Dear Sir,

Being editor for MARCOPHILA, on-line catalog and portal specialising in the postal markings, postmarks, cancellations, special postmarks, pictorial postmarks, definitive or temporary postmarks, touristic postmarks etc., I would like to establish a co-operation with you.

I would be very grateful if you would have the kindness to place my name and address as below, to receive papers that you issue, press releases, etc. Information that could be of interest to visitors and readers.

Mr. Malte Aronsson
Member A.I.J.P. *(International Association of Philatelic Journalists) #1382.*
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Collector's Target, S.A.
Noleredsvägen 11-D
42332 TORSLANDA
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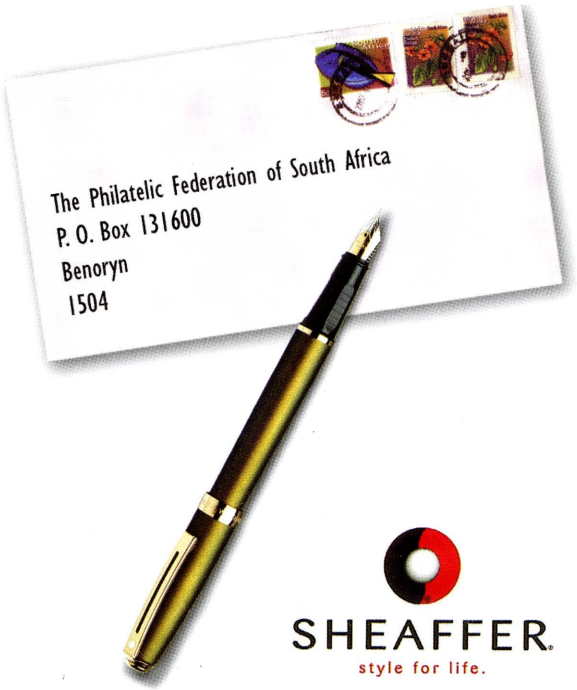

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Reply from the Editor



In the June edition of the *SA Philatelist*, there was a question from D.V. Smith of the *Fish Hoek Philatelic Society* about a French airmail label of 1920 bearing a portrait of the World War I pilot, Georges Guynemer. Semi-official airmail stamps were first issued in France for an aviation meeting at Nantes in 1910. This was followed in 1912 by an issue for a single flight between Nancy and Luneville. Such issues were interrupted by the War and only resumed in 1922 for a flying meeting at Bourges. Thereafter, issues were somewhat more prolific with special stamps being used for airmail from meetings at such towns as Montpelier, Amiens, Rouen and Vincennes.

Sadly, the Guynemer label does not quite fall into the same category being rather a vignette, as Mr Smith quite rightly surmises, to indicate that the letter to which it was affixed was destined for the regular airpost service that was already in operation between Paris and London in 1920. It was anticipated that the label, first issued in May 1920, would replace the 'postmark' previously used on airmail although they are frequently seen on cover together with a postal cancellation. The labels were in fact not unlike the 'Par Avion' vignettes that are used around the world to this day and which, incidentally, originated in France in 1918. The labels in question were overprinted for an 'aeronautical meeting' in Buc (de Buc) in the department of Seine et Oise near Paris from 1 - 3 October 1920. My source of reference lists the dates as the 1st to the 3rd of August but in view of the month - "Octobre" - in the overprint, this is thought to be an error.

These issues are known with the postal cancellation "*Buc S et O Meeting Aéronautique*." Featured at the meeting were competitions to set new world altitude and speed records. One of the requirements of competing aircraft was the transportation of mail from Buc to London, England and to Brussels in Belgium. There were apparently strict limitations regarding the weight of mail, the number of passengers carried and the timing of these trips. The competition had been scheduled for 3 October but was subsequently postponed to 10 October, further verifying the dates of the meeting. Mail destined for London bore a circular cachet reading 'Royal Aero Club - 10th Oct. - London' while that for Brussels received a rectangular cachet with the wording 'Aero Club - 10.Oct. 1920 - de Belgique'. The cachets were struck over the Guynemer vignettes according to the destination of the mail while the regular postage stamps and, on some occasions, the labels, were accorded the circular postal cancellation of the "Buc Air Meeting". This latter strike was applied only on completion of the round flight, thus authenticating the status of the mail.

The above information was derived in part from Sanabria's 'Air Post Catalogue' and in part from 'Pioneer Airpost Flights of the World 1830-1935' by Dr.Max Kronstein.

Chris Mobsby.

Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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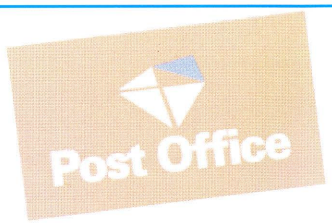
Letter of Compliment to the SAPO



On two separate occasions I have had cause to feel the need to pass on a compliment. Both concern the Post Office at the East Rand Mall.

The first was sent via e-mail directly to Johan van Wyk, on 16/04/2008 "Hi Johan, On a personal note. These days it is common for complaints but very seldom do compliments get given. I am one of those that gives credit where it is due.

I know this will probably not be your area of control but maybe you could pass it on to the correct department head.

I went to the East Rand PO at the East Rand Mall. I needed to send an airmail letter to a fellow collector in New Zealand. When I walked in, the counter lady (who was going on tea) came back to the counter and assisted me in a very professional manner, even to the point of selecting nice stamps to place on the envelope. She also ensured that the item was clearly and neatly cancelled (in fact the lady in the next counter seemed to have no idea what we were doing and ended up having a lesson in philately).

The lady in question whose name is Mavis, is a credit to the Post Office concerned.

The second incident happened on the 6th of May (Penny Black birthday)

On this day, I once again had need to go to the East Rand Post Office to post an item to a colleague in Ireland. I spoke to a teller called Anthony. The service I received was exceptional. Not only (once he was informed as to the philatelic nature of my item) did he hand over the storage of stamps for me to choose from, he also handed me the canceller so that I could ensure the quality of the cancels.

After passing over my thanks for the good, I asked him as to why this branch was so on the ball. He told me that the branch manager had personally made the decision that they would carry commemorative stamps. He also informed me that as far as possible they sell commemorative stamps over the definitive issues.

I and many others would love to see this type of situation become the norm within the Post Office.

Colin (From: colinb@BELL.CO.ZA)

A Correction

Dear Editor,

I have enjoyed Mr Briscoe's article :"*The Orphan Chamber of Cape Town*" in the June number of the *SAP*.

First, there is a (repeated) typographical error which I hope you might correct: "the Secretary of the Orphan Chamber from 1802 (possibly earlier) to 1820 was J P (variously Jan Pieter or Johannis Petrus) **Faure** not Foure or Fourie.

Hugh Amoore
Registrar, University of Cape Town
Private Bag X3,Rondebosch, 7701

Worth making a Note of:

Sandton Stamp fair: 9 August, 13 September
Please note: Jacques Kuun's new cell number is 082 836 9746

The contact details JOBURG 2010
email: info@joburg2010stampshow.co.za
website http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za

Improvements to "Journal References" column

May I, as a collector-dealer, compliment you on your column, "Journal References", and make a few suggestions.

Both collectors and trade members have a real need for up-to-date information on our key collecting and dealing areas, with particular reference to those in the Southern African region. But we all have the problem of keeping track of research undertaken in the diverse journals which serve the world's stamp market. Accordingly, your listing of important articles is very welcome.

Allow me to suggest that:
Where necessary, a sentence on content be added, eg on what Thy's "Postal Stationery" piece actually covers, Auction catalogues containing important whole collections also be listed.
Similar articles in exhibition brochures be summarised in a paragraph.
Society exhibits with new research also be recorded, giving publicity to relevant societies as well.

Obviously, this calls for some input from collectors and society secretaries. And it might just be forthcoming as it requires little effort, just a service-to-fellow-collectors orientation. Any chance fellow collectors and societies could promote the view?!

Yours philatelically
Paul van Zeyl
Member: SAPDA
Tel: ++27-12 329 2464 Cell: ++27-76 1249 055
Web: randstamps.sixpack.co.za (no "www")

A request from collector in Belgium for contacts for International Reply Coupons.

As a committee member of the Belgian philatelic society *'L'Entier Postal'* (postal stationery) and a collector of International reply coupons worldwide...
I have been in touch with the South African Post Philatelic Service trying to order reply coupons but it appears that they don't sell them and that these items are ONLY available at post office counter desks !!!!!...
Unfortunately I have no personal contact in South Africa with any collector nor Society and therefore I send you this small request: would it be possible to put me in contact with a collector who would be so kind to buy some coupons and post them to me. Of course payment will be sent in advance of the purchase.
Referring to the UPU these reply coupons are also sold by Lesotho and Zimbabwe postal authorities... perhaps you could also give me a contact in these border countries... ?
I hope you would be so kind as to help me... I really don't know what else to do to get these items!
Thank you very, very much and, if perhaps, I can do something for you at this end of the world... don't hesitate!

Best greetings from Belgium.
Yves Winand
email: yves.winand@pandora.be

PLEASE BE AWARE

Franco Frescura, Vice-President, KZN region, reported that members of the three KZN societies have found that when soaking off self-stick commemoratives from paper, the stamps tended to disintegrate and asked that members of other SA societies try the same experiment and report the results to the *SAP*.
Seemingly the same thing does not happen with definitive stamps.

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President's Column

Recent events have shown that in South Africa we live in an aggressive society. Each one of us deplores the loss of life, damage to property and disruption of life for many that occurred. However, this type of aggression and insensitivity is not limited to hotspots, but has permeated all of our society.

This was brought home to me during a recent business visit to Australia where life was so peaceful, almost to the point of being boring and uninteresting!

The reason why I am addressing this issue is that over the last few months I have come across several instances where philatelists have been sadly hurt by a misguided comment by fellow philatelists. In one instance an exhibit showed the correspondence of a mother and her son who was in the British army and amongst others served in South Africa. The hurtful comment was that if the material had been pristine it would have garnered the top prize, but since it was stained and creased it did not. Little did the commentator appreciate that the letters were lovingly carried in the theatre of war, where the stains were tears and blood. The result was that a keen philatelist did not take part in formal activities for several decades. Is that what we desire in the philatelic community?

We all know that the word is mightier than the sword; hence it should be used even more carefully than the sword. I am not sure whether the philatelic community loves warmongering more than other groupings. Since becoming your President I have encountered a number of philatelists who have withdrawn from organized philately or philatelic activities because of ill-thought comments or malicious statements. Life is far too short to pass all the time fighting. It is far more fun to do things together, and to enjoy them.

There is the age-old joke about the shipwrecked Irishman who washed up on a desolate island. When he was eventually found his first question was "Who is the government?" His rescuers were taken aback, and wanted to know why. His response "Because I am against them!" I realize that many of us have Irish blood flowing in our veins, and historically South Africans have been adept at creating alternative structures when they disagreed with existing structures and processes. The numerous church denominations are an example. But these actions do not solve problems, they simply displace and multiply them.

Hence my plea is for us in organized philately to work together and maintain a civil tongue. We are able to achieve so much more than when we expend our energy fighting each other rather than the opponents. It seems to be a South African trait that is coming to the fore more and more. Our representative sport teams invariably leave our shores having been "beaten up" by the administrators, and then they have to focus on taking on the opposing teams.

Let us make a concerted effort to help and support our fellow philatelist. Perhaps the old adage "It is better to give than to receive" applies here as well. This does not mean that I propose that we should agree with everything; we must provide input or point out the implications or give an alternative view. But at the end of the day democratic principles and civil society should apply. If you still feel like fighting or strangling someone go to the gymnasium and do some shadow boxing, and you will be tops.

To remind you of the challenges, I am continuing with the check list by adding to it. I trust that you are working on these challenges, and I would love to hear whether these challenges propelled you to action or otherwise (alex.visser@up.ac.za):

1. *Write a letter, and repeat it regularly;*
2. *Share your special collecting interest with a wider audience;*
3. *Make a commitment towards organized philately;*
4. *Document your philatelic knowledge and experience;*
5. *Enter into the debate on how National Exhibitions are run;*
6. ***Use a gentle tongue.***



Alexo Visser

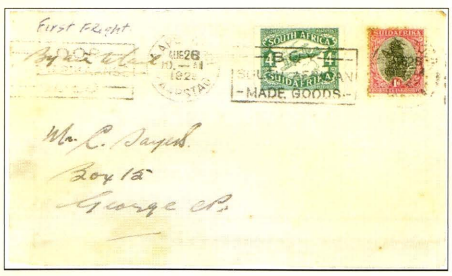
ERRATA

In the June issue caption under the cover illustrated on page 484 describes the cover appearing on page 485 and vice versa.

In notes on new SA stamp issues (page 500) the location of the Enschede printing works is **Haarlem** not The Hague.



7 September 1929 - Another airmail cover to George en route between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Letter shows a 1d stamp plus a new 1/- airmail stamp (issued 16.8.1929) cancelled by tow cape Town postmarks on 7.9.1929 as well as the Port Elizabeth arrival postmark (9.9.1929). Note further the deleted 20c tax mark and the airmail sticker. The airmail stickers were issued in February 1925 to coincide with the Government's experimental airmail service. Unused stock was used during August and September 1929.



26 August 1929 - The first airmail flight between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth landed en route at George to re-fuel. It is unknown how many postal articles were offloaded at George, but the above one was in the historic postbag. Stamps cancelled with slogen "KOOP SUID AFRIKAANSE GOED" "BUY SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS" Vroeë gebruik van seëls - uitgegee 16 Augustus 1929.

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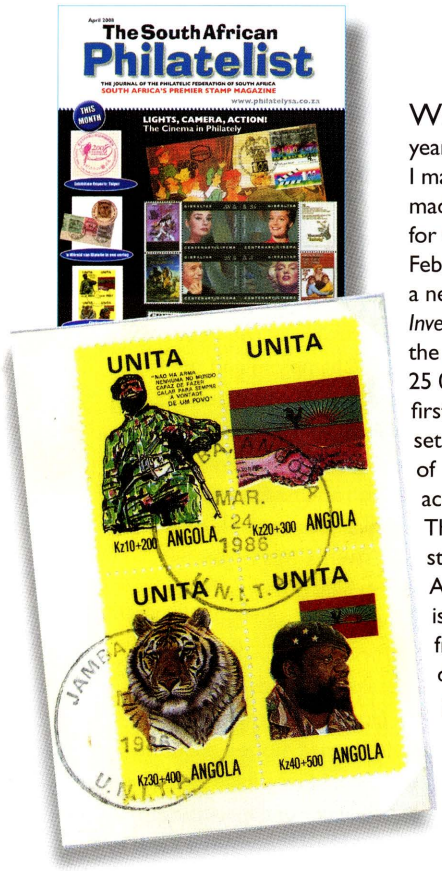
Cinderellas



"...Another Man's Poison", a footnote.

- by Chris Mobsby.

Writing in the *SAPhilatelist* (pp 457-458) in April of this year in an article under the banner of "Cinderellas", I made mention of the stamp issues that had been made by Jonas Savimbi's UNITA (The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) movement in February, 1986. Recently, I have come across a copy of a news release by an American company called *Coach Investments, Inc.* that claims to have been responsible for the stamps and, moreover, to have marketed more than 25 000 sets of them, at a cost of $15 per set, during the first month of their issue. The actual face value of the set amounts to 100 kwanzas with a "charity" surcharge of 1400 kwanzas that, in theory at least, would have accrued to the resistance movement.

The company admits that the prime aim of the stamps was to raise funds for the anti-Marxists in Angola and mentions that it was planning similar issues for the Solidarity Movement in Poland and for freedom fighters in Ethiopia. They also quote a stamp dealer, Marc Roussou, who is assisting them in the project as saying that "As never before, stamps are becoming the currency by which freedom fighters raise their flags". All this might be construed as disproving the validity of the UNITA issues as bona fide postage stamps. Further, in an article in The American Philatelist of April 1991, it was claimed that there was at that time no currency of any kind in circulation in "Free Angola", the area under the control of UNITA. Commerce, it was stated, was conducted according to a system of barter and that whatever mail was posted was delivered free of charge.

In the same article, it was stated that the application for recognition of the stamps was rejected by the Universal Postal Union and that, as a result, the stamps were never actually used for postage. However, Coach Investments did lay claim in their release to the possession of a video showing, in their own, somewhat convoluted phraseology "…. the postal service of a freedom fighter movement posting a resistance stamp through the international mail as a message of freedom". Added to which there is the statement from Stamp News of 20 March 1986, from which I quoted in my original article, that the stamps had been accepted on mail with some reservation in both Great Britain and the U.S.A. I will leave it to you, the reader, to make your own decision as to whether these labels should be categorised as semi-official, semi-postal, regular or local postage stamps or merely charity stickers. Whatever they may be, their stamp-like appearance guarantees their status as "Cinderellas" at the very least.

Exhibition News

EFIRO 2008, report.

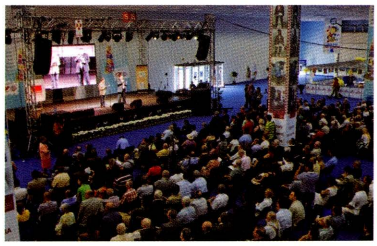
- by Emil Minnaar.







Exhibit by the Romanian Postal Museum



Opening Ceremony



View of one of the exhibition halls

The Romanian Philatelic Federation and the Romanian Post Office under the patronage of FIP hosted the 70th FIP Congress and the first World Stamp Exhibition to be held in their country. The exhibition held in Bucharest celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the first stamps from the then Principality of Moldavia, the famous "Bull's Head" stamps.

Items in the Court of Honour: Cape of Good Hope. A letter bearing the Cape of Good Hope four pence vermilion woodblock Error of Colour, se-tenant in a block of four with 3 one penny vermilion woodblock stamps, addressed to the firm McAllister & Trump in Grahamstown. Tied by two triangular CGH grids and oval datestamped 'CRADOCK MA 26 1861".

The Matrices of the first Romanian Postal Stamps "Bull's Head". Brazilian "Bull's Eyes" issue. The collection owned by Luis Alemany Indarte of Spain showed an exceptional accumulation of rare stamps, postmarks, covers and multiples.

Tuscany - by Saverio Imperato, Italy. A selection of rarities showing all the issues of 1851, 1857 and 1860

Letter from Hiroshima. The German Philatelic Federation showed a letter from Hiroshima discovered after the explosion of the nuclear bomb during the Second World War, which still today emits traces of radiation. The letter was found during cleaning operations in the ruins of a bank about two kilometres away from the epicentre of the detonation. It has been placed within a lead sleeve and covered with iron-cased glass.



Royal Philatelic Collection of GB. A selection from the Royal Philatelic Collection, of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II comprising essays, art-work, die proofs, colour trials and issued stamps of the Id and 2d values of 1840, the ½d value of 1870 and the UPU issue of 1929.

Special stamp issues. In a "stamp-on-stamp" theme the Romanian Post Office issued three stamps, reproducing the stamps of the second issue "Bull's Head" of 1858. South Africa had 7 entries.

The awards attained were:

- Jan Bakker RDPSA - Large Silver;
- Bernard du Plessis - Vermeil (Open Class);
- Howard Green RDPSA - Large Vermeil (Traditional);
- Emil Minnaar - Gold (Postal Stationery)
- Jill Redmond RDPSA - Vermeil (Aerophilately);
- Mervyn Rosenberg - Vermeil (Open Class)
- Peter van der Molen RDPSA - Gold (One Frame)



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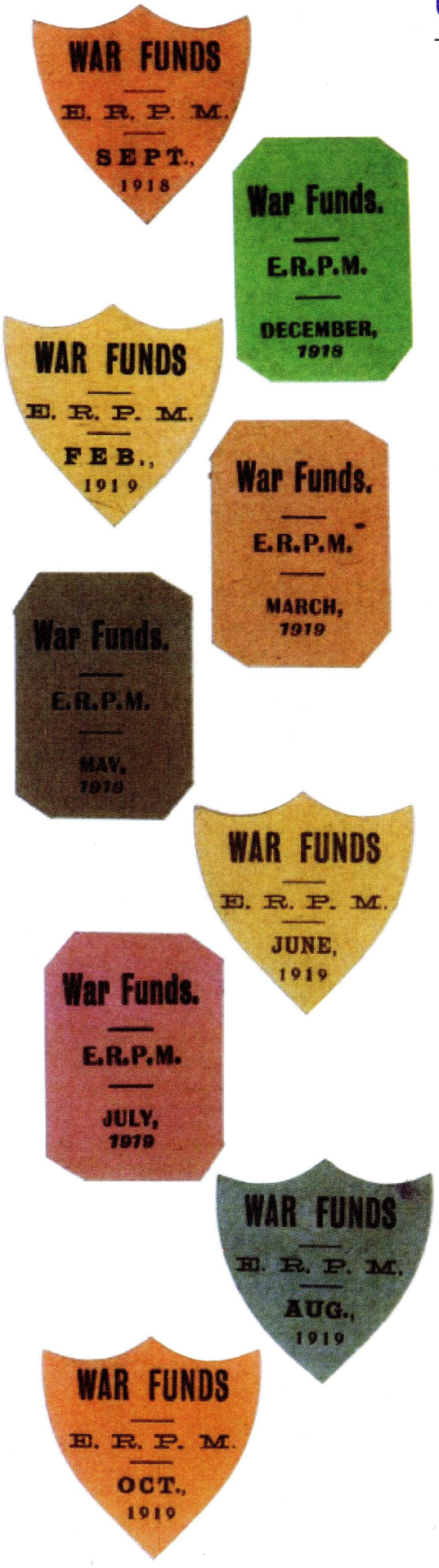
Unknown Charity Flags from World War I

-by ds Pauw Steyl, Orange Free State Philatelic Society



I would never forget that evening. The George Philatelic Society had gathered for its monthly meeting on 11 October 2007. After our chairman, Ray Upson, asked: "Something of interest", one of the old stalwarts of the society, John Walters rose from his chair with the war fund shields mounted on a page with Hawid strips. These unknown pieces of paper were discussed but nothing fruitful followed the discussions. We discovered that only one, dated Sept.1918, was issued during the war. The others were all dated after the war was already over. We had also agreed that the E.R.P.M. mine issued the labels.

I volunteered to take a copy of the labels to Pezapex but nobody could clarify my mystery. In the meantime John Walters did his own research. He wrote to the Archives in Cape Town but to no avail. However, the archives suggested that he should write to the SA National Museum of Military History in Johannesburg. This he did…

During our Society's February 2008 meeting when the chairman asked: "Matters of interest", the old stalwart again rose from his chair, this time with a smile, and read the reply which he received from the Military Museum.

"…Your assumption that the charity flags in question refer to the East Rand Proprietary Mines in Boksburg on the East Rand, is correct. It is unfortunate that the mine records were destroyed, because ERPM was sufficiently involved in the First World War to set up a war memorial on its premises (now the headquarters of the East Rand Hell's Angels Motor Cycle Club). In fact, some idea of the patriotism of the ERPM community is provided by an article on the ERPM Tennis Club in the East Rand Express of 2 December 1916, p43, describing decisions taken, to bar young single men who were eligible for military service from joining as members for the duration of the war, or even from representing the club in competitions.

The same publication indicates that Boksburg had a large Scottish community, which was closely associated with both the ERPM and the Transvaal Scottish regiment, and that many of its young men were on active service in the war.

The Express shows that ERPM established a 'Comforts Committee' during the War. This is probably the organisation that issued the 'charity flags' in question in 1918 and 1919. Like similar organisations, it would have operated in close co-operation with the Boksburg Emergency Fund (under the Chairmanship of the Mayor of Boksburg, Mr R A Champion) and the large national war fund organisations such as the Governor-General's Fund, the SA Gifts and Comforts Organising Committee and the Red Cross. To raise funds and collect materials for the various wartime charities, a wide variety of events was organised by committees such as this one. These included organising large war markets and public auctions, bridge evenings, concerts, garden parties, cake sales, flower sales, etc. Local business, farmers and members of the public would donate money, goods and services in support of these initiatives. By making use of volunteers, administration fees were kept extremely low and a very large proportion of the proceeds could be distributed to the various charities. These included gifts and comforts for the troops on active service, prisoners of war and patients in hospital. The war funds were also used to help alleviate wartime suffering amongst the local community (unemployment and soaring food prices made life very difficult for local families and especially for servicemen's dependents and war widows and orphans). According to the Express, the ERPM Comforts Fund donated £35 to the 'Ten Shillings Christmas Fund for Overseas Boys' in December 1916, while the ERPM Club donated books and periodicals to the Boksburg Government Hospital at much the same time.

Very little has been written about South African war fund collection in the First World War, but some idea of the scale of this activity has been preserved through the collection of war fund arm-bands and 'charity flags' at the SA National Museum of Military History…".

Every member of our meeting listened attentively as John was reading this intriguing letter. After well-deserved applause, the general feeling was that this information should be made available to other collectors, namely philatelists. The George Philatelic Society trusts that you will enjoy this information as we did.

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Harry's visit strengthens Federation ties with collectors in Europe

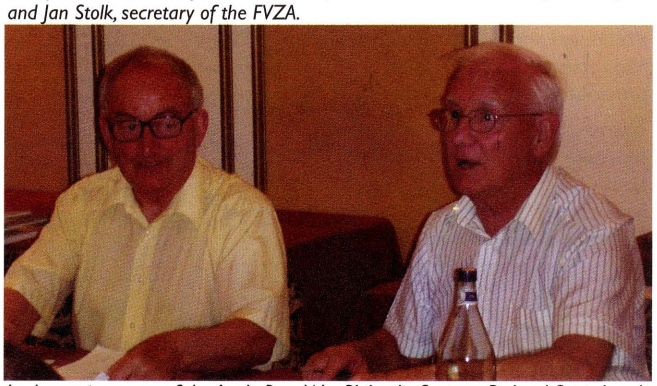
There is a keen interest in and enthusiasm for the philately and postal history of Southern Africa amongst collectors in Europe, and excellent collections of Southern Africa have been formed there.

This is the conclusion of Harry Birkhead RDPSA, Honorary Life President of the Philatelic Federation, who undertook a private goodwill visit to the UK, the Netherlands and Belgium to meet with members of societies affiliated to the Federation. Harry met committee members (and other members) of the SA Collectors' Society, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, Transvaal Study Circle, Orange Free State Study Circle, Cape and Natal Study Circle and Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (FVZA). He also met committee members of the East Africa Study Circle and the Indian Ocean Study Circle, both of which have members in SA. At the weekend get-together and AGM of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society at Royal Leamington Spa in the UK, Harry was joined by three others from South Africa: Gawie van der Walt, Gerhard Kamffer and Joh Groenewald, who is the life president of the Anglo-Boer War PS. Other UK meetings were at Harrogate, where the British national philatelic exhibition was held, and in London, where he also called at the Royal Philatelic Society. Harry took the opportunity of visiting top dealers in London and Paris, and in France met with chairmen of societies whose interests lie outside the ambit of SA philately. A highlight was the visit to members of the FVZA. Jan Stolk, secretary of the FVZA since its inception 20 years ago, arranged special meetings in Rotterdam and in Melsele, near Antwerp. Harry found the friendship and cameraderie most refreshing, and was delighted to see some really outstanding collections. One 'South African' collection received a gold award at the British national exhibition (Harrogate, May 2008). It was the remarkable postal history collection relating to the Imperial Military Railways during the Anglo-Boer War, exhibited by Dr Alan Drysdall RDP RDPSA.

"I am really pleased about the positive interest shown in South African philately and the good work done by our affiliated societies," Harry says.



Ton de Hilster, chairman of the Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (FVZA); Harry Birkhead, Honory Life President of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and Jan Stolk, secretary of the FVZA.



In the engine room of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society : Richard Stroud and Peter Prime.

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W.S.C.ISRAEL 2008

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



Imperforate Miniature sheet for the Exhibition and included in its catalogue

It was my privilege to attend 'The World Stamp Championship Israel 2008' as South African Commissioner. The exhibition, under FIP patronage, was held from 14-21 May 2008 to celebrate Israel's 60th Anniversary.

The exhibition was financed by Israel Post Ltd. and organised by the Israel Philatelic Federation. A major objective of the exhibition, besides presenting some of the world's finest stamp exhibits, was to attract and recruit young people to take up the hobby of philately. The commemoration of statehood and the encouragement of tourism motivated the organizing committee as well.

The World Stamp Championship, the last having been held in Singapore in 2004, was an interesting innovation. This was confined to traditional and postal history exhibits which had received Large Gold or Gold awards at previous FIP exhibitions. There were 28 entries.

Sixteen postal administrations, were represented at the exhibition. Regrettably, South Africa was not represented. There seemed to be fewer dealer stands than usual. The British and American "trade" was notable for its absence, apparently due to Customs problems.

The International Jury

The forty-nine member Jury, with Eli Weber as President, covered a wide field of expertise. Francis Kiddle RDP (Great Britain) was Jury Secretary and Michael Wigmore RDPSA represented South Africa on it. The FIP Co-ordinator was P.H. Tay RDP (Singapore). There were eight apprentice jurors. The Expert Team removed 19 items for further investigation.

The W.S.C. 2008 Exhibition

The exhibition covered 2600 frames plus literature exhibits. In excess of 40,000 visitors attended the exhibition during the eight days. No entrance fee was charged.

There was a wonderful array of classic European material and it was good to see Large Gold exhibits of Belgium, Romania and Heligoland (!) alongside the usual favourites.

The quality of the Thematic exhibits was more varied, although there were some eye-catching displays, while the One-Frame entries left something to be desired at times.

The World Stamp Championship featured spectacular exhibits, although only five were 20th Century ones. Impressive displays of Brazil, Italian States, Uruguay and Canada featured here. However, *Clive Sergay's* **Zululand** exhibit was certainly not out of place in the Championship.

It was encouraging to see large groups of school children with their teachers being bussed in, but mothers with young families and large family groups were a feature.

On the Sunday afternoon the exhibition hall's doors had to be closed at one stage due to the large attendance.

Dealers and postal administrations did a brisk trade. Entertainment for children was provided throughout the day.

Customs formalities and Bin Room

The South African Customs officials were most helpful in both directions. On arrival in Israel, formalities were handled courteously. A clearing agent, appointed by the organising committee, handled our departure from Israel (at 3.00 a.m.) efficiently and quickly. Bin Room activities were slick, competent and friendly. All requests were attended to with a smile.

The Competitive Exhibition

The South African results were as follows:-

- Selwyn Uria
  1948 Doar Ivri, Israel - Large Gold
- Joel Latinsky
  1948 Doar Ivri, Israel - Gold
- Patrick Flanagan
  BSA Company, Small Arms-Large Vermeil
- Neville Polakow
  S.A. Airmails - Large Vermeil
- Joachim Frank
  Canadian Participation in S.A. War-1899-1902 - Vermeil
- Brian Gruzd
  First Airmails of Israel - Vermeil
- Wobbe Vegter
  From Abacus to Internet - Vermeil
- Frank Friedman
  World of Diamonds - Large Silver
- Maurice Daniels
  Israel Printing Dates - Silver
- Joel Latinsky
  'Flying Scrolls' Israel - Silver

A Large Gold or Gold award in the National Class of an International exhibition is an outstanding achievement. *Selwyn* is to be congratulated on his award, which was one of only three Large Golds awarded for Israel (as distinct from "Holy Land") material. *Joel*, too, showed a splendid exhibit of the popular "Doar Ivri" issue.

Two ex-patriate South Africans received Gold medals. Namely, *Les Glassman* (now living in Israel) for **Moçambique** and *Keith Klugman* (U.S.A.) for '**Victorian Natal**'.

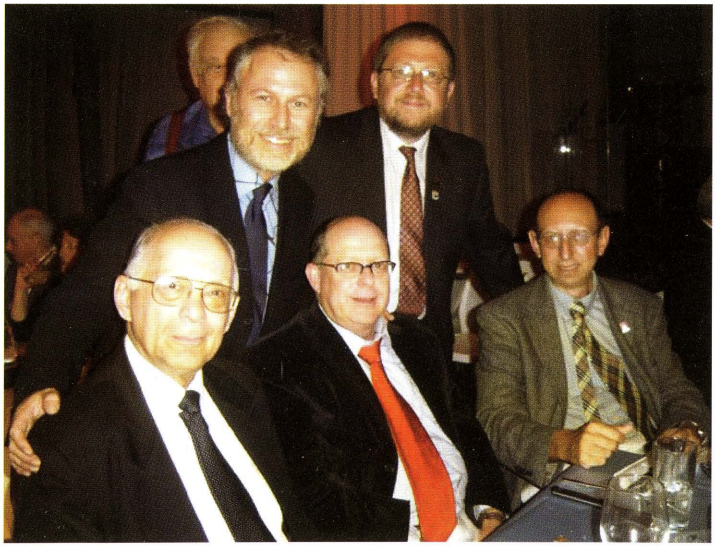
The "**Best in National Class**" award went to *Z. Alexander* for "Turkish Post in Palestine", while *J. Hackmey's* "**France-First Issue**" received the Grand Prix d'Honneur. The World Stamp Championship was "won" by *L Alemany* for "**Brazil Bull's Eyes-1843**". The latter three exhibits were truly amazing.

Winding down

The various receptions were lavish productions.

The Palmares was notable for the friendly spirit, attractive floor show, excellent dinner and pleasant seating arrangements. We felt welcome. Jury and Commissioner's medals having been handed out previously, only the major medals and World Stamp Championship awards were distributed at the Palmares. This placed the accent on the exhibitors rather than the organisers and speeded up proceedings.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow-exhibitors for their help with transporting the 67 frames of exhibits. The assistance received from Captains Shabtai and Dorron of EL AL and Mrs. E. Zadikov of their ground staff was invaluable in safely conveying our exhibits and is much appreciated.



At the Palmares of "W.S.C. Israel 2008": Les Glassman, Michael Wigmore RDPSA (Juror) Front: Joachim Frank RDPSA (Commissioner), Clive Sergay, Keith Klugman.

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Australia's First Airline Service - by David Morton, Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa.

During my visit to the Aviation Heritage Museum in Bull Creek, Perth recently I came across the actual Bristol Tourer Type 28 aircraft which carried the very first airmails in Australia.

The first regular contract was granted to Major Norman Brearley's Western Australian Airways on 2 August 1921, for a weekly service from Geraldton (terminus of the railway line from Perth) to Derby via Carnarvon, Onslow, Roebourne, Port Hedland and Brooke - a route distance of 1900 kilometres.

The service began on Monday 5 December 1921 with the departure of three Bristol Tourer 28 Type aircraft from Geraldton thereby pre-dating the first regular QANTAS service in Queensland by eleven months.

Six Bristol Tourers were purchased by Western Australian Airways and during five years of operations these aircraft covered nearly 1,200,000 kms with a very creditable reliability record.



Replica of a Bristol 28 Tourer Coupé biplane, G-AUDK

The Bristol Tourer was a three seater wood and fabric covered bi-plane and was derived from the Bristol F2B fighter of World War I fame. In addition to the pilot and two passengers the aircraft carried 100 lbs. (45 kg) of mail or cargo.

Specifications:

Manufacturer: The Bristol Aeroplane Co Ltd, Bristol England
Engine: 240 H.P. (179 kw) Armstrong Siddeley Puma Engine
Dimensions: Span : 39 ft. 5 in. (12.01 m)
Length : 26 ft 1 in. (7.95 m)
Height : 10 ft 1 in. (3.07 m)
Wing Area : 407 sq. ft. (37.81 m)
Maximum speed : 120 mph (193 km/h)
Cruise speed : 105 mph (169 km/h)
Service ceiling : 20,000 ft (6095 m)
Range : 400 miles (644 km)
Weight : 1900 lbs (862 kg) empty
: 3000 lbs (1361 kg) max. take off.

QANTAS (Queensland & Northern Territory Aerial Services Ltd.) although established on 16 November 1920, did not operate its first scheduled service until 2 November 1922.



Bristol 28 Tourer powered by 250hp Puma-engine

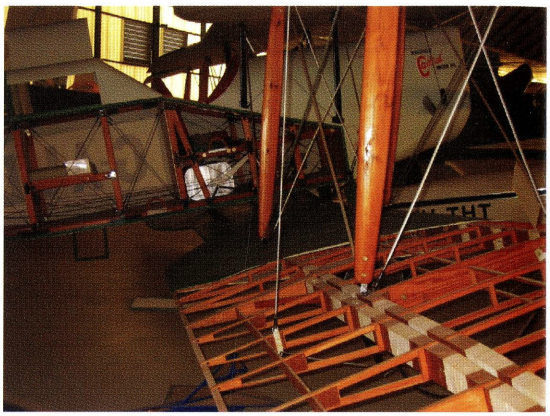
Norman Brearley - Founder of Western Australian Airways:

He was born in Geelong, Victoria in 1890 but his family moved to W.A. (then with a population of just some 282,000 and only some 334,000 by 1921) in 1906. In 1911, he saw his first aircraft and in April 1915, after a 5-year apprenticeship as a mechanic, he worked his passage to the U.K. and enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps. He was badly wounded in France in October 1916 and returned to W.A. to convalesce. He returned to the U. K. becoming a flying instructor and ended the Great War as the commander of a flying instructors' school, as a Major. He returned to Australia in 1919 with a relatively rare combination of considerable aviation skills and extensive flying experience plus two recently-purchased Avro 504Js, a spare engine and other spare parts.

Brearley's return to Australia created considerable interest; giving him many opportunities to promote his ideas for the future of civil aviation in Western Australia. Brearley's first public demonstration, complete with a band, took place on 2 August 1919 at the Western Australia Cricket Association Oval, Perth (there were no airfields), using one of his two Avro 504Js.

In May 1921 the Australian Federal Government advertised for tenders for its first subsidised (maximum £25 000) air-mail and passenger contract operating the weekly service from Geraldton for a period of 12 months. Most of the isolated and sparsely-populated area to be covered had never been seen from the air. Roads were mostly non-existent with transport still being mainly by horse, donkey or camel. The North-west had few people but over 5 million sheep! Brearley studied various aircraft types and eventually cabled the Bristol Aeroplane Company in England asking if they could supply six 3-seater, 250 hp Puma-engined Bristol 28 Tourer Coupe bi-planes capable of cruising at a then respectable 136kph - if his tender was successful. Bristol confirmed the order and despatch of the aircraft by ship by late October/ early November with payment (some £14,000 including spares) on delivery. Brearley tendered for the service to start on 5 December and on 2 August, 1921, he was advised that his tender had been accepted.

There were a number of problems in getting the service off the ground, not to mention the establishment of suitable landing grounds and the tragic loss of one of the delivery aircraft with the death of the pilot on the initial flight to Geraldton. Although the complete Geraldton-Derby service (which took some 2½ days) only commenced on 3 March 1922, the rest of the story is history.



Cross section of fuselage and wing - Bristol 28 Tourer

Western Australian Airways Ltd changed its name on 13 December 1926 to West Australian Airways Ltd., and on 2 July Australia's first interstate airmail contract, between Perth and Adelaide, was granted to West Australian Airways for five years using four 14-passenger D.H. 66 Hercules aircraft. Services began on 26 May 1929.

Early in 1934, the Federal Government decided to extend the Perth-Wyndham route to Daly Waters and sought new tenders for the complete route. On 19 April the Commonwealth Government awarded the 5-year Perth-Daly Waters route contract to MacRobertson Miller Aviation Co. (M.M.A.) rather than W.A.A. - to the great surprise of many. M.M.A. began operations on 3 October, leaving W.A.A. with only its now unsubsidised Perth-Adelaide route.

During April 1936, Adelaide Airways Ltd., offered to purchase W.A.A. and on 12 June the deal was struck for a reported £25,000. On 1 July, Adelaide Airways and W.A.A became part of the new Australian National Airways Pty. Ltd., which was later to become the giant of Australian domestic airlines. Australia's first airline had survived for less than 15 years.

Postscript: The highway approaching the International Airport in Perth is named the "Brearley Highway".

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at the

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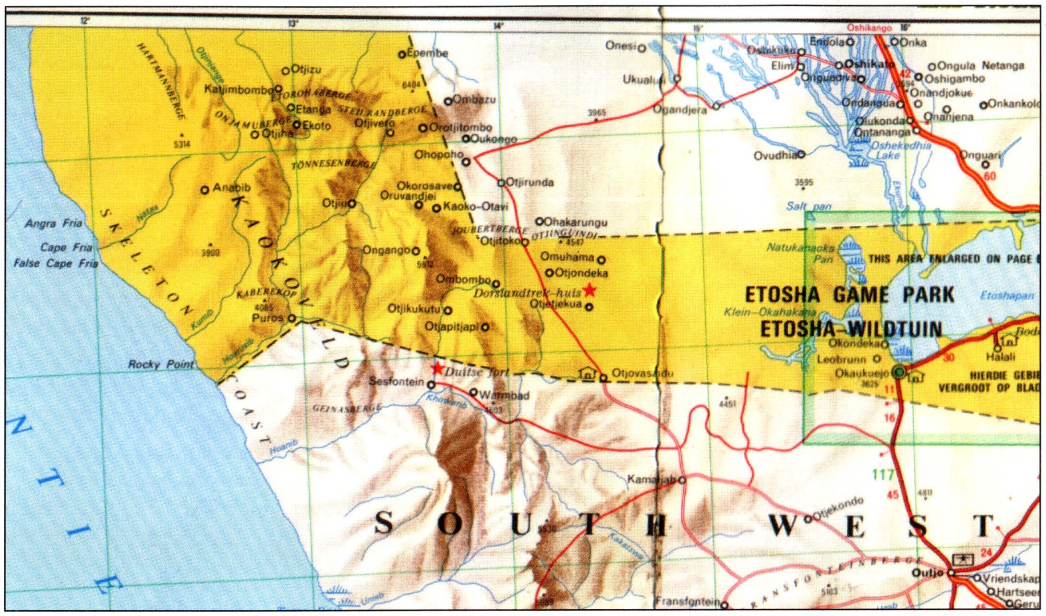


Die Kaokoveld-kaart in die AA-Padatlas vir 1969.

Die Kaokoveld in 1969

DIE Kaokoveld is 'n ruwe, onherbergsame landstreek in die noordwestelike hoek van Suidwes-Afrika (in 1990 hernoem tot Namibië). Die gebied van nagenoeg 220 x 220 km word aan die noorde begrens deur die Kunenerivier (grens van Angola) en aan die weste deur die Skedelkus en die Namibwoestyn.

Dit is 'n berglandskap van ruwe, hoë berge en diep klowe, yl gras en taai doringagtige struike en geharde bome tussen-in. Op plekke is daar fonteine, die saamkompunte van die Herero-sprekende herdersvolke, die Tjimba en die Himba, mense wat nie veel beïnvloed is deur die kulture waarmee hulle in aanraking gekom het nie, soos die Owambo in die ooste en die Namas in die suide.

Teen 1969 was die totale bevolking weinig meer as die 1966-skatting van 10 500.

In die suide van die Kaokoveld, letterlik ver verby Damaraland, is die fonteine van Sesfontein en Warmquelle, waar Nama-boere vrugte, groente en tabak onder besproeiing kweek.

'n Hospitaal en die gebied se enigste skool was by die N G Kerk se sendingpos Orumana, wat in 1955 aangelê is. Die hoofsentrum van die Kaokoveld was Ohopoho, setel van die polisiepos en kantoor van die Bantoesakekommissaris (magistraat en administratiewe beampte van die regering).

Teen 1969 was die Kaokoveld direk deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Departement van Bantoesake (Pretoria) beheer, hoewel dit tegnies as Suidwes-Afrika se Wildtuin No 2 'n groot westelike deel van die Etosha-wildtuin uitgemaak het en 'n teoretiese natuur-eenheid met Etosha gevorm het.

Die AA se Padatlas vir 1969 [1] toon slegs 'n roete van Kamanjab noordweswaarts deur die Khowareb-kloof na Sesfontein, en 'n ander pad vanaf Kamanjab noordwaarts na Ohopoho, en daarvandaan ooswaarts na Ongandjera in Ovamboland, ter aansluiting by roetes in Ovamboland.

Die motorregistrasienommer vir Ohopoho (en die Kaokoveld) was destyds HPH. Gedagtig aan die paaie, het mense gesê dit staan vir "Hou poepôl hou".

Ohopoho is taalkundig 'n palindroom : dit kan van weerskante geskryf word. Die naam is van Herero-oorsprong en beteken "Dis genoeg", [2] wat verwys na 'n gevoel van tevredenheid. [3]

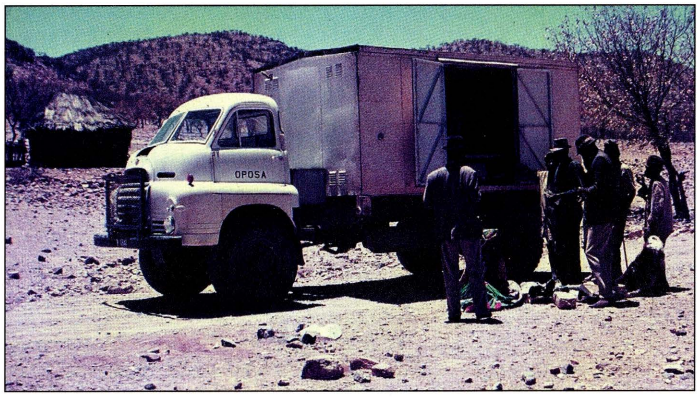
Vandag is Ohopoho bekend as Opuwo [4] en die streek is Kaokoland as deel van Namibië.

1 Padatlas en Toergids van Suidelike Afrika, Automobiel-Assosiasie van SA, Johannesburg. Derde uitgawe, November 1968.

2 A P J Albertyn, Die Ensiklopedie van Name in Suidwes-Afrika. Somerset-Wes, 1984.

3 Peter R Raper, The New Dictionary of South African Place Names. Jonathan Ball, Johannesburg & Cape Town, 2004.

4 Die naam is dieselfde: die spelling is in die hersiene Herero-ortografie.



'Oposa' het aangekom en is oop vir besigheid.



So het die Ohopoho-stempel in 1973 gelyk, nadat die kantoor tot posagentskap afgeskaal is.



Die handstempel vir geregistreerde posstukke (1974).

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Drie datumstempels word hier vir die eerste keer aangemeld en geïllustreer :
Die mobiele posdiens van die Kaokoveld
Die tydelike stempel vir die eerste dag van Ohopoho
Die vroegste gebruik van Ohopoho se permanente stempel.

Die opening en eerste jaar van die Ohopoho-poskantoor

deur Joh Groenewald

DIE opening van die Ohopoho-poskantoor en die bedryfstoestande van destyds is 'n onderhoudende verhaal wat kom uit die herinneringe van Jimmy de Kock, wat indertyd die posmeester was.

De Kock (73) is in 1995 in Pretoria oorlede. Gedurende die voorafgaande jare het ek twee uitgebreide onderhoude met hom gevoer, en hy het later ook sy kleur-dia's van die Kaokoveld aan my gegee. Hy was 42 jaar in die posdiens, en het vier keer vir termyne in die verre noorde van Suidwes-Afrika diens gedoen op Ondangua (Ondangwa, poshoofkantoor vir Owambo, in hedendaagse spelwyse).

Dit was juis toe hy daar was dat hy einde 1968 aangewys is om 'n volle poskantoor op Ohopoho te gaan open. Hy het vertel tot in dié stadium was aldaar 'n posagentskap wat bedryf is deur die Departement van Bantoesake en wat vir jare onder die toesig was van 'n merkwaardige dame, mev Babs van Zyl, vrou van die eertydse Bantoesakekommissaris, die legendariese Ben van Zyl (die Van Zyl van Vanzylspas).

Jimmy is van Ondangua na Outjo, die spoorwegpunt naaste aan die Kaokoveld, waar hy alle voorraad, staal-sluitkis, seëls, datumstempels, skryfpapier en dergelike moes oplaai.

Vroeg Februarie 1969 het hy die "pad" gevat na Ohopoho. Die eerste 160 km van Outjo na Kamanjab was 'n pad, daarna was die verdere sowat 260 km slegs 'n "roete".

"Dit was 'n hele reis", vertel hy. "My ou kombi se onderwêreld was glad geskuur deur die lang ente poeieragtige wit kalk, natgespoel in die talle modderpoele en het toe uiteindelik die stryd gewonne gegee in die boesem van 'n lang, diep moddersloot wat in droeë tye as die roete gedien het."

Gelukkig het daar binne 'n dag 'n groot vragmotor verbygekom, met werkers wat van Ohopoho na Outjo reis, en hulle het Jimmy uit die modder gesleep.

Op Ohopoho

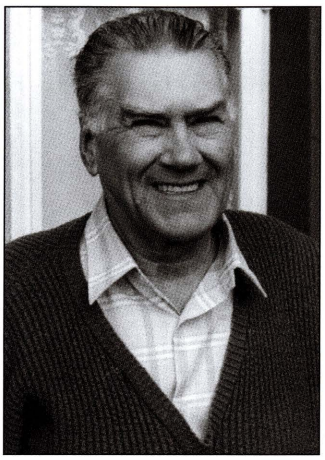
Alles was reg vir die nuwe poskantoor. Dit was 'n voorafvervaardigde asbesgebou, trouens 'n tweedehandse een want dit was 'n Spoorweghuis wat op Usakos afgetakel was.

Baie van die asbesplate was gebreek maar die raamwerk en die dak was in puik toestand. Die raam is toe opgerig en die mure tussen-in is van baksteen gebou.

By Jimmy se aankoms was daar geen meubels beskikbaar nie. Hy het toe 'n toonbank, sitplek en skryfbehoeftekassies staan gemaak met kartonne en houtkissies. Die poskantoor was gereed, maar eers was daar 'n ander taak.

Verken die gebied

Om die gebied te leer ken en die roetes vir die mobiele posdiens te bepaal, het Jimmy saam met Paul Baard 'n verkenningstog van twee weke onderneem. Baard was 'n beampte in die kantoor van die Bantoesakekommissaris wat windpompe en waterpunte moes herstel.



Jimmy de Kock, wat in 1969 die poskantoor op Ohopoho begin het.



Op die eerste dag, 6 Maart 1969, is 'n tydelike stempel gebruik.



Die permanente datumstempel het 'n paar weke later aangekom.



Dit is die stempel van die mobiele poskantoor. Die illustrasie is van die enigste afdruk van hierdie stempel wat bekend is.

Dit was 'n uitsonderlike ervaring, vertel Jimmy. "Dit was wonderlik om elke dag in die veld deur te bring en snags om die kampvuur te sit en luister na Baard, ja hy het 'n baard ook gehad, se stories van sy veldlewe en avontuur."

Uit die aard van sy werk was Baard amper voltyds in die veld en hy het omtrent net van vleis en koffie gelewe. Destyds was wild nog volop genoeg om nou en dan vleis vir die pot te skiet. Dit was aangenaam, sê Jimmy, maar 'n dieet van feitlik net vleis en koffie het sy tol geëis in die vorm van 'n ligte aanval van skeurbuik.

By verskillende plekke het Baard vir Jimmy voorgestel aan plaaslike hoofmanne en onderhoofmanne, en so gehelp om die fondament te lê vir toekomstige uitbreiding van die posdiens.

Die toonbank

Jimmy vertel dat die poskantoor se toonbank en ander meubels na geruime tyd stuk-stuk begin aankom het met vragmotors van Waterwese of Bantoesake wat van Outjo af deurgekom het, soos die geleentheid ontstaan het.

Die dag wat hy nooit sal vergeet nie, was toe die amper 4 meter lange toonbank vanaf Windhoek aangekom het.

"Hier het die ou gesegde 'maak of breek' toe vir my die eerste keer regtig 'n konkrete betekenis gekry. Ons is om en om die gebou, deure en vensters is gemeet en planne is gemaak, maar watwou, daar was net geen manier dat ons hierdie tamaai toonbank met sy ingeboude rakke en kassies hier sou inkry nie.

"Ons kon ook nie die hele kaskasie uitmekaar haal nie, so wat nou gemaak? Toe sê Baard: 'Dis maklik, gee my die vier pond hamer.'

"Kits klaps, en daar is 'n yslike gat in die muur. Die toonbank is ingeskuif en teen vyfuur die middag was alles weer netjies toegebou, siedaar die toonbank was op sy plek."

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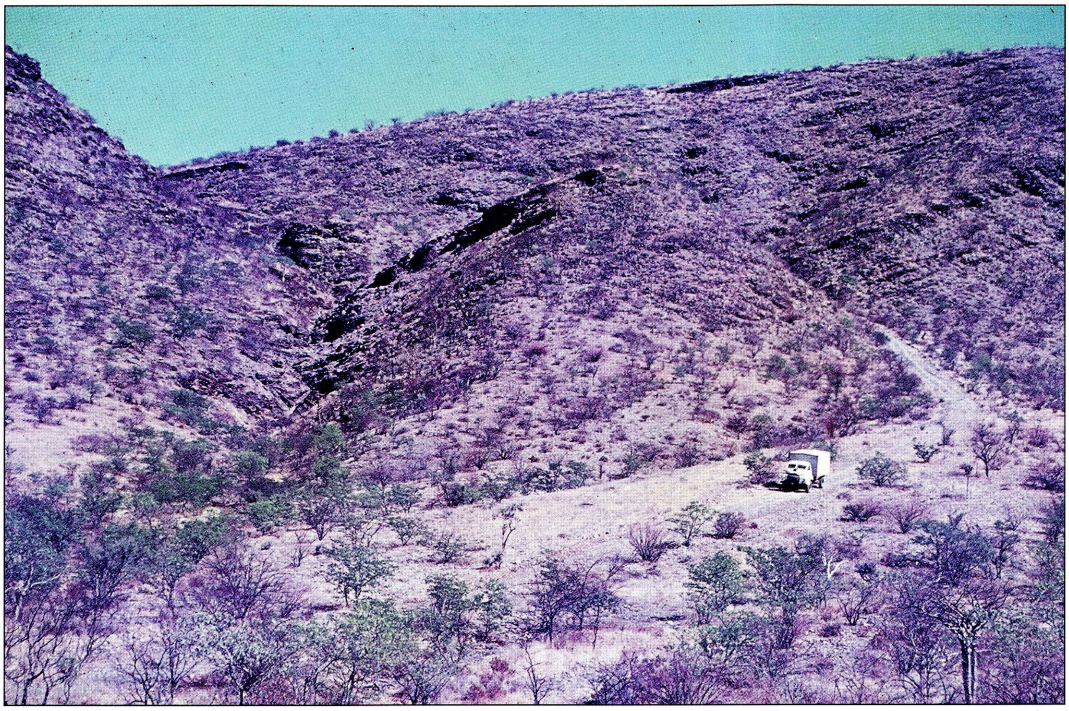


Dit is die soort terrein waardeur Jimmy de Kock gery het. Lang ente was in vierwieltrek.

Bedryf van die poskantoor

Jimmy is nie seker presies wanneer die poskantoor "amptelik" begin het nie, moontlik was dit op 6 Maart 1969. Putzel meld dat daar op 3 Maart 1969 'n "posagentskap" op Ohopoho geopen is. [1]

Die eerste maand was daar maar min klante, meestal net die mense van Bantoesake, die personeel van Orumana-sendingstasie en Veeartseny-mense. Die Owambo-werkers van die Veeartsenydiens het gereeld vir hulle mense tuis geskryf, en dié briewe het 'n roete van maklik 950 km via Outjo en dus rondom Etosha na Ovamboland gevolg pleks van miskien 250 km as daar 'n direkte verbinding sou wees.

Die pos is een maal per week na Outjo vervoer, sowat 420 km, aanvanklik deur Bantoesake-lorries en later deur 'n Swart kontrakteur. Eintlik was die weeklikse posdiens redelik sporadies. Elke week se pos was so 100-150 briewe.

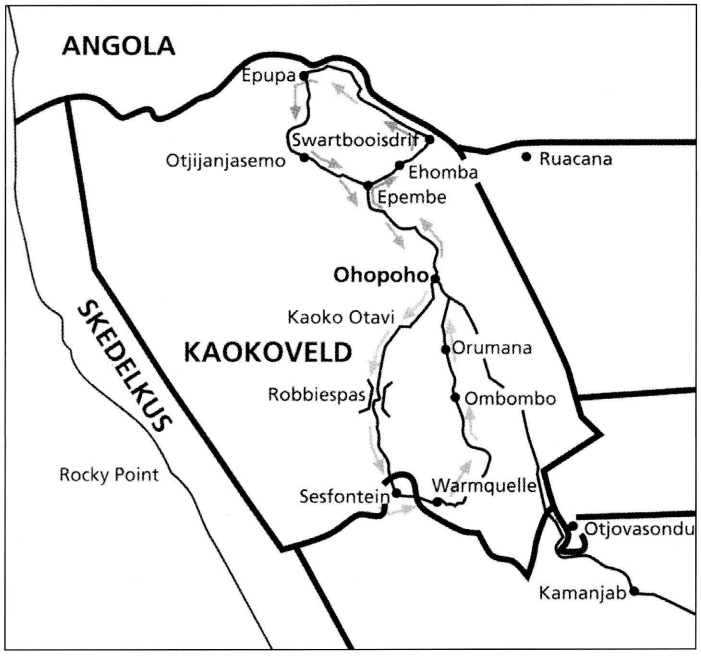
Mev Baard is aangestel as toonbank-, telefoon- en radio-beampte. Toe kon Jimmy aan die mobiele posdiens aandag gee.

Die 4 x 4 poskantoor

Jimmy is per geleentheid Windhoek toe om die mobiele poskantoor te gaan haal, 'n groot vierwieltrek Bedford-vragmotor met 'n meubelwa-bak, groot ingeboude water- en brandstoftenks en 'n sterk radiosender en -ontvanger (SSB radio).

Die groot Bedford is gebruik om een keer per maand 'n noordelike posroete en 'n suidelike posroete vanaf Ohopoho te bedien. Die "paaie" was tweespoor-roetes en was taamlik ru -- en is steeds. Trouens, selfs die 1990-padkaart van Namibië het gesê "Alle paaie in Kaokoland behalwe die hoofpad na Opuwo is begaanbaar slegs met vierwieltrek-voertuie".

Elkeen van die roetes het so drie dae (in goeie weer) geneem om af te lê. By elke plek waar mense gewoon het, het Jimmy die groot Bedford eenkant toe getrek, 'n tafel en 'n stoel uitgehaal, langs die vragmotor gaan sit en sy poskantoor-kassie oopgemaak, reg vir besigheid.



Die noordelike en suidelike roetes van die mobiele poskantoor, vanaf Ohopoho.

Die noordelike roete van sowat 430 km se eerste stop was by Epembe, 80 km van Ohopoho. Daarna was dit Ehomba, waar die Swart Van der Merwes gewoon het, nasate van werksmense wat 'n eeu tevore saam met die Dorslandtrekkers uit die ou Transvaal weggetrek het.

Hulle het vrugte en groente gekweek, en meermale vir die reisende posmeester 'n verrassing gehad soos vla-appels! Jimmy het die bejaarde moeder Ragel van der Merwe goed onthou, en haar interessante, ouderwetse Afrikaanse gebruikstaal met uitdrukkings soos "'n skotige afdraende".

Van Ehomba was dit na Swartbooisdrif aan die Kunene, waar mense van die Portugese handelspos Chitado aan die Angola-kant van die rivier later ook die mobiele poskantoor gebruik het. Van Swartbooisdrif het Jimmy dan met die pad wat die Van Zyl-egpaar langs die Kunene gemaak het, weswaarts voortgery na die Epupa-waterval, en daarvandaan deur die binneland terug na Ohopoho.

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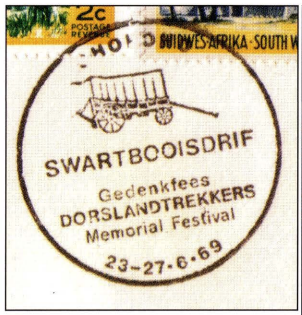
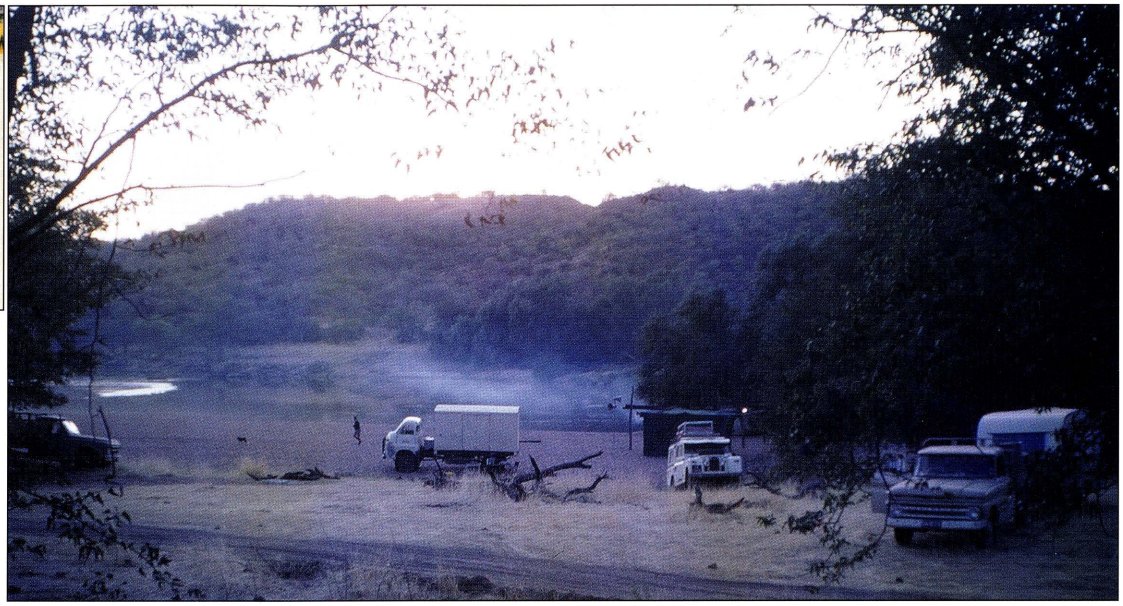


Die spesiale stempel vir die Dorslandtrek-herdenking in 1969. Bo-aan staan 'Ohopoho' dog die stempel is by Swartbooisdrif gebruik.



Die mobiele poskantoor in die kampterrein by Swartbooisdrif, aan die oewer van die Kunene.

Die suidelike roete van sowat 310 km was oor Kaoko Otavi en deur die berge (die Robbiespas) na Sesfontein (waar 'n kliniek was) en Warmquelle, en daarvandaan terug na Ohopoho, verby die Orumana-sendingstasie en -hospitaal.

Elke roete se totale inkomende en uitgaande pos het in die begin uit omtrent 4 pakkies en 10 briewe bestaan.

Hoewel die meeste van die Himbas en ander Hererosprekendes van die Kaokoveld ryk was in terme van groot- en kleinvee, was die meeste besigheid per ruilhandel en geld was dus skaars, en op party plekke amper onbekend. Jimmy sê die mobiele poskantoor was dus 'n hele bekendstellingsdiens van die Poswese, en die beginjare se poswerk was baie min.

"Dikwels is so 'n bietjie ruilhandel ook maar aangegaan langs die pad," het hy vertel, "soos 'n eier vir 'n seël, of 'n paar hoenders vir 'n pakkie se posgeld, want hoenders vir padkos was altyd welkom."

Jimmy sê die mobiele diens het baie gedoen om die posdienste, KBA en pakkettediens aan te help. Hy het pamflette van posbesteldienste aangevra, en katalogusse van Mahomedy's Mailhouse, Friens en Edworks in die Kaokoveld versprei.

"Groei was maar stadig. Ek dink die hele posdiens in die Kaokoveld is begin as deel van Suid-Afrika se poging om aan die buitewêreld te wys watter groot opheffingswerk en hulpverlening by aan Suidwes verskaf."

Ná 17 maande by Ohopoho het Jimmy in Julie 1970 na die poskantoor op Randfontein verskuif.

Dorslandtrek-herdenking

'n Groot geleentheid in die eerste jaar van die Ohopoho-poskantoor was die Dorslandtrek-gedenkfees wat van 23 Junie 1969 by Swartbooisdrif aan die Kunene gevier is.

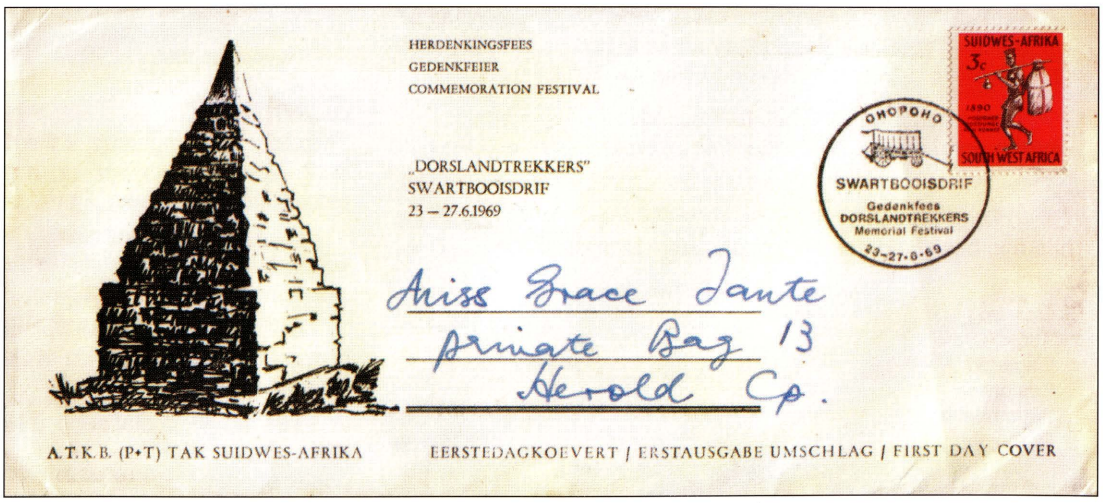
Swartbooisdrif is die plek waar die 2800 mense van die 350 Afrikanergesinne in die volksverhuising vanuit Angola in 1928, Suidwes-Afrika binnegekom het.

Van oral in Suidwes-Afrika en selfs verder het mense vir die gedenkfees na Swartbooisdrif gekom, baie van hulle mense wat in Angola gebore is en daar grootgeword het.

Oor 'n tydperk van twee-drie dae het die posmeester en die radio in die groot Bedford oortyd gewerk soos die besoekers telegramme en boodskappe vanaf Swartbooisdrif aan hul familielede en vriende gestuur het.

Met al die uitsaaiery was die battery gou kapot en moes die vragmotor se enjin aangeskakel word om eers die battery van die radio te laai, voor die volgende sarsie boodskappe verstuur kon word.

Daar was ook 'n groot aanloop om gedenkkoeverte, [2]



Die gedenkkoevert vir die Dorslandtrekkers se terugtrek in 1928 toon die gedenkteken by Swartbooisdrif. (Tant Grace Taute is vanjaar 89 en steeds 'n geesdriftige seëlversamelaar.)

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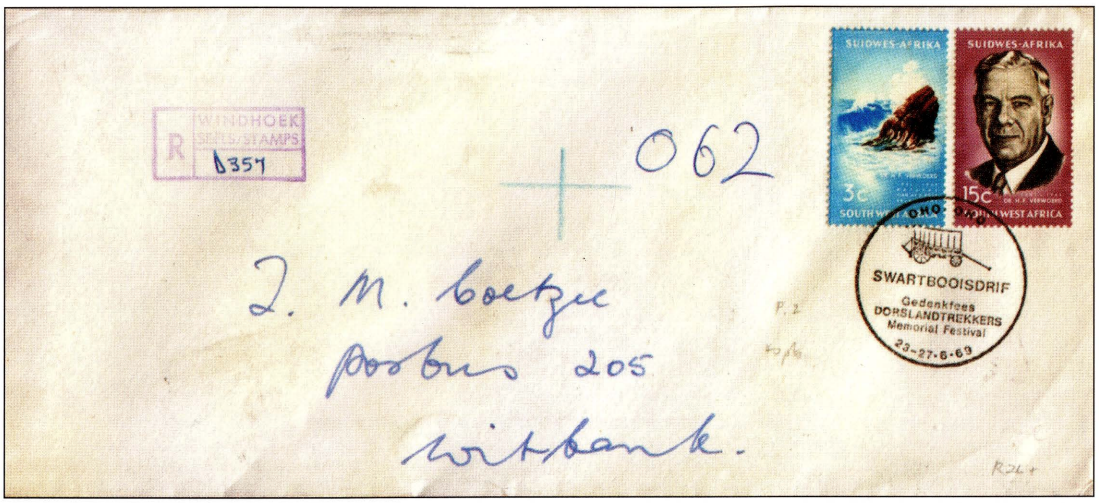

'n Swartbooisdrif-gedenkstempel is ook in Windhoek gebruik vir versamelaars wat eksemplare bestel het. Die registrasiemerk lees WINDHOEK SEËLS / STAMPS.

poskaarte en briewe te pos, want al hierdie stukke is met die hand met 'n spesiale gedenkstempel gerojeer.

"Elke keer as daar 'n effense stilte kom en ek wil net begin koffie maak, dan maan die luidsprekers weer dat mense nie moet vergeet om gedenkposstukke te pos nie. Dan storm die mense opnuut op my postafeltjie af, en ek kon maar van koffie vergeet," vertel Jimmy.

Vir hom was die beginjaar van Ohopoho-poskantoor 'n wonderlike baanbreker-ondervinding, 'n kosbare kleinood van herinnering.

1 Ralph F Putzel, *The Comprehensive Handbook of the Postmarks of German South West Africa, South West Africa and Namibia*. Uitgegee deur die outeur, Kaapstad, 1991.

2 Die koevert is uitgegee deur die Afrikaanse Taal- en Kultuurbond (Pos en Telegraaf)

(ATKB, P + T). Altesaam 5000 is gedruk en 4 323 is uitgereik, volgens die opgawe van

Gunter von Schumann RDPSA, wat bestuurslid van die ATKB in Windhoek was.

Die einde van die mobiele posdiens

NA Jimmy de Kock se vertrek is die mobiele poskantoor se baanbrekerswerk in die Kaokoveld voortgesit. De Kock se opvolger P de Jager het vertel van die moeilike "paaie", en herstelwerk aan 'Oposa' was dikwels nodig.

Toe die Poskantoor formeel in Junie 1971 gekla het by Bantoesake (wat vir infrastruktuur in die noordelike gebiede van SWA verantwoordelik was), was die antwoord : "Om hierdie 887 km in goeie rybare toestand te kry en so te hou, is 'n baie groot taak en sal baie tyd en fondse in beslag neem." [1]

Teen Februarie 1972 het die Poskantoor ernstig begin wonder oor die diens, wat bitter min inkomste lewer en baie geld kos.

'n Opgawe van sy rit op die suidelike roete in Mei 1972 toon hoe min besigheid daar vir posmeester De Jager was :

	Briewe afgelewer	*Briewe gepos*
Otuvero	5	1
Kaoko-Otavi	11	3
Ongango	5	
Sesfontein	11	9
Warmquelle	11	
Ombombo	15	
Orumana		45

De Jager het ook 5 beboete briewe afgelewer, 8 KBA-pakkette en 5 gewone pakkette, en R2.94 se seëls verkoop. (Die gewone brieftarief was 4c.)

Die Posmeester-generaal en die streekdirekteur van Poswese het toe self gaan kyk, en dié het in Augustus 1972 aan Bantoesake geskryf : "Ná 'n onlangse besoek saam met die Posmeester-generaal is alle twyfel oor die toestand van die pad tussen Sesfontein en Ohopoho uitgeskakel," en daar is dadelik besluit om die mobiele posdiens van 1 Oktober 1972 af te staak.[2]

Die koste van die posdiens op Ohopoho het 'n probleem gebly, en op 1 Maart 1973 is die poskantoor afgeskaal tot 'n posagentskap, met 'n klerk van Bantoesake, C H Rothmann, as die posagent. Kwalik ses maande later is die Poskantoor gevra om weer 'n volwaardige diens op Ohopoho te lewer maar die kantoor het 'n agentskap gebly, met vroue van amptenare[3] as die posagente:

1973 - mev E J Joubert
1974 - mev A J Carstens
1974 - mev J J van Zyl
1974 - mev B J W Dippenaar
1976 - mev E M M Dippenaar
1977 - mev Valerie Koegelenberg.

Intussen het die naam van Ohopoho op 1 Desember 1976 verander tot Opuwo, en 'n nuwe datumstempel is in gebruik geneem.

Die posagentskap Opuwo is op 6 Februarie 1979 opgegradeer tot poskantoor.

1 Argief, korrespondensie, Pos- en Telegraafwese (streekdirekteur).
2 Argief, korrespondensie, Hoof-Bantoesakekommissaris, Windhoek.
3 Gunter von Schumann RDPSA, persoonlike mededeling, 17 November 1995.

Summary

The story of the opening of the Ohopoho post office in the far north-west of Southwest Africa (now Namibia) is told by the pioneering postmaster, Jimmy de Kock.

His task was to start a 4x4 mobile post office to serve the scattered tribal settlements in this inhospitable and desolate semi-desert Kaokoveld region.

During the Thirstland Trek commemoration of 1969 he provided the postal service at Swartbooisdrif on the banks of the Kunene River.

The mobile postal service was not viable and was discontinued after three years, with Ohopoho downgraded to a postal agency.

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Christmas Island

- by Ray Hackworth, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

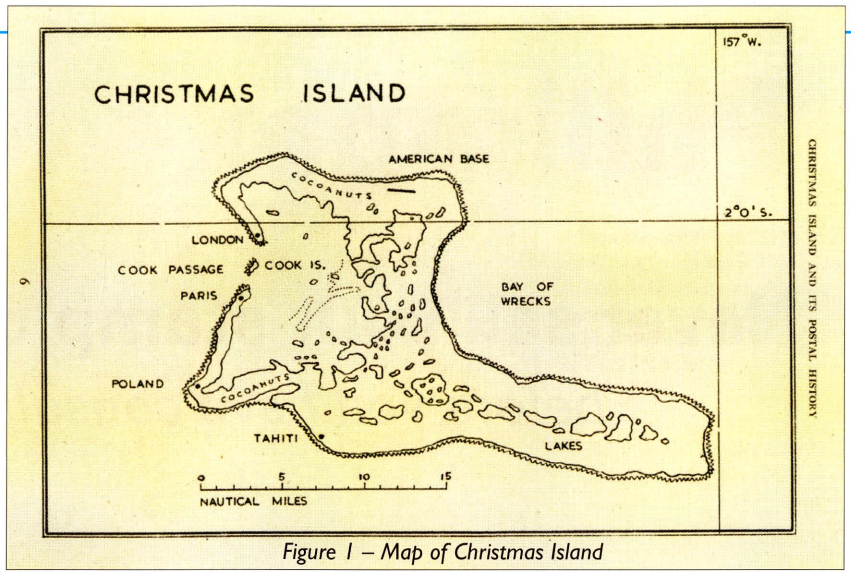

Figure 1 – Map of Christmas Island

History

There is an aura about the South Seas with its voyages of discovery, tropical islands, waving palms and colourful personalities, even if the history of many of the island groups has its darker side, such as the infamous "blackbirder" Bully Hayes' antics in this area of the world.

Apart from the stamps listed in the standard catalogues, there is a great deal of interest in issues which were printed to serve local needs where no government service existed. Christmas Island is one of these areas.

Christmas Island is one of the Line Islands situated in the Pacific Ocean, about 2000 km south of Hawaii and about 3700 km east of Ocean Island, the western-most and administrative centre of the Gilbert Islands (now known as Kiribati). It is about 160 km in circumference surrounding one of the largest lagoons in the Pacific. It was discovered by Captain Cook (then Lieutenant Cook) on 24 December 1777 and he and his crew remained there until 2 January 1778, observing an eclipse and catching turtles which abounded on the island at that time. The date of discovery by Cook accounts for the island's name. Today it is called Titimataeran.

In 1902 the British Government leased the Island to Levers Pacific Plantation Ltd for a term of 99 years. That company planted coconut palms in certain parts of the island. In December 1913 the lease was transferred to 'Father' Emmanuel Rougier who registered a company in London called the Central Pacific Cocoanut Plantations Ltd. In a book published in 1914, Rougier said that his intention was to populate the island with colonists and workers of all nationalities and colours.

The colonisation scheme failed and for years the plantations were worked by imported Tahitian labour, and controlled from Tahiti by Rougier. He died in 1932 but operations were continued by his nephew until the end of 1939 when all personnel were withdrawn.

In 1945 Rougier's nephew tried to claim back the island but was rebuffed by the British Government, possibly as he had fought for Vichy France. However a settlement of some £50,000 was made to him.

Postal Matters

It has been stated by some sources that there was no postal organisation on the island before Rougier's arrival, as reported by the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club (RSPC) in 1914. However in D H Vernon's "*Philatelic Handbook of the Gilbert & Ellice Islands*", it is stated that in 1901, an agent of the New South Wales Post Office was appointed on the island and presumably was supplied with a small stock of New South Wales stamps. No postmarks were applied to the mail, the stamps being cancelled at Sydney. This is an area that requires clarification. Communications were so unreliable when Rougier took over that he set up his own mail service, using stamps that he designed and had printed himself and carried by his own ships which took copra from the plantations to Tahiti and Hawaii. F J Melville states in his book "*Phantom Philately*" that letters and packets carried by the Company vessels had to bear a Christmas Island stamp, the face value of which is denoted as 5c, and according to which port the ship put into, this was the equivalent of five US cents, 25 French centimes, or 2 ½ d. in Sterling. The stamp was cancelled by the Company's agent and on reaching a port, the ship's Captain affixed the necessary stamp of the country in which it had arrived, to ensure that the letter was carried to its destination.

Although the stamps were used for overseas delivery there are a number of covers in existence, bearing the local stamp, that were sent to various parts of the Island showing that these stamps were also used for local deliveries. The stamps were cancelled accordingly, the earliest known local envelopes being from 1918. It is believed that these letters were addressed to other island settlers, who had arrived with Rougier prior to January 1918.

Design and printing of the local stamps

The design of the stamp is believed to be based on the Ysabel May (an auxiliary schooner of some 135 tons and registered in Tahiti) which the company purchased in 1916 and later sold to a French firm in Tahiti prior to its being destroyed by fire off Hualine in the Society Islands on 25 October 1918. The stamps were printed in 5 colours and are rather garish. The design shows a schooner arriving at its anchorage with flocks of seabirds flying around. In the background a golden red sun is either rising in the east or setting in the west. In the foreground is a very bright blue ocean. The face value '5' appears in each corner with the description reading round the design 'CENTRAL PACIFIC - COCOANUT PLANTATIONS LTD. - MAIL BOAT SERVICE - CHRISTMAS ISLAND'.



Figure 2 – The Christmas Island local stamp produced by Father Rougier

The situation and identity of the stamps' printer is unknown at present and any information on this would be welcomed. However they were printed by a form of chromolithography in sheets of four stamps (two rows each of two stamps). The four parent stones show distinguishing flaws, described below, which enable the stamps to be 'plated':-

Position 1 (top left stamp): Red vertical dash cutting bottom right ray of sun;

Position 2 (top right stamp): Blue dot behind the mainsail opposite "L" of 'CENTRAL' and bottom red frame line is thin at right;

Position 3 (bottom left stamp): Blue dot on the white crest of surf, 1.75 mm to left and in line with the head of the bird.

Position 4 (bottom right stamp): Blue cross in sky behind mainsail opposite the "A" of 'PACIFIC'.

The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper of varying quality and were perforated by a single line machine. There are no marginal markings.

First Issue

This issue was perforated gauge 12 ½, whereas the three later issues are perforated gauge 11½. The margin between the design and the perforations is frequently abnormally wide on one or two sides, as no particular care was taken to keep the outside lines of the perforation on the sheet at an even distance, so that the whole of the stamp is often larger than the later issues. It was stated in the Australian Philatelic Record of January 1921

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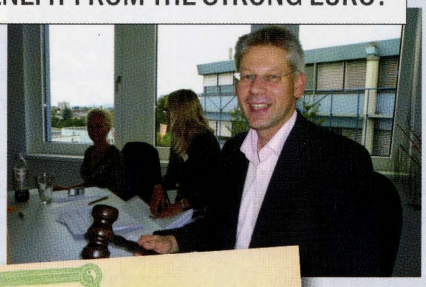



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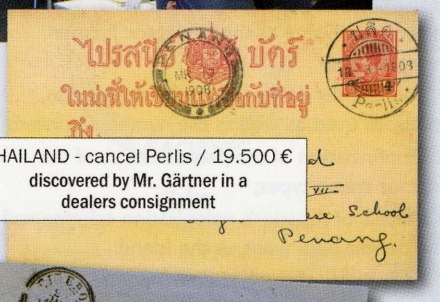

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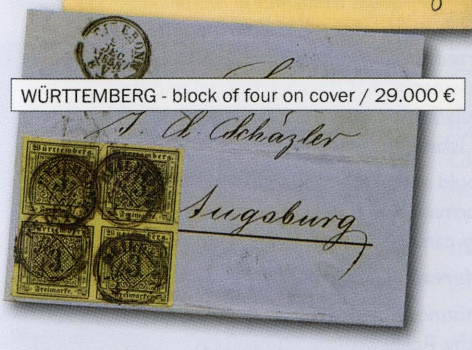

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C.G. Auktionen

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(Vol. III, page 378) that the sheets were made up on a 2 x 4 basis (eight stamps). A few of these sheets are known part perforated. There are some variations in the shades of colour ranging from deep to light. The colours of the stamp are blue, orange, red, green and black.

It is uncertain when this issue was first released but is thought to have been in 1915. However no evidence of this has come to light but the issue remained in existence until about 1924. According to DH Vernon the first date of issue was 11 January 1918 and the last date known was December 1923. The RSPC states in their book on Christmas Island that they have a cover, bearing in addition to the local stamp, a copy of the United States 24c air mail stamp (SG 830) which passed through the post office at San Francisco. Unfortunately the last figure of the year date is indecipherable, but the date (December 192?) can not be earlier than December 1923, as SG 830 was not placed on sale until 23 August 1923.

The stamp is from position 1. In addition there is no bottom red line; this is not mentioned by the RSPC or DH Vernon. It is cancelled with Vernon type 55.

This cover is shown below and is now in my collection.

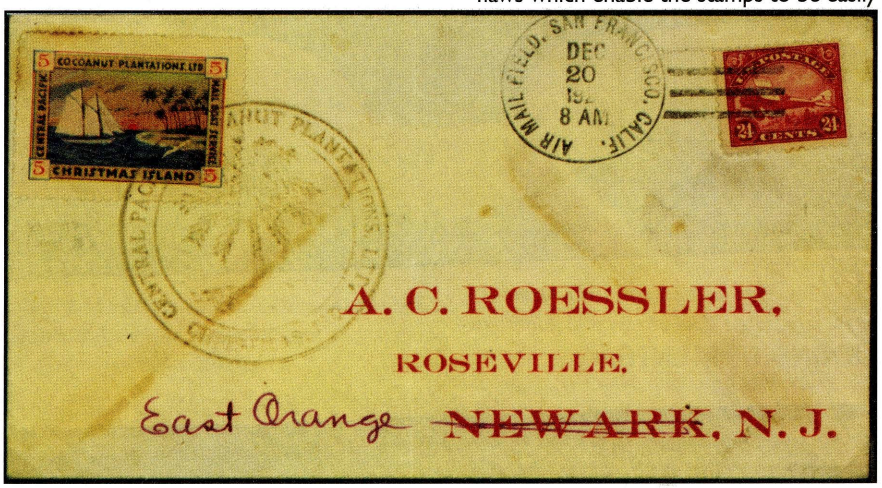

Figure 3 – Cover additionally franked with US 24c airmail stamp of 1923, SG 830

Second Issue

The perforation of this issue is gauge 11½ and according to RSPC the earliest known copy is dated 30 June 1924. However according to DH Vernon the earliest known use was May 1921 (On cover with Oceanic Settlement stamps cancelled Papeete 2 June 1921). If this is the case then both Issue 1 and 2 were possibly in use at the same time or the information given by RSPC is incorrect. The last known date was 10 October 1925 which is agreed by both RSPC and DH Vernon. Besides the change in perforation the colours are generally paler than those of the previous issue but are still blue, yellow, red, green and black.

The cover shown (top right) is dated 10 October 1925. The stamp is from position 4.

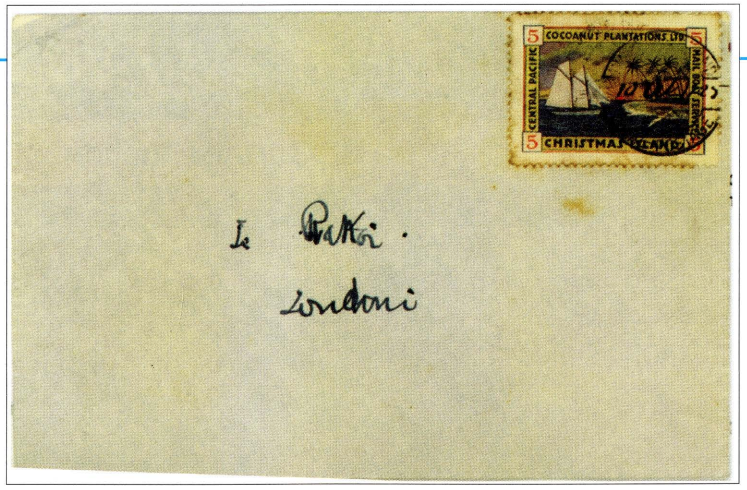

Figure 4 – Local cover dated 10 October 1925, addressed to 'Londoni'

It is cancelled with Vernon type 54 with the date in manuscript. It is addressed to London (not London, England but a settlement on the opposite side of Cook Passage) from Paris, Rougier's headquarters on the Island.

Third Issue

In 1926 the denomination was changed to '10' and the inscription "10 Cents" appears over the sky at the top of the stamp. The perforation gauge was unchanged. The first known cover is dated 27 April 1926. There are a number of secondary flaws in addition to the primary flaws which enable the stamps to be easily identified.

It is assumed that the stamp remained in use until 1934, when the fourth issue came into use. One copy is known having passed through Papeete on 30 May 1927, however very few covers have been seen and there are seven years which are unaccounted for. It is possible that the stamp was not in use for these years.

The colours were ultramarine, orange, red, green and black.

Fourth Issue

This issue first appeared on 5 December 1934 with perforation gauge the same as the previous issue. The colour of the figures in the corners and that of the inscription have changed from red to greenish blue, and the sea is in the same tint, instead of the former blue or ultramarine.

The stamps were printed in sheets of eight, consisting of two horizontal panes of four stamps each in two rows of two, with a gutter some 22.5mm wide between them. They were also printed on very thick super calendared paper. Again in addition to the primary flaws there are a number of secondary flaws by which each unit on the sheet can be identified. An article in the *Pacific Stamp Review* in August 1946 by G N Morris stated that an enquiry made early in July 1938 disclosed that stocks of these stamps were exhausted. However this is incorrect as the cover shown is from a much later date, some 7 weeks before the opening of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony post office. The cover shown is dated 25 December 1938, and is cancelled with Vernon type 56, the stamp being from position 3 of the right hand pane. The colours were greenish blue, yellow, red, green and black.

Postmarks

There are three postmarks in use during the life of these stamps. They are:

Vernon type 54 - In use from 11 January 1918 to 10 October 1925.

Vernon type 55 – In use from October 1918 to May 1937.

Vernon type 56 – In use from December 1934 to December 1938. However one of the covers shown has the date of 25 December 1938, some six months later than stated in Vernon.

This is a field of philately that is vastly under-researched and a great deal of further study is required. Some of the topics for further research are:-

1. The identity of the printer of the stamps, methods used, as well as the numbers printed;
2. Confirmation of the dates of issue of the various stamp types;
3. Details of Rougier's colonisation scheme and the people who went to the Island;
4. Early maps of the Island at the time Lever's started the plantation, as well as the early settlements that Rougier started and the regulations for using of the stamps locally on the Island.

Should anyone have further knowledge or information in this area, I would be grateful if they can contact me.

References.

'*Christmas Island and its Postal History*', published by the Royal Sydney Stamp Club.

'*Philatelic Handbook of the Gilbert & Ellice Islands*', by D H Vernon and published by the Pacific Islands Study Circle (1974).

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Figure 5 – Cover dated 25 December 1938 and additionally franked with French Oceanic Settlements stamp

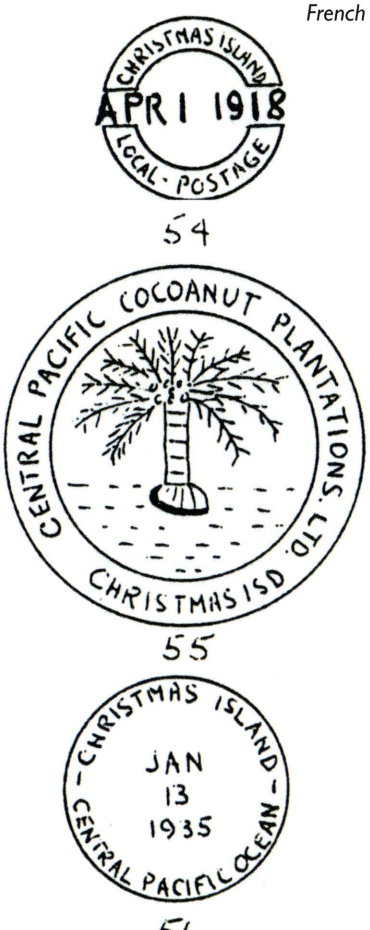
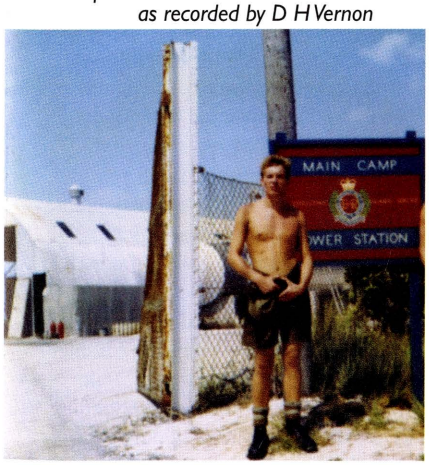


Figure 6 – Reproductions of the 3 postmarks in use at Christmas Island as recorded by D H Vernon



About the Author: *Ray Hackworth was born in Bishop Auckland in the UK and developed a keen interest in stamps after his father brought back a collection from Hong Kong, following a three year stay there. There was no time for philately when Ray entered an Army Apprentice College and later training at the British School of Military Engineering, so Ray gave his collection to his brother who promptly sold it on his way to read for a degree at Cambridge University.*

After serving for a number of years in Germany, Ray was posted to Christmas Island (Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony) where he was responsible for the running of the main camp power station, which at the time was occupied by the US Military, which had Operation Dominic underway, testing nuclear weapons.

On returning to the UK, and posted to a Military Port at Southampton, he joined his first Philatelic Society. Following his retraining as a Chartered Accountant, Ray and his late wife Margaret, emigrated to South Africa where he joined the Sandton Philatelic Society. Further studies to qualify as Chartered Company Secretary and Management accountant saw Ray spending three further years in New Guinea. Recently the Royal Engineers Institute in the UK have accepted the Christmas Island section of his collection to put on display and it will later be bequeathed to them from his estate. email address: hackworth@webmail.co.za

Editor's Footnote

The company that issued the stamps was in fact the "Central Pacific Coconut Plantation Ltd." The spelling "Cocoanut" on the stamps was erroneous. The copy of the stamp that I illustrated in my article '*On the Fringe*' in the August 2005 edition of the *SA Philatelist* also bears the cancellation of 11 January 1918 coinciding with the earliest known usage as quoted above. There has long been controversy over the printing method used for this particular stamp. Early authorities, including the Pacific Islands Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club in 1953, Bill Hornadge in his '*Cinderella Stamps of Australasia*' of 1974 and Messrs Ringström & Tester in '*The Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World*' of 1981, all state that five-colour chromolithography was used.

On the other hand, the late Norman Williams, doyen of Cinderella literature, maintained in an article in *Stamp Magazine* of April 1995 that they were recess printed using a colour separation process involving the colours yellow, red and blue alone. It may well be that the jury is still "out" on this particular aspect of an intriguing issue.

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SA Collectors' Society plans Union 100 show in 2010

Plans are taking shape for a special 100 frame exhibition in 2010 to mark the centenary of the establishment of the Union of South Africa.

The exhibition, to be held in London during the Spring Stampex on 24-27 February 2010, is an initiative of the South African Collectors' Society, which itself recently celebrated its 60th anniversary.

A selection of material that covers the Union period as comprehensively as possible will be on view - interprovincials, definitives, commemoratives, postal history, postal markings, airmail, postal stationery and publicity labels.

Squadron Leader John Shaw, chairman of the society, says it is hoped that the exhibition will attract UK and overseas collectors to the Stampex and will inspire dealers to bring along good material for collectors of South Africa.

The South African Collectors' Society is constantly promoting South African philately, as with its participation in the two-day British national philatelic exhibition held at Harrogate, Yorkshire, in May 2008. The society had a stand, decorated with its banner and posters, with publications on display and on sale, and with members ready to answer questions about South African stamps.

Similarly, the society attends stamp fairs and regional events. Its activity calendar schedules meetings in London, Carlisle and other cities like Leicester.

A highlight is the annual get-together of the society and all the UK-based study circles concerned with Southern African philately. This joint meeting is held over a weekend in November at Royal Leamington Spa.

Started in 1947 by Eric Sherwood and E Lauder, the society reached the 200 member mark within eight years, membership remaining around this level since. Its quarterly journal, The Springbok, was started in 1949 and has been published continuously since. The longest serving editor was R D Allen, who served in this capacity for 19 years.

The journal has become a full-colour publication under the present editorship of Eddie Bridges, and provides comprehensive coverage of Union and RSA philately. The 300th issue was an anniversary number (Volume 55 number 4, October-December 2007), which included a list of all members since the society's inception. A full electronic index for *The Springbok* is in preparation.

Top collections recorded for study

A far-sighted recent initiative of the South African Collectors' Society is a series of publications featuring major collections. Award winning and top collections are reproduced in full colour and in A4 format, as "SACS study collections".

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Copies may be ordered from Eddie Bridges, 2 Short Lane, Thorpe Malsor, Northamptonshire NN14 1JT, UK. E-mail aebridges@ukonline.co.uk. Postage must be added.



Part of the team manning the stand of the SA Collectors' Society, British national philatelic exhibition, May 2008, were Chris Oliver, secretary, Eddie Bridges, editor, and Roy Ross, former secretary. A visitor was Harry Birkhead, in front.

The Postal History of Clanwilliam

- by Andrew Briscoe, Wits Philatelic Society

Part One

The area around Clanwilliam was one of the first parts of the interior of the Cape to be explored by officials of the Dutch East India Company. In November 1660, eight years after Johan van Riebeek arrived at Table Bay to establish a revictualling base, an expedition led by Jan Danckaert trekked northwards from Table Bay, and after several days' travel along the valley of a river, came to a place where two rivers converged. Nearby was a hill that offered a fine view of the surrounding terrain and a cooling breeze in the evening. Here, a camp was established, and Danckaert named the larger river as 'die Groote Olifants River' in recognition of the herds of elephants that had been seen bathing in the water.

This tranquil area also became known to later trekkers from Table Bay, including men with Free Burgher status who had been released from the employment of the Company and were interested in surveying various locations around the Doorn and Oliphants Rivers in order to assess their farming potential. In 1726, a farmer named Jan Dissel decided that the low lying vlei land situated at the confluence of the Olifants and the smaller river suited his needs, and acquired the land as a loan-farm. Dissel built a farmhouse on the slope of the valley, near to the wagon track route from Table Bay, at a place called 'Aan de Renoster Hoek'. Before long, the area became known as Jan Disselsvlei, and the smaller river was named Jan Dissel's River.

After Dissel's death, the farm passed through several hands, and was initially declared as part of the district of Stellenbosch.

On 1 February 1808, following an investigation of the administration of the northern districts by Colonel R. Collins, the new Governor of the Cape, the Earl of Caledon, annexed the territory north of the Berg River to form a new district of Tulbagh, within which Jan Disselsvlei was named as the centre of a new sub-drostdy. The Colonial Administration then purchased the farm from its current owner (Sebastian van Reenen) for 6,000 rix dollars. Danirl van Ryneveld was appointed as the first deputy landdrost, and converted the farm house for use as his offices. A garrison was built nearby, and two houses were constructed across the road from the converted farmhouse, one for the residence of the deputy landdrost and the other for the messenger. A small village grew up, which in 1814 was renamed as Clanwilliam by another Governor, Sir John Cradock - in honour of his father-in-law, the Earl of Clanwilliam.

Subsequent development of the settlement was slow, hampered by a lack of natural resources in the immediate vicinity, and a climate with harsh extremes. In 1829, the Cape Almanac described Clanwilliam as "a small rising village, containing

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about fourteen houses" and noted that 'of late a small but neat church has been built'. In 1842, the Almanac recorded Clanwilliam as having only nineteen private dwellings, but by then it had also acquired 'a neat church which will contain about 400 persons', an English free school that was 'numerously attended' and several other public buildings. By 1865, the population had grown to 325, and then doubled in the next ten years to approximately 750. By 1901, when Clanwilliam attained municipal status, the population was almost 1,000.

Postal History

Little is known about the early postal history of Clanwilliam. The first literate visitors to the area were adventurers and explorers, followed by a trickle of hunters and prospectors, and then a handful of early settlers such as Jan Dissel. Few of these people were the sort who wrote letters, and when they occasionally did so, there was no postal system to be utilised. Few if any such early letters have survived.

The first historical reference to a postal system in the area around Clanwilliam appears in the Cape Archives Year Books which record that in 1808 and 1809, deputy landdrost van Ryneveld campaigned for the introduction of a regular post from Tulbagh to the village then known as Jandisselsvlei, which was granted in November 1809. The main purpose of this service was to facilitate the distribution of government dispatches and Gazettes, but the landdrost at Tulbagh questioned whether this was a worthwhile exercise since it necessitated a journey of eight days or longer to distribute only three or four Gazettes. Nevertheless, the Cape Administration was determined to expand rather than contract the postal service, and in 1810, following complaints from the field-cornets of Jandisselsvlei and Olifants River that letters and newspapers were not being delivered to them, new regulations were introduced setting specific times for the despatch of the post from Tulbagh to Jandisselsvlei.

In 1816, when the village had been re-named Clanwilliam, the charge for a single sheet letter to Cape Town was set at two skilling.

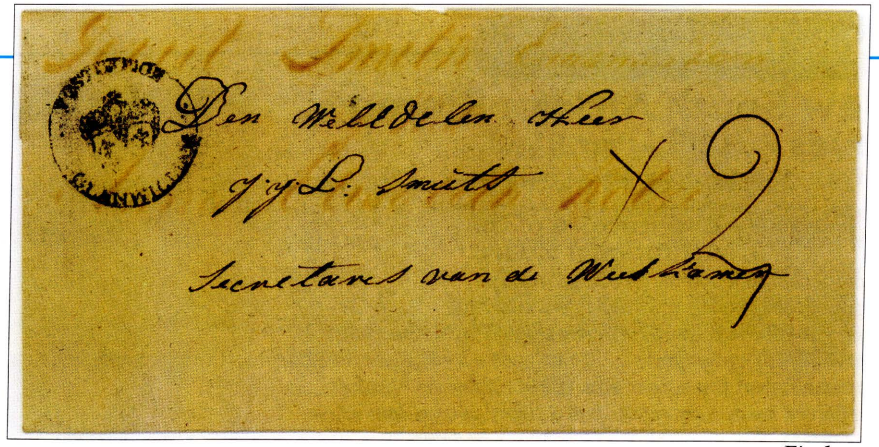

Fig.1

On 18 October 1820, Adriaan Vincent Bergh, who had previously served under the VOC from 1792-98 as the Cape's first Postmaster General, was appointed as the first postmaster of Clanwilliam. The village's first postmark was the distinctive crown-in-circle, which appears to have been issued a few months before Bergh's appointment. Figure 1 illustrates a letter sheet watermarked 1818 and posted in 1821 or thereabouts from Clanwilliam to J.J.L. Smuts, Secretary of the Orphan Chamber in Cape Town, and charged two skilling on delivery. At this time, certain categories of official mail were exempted from postal charges, as illustrated by figure 2, a letter endorsed in the lower left corner by the Field Cornet S.W. ven der Merwe, and addressed to C. Trappes, the Landdrost at Worcester. This letter was deemed to be official mail in terms of an 1817 directive issued by the Governor Lord Charles Somerset which declared that mail addressed to or sent by landdrosts should be delivered free of postage.

In 1826, new rates were introduced for the various stages of the post route from Cape Town to the northern frontier. The charge for a single-sheet letter carried between Cape Town and Clanwilliam was now set at 8d. The charge for sending a letter from Clanwilliam to Tulbagh was 4d, to Paarl or Worcester 6d, and to Stellenbosch 7d. Figure 3 illustrates a letter of approximately 1827 addressed to Robert Crozier, the Postmaster General in Cape Town, charged at eight pence. The sender of this letter was presumably not employed in the service of the Post Office, since he would otherwise have been entitled to superscribe his name upon the front of letter and claim the privilege of free postage.

In 1829, the Cape Almanac recorded that "The Post from Cape Town arrives at Clanwilliam on Monday morning, about 9 o'clock, and leaves it on Thursday, about 3 o'clock, p.m., for Tulbagh, Paarl, Stellenbosch, Worcester, and Cape Town." The post from Clanwilliam to Worcester was carried in two stages, under separate contracts: C. J. de Klerk was employed as the contractor and post-holder for the conveyance of mail from Worcester to Pickenier's Kloof, and C. J. Mouton was employed to perform similar

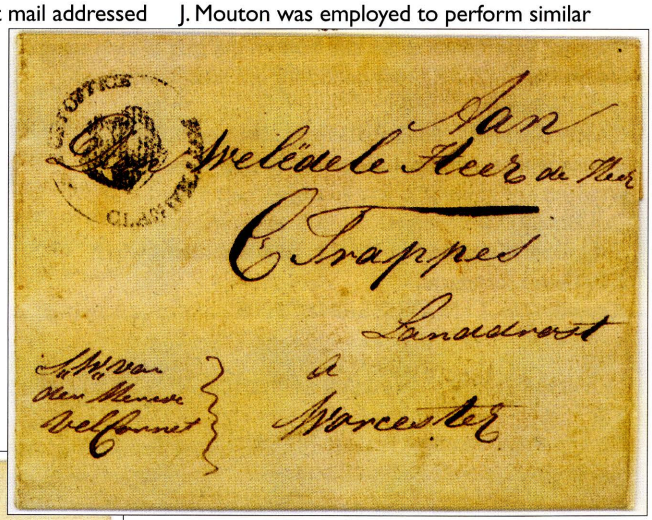

Fig.2

duties from Pickenier's Kloof to Clanwilliam. The journey from Clanwilliam to Worcester was estimated as 16 hours on horseback and four days with a horse wagon. The journey from Worcester to Cape Town took a further 14 hours on horseback and three days with a horse wagon.

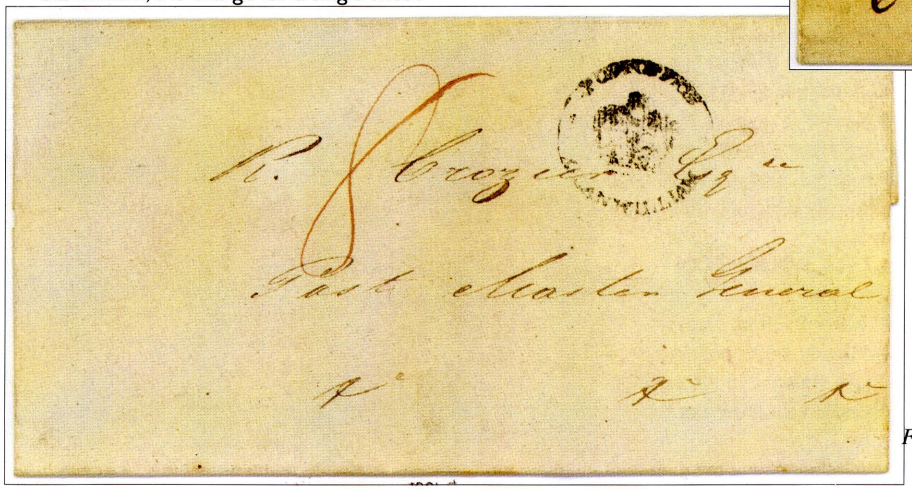

Fig.3

The Postal History of Clanwilliam - Part II

continues in the next issue of the SA Philatelist

- by Andrew Briscoe, Wits Philatelic Society

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New South African Stamp Issues - 2008 - Part II

-by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.



125 June 2008 – Architecture of the Constitutional Court.

Denomination: 10 x Standard Postage (R2.05).
Designer: From photographs by Angela Buckland.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Sheetlet of size 180 x 120mm comprising ten different designs, six of which are 30mm square, four are in horizontal format, three of size 60 x 30mm and one 80 x 30mm arranged in three rows as shown in the illustration.
Perforation: 13.8 horizontal x 13.2 vertical, extending through bottom and side selvedges.
Phosphor: 4mm bands on left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Paper: Sopal 110gsm stamp paper. *Gum: PVA.*
Cylinder numbers: 710347, 710348, 710349 and 710350.
Printing sheet size: 618 x 465mm containing 9 sheetlets arranged in 3 rows of 3.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative covers: Nos. 7.131 and 7.132, both in standard size (189 x 102mm) and of which 5 000 were produced. Stamps 1,2,3,5 and 6 are affixed to cover 7.131 and stamps 4, 7, 8 and 10 are affixed to cover 7.132.
Canceller: No. 7.117, BRAAMFONTEIN – 25.06.2008.

4 July 2008 – ICE 2008 Entomology Conference.



Denomination: Airmail Postcard (R4.20).
Designer: Ellena Schmitz, depicting the new insect order, Mantophasmatodea (Heelwalker).
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Vertical format of size 31 x 48mm.
Perforation: 13.6 x 13.2.
Paper: Sopal 110gsm stamp paper. *Gum*: PVA.
Phosphor: 4mm bands at left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Sheetlet size: 182 x 126mm, containing ten stamps arranged in two rows of five.
Cylinder numbers: 710343, 710344, 710345 and 710346.
Printing sheet size: 465 x 618mm comprising 8 sheetlets arranged in 4 rows of 2.
Quantity: 60 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.129 in standard size of which 5 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.115, OKIEP – 04.07.2008.

STILL TO COME IN 2008.

1 August - **Big 5 of Birds**. Five designs, International Letter rate.

22 August - **Namaqualand Flowers**. Ten designs, self adhesive, Airmail Postcard rate.

5 September - **FIFA**. Miniature sheet, Southern Africa Letter rate.

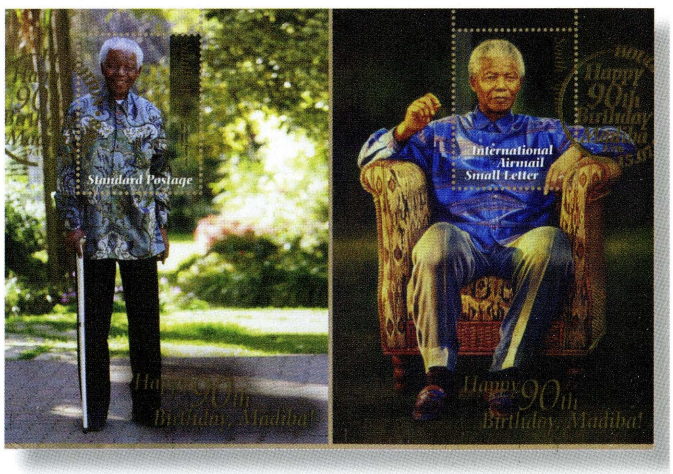
23 September - **Drakensberg**. Four designs, International Letter rate.

8 October - **Onderstepoort**. Miniature sheet, Standard Postage rate.

9 October - **World Post Day**. Five designs depicting old post office buildings, Standard Postage rate. 14 November - **Big 5 Cartoons**. Self adhesive booklet, Airmail Postcard rate.

Acknowledgement: The above stamp information was collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria and SETEMPE.

15 July 2008 - Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday.



Denominations: Standard Postage (R2.05) and International Airmail Small Letter (R4.90).
Designer: From photographs by Halden Krog (Standard Postage) & Cyril Coetzee (International Airmail).
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Vertical format stamps of size 29 x 38mm, in separate miniature sheets of size 77 x 105mm.
Perforation: 13.8 horizontal x 14.2 vertical, extending through top sheet margin.
Phosphor: 4mm bands on left and bottom margins of each stamp.
Paper: Sopal 110 gsm stamp paper.
Gum: PVA. *Cylinder numbers*: None.
Printing sheet size: 465 x 618mm containing 20 miniature sheets arranged in 4 rows of 5.
Quantity: 1 million sheets of each value.
Commemorative covers: Nos. 7.130, of size 229 x 163mm of which 15 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.116, HOUGHTON – 15.07.2008.
Folder: A hard cover Birthday Souvenir folder was also produced, containing the two miniature sheets and the same information found on the insert of the Commemorative Cover.
15 000 of these folders were produced.

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The Pleasant Isle of Puas, a memory of schooldays

I was at school with Peter Duncan who now lives in the USA. At our 50th matric reunion, I mentioned to my old classmates that I am also now a stamp collector and not yet a Philatelist. He sent me a story about PUAS and I submit here a copy of the stamp in question.
I sent him the poem, "The Last Buccaneer" by Charles Kingsley, to which he referred and which we studied in 1957.
I have his permission to send his version of PUAS, which I read to our P.E. Philatelist Society meeting. They encouraged me to send it to you
J.H.van der Merwe



Strange how poetry sticks, and so much of the rest doesn't. We did the Unification of Germany and the Unification of Italy, both in nauseating detail, and I must at one time have had some command of 'em because I got a First Class Matric. But now, I couldn't tell Cavour from Garibaldi, and I know Bismarck only from Tenniel's cartoon and Harry Flashman's description. But the poetry sticks, and at unexpected times.

We had in English class, about Std. 6 or 7, I suppose, a poem about the pleasant Isle of Aves. Beautifully idyllic, a lovely word-picture of a tropical island which an old pirate had seen in his wild youth and he longed to return to it, away from the streets and grimy rain of England. We were unsympathetic. It was all beyond our imagining - we knew cactus, and dust-devils and drought, but the ocean was 185 miles away. When you got to it, the sea was green and cold. The closest we knew to what that poem was about was the pirate movies that we saw on Saturday mornings, and we knew that was all faked on a movie set.

Forty years later or so, the U.S. Postal Service brought out a new 45 cent stamp labelled "Puas", which showed a beautiful tropical beach, deserted, idyllic. I saw it first in the middle of a California winter, one of those that sets records for how much rain can fall and how little sun can shine. My mind went straight back to the poem about the Pleasant Isle of Aves, and to the picture that Pirate had painted. I looked at the beach and the palm trees on the stamp, and I knew how that pirate had felt. Which is doubly odd. I know the Caribbean well, but it was the poem that came to mind.

So when I saw the stamp with the lovely, lonely beach celebrating the Isle of Puas, my mind drifted off to Aves, and Bonaire, and some of the lovely beaches of Puerto Rico. The beauty of the Caribbean is something that surprises me afresh every time I see it. Can the sea be that dark blue in the distance, that emerald green inshore? Sand so white it hurts the eye to look at it, and clouds fluffier and whiter than candyfloss. Our research ship stopped once for a swim call at Mona Island, and it was pure fantasy - a boy's pirate story of an island for golden beaches, shimmering green water over sand as the sunlight bounces back. I had fins and a snorkel, so I cruised around a protected reef, and the fish treated me as an equal in a fairyland of coral. Maybe Puas is like that.

Aves is isolated, a little west of the Lesser Antilles. Any good Atlas will show it. The name means Birds, so perhaps it's like Palmyra which I've visited when the birds were nesting, a sight that brought that long-forgotten poem back to mind and defined my own vision of a tropical island on a coral reef. But I never made it to Aves, and I still don't know for sure if the poet got it all right.

Barbados I've seen and wished I'd more time and the right company to see more of. Virgin Gorda is where some, at least, of my fantasies came true, and I'll tell you about those sometime over a Barrellito 5 Star when I've loosened up and Judith's not around to hear. St. Croix may be as close to the pirate movies as reality gets, because the fort is not the overwhelming mass of El Morro at San Juan, but is a real pirate-type fort. To keep 'em out I mean. Like Fort Elisabeth on Kaui or Fort Frederick in Port Elizabeth.

I had a lovely time musing and remembering, thanks to a 45 cent stamp and a long-forgotten poem. It was a pity to find no Puas Island in my Atlas/ not even my big Times Atlas. I finally called the Post Office and asked, and after some puzzlement on their part about my question, they told me that Puas stands for Postal Union of American States.

Oh, well, I got my money's worth even before I used the stamp. And 'Thank You', whoever you were that taught us that poem.
And here, on the left, the stamps that kicked off the memories!

Airmail Pieces

Dear Dr. Matheson,

I'd be grateful to attract your attention to a search I am making for airmail pieces associated with the 1948-1950 BOAC flying boat service from Johannesburg to Southampton through Victoria Falls, Port Bell, Luxor, Khartoum, Cairo and Augusta.

Recently my wife and I were travelling in South Africa, and we spent several nights at the Victoria Falls Hotel where I saw a mural/ map describing this airmail service and telling how the Victoria Falls overnight stop came to be known as "Jungle Junction".

In an effort to gather information leading to a philatelic article about this service, I have been searching among many websites and a few libraries, with help from old flying boat aficionados (especially a Poole flying boat organization in England). I would love to see photocopies or even acquire covers which were carried on portions of the airmail route.

I'd really appreciate any suggestions you can make for directions to look, sources to seek out, or dealers who might put me on to this kind of material. My apologies for the abuse of your section leadership in BCPSG

PeterColwell, 3621 Story Street,
Ames, Iowa 50014, USA
gpcolwell@aol.com [mailto:Gpcolwell@aol.com]

Appeal for exchange

A Belgian philatelist in search of used stamps of South Africa. In exchange, for used of Belgium, France, Great-Britain, Spain, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Scandinavia amongst others.

G Barbé email: guytouche@belgacom.net



Visit the FEDERATION and SOCIETY NEWS pages on our website: www.philatelysa.co.za

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Unravelling a 1945 SA Philatelic Mystery

- by George Cafetzoglou, RDPSA, Johannesburg Philatelic Society

The 2d Bantam Sailor 'Misperforated'

In the November 1945 SAP, on page 126 of which a copy accompanies this article, Hinko Suklje reported that, whilst purchasing postage, he bought 24 sheets of the 2d Bantam. He noticed that they were misperforated.
The process of misperforation (illustrated here by a graph, fig 1) and considered 'normal' spread over 24 sheets, he numbered consecutively as 0001-0024 (not the actual numbers). The ascending of perforation from bottom to between the 'chin and mouth' of the sailor, was from sheets 0001 to 0006 (the apex) thus the 'decline' back to normal was much slower 0007 to 0024. He mentions that sheet 0006 (the apex) had the top '3' rows unprinted. However, my strip 0006 shows actually '4' stamps unprinted plus margin and I will refer to this abnormality a little later.

I would like to, at this stage, recount my acquisition - and need to point out that I have not included in this article, a 'purist' approach to the stamp issue, as this aspect has been written and researched extensively over the years and information is easily available for anyone requiring this, ('Union Handbook').

This article has been written to illustrate the random cyclometer numbers that Hinko used in the 1945 article, and which, in my opinion, once again were random in order to 'hide' the real sheet numbers, for obvious reasons.

In the very late 50s, I purchased from Hinko, my 'set of 22', numbered by him in pencil, strips of 4 with margin, at a very reasonable price. At this time, we were in the throws of big changes in philately. The older collectors were by nature "purists", and this type of 'find' was frowned upon, being, at best "Printer's Waste", and never supposed to have been issued.

Numbers 1 - 4 were in printed strips of 4. Numbers 5 and 6 were missing. (6 was represented by a poor photostat of the perforation apex) in a block of 4 as well as an unprinted strip of 4, as described above). I very quickly, after this purchase, was able to find and buy, a block of 4 belonging to the number 5 setting, (perfs below the chin). Number's 7-10 were as per his article 'unprinted'. Number's 12-24 follow the sequence as described with the perforations moving down.
I was one of Hinko's regular clients up until his death and purchased a substantial amount of stock from his widow. He developed into a stamp dealer along the same lines that I did - 8 year old collector/accumulator, World War II flying instructor under JATS in S.A. (cover showing his status) and finally professional stamp dealer.

At the time of purchasing the "set of 24/ actually 22" units, I was shown large blocks of the printed / unprinted sections which were quite heavily priced. The choice was to either purchase the stamps, and forsake taking Laetitia, my wife, out for a couple of weeks, or leave the stamps and court her. Luckily sanity prevailed, the 'weaker sex' was stronger.

I did however, purchase a left marginal 8 row (from arrow to top row 3) block of 16 perforated units, of the 'joined paper', (This I believe is the only sheet showing a paper join and would appreciate feed-back in this respect) of sheet number 24, which showed the paper join starting at the bottom of row 5 being fully doubled rows 6 and 7 and finished half way in the stamp of row 8, as per illustrations.

Being a compulsive collector, I have through the years hoarded vast volumes of material for "my collections". Many years ago I put on pages my Union Collection of Definitives, and I sold this, and many of my Kings Heads, London Printings, Unhyphenated and so on, which complimented many Union grand collections of the past 30 years. My Commemoratives I kept on putting into sorting boxes, and it was only last year, 2007, that I decided to put on pages. My rather forgotten "small wars" came to light and I have now formed a very representative collection.

During this process I "discovered" from a different collection which I seem to recall purchasing from Mr van Waart maybe thirty years ago, a page with a vertical strip of 8 units off the top margin of this misperforation sheet. On the same page there was an "unprinted / blank" vertical pair, and a cyclometer block of 4 off the right margin. On closer inspection, and very much to my surprise, the perfs were through the chin / mouth position (i.e. the apex).

The cyclometer 'No 5596' is clearly shown and the 'puzzle' has been solved!

Hinko's 0006 is 5596 and the cyclometer numbers working before and after 5596 are all coincident to Hinko's arbitrary numbering and the perforation movement.

I believe that Hinko put the arbitrary numbers in order to disguise the cyclometer sequence in case of an inquiry by the PO.

Finally, in closing, I would like to ask other collectors of the issue that may have proving pieces (especially cyclometer numbers or large blocks) to please contact me so that we may be able to reconstruct the full extent of the "mishap".





Fig.2

Sheet number 0006 as it was reported in the November 1945 *SA Philatelist*. The slogan margin clearly shows four stamps unprinted and not three, as reported as well as the handwritten in pencil number '6' in the margin.

The illustrations on the following page, give a clear picture of the "moving" perforations against the relevant cyclometer numbers. The paper join started at the bottom of row 5 and is fully double paper (carton) over rows 6 and 7 and finishes halfway into the stamp of row 8. It is also clear (on fig 5) how the paper was 'joined' and lastly, the handwritten pencil numbering as discussed in the text.

Diagramatic of 2d Bantam Sailor Misperforations
Suklje random No. '0006' - APEX- Proving Cyclo No. 5596

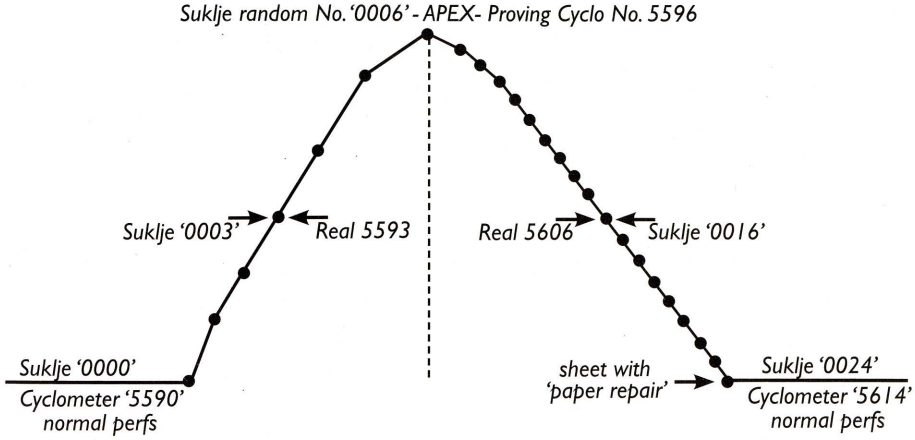

Fig.1

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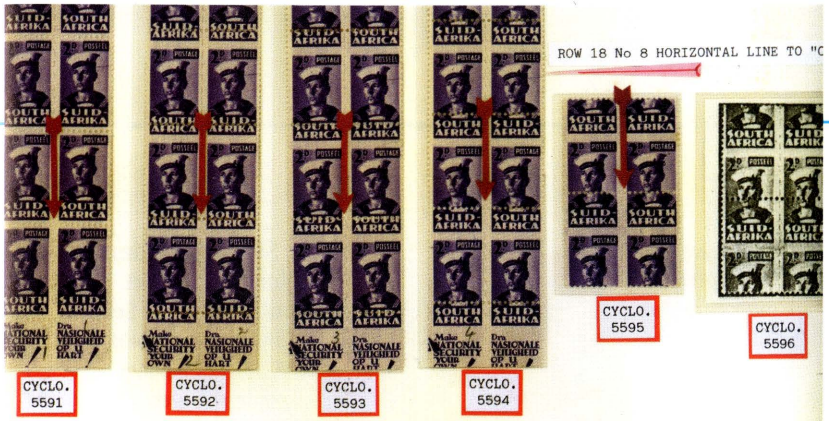


Fig.3 (not show in its entirety due to space restraints here above)

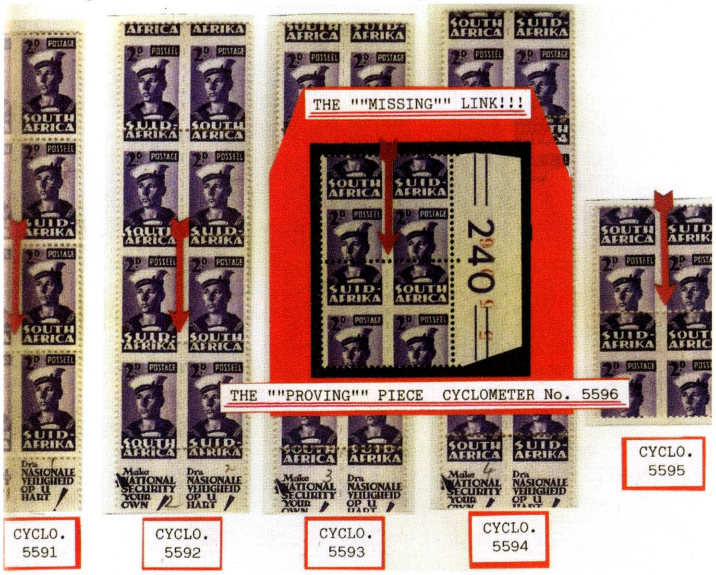


Fig.4 with insert highlighting the missing link.(above)

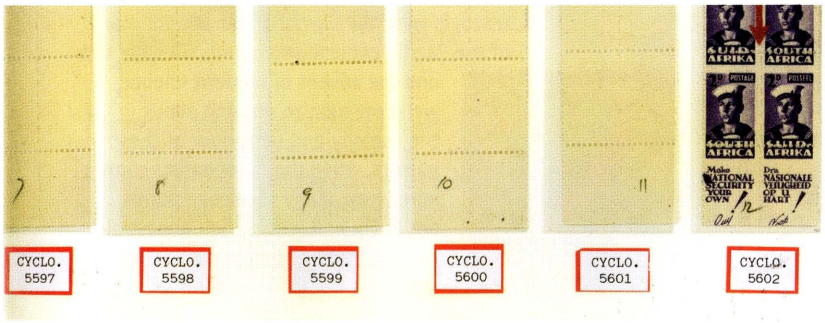
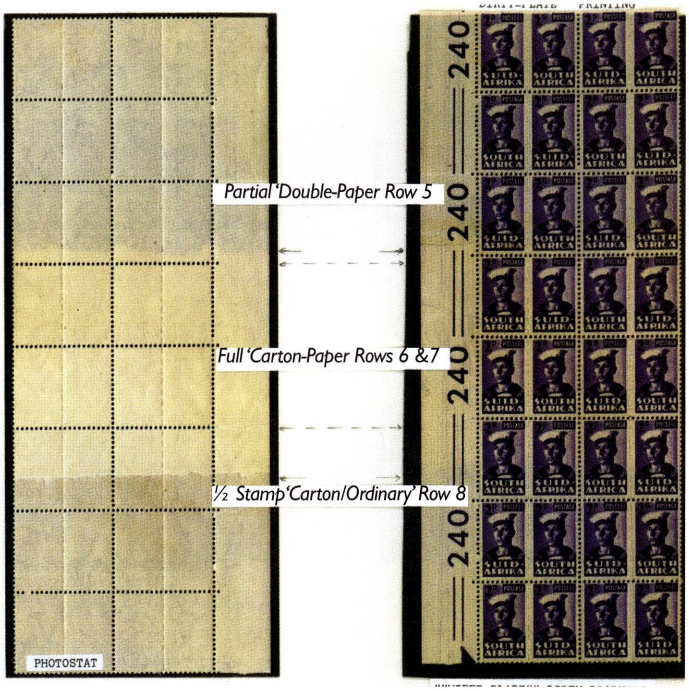


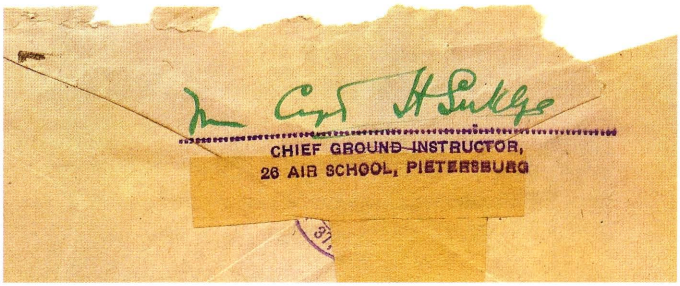
Fig.5 the pencil numbering - image has been 'cropped' here due to space restraints



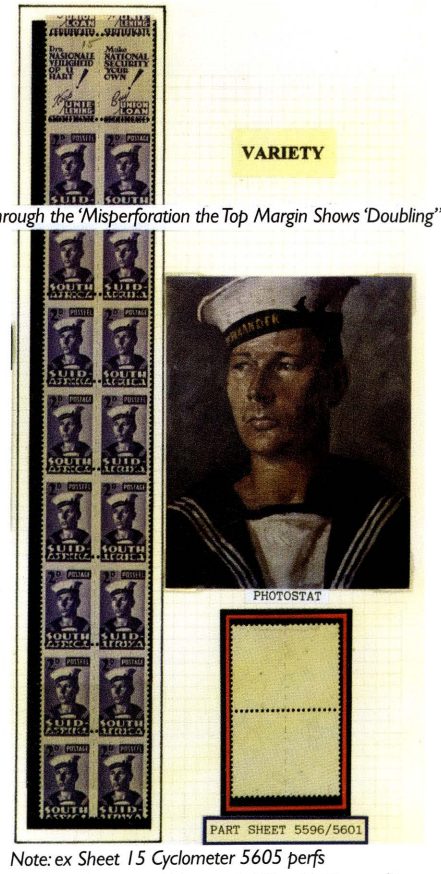
Fig.6 and 7 showing the obvious 'movement' of perfs







Hinko's handstamp



Note:Through the 'Misperforation the Top Margin Shows 'Doubling" of Slogan

Note: ex Sheet 15 Cyclometer 5605 perfs through the centre of the words Africa / Afrika.

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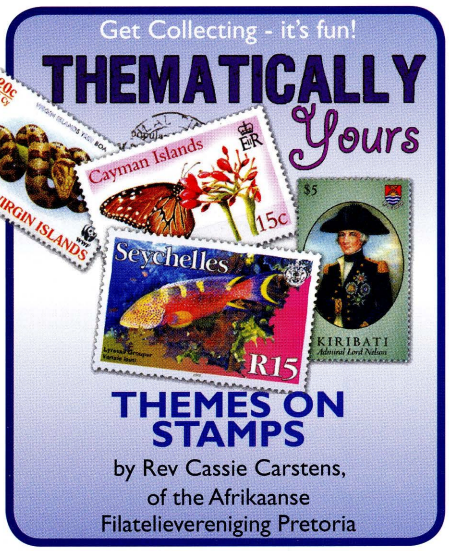


* **Ängspärlemorfjäril**..... I have no idea how to pronounce it, but the wings of this **butterfly** are most beautiful. It is the Dark Green Fritillary (Argynnis aglaya) and is frequently seen in the forest and countryside of Sweden. Would love to touch and stroke it – very softly! The stamps were designed by Lars Sjööblom from photographs by Ann Andrén.



* I like **pigs** - small and big , pink or black, wild and tame. OK, OK their behaviour and their smell is not always very acceptable, but on the whole they are so cute and adorable. The film Babe is one of my favourites, and I have collected quite a lot of pigs-on-stamps (will try to do a One-Framer in future). And yes, I love bacon and I relish on pork – but you don't need to tell my grunting friends about that!



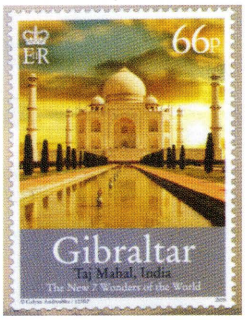


* The **Olympic Games** in Beijing, China will give us much pleasure from 8th August. Not only on TV, but also with the multitude of stamps being issued by participating countries all over the world. Unfortunately not in South Africa – what else did you expect?!
I like the swimming events, and also tennis and athletics. The 400m hurdles is my favourite item. The Macau-stamp with the official mascot tells it all! Enjoy the Games!

* I spent three wonderful weeks on tour in Namibia. On our way through the Northern Cape, and also in the Kgalagadi, we saw lots of **sociable weavers** (*Philetairus socius* - Versamelvoël : SA 800) and their breathtaking nests. Up to 300 birds share this multi-roomed "house", with temperatures not dropping below 6°C in winter and not exceeding 27°C in summer. How on earth do they see inside the huge structure? Does it ever become silent during sleeping time?

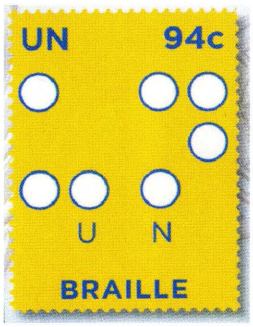


* The **New Seven Wonders of the World** is a project that attempts to revive the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World concept with a list of modern wonders. The winners were announced on July 7, 2007 in Lisbon, Portugal. The origin of the idea of seven wonders of the world dates back to Herodotos (484-425 BC) and Callimachus (305-240 BC), who made lists which included the still-standing Pyramids of Giza. The other six were destroyed by earthquake, fire or other reasons. My personal favourite? The Taj Mahal in India.



* Fiji's parrots were of great significance to early Fijians long before Europeans arrived with their science, taxonomy in particular, because the red feathers of Fiji's parrots were central to an almost Pacific-wide trade. In fact, red feathers were the currency of trade for many of the Pacific earliest inhabitants. Despite this and the advent of modern science, we know next to nothing about the ecology and behaviour of these parrots, while the taxonomists cannot agree how many species of parrots are in Fiji and where their ancestral lineage leads. The most distinctive species is the *Prosopeia tabuensis splendens* – distinctive for its bright scarlet or crimson feathers.





* **Braille** is an important support to education and communication for blind individuals. Braille characters are a formation of six dots in the shape of a rectangle, with up to 63 possible combinations using one or more of the six dots. These dots are embossed onto thick paper by hand or machine and read with the fingers moving across the Braille characters. Louis Braille devised the system in 1821, and it is now used in every country. The bicentenary of Braille's birth is on 4 January 2009.



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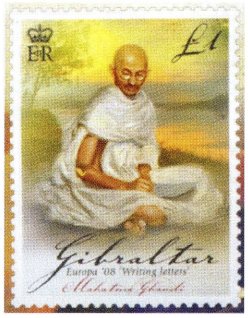

* The Europe '08 theme of "Writing Letters" inspired Gibraltar to feature historical figures and how significant their letters were. **Gandhi** was said to have a "therapeutic influence" on his followers and an ability to "repair wounds in self-esteem," accumulated over decades of colonial repression. Gandhi believed in the universality of the human condition and in a moving letter he wrote from a Birmingham jail said "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Words of wisdom indeed. .



* The **rose** is the oldest cultivated flower in the world. Archeological excavations in Iran unearthed reliefs depicting cultivated roses (multi-petaled) dating to the eighth century BCE, in other words, some 2 800 years ago. Not only is the rose the most cultivated flower in the world, it also has the largest number of cultivated varieties. Many thousands exist today and additional new varieties are constantly being developed. The rose is widely thought of as the "King of Flowers." It accompanies and decorates the ceremonies and holidays of our lives from birth to death and also represents a gesture of love. Paintings of roses, rose patterns and the symbol of the rose surround us everywhere we look.
This particular stamp also smells like a rose. Using a unique printing technique, perfume is actually integrated into the stamp.

References
1. Macau-Post : May 2008
2. NamPost : brochure 2008
3. Sweden Post : April 2008
4. Jersey Post : Farm Animals
5. Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau –CASCO GIB 236
6. Post Fiji : Bulletin 242
7. Fascination : United Nations 2/2008
8. Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau –CASCO GIB 237
9. Israel Philatelic Service : 799 – 4/2008

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With a team of helpful and knowledgable colleagues, we try to cover a large area of our clients needs.

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- Structuring and planning of collections
- Buying and selling of single items as well as collections.
- Monthly Stamp Fairs in Sandton, Boksburg and Pretoria.
- Two monthly Stamp Fair Auctions in Sandton and Boksburg
- A major new venture will be a web page which will expand the exposure of our business.
- Postal Revenue Auctions for this country dedicated to promote and market Southern Africa Revenues and Labels to the world market.
- The most important part of our business is the awareness of stamps and paper preservation. By these efforts we have already activated old collectors and found a new youth market which has emerged through Thematic interests and school related projects.
- I am looking to buy any Southern African labels, eg. Red Cross, Medical, Veld Trust and even the odd revenue stamp worldwide.

For any further information contact
Clinton Goslin
Tel: (018) 468 1400 (After Hours)
• Cell: 083 272 9367
E-mail: goslin@lantic.net
• PO Box 11644, Klerksdorp, 2570
Member of: Great Britain Revenue Society, South AfricanDealers Association International Federation Stamp Dealers Association Wits Philatelic Society, Klerksdorp Philatelic Society



Currently we are running a Postal Auction every three months and live auctions twice a month - one in Sandton and one in Boksburg. We are also on E-bay with on average 40 items per week on sale so come on and look at what we have on display in E-bay under the sellers name of "arce12340".
We are currently setting up our new Website which in Future will have monthly Postal Auctions.
You are most welcome to pay us a visit at any one of our Live Auctions and if you cannot be there we do take e-mail bids. Contact us for more info by Fax 018 - 7716665) or by E-mail to either goslin@lantic.net or fjarce@global.co.za.

Please let us know if you want to be placed on our e-mail list to receive our Postal Auction booklets and our Monthly Live Auction sale items.

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READERS QUESTIONS ?

Stratford upon Avon

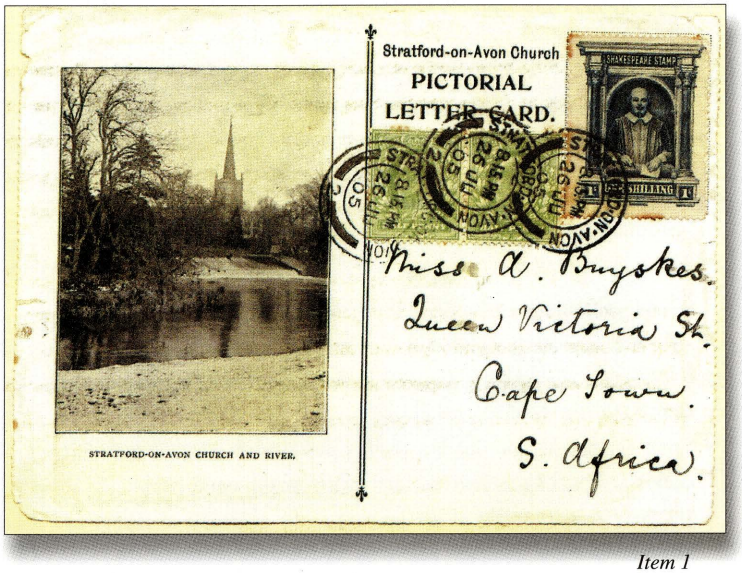
Dear Sir.

I enclose a small article that will be of interest to Chris Mobsby if to no one else as we spoke on this and many other subjects over the years.

One of my interests is the collecting of post cards of my home town Stratford upon Avon. When I was shown a post card, *(item 1)* by Dominique Martino, the stamp dealer, I was amazed to see the Shakespeare stamp that my father had told me about from the Holy Trinity parish church in Stratford. Incidentally my daughter was baptised there many years ago. To carry on, when I explained the stamp to Dom, he actually gave me the item. I add this just to show that some South African dealers are actually quite human. Just kidding.

Of course I had to show my new find to Chris Mobsby, (just to make him jealous) as I believe it is an issuing authority that he had not recorded. It was he who suggested that I write to you to see if we could get more knowledge on the stamp, mind you that was nearly three years ago. I have since added more items to my collection and place them before you to try and piece more of the story together.

To begin with, my father always told me that this was a service provided by the Holy Trinity Church which is the parish church for Stratford and where it is believed that Shakespeare's remains lie. To take the item to be posted to the main post office in Stratford. At that time the post office would have been the G.P.O. in Sheep Street, a few doors up from where my father lived. There was a post office closer to the church in Cherry Street but this was not convenient as it was off the route into town. The postmark on the card shows Stratford on Avon, 26/6/05 but that doesn't mean that items posted at Cherry Street won't turn up.



Item 1



Item 2

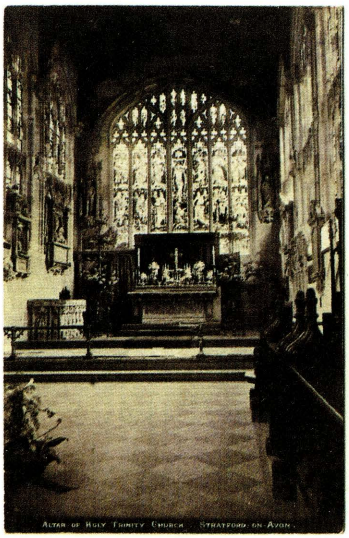


Item 3

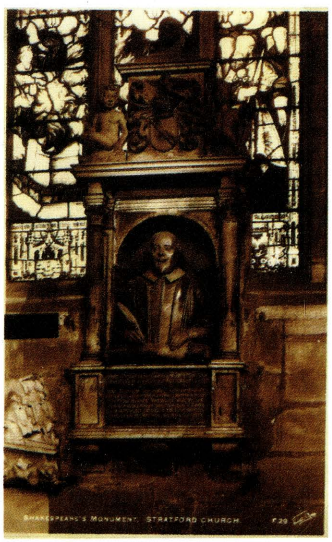
I have, since being given the first item, been able to obtain a stamped unused post card, *(item 2.)* This may prove that the post card and the service was included in the purchase price. I also managed to obtain four mint stamps, *(item 3)*. The mint stamps are all of the same design, from the memorial statue in the church, but in different colours. The blue stamp on the first card gives a total of five colours as although one of the mint stamps is a purple-blue the stamp on the first card is a definite dark true blue. They are line perforated 16 and gummed.

When I bought the mint stamps they were on ebay described as 'poster stamps' and given the years 1895-1908. Now what are poster stamps? And where does the information for the years of usage come from? My father knew of their use and he was only born in 1907. The first question I ask is, 'Were these stamps used over a greater period ? Five colours together with my father's knowledge of the stamps would suggest yes.

My second question is 'Who printed the stamps'? If one looks at the unused post card it will be seen that the printer was W. and H. Smith Ltd (not related) in Evesham which is but a few short miles down the River Avon. Did they have the knowledge to print high quality stamps like this? While on the subject of printers it will be noticed that the first card is perforated on three sides. Does this mean that they were printed in



Reverse of Item 2.



Item 4

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sheets before being torn up, were they in book form with other church views or were they sold through an early form of vending machine?

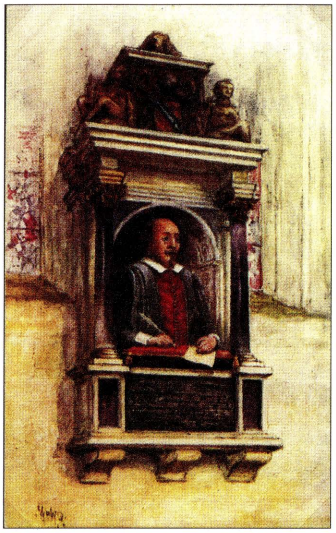
I enclose copies of post cards *items 4,5,6 & 7* showing the church and the statue which was used for the stamps design, together with the position of the statue within the church. I also show the reverse sides of the two post cards in my collection. Any comments plus additional finds and information would be greatly appreciated.

Yours

Jamie Smith (Pretoria Society, now living in the UK)

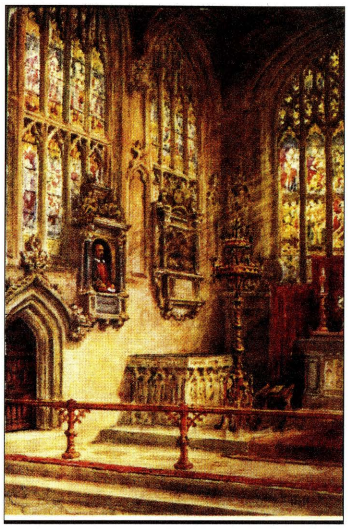


Item 7

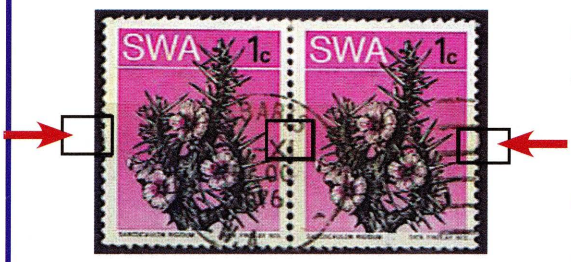


Item 5

Shakespeare's bust in the Holy Trinity Church in Old Town. Cards produced by J.Salmon, from paintings by W.W. Quatremain.



Item 6.

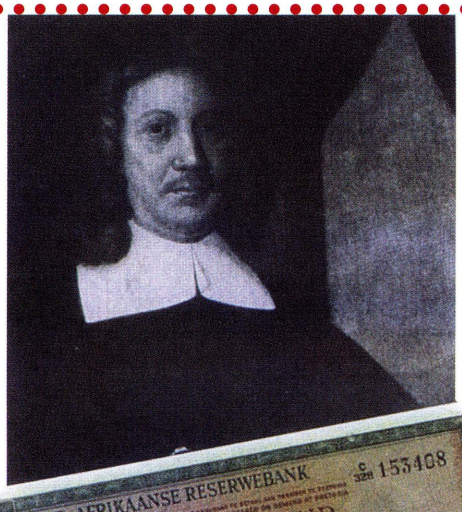


Can you help?

Amongst some used South-West Africa stamps I found the above illustrated coil stamp SACC no 266 perf 14. It was used in Gobabis during November 1976 and cancelled at 16h00. It is obvious that one of the perforations is consistently missing on both sides of both stamps.

I would like to know whether this is a known variety and whether this has been reported before. Is there anybody that can help?

Dr Neil Cronje. rtmtrust@global.co.za



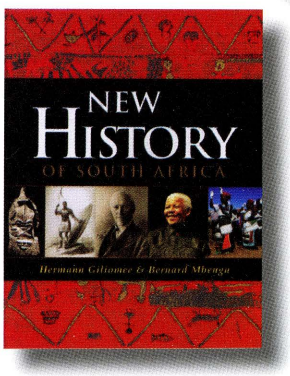


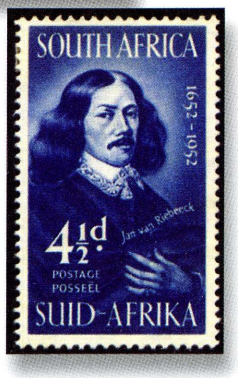
Not who we think they are.

I was very interested to read in my recently acquired "New History of South Africa" by Hermann Giliomee and Bernard Mabenga, that the portraits of Jan van Riebeeck and his wife Maria on our 1952 Commemorative issue is not them at all ! I was surprised too that none of our learned philatelists had not picked this up - or is it that they did and I did not know?

Charles Rogers







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Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed

1 - "The Royal Philatelic Collection: Southern Africa', by Michael Sefi (Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection), '*The London Philatelist*' no.1356, June 2008, p.159 -172. Comments on display (52 x 12 page frames) given at the Royal Philatelic Society in London on 20 Sept 2007. Shows highlights for most areas of Southern Africa, incl Boer War; article illustrated in colour.

2 - 'SG 32 – 'British Bechuanaland' overprint on Cape of Good Hope 2d, reading up", by Brian Hurst, '*The Runner Post*' no.72, June 2008, p1776 - 1781. Author explores two types of overprint, viz. typeset and stereo, and shows characteristics and flaws for both.

3 - 'Official Free Markings –Supplement 1', by Dennis Firth, 'The Runner Post' no.72, p1781 – 1789. The 'Official Free' markings used in the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Botswana were recorded in previous issues of the *'Runner Post'*, viz 63 to 71. This supplement records additional types, information and corrections.

4 - 'Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (Second Series) Part 11 - Offices beginning T), by Bruce Warrender and David Wall, 'The Runner Post' no.72, p1790 – 1800. Covers postmarks from Takatokwane, Tamasane, Tatitown, Taung, Thabala, Thamaga, Thebephatshwa, Tlokweng, Tonota, Tsabong, Tshane, Tshesebe, Tumasera and Tutume.

5 - 'Cyanotype prints on postal stationery postcards of Transvaal during the Second Anglo-Boer War, with special reference to a correspondence from W. Augustin to his family in Germany", by Christopher Board, 'The Transvaal Philatelist' no.166, May 2008, p34 – 40. Cyanotype is a process of photographic printing in Prussian Blue, a contact process similar to that used to produce the Mafeking Blue stamps.

MEXICO

Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International (MEPSI) is the largest and oldest (begun in 1950) society in the world devoted solely to Mexico philately. MEPSI has an informative quarterly journal, *MEXICANA*. MEPSI also has an extensive library, auctions, circuits, and expertization. They hold annual meetings in the US and Mexico. www.mepsi.org For membership information, contact:
Michael Roberts, MEPSI Treasurer
5881 W. 75th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90045-1706 USA
email: mepsi@ca.rr.com

MEPSI

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The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Material published subject to availability

FUTURE ARTICLES

Kobus Esterhuizen - stamp designer
by George Cafetzoglou

Part 2. Postal History of Clanwilliam
by Andrew Briscoe

Specialist philatelic Societies

- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*The Transvaal Philatelist*'. The S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal*'. The S.A. representative is Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: '*TheSpringbok*'. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. based in the UK. Journal: '*OFS Bulletin*'. SA Representative John Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net website: www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: '*The London Philatelist*'. The S.A. representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: '*Forerunners*'. SA representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: '*Journal of RSC*'. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: '*The Runner Post*'. The S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keithp@dbthermal.co.za
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za
- Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society Int. Contact MEPSI. Peter Laux, 417 Leyden St, ~Denver, CO 80220-5953 USA. Quarterly Journal: '*Mexicana*' as well as an extensive library. www.mepsi.org email: mepsi@ca.rr.com

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Obituary

Archie Atkinson

- submitted by Dave Wengrowe, Hon.Treas. (S A) SAPRG

Aston Kilwaine Warner Atkinson known as 'Archie' was born in the Western Cape on 28 April, 1917 and died aged 90 in Castletown, Isle of Man on 6 March 2008. He was married to Vivien Allen, author of *'Krugers Pretoria'*. The family has very early roots in Pretoria as Vivien is the great grand daughter of George Heys. It was in the family home "Melrose House" that the Peace Treaty was signed ending the Anglo-Boer War. George Heys & Co. of Pretoria, shared the mail contract after the war with Gibson's Red Star Line of Kimberley.

Archie worked as a journalist, editor and author in Kimberley, Johannesburg and Pretoria. He played an important role in the establishment of St. Alban's College, in Pretoria and was the Grand Historian of the Pretoria club who wrote '*Old Ivory and Roses*' - the history of the Pretoria Club which remains as his monument.

Having left South Africa to live in the Isle of Man and accumulated an extensive collection of picture postcards relating to the 'Rand' and wishing to stimulate interest in this hobby, Archie assembled a small group of friends to form the '*Southern Africa Postcard Research Group*'. The group ceased to function three years' ago having been active for about 25 years. Archie wrote several articles which were published in the *S A Philatelist*, and was honoured with a Congress Award. The Trophy which bears his name and keeps his memory alive, is awarded for the best picture Postcard Exhibit at a National Exhibition of Cards of Southern Africa.

Exhibition News

Stampshow 2008 Pretoria

23 - 25 October 2008

The Rautenbach Hall at the University of Pretoria.

Only a mere six to eight weeks before the major southern African philatelic event of 2008 is upon us, namely **Stampshow 2008** *- the University of Pretoria's Rautenbach Hall, 23- 25 October 2008. It also forms part of the University's centenary celebrations.*

Stampshow 2008 *- open to the public each day at 09:00, and will remain open until 20:00 on Thursday & Friday, and until 15:00 on Saturday.* ***The official opening*** *is at 16:00* ***on Thursday, the 23rd,*** *and will take the form of a cheese and wine after the opening ceremony. Everyone is invited to this function.* ***Congress*** *will take place at the Senate Hall* ***on Friday, 24 October,*** *where registration is from 08:00 to 09:00, when a very busy Congress will start. Accommodation information as well as last minute details are available on www.philatelysa.co.za.*

On the Saturday*, 25 October 2008, there will be a number of meetings in lecture halls adjacent to the Rautenbach Hall. The provisional programme is as follows:*

** 09:00 – 09:50 Thematics*
** 10:00 – 10:50 Postmark and Postal History Society – AGM*
** 11:00 – 11:50 SWA Study Circle*
** 11:00 – 11:50 Transvaal Study Circle*
** 12:00 – 14:30 Judging seminars by Ross Duberal , Australian commissioner.*

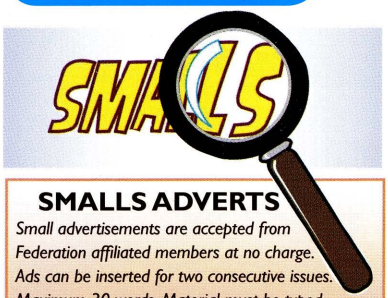
At the time of writing more than 300 frames have been offered, and even the very latecomers are being accommodated. The Juniors have been enthusiastic and although all the entries have not been received more than 40 frames have been entered for ***Junass****. Junass will form part of the Stampshow and will be housed in part of the hall. A total of 20 dealers are expected, and a novelty is that an invitation has been extended to all the members of SAPOA, the Southern African Post Office Association, and hopefully philatelic services of the postal administrations as far away as Uganda and Democratic Republic of the Congo, besides the stalwarts of Namibia and Botswana, will be represented.*

A further novelty is that a ***Cinderella*** *mini-sheet is being printed, and a special temporary date stamp will be available. The mini-sheet will show aspects relevant to Stampshow such as the Union Buildings, the University and jacarandas.*

The table is set for a wonderfully stimulating event. We extend a warm welcome and look forward to entertaining you in Pretoria.

Compiled by Alex Visser on behalf of the Organising Committee

Classifieds



SMALLS ADVERTS

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 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

For Sale: Union Castle Ephemera. Passenger list, Menus, Note paper, Luggage Labels from RMMV Cape Town Castle 1963.
Contact roses@wol.co.za

Wanted: 1947 Royal Visit, Basutoland set, perforated "Specimen".
Details to: Chris Cordes (P S of J)
Box 41953,Craighall, 2024.

Wanted: RSA – "Express" mail and other unusual covers, especially from the Homelands; and FDC 6.3c – Pres Mandela Inauguration with R5 coin; paying above catalogue. Also Zimbabwe commercial covers from 2000.
Offers to: Paul van Zeyl,
Box 29012, Sunnyside, 0132

Wanted: A German stamp collector looking to exchange stamps from Germany, Poland, Austria for similar of Namibia, South Africa, Malawi and Botswana. Offers to: Helmut Pfannkuchen. Hauptstraße 26, D-38871 Drübeck,
Deutschland. email: hpfannkuchen@arcor.de

Wanted: I am a 68 year old and only starting to collect- stamps at this 'young age' . Any country any stamp. Please let me have your redundant duplicates. OR if you have complete or near complete collections to sell. I will look at any proposition.
Johannes van der Merwe. PO Box 2534,
North End, Port Elizabeth 6056
Tel: 041 453 7910 9 (O) or 041 360 2408 (H)
email: abletrac@iafrica.com

Wanted: Recent mint topical issues (WWF, Fauna, Flora, Transport, Europa) from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Leshoto. Offer mint or used topical issues from Romania, Moldova, Ex-USSR republics, China and Cuba. Basis "Michel" catalogue. Also, I'm interested in exchanging 500 to 2000 comemorative used stamps only in registered letters. Basis 1:1.
Petrescu Marian Florin, P.O. Box 6, Of. Postal 14, Ploiesti, Romania.
e-mail: florinmarianpetrescu@yahoo.com

Wanted: Mint, thematic, set for exchange with all countries. I offer mint South Africa, Homelands, South West Africa. Contact Ivan Schroeder, 15 Thibault St, Morgenster Heights, Brackenfell. 7560 Republic of South Africa.
Phone/Fax: 021 982 2221

Wanted: Weekly News Letters produced in 1960s by H. Sinclair-Brown, stamp dealer in Liverpool, which contained detailed research articles on new Commonwealth issues and which were available on subscription only.
Please contact Peter van der Molen
Tel: 011 849 4822 or 'e' molens@pixie.co.za

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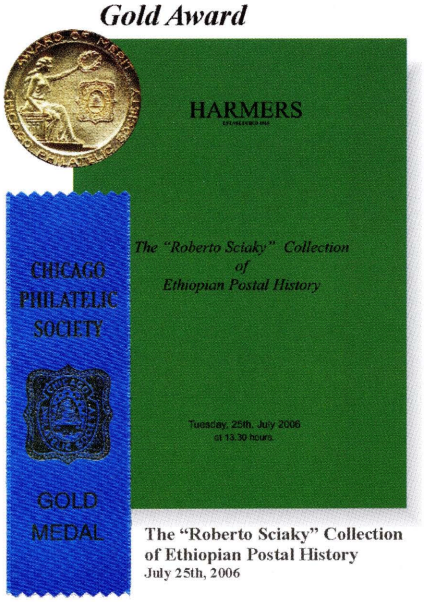
HARMERS

ESTABLISHED 1918

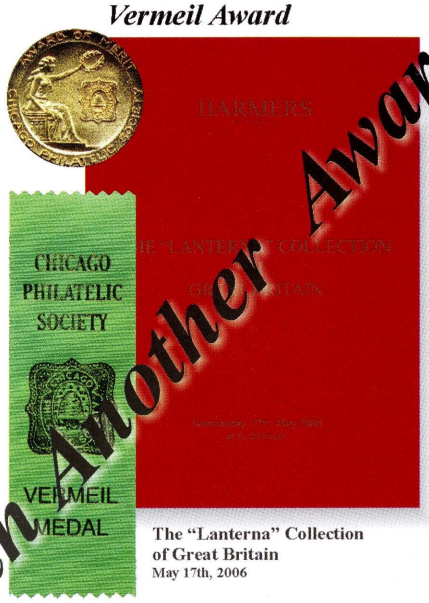
2007 Chicago Philatelic Society Awards for Literature

Gold Award



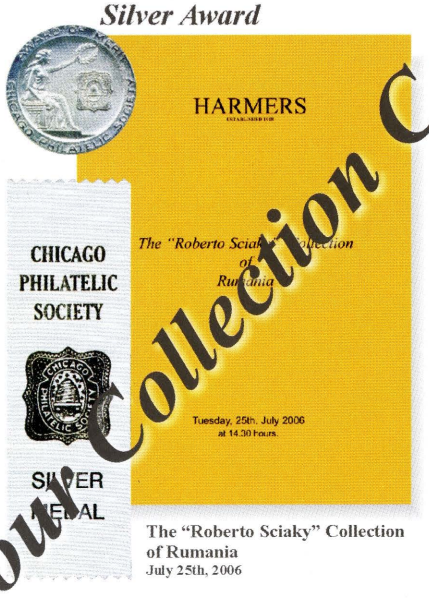
The "Roberto Sciaky" Collection of Ethiopian Postal History
July 25th, 2006

Vermeil Award



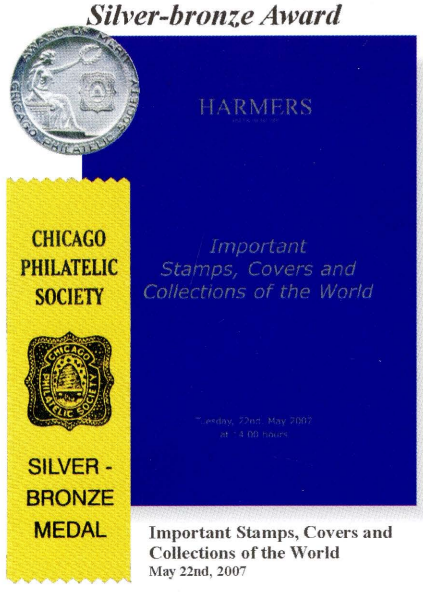
The "Lanterna" Collection of Great Britain
May 17th, 2006

Silver Award



The "Roberto Sciaky" Collection of Rumania
July 25th, 2006

Silver-bronze Award



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October 2008

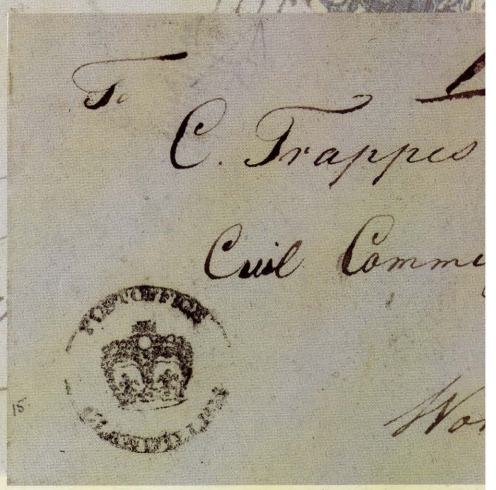
The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE
www.philatelysa.co.za

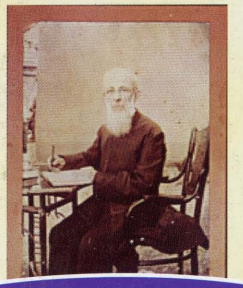
THIS MONTH



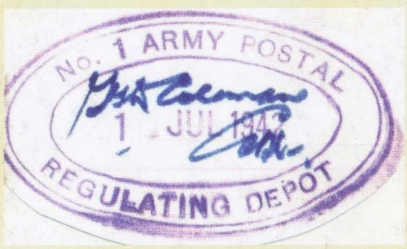




The Postal History of Clanwilliam(part 2)



A post office for ZUURBRAAK



WWII Military Mail



The birth of a postage stamp

October 2008
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ISSN 0038-2566
Vol 84:5 890

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JOHNSON PHILATELICS

DEALERS IN FINE STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY



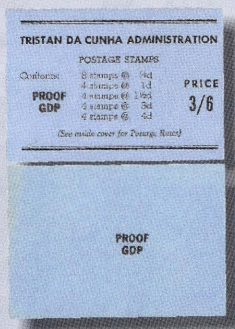
AEROPHILATELY: 1911 First Aerial Postcard carried SECOND RETURN flight Muizenberg to Kenilworth. Both cachets incorrect prior flights dates still in use. £1600



1900 BOER CENSORSHIP: Postcard to a Boer POW aboard Prison Ship. Straightline "Gezien" censor mark. VF, rare marking. £650



ST HELENA: 1900 BOER WAR cover onforwarded to the Netherlands franked ½d on 6d green Censor mark initialled "JHMB". VF, most attractive. £200



TRISTAN DA CUNHA:
~ 1957 3/6 blue cover booklet.
PROOFS of covers handstamped "PROOF / GDP" in black.
Ex Bradbury Wilkinson archives. £375



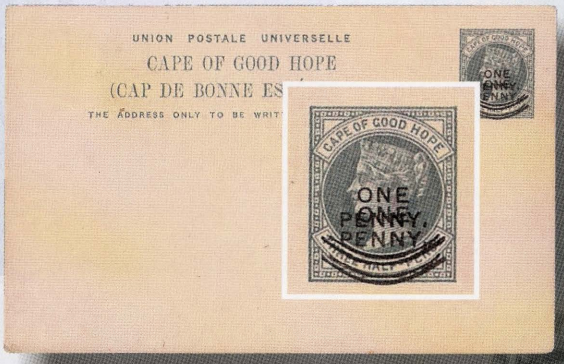
BASUTOLAND: 1899 Cape postcard written from SEBAPALA. Franked 1d tied 210 BONC. Colourful, superb. £450



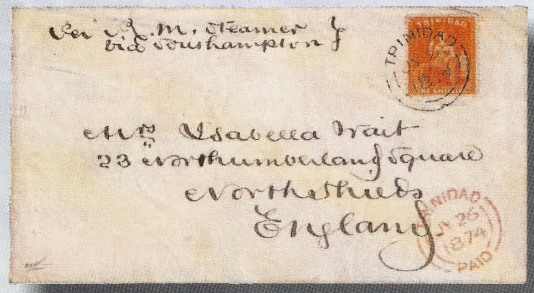
BOER WAR: 1902 Cover
"CENSORS OFFICE BELLARY" £485



SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wonderful Soldier's envelope. Owikokorero Wanderstempel. £325



CAPE: 1897 QV 1d Postcard OVERPRINT DOUBLE. £485



TRINIDAD: 1874 Envelope to England franked 1/- chrome-yellow. Fresh & attractive. Cert: BPA. £350



TRANSVAAL: 1880 COMBINATION FRANKING LETTER to Scotland Rare, most attractive. £1500

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The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE
www.philatelysa.co.za

October 2008 Vol 84 No 5 Whole No 890

• Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
• Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
• Vermeil APS Stampshow1999,
• Large Silver Egoli 2001,
• Federation Plaque 2004,
• Silver España'06 Literature Award 2006.
• Large Silver 10th NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhib 2007.

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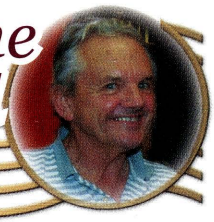
From the Editorial desk



During 2007, I moved from the relatively vibrant district of Johannesburg to an area about which I had held the preconceived expectation of being a philatelic backwater. It is in fact so quiet here in the suburb of Wilderness where I live that they disbanded the block-watch some years back because there was simply not enough crime in the area! Imagine my surprise therefore, when, on opening the *George Herald*, the local weekly newspaper, I came across a full-page article on the "Post Office" Mauritius issues of 1847. Of less of a surprise was the fact that the author turned out to be our old friend Pauw Steyl but not, for a change, talking about his beloved postal history of George but about one of the truly classic issues of all time. Pauw himself repeated the description of the almost certainly unique cover to Bordeaux bearing both the 1d orange-red and the 2d deep blue as being the "Crown Jewel of all Philately". In my position as Honorary Editor, I wondered if I should have been jealous that such an interesting article had appeared in a provincial newspaper rather than the national journal but, on reflection, I came to the conclusion that it might well do more to generate interest in the hobby through the pages of the *Herald* than through those of the *SAPhilatelist*.

Much has been written about those first two stamps of Mauritius. In my copy of "*Blue Mauritius*", a recent publication written by Helen Morgan, the author lists more than seven pages of bibliography, so it is not surprising that some of the facts regarding the twenty-seven known copies of the two stamps are in dispute. Pauw mentions that a copy of the 1d red, described incidentally, as being heavily cancelled, cut close and with a small repaired tear, was auctioned by Stanley Gibbons in 1976 for £50 000 to a collector from Liechtenstein. On first reading, I had wondered if that wasn't a mistake for the famous collector, Alfred Lichtenstein. But no, he had died in 1947. Helen Morgan agrees with the date of the sale and the price realised but states that it was purchased by a Belgian banker, René Berlingin, who bought it as a wedding present for his daughter, Myriam. That might sound a trifle eccentric until you read on and discover that the same stamp was auctioned in 1977 for 330 000DM, the equivalent of £76 726. Not a bad investment! I don't know how kindly either of my daughters would take to a wedding gift consisting of one of my stamps.

The Blue Mauritius has been described as the World's most desirable stamp. This is obviously not based on design alone where preference would surely be given to such issues as the 1d Black and the Canadian "Bluenose", or to rarity where the likes of the British Guiana 1-cent black on magenta and Sweden's 1-skilling banco error of colour would surely take precedence. No. Where the Mauritius Blue scores is, firstly, on its pedigree with every known copy having its own individual "biography" and, secondly, on the charisma that has provided the material for so much literature. If you were asked to nominate the greatest Southern African or even African stamp of all time, what would be your choice?

I was given the privilege recently by the University of the Third Age (U3A) in George of delivering an illustrated talk on "*The World at War as seen through Stamps and Postal History*". This was surprisingly well received by an enthusiastic audience of, predominantly, "more mature years" and generated a fair amount of animated discussion. In making mention of the attitude towards philately of both the *George Herald* and the U3A, I hope that I will have gone some way towards answering the plea from Tzaneen that appeared in the June edition of this journal; what is being done regarding the promotion of the hobby in the rural districts of our country?

Chris Mobsby.

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February issue	Vol. 85: 1.	892 : 13 January 2009
April issue	Vol. 85: 2.	893 : 17 March 2009
June issue	Vol. 85: 3.	894 : 14 May 2009
August issue	Vol. 85: 4.	895 : 15 July 2009

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FUTURE EVENTS - EXHIBITIONS

OCTOBER 2008

Jakarta 2008
23 - 28 October 2008
22nd Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Jakarta
Commissioner: Neville Polakow RDPSA
Contact Number: 082 968 9213
SA Jurors: Howard Green RDPSA; Neville Polakow RDPSA and Neil Cronje (Apprentice Juror)
Entries Closed

OCTOBER 2008

Stampshow 2008
Pretoria
23 - 25 October 2008

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

Rhodesia Study Circle
31 October - 3 November 2008
Cape Town - Diamond Jubilee Celebration
Contact: Dave Morton
email: dmorton@mweb.co.za

APRIL 2009

China 2009
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition
Luoyang 10 - 16 April 2009
Commissioner: Emil Minnaar
email: emil@minnaar.org
Entries Closed

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2009

Hong Kong 2009
23rd Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Hong Kong
14 - 17 May 2009
Commissioner: Patrick Flanagan
email: pflan@mweb.co.za
SA Jurors: Patrick Flanagan (Apprentice Juror)
Entries Closed

JULY / AUGUST 2009

Philakorea 2009
24th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Seoul
30 July - 4 August 2009
Commissioner: Howard Green RDPSA
email: Howard.Green@swelco.co.za
SA Jurors: Howard Green RDPSA Neil Cronje (Apprentice Juror)

OCTOBER 2009

Italy 2009
FEPA International Stamp Exhibition (FIP) Recognition
Rome
21 - 25 October 2009
Commissioner: Richard Johnson RDPSA
email: RJ@johnson.co.za

MAY 2010

London 2010
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition, London
8 - 15 May 2010
Commissioner: Peter van der Molen RDPSA
email: molens@pixie.co.za

OCTOBER 2010

Lisbon 2010
FIP International World Stamp Exhibition, Lisbon
1 - 10 October 2010
Commissioner: Andrew Fischer
email: andrewf@fischerassociates.co.za

OCTOBER 2010

Joburg 2010
25th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Johannesburg
27 - 31 October 2010
Commissioner General: Patrick Flanagan
email: pflan@mweb.co.za
email: info@joburg2010stampshow.co.za
website http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za

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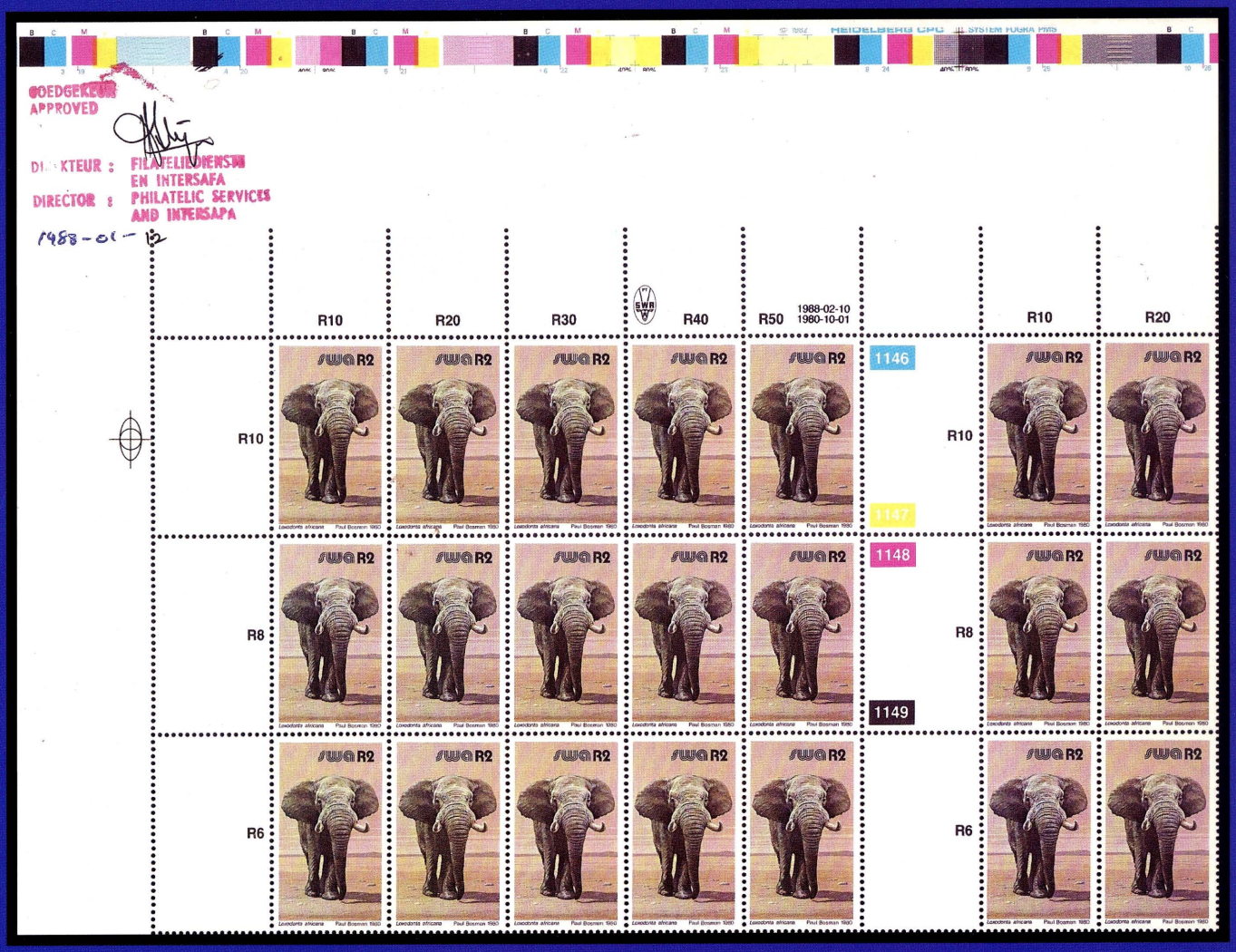

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From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus

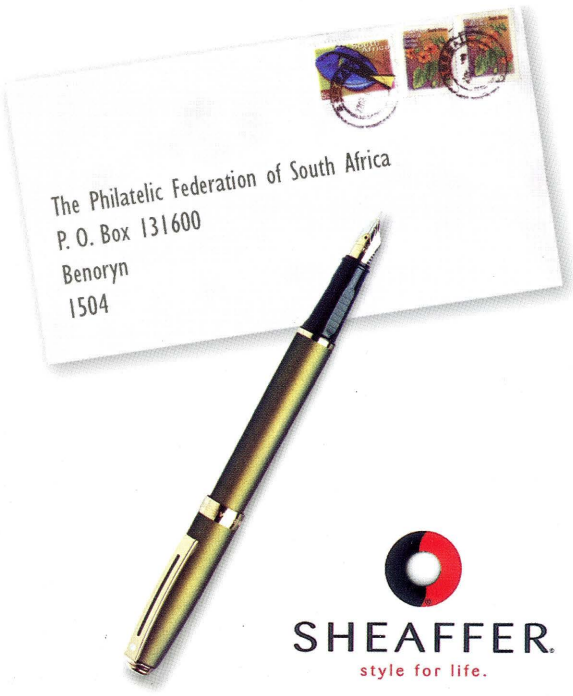


Comment's on Kaokoveld

The Editor

I have read the article on the early history of the postal service in the Kaokoveld (latest edition of *SA Philatelist*) with much interest.
It is well constructed and suitably illustrated. . . and in Afrikaans, nogal! Hopefully Afrikaans will feature more prominently in future editions.
G van Eeden. P O Box 72222. Lynnwood Ridge. 0041

Dear Madam,
I read with interest the above article, only it is a pity it is not also in English as there are without doubt members and even non-members who would be interested in reading about this rather "barren" part of SWA.
I spent my teenage years in Kimberley, and came to love it and the Karroo.
Regards,
Father MNW.Edwards.



Who cares?

Dear Editor

During last year's Congress in PE I raised the issue of the SAPO website with the Philatelic Services representative after he had given his report/speech.
I mentioned that the website had not been up for some time and that no current SA stamps could be viewed. He assured us that according to his information the website was up and running. As I had only checked the website one week earlier I gave him the benefit of the doubt. Silly me. After Congress I checked the website again, and still no stamps available. If the Philatelic Services representative had done the same he would have come to the same conclusion, and maybe have done something about it. He did neither. We were all bamboozled.
It's now one year later and once again, Congress is around the corner. The SAPO website still does not show any 2008 stamps or its issuing program; neither can the stamps be ordered by overseas or local collectors.
Last year our beloved minister in charge of the Post Office was lambasted in the national press for approving the 2007 issuing program extremely late, finally resulting in the embarrassing compression of one year's stamps being issued in a single semester.
Many of my overseas contacts ask me why they cannot view any current stamp issues from South Africa on the SAPO website. One of them has given up his collection of SA miniature sheets as he doesn't know what they look like and he cannot order them electronically either.
It's embarrassing and I've run out of excuses.
We have issued two beautiful s/s with Mandela on it and we don't tell the world. We will soon issue a 2010 World Cup Soccer stamp. However, we fail to inform the outside world of soccer fans and stamp lovers because we keep the window to the outside world firmly closed and locked.
It's embarrassing to me (who cares). It's embarrassing to Philatelic Services (who cares). It's embarrassing to all of us. It's embarrassing to South Africa! Who cares?

Wobbe Vegter

Long-time member of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society - Can any Reader Help?

Sir -

Please be kind enough to send me the e-mail address of Peter Walsh of T.G. BARNES PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS, if you have it, or if you may know where I may find this address. I have tried other avenues to find this e-mail address, without success.
I would also report the death of my father, Mr Barney Bloom, of Sea Point, Cape Town, at the age of 96 years, on 12th July 2008.

My father, a Pharmacist, was a long-time member of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society until the early 1970s, when he moved back to Cape Town and became an enthusiastic member of the Royal. Starting with SETPEX in P.E. in 1970, and ending with 'Johannesburg100' in 1986, he exhibited and won awards for his postal history collection of early Nyasaland, and was also very keen on the early Union issues of South Africa, GB, Cyprus, Malta, and Gibraltar, among others.

Before I emigrated to the USA in 1987, I belonged to these same two Philatelic Societies, as well as Natal (1972-73), and won a silver-gilt for Pitcairn Postal History at 'Johannesburg100', and contributed an article to *SA Philatelist* in 1984 on the cruise ship *Astor*, which visited Tristan da Cunha.

Thank you, in anticipation,
Wilfred Bloom
11680 E. SAHUARO DRIVE, UNIT #1054. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85259. U. S. A.

Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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Once Again Philatelic Item Spoilt



Dear Sirs

I have recently received an incoming registered letter from a fellow Polish stamp collector. As usual he has taken the trouble to put stamps on the letter and make it interesting.

As usual the SA Customs attached to the SA Post Office have taken the trouble to destroy any philatelic interest the letter might have. Please see the attached scan. This is not the first time the value of incoming letters has been destroyed like this and I have also had letters from a fellow collector in Namibia treated in a similar manner.

The local incoming registered sticker has not been used by the post office, and as far as I can see serves no purpose whatsoever. The back of the envelope is totally empty and the sticker could easily have been put on the back.

Are the staff who are responsible for this process untrained? Are they incompetent or uninterested? Or are they doing it deliberately? I would have thought the post office staff should be aware that letters like this have some philatelic interest.

Graham Burrows. gburrows@iafrica.com
sabirdstamps.com

NEW

Lydenburg book coming soon

The fourth and last book in the Philatelic Federation's series on the Anglo-Boer War 'town stamps' made by British officers in various Transvaal towns, *The Legacy of Lydenburg*, will be published early in 2009.

Already published are books on the local stamp issues of *Rustenburg*, *Schweizer-Reneke* and *Wolmaransstad*. The series is an initiative of the Federation, started upon the centenary of the Anglo-Boer War in 1999.

These books have all been praised in philatelic journals internationally, with reviewers time and again congratulating the authors.

"These Anglo-Boer War stamps have been around for a 100 years", says Harry Birkhead, co-author. "They have been listed in catalogues, offered in auctions, and collected by three generations of philatelists. Yet the real stories about the wartime town issues have never before come out."

He says the 'real story' of the Lydenburg stamp issue is due to surprise many collectors.

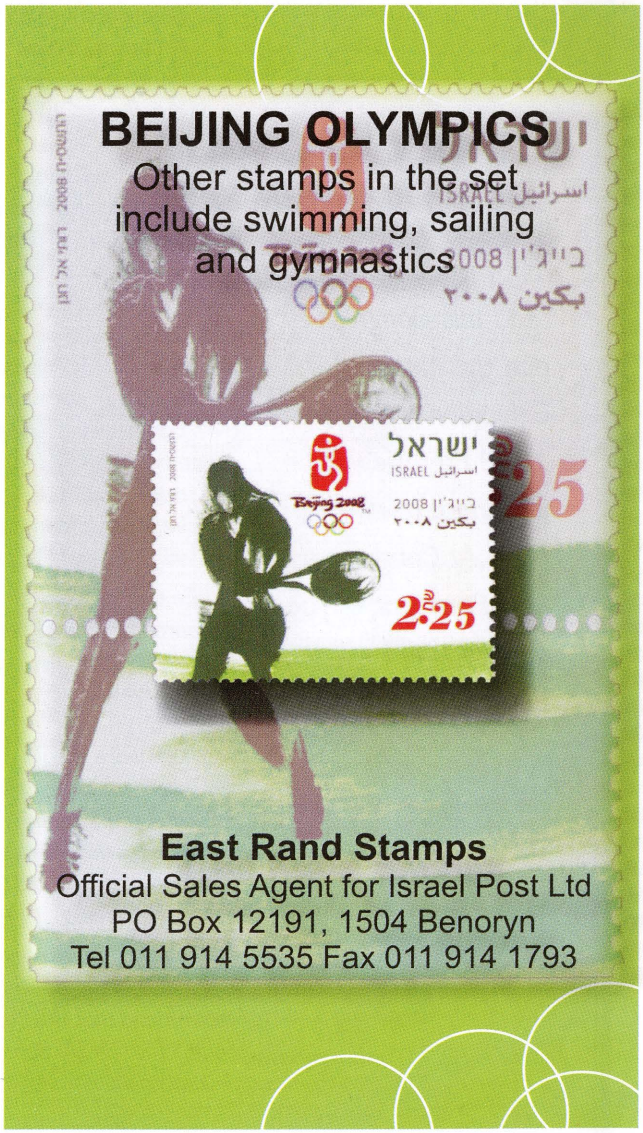
Information about the scope of the Lydenburg book is given in a leaflet included as an insert with this issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

Worth making a Note of:

Sandton Stamp fair:
11 October, 8 November, 13 December.
(Several charity lots for Hospice, Meals on Wheels and several people from Zimbabwe, Bulawayo district.

Boksburg Stamp fair:
25 October, 29 November.

The contact details JOBURG 2010
email: info@joburg2010stampshow.co.za
website http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za



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President's Column

"As the sand in the hour glass….." all things come to an end. And when one is having fun it happens so much quicker, or at least it appears to be the case. This is the swansong of my President's column, as by the time you read this Congress and the National Exhibition Stampshow 2008 Pretoria will be imminent or already past. At Congress a new President will be elected, and I will step down.

I would like to reinforce what I stated in my first column in *SAP* November 2007. Organized philately in South Africa is sound and operates as a well-oiled machine. The many volunteers are performing a marvelous job, and deserve our full support and heartfelt thanks. This is in contrast with many other instances where volunteer support has dried up and the membership is then required to develop a commercial venture to provide the necessary services. On a recent visit to Canada I was astounded to hear that for the next Winter Olympics in 2010 they are able to involve 23 000 volunteers who do it for free!! One thus does not always have to be mercenary, as our exciting hobby so clearly demonstrates. With the readily available electronic resources and communication, we find it easier to communicate, but also more time-consuming. Foresight specialists have predicted that in future those people wishing to make an effort and input will be the volunteers, and distance will no longer be a limitation; therefore ensure that you are connected to be able to be heard.

In my previous Column I mentioned the aggressive society that we live in. One element is the criminality. On a daily basis we experience the results of cable theft, whether it is an inability to telephone, power outages or traffic lights that do not function. Unfortunately criminality is not limited to depletion of our infrastructure. It also is much closer to home when it comes to our philatelic heritage and our own collections. It seems as if organized crime is targeting every avenue where they can make money. Fences are willing to receive misappropriated material. So how can we play a part in combating this evil?

1. Be sure of the origin of material that you are purchasing, particularly if it is out of the ordinary.

2. Document your collection, by photographic means, or even better digitally, so that there is visual evidence should something happen to the collection. It has a further benefit that your collection could be enjoyed by many on one of the websites that display collections, even after you have disassembled it.

3. Report loss of philatelic material immediately. Procrastination simply gives the criminals time to do what they like. I wish to recommend that the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA) develop a section on the Federation website www.philatelysa.co.za to serve as a notice board for material that was misappropriated, and also provide images. It could link to similar sites internationally. This will hopefully prevent philatelists from burning their fingers, and limit the market for misappropriated philatelic material.

And lastly as a parting challenge I would also like to invite you all to join us in Pretoria from 23 to 25 October 2008 for Stampshow 2008. It is not for nothing that poets are lyrical about October, and Pretoria at that time of the year is a feast of colour with the jacarandas in full bloom. Similarly, it will be a philatelic feast, as reported elsewhere in this SAP.

To remind you of the challenges, I am continuing with the checklist by adding to it. I trust that you are working on them, and I would love to hear whether these challenges propelled you to action or otherwise (alex.visser@up.ac.za):

1. ***Write a letter, and repeat it regularly;***
2. ***Share your special collecting interest with a wider audience;***
3. ***Make a commitment towards organized philately;***
4. ***Document your philatelic knowledge and experience;***
5. ***Enter into the debate on how National Exhibitions are run;***
6. ***Use a gentle tongue;***
7. ***Assist in combating philatelic crime; and***
8. ***Join us in Pretoria for a philatelic feast, Stampshow 2008.***

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President in 2007/8. It was an unforgettable experience, and something that every one of you should also have the opportunity to enjoy.



Alex Visser

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New South African Stamp Issues - 2008 - Part III

- by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

4 July 2008 – ICE 2008 Entomology Conference.

In addition to the stamp issue there was also a postcard featuring an imprinted stamp of the same size and design on the address side and an enlarged reproduction of the stamp on the picture side. This card was printed by C.P.D. and 2000 were ordered.



1 August 2008 – South African Big 5 of Birds.

Denomination: 5 x International Airmail Small Letter Rate (R4.90).
Designer: Chris van Rooyen depicting the Southern Ground-Hornbill, Kori Bustard, Common Ostrich, Blue Crane and Bearded Vulture, in that order in a *se tenant* strip.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Vertical format of size 29 x 37.5mm.
Sheetlet size: 164 x 128 mm comprising two strips one above the other.
Perforation: 13.1 horizontal x 13.6 vertical, extending through bottom and side selvedges.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands on left and bottom margins of each stamp in 'L.' shape.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: 710351, 710352, 710353 and 710354.
Printing sheet size: 460 x 620mm comprising 8 sheetlets arranged in 4 rows of 2.
Quantity: 100 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.133, in standard size (189 x 102mm), of which 5 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.118, OUDTSHOORN – 01.08.2008.

22 August 2008 – Namaqualand Flowers.

Denomination: 10 x Airmail Postcard (R4.20).
Designer: Denis Murphy, depicting flower petals and scenes of Namaqualand.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Horizontal format of size 52 x 34mm separated by roulettes. Each individual stamp diecut 44 (maximum) x 23mm, following the shape of the flower at left and centralized within the roulettes.
Sheetlet size: 134 x 200mm comprising ten different designs arranged in 5 rows of 2
Separation: By roulettes, 6.5 per 20mm, extending through bottom and side selvedges and through the backing paper
Phosphor: 4mm green bands on right and bottom margins of each stamp.
Paper/gum: Self adhesive with backing paper. Each stamp has a fragrance in the paper coating.
Cylinder numbers: 710355, 710356, 710357 and 710358.
Printing sheet size: 470 x 640 mm containing 9 sheetlets arranged in 3 rows of 3.
Quantity: 50 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative covers: Nos. 7.134 and 7.135, both in standard size (189 x 102mm) and of which 5 000 of each were produced. Stamps 1,2,3,4 and 5 are affixed to cover 7.134 and stamps 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are affixed to cover 7.135.
Canceller: No. 7.119, SPRINGBOK – 22.08.2008.
Postal Stationery: This stamp issue was accompanied by a set of ten postcards each with one of the stamp designs imprinted on the address side and a large reproduction of the same stamp on the picture side. 2000 sets of 10 were printed by C.P.D. and sold at R50.00 per set.

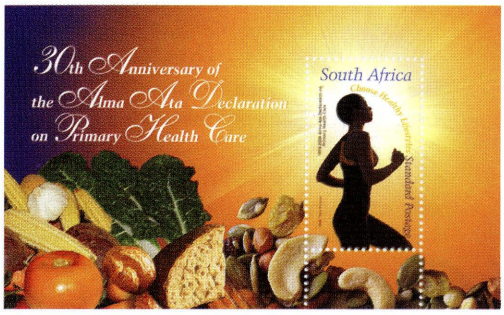


5 September 2008 – 2010 Fifa World Cup South Africa.

Denomination: Airmail Southern Africa Small Letter (R3.70).
Designer: Jerry Lion.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Miniature sheet of size 105 x 65 mm incorporating a vertical format stamp



of size 29 x 37.5 mm.
Perforation: 13.1 x 13.6, extending vertically to bottom margin of miniature sheet.
Gum: PVA.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands at left and bottom margins of the stamp in 'L' shape.
Cylinder numbers: none.
Printing sheet size: 437 x 620 mm comprising 21 miniature sheets arranged in 7 rows of 3.
Quantity: 60 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.136 in standard size of which 4 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.120, ORLANDO - 05.09.2008.



6 September 2008 – 30th Anniversary of Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care *(Additional issue to original stamp issue programme).*

The Declaration of Alma-Ata was adopted at the International Conference on Primary Health Care, held at Almaty (formerly Alma-Ata), in Kazakhstan, from 6-12 September 1978. It expressed the need for urgent action by all governments, all health and development workers, and the world community to protect and promote the health of all the people of the world.

Denomination: Standard postage (R2.05).
Designer: Thea Clemons.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm incorporating a vertical format stamp of size 24 x 39mm.
Perforation: 13.1 x 13.7, extending vertically to bottom margin of miniature sheet.
Gum: PVA.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands at top and right margins of the stamp.
Cylinder numbers: none.
Printing sheet size: 420 x 620mm comprising 21 miniature sheets arranged in 7 rows of 3.
Quantity: 50 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.141 in standard size of which 4 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.126, Kagiso - 06.09.2008.

Acknowledgement: The above stamp information was collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria.

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A Post Office for Zuurbraak

- by ds Pauw Steyl, Orange Free State Philatelic Society.

The historian, Dr Cyril Hromnik wrote an interesting article, *A Place called Paradise*, in The Argus of 10 May 1995 about Zuurbraak "one of the Western Cape's most beautiful villages" and stated "The people of Suurbraak need to know as much as they can about their recent and more distant past." As a postal historian, I hope that *A Post Office for Zuurbraak* will help broaden the knowledge of the people of Suurbraak about the history of their beautiful village.

The picturesque village of Zuurbraak is situated about 18 kilometers east of Swellendam at the southern entrance of the Tradouw Pass along the foothills of the Langeberg Mountains. As early as the 1600s, the Attaqua Quena, a trading people, lived in the Zuurbraak area. Beads, dagga, copper, crystal and cattle were the main articles of their barter. Van Riebeeck's first contact with the Attaquas was made by Hieronymus Cruse in 1667. At first, the Attaqua trade proved very profitable, but it suffered severe setbacks when the Dutch Colony was expanded over the Hottentots Holland Mountains.

In 1729, the Dutch East India Company (VOC) established their easternmost cattle outpost on the farm Rooipoort, later named Riet Valley, about 3 kilometres west of Zuurbraak and one kilometre south of the Buffeljagts River. The cattle were transferred from the outpost 't Land van Waveren (Tulbagh). It was not before 1734 that the Riet Valley outpost became independent when J. Grommet was appointed as the postholder. Remnants of the Attaqua people lived in the area that today is known as Suurbraak but in those days, they called it Xairu, *the Beautiful or Paradise*. The name Zuurbraak (later Suurbraak) is derived from the following words: Zuur, Suur = sour, braak = brake or underwood.

In about 1810, the Attaqua captain at Zuurbraak, Hans Moos, invited the London Missionary Society to establish a mission station at his kraal. The invitation was accepted and the first missionary was Johannes Seidenfaden*, who had first worked in Namaqualand and later at the Kamiesberg. In 1809, he went to the Pella Mission, but after the mission station was destroyed by the Hottentots of Jager Afrikaner, Seidenfaden arrived in Zuurbraak, where his ministry lasted from 1812 to 1825. The mission was named after Governor Caledon and became known as the Caledon Institute.



Dutch East India Company (VOC)'s outpost Riet Valley near Swellendam, established in 1734 about 3 kms west of Zuurbraak.
Courtesy: Drostdy Archives, Swellendam

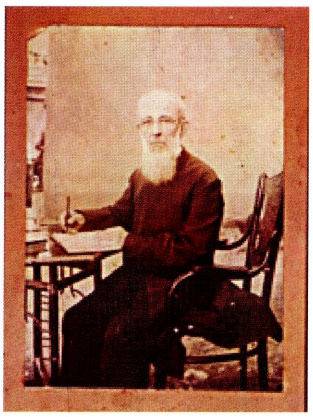
From the research done by Hromnik, it appears as if Seidenfaden's mission work was blessed and that he had been a true missionary. Hromnik writes "In May 1815, Seidenfaden reported that in the course of that year alone he baptised 20 adult Quena. His daily evening preaching was attended by more than 200 hearers while his Sunday service attracted as many as 300 to 400 people. About 40 or 50 pupils (of all ages) attended his school, some of them already able to "read well in the Bible." Apparently, the kraal was quite populous, inhabited by intelligent and cultural rich Attaqua people."

However, for some or other reason, the London Missionary Society, especially Superintendent Dr John Philip, was not satisfied with Seidenfaden and in 1821, Philip lodged a complaint of misconduct against Seidenfaden.

Nevertheless, it was not that easy to dispense with his services. The London Missionary Society had experienced many problems in this regard with the Cape Government and it was not before 1825 that Seidenfaden left the Caledon Institute.

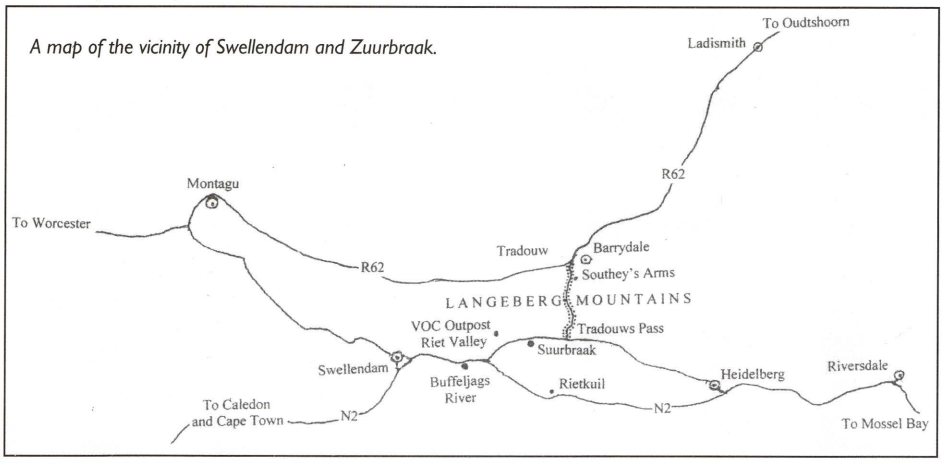
From 1827 to 1874, the Zuurbraak community was served by three generations of the well-known Helm mission family: Reverend Heinrich Carl Helm was the minister at Zuurbraak from 1827 until his death in 1848. He was succeeded by his son Reverend Daniël Johannes Helm who held office from 1848 until 1873. He, in turn, was also succeeded by a son, Reverend Charles Helm, who only served for one year before moving on to the Hope Fountain Mission in Bulawayo, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

When the London Missionary Society terminated its work in South Africa, the Dutch Reformed Church took over from them. In 1874, the Zuurbraak congregation decided in principle to accept the Dutch Reformed Church as the denomination of choice, with the actual change taking place on 8 April 1875. Reverend P A Karemacher was appointed as the first Dutch Reformed minister and served the congregation from 1875 to 1876.



Rev. J C Pauw, second minister of the Dutch Reformed Church at Zuurbraak (1877-1879

On 21 February 1877, Zuurbraak's second Dutch Reformed minister, Reverend Jacobus Cornelius Pauw, was installed. He was the author's great grandfather. Therefore, I am to a certain extent linked to Zuurbraak and this is the reason for my interest and research in connection with the postal development of this beautiful village. He was the ancestor of the Pauw family in South Africa. In 1879, he moved to Wellington where he later played an important role in the establishment of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church, today called the United Reformed Church of Southern Africa.



A map of the vicinity of Swellendam and Zuurbraak.

* *Some historians spelt his surname Ziedenfaden or Siedenfaden.*

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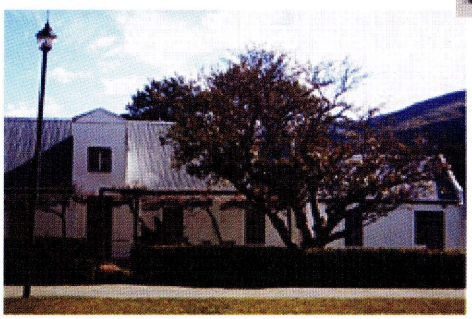
POSTAL DEVELOPMENT AT ZUURBRAAK

The establishment of a kraal for the Attaqua people, the introduction of Christianity and church activities, the influx of people into the Zuurbraak area, as well as the development of Tradouw (Barrydale), were some of the main reasons that a need for postal facilities at Zuurbraak arose.

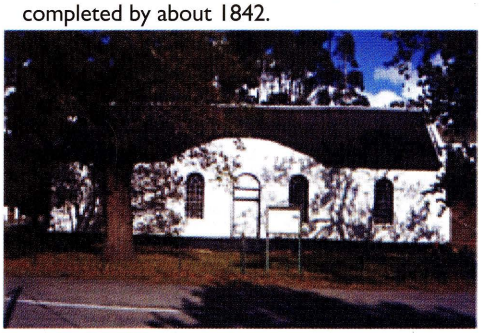
ZUURBRAAK'S ARCHITECTURE



Fortunately, some of Zuurbraak's dwelling houses survived the test of time. Historic houses were restored by the people themselves, with assistance from the Swellendam Trust and the Plate Glass Foundation.



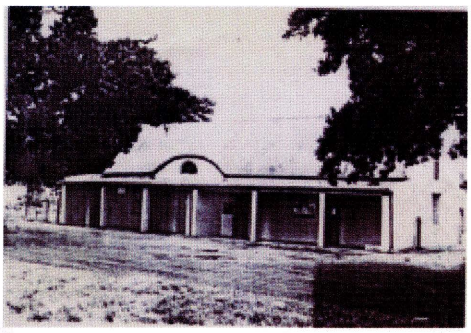
Parsonage of the URC Church of Southern Africa. Before it was built, the builders did their home work. They went to Tulbagh to have look at the manse there. They started building the house in c.1838 and by building it in phases Zuurbraak's parsonage was completed by about 1842.



1835 – During the ministry of Rev. Heinrich Carl Helm the church building of Zuurbraak was erected. This building (top centre column) was built by the middle of the 19th century and features the well known 'wolfneus-gewel' (jerkin head). It was restored to its ancient glory. The thatched roof was, however, replaced by a corrugated roof. Today it houses the Tourism Office.



Below, the same building prior to restoration. It housed from left to right the Post Office, Office for the Registration of Births and Deaths and the Managing Board.



During my research, I found there was a close link between the establishment of the postal agencies at Southey's Arms near Tradouw, and Zuurbraak. In fact, the information about the establishment of Zuurbraak's postal agency is sparser than information about Southey's Arms postal agency. As early as 1826 the postal route between Cape Town and Uitenhage included Zuurbraak. The first stage between Swellendam and George on this route reads:

"Swellendam to Moodie's via John du Brei, Zuurbraak, Grootvadersbosch – 6 hours on horseback."

Although Zuurbraak was on the postal route, no archival evidence could be found of any postal activities occurring there. The least one could expect was that Zuurbraak had been a postal station where fresh horses were exchanged. The old postal routes of 1803, 1810 and 1826 mainly followed the route of the old wagon road along the foothills of the Langeberg Mountains to facilitate the passage of the numerous big rivers. Nearer to the sea, it was more difficult to cross the rivers.

After the establishment of Riversdale in 1839, the postal route changed to a more direct line between Swellendam and Riversdale. On this route the Post Office Rietkuil, a few miles south of Zuurbraak, opened on 1 April 1846, when Mr. B Richter was appointed as the deputy-postmaster. Positive evidence exists that some of the people of Zuurbraak had used the Rietkuil Post Office for their postal business.

The growth of Zuurbraak and the uncertainty of the sustained existence of the Rietkuil Post Office, made things difficult for the people of Zuurbraak. By 1848, the farm was sold and the post office closed down for about six years. The new owner of Rietkuil, JAW Munnik, started a campaign for the re-opening of the post office. In a letter of 6 June 1854, he stated the following:

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

When Munnik wrote in his letter ("those residing on the braak") he was referring to the people of Zuurbraak. Munnik was successful and he became the new deputy-postmaster on 17 June 1854. He was succeeded by Mr. A P B van Niekerk on 15 October 1855. All these uncertain circumstances forced the inhabitants of Zuurbraak and surroundings to start campaigning for postal communication between Swellendam and Zuurbraak.

On 20 September 1862, D Moodie and W Shaw and 11 petitioners submitted a memorandum to the Postmaster General (PMG), to complain about the lack of postal communications between Swellendam and Zuurbraak, although at the time about 2000 inhabitants were living at Zuurbraak and the Periodical Court had its head office there. They further wrote that a postal service between Swellendam and Zuurbraak could also serve the Field Cornet's post to Tradouw (Barrydale). The PMG referred the memorandum to Civil Commissioner Coert Van Reede Van Oudtshoorn of Swellendam on 25 October 1862 for his comments. On 7 November 1862, the Civil Commissioner replied that he agreed with the plea for the establishment of a postal communication between Swellendam and Zuurbraak. He wrote:

"It is quite feasible to comply with the memorandum of the inhabitants of Zuurbraak and its environs and that in my opinion postal communication is necessary between the two places. The post could be conveyed either by horse or by foot at £2 per month with one post to Port Beaufort instead of two, which I am considering quite unnecessary."

On 5 December 1862, the Civil Commissioner of Swellendam informed the PMG that Zuurbraak was about 15 miles from Swellendam and that the Field Cornet of Tradouw would have no problem fetching his post at Zuurbraak instead of at Swellendam. In fact, a twenty-five percent saving could be achieved on the field-cornet's post.

In answer to a further letter of the PMG of 6 December 1862, the Civil Commissioner of Swellendam replied on 17 December 1862:

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"I have the honor to state that your proposition "that a post should branch off from Rietkuil to Zuurbraak" would be desirable but unfortunately the Post Office Agency at Rietkuil has been abolished ever since January 1860 and unless the same be re-established I do not see how this plan could be carried out. I have written to Mr. Van Niekerk (the last postal agent at Rietkuil) to ascertain whether he is inclined to undertake this duty with a salary of £6 per annum as proposed by you and as soon as I shall have received his reply I shall forward the same for your consideration."

On 5 January 1863, the Civil Commissioner notified the PMG that Mr. Van Niekerk of Rietkuil had agreed to be re-appointed as post office agent at Rietkuil with a salary of £6 per annum.

Postmaster Chamberlain of Swellendam wrote to the PMG on 23 January 1863 that postal communication between Swellendam and Zuurbraak was desirable but it had to be an inexpensive and regular service and that Rietkuil was perhaps a suitable postal agency that might fulfil the need. However, postal communication between Rietkuil and Zuurbraak would not benefit the inhabitants of Zuurbraak and the surroundings of Tradouw and Grootvadersbosch. To strengthen his viewpoint, he told the PMG that at Rietkuil, there had been in bygone days, a postal agency. Only one newspaper was dropped there weekly by the postcart during the whole period of its existence.

Chamberlain made an alternative proposition to find a person who was prepared to convey the mail once a week between Swellendam and Zuurbraak, both ways, at £15 per annum. The post would leave Zuurbraak for Swellendam on a Tuesday and returned to Zuurbraak on Saturdays. The person was also prepared to convey the post for a trial period of four months. If the government would agree with the £15 per annum, the person would be officially appointed as post contractor between Zuurbraak and Swellendam. The author could not find any archival evidence that the government had accepted postmaster Chamberlain's plan.

On 12 March 1863, the office of the PMG made another enquiry to Civil Commissioner Van Reede Van Oudtshoorn concerning a possible postal communication between Rietkuil and Zuurbraak. The Civil Commissioner replied that a coloured man, Anton Louw, had offered to convey the mail twice a week on horseback from Rietkuil to Zuurbraak at a cost of £1-10/- per month (£18 per annum). Again, the author could find no archival evidence that an official postal communication between Rietkuil and Zuurbraak was ever introduced.

The PMG made an enquiry about the renewal of the surety for the salary of Mr. Albertus Petrus Bernardus van Niekerk, the Post Office Agent at Rietkuil. On appointment, a postmaster/postal agent had to submit a surety of £20, signed by him and his two sureties, as assurance for his salary. The surety had to be renewed every few years. The Civil Commissioner of Swellendam informed the PMG that, seeing as the post office agency at Rietkuil had been abolished a number of years previously, no surety had thus to be renewed.

On 15 May 1874, Postmaster Duff of Swellendam replied to a query of the PMG. Duff also included a rough sketch by Thomas Bain "which shows the line of route and the distances thereon which the Division Council of Swellendam recently moved the Colonial Secretary to adopt for the conveyance of the mails between this and Prince Albert.

You will observe that Mr. Bain goes further and contemplates the use of this route as far as Beaufort. He sketched the old routes and in explanation of his recommendation he adds in a note which accompanied his sketch, "I hope Mr Aitchison will see how necessary and economical it will be to convey the post to Beaufort at least once a week through proposed routes especially now as the Ceres post to Beaufort is about to be abandoned due to the break up of the Ceres Company". I would bring to your notice that it would offer an excellent opportunity for establishing a post office agency at Zuurbraak, a thickly peopled neighbourhood where the want of such a convenience has long been felt." At first, nothing came of postmaster Duff's thoughts, but then on 26 February 1876, Mr J Barry wrote a letter to Civil Commissioner Thomas Tilney of Swellendam in connection with the possible establishment of a postal agency.

"I am aware that a post office agency at Southey's Arms, Tradouw at the entrance of Southey's Pass would be a very great convenience to the public in general. Mr. Human is willing to accept the agency gratuitously. Will you please recommend the appointment?"

On the same day (26 February 1876), the Civil Commissioner wrote to the PMG in Cape Town.

"I beg to enclose you a letter from Mr J J Barry on the opening of a post office agency at Southey's Arms, Tradouw. Although the letter is from Mr. Barry, I am aware that it conveys the general interests of the surrounding inhabitants living close to the Zuurbraak and most convenient for the farmers residing behind the mountains in Tradouw ward where no convenience of this kind exists. The Field-cornet post passes Southey Arms on its way to Field-cornet Haarhoff, Tradouw and will be carried by the present contractor, Mr Barry, at the rate arranged for viz. £4 per month (1/3/76)."

The Post Office Agency Southey's Arms was established early in March 1876. Mr. L C Human was appointed as the first post office agent. He resigned in July 1876 and Civil Commissioner Tilney recommended Mr. Philip Rudolph Fourie in his stead on 11 July 1876.

On 18 June 1878, a Mr J A Solms of Swellendam wrote the following letter to the PMG in Cape Town.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that I am now the occupant of "Southey's Arms". I am at present doing the duties of Mr P R Fourie, as Postmaster of this place, who promised to resign in my favour. He must have neglected doing so because I have not yet received my appointment. I am general dealer here and also beg to receive your authority to vend postage stamps."

Fourie had resigned on 27 June 1878. Acting Civil Commissioner G B Blackhall informed Solms of his appointment in a letter dated 9 July 1878.

Sir,

I beg to acquaint you that his Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint you as Post Office Agent at Southey's Pass in this Division in the room of Mr. P R Fourie (who) resigned from the date of your entering into your duties."

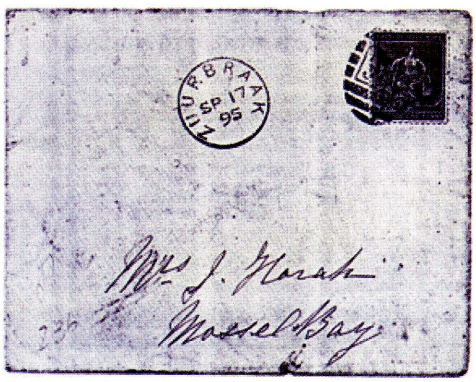
On 25 July 1878, Solms sent a list to the PMG of the office equipment, which he had received from Fourie:

1 letter balance
1 stamp for defacing (no date stamp)
1 pad or cushion
1 waybill book

He also asked for some 1d and 4d postage stamps.

On 21 January 1879, Civil Commissioner Tilney wrote as follows to the PMG:

"In terms of Colonial Official Circular No 5 of 1878, I beg to transmit to you herewith enclosed for your consideration and subsequent publication in the Government Gazette my draft advertisement calling for tenders for the conveyance of a post to the residences of Fd Cornets Van As and Haasbroek via Zuurbraak and Southey's Pass." (To me this advertisement is archival proof that by 1879 Zuurbraak formed part of an official postal route in the Division of Swellendam.)



17 September 1895 – Letter envelope posted from Zuurbraak to Mossel Bay, showing the Zuurbraak SC datestamp used with BONC 236 allotted to the Zuurbraak Post Office.

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18 December 1946 – Postcard with seasonal greetings from A.C. Wessels, Private Bag, Southey's Arms, P.O. Zuurbraak. datestamp.

By March 1880, the post office agency at Southey's Arms no longer had a postal agent, with the result that postal services came to a standstill. The following letter ended up on the desk of Mr. Morgenrood, Swellendam's Postmaster. It read:

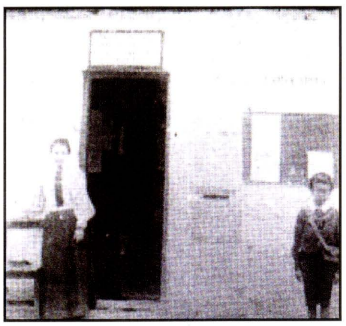
"Southey's Arms, 2 March 1880
Sir,
Your letter of the 23rd get to hand. Mr. P R Fourie told me that he receives a packet from Swellendam once a week containing his papers. But I understand he is not a post office agent, so I thought in case he is not a post office agent, I would not mind being one here. But I believe that Mr. Fourie does not like to be one and as it is rather difficult to post letters here without being a post office we could not put letters in the return bag as it might get lost.
I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.
W K MacGregor

Postmaster Morgenrood referred MacGregor's letter to the PMG in Cape Town. He also brought the case to the attention of Mr. Tilney, the Civil Commissioner. The latter's commentary and instructions were: "Southey receives a packet by the Tradouw Post and has a key, stamps etc. Perhaps it would be as well to appoint Mr. MacGregor as agent there as Mr. Fourie not being always at home. As the FC (Field Cornet) Mr. Fourie lives at Southey's Pass where Mr. MacGregor has a shop, formerly kept by Mr. Solms who was then post office agent. I would assure that Mr. McGregor be appointed a post office agent vice Solms and to be under direction of the postmaster of Swellendam who will see that the posts are properly made up for the agency."
Signed T Tilney Civil Commissioner on 8 March 1880.
P.S. Mr. Fourie must be instructed to hand over Post Office stamps etc. to Mr. MacGregor."

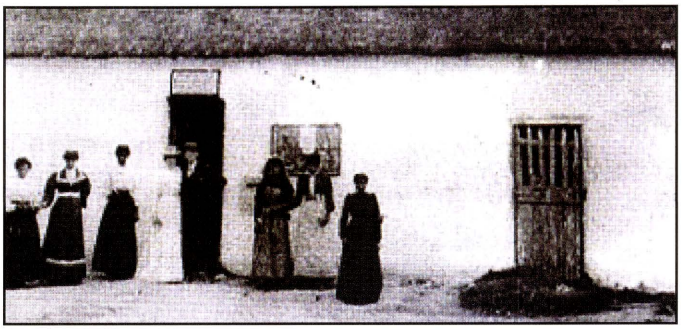
On 10 March 1880, MacGregor applied to the PMG:

"I the undersigned shopkeeper at Southey's Arms beg to apply to vend postage stamps at Southey's Arms in the Division of Swellendam."

POST OFFICE ZUURBRAAK 1900



Postmistress and the letter carrier in front of the post office.



Visitors parading before the camera in their fancy dresses in front of the post office. Note the stable for the horses that were used by the postrider to convey the post. (Courtesy: P.O. Museum and Ralph Putzel: The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies Vol. 4)

Contrary to my usual practice of obtaining detailed information during the research process, I had not noted the name of the writer of the following letter and of the recipient. I am not sure of the circumstances at the time of research, if the information was available or not. For this, I offer my apology. Despite this slip, the letter is important, as it contains interesting information about the postal history of Zuurbraak.

"Swellendam 23 February 1880
Sir,
Your letter dated the 21st inst to hand, but being dated Swellendam, I cannot imagine where it is that you and Mr. Thos. Barry want to have a post office established. Mr. Barry is at present supplied from Zuurbraak which is I think quite near him. From enquiries made of your father I find you are living at Southey and this place has already a post office and as you are doubtless aware receives a packet every Monday per Barrydale post."

I would like to make some comments about the letter:

- I think the author of the above letter was the postmaster of Swellendam.
- The letter of 21 February was written by somebody who had resided at Southey's Arms, at the northern entrance of Tradouw Pass, where there was a post office that received its post once a week from Barrydale.
- The author and a Mr. Thomas Barry were advocating the establishment of a post office. From their request, it appears that neither of them had any postal services at their disposal.
- According to the above letter Mr. Barry "is supplied from Zuurbraak…" in other words, there were postal facilities at Zuurbraak, which met Mr Barry's needs and at Southey's Arms was a post office for the postal needs of the inhabitants of that area.
- Therefore, both the advocates for the establishment of a post office had access to post office facilities.
- For me, the most important fact from this letter is that Zuurbraak had a post office/post office agency by February 1880 when this letter was written.

According to commentary (30 March 1880) on a letter by J D Barry a post office agency already existed at Zuurbraak. During March 1880, the Zuurbraak Post Office Agency handled 85 letters, 3 books and 59 newspapers, while the Southey's Arms Post Office Agency handled 18 letters, 9 books and 43 newspapers during the same period.

Putzel's research about Zuurbraak reads as follows:
Zuurbraak 1881-1923 CAPE (H/O Swellendam)
1st Office: PA Opened 1881(PMG):
(PO 1.8.1896 PM'S 1903-1920)
PO 1912; PO closed 1923.
2nd Office: PO opened 29.10.1923;
PO renamed Suurbraak

The opening of the First Office: Zuurbraak Post Office Agency could therefore be accepted as 1880.

Postmasters/Postmistresses /Post Office Agents of Zuurbraak

A complete list of the postmasters, postmistresses or post office agents, who rendered their services in those early years, is unfortunately not available. However, it looks as though the fairer sex spent quite a number of years behind the counter serving the postal needs of the people of Zuurbraak. The following names are the only ones that I could find:

- 16 July 1896 - 28 February 1903
  Postmistress Pattison
- 1 March 1903 – 24 April 1903
  Postmistress J de Bruyn
- 25 April 1903 – 25 May 1904
  Postmistress B Krynauw
- 26 May 1904 – ? (by 1910 still in office) Postmistress E Rogers

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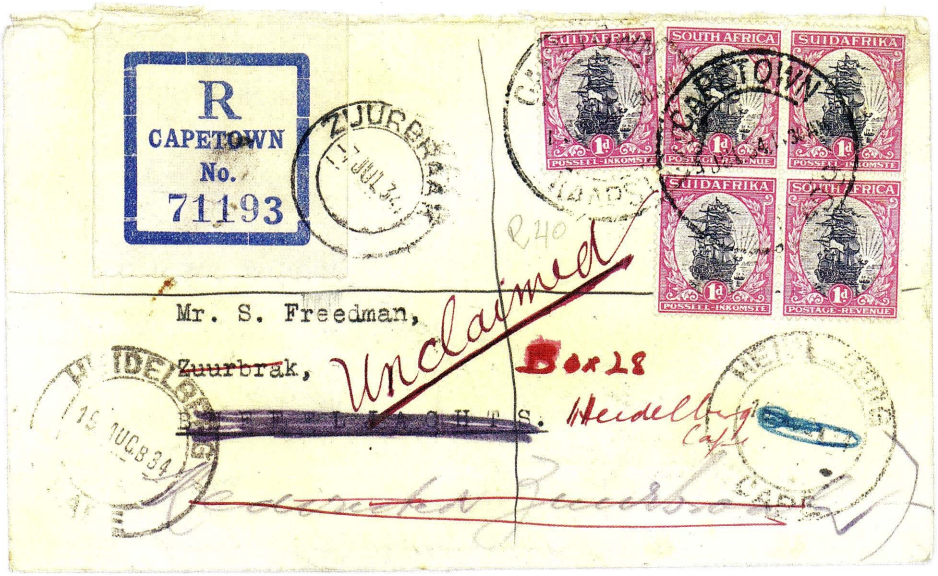

4 September 1934 - Registered letter from Cape Town to Buffeljachts. The Postmaster of Buffeljags River Rail deleted Buffeljachts and endorsed manually "Resided Zuurbraak" and forwarded the letter on 6.9.34 (datestamp at the back) to Zuurbraak. Arrival postmark Zuurbraak 6.9.34 at the back. As Mr Freedman did not reside at Zuurbraak anymore, the letter was forwarded from Zuurbraak to Box 28 Heidelberg on 7.9.34 (Zuurbraak), Swellendam transit stamp (9.9.34) and Heidelberg arrival stamp (10.9.34) at the back. Being unclaimed the letter was endorsed in red "unclaimed" and sent back from Heidelberg (15.8.34) to Cape Town. Arrival datestamp (20.8.34) at the back.

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Swellendam Museum

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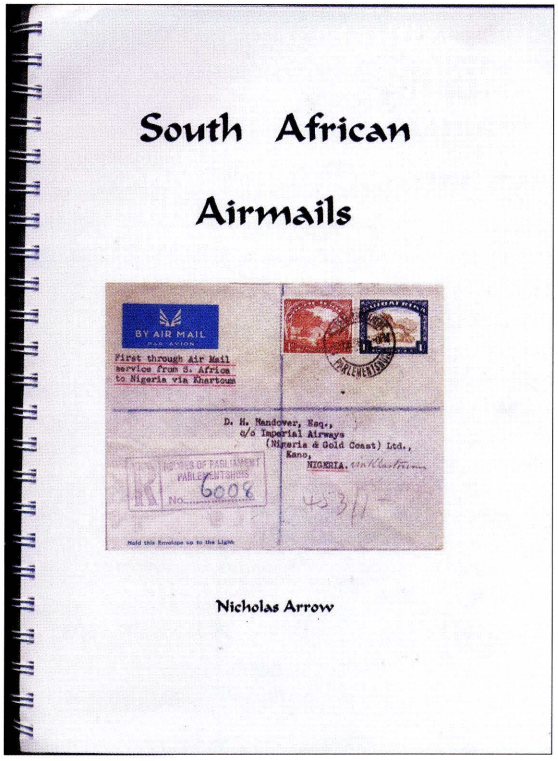
Book Review

South African Airmails



A new reference book listing relevant South African Airmails up to February 1994, when South African Airways celebrated the 60th anniversary of its founding, has recently been published by Nicholas Arrow in the UK. The book is wire bound in A4 format and includes a substantial number of colour illustrations. In addition to the index and introduction it extends to over 200 pages and there are 8 Chapters, each consisting of a narrative section and relevant listing of material plus a short annexure.

Nick felt the need to write his book mainly because the seminal works by the well known authors Stern and Burrell are not only out of print but difficult to obtain and the much sought after publication by Wyndham only deals with airmails up to 1936/7. Whilst other works have covered the period between 1961 - 1981 this book is an attempt to redress the balance and offer aerophilatelists a more comprehensive listing from the pioneer flights in 1911 through to the mid 1990s.

About the author: Nicholas Arrow has been collecting Airmails in one form or another for nearly 40 years - his first airmail collection was of *Zeppelin Mail* (Silver at Stampex 1976), but he is perhaps best known for his collection of *Mails of the Dornier Do-X*. This collection achieved Vermeil at the International Exhibitions at London and Norwex, both in 1980 as well as Paris 1989. It achieved an "Ehrenpreis" (special award) at LAS '82 in Stuttgart as well as Gold Medals at Habria (Hannover) 1983 and Luposta in both 1983 and 1987.

The author published a listing of Do-X mails in "*Germania*", the Magazine of the Germany and Colonies Philatelic Society and also collaborated with Günther Harms in the compilation of the *Harms Katalog of Do-X Mail*, editing the English translation of this work. This collection was sold by Phillips in February 1990 "in order to afford school fees"!

However, once an aerophilatelist, always an aerophilatelist, and having started to collect South Africa, in 1996 the author began to amass his collection of South African Airmails.

This book follows from his sense of frustration as to the lack of up-to-date information about the subject and it can be purchased direct from Nick in the UK at £30 (plus p&p) Contact him at 'The Beeches', Axminster Road, Musbury, EX13 8AZ or email: nicholasarrow@btinternet.com

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Postal History Exhibits

- by Emil Bührmann - Chairman: Judging and Ethics Committee, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Background & General Comments

An exhibit should not be an accumulation of related philatelic material organized in some sort of plan. It should tell a complete story on a chosen subject with carefully selected 'pictures' (stamps/covers) and well thought out words (write up) organized in a logical and interesting way. The themes in any good exhibit are balance, completeness and logical flow.

Material Consulted

Extensive use and reference to *The Handbook for the Australian Exhibitor* published by the International Association for Philatelic Exhibitors (NAPE) has been made. Please consult their handbook and the general regulations of FIP (GREX) as well as their general regulations (GREV) for more detail. All information is available on their website www.f-i-p.ch. For any of those who are serious about exhibiting, I strongly recommend you join NAPE. Their website is www.nape.info

What is a Postal History Exhibit?

A postal history exhibit incorporates documents of a postal nature into a meaningful story. Such documents have been carried from writer to recipient by a service that could be official, local or private.
The arrangement of the documents may be chronological, geographical or by mode of service or transport. The organization of the exhibit defines its intent and scope, and indicates the development of the postal routes, rates or markings.
Such exhibits generally emphasize routes, rates, markings, usages and other postal aspects, services, functions and activities related to the history of the development of Postal Services.
A postal history exhibit should show and explain the development or operation of one or more postal services; the practical application of postal rules and regulations, and the study and classification of the use of philatelic material and or postal markings to illustrate the main subject of the exhibit.
Postal History exhibits may contain, where strictly necessary, maps, prints, decrees and similar associated materials. Items must have a direct relationship to the chosen subject and to the postal services described in the exhibit.

Exhibitors should avoid:

- Large scale duplication of similar items.
- Large chronological gaps where possible.
- The inclusion of expensive items not directly relevant to the subject.
- A general rule should be to show philatelically interesting material
- Be mindful of not trying to cover a too large period or subject.

Postmark (Marcophily) Exhibits

A Postmark exhibit is a sub section of postal history and is judged using the same criteria as postal history. A postmark exhibit is concerned with the classification and study of postal markings and obliterations, including manuscript markings, applied by official and private postal services. Postmark exhibits may range from pre- stamp to the present day.
The study may cover the function, the period of use, place of use, colour, or any aspect of postal markings. The subjects can include marks of office or of service such as registration, maritime, tpo's (travelling Post Offices), instructional marks, etc.
A demonstration of knowledge and personal study of postal markings could include the earliest and latest usage or the identification of mute or numeral cancellations. Markings should be complete and clear and when based on obliterating marks, preferably on cover. Partial strikes and duplication should be avoided. Any attempt to improve the appearance of a postal marking, subsequent to it being applied by the postal authorities shall be treated as being faked material. Postage stamps in a Postmark exhibit are irrelevant except that they should be in a reasonable condition.

Introductory Plan

All exhibits must contain an introductory plan, showing the scope of the exhibit. The title of the exhibit should correspond to the plan.
It should give relevant general information on the subject and also indicate areas of personal investigation. A short list of important sources used is useful, but not obligatory.
The judges will use this information to evaluate the material shown in relation to the aims set forth by the exhibitor.

Judging a Postal History Exhibit

For Postal History exhibits, the following score sheet is used:

Treatment and Philatelic importance	30
Philatelic and related Knowledge, Personal Study and Research	35
Condition	10
Rarity	20
Presentation	05
Total	100

Treatment and Philatelic Importance

20 marks relate to development, completeness and correctness of the material shown. 10 marks are allocated to relative philatelic importance. When evaluating the treatment and importance of exhibits, judges will look at the general development of the subject, the completeness of the material shown in relation to the scope of the exhibit and the relative significance of the subject shown, as well as the difficulty in duplicating the exhibit. The USA / Americans refers to the 'challenge factor' meaning what was the degree of difficulty to assemble such an exhibit.
It is very important not to combine unrelated subjects. An exhibit should form a cohesive unit. Exhibits that are disjointed are likely to achieve lesser marks.
The importance of an exhibit will be gauged in relation to the general postal history of the country, area or subject shown, and to philately in general. As a generalization it is usually easier to adequately treat and provide completeness to unimportant subjects than to important ones. **Exhibits which omit the most difficult periods (even if it was correctly omitted in description) will be downgraded. Relevance of the material to the scope of the exhibit is also important.**

Philatelic and Related Knowledge, Personal study and Research

35 Points are awarded here. This is where philatelists can achieve good marks if they can demonstrate clearly that the subject on display is understood and the material correctly analyzed and presented.
Philatelic and related knowledge is demonstrated by the items chosen for display and their related comments. (Write-up). An exhibit is not your collection and by choosing the right items wisely, knowledge and personal study is displayed.
Where original research of new facts related to the chosen subject has been done, a large proportion of the total points may be given for this research. In cases where a subject has been significantly researched previously, no penalization should apply. It is important to show that the exhibitor has consulted reference works and is knowledgeable on the subject displayed.
Proper and relevant descriptions of each object shown are the important criteria to determine knowledge. Overwhelming write up will not go down well. A well thought out plan may avoid lengthy descriptions later in the exhibit.

Condition and Rarity

Up to 20 marks can be awarded to rarity and up to 10 marks can be allocated to condition.
Rarity is directly related to the Philatelic items shown and to the relative scarcity of material of the type shown and in particular to the philatelic rarity and the importance of the total exhibit and its subject. The emphasis is on philatelic rarity and not on value. Price is simply a function of supply and demand.
Condition may vary considerably for postal history material. It is important to bear in

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mind the quality obtainable for material in that particular field. Condition is therefore a relative matter. Very rare items should not be excluded on grounds of bad quality if it is philatically important and one of a few examples is known. General material should be of high quality with clear postal markings.

Presentation

Presentation only carries 5 marks, but influences the overall mark of any exhibit. An exhibit should be evaluated from the point of view of how it facilitates the understanding and attraction of the exhibit to judges and viewers alike. A disorganized presentation would necessarily also impact on the other markings given to an exhibit.
Illustrations of markings are only necessary when the originals are not clear enough to the observer. Markings on the reverse can be illustrated by reproductions or drawings as long as such copies are at least 25 % different in size from the original and can clearly be seen as such.

Some general notes on write up

- Use a font that is easily readable and large enough to 'see'.
- Avoid duplication. It is not necessary to repeat the title of the exhibit on every page.
- Be precise but not abrupt.

Conclusion

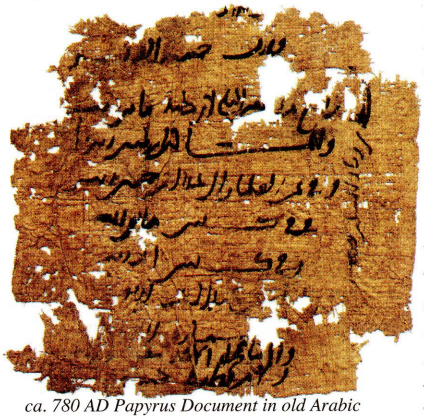
Choose you subject/period carefully. Describe it properly on your title page and show what you say you are going to show. Present in a pleasant and interesting way in such a manner that your knowledge of the subject is displayed. This will greatly assist you in obtaining better awards.

Visit the FEDERATION and SOCIETY NEWS pages on our website: www.philatelysa.co.za

A Journey of Ingenuity

- by Paul M. Zatulove - submitted by Harmers of London.

If this exhibit had a sire and dam, it would most likely be Dr. Zaven M. Seron's book *From the Winged Heels of Mercury* and Dr. Robert LeBow's collection entitled, *5000 Years of Postal History*. This is a Special Study about the ingenuity, energy, and determination of people to communicate by written word while improving the timeliness, distance and reliability of mail. Ordinary citizens risked their lives. They travelled by dangerous contraptions. They exposed themselves to plague, perils of war, and the forces of nature on land, sea, and in the air. Ingenious methods of mail delivery were the result.



ca. 780 AD Papyrus Document in old Arabic

These are the criteria, self imposed, which govern the philatelic story. Mail delivery from every continent and subcontinent is in the exhibit. Each item had to pass a test of philatelic importance and the time span was extended again and again.

Organization was difficult because all material did not lend itself chronologically. However, some did. Man's first wrestling with written communication was what to write on. Early materials consist of a four thousand year old Sumerian clay messenger tablet ca. 2032 BCE, a papyrus document ca. 780 AD, and a Venetian parchment letter sent to a merchant in Alexandria, Egypt dated 1419, one of the earliest pieces of mail from Europe to Africa. The development of postal markings tackled the problem of timeliness and reliability. Covers from the 15th to the 18th century show the ingenuity of a developing postal service. These items are correspondence carried by Milanese Tasso couriers, Venetian courier service, and royal messengers.



ca. 2032 BC Sumarian clay tablet.

The official postage stamp comes on the world scene with the "invention" of the government sponsored prepaid adhesive by Sir Roland Hill. A Penny Black cover has a delivery date on Christmas day, 1840. Another example is the only recorded letter originating in Russia stamped with a Penny Black as it entered the British mails.

Delivery over land begins with a 'shirt' letter carried over the Himalayas by Royal foot runner. This is followed by mule mail between the oceans, ex Grunin, Sudanese camel mail with inverted overprint, horse cart by one of the two recorded examples of Australian local carrier McCulloch & Co, and a series of Wells Fargo Virginia City Pony Express covers, including one of two known imprint covers. Mechanical ingenuity, 1800's style, is evidenced by Coolgardie Cycle Express covers of Western Australia of which sixteen are recorded, Victor Bicycle twelve day American Railway Union strike mail, an Orient Express rail cover from Turkey to Europe stamped with the earliest known German forerunner, and finally US Railway Post Office mail delivered on the last leg of the journey by Wells Fargo while the final tracks were being laid to Los Angeles.

Delivery over water begins with Canoe Brigade mail from Norway House, British Canada. The pioneer steamship S.S. Robert Fulton sped the delivery of mail in 1820. Use of the Great Lakes, rivers, coastal waterways, and the oceans extended the distance and speed where land was an impediment. The Danube Steamship Company, Prince's Letter Dispatch, less than ten covers known, and Lady McLeod covers, Britain's first stamps in the colonies and the first stamp depicting a ship, were all private carriers exploiting the efficiency of convenient, fast delivery of mail. Transatlantic mail became a business of its own. Ships were used for mail exclusively, as evidenced by the cover carried on the S.S. Africa, Cunard Line's last wooden paddle wheeler. 'Special' special delivery refers in this exhibit to very unusual methods of mail delivery. A Chinese document to an Amoy Naval patrol, a cover from a Japanese warship of WW I operating a mail route during its battle patrol, and a German example of submarine mail are shown. The precursor to fax was House's printing telegraph. It claimed to be prompt, accurate, and reliable. Tonga Island group's Tin Can Mail was put in watertight biscuit tins and carried inward and outward by swimmers and outrigger canoes. The inward mail shown is from Argentina to the Tin Can Canoe Mailman.
In Vienna, one of several cities that used pneumatic tubes for across town delivery, the postal authorities guaranteed delivery within ninety minutes. Another unusual special delivery pertaining to fast, faster, and fastest was Swedish/Finnish feather mail. On the exterior of the envelope were one, two, or three feathers, depending on how much the sender was willing to pay for celerity. Obstacles of weather are confronted in the delivery of mail.
Postmarks from rarely seen latitudes written by polar expedition explorers exemplify the courage, curiosity, and fortitude of men and their dogsleds. The content of Jeaffreson, Shackleton, Scott, and Amundsen correspondence, i.e. 'eating the ponies' to stay alive, 'enduring constant gale force winds', adds human interest to this philatelic adventure.
It truly emphasizes the risk that was taken while still pursuing communication with the outside world



Waghorn's Express cover from India to England

Continues on page 564

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The Birth of a Stamp

- by George Cafetzoglou, RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Part 1. 5 October 1976.

Centenary of Ocean Mail Service Contract

This is the first in a series of similar Philatelic articles, on "Archival" material of designer and artists' work, showing the development from concept to print.

They will not be in chronological order, as I have not had the necessary time to write them in this manner, but rather have done so at random.

The artist, in this instance was Kobus Esterhuysen, a member of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, a keen and knowledgeable philatelist, and close friend of mine for some 35 years, and who taught me quite a lot as regards the intrinsics of the hobby. His interests were mainly of the Cape of Good Hope, and he formed world class collections of the 'Triangulars' and Postal History of the "Frontier Wars", in both instances gaining Gold awards both at National & International level. Cape Pre-stamp history and Boer War were his other passions. However his interests were varied, and his Greek collection eventually came to me through barter.

In this series of articles, I feel I must relate some personal particulars of the people involved, as growing older I find that many members who are younger do not know the people who were involved in the Hobby in the past, nor their achievements, or contribution to our inheritance.

Kobus Esterhuysen, having been given the brief to produce a stamp to commemorate this very important "Philatelic" event, sought and found an engraving of the "*Hawarden*" as well as an original "Litho printed" reproduction, the name of the ship clearly to be seen. (Fig. 1, 1a and 3)

This ship, part of the "Empire" range of steamships, was built in 1883, and together with the *Garth, Norham, Roslin, Pembroke, Dunnotar* and *Doune*, were transferred in 1900 to the Union Castle Mail Steam Ship Company, thus forming a formidable shipping fleet, and the mail carrier between England and the Cape.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged photostat of Fig. 1, with pencil annotations by Kobus pointing clockwise, to the sail of the left sailing boat, to the smoke from the funnel, as well as its colour, and central ship minor changes, and finally erasing the sailing ship at right. *(This certainly may have been a way of avoiding copyright infringement).*

Fig.4 on thick artists' board is his "final" sketch (which was presented to the Post Office for approval), and with annotations of necessary reduction of the crosshatching, failing which, because of the closeness of these, the printed impression would produce heavy/black printing lacking definition. The colours to be employed are also noted. This card is signed at the back as is shown on the photostat.

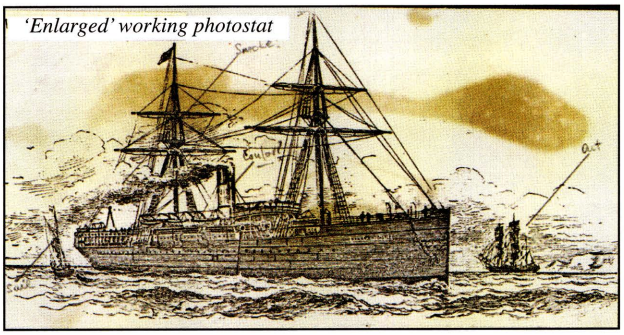

Fig 2

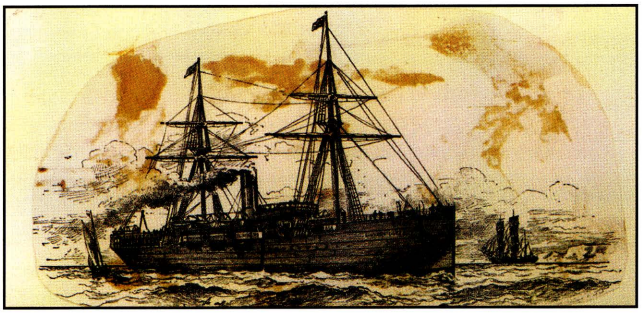

Fig 3

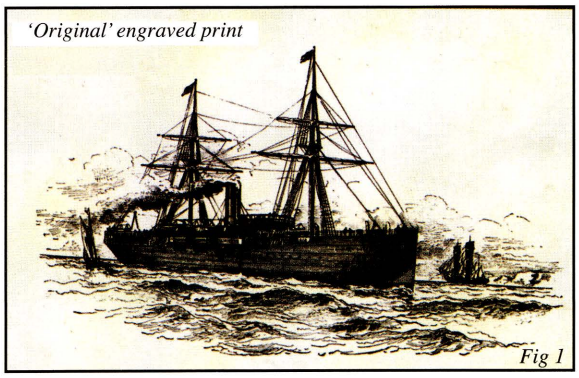

Fig 1

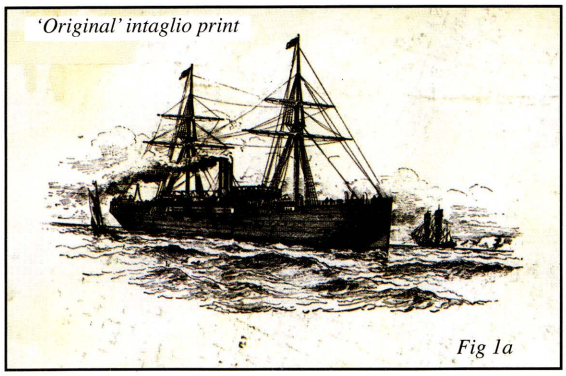

Fig 1a

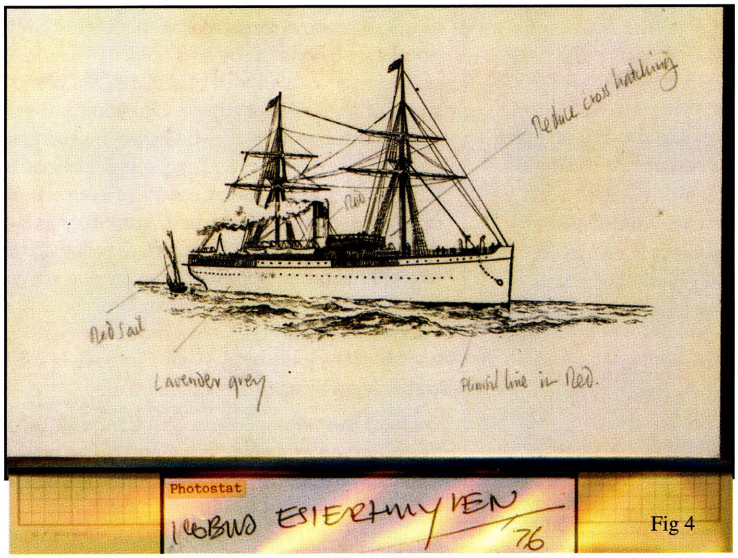

Fig 4

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Fig 5



Fig 6

Fig. 5 is a Photographic Proof off the 'Helio Print' - Fig. 6, same size, and for final visual approval, prior to the "Reduction and laying the Cylinder". There are no apparent changes or retouches.

The stamp was printed on No Watermark paper, and Perforated 11½ x 12½ at the Government Printers, Pretoria. Only Cylinder P1051, P1050, P1049 and P1048 was used.

The stamp was used extensively in the commemorative covers of ELPEX '76. the National Exhibition at East London 11-16 October 1976. Artist signed covers Fig. 7 & 8 illustrate these usages. Both the ELPEX Exhibition Cover (with images of the Cape Rectangulars) and the PO official cover 2.18 (with the ship off-loading presumably bags of mail) were also designed by Kobus. The insert card of this cover, designed by Kobus, gives a review of the Mail Carrying Contract.

A "MAXI-CARD" was also produced by Kobus, as is shown in Fig.9 & 10. The original photograph employed for printing the Card, is of a different class of ship altogether. The *Dunrobin* together with *Balmoral*, *Dublin*, *Warwick* and *Conway* were built in 1876. prior to the *Hawarden* class, although they eventually all came under the same Flag, that of the "*Castle Line*". The question now arises,



Fig 7

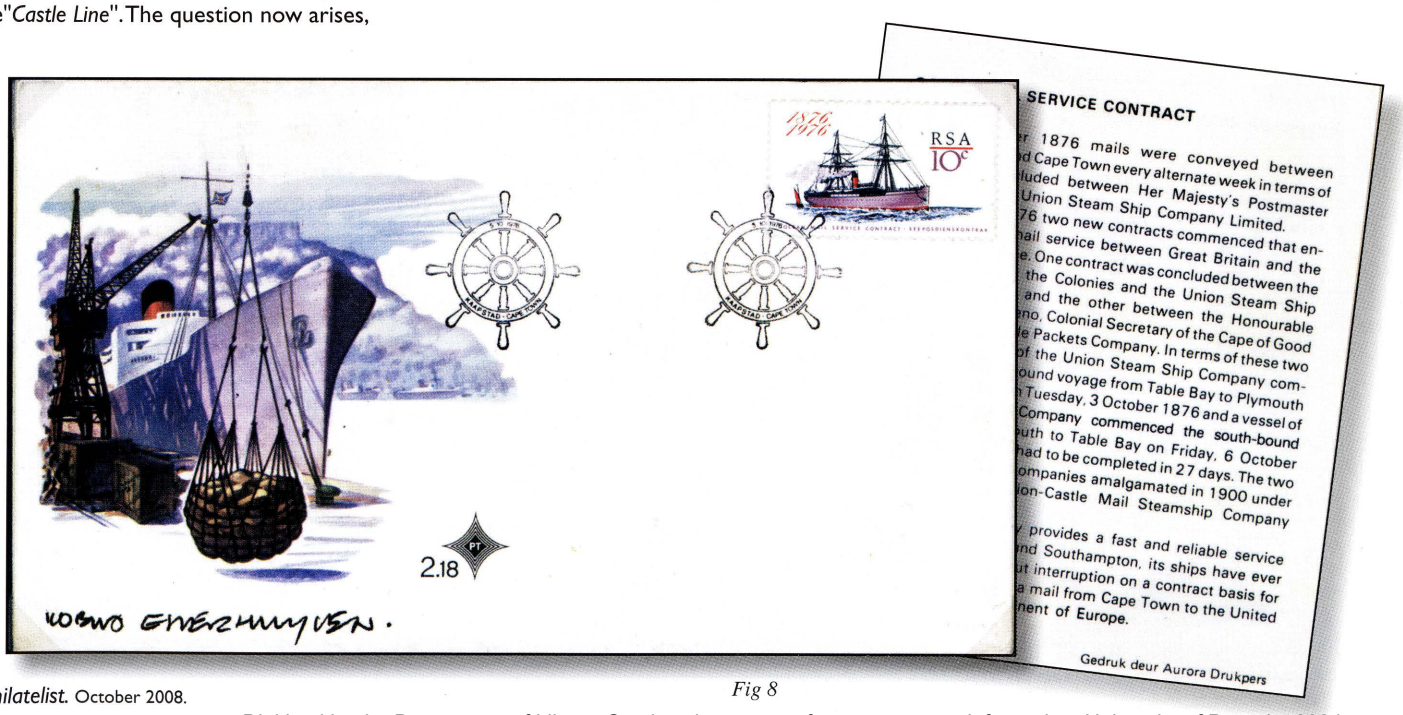

Fig 8

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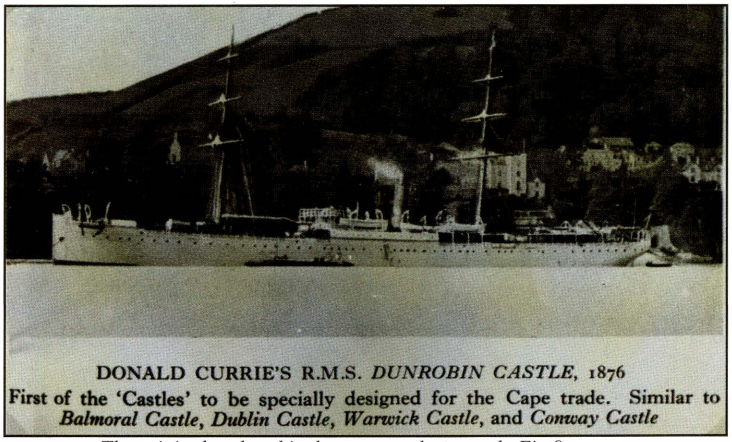
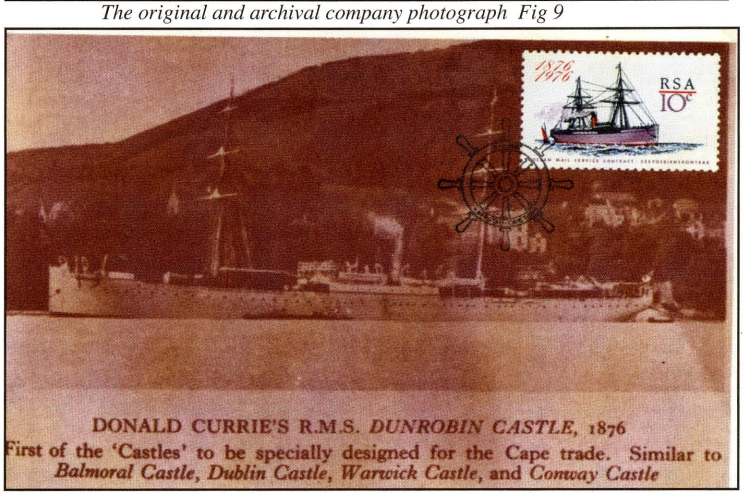


DONALD CURRIE'S R.M.S. *DUNROBIN CASTLE*, 1876
First of the 'Castles' to be specially designed for the Cape trade. Similar to *Balmoral Castle, Dublin Castle, Warwick Castle*, and *Conway Castle*

The original and archival company photograph Fig 9



DONALD CURRIE'S R.M.S. *DUNROBIN CASTLE*, 1876
First of the 'Castles' to be specially designed for the Cape trade. Similar to *Balmoral Castle, Dublin Castle, Warwick Castle*, and *Conway Castle*

Only ten copies were made by Kobus Esterhuyzen for friends so this is considered a "very scarce" artist produced 'Maxicard' Fig 10

OCEAN MAIL SERVICE CONTRACT

Before October 1876 mails were conveyed between Southampton and Cape Town every alternate week in terms of a contract concluded between Her Majesty's Postmaster General and the Union Steam Ship Company Limited.
On 5 October 1876 two new contracts commenced that ensured a weekly mail service between Great Britain and the Cape of Good Hope. One contract was concluded between the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the Union Steam Ship Company Limited and the other between the Honourable John Charles Molteno, Colonial Secretary of the Cape of Good Hope, and the Castle Packets Company. In terms of these two contracts a vessel of the Union Steam Ship Company commenced the north-bound voyage from Table Bay to Plymouth and Southampton on Tuesday, 3 October 1876 and a vessel of the Castle Packets Company commenced the south-bound voyage from Dartmouth to Table Bay on Friday, 6 October 1876. Both journeys had to be completed in 27 days. The two mentioned shipping companies amalgamated in 1900 under the style of the Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company Limited.
Because the company provides a fast and reliable service between Cape Town and Southampton, its ships have ever since been used without interruption on a contract basis for the transportation of sea mail from Cape Town to the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe.

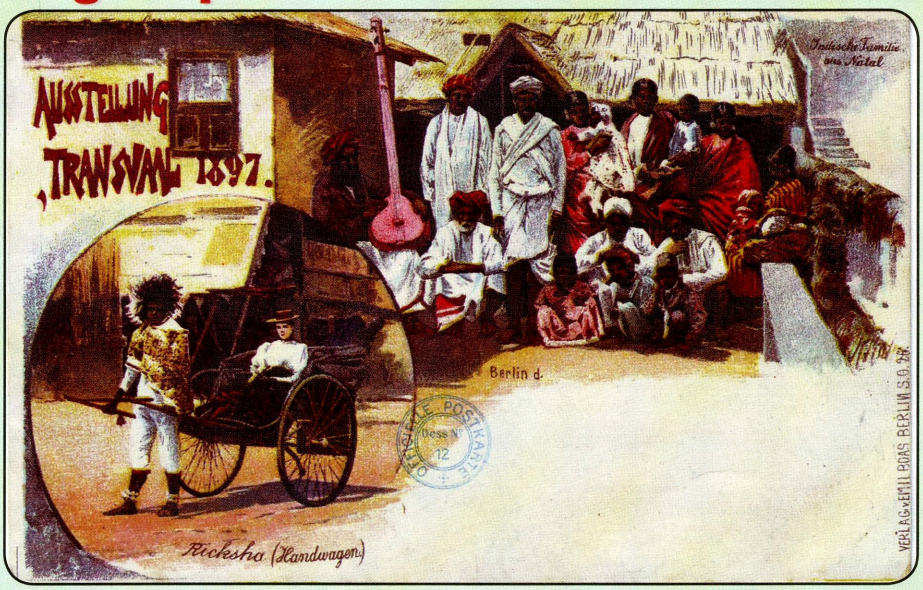
Gedruk deur Aurora Drukpers

An enlarged version of the insert card of Fig 8

is this philatelically a "Proper" Maxicard?

In closing, after having been in service for 56 years, the *Hawarden Castle* was lost at sea with all aboard and with no trace on 13/9/1939; early in WW II, after leaving "Nieuport", in Holland, having been either torpedoed or hitting a mine. A tragedy after an illustrious naval service.

This is a glimpse of our BEAUTIFUL WORLD...



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Unravelling a 1945 SA Philatelic Mystery

- by George Cafetzoglou, RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

SUPPORT REFERENCE

This extract from November 1945 *SA Philatelist*, was referred to in the article that appeared in the August issue of the *SA Philatelist, page 532*, (Vol 84:4 889).

The Latest Discovery in Union Bantams

AN ASTONISHING "FIND"

(By HINKO SUKLJE.)

A short while ago when purchasing 2d. Bantams for everyday use, I was fortunate in noticing a peculiarity in the first sheet given me, and further examination revealed a whole series of peculiar sheets. They were of the current, latest, printing.

The horizontal perforation on the sheets was found to be misplaced, gradually moving upwards across the sheets until the stamps were perforated exactly through the centre; then the perforations gradually began moving down again (slower than up) until the perforations were again normal. This process of misplacement took place in a batch of 24 sheets with consecutive Serial Numbers which, for convenience I will call 0001 to 0024 (these are not the real numbers). Having the opportunity, I naturally purchased the 24 sheets intact.

Now here is the astonishing discovery:—

The perforations reached the centre of the stamp, cutting the sailor across his mouth (see illustration) with sheet No. 0006. This sheet No. 0006 also had the top three rows completely blank, while rows 4 to 20 were quite normal except that rows 5 and 6 had part of the background round sailor's head faint or almost missing.

Sheets No. 0007, 0008, 0009 and 0010 were found to be completely *blank*, except for the usual Serial Numbers on the right-hand margins. The perforation was now again on its downward journey.

Sheet No. 0011, on which the horizontal perforation had moved half the journey down again, had *only* the top four and a half rows printed, the balance of the sheet being blank.

On the next thirteen sheets the perforation gradually moved further down until it reached its normal position again with sheet No. 0024.

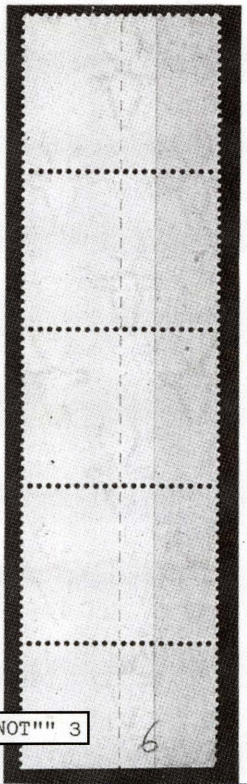
Sheet No. 0024 was found to have a *join* in the paper across the 6th and 7th rows from the top of the sheet.

This completed the "FIND," which must be a very rare one, and it is beyond my conception how all these sheets were passed or overlooked, eventually reaching a Post Office.

This is all the more phenomenal because of so many errors in a batch of 24 consecutive sheets.

Just one more peculiarity: On all the sheets I found the distance between two horizontal lines of perforations to be 24 mm. with the following exceptions: On Sheet No. 0001 I found the distance between the first and second and between the twelfth and thirteenth lines of perforations to be 25 mm. Whether any importance can be attached to this I do not know, but this difference of one mm. is quite definite.

And who said the age of "Miracles" and "Finds" is past!!





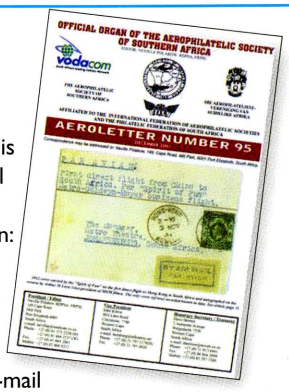
SHEET No.0006 ""HAS 4 ROWS"" COMPLETELY BLANK AS IS SHOWN BY THE EXAMPLE THAT IS DISPLAYED!

SLOGAN MARGIN CLEARLY 4 STAMPS ARE UNPRINTED AND ""NOT"" 3

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa

Aeroletter #96, like all recent editions is in A4 format and in full colour. The *Aeroletter* contains an interesting selection of articles pertaining to southern Africa aerophilately. In this edition focus has been made on early Tanganyika airmails and also the developments in Nyasaland in the 1950s. It contains information that has apparently never been published before. A fascinating report of how fate intervened in the recovery of pieces of a wrecked aircraft. A schoolboy in 1950 now recalls his memories about flying in an aircraft.

Other articles relating to WWII and southern Africa's links with Australia and the Far East have also been covered. Whether a novice or a specialist in this branch of philately, attempts are made to cover all interests on the subject. The *Aeroletter* is supplied free to a membership that extends around the globe. A limited number of copies are available to anyone who may be interested in joining the Society in order to further their knowledge and involvement in this exciting field of Postal History.



Contact Dave Morton: Hon Secretary for membership details; Phone: +27 (0) 21 913 6461, Fax: +27 (0) 86 684 3099 or e-mail dmorton@mweb.co.za

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Posgeskiedenis

Tamsen-koevert toonmakro-maakwek

Al hoe meer getuienis verbind die naam Tamsen met die manipulasie van posstempels tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog. Emil Tamsen, die baasversamelaar, het nie alleen filateliese items versamel nie, hy het hulle ook gemaak.

Die jongste posstuk wat aan die lig gekom het, het voorop 'n karikatuur-skets van Paul Kruger, 'n gemoedelike gesig met onder aan 'Oom Paul May 1900'. Draai 'n mens die stuk onderstebo, toon die skets 'n taamlike suur gesig, en die byskrif lees 'Oom Paul June 1900'.

Maar kom ons kyk na die koevert. [1]

Die koevert kom van Pretoria (stempel) na Pretoria (posbus).

Die datum van die Pretoria-stempel is 7 Junie 1900, een dag nadat Lord Roberts met die groot intog van die Britse leërmag op Kerkplein besit van die stad geneem het. Op hierdie dag was daar geen posdiens in bedryf nie, trouens die Pretoriase poskantoor is eers op 18 Junie 1900 onder Britse bewind heropen.

Die stempel met 'n oop ruimte in die onderste halfrond het eers meer as 'n jaar later (1901) in gebruik gekom, nadat die bestaande stempels met 'Pretoria / ZAR' eers diens gedoen het.

Die seëls is die een sjieling en 2 sjielings 6 pennies van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, wat (a) sonder die oordruk 'VRI' ongeldig onder die Britse bewind sou wees, en (b) 'n volkome filateliese frankering verteenwoordig (die plaaslike brieftarief was een pennie)

Die geadresseerde, E Tamsen, was in Junie 1900 in Nylstroom en nie in Pretoria nie. Hy is ná die Britse inname van Nylstroom in April 1901 as gevangene geneem na Pretoria, waar parool aan hom toegestaan is.

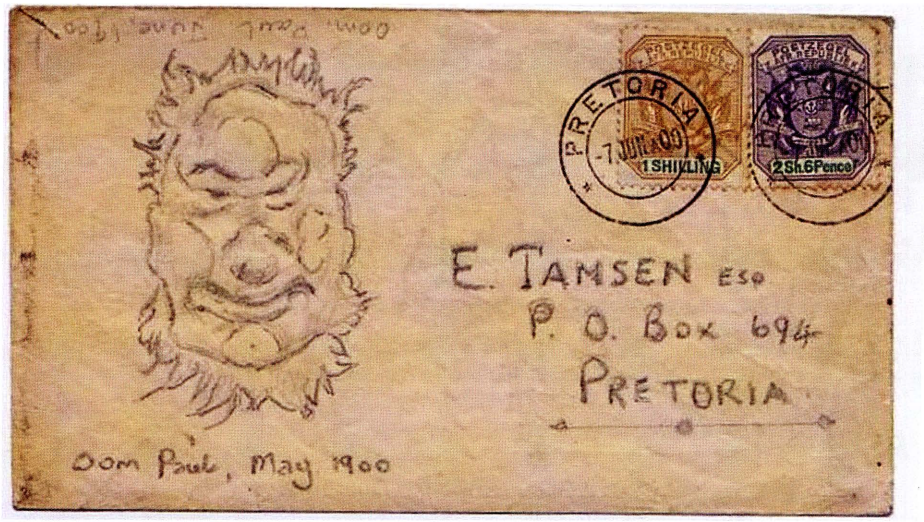
Dus verteenwoordig hierdie koevert taamlik energieke filateliese maakwerk.

Tamsen se vermeende rol met die afstempeling van Pietersburg-seëls word uitvoerig behandel in die boek Die Pietersburg-seëls van die Anglo-Boereoorlog. [2] Stempels van posagentskappe wat nie meer in bedryf was nie, word op sulke seëls gevind, asook stempels met datums van voordat die bepaalde seëls verskyn het.

Byvoorbeeld, die stempel van Zandriviers-poort verskyn op Pietersburg-seëls met die datum van Vrydag 5 April 1901 (Goeie Vrydag). Wie was die posagent hier ? Emil Tamsen. Waar was hy ? Hy was nie daar nie, want hy is die vorige dag, 4 April 1901, as gevangene per trein uit Nylstroom na Pretoria geneem.

Hoeveel en watter ander gestempelde stukke almal met die naam Tamsen verbind kan word, weet ons vandag nie. -- JG

1. *Lot 215, Channel Islands Postal Bid Sale No. 5, 28 Junie 2008.*
2. *Deur Carel Breedt en Joh Groenewald. Filateliese Federasie, 2007.*



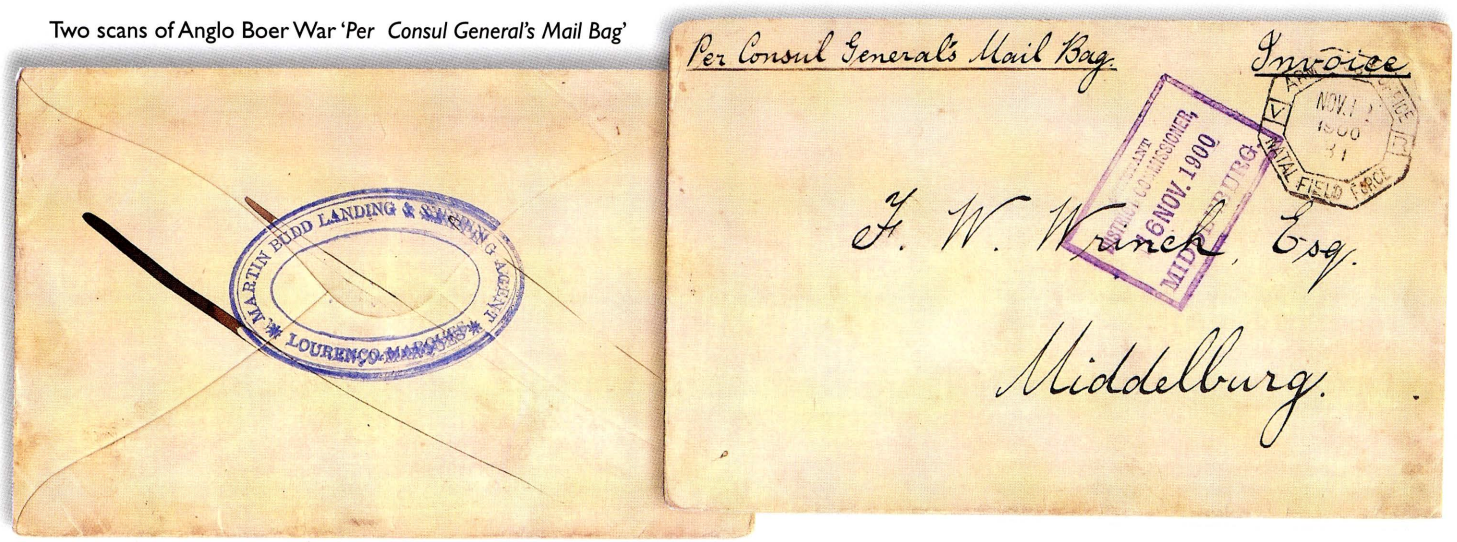
Cover of Interest

Anglo-Boer War Cover Carried by Diplomatic Bag

- by Dr Les Glassman, Society of Israel Philately

A 1900 cover from Lourenço Marques to Middelburg endorsed 'Per Consul General's Mail Bag' 'Invoice'. Posted into the Army Post Office at Machadorp, with octagonal Natal Field Force A.P.O. 81 dated November 12th and 'Assistant District Commissioner 16 Nov. 1900 Middleburg' cachet. Backstamped with sender's cachet 'Martin Budd Landing & Shipping Agency / Lourenço Marques'.

Two scans of Anglo Boer War '*Per Consul General's Mail Bag*'



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Philatelic Research - A Basic Guide - by David R Beech FRPSL

For those at the beginning of a philatelic research project it will be of much value to them and the results of that research, to have a systematic approach. This article attempts to set out some basic concepts that will help the researcher.
This set of guidelines should not restrict the author in his vision or concept of his work, but should help him attain a satisfactory result of value to others and posterity.

1. Define your subject.

1.1 Decide the subject matter of your research. Examples of this include: country, territory, dates, reign; is it postage stamps, postal stationery, meter stamps, revenue stamps or postal history, philatelic history: of what, or where, during which period; including postage rates, postal routes, postmarks, theme, etc?

1.2 Write this down; it will be a useful discipline, but it should be flexible as the availability of research materials may change the course of, or extend, the research.

1.3 Decide on the level and extent of the published work; serious, serious detailed, introductory, light hearted, etc., if necessary tailored to where it may be published.

1.4 Check that it or something close, has not been done before (see 2 below), or that somebody else is not currently working on it too.

2. Check the literature

2.1 Find all, or as much as possible, of the literature and documents on your subject. This will take the form of books or monographs, articles in periodicals or serials, auction catalogues, catalogues, bibliographies, gray literature (semi published), CDs, internet web pages and archival files, etc.

2.2 Books are best found in a philatelic bibliography if one exists covering the subject area. Library catalogues if subject indexed serve much the same purpose. Those which are available on the internet and are keyword searchable are of particular value. See 2.3. General philatelic reference works may have important information, for example [de Worms] Perkins, Bacon Records…, and Williams, Fundamentals of Philately. Gray literature is semi published text. This will be conference papers, meeting notes, unpublished limited circulation material, etc.

2.3 Articles in periodicals are probably the most difficult to find. Research of periodicals should also be guided by tools in 2.2. These might be of a general nature for example Stamp Lover or specialised like Irish Philately; many may have less than helpful titles if you do not know the subject matter, e.g. Upland Goose (Falkland Islands) or Maple Leaves (Canada). Those with annual or cumulative indexes, if well constructed, offer the most help. The Catalogue of the American Philatelic Research Library which is available on the internet at: www.stamps.org/InmagicGenie/opac.aspx includes books and periodicals and is key word searchable. *The London Philatelist*, the journal of The Royal Philatelic Society London, has a key word searchable Archival Edition on CD covering its 115 volumes from 1892.

2.4 Auction catalogues, including specialised sales, may be difficult to discover if not listed in some way in a bibliography, etc.

2.5 Bibliographies or references in books or articles will be useful source of subject literature data. The more bibliographic data you find the easier it becomes to complete the process.

2.6 Archival files will contain original and probably definitive information. Such files probably are based on a correspondence of some kind, so other files may exist to reflect the other side of that correspondence (post office, printer, papermaker, designer, etc). Most actions have a financial consequence, so a financial file from perhaps a treasury department may be useful. Associated documents/files may contain the information that you are seeking and so should be inspected. Archival files will be kept in a country's national/local archives/library, a post office, the Union Postale Universelle (UPU), a printer, paper maker, taxing authority, etc. Think widely. Make sure to record file names, reference numbers or references, etc

2.7 Non-philatelic materials will give background and other useful information, and these include: directories, Government or official publications, maps, newspapers, patents, timetables, biographies, Army and Navy lists, etc.

2.8 Make a list of the books, and the periodical titles with volume, page and date, etc, as well as web site details, and details of files, etc. See 4.3.

2.9 Read or at least examine those sections of books relevant and the same for periodicals. It will be helpful to do this in the order published; that is by date order. This will give an idea of the development of the subject and its history. Periodicals should be listed as in 4.3 below, with a note indicating usefulness. This may serve as a bibliography in the finished written work, and will be invaluable in recording texts to be revisited.

2.10 When conducting searches on the internet, keep references/web addresses and try to verify the information with primary sources. Remember that web pages are unlikely to be available for as long as a printed item. It might be wise to print them, or parts of them.

2.11 Do not believe everything that you find, perhaps especially on the internet, many researchers have not been accurate or have a good interpretation or perspective. An indication may be if the text does not include references and or a bibliography. Check information.

3. Examine philatelic material and discuss the research project with knowledgeable people.

3.1 Examine as much material as may be available in private and public collections (museums, libraries and archives). Think widely as to where material may be held. It is to be expected that a nation's postal museum (it may be called a museum of communication) will specialise in the material of that country, but it may hold collections of other countries; for example the Museum of Communication, Berne, Switzerland contains an important collection of United States, the Charles A Hirzel Collection. The Museum of Communication, in The Hague, the Netherlands holds some archival material printed by the printing firm Enschede for the Transvaal Second Republic (1881 to 1899) being proof copies. One of the world's philatelic repositories contain many collections or archives covering a number of territories or disciplines; this is the British Library, Philatelic Collections, in London, UK. In all research projects this institution should be consulted as to available material and literature. They will not undertake your research work for you. Most institutions have web sites; but few give adequate or any information as to collections or research materials held.
Items etc should be noted as to where these have been seen. In public collections material should be referred to by the name of the institution, the name of the collection or archive concerned and any volume description and page number etc. For example: The British Library, Philatelic Collections, the Tapling Collection, Japan section page 12. This will enable others to see what has been examined or to check on your findings at a later date. These details should be noted down at the time of examination, and will be an invaluable listing of what was seen and where. A list of postal museums and philatelic libraries, etc with web sites is to be found at: www.bl.uk/collections/philatelic/links

3.2 A few tips when looking at material. Used stamps may be water damaged or their appearance may be affected by postmark ink oil. When looking at an item always do so on white or near white paper. A black paper background will almost certainly give a different appearance to a stamp. Always suspect that an item is not what it seems; always the first action of a good philatelist. Make clear and concise notes in a systematic way as you may not look at them again until sometime later.

3.3 If looking at essays, proof or archival material, record all the notations and reference numbers, etc, that may be

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associated with the items, even if they do not appear to be important. They may be or become significant later.

3.4 Museum, Library and Archive Collections will be available subject to conditions of access; these should be carefully checked well in advance before any approach is made.

3.5 You should have a clear understanding of the "archival" background of a file, collection or item. This may be that information in an official file is definitive, or in a collection such as the Tapling Collection (the British Library, Philatelic Collections) which was completed in 1899, can not contain a later forgery, etc.

4. Write a plan of your article or book and start writing

4.1 Work out the order in which information or facts will be presented in sections/chapters/paragraphs of your book or article. In a book these will form the basis of the contents page. Facts or information is usually best presented in chronological order or by subject and then chronologically arranged.

4.2 References are vital. They should always be given to prove a fact or to give further, perhaps definitive, information. In any work the question that the reader will ask is how does the author know that? References will give that evidence.

4.3 Include, where appropriate, references by a numbered system. These should be listed at the end of an article. In a book they may be at the end of each chapter or better still at the end after the last chapter and before the index.

4.4 References should be given as follows: - Books: Author, title, place of publication, publisher, date of publication, ISBN. For example: Morgan, Helen, Blue Mauritius, London, Atlantic Books, 2006, ISBN 1 84354 435 0.

Remember that the title is to be found on the title page and not on the cover or spine.

Article in a periodical: Author, title of article, title of periodical, volume number (or whole number if the volume system is not used) page numbers, date of periodical. For example: Beech, David R, "*How to look after your Collection - A Basic Guide*", **The London Philatelist**, volume 115, pp 68-70, March, 2006.

4.5 Always include an index in a book. Remember that users may wish to refer to information in ways other than the way that the author has presented it. For example in a book about postage stamps which is arranged in a chronological order of the dates of issue, a user may be interested in a printer, this information may be found almost anywhere in the text. A good index will list the printer and so the desired information will be found.

4.6 An index is a list arranged alphabetically at the end of the book. A contents page or pages appears at the beginning of the work and is set out in the order in which the chapters or sections, etc appear in the book. It is surprising just how often the two are confused!

4.7 Especially in the case of an article, it is important to set the scene by describing locations, and giving political, social and economic information, etc. The use of maps is to be encouraged.

4.8 All good research work should be published. In a periodical, an article may take the form of work in hand, sometimes put forward for comment, suggestion or criticism, usually in the form of a further article, letter to the editor, etc. The product of such a research process is likely to be definitive or accepted text, as an article, monograph or book. See 5.6.

4.9 As in most subjects, accuracy is everything.

4.10 Let the facts tell the story, not any prejudgement. However if facts are not all known, but there is a theory or theories about events, etc, make it clear that these are theories. Try to think of all of the possibilities.

4.11 Write to tell the story, with its interpretation as may be appropriate, for the record and the reader.

4.12 Resist the temptation to start writing until you are sure that your research is as complete as it can be.

4.13 Start writing your work. Be concise, make your meaning clear, avoid complicated sentence construction and words with obscure meanings, and use the spell checker. Avoid foreign phrases.

5. Tips

5.1 Always acknowledge those who have helped.

5.2 Always give references to published work or other data, including unpublished manuscripts.

5.3 In articles when referring to people who are dead always give their dates; you would be surprised about the number of people alive at the same time with the same or similar names. For example: Sir Edward Denny Bacon (1860-1938). In books this information may be collected into one section, perhaps with further biographic data.

5.4 While it does have a limited place, take great care not to judge past events by the standards of today. Make efforts to understand the history of philately as it affects your subject and the resulting issues of philatelic fashion. For example the limited number of collectors of Revenue material after the 1914-18 World War resulting in the rarest material likely to be after that event.

5.5 Always choose a title for your article or book that reflects its contents. For example: Malta. The Stamps and Postal History 1576-1960. One that does not is: Of Kauri and Gold, which is a postal, economic and social history of the Coromandel peninsula of New Zealand. Authors should bear in mind that databases that list their works will be key word searchable. The subject key words are not included in the title Of Kauri and Gold and so it will be much harder to find. Perhaps a fitting title would have been New Zealand: The Postal History of the Coromandel Peninsula with its associated social and economic development 750–1993

5.6 The research process in periodicals is one of the presentation of facts/ideas/concepts, etc. being put forward to be followed by another author or authors putting forward complementary or different views, which may extend the subject matter. Over time a consensus or proven view will be accepted. See 4.8.

5.7 Accept with an open mind the views of others and give references to others even if they take a different line.

5.8 Tabulate results if appropriate.

5.9 All illustrations in your work should be of good quality. The days of the use of photocopies have gone, unless these are all that are available. Images are liable to be copyright and the permission of the copyright owner must be obtained and acknowledged, as well as permission to reproduce. The ownership of an item is not necessarily synonymous with the ownership of copyright.

5.10 Grants may be available to meet some or all of the research expenses. These in the United Kingdom are from BPA Expertising Educational Charity; the British Philatelic Trust; the Chand A and Z Research Fund for Classic Philately (managed by the British Library, Philatelic Collections); the Julian Chapman Scholarship (managed by The Royal Philatelic Society London); the Revenue Philately Trust; the Stuart Rossiter Trust.

5.11 Accuracy is everything in research and its publication.

5.12 Get a third party (preferably a philatelist who has published research work) to look at your text and ask him or her to offer criticism and suggestions for improvement. The author is often too close to the work to see its shortcomings. Check the text for inconsistencies of such things as how dates are expressed, names, etc.

5.13 The golden rule in research and its publication is that it takes as long as it takes, not just the time that you have available. Especially with a book, you are only going to write it once, so make time to get it as right as you can. Set aside plenty of time and then add some more!

Below I give some references to works on philatelic research. I would strongly recommend James Negus's Philatelic Literature. Compilation Techniques and Reference Sources, which is the text most like a bible of the subject.

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David Beech, has been Curator of the British Library Philatelic Collections since 1983 and Head of that department since 1991. He is a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London and was President from 2003 to 2005. He is a trustee of the Stuart Rosster Trust and the Revenue Philately Trust. He is joint author of New Zealand and Dependencies - *A Philatelic Bibliography*, 2004.

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A Journey of Ingenuity

- continued from page 555

creating covers sought by collectors.
Obstacles of war, blockade and siege, are examined. A unique and important letter written in 1806 was put in a bottle and tossed into the Atlantic Ocean. It helped precipitate the War of 1812 between the United States and England because it was a documented account by an American citizen of how he was impressed into the British Navy from an American merchant ship. A U.S. Civil War letter carried by blockade runner shows the ingenuity of a Southern officer exporting cotton. It is ironic that the letter breaks the blockade, transfers to a British ship that first stops in a Northern port and then continues to England where the letter is delivered.



Buffalo Balloon Die Proof

The siege of Paris, capital of the 19th century, occurred for four months in 1870-71 and spawned ingenious methods of mail delivery. A piece of microfilm containing hundreds of letters flown by pigeon mail into the city, a zinc capsule, Boule de Moulin, filled with 400 letters and floated into the city at the bottom of the Seine River, and letters carried out of the city by hot air balloon, Ballon Monte, are all exhibited.
It was a hot air balloon that gave birth to the first stamp created for airmail in 1877. The Buffalo Balloon became the model for a private issue five cent airmail stamp prior to the plane. At the Buffalo, NY and Erie County Historical Society the exhibitor found a photo of the inaugural lift off of the Buffalo Balloon over Buffalo harbour. The balloon was so named because the citizens of Buffalo contributed $1500 toward its construction. The photo verifies the similarity of the balloon and the stamp. One of two known proofs is shown.

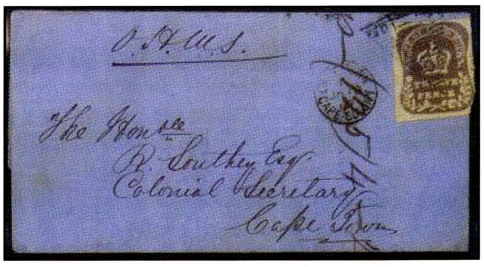
In 1898-99 sixty miles off the coast of New Zealand the first regular airmail service began. The Great Barrier Island Pigeon Mail Agency and its competitor the Service delivered mail between Auckland and the island for ten years.
The first available covers from Government sponsored airmail are from the 1911 flight that took place February 18 at the Allahabad, India U.P. Exhibition only eight years after the flight by the Wright brothers. In September of that year airmail was flown from Garden City, NY, USA. Both items are displayed followed by a U.S. airmail cover of 1918, the Curtiss Jenny, a cover of many firsts. The development of airmail and the airplane after WW I can be greatly credited to Colombia, South America.
On the ground, its mountain capital was months away from the seacoast, an uphill route that was an arduous trek along a river filled with rapids. By air it was a matter of hours and the exhibit contains a 1919 cover of the first flight. Next, ocean liners were equipped with airplane catapults to speed delivery of mail by one day. Overprinted stamped covers from the first westward catapult launch in 1928 from the Ile de France are displayed. The dirigible displaced catapult mail until its demise with the 1937 crash of the Hindenburg. Recovered mail from the crash is displayed. Rocket mail experiments from Europe and North America follow. The last two pages are reserved for the grand finale of ingenuity in achievements of mail delivery, stamped mail to and from the Soviet space station, MIR. This is the epitome of the lengths to which we strive to deliver mail faster, farther and with reliability.

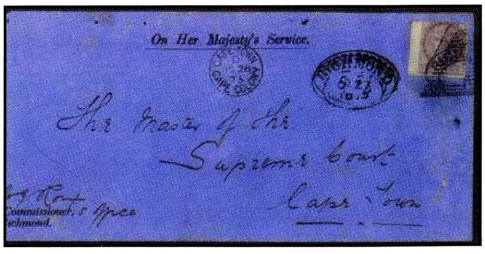
This collection will soon be offered by Harmers of London.

Information

Cape Material Missing







Cape Town member Mr Solly Gutman reports the loss of the items pictured herewith either at or in transit from this years Bloemfontein One Frame Exhibition.

Circumstances of the loss are unclear as the close- circuit security system at the Exhibition revealed no tampering or inappropriate actions whist the material was on display or during take down and packaging by the Bloemfontein support workers. Recorded footage was carefully scrutinised by Exhibition Chairman Dr Neil Conjé as well as by security professionals.

Mr Gutman observed untampered package seals when the Courier delivered the material.

The actual loss of the covers was only discovered some days after receiving the returned package when Mr Gutman opened the exhibition envelope within to show the material to a friend.

The loss and lack of resolution in respect thereof is of grave concern to the entire philatelic community. We urge all dealers and collectors to be aware and notify the appropriate people should this material be offered or seen.

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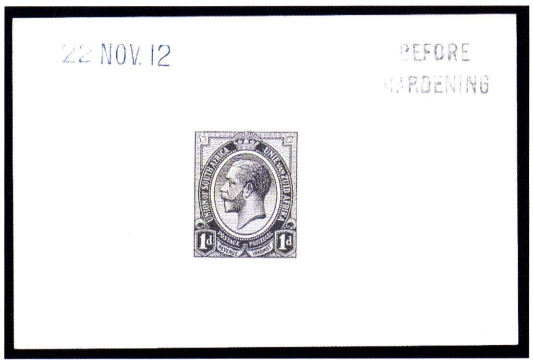



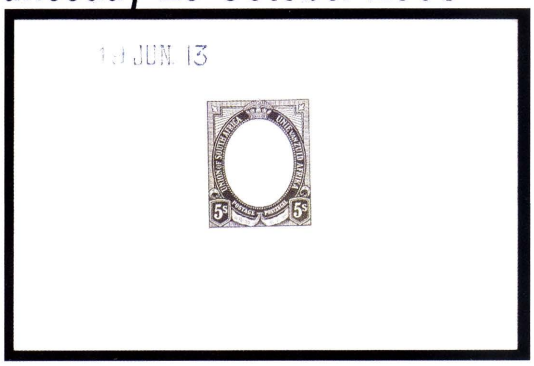









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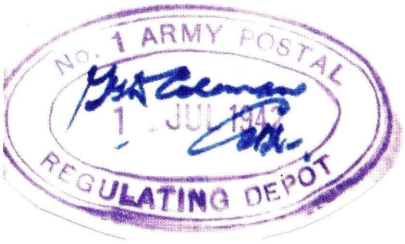
World War 2: No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot, Durban; Cachets and Additional Information

- by Jim Findlay, Johannesburg Philatelic Society.

In the article '*World War 2: No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot, Durban*', published in *The South African Philatelist*, Volume 84, No. 1, February 2008, details are given regarding the role and operations of 1 APRD and British Field Post Office 543. Certain APRD cachets were described in this article and further cachets have been 'discovered'. I think that it is appropriate to list the cachets that I have recorded that are associated with 1 APRD. There are six cachets recorded to date with an additional three that could be associated with 1 APRD. They are as follows:

1. **"No. 1 ARMY POSTAL REGULATING DEPOT * 1 JUL 1942"**
Fig. 1: Oval, Type D2 (30 x 52 m). The examples seen are endorsed by the Commanding Officer, Capt. GGD Coleman.

Fig. 1



2. **"EVACUATED TO ..... / DATE ..... / NO 1.A.P.R.D."**
Fig. 2: A three-line cachet applied to mail forwarded from 1 APRD. Many Imperial servicemen and women served with the Royal Air Force in South Africa and others were in hospitals and convalescent homes in South Africa. This cachet was applied to re-directed mail to the location of the addressee.

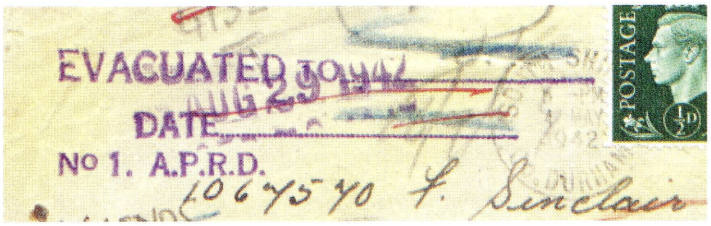


Fig. 2

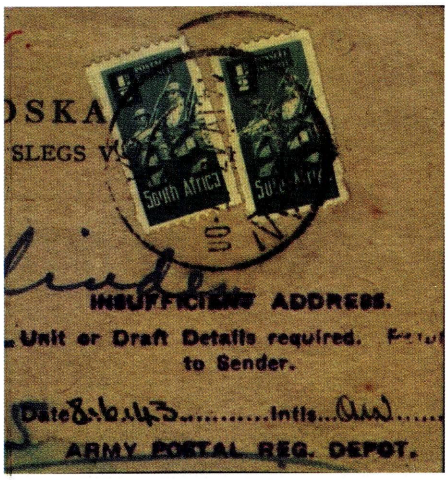
3. **"Evacuated to U.K. / on ...../ Date ..... Intls ...../ ARMY POSTAL REG. DEPOT"**
Fig.3: A four-line cachet specifically for addressees that had been evacuated to the United Kingdom.



Fig.3

4. **"Believed Returned To / United Kingdom. Present / Address Unknown. Return / To Sender. Cm"**
Fig. 3: Boxed (20 x 58 mm) four-line cachet returning mail to the sender. Although this does not indicate that the cachet is specifically from No. 1 APRD, it is highly probable.

Fig. 4



5. **"INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS / Unit or Draft Details required. Return / to Sender. / Date .....Intls...../ ARMY POSTAL REG. DEPOT"**
Fig. 4: A five-line cachet applied to insufficiently addressed mail for returning to the sender.

6. **"No Trace In Postal / Records. / Date ..... Intls ..... / ARMY POSTAL REGULATING DEPOT"**
This is a four-line cachet as indicated. It is partially covered by a re-directing address label on the cover, which makes an illustration difficult. When held up to a light source the wording is clear.

The following cachets are not specifically from 1 APRD but could have an association and it is not clear where they were applied.

7. **"Believed Returned To United Kingdom / Present Address Not Known"**
Fig. 5: A two-line cachet in combination with No. 7 (Fig. 6) below.

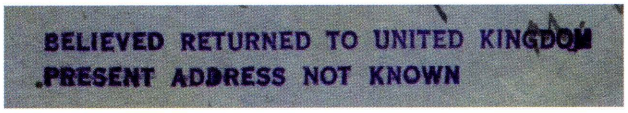


Fig. 5

8. **"Undelivered For Reason Stated / Return To Sender"**
Fig. 6: A two-line box (16 x 58 mm) applied together with cachet No. 7 (Fig. 5) above.

Fig. 6



9. **"A/O i/c RECORDS / UNITED KINGDOM"**
Fig. 7: A two-line cachet re-directing mail to the records office in the United Kingdom, from where it would be re-directed to the sender.

Fig. 7



The above cachets are in the collection of the author. Should readers have any additional cachets and/or information on 1 APRD, please contact the author.

Part 1 published in February 2008 *"No. 1 Army Postal Regulating Depot in Durban during World War II.*

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The Postal History of Clanwilliam

-by Andrew Briscoe, Wits Philatelic Society.

Part Two

The Development of Local Posts

In the early 1820s, a regular service northwards from Clanwilliam for the delivery of Government Gazettes and official letters was introduced, carried by the Vredendal Field-cornet Van Zyl who journeyed weekly between Vredendal and Clanwilliam.

From Troe Troe to Spruit Drift, the Residence of Mr Albert van Zyl, once a week each way, on foot." The Branch Posts were "From Clanwilliam to Lambert's Bay, once a week each way, on horseback" and "From Parkhuis to Wupperthal, once a week each way, on foot or on horseback".



fig. 1

A similar service also operated to the northeast, as indicated by the letter illustrated in figure 1. This is an official letter from the assistant landdrost at Clanwilliam, J.F. van Ryneveld, dated 27 April 1825, and addressed to H.C. Nieuwoudt, Field-Cornet at Onder Bokkeveld. This village was subsequently renamed Nieuwoudtville in honour of the Nieuwoudt family, who owned the farm on which the village was established in 1897.

In 1827, following complaints from officials further north in Namaqualand and the Kamiesberg that letters addressed to them remained unattended in Vredendal for weeks and sometimes months, a new weekly service northwards from Clanwilliam was established. Unfortunately, this service was also poorly managed, and there were frequent complaints that the mails remained uncollected in Clanwilliam for weeks on end.

It is not clear when the Post Office in Clanwilliam established local or bye-posts for the conveyance of private letters to the surrounding areas. However, in 1854 the Civil Commissioner of Clanwilliam invited tenders for the carriage of a weekly post to the wards of Harvald, Namaqualand and Kamiesbergen, and also those of Hantam, Onder Bokkeveld and Roggeveld. Similarly, in 1870, the Civil Commissioner advertised for tenders for the conveyance of both Field-cornets' posts and Branch posts. The former were to be provided "From Clanwilliam to Langeveley, the Residence of Mr Gideon van Zyl, once a fortnight each way, on foot.

Improvements in the Delivery of Mails on the Northern Route

On 1 January 1837, the new division of Clanwilliam was established, and shortly afterwards the administration of the northern postal route was reformed. The route became a Divisional Post under the authority of the Civil Commissioners, and the tender for the carriage of mails from Clanwilliam to Vredendal in 20 hours was awarded to the Reverend J.C. Knab of the Rhenish Mission at Ebenezer for the sum of £6 per year.

In 1844, a notice in the Cape Almanac informed the public that the 'Inland Mails' were despatched weekly from Cape Town on Fridays at 9 p.m., arriving at Clanwilliam on Sundays at 6.10 a.m. The mails to Cape Town from Clanwilliam were despatched on Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

In 1848, a Government Notice dated 16 May and published in the Government Gazette invited tenders for the carriage of mail on all the main postal routes, including the route from Cape Town to Clanwilliam. The overall time allocated for the four stages of the journey (Cape Town - Stellenbosch - Paarl - Tulbagh - Clanwilliam) was set at 45 hours. The tender also anticipated that mails would be carried twice per week each way, although it seems that this proposal was not implemented, because the Cape Almanac for 1850 states that Route Number 25 had one delivery per week despatched from Cape Town on Thursday at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, arriving at Clanwilliam on Saturday at 6 in the morning.

The return route, Number 26, despatched mail from Clanwilliam on Monday at 10 in the morning for arrival in Cape Town on Wednesday at 1 in the afternoon.

Over the next eleven years, the Post Office achieved some significant improvements in delivery times, and the Post Office Guide of 1859 was able to announce that a letter despatched from Cape Town on Saturday at 10 a.m. would arrive at Clanwilliam on Sunday at 3.30 p.m. The mail from Clanwilliam to Cape Town was despatched on Wednesday at 8 a.m., arriving Thursday at 3 p.m. These improvements were achieved principally through the introduction of a more direct route. On the newly established Route Number 65, the northern mail was now despatched in three stages: to Malmesbury (by omnibus), Piquetburg (by cart), and Clanwilliam (on horseback). By 1865 a second weekly post to Cape Town was being advertised in Clanwilliam, departing Saturday at 9.45 a.m.

The next major improvements in postal services were facilitated by the opening of the various extensions to the railway system. In 1880, the Report of the Postmaster-General noted that the mail from Clanwilliam now arrived in Cape Town by train, "the effect of which is very much greater regularity and punctuality in delivery, and business men having their private locked boxes can calculate to within a few minutes when to send for their correspondences." However, the railway only went north as far as Piquetburg Road, and the mail from there to Clanwilliam was still carried



fig. 2

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fig. 3

by cart and northwards from Clanwilliam by horseback. The PMG's Report for 1883 noted that considerable improvements had been effected to the road from Clanwilliam to Springbokfontein, permitting arrangements to be made for conveying the mails by cart instead of on horseback.

In 1901-2, during the Anglo Boer War, there were frequent disruptions to both branch and main posts operating around Clanwilliam. The postmaster also had to endure the complete destruction of the post office by fire, as recorded in the PMG's Report for 1901: "The premises rented by the Government as Public Offices at Clanwilliam, and which include the Post and Telegraph Office, were completely destroyed by fire on the morning of 10th August and everything lost with the exception of the contents of the safe, which, however, were somewhat charred ... there seems no doubt that the fire was the work of an incendiary." This fire had started in the Magistrate's Office, which used part of the same building occupied by the post office, and both offices were then transferred to a temporary building which itself befell a similar fate inside six months: "The temporary Public Offices at Clanwilliam were destroyed by fire on March 9th. The fire, as on a former occasion, originated in the roof of the Magistrate's office, and quickly spread to the Post Office and four adjoining buildings, which were completely gutted. The Postmaster succeeded in saving the greater portion of the mails, accounting books, main stock of stamps, telegraph apparatus and a portion of the furniture and fittings, but the main stock of stamps of the Van Rhynsdorp Post Office, which had been brought into Clanwilliam for safety, was completely destroyed, as were also the whole of the forms and stores." (PMG's Report for 1902). For the next two years, the work of the Clanwilliam Post Office was carried on "temporarily in the kitchen and servants' room of the Residency" (the old Drotsdy), which were "quite unsuitable for the purpose", until new rented premises were found in 1904.



fig. 4

The Postmarks of Clanwilliam

Clanwilliam's first postmark was the distinctive crown-in-circle handstamp, which was issued in 1820. Figure 2 illustrates a letter of 1825 prepaid from Clanwilliam to Worcester with the crown-in-circle handstamp applied on despatch. This mark remained in use until 1849, although examples of its usage are not common because of the comparatively small amount of mail handled in the village.

In 1849, a new Octagonal Numeral handstamp numbered '19' was issued for use at the Clanwilliam post office, replacing the crown-in-Circle. Figure 3 illustrates the usage of this postmark on an interesting cover of 1851, from the Resident Magistrate in Clanwilliam to the Master of the Supreme Court in Cape Town. Although the Magistrate had endorsed the cover "On Her M Service", this claim of free postage was disallowed by the Post Office in Clanwilliam, and the letter endorsed "To Pay". The official mail regulations gazetted on 12 February 1846 required that any letter on the public service intended for delivery in Cape Town had to be sent under cover to the Secretary to Government, who would pay the postage due and forward the letter to the addressee. Since the illustrated letter was not sent under cover, the claim to free postage was disallowed, and the addressee required to pay postage of one shilling.

The first dated postmark issued to the Clanwilliam post office was the oval mark illustrated in figure 4. This cover also demonstrates the efficiency which the postal service had achieved by 1862, enabling a letter posted in Clanwilliam on February 26 to reach Cape Town and then Stellenbosch the following day. The oval datestamp was also struck in black, as can be seen in figure 5, which additionally illustrates the use of



fig. 5

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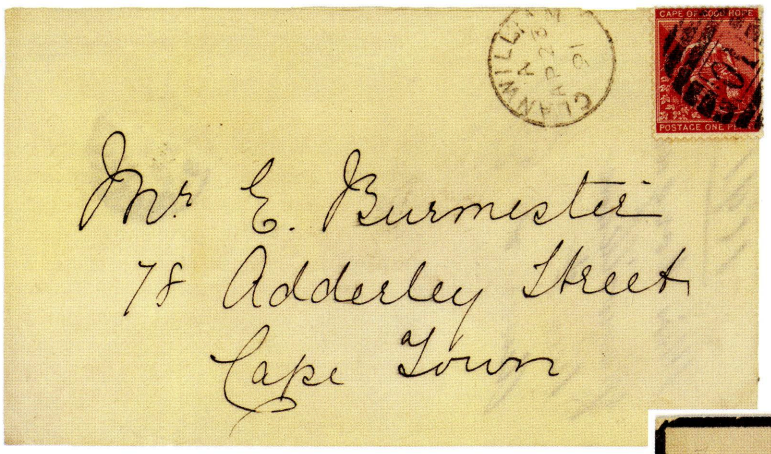


fig. 6

the barred oval numeral canceller No 10 at Clanwilliam in 1877. Figure 6 indicates that the same numeral canceller was still being used in 1891, now in conjunction with a circular date stamp.

From approximately 1870, most of the larger post offices in the Cape were issued with official handstamps to indicate that a letter had been posted too late for inclusion in the mail already made up and closed. Such letters were forwarded by the next mail, after having been appropriately stamped TOO LATE. The post office at Clanwilliam was one of those considered too small to be issued with an official handstamp, but the postmaster decided to make up his own distinctive LATE handstamp, which was applied to the mourning cover illustrated in figure 7. This cover was presented to the Clanwilliam post office on 26, February, 1893, and held over until 2 March when the next Cape Town mail was made up.



fig. 7

Exhibition News

Stampshow 2008 Pretoria - Update

23 - 25 October 2008

The Rautenbach Hall at the University of Pretoria.

Preparations for the STAMPSHOW 2008 are now entering a hectic period. The judges have been appointed, the exhibits documented and the countdown has begun!

The Organising Committee's meeting frequency has increased steadily and good progress is being made on all fronts. Lots of tiny (and not so tiny!) details are continually being discussed, organised and completed.

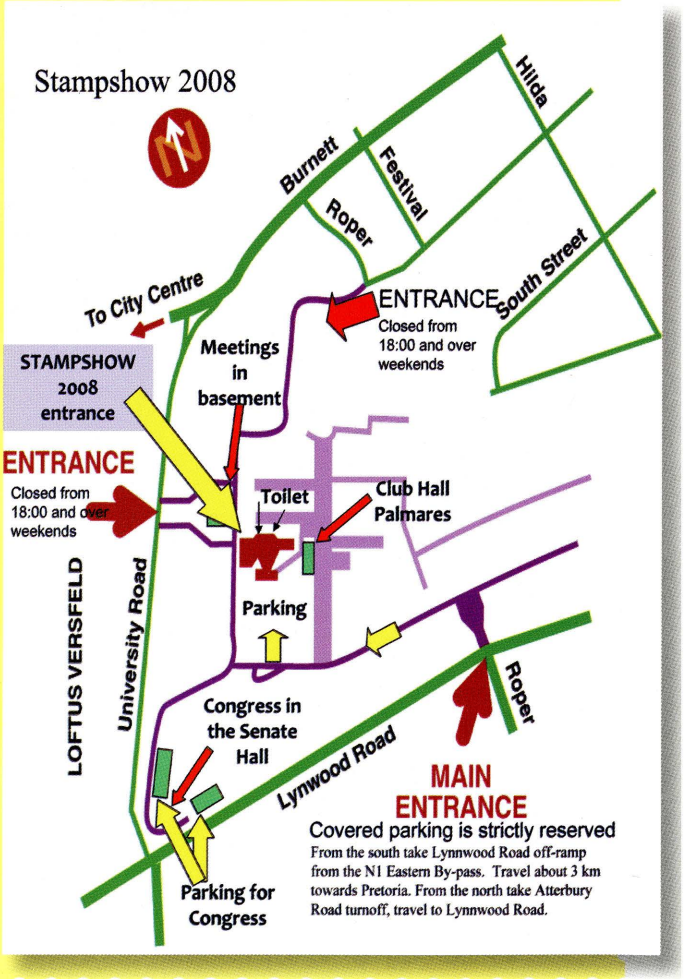
The final number of exhibitors and exhibits are now known. A total of 342 frames of exhibits will be available on the opening day. There are quite a number of exciting, previously unexhibited entries. What friend and foe (tongue in cheek!) has been up to over the last year is definitely a "must see".

The entries span the gamut of philately and even include an invited telately exhibit. For those out there that would like to know what this is about… please come to the exhibition starting on 23 October 2008 and all will be revealed! Besides the aforementioned exhibit there will be 60 invited frames, and 282 competitive frames. Junass 2008 will be run concurrently with the senior exhibition and 53 frames have been received for the various junior classes.

Also please remember to fill in and return the delegate forms for Congress and **DO NOT** forget that the Palmares Dinner is on Saturday 25 October 2008. The cost for the Palmares is R165 per person. The menu that has been selected is a scrumptious one and is meat based. Special arrangements have also been made with the catering firm to provide for vegetarian palates. Please indicate your preference when you reserve your seat.

At least 15 dealers have confirmed their attendance including several from overseas. This is also the opportunity for you to fill that long awaited gap or start that new collection you wanted to many years ago!

Diarise the 23rd to the 25th of October 2008 now and make sure that this highlight on the philatelic calendar is not missed.



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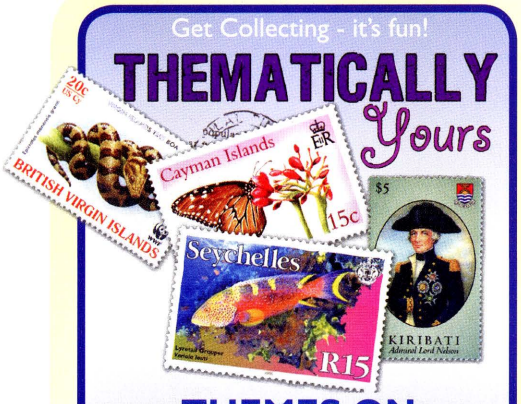


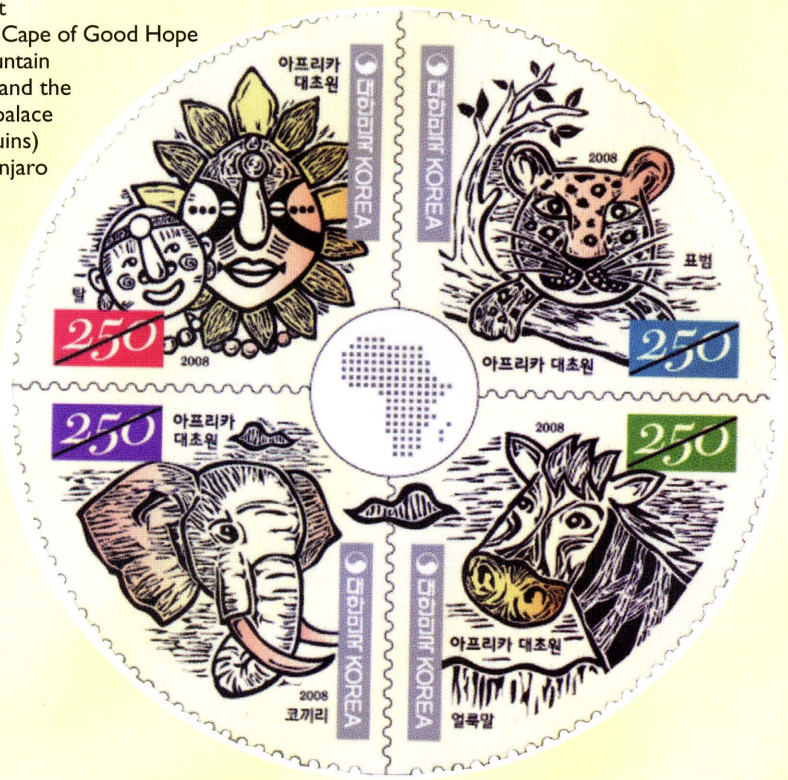
THEMES ON STAMPS

by Rev Cassie Carstens, of the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

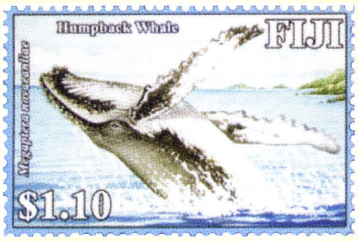
* The Korean Philatelic Bureau recently issued an '*African Savanna Special Stamp*' - 4 stamps se-tenant in a circle. Jong-Hyun Rew, the Honorary President of the African Cultural Center in Korea, lists the following 10 places of interest on the **African Continent**:

1. Sahara Desert & Kalahari Desert (Kgalagadi)
2. Djenne Mosque and the old international city of Timbuktu
3. The Atlantic Coast and traces of the slave trade at the Gulf of Guinea
4. The River Congo, alias the River Zaire, and the rain forest
5. South Africa's Cape of Good Hope and Table Mountain
6. Victoria Falls and the Shona stone palace (Zimbabwe ruins)
7. Mount Kilimanjaro
8. Axum, Ethiopia's ancient capital and Lalibella Church
9. The Great Rift Valley and the seven lakes
10. Baobab forests - Senegal & Madagaskar

Do you agree? I want to add the Great Pyramids and the Nile River, and also the Kruger National Park. And it can become quite an adventure to collect stamps of all these interesting places….



***The Humpback Whale** (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) leaves its home in the Antarctic to breed in tropical seas from June to August every year. This whale is one of the larger baleen whales up to about 16 meters in length, and has a large head in proportion to its size. Its small dorsal fin contrasts with its very long flippers with their distinctive scalloped front edges. These long flippers are the source of its genus name, *Megaptera*, meaning literally 'giant wing'. Its English common name is derived from its habit of arching its back when diving or as it re-enters the water after "breaching" - leaping completely out of the water.



Herrie Duys
AFV

26.1.1922 - 23.8.2008

Elke vereniging word gedryf deur mense wat gewillig is om hulle kragte in te span vir ander mense. By die AFV het ons Herrie Duys gehad. Hy was een van daardie mense vir wie dit 'n plesier was om vir ander mense en die vereniging te werk. Hy was baie jare die Voorsitter van die AFV en het ook jarelank roetes gelei van die rondsending. Daarna was hy vir jare die Lewenslange Ere-voorsitter van die AFV, hoewel hy al lank gelede weens gesondheidsprobleme moes opgee om seëls te versamel.

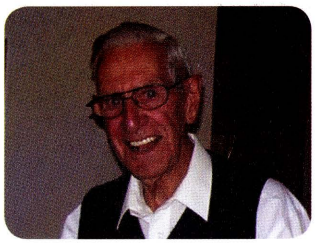
Herrie Duys was gebore in Nederland op 26 Januarie 1922. Tydens die oorlog volg hy 'n tersiere opleiding vir tropiese landbou. Na die oorlog gaan hy as militair naar Nederlands-Indië. Eers gestasioneer op Java, maar spoedig al naar Nu-Guinea. Dit was baie afgeleë en hy het daar 'n pragtige versameling Nu-Guinea opgebou in 'n tyd dat dit nog nie 'n aparte versamelgebied was nie.

Nadat hy Indonesia verlaat het het hy in 1949 SA toe gekom. Mieke het hom SA toe gevolg en hulle is op 4 April 1949 in Johannesburg getroud. In 1954 koop hy saam met 'n vriend die OLD JAR pottery in Benoni. Na 'n paar jaar gaan sy vennoot terug Holland toe en word hy alleen-eienaar. Die pottebakkery het mooi ontwikkel onder sy entousiastiese leiding en nog orals sien 'n mens van sy produkte wat bekend was weens hul eie besonderse styl. Hy en Mieke (oorlede in 2003) het 3 kinders (een seun, 2 dogters) gehad en 6 kleinkinders.

Nadat Mieke gesterf het, het Herrie (wat nie vir "geraas" staan nie, maar afgekort is van Herman) in Fairleads aftree-oord gebly tot hy in Augustus geval het en sy heup gebreek het. Alhoewel die operasie 'n sukses was, is hy op 23 Augustus 2008 oorlede.

Ons sal hom by die AFV mis. Hy was een van die ou garde wat die AFV opgebou het.

Herrie has also been a member of the ERPS for about 40 years. He was our auctioneer and he had a special ability to sell the lots at the monthly auction. All who attended the meetings will remember his ready knowledge and quick wit.



Herrie had the ability to cheer people up. It was smiles all around when he was part of a group.

Not being able to sit down for long, always in a hurry, always a joke to tell, always admiring other people, spontaneous, humorous, open-handed.

That is how we will remember Herrie. He was a unique character and will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege to know him. May he rest in peace.

J.A. Bakker RDPSA. Voorsitter AFV / President ERPS.

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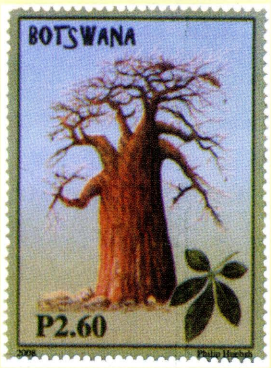
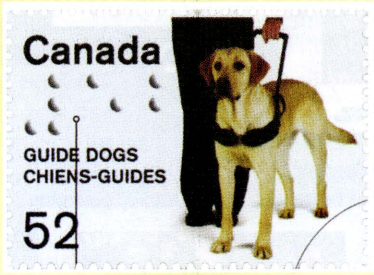
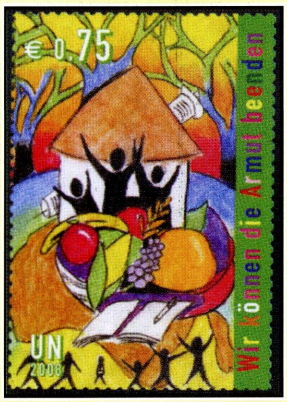
* The community of **artists** in Botswana is very active. The National Arts Gallery (which will celebrate its 40th Anniversary this year) and other formal and informal bodies encourage a wide variety of visual arts, including photography, painting, basketwork, sculpture and fabric arts. This beautiful painting of a *baobab* is typical of Botswana art. The name baobab is derived from the Arabic word *buhibab* which means 'fruit with many seeds.'



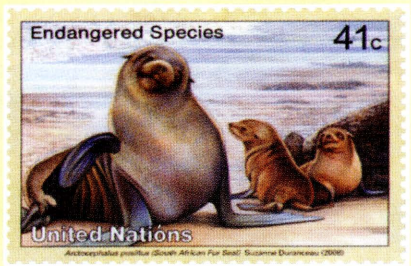
* Services to the **blind** have changed dramatically in the last few decades. The place and roll of a guide dog - truly man's best friend - signifies responsibility and also hard work. Where will you find a better companion to lead the way? We salute our canine champions!



* As part of the activities to celebrate the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, over 12,000 children (ranging in ages of 5 to 15 years) from 124 countries around the world have been invited to participate in an art competition on the theme: "**We Can End Poverty.**" One of the six winners came from Zimbabwe (Rufaro Duri, 11 years old) - the rainbow represents hope; the needy people in front can grow into strong people, with the goodness contained in the begging bowl; the trees are coming back to life with international aid; third world countries can rejuvenate; the hut symbolizes shelter, the syringes – health, the book – education.



* The **Cape Fur Seal** (*Arctocephalus pusillus*) can be found along the southern and south western coast of Africa. They are commonly spotted throughout Namibia and as far east as Port Elizabeth. They spend most of their year at sea but not too far from land. Groups of seals that share a rookery are called colonies. Cape Fur Seal colonies range in size from 500 – 3000 bulls. Their diet includes mainly fish, squid, crab and other crustaceans. They are surface divers with an average dive of about 45 meters and 2.1 minutes, although they can dive as deep as 204 meters and for as long as 7.5 minutes where necessary.



* Für uns Kinder = **For our Children**. If the Germans and the Swiss and the Dutch people can do it on a regular basis, then so can South Africa (if we are really serious about the welfare of our children). Every year an issue "**for our children**" – and let the children do the artwork with their brilliant and fascinating imaginations.



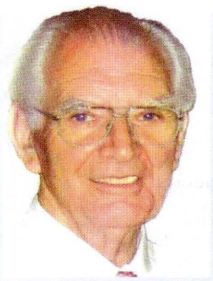
References

1. Post Fiji : Bulletin 246
2. Botswana Post : March 2008
3. Korean Stamp Review : Summer 2008
4. Fascination : Unites Nations Postal Administration : No 317 – 3/2008
5. Details (Canada) : Summer 2008
6. Fascination : No 315 -- 1/2008
7. German Post : August 2008

Eric John Perrett -

Edenvale Philatelic Society

3.8.1936 - 22.8.2008.



Eric grew up in England and joined the police force. In the early 50's he left for Rhodesia, where he met and married Marie. A serious motor accident put an end to his career in the police force and the family emigrated to South Africa. Eric found employment at ICI where he excelled in his work with personnel. He retired after 22 years of service.

Eric took life seriously. Whatever he did was carried out with commitment and dedication, with the result that everything he did achieved a high degree of excellence, raised the benchmark and set new standards.

Eric joined the Edenvale Philatelic Society in 1992 (5 years before I first met him), and soon began to make his mark in the Society by exhibiting and winning awards in the monthly club competitions. He had many philatelic interests, not least of which were Lepidoptera and 'Rhodesia'. But his real favourite was Cecil John Rhodes, the subject of his last exhibit in our August Thematic competition. Jill Redmond, one of the leading and most knowledgeable thematic judges, examined all the entries and declared Eric the winner, to his great delight.

When I joined EPS in 1997 Eric was Honorary Secretary, a role I took over in 1998 and found myself with a very hard act to follow. Over the years he served on the committee and in 2001 became Vice-President, a prelude to his being elected President in 2004, a job at which he excelled, raising the interest level of meetings and encouraging better member participation.

Throughout the years I knew Eric, he impressed with his qualities of leadership, wisdom and the ability to handle difficult situations with diplomacy and tact. His commitment to the Society saw Eric personally involved in time-consuming and arduous tasks, like cataloguing, packing and moving Exchange Books in an emergency, and listing and pricing Library Books for a Club Auction. He was a very good Auctioneer by the way, and helped to raise funds for both the Club and Members.

Thank you, Eric, for your example. You will always be remembered for your integrity, good fellowship, generosity of spirit, enthusiasm and your positive attitude.

To Marie, who supported Eric so loyally, and to Mary-Anne, Jennifer, Wendy, Maxine and your families … the President, Committee and Members of Edenvale Philatelic Society feel your loss and extend loving condolences.

Yvonne Tonini. Hon Secretary,
Edenvale Philatelic Society

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Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed

1 - "De La Rue's Universal Colour Scheme", by Michael Oliver, *'The London Philatelist'* no.1357, July-August 2008, p.190 -203. The basic reason for the scheme by De La Rue was to deter forgers from replicating their stamps by 'adapting' an existing stamp, such as the 1d of Fiji printed in purple and black on red paper could be turned into a £1 printed in purple and black on red paper by altering the duty only.

2 - "The Transvaal during the first decade of the twentieth century", by Christopher Board, *'The Transvaal Philatelist'* no.167, August 2008, p58 – 71. Wide ranging review of development of the politics, economy, postal services and rail routes, together with a near A2 size detailed map showing places, Post Offices, railway lines and stations. Article contains Gazetteer of Post Offices and Agencies.

3 - "CSAR's TPOs – an update", by Alan Drysdall, *'The Transvaal Philatelist'* no.167, August 2008, p73 – 77. Discusses markings on some illustrated covers, together with a review of 'Late Fees'.

4 - "Letter from David Livingstone", by Brian Hurst, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p42-45. Gives background on Livingstone's travels and writings, with transcript of letter dated 14 July 1843 from Kuruman to Glasgow.

5 - "New and Old Postmark Discoveries" by Werner Seeba, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p47-49. Looks at Bechuanaland BONC 1001, 478, 637, 891, 995 and 996, illustrated on covers.

6 - "The Octagonals, Part 2" by Johnny Barth, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p50-54. Illustrates covers with Cape Octagonal Postmarks 55, 57, 34,51, 50, 53 and 6, together with detailed discussion on allocations to Post Offices.

7 – "Combination Usages of Natal and New republic Stamps, 1886-1888 (Part 2)" by Keith P. Klugman, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p55-66. Illustrates 21 covers with some comments.

8 - "Tax Marks with Simple Text" by Jan Stolk, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08,p66-68. Illustrates 9 markings which simply state 'tax' and/or 'boete'.

9 - "The Colored Inks of the Orange Free State: Part 1, Bloemfontein Cancels of 1880 - 1892" by Tim Bartshe, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p69-72. A review of the OFS cancellations which used inks coloured other than black, with tabulation of database.

10 - "The King's Head" by Ashley Cotter-Cairns, *'Forerunners'* no.60, November 07 / February 08, p73-75. A general review of what these stamps have to offer the collector : enough collecting depth to last a lifetime!



Newly formed Penguins on Stamps Study Unit

Now affiliated with the American Topical Association headquartered in Arlington, Texas. This organization publishes a journal and offers other services to aid study and collection of stamps and covers featuring penguins.

According to the Membership Secretary, dues are low and will be used to offset costs of newsletter and other mailing.

Visit http://www.penguinstamps.org to see the organizational documents, or reply to webmaster@penguinstamps.org

The original post card above is mailed to prospective members. "We are already having great fun, and hope to share this with more people worldwide. Thank you in advance for any help publicising our fledging study group!"

Jean C. Stout and Joshua H. Mc Gee, President.
656 April Sound, Pearl, MS 39208-6603, USA

Specialist philatelic Societies

- The Great Britain Philatelic of South Africa. The S.A. representative is Malcolm Suttill. Tel 013 656 5932, 32 Amaryllis St, Witbank 1034. email: malcolms@lantic.net
- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: *'The Transvaal Philatelist'*. The S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: *'Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal'*. The S.A. representative is Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: *'TheSpringbok'*. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. based in the UK. Journal: *'OFS Bulletin'*. SA Representative John Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net website: www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: *'The London Philatelist'*. The S.A. representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: *'Forerunners'*. SA representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: *'Journal of RSC'*. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: *'The Runner Post'*. The S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keithp@dbthermal.co.za
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za

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READERS QUESTIONS

Bloemfontein Show Grounds P.O. Date Stamps on Military Mails

- by George Cafetzoglou, RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Showgrounds. Tentoonstellingsgronde - Bloemfontein. Special Date Stamp Reisiner No. 39

Reisener records show dates as provided by the Bloemfontein Library. The license states that these 'temporary' postal facilities at the show grounds were extended on application to other special events such as 'Horse & Cattle Auctions'. The 1940 dates are given as March 13 - 15.

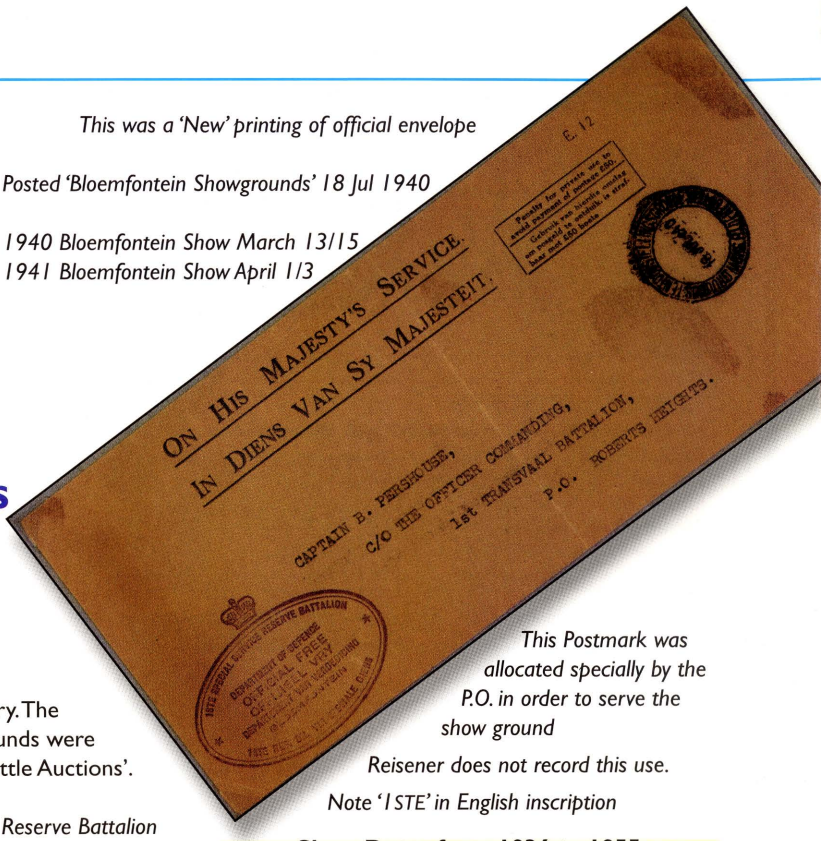
I illustrate herewith a military cover OHMS of the *1st Special Service Reserve Battalion* with the 'Show Grounds' Date stamp on 18 Jul c40'

We know that the Bloemfontein Show Grounds were used on occasions during WWII as unit assembly gathering camps, and with bivouac facilities provided.

It thus appears that the PO extended temporary postal facilities to the army units as well.

I would be very interested to hear of any other such usages for record purposes, of the WWII Study Group. Illustrations would be appreciated.

Contact - George Cafetzoglou, on email: gccstamps@tekomsa.net



This was a 'New' printing of official envelope

Posted 'Bloemfontein Showgrounds' 18 Jul 1940

1940 Bloemfontein Show March 13/15
1941 Bloemfontein Show April 1/3

This Postmark was allocated specially by the P.O. in order to serve the show ground

Reisener does not record this use.

Note '1STE' in English inscription

Show Dates from 1936 to 1955:

1936 March 31 - April 2	1937 March 16 to 17
1938 April 5 to 7	1939 March 28 to 30
1940 March 13 to 15	1941 April 1 to 3
1942 March 24 to 26	1943 to 1946 no shows
1947 March 23 to 28	1948 March 16 to 18
1949 April 5 to 7	1950 March 25 to 30
1951 March 13 to 15	1952 April 30 to May 4
1953 April 29 to May 2	1954 May 4 to 8
1955 April 26 to 30	1956 New Date Stamp

Nouvelles Hébrides Poste Local.

Does anyone know anything about the Cinderella reproduced below?



The Colony of the New Hebrides was an anomaly - an Anglo-French Condominium. Known as the Republic of Vanuatu, since 30 July 1980, this group of islands is situated in the Pacific about 2000 km east of Queensland and about 1000 km west of Fiji. The Condominium was proclaimed in 1906 in which each of the two powers exercised jurisdiction over its own nationals only and neither is allowed control over the whole group. Robson Lowe, in *The Encyclopædia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Volume IV, The Empire in Australasia* (published in 1962), gave the population as British 450, French 3,250, Natives 45,000. The condominium post office opened on 1 October 1908 and later that year territorial issues appeared; contemporary stamps of Fiji, bearing King Edward VII, overprinted 'NEW HEBRIDES / CONDOMINIUM' for the British, and French Colonial stamps of New Caledonia overprinted 'NOUVELLES HÉBRIDES' for the French. The latter stamps were additionally overprinted 'CONDOMINIUM' two years later. Prior to this, stamps of New South Wales and New Caledonia were used.

In 1911 two stamp issues, in a common design were introduced, inscribed in English (denominated in pence and shillings) or French (denominated in centimes and francs). Thereafter, until Independence was granted in 1980, stamps inscribed in both languages were issued concurrently and had equal validity throughout the islands.



In 1897 The Australasian New Hebrides Company Limited introduced a local inter-island postal service using the company's own ships. They issued two stamps in a common design (illustrated above) in denominations of 1d. and 2d.

These were also valid for postage to Sydney. This stamp issue is well documented (Robson Lowe and the *Commonwealth Five Reigns* catalogue published by Bridger and Kay Limited). Remainders were sold to a Sydney stamp dealer in 1913. Hence examples are not uncommon.

Recently, I acquired an example of a similar local stamp issue, reproduced above, in a stamp auction run by a New Zealand stamp dealer. This is inscribed 'NOUVELLES HÉBRIDES' at the top in two panels flanking an elliptical tablet bearing the face value '5' (centimes ?) and at the bottom a panel inscribed 'POSTE LOCALE' flanked on either side with sloping panels inscribed 'SYNDICAT' and 'FRANÇAIS'. The vignette is a coastal view, with the title, in script, 'Franceville 1903'. An erupting volcano is depicted on the skyline to the left directly under the 'S' of 'NOUVELLES'.

This stamp is of size 38 x 21 mm and is perforated, whereas the A.N.H.C. stamp is 40 x 26 mm and is rouletted. Both stamps were printed by lithography.

Robin Messenger,

Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

E-mail: messenger.robin@gmail.com.

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Classifieds



SMALLS ADVERTS

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 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

Wanted: Mint, thematic, set for exchange with all countries. I offer mint South Africa, Homelands, South West Africa.
Contact Ivan Schroeder,
15 Thibault St, Morgenster Heights, Brackenfell. 7560
Republic of South Africa.
Phone/Fax: 021 982 2221

Wanted: I am a 68 year old and only starting to collect-stamps at this 'young age'. Any country any stamp. Please let me have your redundant duplicates. OR if you have complete or near complete collections to sell. I will look at any proposition.
Contact Johannes van der Merwe.
PO Box 2534, North End, Port Elizabeth 6056
Tel: 041 453 7910 (Office) or 041 360 2408 (Home)
email: abletrac@iafrica.com

Wanted: Recent mint topical issues (WWF, Fauna, Flora, Transport, Europa) from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Leshoto. Offer mint or used topical issues from Romania, Moldova, Ex-USSR republics, China and Cuba. Basis "Michel" catalogue. Also, I'm interested in exchanging 500 to 2000 comemorative used stamps only in registered letters. Basis 1:1.
Contact Petrescu Marian Florin,
P.O. Box 6, Of. Postal 14, Ploiesti, Romania.
e-mail: florinmarianpetrescu@yahoo.com

Exchange: I am from Portugal but live in Mozambique if you are interested in exchanging stamps contact me, Mr Flavio Viera. email: flavio_vfilipe@hotmail.com
I have stamps from many countries.

Riddle

I wear the face of a leader of men. My financial worth is small and my appearance not impressive, yet my presence is a passport to any country and society. I have the entree alike to the boudoir and the armed; I penetrate to royal palaces and to the far corners of the earth. In my youth I am bright and fresh looking; later, my face is marred and disfigured and I am cast aside as nothing; but when I'm very old I am eagerly sought, and a safe refuge is provided for me, where I am exhibited to admiring visitors. What am I?

Submitted with acknowledgements to Chris Cordes and Mrs Cordes and published in 'The Star' (27.8.2008)
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For Sale: Union Castle Ephemera. Passenger list, Menus, Note paper, Luggage Labels from RMMV Cape Town Castle 1963.
Contact roses@wol.co.za

Wanted: Weekly News Letters produced in 1960s by H. Sinclair-Brown, stamp dealer in Liverpool, which contained detailed research articles on new Commonwealth issues and which were available on subscription only.
Please contact Peter van der Molen
Tel: 011 849 4822 or 'e' molens@pixie.co.za

Wanted: Thematic: RUGBY. Kindly assist me with material (stamps, covers, postal items) for a thematic display on rugby. Keen to add material from South Africa, France, New Zealand, British Isles etc.
Contact Pieter Meyer.
PO Box 2534, North End, Port Elizabeth 6056
Tel: (H) 044 279 2060 (O) or 044272 4600 fax: 044 272 2556
PO Box 43, Oudtshoorn, 6620.

Are You Interested: In Ukraine or ex-USSR philately?
I would like to trade. *Offers*: MNH, CTO stamps, s/s, FDC from Ukraine; MNH stamps, s/s from ex-USSR Republics.
Interest: complete sets of MNH w/w topicals.
Contact: Dmitriy Onischenko, email address: ua_stamps@yahoo.com
Postal address: 48/5, apt. 52 Zlatoustivska Str, Kiev 01135 Ukraine

Appeal for exchange: An Austrian philatelist in search of new South African stamps in exchange for new Austrian stamps.
Lilo Schönherr, Hasenauerstr. 31
A-1180 Vienna. Austria - Europe

FUTURE ARTICLES

Kobus Esterhuizen - Part 2 - stamp designer
by George Cafetzoglou

World War 2 Stamps:
Why No 'Engineer Corps' Stamp?
by Jim Findlay

"Not in the book"
by Chris Mobsby.

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Alsace - Lorraine
by Ray Hackworth.

www.philatelysa.co.za

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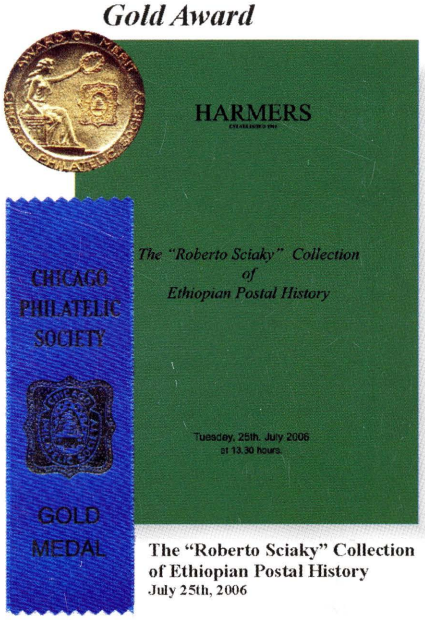
HARMERS

ESTABLISHED 1918

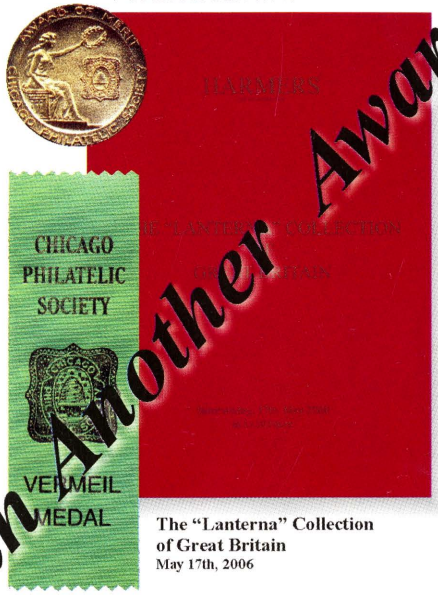
2007 Chicago Philatelic Society Awards for Literature

Gold Award



The "Roberto Sciaky" Collection of Ethiopian Postal History
July 25th, 2006

Vermeil Award



The "Lanterna" Collection of Great Britain
May 17th, 2006

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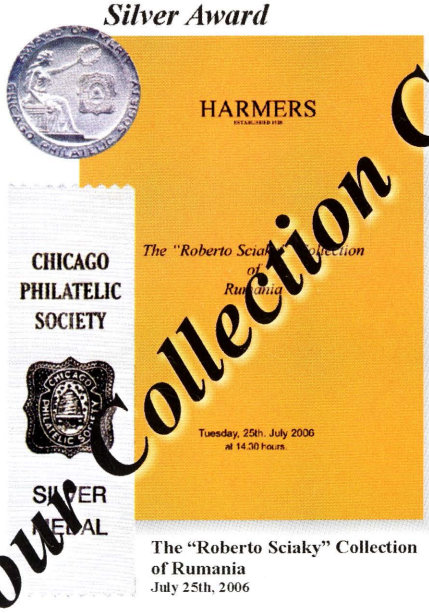

The "Roberto Sciaky" Collection of Rumania
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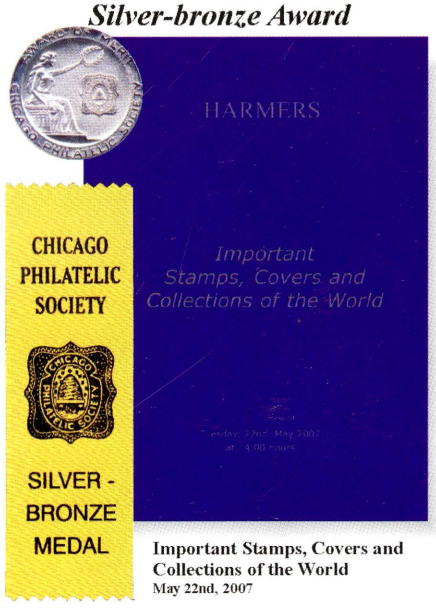
Silver-bronze Award



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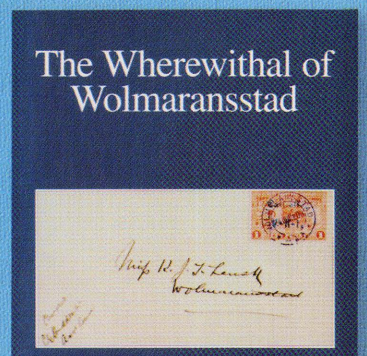

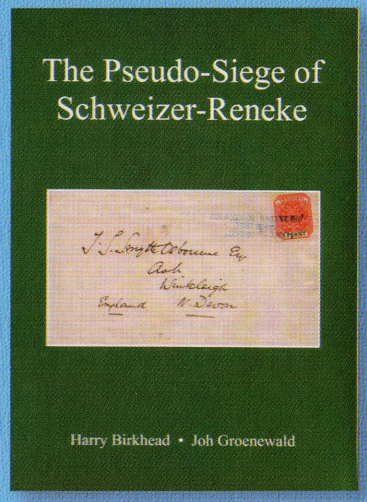

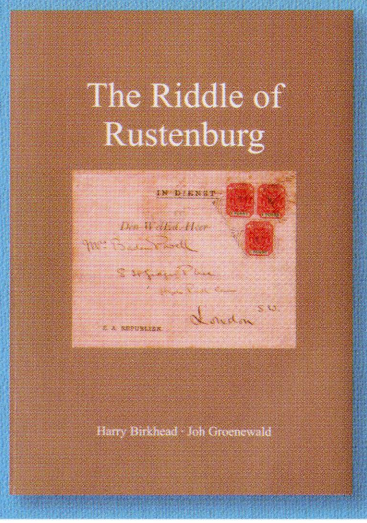

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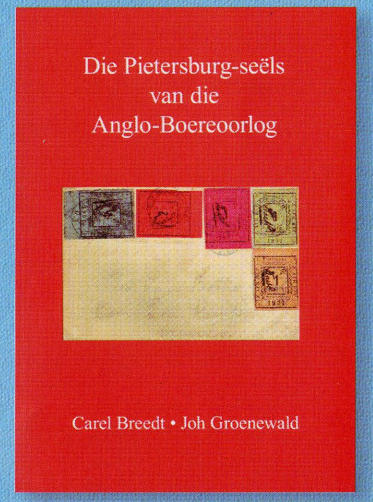

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The artist behind the stamp - Kobus Esterhuizen

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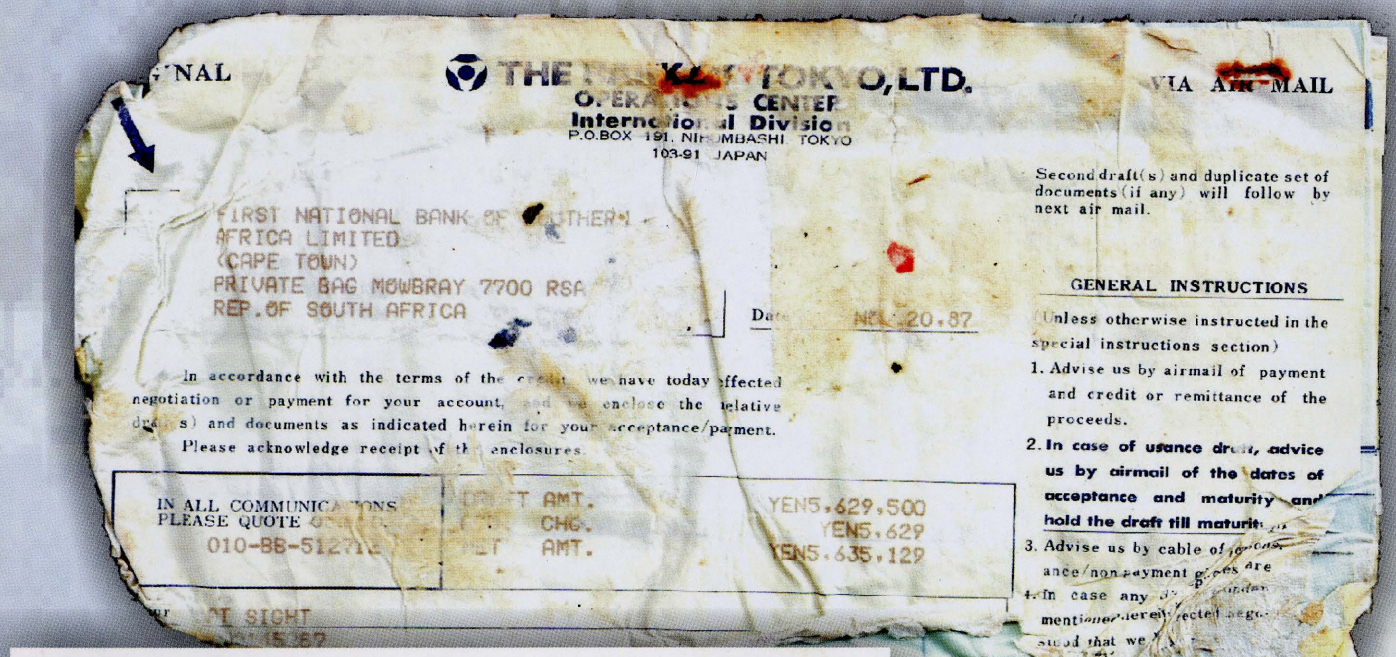
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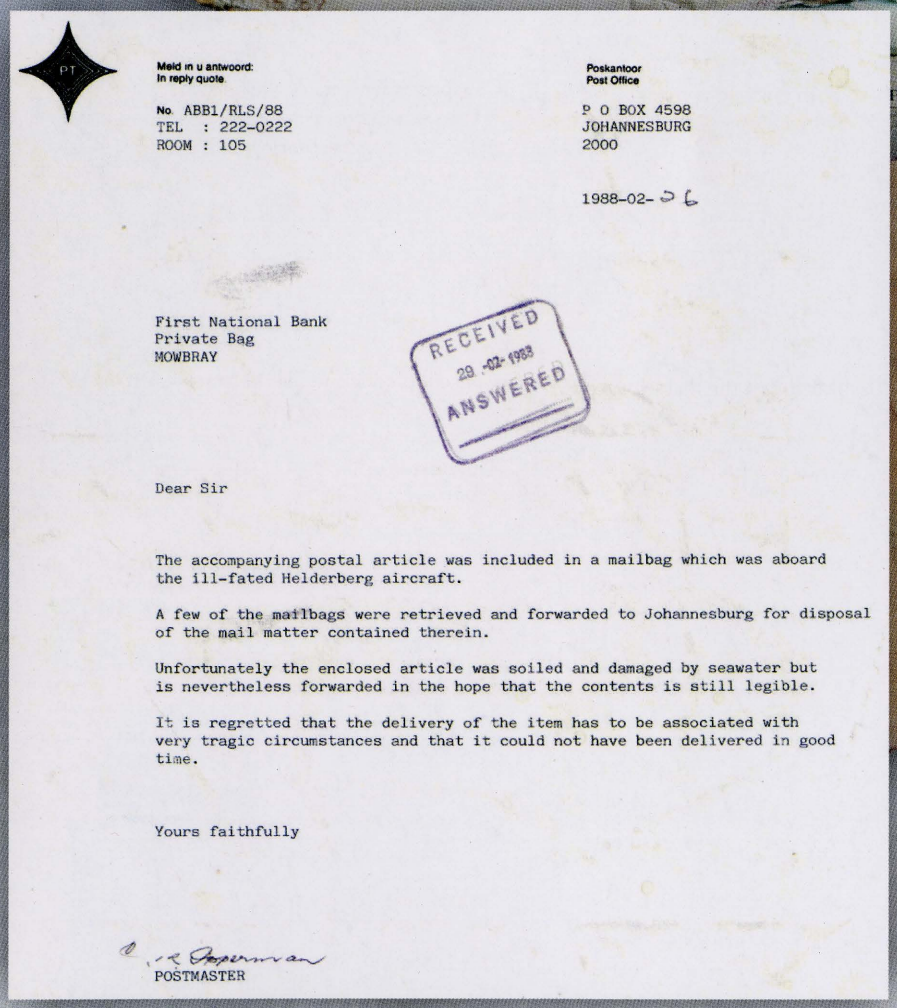
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POSTMASTER



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1987 HELDERBERG CRASH: Salvaged cover with contents from Tokyo (Nov 20) to Cape Town recovered from the South African Airways Boeing 747 "Helderberg" which crashed into the Indian Ocean 100km from Mauritius. Accompanied by forwarding letter from the Johannesburg Post Office. Only 3 surviving recovered letters from this crash are recorded. An exhibition showpiece for the airmail connoisseur. *POR*

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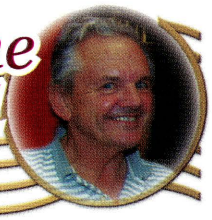
From the Editorial desk



At the time of writing this editorial I have just returned from a very rewarding trip to Pretoria. Rewarding, that is, because Alex Visser and his team had put together a really first-class exhibition with a number of outstanding displays making their debut on the national stage. This factor, together with a wealth of entries from numerous highly respected South African and overseas philatelists, combined to provide many hours of pleasurable viewing. It is to be hoped that all the newcomers to this level of competition will have both enjoyed and benefited from the experience. It was also encouraging to see that the junior societies were well represented and that a number of their exhibits, both in one-frame and the more conventional classes, would not have been out of place in the senior section. A list of awards and trophies will appear elsewhere in this journal as will a report on the more significant deliberations of Congress.

I don't imagine that the majority of those of us who collect stamps ever stop to think about the philosophical implications of our hobby. I know that I didn't until, that is, I read a book review in the Financial Times that was thoughtfully sent to me by our good friend George van den Hurk. Many of you will know that George has not been in the best of health of late but, he assures me, things are looking up and he is presently taking a holiday in Switzerland to cement his recovery. I am sure that all of you connected with the *SA Philatelist*, whether as readers, writers or advertisers, will join with me in wishing him a complete and speedy return to showroom condition.

The review in question is, in fact, a look by a certain John Sutherland at three different books on the subject of collecting. In the first, '*Collections of Nothing*' by William Davies King, Sutherland quotes a number of what he calls, perhaps somewhat archly, 'pregnant aphorisms', the likes of "Collecting is a way of linking past, present and future….", "To collect is to write a life…." and "Collections are not merely owned, they are performed". The reviewer has no problem in relating to the first two of these while personally I think that the third is quite appropriate. However, it appears that the author 'graduated' from such boyhood collections as stamps and comics to the labels on consumables such as cereals, soup and beer. Moreover, where you or I might specialise in the Airmails of Djibouti or the Postal Stationery of Buenos Aires, King confessed that his favourites were his tuna-can labels. He now claims to be a 'recovering collector' and teaches a course on Collectors and Collecting at the University of California. I suppose that it takes all sorts.

The second book under consideration is somewhat less esoteric being '*The Error World*' by Simon Garfield. This is a book that some of you might quite possibly own or will at least have heard, or read the reviews, in a number of overseas philatelic journals. However, like King, Garfield wrote his book in his forties and on the back of an unhappy marital separation. He is also given to philosophising. He tells us that "As I think of my father dying and my mother struggling with cancer, I find a new reason for my interest in collecting. Postage stamps offer one way in which we may order a world of chaos, and they have the power to bring a dependable meaning to a life". As our pilot said after a particularly shuddery landing at Oliver Tambo Airport on my way to Pretoria, "Phew!" This part of the review is concluded with another thought-provoking quotation - "You're in a lifeboat. Your wife falls out one side and your stamp album the other. You can save one but not the other. Which one?" The third book, by Thomas Wright, is entitled '*Oscar's Books*' and deals with the library of the controversial author Oscar Wilde. Fortunately for you, and for me, there are not too many philatelic analogies in this part of the review but Sutherland does point out that Wilde built his library to impress others rather than as a source of reference. Perhaps that does strike home. Would we want to be remembered as the second best collector of 'King's Heads' or the other collector of 'Cape Triangulars'? It may be that all three books might leave us with some food for thought.

Chris Mobsby.

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The South African Philatelist

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Pretoria 2008 - Richard Johnson, Ron Rong, Alex Visser and Chris Mobsby

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email: RJ@johnson.co.za

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The production office will replay to emails offering the email contact address of the author.

editorial board's choice

Winning Letter

This issue's award of the SHEAFFER pen goes to Dave Morton for his article Nyasaland Post WWII Air Mails.



Thank you for this recognition

Dear Sir,
I am very honoured that I was awarded the Skinner Cup for '*Dedication to Philately*' at the 70th Philatelic Congress in Pretoria, and would like to thank Congress for this recognition.
I would also like to thank Harry Birkhead RDPSA, David Crocker RDPSA, Coen Slagt RDPSA and Danny Swart RDPSA for being my mentors and believing in me, not only during the good times but also during some very challenging and difficult times.
The cup was handed over to me by Harry Birkhead RDPSA in his Capacity as Hon. Life President of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa during the recently held Rhodesian Study Circle Jubilee Celebration Banquet in Cape Town, attended by some 120 guests, many from overseas.
I have dedicated the Skinner Cup to my wife Nelly, son Henk jnr and daughter Carla.

Henk de Lange

'Collared' through the SAP

The Editor
South African Philatelist.
Over the past 12 months the *South African Philatelist* has published a number of articles of mine on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands as well as Christmas Island. A few days ago Achi Frank received an email from an unknown person trying to find me. Initially we were both confused over what it was all about. However the mystery was soon solved. The sender was a Robert Morrison whom I had served with on Christmas Island where he used to work with me at the Main Camp Power Station, as well as a Military Bomb Disposal unit in the UK after our time on Christmas Island. He had been searching for a number of years to no avail. He then read one of the *SA Philatelists* which had an article of mine on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands but had no contact address for me. However in there was Achi Frank's email address, hence the mystery was solved and I was collared. I use the word collared as Robert was a member of the Special Branch in the UK until his retirement recently.
This points to the fact that the *SA Philatelist* reaches to many corners of the World and we need more articles to show the outside world that we have stamp collectors/philatelists alive and well in this country.

Ray Hackworth

Souvenir Covers

The President's column on page 318 of the August issue states "how can they still be recognised as authentic first day covers when the specific issues were not released on a particular date?

For comment on this please refer to a paper presented at GEBEX1980 entitled 'First Day Covers or Souvenirs'
This proves that the covers printed, prepared and DATE STAMPED in advance cannot be regarded as GENUINE FIRST DAY COVERS. They are SOUVENIR covers and should be named, treated and regarded accordingly.

Lionel Lewis
Witbank Philatelic Society
Great Britain Philatelic Society of Southern Africa

Correspondence to the *SA PHILATELIST* should be addressed to the editor. Material received is most welcome and will be reviewed by the editorial panel. Articles, letters and items of interest stand the chance of being published and may be rewarded with a writing gift from SHEAFFER©

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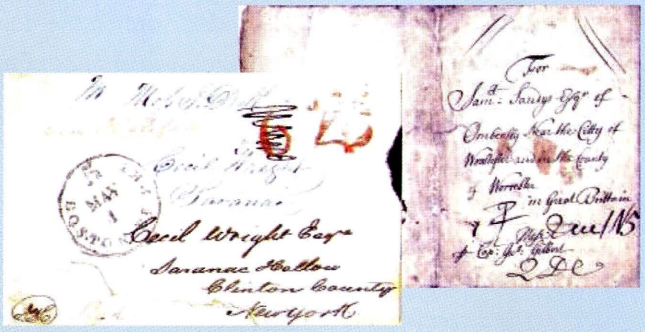
Bermuda – January 2009
British Honduras — March 2009.





The Geoff Osborn Collection of the Stamps & Postal History of Bermuda



Inc. the rare Crowned Circles, QV Village Cancels, a complete set of the regular Stamps & the 'Destination Bermuda' Collection of mainly 19th century covers.

January 2009.







The Dr. Joan Harper Collection of the Stamps & Postal History of British Honduras.



Inc. the 1st Issue Coloured Die Proofs, all the Surcharged Stamps and superb Covers from all periods.

March 2009.











Please contact Ken Baker or James Grimwood-Taylor if you would like to consign significant items to this series of sales.

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Past President's Report

PFSA Congress, 24 October 2008, Pretoria

In thinking about what a President's Report should contain I realised that there is no sense in summarising the contents of the many reports that have been tabled and will be discussed on the day. I, however, came to the conclusion that I need to give my impressions of my experiences during this fascinating year.

Firstly, I was humbled and honoured by being invited to serve as your President for 2007/8, as I am a stamp collector at heart, and not a philatelist or exhibitor. I hoped that I would be able to make a difference on behalf of the majority of our members. My 'President's Column' in the *SA Philatelist* tried to communicate this ideal to you and motivate you to do things you otherwise may not have done.

The lasting and enduring memories that remain with me are the vast amount of work that is being done by a number of dedicated volunteers, whether at PFSA level or Club level. I had great difficulty in keeping up with them! So I would like to express a huge THANK YOU to everyone who has and is contributing. Many may not be in the audience and I would like you to relay this message to them. Please keep up the good work. I would like to run through the list of actions and highlight particular aspects.

Our Regional Vice-Presidents (VP) performed a wonderful role of making the societies feel that PFSA does think of them. PFSA is not simply a once-a-year Congress. As was suggested at the Management Committee, it may be useful for societies to be pro-active and to invite the VP to the AGM.

The Management Committee (MC) ensured that the day-to-day running of the PFSA took place. The key players were the Chair Richard Johnson RDPSA, Secretary Jill Redmond RDPSA, Treasurer Emil Minnaar and Membership Secretary Dave Morton. At one of the MC meetings it was suggested that we might wish to review the manner in which PFSA operates as the workload is sometimes overwhelming for the volunteers. One scenario is to consider a fulltime secretariat. Before we consider such alternatives we need to have clarity as to what is essential to fulfil our mission, and what are nice-to-have. It has been said that organisations are self-perpetuating in that they attract work. When I joined my professional society it was run by a lady who was secretary and treasurer, granted for a smaller membership than now. Currently the organisation has a fulltime staff of about 15 people, and the organisation is often struggling with funds to run the behemoth. Let PFSA not fall into such a trap.

Some years there is a larger workload than others. This year the special project was completion of the review of the Constitution under the able leadership of Ron Rong, with inputs from the subcommittee members and the VPs. This has been a huge and time-consuming undertaking, and sometimes it felt as if this was all PFSA was doing as it took up substantial discussion time during MC meeting, let alone the sub-committee meetings and inputs from the societies and I would like to say a special thank you to all the participants.

In terms of visibility I believe that philately in South Africa has progressed significantly this year. Colin Bousfield has taken the Novice/Junior committee by the horns and slow but positive interaction is taking place with Philatelic Services. Of special mention is the sterling work of the Heritage Committee, and their liaison with the SA Heritage and Resources Agency in government, ensuring that movement of collections into and out of South Africa is streamlined.

On the international scene, our representatives are playing a more prominent role. Howard Green RDPSA, has been elected to the FIAP Board, and Cedric Roché RDPSA, was elected to the FIP Revenue Commission. There is greater international participation through exchange jurors, and jurors and apprentices at international events.

The *SA Philatelist* is highly regarded and well received internationally. We often hear criticisms about it being too technical or too basic or too this or that. There is a regular call for contributions and, if you are not a writer, the Editorial Committee will help with the compilation and you can assist in the SAP covering what you believe should be covered. I know that the Editorial Committee is sometimes flattened by what may be perceived as undeserved criticism. However, the critics have philately at heart and the moment criticism is not forthcoming it means readers are uninterested, and the SAP will become irrelevant.

A welcome publicity action has been the number of smaller events such as Ds Cassie Carstens' mini-exhibitions in Pretoria, the Pietersburg show, Bloemfontein one-frame exhibition, Sasolburg's annual inter-club competitive exhibitions and others. This creates a desired awareness. Significant publicity was generated for this year's Stampshow 2008 and included articles in the philatelic press, the regional and daily press in collaboration with the University of Pretoria centenary celebrations and radio interviews. Publicity for Bloemfontein 2009 and the 2010 International Exhibition is already visible and prominent.

I trust you enjoyed the Stampshow 2008, and all the activities. I wish to say another huge THANK YOU to all the participants namely my Organising Committee who worked like slaves, the jury under the leadership of Michael Wigmore RDPSA, the many volunteers who helped to mount and dismount the exhibits and worked at the information table, the exhibitors and the dealers. Normally the President is not the Chair of the Organising Committee but this year it so happened to be one person. It was an arduous task to manage two portfolios and societies should consider ensuring that this does not happen in future.

In closing I would like to return to a recurring theme that I started at Congress in Port Elizabeth. Philatelists are a special type of person, willing to share information and participate in all things philatelic. They are also strong-minded individuals with set views. This results in personality clashes, often triggered by unimportant issues such as the colour of a tie. To be able to successfully operate as a team (in the broader context) we must all work towards the same objective and side issues should be ignored. A careless word could do untold harm. In one of my columns I mentioned an exhibit of Boer War covers that were soiled by blood and tears, and the comment that if the covers had been pristine the exhibit would have garnered the top award. Please let us play the ball and not the man.

I trust we have had a motivating, stimulating and successful Congress, and let us work together to make philately the hobby of choice of all South Africans.



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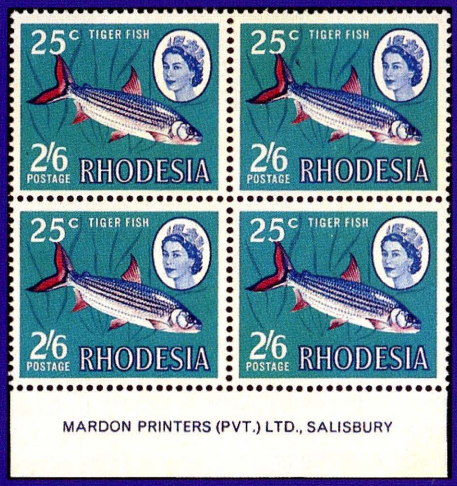

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CONGRESS 2008 PRETORIA

It is my pleasure to present the Management Committee report for 2008.

I would characterise the year as having been a positive one; it has certainly been a year in which I enjoyed serving as Chairman - I think of it more as 'facilitator' - of your Management Committee. Again we have been fortunate in having a dedicated volunteer Management Committee serving your interests with successes in many spheres.

The various activities of your Federation will be related in detail by the respective Standing Committee Chairmen; I will herein merely provide you with an overview:

Since our last Congress we have enjoyed two highly successful regional exhibitions those being the **Tshwane Single Frame** and the **Bloemfontein Single Frame**. Both of these were well supported and provided a particularly relevant entry point to demonstrate the hobby to Novice exhibitors. The Pretoria region, I suspect remain our role model in respect of activity, promotion etc. In addition to the **Tshwane Single Frame,** the Pretoria Societies hosted **Gautheme** and their own inter-club, **Clubtheme**. Ds Cassie Carstens and Paul van Zeyl are particularly effective in mobilizing their teams of helpers!

Sasolburg have still to host their upcoming annual interclub in November. Cape Societies were again represented at **Cape Hobby-X** by the kind efforts of Martin & Marilyn Crawford.

We consider these regional events and the regular stamp fairs throughout S A as being the growth points for Stamp Collecting. We have increased available funding and expressed a willingness to partner with SAPDA members in increasing promotional or other aspects of these events.

Next weekend sees the Rhodesian Study Circle (both local and overseas members) descend on Cape Town for their 60th Anniversary celebrations. We can proudly announce that our David Morton is this year's recipient of the RSC's premier award: The Gerald Simpson Salver for outstanding service and this was awarded to him in respect of his efforts for the 60th Anniversary arrangements for Cape Town. Congratulations David!

Planning for the International in Johannesburg in 2010 has accelerated with the Sandton Convention centre venue having been secured. The South African Post Office has advanced the first portion of their funding which will be matched by Foundation upon completion of contracts. Compliments to Howard Green RDPSA on the achievements of his hard-working 2010 committee where particular mention is due to Howard himself, Johan van Wyk for Post Office liaison and Patrick Flanagan who secured complete sponsorship of the new 16-page format frames to be constructed.

We have been extensively represented internationally by Exhibitors, Commissioners and Jurors. Howard Green RDPSA and Emil Bührmann are to be congratulated on their various efforts in this regard. Thanks also to those who undertook these duties at the various events. The FIP report will detail these various participations so it will suffice for me to say how gratifying it is to see a growing body of South Africans serving as Jurors or Commissioners and to see South Africans appearing in Championship Class and bringing home very respectable medal awards.

The past year saw continuing sales of the range of Anglo Boer war publications by Joh Groenewald RDPSA and Harry Birkhead RDPSA. A further book in the series is ready for publication. The series more or less recoups its costs with excellent sales activities by Joh Groenewald. Similarly production by Angus Pringle's audiovisual committee continues with the most exciting current project being the digitising of the *SA Philatelist*.

Extensive work by Gawie van der Walt on Heritage issues remains frustrated by unwillingness by the State agency to entertain our submissions. Envisaged controls are potentially destructive for our hobby and negative for South Africa as part of an international free market for collectables. We should not confuse the responsibility of protecting material in public collections with being obstructive toward free trade in privately owned Philatelic material. Clive Carr is making a valuable contribution alongside Gawie in this regard, particularly reviewing Public collections.

The area of Federation Youth activities remains inadequately addressed and will be receiving attention from Colin Bousfield together with new initiatives from the Post Office.

Ds Cassie Carstens has assumed a voluntary 'unofficial' role in sorting out our Archives and storage at Airborne Park. A magnificent effort in being the catalyst for action there Cassie - thank you.

Clive Carr, Jill Redmond RDPSA and David Wigston are overseeing the migration of the Illman Library to Sandton. Again, many voluntary hours for which I thank you.

Emil Bührmann has instituted our Judging Code of Ethics; the Judging Handbook process came to successful conclusion by choosing to utilize the Australian publication already existing.



David Morton has handled the Membership Secretary portfolio with competence and aplomb. Lots of work there David for which we thank you.

Chris Mobsby RDPSA stepped up to the plate this year to fill the huge shoes of Alan Rose as editor of the *SA Philatelist*. Brilliantly handled, Chris and our thanks for taking it on, notwithstanding it being long-range from your new home in Wilderness, Cape.

Our relationship with the Post Office and Philatelic Services via Johan van Wyk can be characterized as excellent. Yes, there are mutual criticisms (in both directions) but communications are frank and open. With our compact Executive we can apply decisions swiftly. We need to be sensitive to Philatelic Services operating as part of a massive corporate conglomerate with sometimes cumbersome processes. The actuality is that we share a mutual need in bringing the hobby to future generations.

Vice Presidents have been excellent this year in being the critical link between Management Committee and your Societies. Professor Franco Frescura brings passion and interesting business plans to our meetings as the new representative for KZN. Mike Jackson - rock solid and an active contributor as always. We welcomed George Cafetzoglou RDPSA this year and again it is wonderful to have such active participation from a VP. Further afield Herwig Kussing now retires and for your dedicated service, many thanks.

The review of Federation's Constitution was again a time-and-effort-consuming process for everyone involved. None more so than Ron Rong who chaired the ad-hoc committee. Thanks to Ron, Alex Visser and Peter van der Molen RDPSA for their thorough handling of this demanding task.

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Hopefully these Constitutional matters will be finalized at this Congress as - frankly - and making the comment on a personal level rather than as your office-bearer - the exercise has been a tragic misappropriation of voluntary talent, effort and resources. Whatever the outcome I feel that the process has exacted a heavy cost on our Federation. We should all be spending more time playing with our stamps and promoting our hobby with enthusiasm as opposed to those hours / days / weeks being diverted to administrative technicalities. Please finalise these matters within this session.

Workloads undertaken by members of your Management Committee can be quite substantial. Furthermore competence attracts more work so where we are blessed with the services of capable individuals there is a tendency for more and more tasks to find their way to that person. In this respect I must single out and express my admiration for Emil Minnaar. Not only does he take care of the Treasurer's responsibilities but is a key member of the *SA Philatelist* Board, pops up on the 2010 committee, takes care of judging software etc. All this and a new wife too! Peter van der Molen RDPSA is another: always there to willingly do more. Michael Wigmore RDPSA on the Expert Committee - untold hours over nearly a decade. Amazing. But this typifies the nature of your voluntary leadership: A dedicated group contributing significantly of their time, effort and resources with little recompense and often completely generous donation of that time and incurred expenses.

The voluntary nature of Federation's leadership brings its challenges: The pool of volunteers is small. That of competent volunteers even smaller. Sometimes it is a thankless task too. For example having to take an unpopular stance because it is the appropriate action as temporary custodian of your Federation.

Working with a voluntary management unfortunately often limits implementation of what are often good ideas and sound strategies. There is only so much more work that can be done by those few willing to do so. It is also difficult to be critical of a voluntary group. Maybe in order to enhance our carry-through and implementation we need to review the thought of additional personnel on a remunerated basis?

I am able to confirm the incoming 2009 structure and Management Committee as hereunder:

Officers

- *Treasurer*: Emil Minnaar RDPSA, reappointed.
- *Secretary*: Jill Redmond, reappointed.
- *Archivist*, vacant : Rev C Carstens, voluntary work in unofficial capacity at own request.
- *Awards Custodian* : Peter van der Molen
- *Membership Secretary* : David Morton

Functional Standing Committees' Chairmen

- *Audio-Visual:* Angus Pringle in his absence, assuming willingness to be reappointed.
- *Exhibitions*: Peter van der Molen
- *Expert*: Michael Wigmore
- *FIP*: Howard Green
- *IT / Website*: Richard Johnson
- *Judging and Ethics*: Emil Bührmann
- *Promotions*: Colin Bousfield volunteered to take this position which would include youth, novices and beginners.
- *Publications*: Emil Minnaar agreed to continue as voluntary co-ordinator.
- Appreciation was expressed for Joh Groenewald's marketing and sales.
- *SA Philatelist Board* : Chris Mobsby.

*** Office Bearers: President, Deputy President and Regional Vice-Presidents elected at Congress.**
(Please refer page 617)

Elected functions of the Management Committee:

- *Chairman, Management* : Richard Johnson.
- *Vice-Chairman* : George Cafetzoglou.
- *Foundation Representative*: Peter van der Molen.

In closing my thanks to Jill Redmond RDPSA our secretary (Jill's title should be twofold: Executive Secretary and Minutes Secretary as she in fact fills two roles) and to the entire committee which again this year has been a happy group working well together.

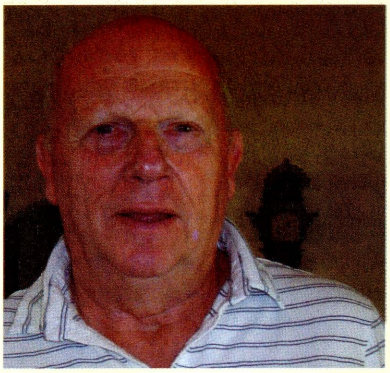
Honorary Life President Harry Birkhead RDPSA and President of Foundation, Cedric Roché RDPSA, were always available and willing to assist with advice gained from their long experience. Vice-Chairman Ian Matheson RDPSA not often in South Africa, but always there if needed.

Finally, Professor Alex Visser ... It has been a pleasure serving during your very active Presidency and thank you for your constant input and involvement.

We are soundly positioned for 2009.

Richard Johnson RDPSA
Port Elizabeth, October 2008.

The Skinner Cup Awarded to Henk de Lange



A collector from an early age, Henk de Lange decided some 30 years ago that the stamps of Rhodesia deserved special attention with the early British South Africa Company Double Heads issue really worthy of an in-depth study. He pursued his study and soon became recognised as one of the experts of this issue, which status he still enjoys today. He built up an extensive collection of these stamps, sorting out the various printings and shades. This involved collaborating with other members of the Rhodesian Study Circle overseas in properly classifying the series.

His own exhibit was shown nationally in 1990 and was rewarded with a Large Gold award.

Henk joined the stamp department of Stephan Welz/Sothebys in South Africa in 1980 and his ability to apply himself to the study of issues from around the world stood him in good stead over the 18 years of his term with the Company. He moved to the Cape at the end of 1998 and today runs his own dealership (you guessed it) in the stamps and postal history of the Rhodesias.

His involvement in organised philately commenced as an active member of the Germiston Philatelic Society, serving on this committee for a number of years. He is an active member of the Federation's Expert Committee and has served as a National Juror at a number of exhibitions.

In 1998 Henk was a member of the organising committee of the Ilsapex Stamp Exhibition. Possibly his greatest contribution to organised philately was when he stepped into the breach as Chairman, after the untimely death of the then Chairman, David Stern. He did us all very proud by running an excellent show, which was well applauded by all our visiting guests from overseas.

At present he is very involved with the organisation of the large meeting of members of the Rhodesia Study Circle due to take place in Cape Town.

Henk's achievements and contributions are substantial and he has been a worthy candidate for the award of the Skinner Cup.

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TROPHY LISTING

The Grand Prix Award
Cape of Good Hope Rectangular issues during the Victorian era (1864 - 1901)
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The SA Post Office Trophy *(best Exhibit SA Philately)*
South African Forces Mail in World War I
Findlay, Dr J B R — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The Anglo-Boer War Society Cup
(best Anglo-Boer War Exhibit)
Rustenburg mails 1900 - 1901: The V.R. issues and other covers
Birkhead RDPSA, Mr H — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

SAPDA Classical Award
North German Confederation (1868-1870) The Stamps and their use on cover, plus Officials and French Occupation material
Schaffler, Mr H A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The D.G. Crocker Cup
(best Postal History Exhibit)
The tax markings and taxing methods of pre-Union South Africa
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The South African Stamp Study Circle Award
(best SA Exhibit after 1910)
South African Christmas Seals 1929-79
Mitchell, Mr V J — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

The Stampcor Award
(best Pre-Union Exhibit)
Natal postal history
Johnson, Mr C & R — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

The Terence Radue Award (best Foreign Exhibit)
North German Confederation (1868-1870) The Stamps and their use on cover, plus Officials and French Occupation material
Schaffler, Mr H A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The Tony Chilton Transvaal Award
Rustenburg mails 1900 - 1901: The V.R. issues and other covers
Birkhead RDPSA, Mr H. — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The Total Stampex 95 Trophy
(best Exhibit from an area outside SA with at least a vermeil)
The development of the postal adhesive vending machine
Everest, Mr S E deL — Sandton Philatelic Society

The Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup *(best Thematic Exhibit)*
Universities round the world
Amoore, Mr H T — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The Rose Mary Crocker Bowl
(best SWA Exhibit)
The 1913 South African Kings Head definitive issue used in South West Africa
Sergay, Mr C A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



Happy Grand Prix winner: Emil Bührmann.

The Royal Medallion
(best British Commonwealth Exhibit)
Postal Stationery of Swaziland to 1968
van der Molen RDPSA, Mr P W — East Rand Philatelic Society

The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Trophy *(best Open Class Exhibit)*
Adolf Hitler & the Olympic Movement
Laubscher, Mr H P — Pretoria Philatelic Society

The Vrijstaat Trophy
(best One Frame Exhibit)
Great Britain - The one penny lilac - stamps and usage
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

The Rhodesia Award
(best Rhodesian Exhibit)
The Railway Parcel stamps of Rhodesia
Pocock, Dr D A — Foreign Society

The Dawie Uys Memorial Award
(best Aerophilately Exhibit)
South Africa - airletters/aerogrammes till 1961
Brown, Mr G — Foreign Society

The C.E.D. Enoch Trophy
(best Philatelic Research)
The story of the five standardised antelope stamps
Schmidt, Mr R — Southern Philatelic Society

Claude Malan Trophy *(at the discretion of the Jury for Postal History of the Union of SA)*
Official registration in the Union
Amoore, Mr H T — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The Jonas Michelson Literature Award *(Best Literature)*
Vaccari catalogue 2008/9
Vaccari S R L — Foreign Society

Dawid De Villiers Display Trophy
(Best displayed and presented exhibit)
The beautiful Gladys Cooper
Gane, Mrs J — Foreign Society

Arie Bakker Trophy
(Best First Time exhibit of a One-Frame Exhibit)
Undelivered mail labels of the RSA
Joubert, Mnr J S — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)





Die AFV Eretoekenning
(at the Discretion of the Jury)
German East Africa revenues
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Prize *(at the Discretion of the Jury)*
Great Britain Early postal stationery
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Rand 77 *(at the Discretion of the Jury)*
25th Anniversary Issue RSA Stamp Study Circle
Swart, Mr T G — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy
(best First-time Exhibitor)
Express labels of the RSA
Joubert, Mnr J S — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

The F.A.K. Trophy *(best write-up in Afrikaans)*
Unie van Suid-Afrika: Eerste vaste reeks
Erasmus, Dr L D — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

The Ilsapex '98 Award
The last postage due stamps of Holland
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A. — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The Picture Postcard Thematic Cup *(Best Postcard Exhibit not Southern Africa)*
Early 20th century Zanzibar on postcards
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

The Potch 78 Award
(best Exhibit Post-WW II)
25th Anniversary Issue RSA Stamp Study Circle
Swart, Mr T G — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

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David Feldman

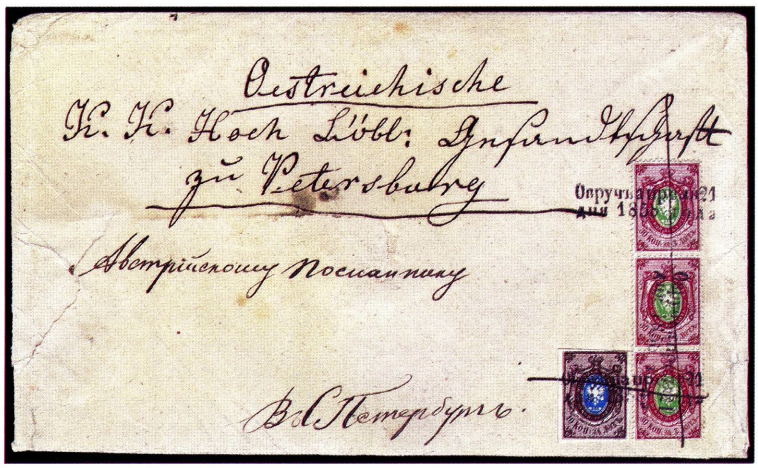
Strong Levels and Spirited Competition

There is an old adage, '*Thrones may crumble and nations may perish, but the postage stamp endures forever.*' The results of the week-long series of auctions held in Geneva, by David Feldman SA proved the point. Just one typical example: the Austria First Issue 9 kreuzer 'missing 9' printing variety, estimated at 2 000 Euros, realised 23 900.

Strong levels for nice classics prevailed in the classic Spain and Great Britain Line-Engraved. Stamps and covers of Sweden, particularly scarce town cancels, often brought multiples of the estimates to some of the 70 bidders gathered in a simultaneous bidding room in Stockholm. The FDC of the 1855 4 skilling value, one of two known, estimated at 80 000 Euros, soared to 262 900 and set the tenor for other Skilling issue covers.

From Afghanistan to Zanzibar, from Polar to Olympics, from elusive varieties and postal history to enormous collections and large lots, this auction series presented a true cross-section of world philately - as well of course, as the semi-annual auction of 'Rarities of the World.'

'Rarities of the World:' over 50 persons present in the auction room, including leading dealers, agents and collectors from Italy, England, France and Switzerland, plus additional internet and telephone bidders competed for 88 lots. Two of the highlights: From the extensive China section, the famous 'Countess Caroline' cover, with its attractive franking consisting of a block of nine of the 5 Candarins 'Large Dragon' issue, opened at 750 000 Euros and proceeded majestically to a final price of 1 165 125 - a new world record for any Asia cover, and 24 years after David Feldman first set a world record for this same world philatelic gem.



Among the 'crown jewels' of Russian philately, the unique cover illustrated, is considered the greatest item of Imperial Russian philately. It is franked by a single 10 kopeck imperforate of 1857 and a strip of three of the second issue 30 kopecks of 1858, addressed to the Austrian Embassy at St. Petersburg, came up for bidding. Opening at 750 000 Euros, it was fought over by two telephone bidders and a room bidder, and brought a gasp when the price reached 1 million Euros - soon to be eclipsed by its final realisation of 1 314 500 - a new world record for Russia, and among the highest prices ever paid for a philatelic item at public auction.

This series of auctions showed the growing importance of internet bidders, as over 140 different bidders competed for over half of the lots in the auctions. In addition, the unique direct internet bidding system operated by the company made possible the remote auction room in Stockholm. That accounted for the lion's share of the successful bids for the Sweden section, bringing the total internet sales alone to over one million Euros.

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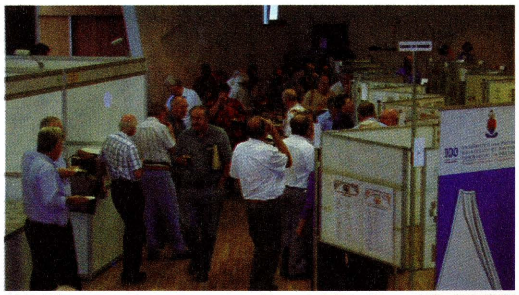
STAMPSHOW 2008 Pretoria - Awards Listing.





Large Gold

Cape of Good Hope "Rectangular issues during the Victorian era (1884-1901)
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

South African Forces Mail in World War I
Findlay, Dr J B R — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Gold

Adolf Hitler and the Olympic Movement
Laubscher, Mr H P — Pretoria Philatelic Society

Early 20th century Zanzibar on postcards
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

Postal Stationery of Swaziland to 1968
van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL, Mr P W — East Rand Philatelic Society

South African Christmas Seals 1929-79
Mitchell, Mr V J — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

The 1913 South African Kings Head definitive issue used in South West Africa
Sergay, Mr C A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The beautiful Gladys Cooper
Gane, Mrs J — Foreign Society

The development of the postal adhesive vending machine
Everest, Mr S E deL — Sandton Philatelic Society

The Railway Parcel stamps of Rhodesia
Pocock, Dr D A — Foreign Society

The tax markings and taxing methods of pre-Union South Africa
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Large Vermeil

Early 20th century Mauritius on postcards
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

Natal postal history
Johnson, Mr C & R — Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

North German Confederation (1868-1870)- The Stamps and
Schaffler, Mr H A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

South Africa - airletters/aerogrammes till 1961
Brown, Mr G — Foreign Society

Thurn and Taxis (1852-1866) - The Stamps and their use on Cover, plus Officials and French Occupation Material
Schaffler, Mr H A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Universities round the world
Amoore, Mr H T — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Vaccari catalogue 2008/9
Vaccari S R L — Foreign Society

Vermeil

A selection of the postal rates and regulations of the Republic of South Africa(1901-2000)
Kamffer RDPSA, Dr H JG — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Katanga
Jackson, Mr M N — Boksburg Germiston Philatelic Society

Postal History of the railways in Natal
Porter, Mr R N — Postmark & Postal History Society

Postal Stationery of Ecuador
Beston, Mr B P — Foreign Society

Rhodesia - the British South Africa years 1900 - 1924
Burke, Mr S A — Foreign Society

South African Airmails
Arrow, Mr N A — Aerophilatelic Society of SA

The art of Sir Edwin Landseer
Pocock, Dr D A — Foreign Society

The last postage due stamps of Holland
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Union of South Africa: Use of colonial postage stamps, stamped stationery & postal markings - the interprovincial period
Cheminais, Mr J A — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Large Silver

Automaatboekjes van Nederland 1964-1994
De Haaij, Mr A E — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

British South Africa postal stationery 1892 -1924
Fischer, Mr A — Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Champions of the world
Vaccari S R L — Foreign Society

Decimalisation 'Southern Africa' 1961
Barit, Dr L — East Rand Philatelic Society

Mauritius's Postal Stationery
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

Postage Stamps of Hong Kong 1862-1952
Kilroe, Mr J G — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The 1c Kafferboom flower
Smith, Mr N C — Bellville Philatelic Society

The legacy of the number 11 in the history of South Africa
Massella, Mr M — Boksburg Germiston Philatelic Society

The Postal Stationery of Zanzibar, including the French Postal Agency
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

The stamps and postal history of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands
Hackworth, Mr R D — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The Postal Stationery of Zanzibar, including French
van Zeyl, Mr P — SWA Stamp Study Group

Silver

Dienstpost DSWA
Stephan, Mr A — Windhoek Filatelieklub

Express labels of the RSA
Joubert, Mnr J S — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

King George VI coronation 1937
Tonking, Mr M J H — South African Stamp Study Circle

Postal history of Curacao
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The King's head stamps of the Union of South Africa - a diversity of use 1913-1997
Dove, Prof M G — Pretoria Philatelic Society

The Postal Stationery of the Republic of South Africa (1961-2000)
Kamffer RDPSA, Dr HJG — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Unie van Suid-Afrika: Eerste vaste reeks
Erasmus, Dr L D — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

Silver Bronze

A synopsis of Stamp Exhibitions in South Africa
Lubbe, Prof S — Pretoria Philatelic Society

Die koevert vertel 'n storie
Lubbe, Prof S — Pretoria Philatelic Society

Early Southern African airmails 1911 to 1968
Atkinson, Mr D P H — Royal Philatelic Society CT

History of the South African Air Force
Botha, Mr J A R — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

Meesters van onsterflike musiek
Loo, Mev J R — Bellville Philatelic Society

The 1954 Basutoland set and its progression
Barit, Dr L — East Rand Philatelic Society

One Frame Awards

Diamond

German East Africa revenues
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Great Britain - The one penny lilac - stamps and usage
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Great Britain - The one penny postal fiscal stamps
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Great Britain Early postal stationery
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Rustenburg mails 1900 -1901: The V.R. issues and other covers
Birkhead RDPSA, Mr H — Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The story of the five standardised antelope stamps
Schmidt, Mr R — Southern Philatelic Society

Transvaal postage due usage during the interprovincial period
Bührmann, Mr W E — Royal Philatelic Society CT

Emerald

Great Britain - Bedale & Wensleydale postal history
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Great Britain - Stamps of Circular Delivery companies
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Great Britain - The Low Value Printing Changes - 1879-80
Suttill, Mr M I — GB Philatelic Society of SA

Official registration in the Union
Amoore, Mr H T — Royal Philatelic Society CT

OR: Official redirection in the Cape Post Office
Amoore, Mr H T — Royal Philatelic Society CT

The story of the 'Blue Band' cancellation
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Ruby

Eerstedag enveloppe van Nederland
De Haaij, Mr A E — Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

Lions of Persia - First series 1868 - 1879
Dibiase, Mr J F — Foreign Society

Postage due is not always double deficiency
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Single franking of the Dutch Queen with fur collar issue
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The first postage due stamps of Holland
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The history of Triest as seen through the post
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A — Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

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The Irish on opposite sides of the Anglo-Boer Wars
van Zeyl, Mr P SWA Stamp Study Group

The Queen with Fur Collar postal stationery
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The upside-down tree
Bowles, Mr A W Botswana Philatelic Society

Twins and triplets
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Zeppelins and Holland
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Sapphire

Dutch 'Stadspost' on FDC, or Cinderella on FDC's
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

The winter and summer Olympics of 1936
Gryzenhout, Mr W J Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Undelivered mail labels of the RSA
Joubert, Mnr J S Afrikaans Pretoria (AFP)

Aquamarine

Austrian Levant
Bakker RDPSA, Mr J A Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Certificate of Participation

H is for handstamp
Lubbe, Prof S Pretoria Philatelic Society

Literature

Large Vermeil

25th Anniversary Issue
Swart, Mr T G Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Vaccari catalogue 2008/9
Vaccari S R L Foreign Society

Large Silver

Champions of the world
Vaccari S R L Foreign Society

John Paul II - visits of hope
Vaccari S R L Foreign Society

Jill Redmond congratulating Gabby Sergay on her 'Gold'



Gold

The George VI definitive issues
Sergay, Miss G Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Vermeil

Australian King's Heads 1914 to 1936
Alexander, Master Benjamin. Penny Black Stamp Club

Errors on stamps
Barit, Master Avi East Rand Philatelic Society

Great Britain: Queen Elizabeth II Head errors
Barit, Mr Shimon East Rand Philatelic Society

Machin stamps of Great Britain
Harris, Master Keaton Penny Black Stamp Club

Ships throughout history
Thomas, Master Daniel Penny Black Stamp Club

Van klippos tot E-pos
de Beer, Mej Ilka OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Silver

A visit to an orchestra
Thomas, Miss Stephanie Penny Black Stamp Club

Animals of the world
Kao, Miss Michelle Penny Black Stamp Club

Birds from around the world
Alexander, Master Benjamin Penny Black Stamp Club

Errors on the stamps of Great Britain
Barit, Mr Shimon East Rand Philatelic Society

Geskiedkundige geboue in suidelike Afrika
Koen, Master Hein OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Lesotho 1984 butterfly stamps
Barit, Master Avi East Rand Philatelic Society

'n Stukkie lugvaartgeskiedenis
Strydom, Master Chris OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Olympics 1896 to 2004
Tanganelli, Master Giulio Penny Black Stamp Club

Russian commemortive stamps 1969 to 1993
Tanganelli, Master Giulio Penny Black Stamp Club

Stamps of Australia
Britz, Master Nicholas Penny Black Stamp Club

The world of cricket
Britz, Master Nicholas Penny Black Stamp Club

Visse van Suider-Afrika
van Tonder, Mej Chrisna OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Voëls van Suider-Afrika
van Tonder, Mej Chrisna OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Silver Bronze

100 years of powered flight
Thomas, Master Daniel Penny Black Stamp Club

Birds from all over the world
Lewis, Miss Yvette Penny Black Stamp Club

British Royalty and the 'Protectorates' 1930 - 1960
Barit, Miss Chavah East Rand Philatelic Society

Errors - missing colours
Barit, Master Shimon East Rand Philatelic Society

Flowers from all over the world
Lempereur, Master Montana Penny Black Stamp Club

Katspesies
Osthoff, Mej Merlind OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Lesotho: from Rands & Cents to Maloti & Lisonti
Barit, Miss Gila East Rand Philatelic Society

Minerale en gebruike van minerale
Koen, Master Johan OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Junior Trophies

Sam Legator Grand Prix- Best exhibit of the show

The George VI definitive issues
Sergay, Miss G Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Danie Scheepers Trophy

Great Britain: Queen Elizabeth II Head errors
Barit, Master Shimon East Rand Philatelic Society

Stampmates Trophy

Errors on stamps
Barit, Master Avi East Rand Philatelic Society

Fanie Vermaak Bronze Grand Prix

Australian King's Heads 1914 to 1936
Alexander, Master Benjamin. Penny Black Stamp Club

Wigmore Trophy

Ships throughout history
Thomas, Master Daniel. Penny Black Stamp Club

Conradie Trophy

Stamps of Australia
Britz, Master Nicholas. Penny Black Stamp Club

Setempe 2000 Trophy

Van klippos tot E-pos
de Beer, Mej Ilka OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

The Derek Brown Centurion Shield *for best exhibit by a first time exhibitor*

Animals of the world
Kao, Miss Michelle. Penny Black Stamp Club

Aerophilatelic Society Trophy

'n Stukkie lugvaartgeskeidenis
Strydom, Master Chris. OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Rapportryerskorps Wierdapark-Trofee

Voëls van Suider-Afrika
van Tonder, Mej Chrisna. OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Ratcliffe Trophy

The world of cricket
Britz, Master Nicholas. Penny Black Stamp Club

Mr Thematic - *most promising Thematic*

Visse van Suider-Afrika
van Tonder, Mej Chrisna. OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Great Britain Philatelic Society of SA Award

Machin stamps of Great Britain
Harris, Master Keaton. Penny Black Stamp Club

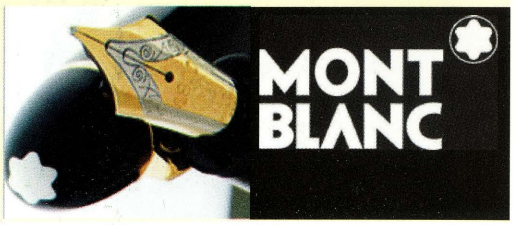
Star Class for Juniors - *Three Stars*

Olympic stamps
Claassen, Master Marlon Penny Black Stamp Club

Fish of the world
Netleng, Master Shane Penny Black Stamp Club

Club Class for Juniors – Certificate of Merit

Aerophilately Lepono Stamp Club



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RDPSAs at the Pretoria 2008 Palmares Banquet

Awards

- **Roll of Honour:** elected to be signed by Emil Minnaar and Patrick Flanagan
- **Skinner Cup:** Henk de Lange for philatelic achievement and input to organised philately on both local and national level
- **W E Lea Cup:** John L Shaw MBE, for his service to South African philately through the medium of the *Springbok* Journal, (published in the UK) where he has served on the editorial team for 25 years.
- **J H Harvey Pirie Memorial Award:** Danie van Zyl for his two publications, '*Atlas Listing of Commemorative* and *Special Date Stamps* 'and '*Flight and Fight.*'
- **Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion:** Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL for philatelic research and writing of a consistently high quality spanning many years.
- **Jack Hagger Award:** Dr JR Frank RDPSA, FRPSL
- **Federation Plaque:**
  * Rev Cassie Carstens for ongoing efforts in promoting the hobby
  * David Hunt for 30 years service to East Rand PS, youth leadership and Audio Visual activities
  * Filatelistenvereninging Zuidelijk Afrika (The Netherlands) for promotion of SA philately in Europe with their publications on SA postal stationery.
- **All article** contributors to the *SA Philatelist* over the past year (June 2007 to August 2008) received **Congress Awards**
- **Other Congress Awards:**
  * Hans Stronkhorst for 32 years service to AFP in various managerial positions.
  * Rudiger von Varendorff for many years of service to PS of Johannesburg in an executive positions
- **Transvaal Study Circle, Gold Congress Award:** Christopher Board OBE for the article, *Cyanotype prints on postal stationery postcards of Transvaal during the second Anglo-Boer War, with special reference to a correspondence from W Augustin to his family in Germany,* published in the May 2008 issue of *The Transvaal Philatelist.*

Citations for Signature to

Emil Minnaar

Emil Minnaar has made a significant contribution over a considerable period to philately in South Africa and is hereby recommended for signature to the Roll of Honour.

From 1984 Emil served on the Audio Visual Committee, first headed by Arie Bakker, later by Piet van den Burg. On the latter's death in 1992, Emil took over the Chairmanship and, together with his wife Diana, he developed the range and quality of the AV activities significantly. At Congress 2004, having been Chairman for 12 years, Emil handed over the Chairmanship to Angus Pringle.
Apart from being an active member of the East Rand Philatelic Society, and having served on their Committee in most functions including a two-year term as President, he is also an active member of Wits and the Euro Circle. Emil successfully served a National Jury Apprenticeship at *Jopex 99*.
At National Exhibitions Emil's greatest contributions have been his service on the Organising Committees: at *Benoni 94* (where the OC was collectively awarded the Skinner Cup), *Egoli 2001* and *Stampex 03*. He was firstly 'IT consultant' by providing the software to run the exhibition and to assist Jury Administration and, secondly, at the same exhibitions he designed and edited the Exhibition's Catalogues and each successive edition set a new standard of excellence.



Emil's most significant achievement for South African philately has no doubt been his management of the 2004 makeover of the *SA Philatelist*. In the 2003 Marketing Plan proposed by Patrick Flanagan, the poor image of the SAP was highlighted. During subsequent 'think tank' reviews, a number of options were developed, which were largely constructed by Emil. Meaningful change was, however, not supported by the then Editor and some members of the Management Committee had reservations. Following a directive of the MC in September 2003 that effective change should take place by Feb 2004, the then Chairman of the SAP Committee coincidentally resigned on the grounds of advanced age, and the then Editor resigned because he did not agree with the proposed changes. Emil laid the foundations for the new SAP by being very involved in selecting the printers, a new Editor and an Advertising Manager but effectively he managed and drove the transformation, displaying great courage and determination to make this a success.

In the process he also developed and still maintains the software for the membership database, which is used for mailing the *SA Philatelist.*

Since 2004, all issues of the SAP have been published in full colour with an excellent content and widely acclaimed, at a significantly reduced net cost to Federation compared with the previous monocolour version. Emil's contribution is the more significant when one realises that it was achieved at a time of great personal stress due to terminal illness of his beloved wife Diana, who gave him much support but sadly only saw the first two issues. He is also running his own business.
Emil has been on the FIP committee for the last 3 years and has served as National Commissioner to international exhibitions in Taiwan, Spain and Russia.

From Congress 2003, Emil has been Treasurer of Federation and has also served as PFSA representative to Foundation.

With having no Chairman of the Publications Committee for quite some time, Emil has also been extremely involved with various PFSA publications.

Emil has achieved philatelic and exhibiting excellence, having exhibited Bavaria for some time, achieving a Vermeil at *Algoapex 2002*; at *Pezapex 07* he won a Large Gold for *Postal Stationery of Gibraltar* and at the 2008 FIP exhibition in Bucharest, where he was also the PFSA National Commissioner, he was awarded an international Gold medal for his Gibraltar exhibit.

With the above in mind, we would strongly recommend that Emil Minnaar is an excellent candidate to sign the Roll of Honour.

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the Roll of Honour



Patrick Flanagan

A tireless ambassador for philately and more especially for Rhodesian philately, Pat Flanagan has certainly made his mark in a relatively short period of time, with his contributions in the field of exhibiting both nationally and internationally. He is without doubt our most prolific National and International philatelic exhibitor.

Pat collected as a youngster and started collecting seriously about 25 years ago. Eager to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for the hobby, he regularly exhibits material from his various collections for the enjoyment of others at society level. In addition to his in-depth study collections covering almost all aspects of Rhodesian philately he has assembled significant collections of Postage Dues/Taxed Mail of the world plus collections of the Commonwealth K.G.VI issues. He has been awarded many society awards plus National and International Gold and Large Vermeil medals, having received a Gold at the first ever World Stamp Championship held in Singapore 2004.

Patrick has advanced from apprentice National Juror a few years ago to a full National Juror. He has served his first term as an International Apprentice Juror with distinction and will serve his second term next year in Hong Kong, whereafter he will be a fully qualified FIAP International Juror.

At society level Patrick has been a member of the committee of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society for several years and is a regular attendee and contributor at their monthly meetings. At National level he has served on the Federation's Management Committee particularly specialising in the promotion and publicity of the hobby.

He successfully chaired the organising committee of the National exhibition held at Melrose Arch in Johannesburg in 2003. He was elected at the recent congress of the Rhodesian Study Circle in the United Kingdom as its President for a three-year term of office, a position which acknowledges his standing in the ranks of Rhodesian philatelists. He is a key member of the 2010 International Organising Committee, handling the post of Commissioner General and arranging the appointment of the events organiser. In addition he has been solely responsible for arranging the donation of 1500 new 16 page exhibition frames, an enormous contribution to South African philately. His dedication and contributions to the hobby justly warrant Patrick Flanagan being invited to sign the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists in South Africa.

REPORT

Post Office

Mr Johan van Wyk submitted a substantial report on the activities of Philatelic Services during 2007/8 to the 70th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Although it is not possible to reproduce the document together with the accompanying photographs in full, some of the highlights of the report are given below:

Particular reference was made of the special stamps marking 10 years of diplomatic relations between South Africa and China, the Constitutional Court, the International Conference on Entomology, Mr Nelson Mandela's 90th Birthday (as featured on the front cover of the *SA Philatelist* of August this year), Namaqualand flowers complete with scent, the Alma Ata Declaration and the Centenary of Onderstepoort.

In his report, Mr van Wyk outlined the lengths to which the Post Office is going in the interests of philately. Four Business Development Officers have been appointed to help in the promotion of this aspect of the organisation and three transportable exhibition stands have been purchased to assist with displays in such remote areas as Darling and Seshego.

Their publications include the philatelic magazine Setempe that circulates in 113 countries and a booklet for beginners on stamp collecting. In addition, there is a monthly internal e-newsletter and a web site on the Internet while a DVD will shortly be made available to the public.

One of the priorities of the Department is the promotion of the hobby amongst the youth of the country and a member of staff has been appointed to focus on this particular facet. A second challenge concerns the renovation, relocation and reopening of the Post Office Museum. The Post Office anticipates that, among other events, it will be represented at the international stamp exhibition in Luoyang, China, in April next year and at the World Summit on Arts and Culture to be held in Johannesburg in September 2009.



Madiba with members of the management of the SA Post Office at the launch on 15 July 2008 of the stamp to commemorate Mr Mandela's 90th Birthday.

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New South African Stamp Issues 2008 Part IV

- by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.



23 September 2008 - Heritage Site Series - Ukahlamba / Drakensberg Park.

Denomination : 4 x International Airmail Small Letter Rate (R4.90).
Designs : From photographs taken by Koos van der Lende showing four different panoramic scenes from the park in a *se tenant* block of four.
Printer : Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Horizontal format of size 72 x 30.5mm.
Sheetlet size : 173 x 91mm comprising the four designs in two rows of two.
Perforation: 13.3 horizontal x 13.6 vertical, extending through bottom and side selvedges.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands on right and top margins of each stamp.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: 710359, 710360, 710361 and 710362.
Printing sheet size: 650 x 450 mm comprising 9 sheetlets arranged in 3 rows of 3.
Quantity: 100 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: Nos. 7.137, in standard size (189 x 102mm) and of which 5 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.121, CATHEDRAL PEAK - 23.09.2008.



8 October 2008 - Onderstepoort 100

- Celebrating the Centenary of the establishment of the Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Laboratory.

Denomination: Standard Postage small letter rate (R2.05).
Designer: Rachel-Mari Ackermann.
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size/Format: Miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm incorporating a horizontal format size 38 x 29mm.
Perforation: 13.5 x 13.1, extending vertically to bottom margin of miniature sheet.
Phosphor: 4mm yellow bands on left and bottom margins of stamp.
Gum: PVA.
Cylinder numbers: None.
Printing sheet size: 500 x 390mm containing 16 miniature sheets arranged in 4 rows of 4.
Quantity: 30 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.138 of standard size and of which 4 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.119, SPRINGBOK - 08.10. 2008

9 October 2008 – World Post Day

Denomination: 5 x Standard Postage small letter rate (R2.05).
Designer: Annemarie Wessels. Five different designs in a *se tenant* strip, depicting old post office buildings situated at Aberdeen (Eastern Cape), West Bank, East London (Eastern Cape), Durban (KwaZulu-Natal), Church Square, Pretoria (Gauteng) and Frankfort (Free State).
Printer: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V., Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp size: Vertical format of size 29 x 38 mm.
Sheetlet size: 164 x 96mm comprising two strips one above the other.
Perforation: 13.1 x 13.6.
Gum: PVA.
Phosphor : 4mm yellow bands at right and top margins of the stamp.
Cylinder numbers: 710363, 710364, 710365 and 710366.
Printing sheet size: 440 x 620mm comprising 8 sheetlets arranged in 4 rows of 2.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: No. 7.139 in standard size of which 5 000 were produced.
Canceller: No. 7.123, HATFIELD - 09/10/2008.



STILL TO COME IN 2008

14 November - Big 5 cartoons. Self adhesive booklet, Airmail Postcard rate.

Acknowledgement: The above stamp information was collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria.

EXHIBITS INVITED FOR HONG KONG & AUSTRALIA

The PFSA has been invited to submit entries for the following stamp exhibitions in 2009 :

HONG KONG - May 14 to 17 , 2009- FIAP Exhibition and **MELBOURNE** - July 23 to 26 - AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL

Those interested in exhibiting should contact Patrick Flanagan who is Commissioner/Juror for both exhibitions

Patrick Flanagan
0832655649
pflan@mweb.co.za

REMEMBER:
The forthcoming ***National in Bloemfontein*** *will be the last opportunity for intending exhibitors to qualify for entry at* ***Joburg 2010****, for which participants need to achieve at least a Vermeil award*



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Stephan Welz & Co.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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Postage Stamps, Postal History and Coin Sales

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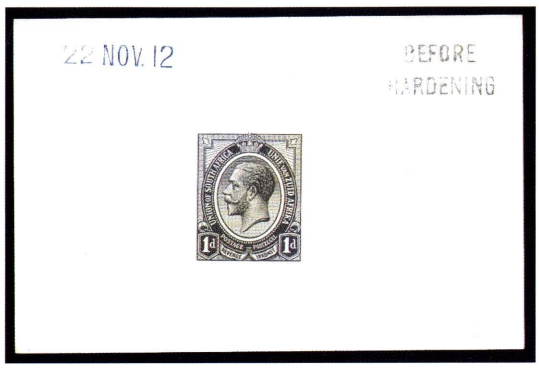



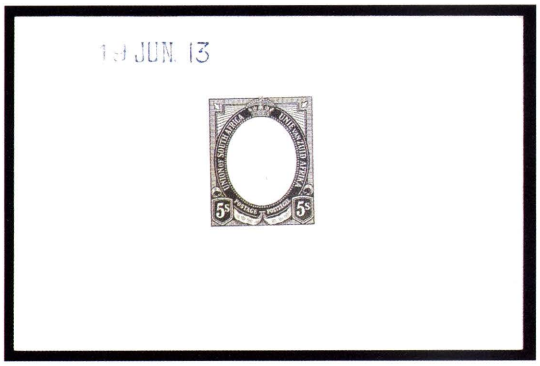









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E-Mail: morne.dela.guerre@swelco.co.za

13 Biermann Avenue, off Oxford Road, Rosebank,2196

P.O. Box 52431, Saxonwold, 2132, South Africa

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From Methuen to Minto - an Anglo-Boer War Cover

- by Tony Davis, 142 Jaimie Road, Thornhill, Ontario, Canada. LYJ 6A9.

Postal history is a fascinating field of study in many respects, notably, for philatelic information which can be derived from postmarks and postal notations. In this case, a "common" British forces cover from the Anglo-Boer War addressed to Canada, provides interesting historical data.

The cover is franked with the one penny British Victoria lilac definitive value, and is postmarked with an Army Post Office Klerksdorp strike, dated February 7, 1902 (*Figure 1*). The sender is indicated in the lower left - Methuen L-G - i.e. Lieutenant-General. The cover is addressed as follows: 'His Excellency, The Earl of Minto GCMG, Government House, Ottawa, Canada.'

Methuen, of course, is Paul Sanford Methuen, British military officer and 3rd Baron Methuen. Minto is Sir Gilbert John Murray Kynynmond Elliot, the 4th Earl of Minto, and in 1902, the Governor General of Canada.
Of interest as well is the notation on the right side of the envelope (enlarged in *Figure 2*):
Methuen Feb 7 02
a. March 30.02
this letter was received in Canada the same day that we heard of his reverses and his being taken by De La Rey
M.

March 30.02

Methuen's letter to Minto, reached Canada when word of his wounding, defeat and capture at Tweebosch on March 7 was made known to Minto at the end of that month.

Methuen was briefly taken prisoner by the victorious Boer Field General Jacobus Herculaas (Koos) de la Rey before being released.

The back of the cover bears a red wax seal with the signet of a crown with a rampant lion's head beneath and a received postmark applied in Ottawa and dated March 9 1902

Methuen (*Figure 3*) rose through military ranks and served as deputy adjutant-general in South Africa from 1888 to 1890 He previously participated in the Ashanti campaign in West Africa in 1873-74 under Sir Garnet Wolseley and was headquarters commandant in Egypt in 1882. As a brevet-colonel in 1881, Methuen served with Sir Charles Warren in Bechuanaland from 1884-85 commanding Methuen's Horse, a corps of mounted rifles. He continued his rise through the ranks, becoming lieutenant-general in 1899. At the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War Methuen was given command of the 1st Division Army in 1899 and was involved in several actions at Belmont, Graspan, Modder River and Magersfontein.

After the war he was appointed General Officer Commander-in-Chief for South Africa from 1908 to 1912. In 1910 Methuen became Governor and Commander-in-Chief for Natal and was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal in 1911.

The Earl of Minto (*Figure 4*) was a graduate of Eton and Cambridge and first saw military action in the Russo-Turkish War of 1877 and Afghan War of 1879. He served as private secretary to Lord Roberts in the Cape in 1881 and was with the British army when Egypt was occupied in 1882.

The following year Minto went to Canada as military secretary to Governor-General Lansdowne. He was involved with the raising of a Canadian volunteer unit to serve in the Sudan in 1884, assisting with the relief of Khartoum. In 1885 he served as an aide-de-camp to General Middleton during the Northwest Rebellion in Canada. Returning to England for a period, Minto came back to Canada as Governor-General from 1898 to 1904.

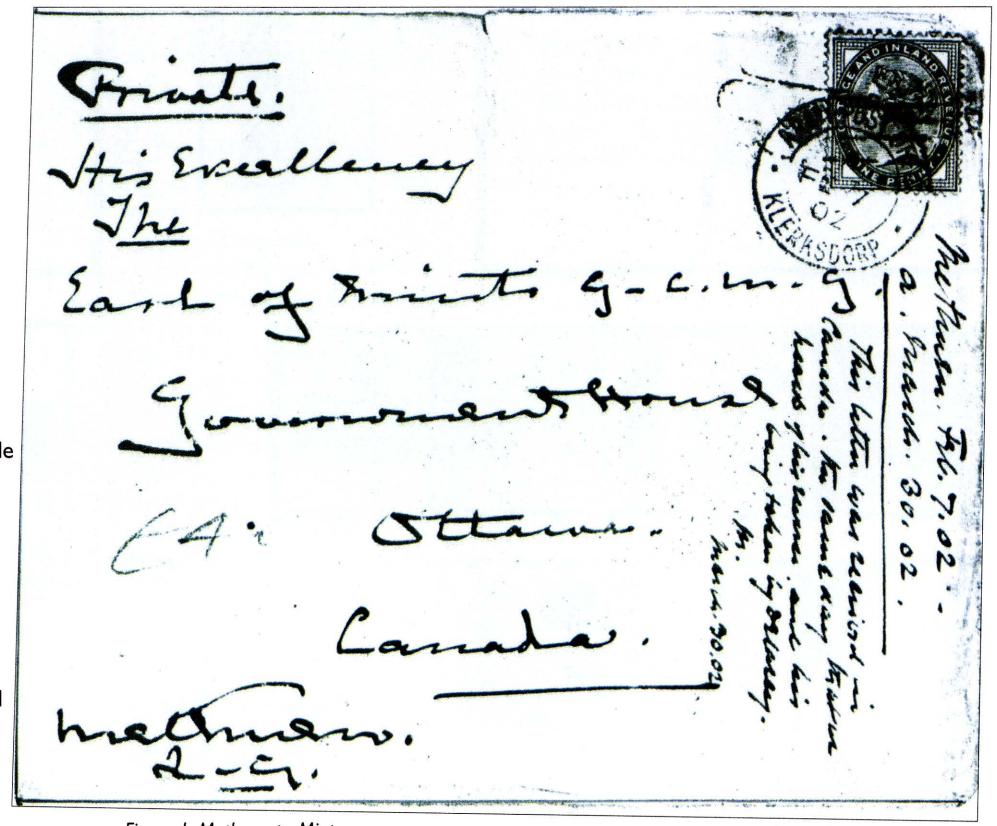

Figure 1. Methuen to Minto cover

Koos de la Rey (*Figure 5*) fought in the Basotho War of 1865 and Sekhukhune's War of 1876. In the first Boer War he served as a field cornet in the Western Transvaal. De la Rey was appointed as a field general at the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War by Piet Cronje.

In October 1899, De la Rey seized a British armoured train at Kraaipan and later that month was involved in the siege of Kimberley. At that campaign he fought against Methuen who was trying to lift the siege in November of that year. In further campaigns in 1899 De la Rey fought at the Battle of Modder River (November) and in December at Magersfontein where the British forces were routed under Methuen.

During the guerilla phase of the war, De la Rey operated in the Western Transvaal, evading British forces and capturing arms and ammunition to continue his resistance campaign. At Tweebosch on March 7, 1902, De la Rey and Methuen would meet again.

On the 25 February De la Rey captured a British weapons convoy at Yzer Spruit which was meant to support British mobile forces which, together with a system of fortified blockhouses, were attempting to restrict movement of the Boer guerilla bands. Methuen's forces in the south-western Transvaal was composed of 1200 to 1300 troops with squadrons of Imperial Yeomanry, Northumberland Fusiliers, North Lancashire, South Wales Borderers, Bedfordshire Mounted Infantry, Bechuanaland Rifles, British South African Police, scout units and a number of howitzer and field piece artillery batteries.

Methuen and his column left from Vryburg on March 2, hoping to intercept De la Rey

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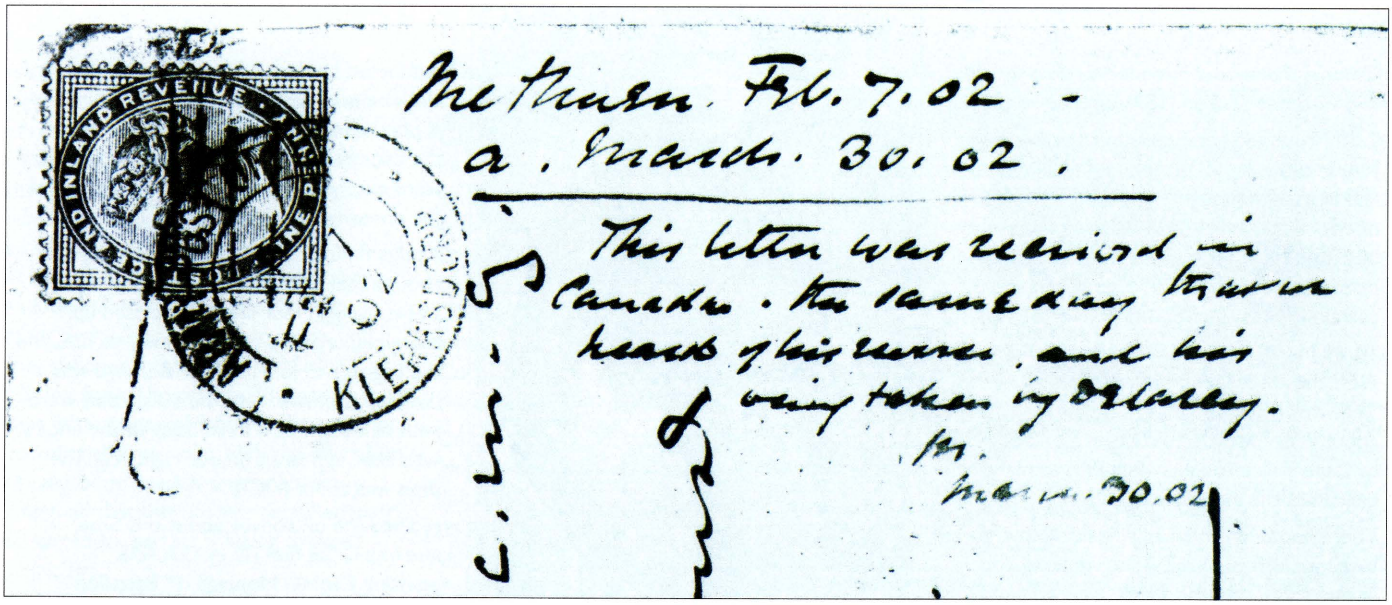

Figure 2. Minto's notation

and the captured munitions and to keep the Boer forces away from the Marico district. At the same time, Colonel Kekewich was leading another column from Wolmaranstad towards Rooirantjesfontein to meet up with Major Paris' column from Vryburg. Colonel Rochefort was to cross the Vaal from the Orange River Colony and force De la Rey towards the British columns converging at Rooirantjesfontein.

However, the pincer movement failed with Methuen's defeat at Tweebosch. Thomas Packenham, in his detailed work, '*The Boer War*' (1979) writes about the conclusion of the battle:

They panicked and fled, Methuen, wounded in the thigh, was forced to surrender, the first and last British general to be captured by the Boers in the campaign.

Methuen was wounded and his horse fell from under him. He was taken together with another wounded officer, Colonel Townsend to a nearby Boer laager and later to a hospital at Klerksdorp where he was released. It is believed they were freed because the Boer forces did not have the food and medical provisions to care for and detain several hundred defeated British troops.

Methuen subsequently composed his report to the Chief of Staff about the "disaster" at Tweebosch which reads as follows:

FROM LIEUTENANT-GENERAL LORD METHUEN TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF.

"KLERKSDORP, 13th March 1902.

"SIR, I have the honour to inform you that, with the object of preventing the force under General Delarey from moving northwards to the Marico district through the gap between Lichtenburg and Mafeking, I sent orders to Colonel Kekewich, C.B., at Wolmaranstad, to send a column towards Rooirantjesfontein, where he would meet a column under Major Paris, Royal Marine Artillery, from Vryburg.

1. At the same time, directed Colonel Rochefort to cross the Vaal from Orange River Colony, and to move northwards by the Bamboo Spruit, or the Harts River, and thus drive General Delarey towards the columns which were heading for Rooirantjesfontein.

2. Colonel Kekewich informed me on the 2nd March, that he was sending a column consisting of 1600 mounted men, lightly equipped; while Colonel Rochefort wired that the command would contain about 1000 mounted men.

3. The column under Major Paris, which I accompanied, consisted of the following units: - 5th Battalion Imperial Yeomanry, 184 men, under Captain Jennings; Cape Police (including Special Police), 233 men, under Major Berange; Cullinan's Horse, 64 men, under Captain Cullinan; British South African Police, 24 men, attached to Cullinan's Horse; 4th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, one section, under Lieutenant Yenning, D.S.O., one pom-pom 'GG' Section, under Captain Geoghegan, Royal Field Artillery. These units did not belong to Major Paris's column, but were an addition, placed under his command.

Major Paris's column before the fresh units were placed under his command at Vryburg - 86th Company Imperial Yeomanry, 110 men; Diamond Fields Horse, 92 men; Dennison's Scouts, 58 men under Captain Browne; Ashburner's Light Horse, 126 men, under Captain Ashburner; 38th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, one section under Lieutenant Nesham; one pom-pom, 'D' Field Artillery; 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, 200 men, under Captain Montagu; 1st Battalion Royal North Lancashire Regiment, 100 men, under Lieutenant Paul. The infantry were attached to the columns at Vryburg.

4. My written instructions to Major Paris were that I should give him daily the direction of the march, and the time of starting for the following day; in case of any fighting, that he should look after the mounted brigade, and that I would stand by the guns and infantry, and give him general instructions.

The mounted troopers were the best horsed force that I have yet had under me, added to which the Cape Police, under Major Berange, held an exceptionally high reputation, as did also the local corps. I remarked to Major Paris, on leaving Vryburg, that I could believe in the numbers given to me. He again made inquiries, and satisfied himself that the numbers were correct.

5. I informed Colonel Kekewich, by wire, that I should reach Rooirantjesfontein on 7th March.

6. 2nd March - The column under Major Paris left Vryburg at 5am; the Supply column consisting of 39 ox wagons and the baggage of 46 mule wagons; owing to heavy rains which had fallen during the night the last wagon did not reach O'Reiley's Pan, a distance of thirteen miles, till 5pm. I therefore at once sent a message to Colonel Kekewich to inform him that I should be one or perhaps two days late at Rooirantjesfontein. I had previously informed him that the position of the enemy had rendered it necessary for Major Paris's column to bear more to the north-west towards Polfontein (254).

7. 3rd March - Owing to the animals being exhausted by the previous day's trek, the column was only able to reach Grootpan (Bestersfarm), a distance of six miles. During the march the Police, forming the advance guard under Major Berange, killed three local rebel Boers, by name Steyn, Bester, and 'Janson'.

8. 4th March - At Grootpan I heard that large droves of cattle and Van Zyl's (rebel) commando had moved eastwards towards Doombult (197). That morning Major Paris's column marched to Graspan, two miles beyond Mooiplatz (244B), a distance of thirteen miles, where there was plenty of water. As there had been no rain in these parts it was very doubtful whether, if I trekked by Klipdrift (188), as I had told

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Colonel Kekewich I intended to do, I should find water at Vaalkop (183), or Rietvlei (270).

9. 5th March - I therefore moved to Boschpan (68) in the morning, which I found all but dry, and in the afternoon to Barberspan, a distance of twenty-one miles, where there was plenty of water. Here I was informed that there had been rain at Leeuwkuil (95), and that there certainly was water at Leeuwkuil (23).

10. 6th March - the column moved off at 5 A.M., the ox convoy having moved at 4 A.M. The whole force reached Leeuwspruit (232) about 7.30 A.M. Here I sent on a detachment of Cape Police to Leeuwkuil (95) to make certain of the existence of water.

There had been some sniping at the rearguard by about 100 of Van Zyl's commando, and seeing some confusion, I went back myself, sending at the same time for a section of the 38th Battery.

I found the men forming the rear screen, which consisted of the 86th Company Imperial Yeomanry, very much out of hand and lacking both fire discipline and knowledge of how to act.

There seemed to be a want of instructed officers and non-commissioned officers. Van Zyl's commando being accurately shelled by the section Royal Artillery, eventually retired and moved round our right flank to Tweebosch (247), while the column halted at Leeuwspruit (232).

On receiving information that there was no water at Leeukuil (95), I decided to move to Tweebosch (247), where Van Zyl's commando had taken up a good position in the bed of the Klein Harts River.

Major Berange with the Police, the section 4th Battery, and the pom-pom 'GG' Section, were ordered to move straight on Tweebosch (247), while Dennison's Scouts, supported by Cullinan's Horse, were to move round the enemy's left flank.

The commando retired rapidly, the Police under Major Berange working with the greatest quickness.

Much praise is due to Major Berange for the way in which he handled his men.

Our casualties were one killed and two wounded.

As the day was hot, and it was then 11:30 A.M., I decided to remain at Tweebosch (247).

11. 7th March - at 3 A.M., the ox convoy moved off towards Leeuwkuil (23) with an escort of 1 squadron Cape Police; 86th Company Imperial Yeomanry; 200 men 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers; 100 men 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment; 1 Section 4th Battery Royal Field Artillery; 1 pom-pom 'GG' Section. The whole was under command of Captain Montagu, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.



Figure 3. Methuen

The main column moved off at 4 A.M. as follows: *Advance guard*: 1 squadron Cape Police; Ashburner's Light Horse' 1 pom-pom Diamond Fields Artillery. *Main body*: - Cullinan's Horse; British South Africa Police; Detachment 5th Regiment, Imperial Yeomanry; 1 Section 38th Battery, Royal Field Artillery. *Rearguard*: -Diamond Fields Horse; Dennison's Scouts.

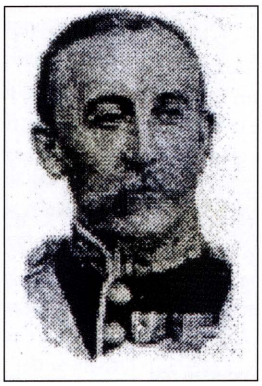

Figure 4. Minto

Thinking there was a likelihood of an attack in rear, I had called Major Paris's attention to the necessity of putting thoroughly reliable troops in the rearguard.

The country through which we passed was flat and without brush.

At daybreak (about 5 A.M.) a heavy fire was opened on the rearguard. The fire was so intense that the rear screen was at once reinforced by the section of the 38th Battery, and one pom-pom Diamond Fields Artillery. A portion of Ashburner's Light Horse, and the detachment of the 5th Imperial Yeomanry, were extended on either flank, round which the enemy seemed intent on galloping.

At this time (5:30 A.M.) the ox convoy was about a mile in front of the baggage, which was moving in four lines well closed up. I therefore ordered the ox convoy to halt, and the baggage to join it. Major Berange was directed to move, with the police that were with him towards a fresh body of the enemy, who now appeared on our right rear. The time was about 6 A.M.

I joined the ox convoy about this time, and found Captain Tilney, D.A.A.G, assisting Captain Montagu, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, Commanding the Infantry, to extend the men to meet the attack on our right flank.

The section 4th Battery Royal Field Artillery and the pom-pom 'GG' Section had already taken up a position to meet this attack.

I could see no mounted men available, and could only assume that they had all gone to reinforce the rear screen, so I ordered the baggage to continue to advance, it being impossible to move the ox convoy, as the native drivers were lying under the wagons and refused to move.

I would here like to draw attention to the orderly manner and complete control exercised by Lieutenant Hartley, Transport Officer to Major Paris's column, over the mule wagons during the fight.

The Boers, attacking the rearguard, had come on with great determination, right amongst the rear screen, but the support to the screen



LORD METHUEN RALLYING HIS BROKEN FORCES AT TWEEBOSCH

Drawing by C. M. Sheldon

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having been reinforced by Ashburner's Light Horse, Cullinan's Horse, and some of the 5th Imperial Yeomanry, held them in check till about 6.30 A.M. A heavy attack then developed on our rear and right flank, which caused, as far as I could see, all mounted troops then in rear (some of them which had originally been there had moved off towards the flanks to meet threatened attacks) to break, and they galloped in complete confusion past our left flank. The section 38 battery was thus left unprotected, but continued in action until every man, with the exception of Lieutenant Nesham, was hit. I am informed that this officer was called upon to surrender, and on refusing to do so was killed.

The attack on our right flank was pressed home to within six hundred yards of the gun of the 4th Battery.

I then gave orders for a kraal about one mile along the road to Leeuwkuil to be occupied, and sent orders, to rally the mounted men on the rising ground beyond the kraal. The kraal was occupied by Major Paris and Major Berange with some forty men. The mounted troops in the meantime continued their retirement. I remained with the guns, 4th Battery, and Infantry, until my horse was killed, and my thigh fractured by a bullet.

They held out in a most splendid manner until about 9.30 A.M, when all the men round the guns had been shot down and Lieutenant Venning, commanding the section, had been killed. In the meantime the two guns and a pom-pom with Commandant Cellier's commando had rendered the kraal untenable, when the men at the kraal and those remaining with baggage surrendered.

The Boer Commandants present were - Delarey, Vermaas, Cellier, Kemp, Van Zyl, D. Botha, and Lemmer. It is difficult to estimate the number Boers on the field, but I should say about 1500. General Delarey treated myself and the prisoners with the greatest kindness, and left General Cellier to look after our wounded on the ground; they buried eleven of their own men at Kareelaagte and, from what I can learn, their losses were heavy.

I beg to draw attention to the good work done by Major Paris in endeavouring to keep the mounted troops in hand, and to the promptitude with which Captain Tilney, 17th Lancers, D.A.A.G., assisted in placing the Infantry round the convoy.

I would also call attention to the gallant manner in which Lieutenants Nesham and Yenning, Royal Field Artillery, stuck to their guns.

Captain Montagu, commanding detachment 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, and Lieutenant Paul, commanding detachment 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, held on until further resistance was impossible. Civil Surgeon Prentice, with the rearguard, and Captain Thurston, Royal Army Medical Corps, with the guns, continued bandaging the wounded throughout the engagement.

Colonel Townsend, C.B., my Principal Medical Officer, remained in the fighting line until he had received three wounds; he has, from the commencement of the campaign, always acted most gallantly.

Captain Fernyhough did good work with the rearguard during the action. He has been of very great value to me ever since he has served under me.

A large number of the Boers were dressed in khaki, many of them wearing the chevrons of non-commissioned officers. This, in several instances, led to misapprehension by our troops and to losses by death, wounds, and capture among us. Owing to having been wound and taken prisoner, I am unable to give any list of casualties. This report is, for the same reason, based solely on what came under my own observation and what I have been able to gather from the few officers with whom I have had the opportunity of speaking on the subject."

Lord Methuen concluded by saying that should he have omitted to bring to notice some who had distinguished themselves during the action Major Paris would supply this information.

(Ordnance Map Numbers after Towns and Place Names i.e. Polfontein 254)

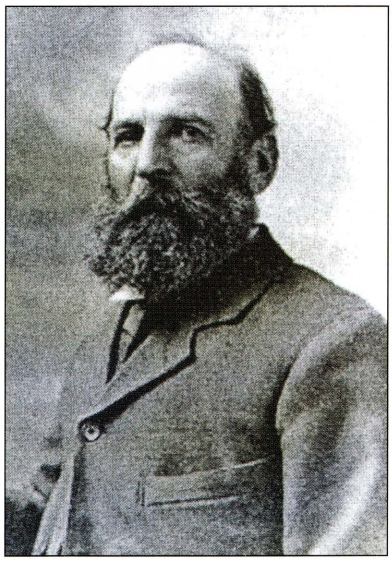

Figure 5 . De la Rey

LONDON 2010
FESTIVAL OF STAMPS

LONDON 2010 INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

As part of a wider Festival of Stamps to be held in London in 2010, an International Philatelic Exhibition under the Patronage of FIP will be held from 8 to 15 May 2010 at the Business Design Centre at Islington in London. This exhibition will feature two sessions of 4 days each with 1200 frames, allowing a total of 2400 frames (of 16 pages) to be shown. Most of the FIP Exhibition Classes will be catered for, the exceptions are Championship, Astrophilately, Maximaphily and the experimental classes, while exhibits in the Youth Classes are restricted to one frame and the One-Frame Class is restricted to material relating to King George V.

Frame fees are £35 per frame and further details may be obtained by requesting a Bulletin or accessing the website www.London2010.org.uk . Exhibits may be entered either on-line, or by downloading an Application Form, or by requesting an Application form and Bulletin obtainable from the National Commissioner Harry Birkhead RDPSA FRPSL on 011 455 1138. Applications need to be received by 1 January 2009.

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Not in the Book

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

Because of the limited nature of their validity, most of the more than 150 local issues that have featured in this series of articles to date fail to claim a listing in the better known stamp catalogues of the world, the likes of Gibbons, Michel, Scott or Yvert. While omission from such publications is not a requirement for inclusion in these articles, it is in general only the exceptions, the likes of the Treaty Ports of China, the Feudatory States of India and the issues of various towns during the Anglo Boer War that have a foot in both camps as it were. Additionally I have, in the past, identified a number of stamps that appear in neither the regular catalogues nor in such specialised listings as Chuchin's Zemstvos, Glassewald's German Town Posts or Sanabria's Semi-Official Airmails. Where, for instance, would you find listings of the stamps of the Tamil Federal Party of Sri Lanka, the East Highveld Express that ran between Ermelo and Carolina in the old Transvaal or of the Shanghai Light Horse, which were used by troops of the unit at a Spring camp at Hung Jao in April 1922?

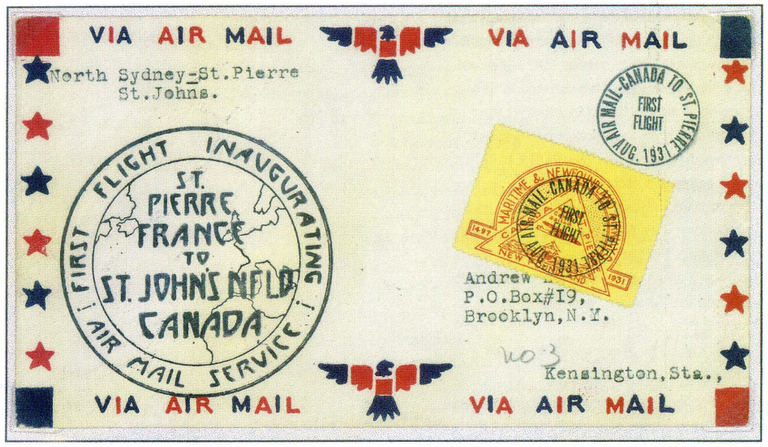

Fig.1

Newfoundland Unofficial Airmail.

Another stamp in this category is the lone issue of the Maritime and Newfoundland Airways that was never to achieve classification as even a semi-official authority. The first flight had been scheduled for 16 December 1930 but was eventually undertaken only in August 1931. The cover addressed to New York as shown in Fig.1, which had originated apparently in North Sydney, Nova Scotia, was impounded with the rest of the mail on reaching the French island of St. Pierre and was returned in due course to Canada. An explanatory cachet appears on the reverse of the cover apologising for the non-delivery and reads in part "*Owing to international complications, letters were refused entry at Post Office (sic). They were left in custody at St. Pierre, awaiting final adjustments and permission; such not being forthcoming letters were brought back to Canada. This information and cover is sent to you with our sincere regrets for the expense and inconvenience caused you*". To judge from the circular cachet on the front of the cover, it would seem that the intention had been for the mail, on reaching St. Pierre, to have been transferred to the inaugural flight to St. John's in Newfoundland and from there, presumably, to have caught a third flight to New York. Although thwarted in this endeavour, our cover does appear to have crossed the Cabot Strait, twice, and can thus surely demand some recognition as bearing a stamp of at least limited validity.

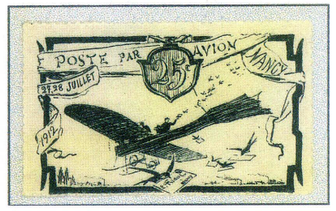

Fig.2

French Semi-Official Airmail.

The years either side of the First World War were the heyday of aviation meetings in France and, at many of these, semi-official airmail stamps were issued for promotional mail-carrying flights. The Nancy-Luneville flight of 1912 was the first inter-city post for which stamps were issued. Of the 50 000 copies printed, 14 700 were sold while the rest, reportedly, were destroyed. The flight took place on 31 July. The dates of 27 and 28 July that are indicated in the *art nouveau* design of the 25-cent stamp shown in Fig.2 are those on which members of the public were required to deposit letters for mailing at the Post Office in Nancy. The flight by a certain Lieutenant Nicaud in a Farman Biplane lasted a mere 17 minutes. It is reported that a number of the surviving stamps as well as flown items of mail were surcharged and sold in aid of the Red Cross during the early months of the First World War.

Danish Railways.

As Denmark has remained a monarchy under the same name since the first issue of stamps in 1851, it could, according to the requirements of my personal collection of '*Issuing Authorities of the World*', be represented by a single stamp. Fortunately, however, the list has been supplemented to a great extent by ferry, kiosk and military mail facilities as well as a number of railway, steamship and local postal services. Stamps of 10 and 20 öre were used from 1880 to the end of the century by the Copenhagen Express Company. Bearing the winged wheel symbol of the railways, they appeared with the overprint 'Salicath' in 1882,



Fig.4

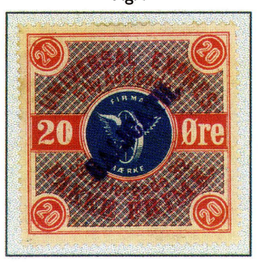

Fig.3

as illustrated in Fig.3 when, it is believed, they were used by a parcel delivery company of that name.

Brazilian Semi-Official Airmail.

Three private airlines were authorised by the Brazilian Government in the late 1920s to issue stamps in order to prepay the additional cost of airmail postage. In each case they were to be used in conjunction with the regular issues of Brazil. Stamps for the Condor airline as shown in Fig.4 on a 1930 cover from Porto Allegre to Rio de Janeiro were virtually identical to contemporary issues of Brazil with the addition of the words '*Syndicato Condor*'. An arrival stamp on the reverse of this cover is dated 3 June. The handstamp 'M.P.' stands for *Mao Propria*, which translates literally from the Portuguese as "by own hand", thus indicating that the item was handed in by the sender at the airport. This latter piece of information was provided by the late Major Ian Mathews in response to a query submitted to the "Questions and Answers" column of the *SA Philatelist* many years ago.



Fig.5

Anglo-Boer War.

In his book '*Transvaal Philately*', the self-same Major Ian Mathews suggests that revenue stamps of the Transvaal were surcharged for postal use at Zeerust during the Second Anglo-Boer War, with the authority of Lord Edward Cecil, at a time when the postal administration was in the hands of British officers, during the months of May, June and July 1900. Mathews bases this contention on the existence of a part sheet of the V.R.I. 1 Penny on 1 Shilling surcharged revenue stamps bearing an endorsement of which an extract reads "*Certified Genuine issue for Imperial Purposes…*" and signed by G.P. Tighe, Secretary to Lord Cecil. Other authorities maintain that the phrase '*for Imperial Purposes*' excludes postal use. It remains to be proven whether the late Major was correct or not. Should the ruling ever come down in his favour, then perhaps the stamps of Zeerust, such as the example shown in Fig.5, will take their place alongside the likes of those of Rustenburg, Wolmaransstad and Lydenburg in the prestigious Stanley Gibbons catalogue.

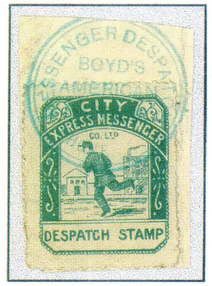

Fig.6

Australian Carriers.

Fitz A. Boyd, grandson of the founder of Boyd's City Express in New York (1830-1883), migrated to Melbourne, Australia, in 1888 and joined the firm that was to become the City Express Messenger Company. Boyd became the managing director of the company and was presumably instrumental in the introduction of the stamps that were in use from about that time up until 1910. Nevertheless, they are not now particularly common. The design, oddly enough, owes much to that of the issue of 1877 for Hussey's Express, a rival of Boyd's in downtown New York. One of four different cancellations known, that in light blue on the stamp illustrated in Fig.6, is undated and reads, somewhat surprisingly, '*Boyd's American Express Messenger Despatch*'. While earlier strikes also carried the wording '*Phone 1006*', the number is omitted on this copy suggesting that it was a provisional version in use towards the end of 1897 when the company had moved to new premises and had not, as yet, obtained a new telephone number.

British Military Post in Egypt.

Special postal arrangements were made for British troops in Egypt between 1932 and 1951. Although stamps had been issued in 1918 for the E.E.F., General Allenby's 'Egyptian Expeditionary Force', they were intended specifically for the civilian population in areas from which the British had driven out the Turks in the course of their Middle East campaign. Palestine was the main theatre of war but the stamps were also used in Syria, the Lebanon and Cilicia but never in Egypt itself. The concession to British troops was discontinued in 1936 and the Egyptian Postal Administration issued special stamps for the British Forces Post. These bore the inscription 'Army Post' with, at first, the portrait of King Fuad I and, from 1939, that of King Farouk as shown in Fig.7 on a censored airmail cover to Bulawayo that is dated 3 March 1941. The four stamps amounting to 40 millièmes obscure in part the injunction in green reading '*(Up to three letters may be forwarded in this cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor).*' The stamps were withdrawn in April 1941 but the concession remained in force without the use of special stamps until October 1951.



Fig.8

Indian Feudatory States.

The Indian state of Rajasthan was formed in 1948 by consolidating a number of states in Rajputana. Of the states thus amalgamated, five - Bundi, Jaipur, Kishengarh, Jhalawar and Alwar - had existed previously as stamp-issuing authorities although the last two of these had made no issues after 1900 and 1902 respectively. The first, primitive issue for Jaipur of August 1904, an example of which is shown in Fig.8, was crudely executed in lithography by the State Printing Press and featured the chariot of the Sun God, Surya, as did all of the stamps of the state prior to 1931. A more finely executed representation of the same subject was produced using recess printing by Perkins, Bacon & Co. later in the same year, but, like all stamps of the Feudatory or Native States, was limited in its validity to the borders of its own state.

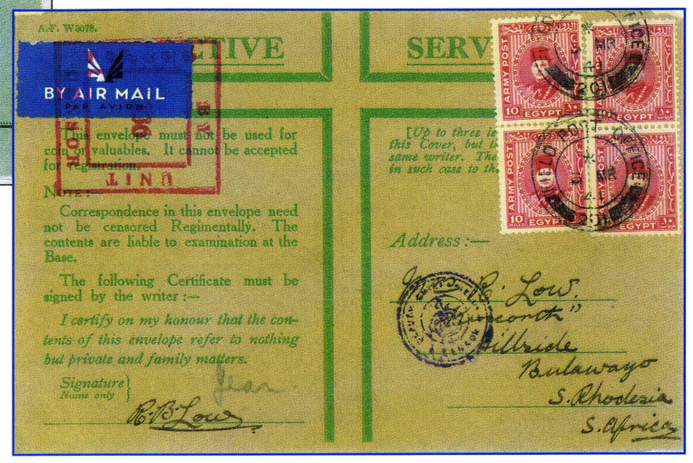

Fig.7

British Carriers.

It was only in 1883 that the British Government nationalised those private companies that had been delivering parcels in the country for more than two hundred years. The Express Parcels Delivery Company Ltd. of the Strand, London, began operations in 1864 and required that customers should affix a one-penny stamp on parcels up to seven pounds in weight. Although the company was dissolved in 1866, it is nevertheless noteworthy for having produced one of the earliest pictorial postage stamps in Great Britain as illustrated in Fig.9.

Polish Provisional Post.

For much of the First World War, Poland was under German and Austro-Hungarian

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occupation. During this period, local postage and postage due stamps were issued in a number of towns and districts including a set of four values denominated in groszy for the post of the Warsaw Citizens' Committee. With the declaration of a Polish republic on 3 November 1918, this set was surcharged in fenigów and overprinted with the words *Poczta Polska* for use as a regional issue by the Provisional Government of Poland, a rare case of a local issue being validated for the nation. The registered cover shown in Fig.10 with the 50 fen on 20 groszy stamp was sent from Zawiercie to Pulawy and is dated 18 February 1919.



Fig.9

Liberian Registration Stamps

While the registration of postal items is normally indicated by a handstamp or adhesive label of no particular value, a few countries have issued actual stamps with a value indicated or implied. Here one thinks of the likes of Panama, Colombia, Canada and Liberia. Between 1893 and 1941, Liberia issued several sets, each of five stamps, for use on registered mail. The five stamps of each set were of a common design and denomination but each bore the name of one of the five main post offices - Buchanan, Greenville, Harper, Monrovia and Robertsport – giving a small degree of postal identity to these towns. That shown in Fig.11 with the inscription 'Monrovia' is from the set that was issued in 1893. All five of the stamps in subsequent registration sets for the next forty-eight years were in the value of 10 cents as was presumably the case with this first, undenominated issue. As with the stamps of Liberia in general, such errors as inverted centres and misplaced overprints are not uncommon on these registration stamps.



Fig.11

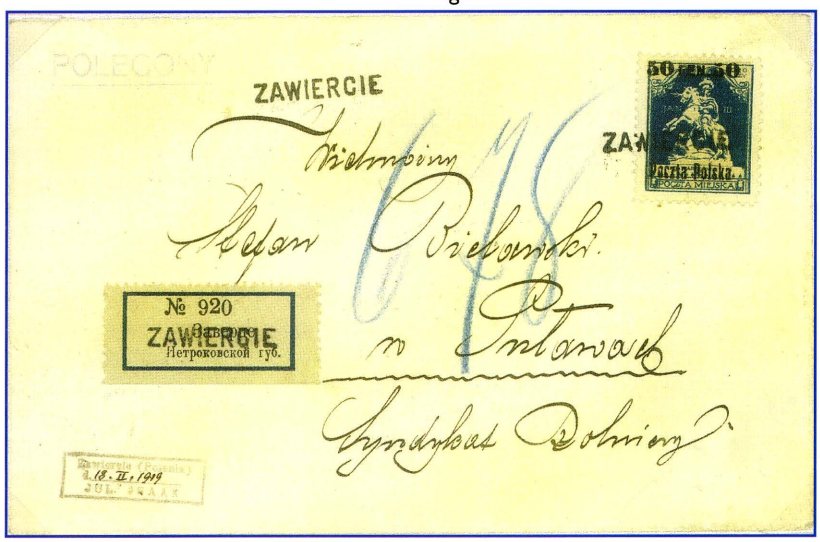

Fig.10

Iranian Local Posts

While paging through Farahbakhsh's catalogue of the stamps of Iran (printed in English as well as Arabic but, to western eyes at least, from back to front!) for information on the Teheran Local Post of which an example is shown in Fig.12, I noticed a comment that, between 1897 and 1913, registration labels had been used to overcome temporary shortages of the 1-shahi postage stamp. This however would have less of a claim to 'local' status than that of the registration stamps of Liberia and specifically Monrovia as described above. Please excuse the diversion. A system for sending messages existed in Persia in 550 B.C. when it was one of the most important civilisations of the ancient world. Stamps were first issued in 1868 and Persia became known as Iran in 1935. In 1902 and again in 1904, stamps were overprinted 'P.L.' (Poste Locale) for a post of limited scope in Teheran. A similar overprint for the town of Isfahan was authorised but never put into use. An overprint reading 'Relais' of 1911 (SG 382-388) was for use on the short-lived Resht-Teheran mail-coach route. These issues are but two examples of the appearance of local posts in regular catalogues.

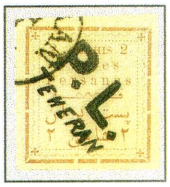

Fig.12

ISRAEL - FRANCE FIRST FLIGHT



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PO Box 12191, 1504 Benoryn
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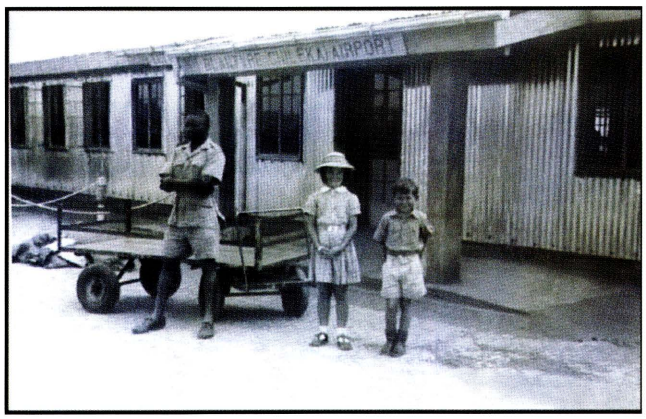
Nyasaland's Post WWII Air Mails

- by D.G. Morton, Rhodesian Study Circle.

INTRODUCTION

Although a number of informative articles on the Postal History of the Nyasaland Protectorate's Air Mails have been written by various authors over the years none, as far as the writer is aware, has covered the post WWII extension of the 'Internal Air Mails' in Nyasaland, in sufficient detail. The article by I. H. C. Godfrey, published in the February 1947 and August 1948 issues of the *S A Philatelist* (1) and that by Capt J.A. C. Florence, published in the *Nyasaland Journal* (2) in July 1958, both give a good summary of the history and growth of Civil Aviation in Nyasaland but neither provides specific details of the extension of the 'Internal' air mail services in the 1950s, *per se*.

During a recent visit to Malawi the writer was able to research the matter and from documents that were found in the archives of *The Society of Malawi* (3) full details of the extension of the 'Internal Flights' introduced in Nyasaland in 1951 and 1953, have now been unearthed.



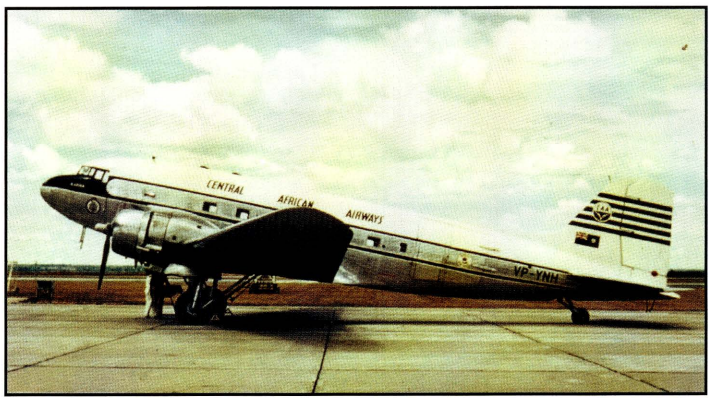
Chileka Airport, Blantyre in the 1950s (8)

Before reporting specifically on this new development, however, it is felt that it would perhaps be appropriate to first summarise some of the developments in Nyasaland immediately before and after WWII, which led to the extension of the internal flights in the early 1950s.

THE WARTIME PERIOD

With the outbreak of war, Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways (R.A.N.A.) was taken over by the Southern Rhodesian Government and became a communications squadron operating under the name of Southern Rhodesian Air Services (S.R.A.S.) which provided essential services within the territories of Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Portuguese East Africa (P.E.A.)

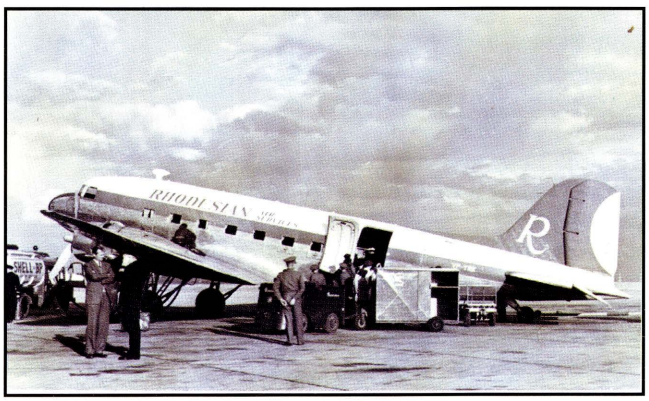
In June 1946 Central African Airways Corporation (C.A.A.) was formed and they took over the equipment and personnel of S.R.A.S. By the end of 1946 the fleet of Rapide and Anson aircraft that were in the service of S.R.A.S. gave way to Vickers Vikings and de Havilland Doves which operated between Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The Doves were subsequently replaced on the main Nyasaland routes by Douglas Dakotas and the de Havilland Beavers acquired in 1951 were specifically introduced to serve the outlying stations in Nyasaland.



C.A.A. Douglas DC3 Dakota

RECOMMENCEMENT OF THE FLYING BOAT SERVICE TO SOUTH AFRICA

The Empire flying boats, which were first introduced to Southern Africa in the mid 1930s, were approaching the end of their useful life and it was planned to discontinue their services after December 1946. The Government of Nyasaland, however, strongly supported the arguments put forward for the continuance of the service by the other two Central African Governments of Southern and Northern Rhodesia. In early 1948, Mr. Douglas Dodds-Parker, M.P., who was Chairman of the British Central Africa (B.C.A.) Company, asked the U.K. Minister of Aviation when he expected the flying boat service to South Africa to be in full operation again and, more specifically, what extensions were being planned for a route via Lake Nyasa only to be informed that '*although it had been agreed that a once weekly service to South Africa was to start in the near future there were no plans at that stage to include Lake Nyasa*'. (4)



S.R.A.S Douglas DC3 Dakota

THE INTRODUCTION OF SHORT SOLENTS ON LAKE NYASA

In late 1947 and early 1948 proving flights were carried out by B.O.A.C. to test the practicality of alighting flying boats at various places on the Nile, Lake Victoria and the Victoria Falls on the Zambezi. The new superior generation of Short S45 Solent flying boats were adopted - a passenger version of the R.A.F. Short Sunderland which was used during the war by the R.A.F. Coastal Command running transport services to South Africa along the east coast. In May 1948 a regular service, known as the Springbok Solent Service, began. It operated three times weekly in each direction from Southampton docks in England to the Vaal dam seventy miles from Johannesburg, with overnight stops at selected places. There were sixteen S45s in total all assuming the names of U.K. locations and the first one was appropriately christened *Southampton*.

The Solent weighed 35 tons and was powered by four Bristol Hercules engines with a cruising speed of 200 mph. The aircraft carried a crew of eight and up to 40 passengers, plus mail and cargo. The lower deck comprised three passenger cabins with a bar and a library all of which added to its world wide reputation for excellence (8).

It was not until August 1949, that B.O.A.C. announced that they proposed diverting one flight per week of the Springbok Solent Service in each direction to make its overnight stop at Cape Maclear on Lake Nyasa instead of Victoria Falls, thereby giving the people living in Nyasaland a direct connection by air to Southampton and Johannesburg.

Early in September 1949 a Solent called at Cape Maclear to test the moorings and other facilities. On 7 October, before the service began, a Solent was specially diverted to Cape Maclear in order to land the Governor

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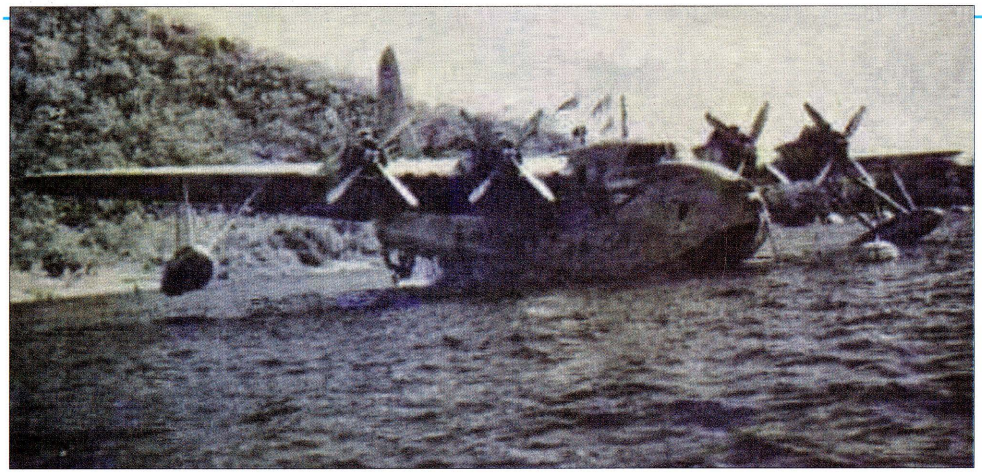
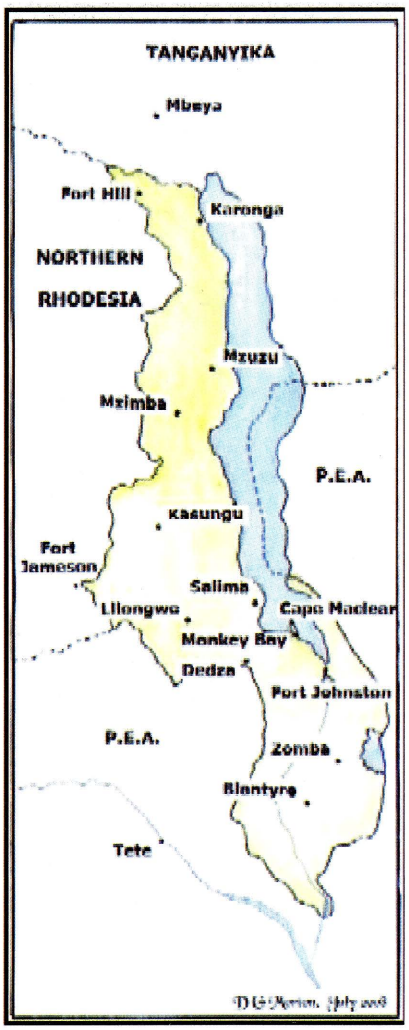


Short S45 Solent Flying Boat at Cape Maclear (4)

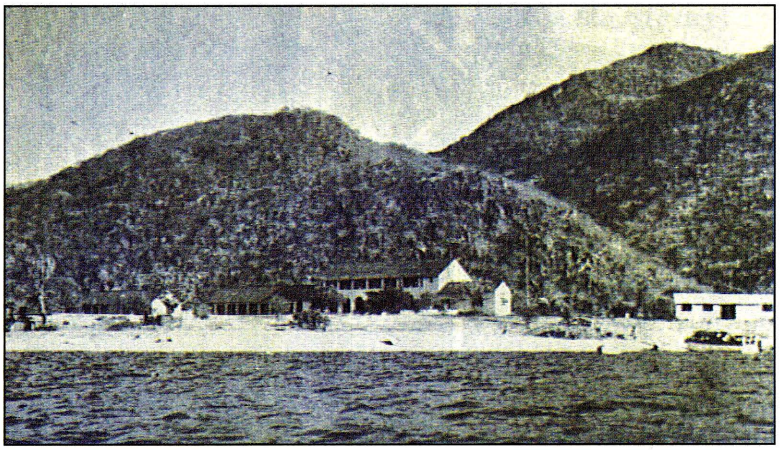




of Nyasaland Sir Geoffrey Colby and Lady Colby who were returning from Britain. The regular service finally began on Thursday 3 November 1949, when the scheduled Solent from Johannesburg alighted and left the following morning.

The Short Solent was a four-engined flying boat carrying a crew of eight and accommodated twenty-eight passengers. The inclusive cost from Cape Maclear to Southampton was £146 single and £262, 16/- return.

The Rhodesian Aviation Maintenance Services (R.A.M.S.) also stationed a pilot and aircraft at Chileka airport at the time the flying boats were routed through and landing at Cape Maclear and a feeder service between Chileka and Monkey Bay using Rapides was introduced to connect with B.O.A.C.



Cape Maclear Hotel showing the buildings as they were in 1949 (4)

Cape Maclear was an isolated and inaccessible spot on the South West shore of Lake Nyasa 150 miles from the administrative capital of Zomba and a further 50 miles from the main commercial centre of Blantyre. Notwithstanding this, however, the service was seen to have considerable importance in the early post WWII history of colonial Nyasaland.

At this stage it is fitting to mention that Squadron Leader F. H. X. Gwynne of the Royal Air Force was stationed in Nyasaland after the war and he lost no time in assessing post WWII developments in flying and foreseeing their possible peacetime application. Whether or not he actually anticipated the use of the flying boats and the likelihood of their alighting on Lake Nyasa at some stage is not known but he had shown interest in building a hotel at the Lake as early as 1941. He saw fit to form a private company in 1944 to build and run the hotel on a grand scale at Cape Maclear. It was, however, not until 1945 that a lease was signed and, in that September, work on clearing the site and building commenced. Owing to its inaccessibility, various delays were experienced and it was not until 30 April 1948 that the Hotel was finally opened. It was originally called the Glengeary Hotel and later changed to the Cape Maclear Hotel (4).

No doubt the location of the hotel played a major part in the decision to use Cape Maclear as a flying boat base as B.O.A.C. had to install alighting control equipment, a fire launch and a launch to ferry passengers to the jetty and these facilities were positioned with close accessibility to the hotel.

POST OFFICE FACILITIES

A Post Office at Cape Maclear was opened on 24 April 1950 where the sale of postage stamps, postal orders and the acceptance and delivery of registered mail and parcels, was conducted. The Post Office was subsequently closed six months later on 31October 1950 when a new post Office at Monkey Bay was opened on 1 November 1950. (10)

THE DEMISE OF THE SOLENTS

The fate of the Solent Service was, however, already foreshadowed by reports of the world's first jet airliner, the de Havilland Comet I which was undergoing tests and proving that it could more than halve flight times on passenger routes. At the beginning of 1950 suitable land planes were being sought to take over the routes between South Africa and Britain. Although the Skymaster service from Johannesburg to London via Nairobi was already operating, these aircraft could not land at Chileka which was not large enough in those days. In July 1950 it was announced that B.O.A.C. had decided to replace all its Solent S45 flying boats with Handley Page Hermes land-planes. This decision took effect in November 1950 and the last Solent left Cape Maclear for Southampton on the 10th of that month. Nyasaland had enjoyed exactly one year of direct service to Britain.

The departure of the Solents from Cape Maclear left the hotel to cater for local holiday makers but there was not enough business to keep it going and it soon became a 'white elephant'. In 1951 the hotel was closed and the buildings dismantled; the materials were shipped across the lake to Senga Bay near Salima where the new Grand Beach Hotel (later Livingstonia Beach Hotel) was being built (8).

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Cover posted from Cape Maclear on 24 May 1950 (With kind permission of Mr Keith Harrop, U.K.)

With effect from 1April 1950, the Empire Air Mail Scheme (E.A.M.S.) was re-introduced to all territories within the African Postal Union and, for the first time, C.A.A. in conjunction with South African Airways (S.A.A.) and East African Airways (E.A.A.), commenced a weekly 'coastal' service, providing a same-day air link between Johannesburg and Dar-es-Salaam, via Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia and Blantyre, using Vickers Viking aircraft. The 'coastal' service also ran in conjunction with the new Nairobi-Salisbury weekly service inaugurated by E.A.A. which flew via Mbeya in Tanganyika and Fort Jameson in Northern Rhodesia, using Dakota DC3 aircraft.

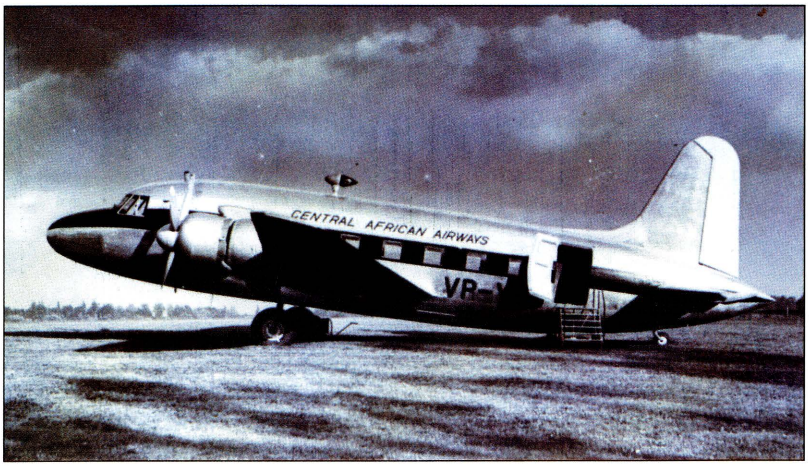
Although work commenced in March 1949 for Chileka Airport's first major expansion since its birth in 1933, when a contract was awarded to construct a main metalled runway of 1,850 yards and a subsidiary runway of 1,500 yards and also to provide better terminal buildings, it was only at the end of 1956 that the airport had reached an international standard. At the same time, Viscounts replaced the Vikings (a civil version of the Wellington bomber of WWII) on the Nairobi services. 1955 saw the start of two new services from Chileka. C.A.A. recommenced a Blantyre-Beira schedule, having suspended the service in the 1940s, and Hunting Clan started a weekly 'tramp' freight service between Blantyre and Salisbury which continued through to October 1957. E.A.A. introduced their 'Federaliner' services from Blantyre to Dar-es-Salaam and Nairobi in 1957. This acted as a reciprocal service to the C.A.A. Viking service and initially Dakotas and, later, Canadian built DC 4 Argonauts were used. Apart from the B.O.A.C. Short Solent S45 flying boat services this E.A.A. service marked the first 'International' airline to serve Chileka on a regular basis.

It was not until 1966, however, when Malawi had become an independent Republic and Chileka Airport had been enlarged to cater for full international flights that it was again possible to fly direct to Britain. A Comet 3 from the R.A.F. was the first jet aircraft to land at Chileka in January 1966 and a regular B.O.A.C. service from Chileka to London using VC 10 aircraft started in November 1966.

THE EXTENSION OF 'INTERNAL' AIR ROUTES IN THE 1950s

Turning now to the main focus of this article concerning the extension of the 'Internal' air routes in Nyasaland, it was in May 1951 that Capt Florence was posted to Blantyre by C.A.A. as Manager Nyasaland with the task of organising the country's internal air services (2). Scheduled services round the Lake Shore and to Lilongwe and Mzimba were first introduced on 1 November 1951. To quote Capt Florence; *"communications at the time were practically non est"*, and although these did improve by 1953, when the twice weekly services initially introduced were extended to Mbeya, Tanganyika, serving Fort Hill still capable of improvement. In addition, a thrice weekly service to Mzuzu serving Mzimba via Lilongwe and two return services a week between Salima, Fort Johnston and Monkey Bay were introduced. Zomba was catered for 'on request' on most of these services.

The entire services covered about 800 unduplicated route miles in Nyasaland and, although uneconomic, they were regarded as essential social services to the scattered communities from the farthest north southwards. C.A.A. was seen as the 'life line' for practically everything from fresh food and mail to car spares, medicines and school specials. Air travel also played a major role in the development of tourism.



C.A.A. Vickers Viking :VP-YEW

INTERNAL AIR ROUTES OPENED IN 1951

Whilst the information set out above provides a general overview of the developments that took place up to and after WWII, the actual flight schedules, time tables and routes introduced from 1 November 1951, when the de Havilland 'Canada' Beaver Internal Air Services were extended north of Lilongwe were, until now, unavailable.

The only reference for these flights that has now been found was published in The Nyasaland Times (5) on 25 October, 1951 - See Annexure 1.

The bi-weekly service from Lilongwe to Mzimba via Kazungu was on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the return flight on the same days. The weekly all year service from Lilongwe to Ft. Jameson in Northern Rhodesia departed on Wednesdays. Connecting flights at Chileka Airport, Blantyre, from and to Salisbury and Bulawayo, occurred on Mondays and Fridays.

Extract from THE NYASALAND TIMES.

Monday, November 5, 1951.

INTERNAL AIRMAIL SERVICES

With the introduction of Beaver Aircraft services on 1 November, 1951, the Blantyre / Lilongwe internal air mail service will be extended to Mzimba. Internal Airmail Postage Rates are as follows:-

Letters	2d per ½ oz.
Parcels	9d per lb.

Internal Airmails will be exchanged between Limbe Central Sorting Office and Mzimba on Tuesdays and Thursdays and all items must be clearly endorsed by AIRMAIL. Items addressed to destinations beyond the terminal offices will be carried by air mail between Limbe C.S.O. and Mzimba providing they are fully repaid at the above rates.

INTERNAL AIR ROUTES OPENED IN 1953:

The only reference that could be found for these flights was in a 'Supplement' to *The Nyasaland Times* (6) on 27 April, 1953, which was only published one day before the new flight schedule became effective - See Annexure 2.

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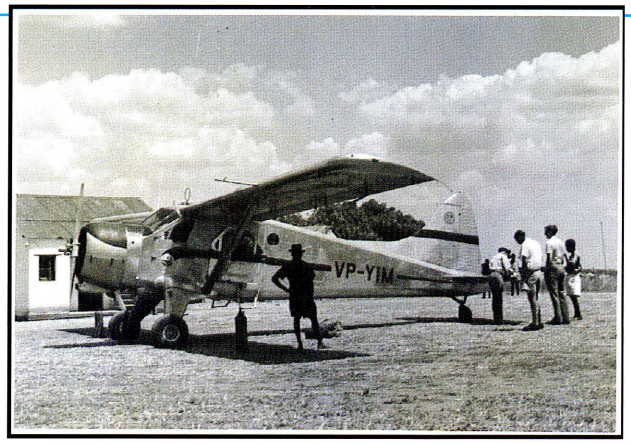
The schedule extended services to a number of new towns with a weekly connection to Mbeya in Tanganyika thus enabling Mzuzu, Karonga and Fort Hill to be included en route. The new flights introduced were on the following days:

- Dedza (between Blantyre and Lilongwe) : Monday, Tuesday and Friday.
- Fort Johnston and Monkey Bay : Tuesday and Friday.
- Salima : Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Kasungu: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Fort Jameson: Friday
- Mzimba : Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Mzuzu : Wednesday and Thursday.
- Karonga, Fort Hill and Mbeya : Wednesday and Thursday.

Notwithstanding exhaustive enquiries from a number of Aerophilatelists specialising in Nyasaland Air Mails, it was not possible before now to verify any of the flight details regarding the Cover illustrated, right, as detailed information on the extended 'internal' Beaver services introduced in 1953, was previously unknown.

This lack of information prompted the research undertaken by the writer in the records of *The Society of Malawi* (3). Although this Cover is marked as having been carried on the *'First Air Mail'* from Karonga to Mzimba, indications are that it in fact went on the second return flight.

The outward service was scheduled to commence on Wednesday 29 April, 1953, and it would appear (See Annexure 2) that the Cover was carried (one day late) on the second Mbeya to Blantyre return flight on 7 May, 1953. It was not offloaded at Mzimba en route and was cancelled with a LIMBE C.S.O. (Central Sorting Office) date stamp on 7 May which was the same day as it was posted at Karonga. This appears to tie in with the arrangement introduced in November 1951 that 'Internal Airmails were exchanged between Limbe Central Sorting Office and the final destination'. The Cover was not back stamped at Mzimba on arrival but it was probably carried from Blantyre to Mzimba on the next flight via Dedza, Lilongwe and Kasunga, on Monday 10 May, 1953.



The first Beaver VP-YIM to make a flight for C.A.A. on 1 January 1951

According to the details set out in Annexure 2, the first two scheduled flights were:

- Initial Flight Blantyre - Mbeya: Wednesday 29 April 1953
- First return Flight Mbeya - Blantyre: Thursday 30 April 1953
- Second Flight Blantyre - Mbeya: Wednesday 5 May 1953
- Second return Flight Mbeya - Blantyre: Thursday 6 May 1953

As mentioned above the extended 'internal' Nyasaland Services were only announced in the press one day before they were scheduled to commence on 28 April, 1953, and it is not clear whether any mail was in fact carried on the first outward and return flights on 29/30 April - hence the cover below being annotated *'First Air Mail'*.



Cover from the Air Mail collection of David Morton



C.A.A. Vickers 745D Viscount VP-YNB

CONCLUSION

Prior to 1951 (2) nobody could fly north of Lilongwe by air and the introduction of the new Regional and Inter-Colonial Air Services in the 1950s made it possible in only a few years for the rural areas of Northern Nyasaland, in addition to the other centres en route, to develop at a much faster rate than had been possible in the previous 50 years.

Whilst figures prior to 1948 are not available, the contrasting figures (2) of the quantities of mail carried in 1948 between Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia and the Nyasaland services compared to those in 1957, some nine years later, are as follows:

	1948	1957	Increase
Mail (Kg)	8, 853	115, 834	1,320%

It is hoped that the new flight information which has been highlighted in this article for the first time will encourage interested aerophilatelists to write in and draw attention to other developments that they may be aware of as, until now, sufficient detail on the opening up of these 'internal air routes' in Nyasaland has not generally been available.

References

1. Southern African Air Mails, by D G Morton (Pages 193 – 197).
2. The Nyasaland Journal: July 1958 Vol. 11 No 2 (Pages 14 – 23).
3. The Society of Malawi, P O Box 125, Blantyre, Malawi.
4. Malawi Government Department of Antiquities publication No 4: Cape Maclear, by P.A Cole-King M.A. (September 1968).
5. The Nyasaland Times 25 October 1951 (Page 10) and 5 November (Page 10).
6. The Nyasaland Times 'Supplement' published on 27 April, 1953.
7. Chileka Airport: The First Sixty Years, by Arthur Stevens (1993).
8. They Served Africa with Wings by WGM Stirling and JA House (2002)
9. Mr Keith Harrop; Fellow of the Rhodesian Study Circle, UK.
10. Nyasaland Government Gazette: General Notices 176 P 24/36; 417 P 24/56; 426 P 24/58
11. Aeroletter #96 (October 2008 edition) of the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa
12. Various articles in *The South African Philatelist.*
13. Rhodesian Study Circle Journals 211/58 & 212/98

The following Annexures may not appear too clear in print, the author has explained that they are copies off a rather faded photostat of the original newspaper cuttings - If you want a relatively 'clear' copy - please contact Dave Morton direct on email: <dmorton@mweb.co.za>

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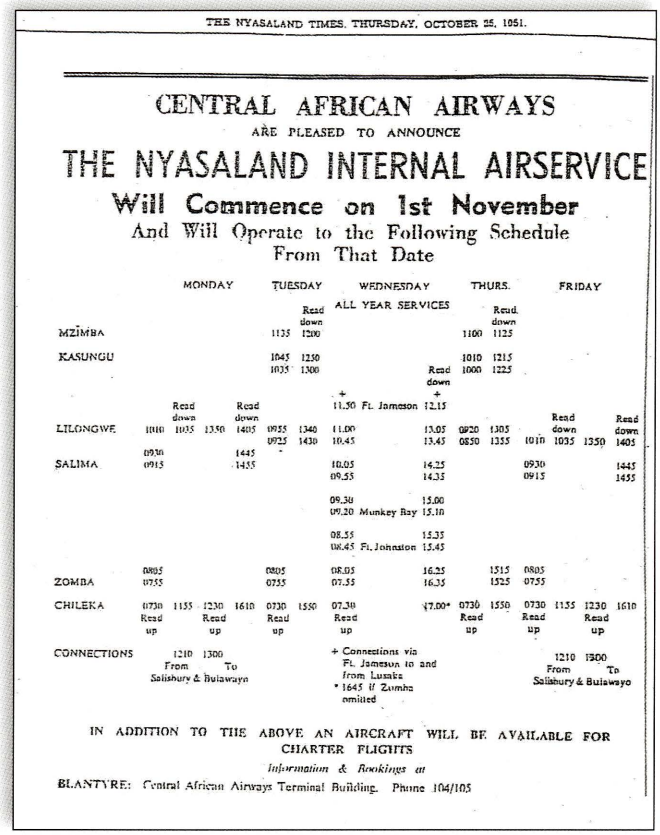


THE NYASALAND TIMES, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1951.

CENTRAL AFRICAN AIRWAYS

ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

THE NYASALAND INTERNAL AIRSERVICE

Will Commence on 1st November

And Will Operate to the Following Schedule From That Date

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
		Read down	ALL YEAR SERVICES	Read down	
MZIMBA		1135 1200		1100 1125	
KASUNGU		1045 1250 1035 1300	Read down 1000	1010 1215 1225	
	Read down	Read down	+ 11.30 Fl. Jameson + 12.15		Read down
LILONGWE	1010 1035 1350	1405 0955 1340	11.00 13.05	0920 1305	1010 1035 1350 1405
	0930	1445 0925 1430	10.45 13.45	0850 1355	
SALIMA	0915	1455	10.05 14.25	0930	1445
			09.55 14.35	0915	1455
			09.30 15.00		
			09.20 Monkey Bay 15.10		
			08.55 15.35		
			08.45 Fl. Johnston 15.45		
	0805	0805	08.05 16.25	1515 0805	
ZOMBA	0755	0755	07.55 16.35	1525 0755	
CHILEKA	0730 1155 1230 1610 Read up	0730 1550 Read up	07.30 17.00* Read up	0730 1550 Read up	0730 1155 1230 1610 Read up

CONNECTIONS 1210 1300 From To Salisbury & Bulawayo

+ Connections via Fl. Jameson to and from Lusaka

* 1645 if Zumba omitted

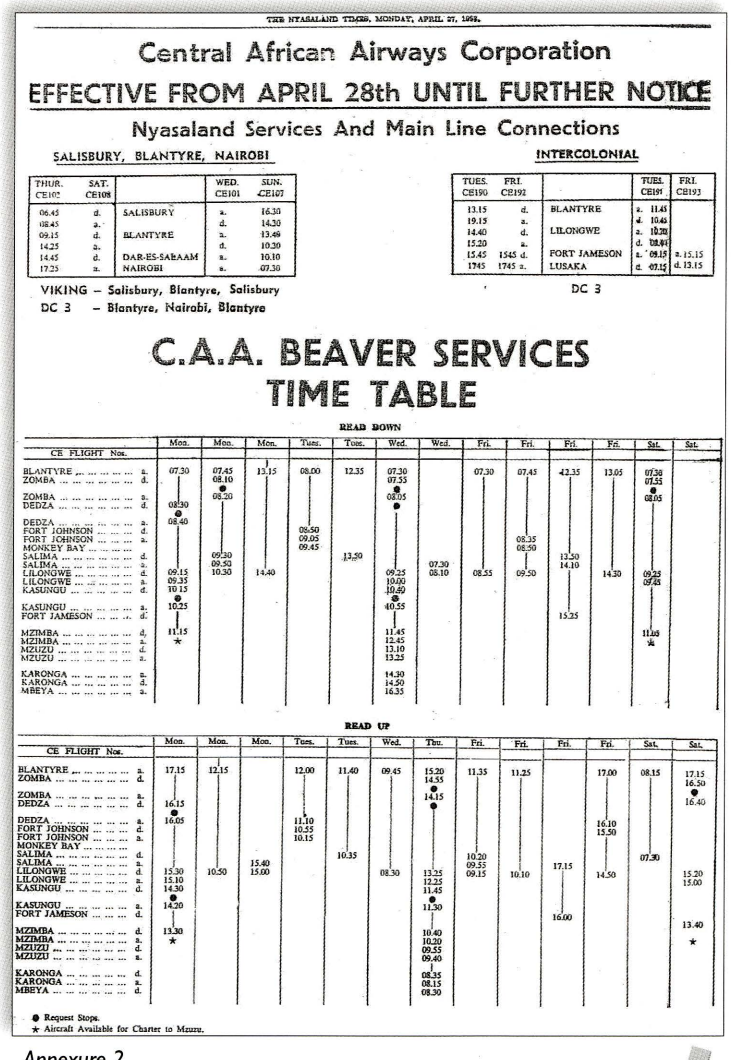
1210 1300 From To Salisbury & Bulawayo

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE AN AIRCRAFT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER FLIGHTS

Information & Bookings at

BLANTYRE: Central African Airways Terminal Building. Phone 104/105

Annexure 1



THE NYASALAND TIMES, MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1959.

Central African Airways Corporation

EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 28th UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Nyasaland Services And Main Line Connections

SALISBURY, BLANTYRE, NAIROBI

THUR. CE105	SAT. CE108		WED. CE101	SUN. CE107
06.45	d.	SALISBURY	a. 16.30	
08.45	a.		d. 14.30	
09.15	d.	BLANTYRE	a. 13.49	
14.25	a.		d. 10.30	
14.45	d.	DAR-ES-SALAAM	a. 10.10	
17.25	a.	NAIROBI	a. 07.30	

VIKING – Salisbury, Blantyre, Salisbury

DC 3 – Blantyre, Nairobi, Blantyre

INTERCOLONIAL

TUES. CE190	FRI. CE192		TUES. CE191	FRI. CE193
13.15	d.	BLANTYRE	a. 11.45	
19.15	a.		d. 10.45	
14.40	d.	LILONGWE	a. 10.20	
15.20	a.		d. 08.00	
15.45	1545 d.	FORT JAMESON	a. 09.15	a. 15.15
1745	1745 a.	LUSAKA	d. 07.15	d. 13.15

DC 3

C.A.A. BEAVER SERVICES

TIME TABLE

READ DOWN

CE FLIGHT Nos.	Mon.	Mon.	Mon.	Tues.	Tues.	Wed.	Wed.	Fri.	Fri.	Fri.	Fri.	Sat.	Sat.
BLANTYRE ... a.	07.30	07.45	13.15	08.00	12.35	07.30		07.30	07.45	12.35	13.05	07.30	
ZOMBA ... d.		08.10				07.55						07.55	
ZOMBA ... a.		08.20				08.05						08.05	
DEDZA ... d.	08.30												
DEDZA ... a.	08.40												
FORT JOHNSON ... d.				08.50					08.35				
FORT JOHNSON ... a.				09.05					08.50				
MONKEY BAY ...				09.45									
SALIMA ... d.		09.30			13.50					13.50			
SALIMA ... a.		09.50					07.30			14.10			
LILONGWE ... d.	09.15	10.30	14.40			09.25	08.10	08.55	09.50		14.30	09.25	
LILONGWE ... a.	09.35					10.00						07.45	
KASUNGU ... d.	10.15					10.40							
KASUNGU ... a.										15.25			
FORT JAMESON ... d.	10.25												
MZIMBA ... d.	11.45					11.45						11.00	
MZIMBA ... a.	★					12.45						★	
MZUZU ... d.						13.10							
MZUZU ... a.						13.25							
KARONGA ... a.						14.30							
KARONGA ... d.						14.50							
MBEYA ... a.						16.35							

READ UP

CE FLIGHT Nos.	Mon.	Mon.	Mon.	Tues.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Fri.	Fri.	Fri.	Sat.	Sat.
BLANTYRE ... a.	17.15	12.15		12.00	11.40	09.45	15.20	11.35	11.25		17.00	08.15	17.15
ZOMBA ... d.							14.55						16.50
ZOMBA ... a.							14.15						
DEDZA ... d.	16.15												16.40
DEDZA ... a.	16.05			11.10							16.10		
FORT JOHNSON ... d.				10.55							15.50		
FORT JOHNSON ... a.				10.15									
MONKEY BAY ...													
SALIMA ... d.					10.35			10.20				07.30	
SALIMA ... a.			15.40					09.55		17.15			
LILONGWE ... d.	15.30	10.50	15.00			08.30	13.25	09.15	10.10		14.50		15.20
LILONGWE ... a.	15.10						12.25						15.00
KASUNGU ... d.	14.30						11.45						
KASUNGU ... a.							11.30			16.00			
FORT JAMESON ... d.	14.20												13.40
MZIMBA ... d.	13.30						10.40						★
MZIMBA ... a.	★						10.20						
MZUZU ... d.							09.55						
MZUZU ... a.							09.40						
KARONGA ... d.							08.35						
KARONGA ... a.							08.15						
MBEYA ... d.							08.30						

● Request Stops.

★ Aircraft Available for Charter to Mzuzu.

Annexure 2

Obituary



Lutz Heffermann 1941 - 2008

The philatelic fraternity was shocked to learn that Lutz Heffermann lost his life in an attack at his house on the first of November.

Lutz arrived in South Africa in 1966 and being a qualified printer he opened a printing business. He was already a keen stamp collector and it didn't take him very long to recognize the business opportunities in the stamp trade in the 1970s. He started in a small shop near the Carlton Centre in Johannesburg. Later he moved to an attractive shop at the Market Square in the centre of the City. He never regretted his 1999 decision to move into his own shop and office building in Northcliff.

His printing background and business was influential in his decision to publish the South African Stamp Catalogue (SAC) in 1976, which he later extended to the whole of Southern Africa. He was amongst the first to publish a philatelic catalogue in colour, the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue (SACC).

Knowledge about various printing methods is very * helpful in the philatelic field and it was not surprising that Lutz' experience was often sought by collectors and colleagues alike. Since classic stamps were his favourites he developed a passion for the premier classical stamps of Southern Africa, the Cape Triangulars. Over the years he received high awards for his exhibits both nationally and internationally. He last exhibited his Triangular collection in Washington in 2006 where he received a Gold award. As a sideline Lutz also collected the Cape Rectangulars which he also exhibited.

About a year ago Lutz started work on a handbook on the stamps and postal history of the Cape. Those who had the opportunity to see the progress of this book were looking forward to seeing it published.

The combination of Lutz' efforts in both his outstanding exhibits and excellent catalogue have given pleasure and provided knowledge to the entire philatelic community. Our deep sympathies are extended to his wife and his two daughters.

The philatelic world has lost an eminent collector, dealer, author and friend.

He will be long remembered.

Wolfgang Meiss

* He also published and edited "*The South African Stamp Monthly*" in the 1980s This excellent magazine carried informative articles on classic material as well as topical issues, many written by the editor.

JRK

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ABC STAMPS FOR TRISTAN da CUNHA

- by Marilyn Crawford, Pinelands Stamp Circle.

On 1 August 2008, Tristan da Cunha issued a set of six stamps honouring the life of the late Allan Bryant Crawford (ABC). The stamps were issued on what would have been his 96th birthday (Cover 1).



Cover 1 – shows the six stamps issued on 1 August 2008

I thought that *SA Philatelist* readers would like to know a bit about the background of the First Day Cover and the six stamps. The First Day Cover features the brass plaque which we sent down to the island from Cape Town last year, except that the designers have left out the word 'Tristan' – the actual plaque reads 'First visited Tristan on the Norwegian Scientific Expedition 1937/38'. The plaque is attached to the wall of St Mary's Church on Tristan and was dedicated by Bishop Christopher Gregorowski, whose parents were great friends of ABC's. ABC first met them in 1944 when, as a meteorologist, he had to visit outlying weather-reporting stations. One of these stations was based in Okiep, Namaqualand, where the priest at the local Anglican Church was William Gregorowski. He and his wife, Doris, were very interested in Tristan and later when William was made an Archdeacon of the diocese of Cape Town, they made a voyage to the island. So it was fitting that their son, Christopher, should be on the island in 2007 to conduct the dedication service. The plaque was unveiled by a previous Head Islander, Harold Green who, as a young lad, had been one of ABC's newspaper vendors in 1943, delivering "*The Tristan Times*" to the island households.

The FDC also has ABC's survey map of Tristan in half-tone background on the right, but it is hidden behind the stamps, so it is difficult to see.

The 15p stamp shows ABC in his earlier years. I do not recall him ever looking like this, as all the time I knew him he always sported a grey beard!

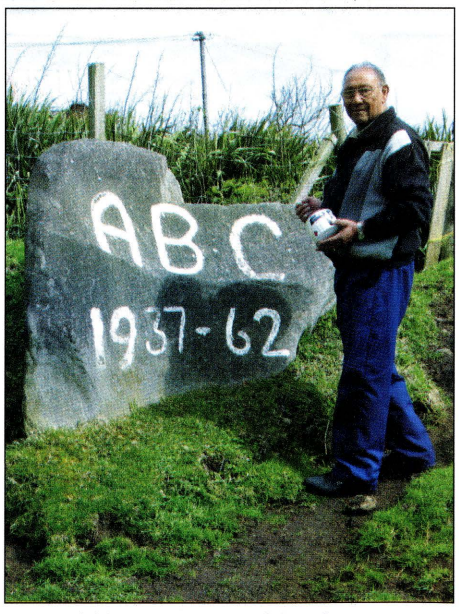
The 20p stamp shows the famous "potato stamp". However, the image used would appear to be one of the replica "potato stamps" which were produced in 1962 and not an original. If you compare this stamp with the 2006 30p stamp on Cover 2, you will be able to see the difference. More information on the "potato stamp" can be found in the article I wrote for the August 2007 *SA Philatelist*.

The 50p stamp shows the map of Tristan da Cunha, surveyed by ABC in 1937/38, when he went down as part of the Norwegian Scientific Expedition. Many years later when an RAF Vulcan aircraft flew over the island, it photographed the island from a height of 41 000ft and if you lay this photo over ABC's map, it is a perfect match! ABC's survey map is still used today.

The 60p stamp shows, on the right, ABC's first book, "*I went to Tristan*", published in 1941 by Hodder and Stoughton, London. The men standing with ABC on the left of the stamp are Tristan islanders who helped him with his surveying. They are (left to right) Percy Lavarello, ABC, Johnnie Green and Arthur Rogers. ABC lived on the inhospitable mountain for five weeks, something which was unheard of in those days! The Tristan islanders helped him carry his equipment, which included a theodolite, different coloured flags and flag poles, a camera, a 6-ft tent, blankets and food. Every two or three days, different islanders would arrive with fresh bread and provisions and relieve those who had been with him. Arthur Rogers became a very close friend and he and his wife Martha always accommodated ABC in their home whenever he visited the island. When ABC's first son, Martin Tristan, was born, Arthur became his godfather, or in Tristan language, his "fardi". ABC's book, "*Wartime Invasion*" (George Mann Publications - 2004) was dedicated to Arthur and Martha.

The 85p stamp shows ABC's book, "*Tristan da Cunha and the Roaring Forties*", which was jointly published by David Philip, Cape Town and Charles Skilton, UK in 1982. The men on the left of the stamp are the six Tristan islanders who accompanied ABC to Marion Island after its annexation in 1948 to establish the first SA weather base. They are standing outside the Marion Island Post Office. They are (left to right) Arthur Rogers, Fred Swain, Arthur Repetto, Ned Green, John the Baptist Lavarello and 'Big' Gordon Glass (not because he was large, but because there was another Gordon who was younger than he was, so he was known as 'Big' Gordon and the other one was known as 'Little' Gordon) If you have access to a map of Marion Island, you will notice that all of these islanders have volcanic hills named after them. ABC surveyed a portion of Marion Island and so was able to thank the islanders for their assistance by naming hills after them. ABC had a bay on the south-east coast named after him - Crawford Bay.

The £1.20 stamp shows ABC on Tristan when he went down in 1962 as a member of the Royal Society Expedition after the volcanic eruption of 1961. It was while he was there that he painted his initials, 'ABC 1937-1962' on a large stone alongside the Big Watron (stream). This was to record the date of his first visit to the island and, what



Tristan 2006 - Photo shows Adam Swain giving the ABC stone a fresh coat of paint in September 2006. (Photo - Marilyn Crawford)

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he thought would be his last visit, as he did not think that the island would be occupied again. The stone is kept painted by islanders. When I was on the island in 2006, I accompanied Adam Swain, now resident in UK, when he went to repaint the stone. Adam had been one of two islanders who had gone as island guides on the Royal Society Expedition. The book illustrated on the £1-20p is "*Penguins, Potatoes and Postage Stamps*", published by Anthony Nelson in 1999. This is the book that deals with ABC's philatelic designs for the island.

The head of the Post Office on Tristan, Iris Green, very kindly prepared some other covers for us. We asked her to add four of the 2006 Quincentenary issue stamps to the First Day Cover, (see Cover 2) as these all had some significance in ABC's involvement in Tristan. At the time, in 2006, they could not use ABC's picture on a stamp, as he was still alive.

The 80p stamp shows the leader of the Norwegian Expedition, Dr Erling Christophersen alongside ABC's map. The first 30p stamp shows ABC's "potato stamp" with "four potatoes" alongside – this being the cost of the stamp. The second 30p stamp depicts the Tristan Defence Volunteers being shown how to throw a hand grenade. ABC was instrumental in organising this small army of sixteen men. The third 30p stamp shows the new volcano being surveyed by a member of the Royal Society Expedition. ABC was deputy-leader and meteorologist on this expedition.

These Tristan da Cunha stamps are a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated his life to the people of Tristan da Cunha. They played such an important part in his life – not a day would go by without some mention of Tristan. He loved the island and its people so much and he would have been so pleased to know that he had been honoured in this way.



Cover 2 – shows the four 2006 Quincentenary stamps added to the cover



Photo shows ABC at his 90th birthday party in 2002. He wore both his MBE and his Simon of Cyrene medals for the occasion. The 'Medal of the Order of Simon of Cyrene' was awarded to him in 1963 for his services to the people of Tristan da Cunha, especially for the part he played in helping them to return to the island. The MBE was presented to him by H.M. Queen Elizabeth in March 2002 for his ongoing work on behalf of the islanders of Tristan da Cunha.

(Photo – Marilyn Crawford, who is married to Allan's eldest son, Martin, who are both committee members of Pinelands Stamp Circle).

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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- *a corrected final draft of the article in a 'Word' document either on compact disk or emailed to the production editor.*
- *scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Edenvale, where the design team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.*

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SA World War II Stamps: Why No 'Engineer Corps' Stamps?

by Jim Findlay, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Introduction

The 'War Stamps' that were issued by the South African government in 1941 are well known. They were issued in a large format in either English or Afrikaans and were bilingual for the 2d. and 1/- values (The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue Nos. 87 to 94). These large format stamps were issued between 1 August 1941 and 12 January 1942. These depicted the 'Infantry Corps' (½d.), 'Nursing or Medical Corps' (1d.), 'An Airman or Air Force' (1½d.), 'Women's Auxiliary Services' (3d.), 'Artillery' (4d.), 'War Worker Welding or Industry support' (6d.), 'Sailor or Naval Seaward Defence' (2d.) and 'Armour Corps' (1/-).

In 1942 these stamps were re-issued in a reduced size format, commonly called 'Bantams'. The format was either in pairs or in strips of three with English and Afrikaans stamps alternating (SASCC Nos. 95 to 103). In 1943 a 'Signals Corps' 1/3d. large format stamp was issued.

There was an article in the *Rand Daily Mail* newspaper on 17 July 1941 with the headline "S.A. to have War Stamps". This was from an announcement on 16 July 1941 by Senator C.F. Clarkson, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, that there would be a series of stamps as indicated above. The first issue would be the 3d. stamp that would be available in the Union from the first week in August. Thereafter the war stamps would be issued fortnightly.

In these issues each of the Union of South Africa combat and support corps are represented except the South African Engineer Corps (SAEC). It can be argued that the engineers are the most important support corps of any army in that they build roads and air bases, build or demolish bridges, supply water and structures for hygiene, keep and maintain supply lines open and fulfil many other roles. All of which ensure that the combat elements of an army are able to fight effectively. A SAEC stamp was never issued. Why did the Department of Posts and Telegraphs not issue a SAEC stamp?

"Discovery" of a South African Engineer Corps Stamp Proposal

On searching for some references in the South African National Defence Force Documentation Centre, Pretoria, I found 'File D.C. 1917: Application from military units to have their own war postage stamps'. The contents of the file are slim but did contain two letters and a number of stamp design proposals from the SA Engineer Corps.

The first letter was written by Mr. Harry Thomson Andrews, who was Assistant Secretary of Defence from 1940 to 1942. He was previously the accredited South African representative to the League of Nations and in 1942 he became head of the South African Government War Supply Mission in Washington, USA. This letter was addressed to Brigadier Henry John Lenton who was Postmaster General from April 1926 to March 1943. Although he did not serve in a military capacity he was accorded the rank from February 1941. He also held the post of Controller of Censorship from 1939 to 1945.

The file copy of the letter from H.T. Andrews to Brigadier H.J. Lenton at the General Post Office is dated 26 July 1941 and 29 July 1941 (The latter date is probably the date of dispatch). The contents are as follows:

> *"Dear Brigadier Lenton,*
>
> *Representatives of the South African Engineer Corps have approached me in mild but zealous protest at the omission of your Minister and yourself to allocate a war stamp to their particular corps.*
>
> *In their enthusiasm they have even prepared rough designs which might assist the Postal Authorities should it be at all possible to allocate one or other of the stamp values to them.*
> *I am sure that if there is any possibility of doing anything the matter will receive your sympathetic consideration: if not now, perhaps in the future. Will you please be so good as to let me know what I may tell them.*
> *With respects and regards,*
> *Yours sincerely,*
> *H.T. Andrews*
>
> To Brigadier H.J. Lenton, General Post Office"

The reply from the Office of the Postmaster General, Pretoria, to Mr. H.T. Andrews is dated 9 August 1941.

> *"Dear Mr. Andrews,*
>
> *With reference to your minute No. D.C. 1917 of the 29th July, 1941, in connection with the representations you have received from the South African Engineer Corps for the allocation of a War Stamp to their Corps, Brigadier Lenton has directed me to explain that as the present series of War Stamps has already been decided upon and the matter is in the hands of the Government Printer, it is unfortunately not possible to accede to the request at present.*
>
> *The matter will, however, be kept in mind and it may perhaps be possible in the future to arrange for the issue of a stamp representing the South African Engineer Corps.*
> *Yours sincerely,*
> *Signed H. (J?). Pienaar*
> *H.T. Andrews Esq.*
> *Department of Defence*
> *Pretoria."*

This letter has a number of manuscript endorsements: (i) '**Memo** I informed Lt Broome SAEC thro (sic) whom these (reports?) were made. HTA 3/9/41'; (ii) '**Registry** Pps pse HTA 1/9'; (iii) 'File HTA' and (iv) 'Mr Slabbert'. The note indicates that Lt Broome was responsible for this request to have a SAEC stamp.

On searching the SA National Defence Force archives for 'Lt Broome' the only possible serviceman was 189922 Lt. Norman Broom, who had enlisted as a professional engineer at Premier Camp. He was posted to the Engineer Reserve Training Depot and then on 14 May 1941 he was transferred to the Deputy Chief of Staff at Defence Headquarters, Pretoria, as the Engineer Staff Officer on the staff of the Deputy Director of Staff Duties. The dates on Mr Andrews' letters indicate it was during this period when a proposal was submitted for the engineers stamp. On 15 November 1941 Lt. Broom was transferred to Staff Officer Training at the Director Field Army Engineer Training. He then served in various capacities in the Union and the Middle East for the remainder of the war.

From this letter from the Postmaster General it is clear that no immediate action was taken to have a SAEC stamp and, as we know, the SAEC stamp was never issued. Although an additional 'War Stamp' was issued in 1943 it depicted the 'Signals Corps' and the engineers were forgotten. It would appear that the proposed SAEC stamp designs were filed in 'File D.C. 1917' by Mr Andrews and were never referred to again during the war years. Mr. Andrews was transferred to Washington and Lt. Broom to other operational areas without leaving a 'champion' to pursue the SAEC stamp.

Proposed SAEC Stamp Designs

The stamp designs on file are presumably those submitted to Mr. Andrews by Lt. Broom of the SAEC. They are all original drawings but there is no indication of who the artists were or exactly what the representation is. From the style of design it would appear that there were three artists who submitted these proposed designs. All designs depict the role of engineers in war-time situations.

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Fig. 1 Bridge building over a river with a figure operating a detonator plunger to the side.



Fig. 2 Bridge demolition by engineers. The detonator operator in Fig. 1 is probably associated with this design as both drawings are on the same page.



Fig.3 Construction workers carrying poles or girders on a bridge.



Fig. 4 This is the proposed colouring of the design in Fig. 3.
(Note: 'Suid-Afrika' and 'Postage')

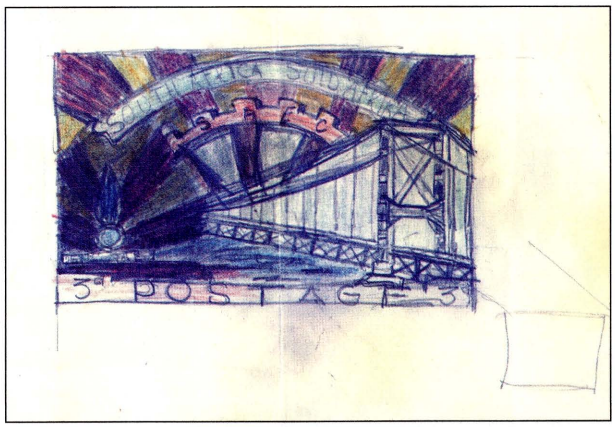

Fig. 5 The design incorporates the engineer's grenade, a cog and a suspension bridge.



Fig. 6 The design incorporates road making, boring for water, railway operation, bridge construction and specialised road transport. The pencil inscription in the corner is 'Defence Headquarters Pretoria / S.A.E.C. / 22nd July 1941'.

Why no 'Engineer Corps' stamp? The proposal was 'forgotten' in a Defence Force file. With Mr. Andrews' transfer to Washington in 1942 and Lt. Broom to a Staff Officer Training appointment, there was no one to recall the request and remind the Postmaster General.

Acknowledgements:

The support of the staff at the South African National Defence Force Documentation Centre is greatly appreciated.

References

• S.A. National Defence Force Documentation Centre; DC Archive, Box DC 3258 Gp. 2; File D.C. 1917.
• *'South African Who's Who 1950'* edited and published by Ken. Donaldson (Pty.), Ltd., Johannesburg.

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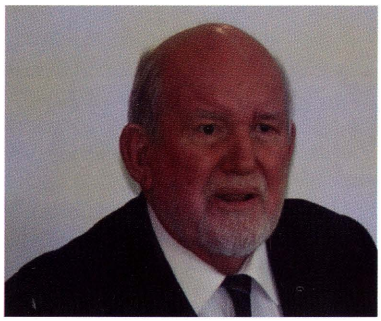
Rhodesian Study Circle's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Cape Town, 31 October - 3 November 2008

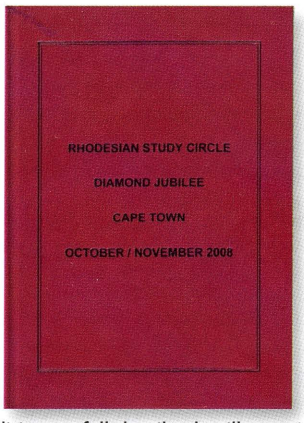
- by Dave Morton. Rhodesian Study Circle

After some eighteen months of meticulous planning the Organising Committee, under the able Chairmanship of David Crocker RDPSA who opened the proceedings and his vice Chairman Henk de Lange, hosted an event which attracted over one hundred delegates and their wives/partners from eleven countries worldwide.



David Crocker RDPSA

One could not have wished for a better venue which was held at the Western Province Cricket Club (WPCC) Sports Centre in Rondebosch, Cape Town where the facilities for holding an international event such as this were superb. The theme of the event was "Cecil John Rhodes Cape Influence on the Rhodesias and Nyasaland" and a 200 numbered limited edition of a bound programme, printed in full colour in A5 format and extending to 64 pages, was produced by Alan MacGregor the well known philatelist and dealer in Rhodesian material who resides here in the Western Cape.

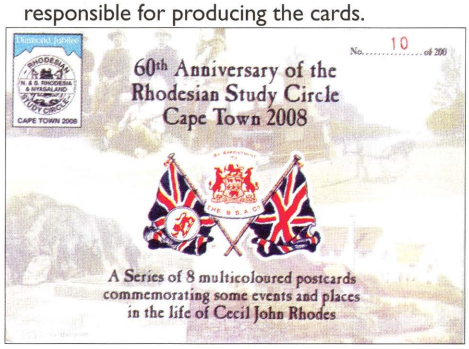


In addition to full details plus illustrations of each display which was presented, it also includes a series of relevant articles of interest on the Hon Cecil John Rhodes, The Rhodes Memorial and Rust-en-Vrede, all of which have added value to what is believed will become a sought after collectors piece and something that many philatelists extending beyond those who specialise purely in Rhodesian material would be proud to have a copy of in their personal libraries. A limited number are still available at R150 each and these can be obtained via Dave Morton, Hon Secretary of the event in Cape Town or from Colin Hoffman RDPSA, FRPSL Chairman of the RSC in the United Kingdom.



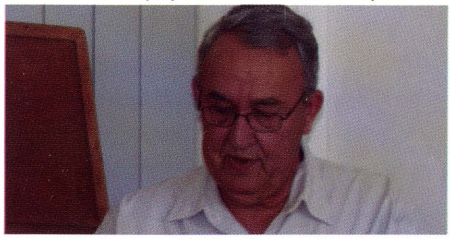
Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPSL and Emil Minnaar RDPSA studying their copies of the Programme

A corresponding series of 200 numbered sets of replica Post Cards packaged in an attractive commemorative envelope, were also produced. One set is in colour (8) and the other in black and white (12). Selected scenes of events that relate to the early period before and immediately after the turn of the nineteenth century were carefully chosen and, as for the programme, a limited supply is still available for sale from Brian Fenemore who with Malcolm Murphy were both active members of the Organising Committee responsible for producing the cards.



Envelope containing the multicoloured set of Post Cards

The quality of the material that was exhibited throughout the conference was outstanding and over 30 displays covering both the stamps and the postal history of the BSAC period, the Rhodesias and British Bechuanaland from as early as 1853 when Rhodes was born through to modern Zimbabwe were presented on a 'show and tell' basis. This enabled everyone to fully participate and have in-depth discussions both during and after each subject was displayed. The conference was extremely well managed by Barry Smith who was ably assisted by Danny Swart RDPSA (PFSA Hon Life Vice President) and John Clutten and it was remarkable that Barry was able to ensure that we never ran over the time constraints which was so essential when managing such a large number of displays over an extended period.

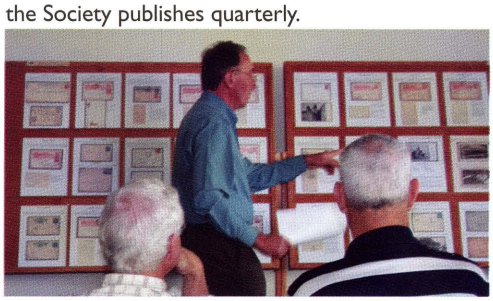


Barry Smith, Conference Manager



Delegates chatting during a break in proceedings

The success of any event can surely be judged by the attendance of everyone at the various sessions and it was unbelievable to see the excellent turnout of delegates (and many of the wives too) throughout the four days of the conference. The networking that took place and the social programme that followed was incredible and one was able to at last put faces to names that up until now were only known through contact over the internet or from various articles etcetera which have appeared in the Rhodesian Study Circle Journal, which the Society publishes quarterly.



Paul Peggie from Australia presenting his display on 'Missionary Mail' in NW Rhodesia



RDPSAs in attendance including the two latest signatories to the Roll. Patrick Flanagan, Alan Drysdall, Michael Wigmore, Danny Swart (PFSA Hon Life Vice President), Emil Minnaar, Colin Hoffman (Chairman RSC, UK), Richard Johnson (Chairman PFSA Management Committee). Seated: David Crocker (Chairman RSC Diamond Jubilee Organising Committee) and Harry Birkhead (PFSA Hon Life President)

Amongst the many delegates and guests who attended were a number of prominent philatelists both locally and abroad and this was clearly demonstrated by the fact that no less than nine RDPSAs and seven of the Expert Committee here in South Africa were present. Alan Drysdall RDP, RDPSA, FRPSL, is one of

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only two distinguished philatelists who are members of the RSC to have been invited to sign the Roll in both the United Kingdom and South Africa and this is a clear demonstration of his value to the RSC and his outstanding contribution to philately over many years.

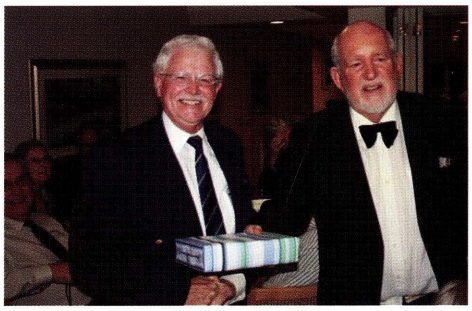


Members of the Expert Committee in attendance Henk de Lange, Alan MacGregor, Michael Wigmore RDPSA, Danny Swart RDPSA, Michael Deverell Seated; David Crocker RDPSA and Anne Marie Wigmore (Secretary)

The celebratory dinner was held at Westlake Golf Club and the evening can only be described as 'outstanding'. Adrian de Bourbon was MC and he had everyone in fits of laughter with his sense of humour and rapport which held everyone spellbound throughout the evening.

The guest speaker was Mr. Simon Barlow owner and winemaker, Rustenberg Estates, Stellenbosch who was thanked by the President of the RSC, Patrick Flanagan RDPSA.

The address on behalf of the RSC was made by the Chairman Colin Hoffman RDPSA, FRPSL, and he took the opportunity to welcome three new Fellows to the Society which is granted to select members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Society over a number of years. These were David Crocker RDPSA, Sean Burke from Melbourne, Australia and Dave Morton.



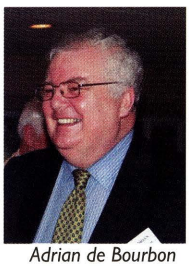
Dave Morton and David Crocker RDPSA



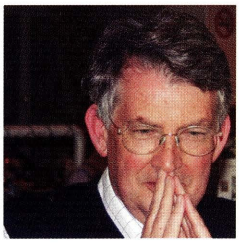
Simon Barlow and Patrick Flanagan RDPSA

The opportunity was not lost to single out Dave Morton who as honorary secretary of the Organising Committee had been tasked with orchestrating and planning which ensuring that the event was a success. Glennice Morton was also recognised not only for the support she gave Dave throughout the planning phase but also for the 'gastronomic treats' she provided to the committee on numerous occasions when they met at their home.

The closing speech at the conclusion of the conference by Sean Burke from Australia gave everyone a truly outstanding summary of events and he eloquently encapsulated the spirit and friendliness that had endured throughout.



Adrian de Bourbon



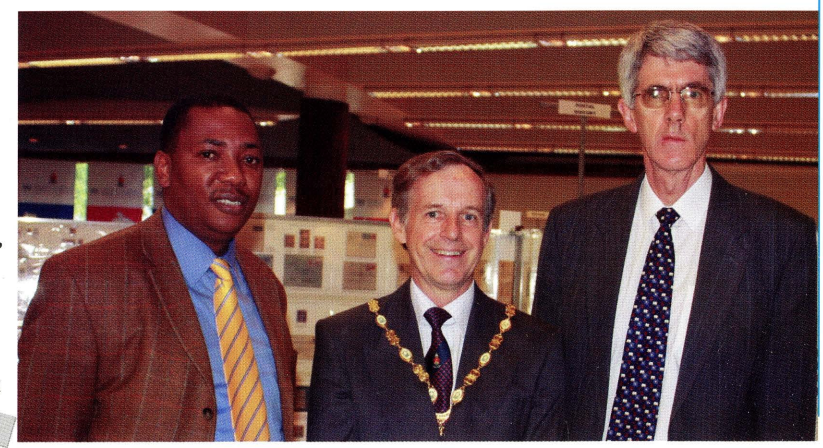
Sean Burke

Special thanks to Terry Devine who took ALL the photographs during the Rhodesian Study Circle's Diamond Jubilee weekend

Special Mention

Official Opening of Stampshow 2008

Special thanks go to the organisers and official opening speakers of the STAMPSHOW 2008 - Pretoria. A stimulating opening session set the scene for an exhilarating exhibition. The official opening address was made by Mr Janras Serami Kotsi, Executive: Mail Business of the Post Office, (left in the picture) and one of the key sponsors of the event. On the right, Prof Antony Melck, Adviser to the University of Pretoria Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Pretoria, who generously hosted the event. and Chairman of the Organising Committee, Prof Alex Visser (centre).



Exhibition News



Joburg 2010

25th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, Johannesburg

27 - 31 October 2010

Dear fellow philatelist. You are by now no doubt aware of the international stamp exhibition, scheduled for October 2010 at the Sandton Convention Centre, organised by this Committee under the auspices of the South African Philatelic Federation and under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately. All awards made at the exhibition will carry international recognition.

Our headline sponsors, the South African Post Office and the Philatelic Foundation of South Africa, have made wonderful contributions to the funding of the exhibition. However, despite the generosity of our headline sponsors, we still find ourselves with a significant funding gap.

We firmly believe that if all the members of the philatelic community in South Africa pull together we can make this exhibition successful beyond our wildest imaginations. We now appeal to you to assist us in completing the funding of this exhibition.

Donations may be made directly into the bank account of the exhibition:

Bank:	First National Bank
Account Name:	SA International Stamp Exhibition
Account number:	6217 980 4565
Branch sort code:	251 255

Kindly include your initials and surname in the reference when paying so that we may allocate the donations accordingly.

The committee is in the process of applying for registration as a Public Benefit Organisation in terms of the Income Tax Act. Therefore, any donation you make to the exhibition may be tax deductible in your hands. Receipts will be issued in due course.

We thank you in anticipation!

THE 2010 ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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The Birth of a Stamp Part II - by George Cafetzoglou, RDPSA. Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

The 'Sheep Issue' of 4c



Fig 1 Dimensions: 20.5 x 13cm

(SACC 322 issued 15 May 1972.)
This part deals again with an issue whose designer was Kobus Esterhuysen. He was a prominent commercial interior designer and decorator, responsible for many years in the construction and displays of some of the major companies with large stalls in the old (Wits grounds) Rand Easter Show, including the Mines Pavilion.
His brief this time was dual, that is both the P.O. and the Wool Board were involved. Primary design instruction was that of the Wool Board. At the time, Kobus relayed to me that the stamps were of commemorative nature for the Wool Board, and that was the purpose of including the marginal adverts. At this time our wool exports were of paramount importance as there was huge global demand. Of course, subsequently, these two values were incorporated into the following definitive issue but without the adverts. The 4c was for internal mail and the 15c for external airmail letter rate. His brief, was through the Wool Board and I actually attended a meeting with him at their offices in Pretoria on the presentation of Essay III, as will be described later on.
Fig1 - First sketch 'Essay I' in red/black is that of a 'Sheep & Harbour' facility depicting our exports of wool, and is denominated 15c (external rate) and signed.
Fig 2 - Second stage 'Essay II' is in black on artist's board, and excludes the 'harbour facility' that was in the first essay. I cannot remember the reason for this exclusion. Arrows point to the necessary changes, and is denominated 4c. Also signed.
Fig 3 - Third stage 'Essay III', is hand coloured and denominated 4c (this is over the background original value of 15c, and shows doubling of RSA) this blanketing of the original RSA & 15c, has been executed using india white colour, and has also been used to reduce a background design of larger size. This is easier to see in the bottom margin, where only vertical lines have been used to shield and re-size the layout. The ballpen scroll at bottom right is Kobus' initials 'KE'. There are quite a number of pencil marks, black colour as well as red lines of strengthening the design of the sheep. Of these the 'red' colour is the most discernible. This was the essay that I mentioned earlier as having attended in its presentation to the Wool Board. This is also signed.
Fig 4 - Final coloured 'Essay IV' is on thick artist's board and in the final colours of the 4c value.
The following appear on the stamp:
a) this essay is now 'sized' for reproduction, and on final acceptance presentation at the Wool Board, the upper right annotation points to the 'left horn as requiring more darker brown shade'.
b) The lower 'N.B.' Shows the place where the Wool Board emblem is to be placed, and is also signed.
c) This is a most important annotation, in that it proves the fact that the 'WOLRAAD & HPK' with the Wool Board being the primary acceptor in the process is clear.
As mentioned earlier, this stamp being of commemorative intent is likewise evident.

Two Sets of cylinders were employed for the 4c duty numbered 466/465/464/463 A & B and also 482/481/480/479 A & B.

Fig 5 - The issue shows many 'Xylol splashes' (xylol is the solvent used to clean the print cylinders and also to thin the inks). All the constituent colours are to be found in this manner, and make for a nice display of 'Varieties of Printing'.
Fig 6 - Perforation errors are also a prominent feature of the issue, and likewise form a very nice display when exhibiting.
Fig 6.A - Here is a peculiarity in that through misperforation (wrong perforator alignment) the value section of the stamp has been perforated through, and results in the bottom row of the sheet for the stamp to be without printing 'blank', intruding into the margin.



Fig 2 Dimensions: 27 x 18cm



Fig 3 Dimensions: 17 x 13.5cm

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On the other hand the stamp above will have the value at the bottom of the design and so on. Of course the stamp size remains correct and constant.

Fig 7 - This stamp is shown together with the 'paper join', being a vertical strip of 6, and to date the only recorded copy of the complete join. The stamp-paper-join has been lifted and turned over in order to show its extent. This is a paper-makers join in completing the required length of paper on the print roll.

The photostat shows the original state of the strip. I have only seen a single used copy of the stamp to date with part of the design having been washed-off.

I had the opportunity to actually compare it to my strip, and found that it belonged to the immediate right of my strip. If any of our nreaders have any other copies, please contact me so as to be able to 'Plate' this occurrence.

Finally once this issue was accepted into the Definitives, it was printed many times with different cylinders, but always without the marginal adverts.



Fig 4 Dimensions: 20.5 x 15cm



Xylol splashes



Arrow indicates red ink



Note variety of ink intensity in colour

Fig 5

Fig 6 A
Perforation Shift
As there appears no design below the stamp is off the bottom-margin





Fig 6 Shows double perforation at the top



Fig 7 Paper Join The only recorded 'paper-join' for this issue

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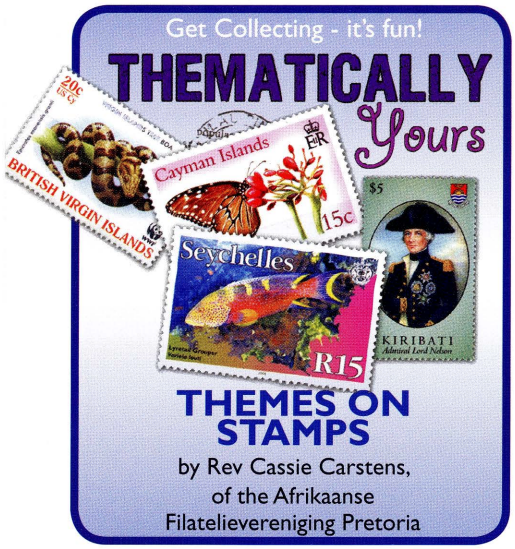
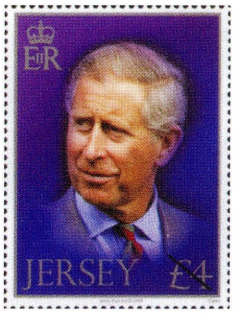


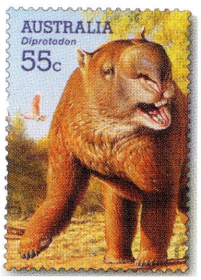
THEMES ON STAMPS

1 - **Sir Edmund Hillary** KG ONZ KBE is New Zealand's greatest hero - his daring, can-do attitude took him (literally) to the top of the world (Mt Everest in 1953), the ends of the earth and the highest of honours. In a long and fulfilling life, Hillary became more than a famed man of the mountains. He achieved at many other levels - as an intrepid explorer, Antarctic adventurer, diplomat and the first foreigner to become an honorary citizen of Nepal, recognising nearly half a century of dedication to the Nepalese people. Despite his daring and sometimes dangerous exploits, he remained humble and unassuming until his death in January 2008.















2 - Australia's megafauna roamed the Australian continent millions of years ago and became extinct between 20,000 and 50,000 years ago. The Diprotodon is Australia's largest marsupial and looks just like a giant wombat. The name means 'two forward teeth', referring to the two prominently projecting incisors in the lower jaw that point straight ahead. Articulated skeletons of this fossil animal were found at Lake Callabonna in 1892. Diprotodon seemed to thrive on the grasslands and may have lived in small herds, but as aridity increased and water decreased they could not cope.

3 - Eels are scaleless fish shaped like snakes, with long dorsal and anal fins that extend onto the tail. Freshwater eels belong mostly to the family *Anguillidae*, and go down to the sea to breed, returning as smaller versions known as 'elvers' that swim against currents and up waterfalls to return to their natural habitats. Although their flesh is tasty, they are rarely found in markets and never in restaurants or hotels. Despite their reputation for being ferocious, they are much sought after by Fijians because of their taste, being nicknamed '*vuaka ni waitui*' (pork of the sea). The *gymnothorax polyuranodon* is a common black and white striped moray eel, frequenting the rocks of faster flowing streams.

4 - Old World Swallowtails (*Papilio machaon*) live mainly in coastal regions in the east and south of Norway, but occur as far north as Finnmark (**a country north east of Norway*). These butterflies are often found in moist, flowery meadows, in marshland and along streams, rivers and lakes. This species is declining and thus not commonly seen. Its flight time is from May to July, but a rare second brood can appear in August and September.

5 - Watery blues wash gently across the background of the energy-filled stamp marking the centennial of Canada's Lifesaving Society. The confident young woman in the foreground represents the more than 500,000 Canadians trained in lifesaving programs each year. The photographs behind her illustrate two kinds of water rescues in action - a lifeguard carrying out an open water rescue and CPR being performed on an accident victim.

6 - Winter may be a time when nature appears to be asleep as far as flowers are concerned, but even when there is snow on the ground (this time of year in the northern hemisphere), some leaves and berries are holding the fort, giving us beautiful landscapes and natural material to bring into our homes. The 'Holly and the Ivy' is a well known traditional Christmas Carol and is thought to relate to ancient fertility mythology, with the Holly being good and male and the Ivy being evil and female (so very-very true, these mythological legends….)



7 - The Great War (World War I) has shaped the landscape of Belgium and left its traces. The plains of the river Lizer (Yser) are still extensively scarred, with the Trench of Death, military cemeteries and memorials. In almost the whole of Belgium, cities, towns and villages have raised monuments in homage to their sons who died on the field of honour, defending a country whose neutrality had been violated. There were endless bloody battles and countless futile offensives; a conflict that was expected to last only a few weeks, became four long years of total war. Historians continue even now to be split on the true causes of what was supposed to be 'the war to end all wars'. It was a disaster that caused deep ideological, political, mental and cultural splits and the demographic and economic consequences are still perceptible today.



8 - HRH The Prince of Wales (Charles) celebrated his 60th birthday on 14 November 2008. Big parties, distinguished guests, extensive media coverage, expensive presents (Camilla has 60 presents up her sleeve) - but in the end he is just a friendly introvert guy, father of two vibrant and handsome sons and husband to the woman he loves. Perhaps that is his most precious gifts! May the good Lord bless and keep the Prince of Wales.

9 - An angel is to many people the symbol of Christmas. The shepherds were quite surprised when the angel appeared to them on that wonderful night in the fields of Bethlehem - and what a joyful message they received! Their Saviour is born in the City of David! May you all have a wonderful Christmas and may the New Year 2009 be full of thematic joy and surprises!

References

1. New Zealand Media Release, 9 Oct 2008
2. Australian Stamp Bulletin, No 294 : September - October 2008
3. Post Fiji, No 248 : 15 October 2008
4. Norway Post, Nr 5/08
5. Collections: Canada Post : Fall/Winter 2008
6. Guernsey Post : October 2008:Vol 8 Nr 8
7. Philanews (Belgium): 4/2008
8. Jersey Stamp Bulletin: Nr 146 November 2008
9. Posten Åland: No 3/2008

** Finnmark is the home of the Sami people - Norway's aborigines. Here you can experience the midnight sun, northern lights and the North Cape.*

The SA Philatelist. December 2008.

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The South African Philatelist

Our latest award - Large Silver earned at Jakarta 2008.



JAKARTA 2008

22nd Asian International Stamp Exhibition

Under the Patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) the Exhibition took place from October 23 to 28, 2008. There were nine South African entries. South African appointed judges were Howard Green RDPSA and Neville Polakow RDPSA, FRPSL. Apprentice juror was Dr Neil Cronje. The results attained were;

- Patrick Flanagan RDPSA, FRPSL 88 points Large Vermeil: *Southern Rhodesia - The 1924 Admiral Issue.*
- David Crocker RDPSA 87 points Large Vermeil: *Ukraine - The Trident Overprints.*
- Roger Porter 87 points Large Vermeil: *Postal History of Natal 1854-1902.*
- Herbie Schaffler 85 points Large Vermeil: *Republic of South Africa: First Definitive Issues, Errors and Varieties.*
- Barry Smith 85 points Large Vermeil: *South African Airmails.*



Jakarta, 23rd - 28th October 2008

- Dr Nic Zerbst 85 points: *Anglo-Boer War: Prisoner-of-War Camps in India.*
- Andrew Fischer 82 points Vermeil: *Mozambique Company: The Decimal Period 1916-1942.*
- Jan Bakker RDPSA 75 points Large Silver: *Dutch-East Indies Pre-Stamp Mail from 1820 - 1860.*
- *The South African Philatelist* 75 points Large Silver.

Congratulations to all participants. A full summary of events will be published in the next *SA Philatelist.*

Neville Polakow RDPSA : SA Commissioner.

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STAMPSHOW 2008 Pretoria - JURY REPORT

The Jury congratulates all those who made the great effort to support STAMP SHOW 2008 Pretoria.
We encountered new exhibits from old friends; return visits of previously shown exhibits that have continued to develop; and, most gratifyingly, a group of exhibitors entering the fray for the first time.

(Particularly, in the Youth section, permit us to single-out and salute the participation of the Lepono Stamp Club).

In the course of our work, some exhibits were found to have been prepared in such a manner as to make them more suitable to a Competitive Class other than that in which originally entered. Under Prospectus rule 6.8, in these instances, the Jury transferred the exhibit to the alternative class in order to arrive at, for the exhibitor, a more beneficial assessment of the entry. The members of this Jury, and all other judges accredited with the PFSA, are available for discussion of the judging process and to advise on exhibit development.

Some matters were encountered during our deliberations which will be referred to the PFSA's Judging & Ethics Committee which should continue to refine and 'fine tune' the judging process.

From the Jury's experiences at this Show, we would emphasise for future exhibitors that the exhibiting rules and guidelines plus the Prospectus' requirements are not designed to restrict but provide a well-tested framework for a competitive philatelic exhibit into which must be tailored your material; your knowledge; and, without doubt, a hefty dose of passion!

Michael Wigmore, RDPSA

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed under the Specialist Societies on the right

1 - "Slavery on the Congo Coast: Postal History", by Patrick Maselis, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1358, September 2008, p.241-258. Aims to give overview of all known covers related to slavery, which author claims was the first truly global trade, relating to the Congo coast; includes Portuguese Congo, French Congo and Belgian Congo.

2 - "Women in the Cape Colonial Post Office", by Franco Frescura, '*Forerunners*' no.61, March-June 2008, p86 – 91. Includes alphabetical listing of some 250 names of Women Postal Officials, employed from ca 1808 to ca 1909.

3 - "The 'Helderberg' Disaster - The Aerophilatelic Aspects", by Neville Polakow, '*Forerunners*' no.61, March-June 2008, p98-103. Gives background information on disaster and describes the only three items of mail recorded from this crash.

4 - 'Postage Due Markings of South Africa Related to Weight' by Jan Stolk, '*Forerunners*' no.61, March-June 2008, p104-110. These markings all have a weight related text, often with space to enter further details

5 - 'Natal 1d Chalon Head Locally Over-printed POSTAGE / POSTAGE in1874', by John Dickson, Keith Klugman and Simon Solomon, '*The London Philatelist*' no.1359, October 2008, p.299-303. Authors regard this as the Cinderella of Natal's Chalon-head overprints and wish to correct some common and often repeated errors about it.

6 - 'The Post Office at Sagole, Venda', by Franco Frescura, '*Forerunners*' no.62, July-October 2008, p18-20. Discusses the establishment and operation of this Post Office in the context of the former 'Homeland States' in South Africa.

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Specialist *philatelic* Societies

- The Great Britain Philatelic of South Africa. The SA representative is Malcolm Suttill. Tel 013 656 5932, 32 Amaryllis St, Witbank 1034. email: malcolms@lantic.net
- Transvaal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*The Transvaal Philatelist*'. The SA representative is Gawie van der Walt, email : cachetap@lantic.net
- Cape & Natal Study Circle, based in the UK. Journal: '*Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal*'. The SA representative is Roger Porter. email : rogport@kznwildlife.com
- Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. Journal: *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*. The Secretary is N.P. Harris. email: mrnphboer@aon.com
- The South African Collectors' Society, based in the UK. Journal: '*The Springbok*'. Contact: Cedric Roché, email: croche@mweb.co.za
- Orange Free State Study Circle. based in the UK. Journal: '*OFS Bulletin*'. SA Representative John Cheminais, email: johnc2@telkomsa.net website: www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk
- The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Journal: '*The London Philatelist*'. The SA representatives are Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email: frankfam@icon. co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email: wannerton@iafrica.com
- Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, based in the USA; Journal: '*Forerunners*'. SA representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email: ulib@mweb.co.za
- Rhodesian Study Circle. Journal: '*Journal of RSC*'. Contact: D Morton. email: dmorton@mweb.co.za
- Bechuanaland and Botswana Society, based in UK; Journal: '*The Runner Post*'. The SA representative is Alan MacGregor, email: alan@rhodesia.co.za
- South African Stamp Study Circle; Contact is Keith Perrow, email: keith.perrow@spx.com
- The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Contact: Jan Lessing. Pretoria, South Africa. email: jan.lessing@absamail.co.za

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Reply from the Editor

READERS QUESTIONS

Nouvelles Hébrides Poste Locale



Writing in the October 2008 edition of the *SA Philatelist*, Robin Messenger sought information on the stamps of the Syndicat Français des Nouvelles Hébrides. In the '*Cinderella Stamps of Australasia*' of 1974, Bill Hornadge, a highly respected authority on local posts from that part of the world, discounted the stamps as being no more than propaganda labels that, he maintained, were issued by a local newspaper in support of a popular demand that the islands should be annexed by France.

However, in the 'International Encyclopedia of Stamps' that was published in weekly parts at about the same time as Hornadge's catalogue, it was stated that this French New Hebrides Company, the English rendition of the name of the undertaking, ran a steamship service that delivered mail to and from the French-speaking inhabitants of the islands. The company issued a set of four stamps, according to the encyclopedia, on 31 August 1903, but it is stated that they were suppressed after about a month.

This version of events was supported by John W. Rabbarts in an April, 1978 article in '*The Cinderella Philatelist*', the quarterly journal of the Cinderella Stamp Club of London. The author does suggest, however, that although a genuine postal service was in operation, albeit for a short space of time, and from which authentic covers do exist, it is likely that the stamps were issued in part to support the call for French annexation. He also states that the service was suspended by the authorities, possibly under pressure from British interests, and that, in order to cut its losses, the company offered their unused stamps for sale in Franceville, or Port Vila in its English version, on the island of Efate and also in Noumea in New Caledonia. This would in all probability be the source of the copies of the stamps that were cancelled to order and are to be found on the market still today. Certainly, the copy of the 5-cent green and blue in my own collection bears the cancellation of Port Sandwich and is dated 1905.

In their publication of 1981, 'The Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World', Messrs Ringström and Tester endorse the theory propounded by John Robbarts and cite further the fact that the French authorities had begun to subsidise shipping lines other than the Syndicat Français and that this contributed to the downfall of the postal service offered by the latter with the result that their surplus stock of stamps was put on the market. Incidentally, in the September sale of the French auction house, 'Lugdunum Philatélie', there was a picture post card on offer bearing 5-cent stamps of both New Caledonia and the SFNH. However, even though the date of the cancellation is clearly 1908, well outside the period, if any, of genuine postal usage, it still commanded an estimate of €150. By way of comparison, the '*Handbook of the Private Local Posts*' of 1950 by E.F. Hurt and the Williams brothers, priced the 5-cent stamp in 'used' condition but off cover at £5.00.

Chris Mobsby

Addendum :

After publication of the October 2008 edition of the *SA Philatelist*, I came across an auction catalogue, dated 10 July 2008, of the Australian stamp auction house, Status International, in which the set of four stamps of this issue was on offer.

The description reads as follows, '1903 Syndicat Francais local post set 5c-1Fr. Port Vila cds, minor imperfections, 25c faked cds made by Sydney jeweller Alavoine in the 1930s, VFU appearance. Very scarce. (4) $A200-$A300'.

Obviously, like the Australasian New Hebrides Company locals, the remainders of this issue were acquired by an Australian dealer, furnished with faked cancellations and sold to collectors. The English company's stamps are usually encountered in mint condition.

I visited the Status International website where I found the list of prices realized for this auction. This lot did not appear so I sent an email to Status asking if by any chance this lot was still available. The reply was in the affirmative and this set is now in my collection.

Robin Messenger.
Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.







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Alsace – Lorraine

- by Ray Hackworth. Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Alsace - Lorraine (German Elsass-Lothringen) was a territorial entity created by the German Empire in 1871 after the annexation of most parts of Lorraine in the Franco- Prussian War. The Alsatian part lay in the Rhine valley on the west bank of the River Rhine and on the east of the Vosges Mountains. The Lorraine section was in the upper Moselle valley to the north of the Vosges Mountains.

The region became part of Eastern Francia in 921 during the reign of King Louis the German, later becoming part of the Holy Roman Empire. It was gradually annexed by the Kingdom of France after the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. With the signing of this treaty most of Alsace went to France with some towns remaining independent. The treaty stipulations regarding Alsace were extremely Byzantine and confusing; it is thought that this was done purposely so that neither the French King nor the German Emperor could have tight control but one would play off the other, thereby ensuring Alsace some measure of autonomy.

The 30 years war (1618 – 1648) had been one of the worst periods in the history of Alsace and other parts of Southern Germany. It caused the death of large numbers of the population (mainly in the countryside) because the land was successfully invaded and devastated by many armies. After 1648 and until mid 18th century, numerous immigrants arrived from Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Lorraine, and Savoy.

France consolidated her hold with the 1679 Treaties of Nijmegen which brought the towns under her control. In 1681, France occupied Strasbourg in an unprovoked action. These territorial changes were reinforced at the 1697 Treaty of Ryswick which ended the war of the Palatinate (also known as the war of the Grand Alliance or War of the League of Augsburg). Thus Alsace was drawn into the orbit of France. However, Alsace had a somewhat exceptional position in the kingdom. The German language was still used in local government, schools and education and the German University of Strasbourg remained and was attended by students from Germany. There was a customs boundary along the Vosges Mountains against the rest of France while there was no such boundary against Germany. For these reasons Alsace remained tied by German culture and also economically orientated towards Germany until the French Revolution.

During the last decade of that 18th century many Alsatians were in opposition to the Jacobins and sympathetic to the invading force of Austria and Prussia who were forced to crush the Revolutionary Republic. When the French revolutionary army of the Rhine was victorious, tens of thousands fled east before it. When they were later permitted to return (in some cases not until 1799) it was often to find that their lands and homes had been confiscated. These conditions led to emigration by hundreds of families to newly vacant lands in the Russian Empire in 1803/4 and again in 1809. A poignant retelling of this event on what he himself witnessed can be found in Goethe's Herman & Dorothea.

In response to the restoration of Napoleon in 1814/15 Alsace was occupied by foreign forces which included over 280000 soldiers and 90,000 horses in Bas-Rhin alone. This had a grave effect on trade and the economy of the region since former overland trade routes were switched to newly open Mediterranean/Atlantic sea ports. The population had also risen by some 25%. The combination of these factors meant hunger, housing shortages and lack of work for young people. Many people fled not only to Russia but also to take advantage of new opportunities offered by the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Empire had recently conquered lands in the East from the Turkish Empire and offered generous terms to colonists in order to consolidate their hold on the lands. Many Alsatians also began to sail to America where, after 1807, slave importation had been banned and new workers were needed for the cotton fields.

Alsace and Lorraine were restored to France by the treaty of Versailles after World War I, in 1918 .

These Provinces of France were occupied by the Germans in 1940. On 20 July 1940 the French departments of Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin and Alsace were combined with Baden to form the Gau of Elsass-Baden and on 30 November the department of Moselle in Lorraine was combined with Saarpfalz to form the new Gau of Westland.

Stamps of the President Von Hindenburg Issue of Germany were overprinted **Lothringen** for use in Lorraine and also '**Elsaß**' for use in Alsace. The stamps were in use until 31 December, 1941, after which unoverprinted German stamps were used. Alsace and Lorraine were re-conquered by France in December 1944. Thereafter French stamps were used.



The SA Philatelist. December 2008.

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The SAPDA members would like to take this opportunity to wish all our customers, the all-important philatelic societies and associations, the members and their loved ones, a peaceful and happy festive season and a prosperous philatelic 2009.

Special thanks go to all who participated in the Stampshow Pretoria 2008 , the exhibitors, judges, dealers, stand holders, sponsors, advertisers and most importantly, the organising committee. This event offered SAPDA members the ideal opportunity to once again serve our clients' needs.

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Congratulations

The members of the Editorial Board of the *SA Philatelist* wish to congratulate Howard and Roseanne Green on their marriage which took place on the 15 November 2008.

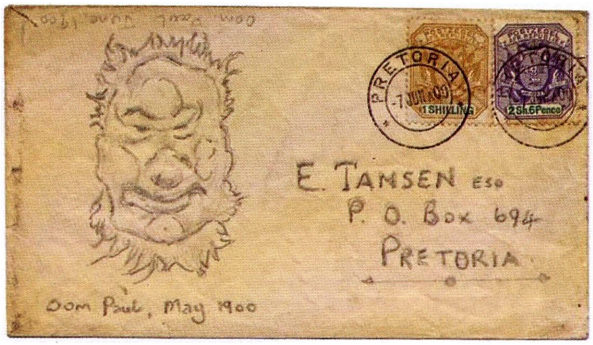




Errata

Tamsen-koevert toon makro-maakwerk

In the October issue, we misspelt the title of this Afrikaans article and omitted a letter from the title of the article. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.



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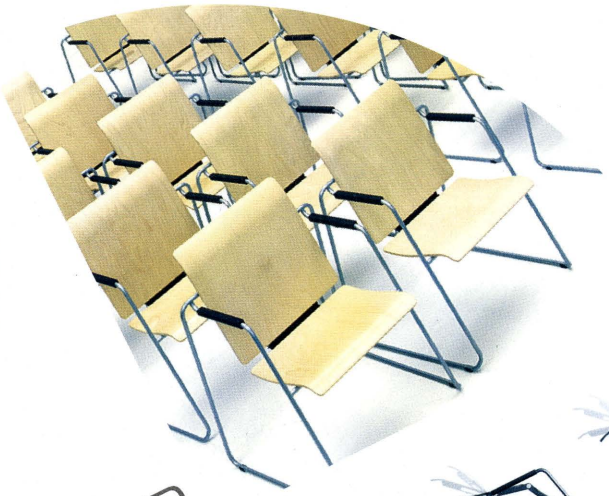

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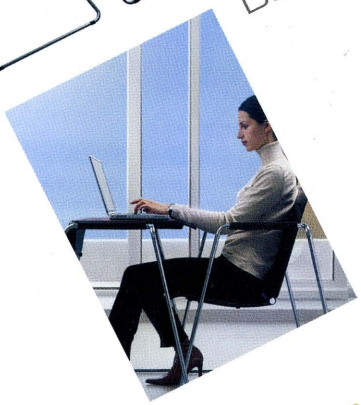



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