

# The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 96:1. 958

[www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa)



Cantonment Standerton B.O. date stamp 19 March 1904 with the Edwardian Tax mark LXXXV allocated to Standerton Cantonment



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# The South African Philatelist

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**Editorial Note:** This February 2020 issue - the first edition for digital distribution, now set in two columns instead of our usual three columns, makes it easier to read on screen and requires less scrolling

**LETTER TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD**



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



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**2020:** The Chinese New Year starts on the day of the new moon of the first Chinese lunar month and uses five elements and 12 animals that are connected to colours to count the years. For 2020 the Chinese year is from 25 January 2020 to 11 February 2021, a total of 384 days. The main element is metal, the animal is the rat and the colour is white. D.Wigston.



**An Error; Stamps that make us Smile**

First, I wish to extend to all involved in the production of your excellent magazine. Secondly, I would like to point out a error in the 'Comic Corner', Episode 56 (p. 215), the name BaH for J.S. Bach on the 1985 Albanian stamp issue is in fact correct in the Albanian language! Similarly, the name Bach is given as БѢХ by the Bulgarians and БАХА or БАХ by the Russians. The Poles would refer to Bach as Bacha.

Many East Europeans use various forms of the Indo-European language with an origin in Greek, Latin or in one of the Slavonic languages; the letter type used is often Greek or Cyrillic, hence the confusion.

Henk Geertsema

Attendees at the 81st Congress



**Missing Person in Photo**

In the photograph of Congress attendees - I am noted as 'missing' in the last line! (Oct p 176). In the photograph I am the tallest at left back with darker complexion (under the 1 of 81st) – lost and found!

All the best  
David de Klerk (Paarl  
Philatelic Society), Worcester

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy and honesty in the editorial columns of this magazine, the publisher and editor cannot be held responsible for inaccurate information supplied and consequently published. Publication of articles is subject to availability of space and cannot be guaranteed in each edition. Copyright for material published in this magazine is strictly reserved. Illustrations are not necessarily actual size because of space constraints.

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

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Annual subscription & circulation;** Within South Africa, the subscription rate for 2020, for Society Members and 'Direct' subscribers, is R250.00 for a printed copy of each issue and R70.00 for an electronic copy.

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**For International;** Overseas R1,000.00 per year. These prices all include postage via airmail.

**The 2020 rates are available on the PFSA official website [www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa)**

Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be addressed to André du Plessis at [andredupfs@gmail.co.za](mailto:andredupfs@gmail.co.za) Tel: +27 (0)83 399 1755

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**To avoid late delivery, please note;** Publication closing dates for **FINAL** submission of Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:

- **April** 2020 - Vol. 96 : 2. 959. **9th March**
- **June** 2020 - Vol. 96 : 3. 960. **7th May**
- **Aug** 2020 - Vol. 96 : 4. 961. **7th July**
- **Oct** 2020 - Vol. 96 : 5. 962. **8th Sept**
- **Dec** 2020 - Vol. 96 : 2. 959. **10th Nov**



Congratulations to Jan Hofmeyr, who entered an 8-frame exhibit and two articles in **Chicagopex 2019** (22-24 November 2019).

He was awarded a Large Gold and the Grand Prix for his eight frame exhibit: *The USA 3c denomination: Design and uses from 1861 to 1869*. He received the American Philatelic Society Award for Research.

He won Large Golds for each of his literature entries:

- *'The Neglected Details of Charles Steel's patent for Grilled Stamps'* by Jan Hofmeyr; published by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc. in *The Chronicle* (May 2019). By combining a careful reading of Steel's patent with documents in the Brazer-Finkelburg archive, the article improves on our understanding of the purpose and dates of the grill essays; in particular, the essays based on Steel's 'shield' design and surface printing.

- *'What the Brazer-Finkelburg Archive tells us about the Loewenberg Essays: 1863-66'*, by Jan Hofmeyr; published by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc. in *The Chronicle* (February 2019). The article draws on archival correspondence to tell the story of Henry Loewenberg's attempts to develop postage and revenue stamps that could not be reused. It reveals the existence of the heretofore unknown 'Loewenberg Stamp Company,' and corrects cataloguing errors and dates.

Hugh Amooore RDPSA.

## SOUTH AFRICA AT LONDON 2020

London 2020 is fully subscribed. Emil Minnaar RDPDA will no longer be exhibiting as he has been invited to join the London 2020 Jury. Congratulations Emil.

Hugh Amooore RDPDA with his 8 frame Postal Rate exhibit has been accepted to replace the Minnaar exhibit.

A 'pay your own way' dinner is being organised for those from South Africa who will be attending London 2020 - Those interested in attending please contact me.

As the South African representative of the RPSL, I will make the necessary arrangements. All attending South Africans who may be interested in visiting the new premises of the Royal Philatelic Society, London are invited to contact me on + 27 83 2655649 or by email on [patf@fgprop.com](mailto:patf@fgprop.com).

Members of the organising committee for **Cape Town 2021** will be at the London 2020 exhibition and have various initiatives underway to promote the *'Road to Democracy'* exhibition in Cape Town.

The venue:  
the Business Design Center  
in Islington, North London.  
Well located on London Bus  
and Underground routes  
(Angel Underground Station  
is a three minute walk).




Joof van der Merwe is the SA Commissioner  
<[jnc1@vodamail.co.za](mailto:jnc1@vodamail.co.za)>

[www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa)

# Phun with postmarks

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



## How Low or Louw can you go?

I recently received an enquiry from John Haigh regarding Louws Creek. He had covers with both spellings and registration labels added to the confusion. Let's delve into the history of this little village near Barberton in Mpumalanga, formerly the eastern Transvaal.

According to the *Putzel Encyclopaedia* the small creek that passes through this area was named after David Lowe, a prospector. The postal agency was first listed in the Post Office Circular of October 1910, as Louws Creek (probably an Afrikaans version of Lowe). In the official post office documentation, the name was also spelt with an apostrophe before the S and as one word. However, the postmarks were all spelt as Louws Creek, until about 1992 when the postmarks became Lows Creek. I have an annotation of unknown origin that the name change officially took place in 30.9.1991. Three date stamps have been recorded as shown in Fig.1a and b, and the cover as Fig.2, showing the date stamp and registration label with the original spelling but with apostrophe. A further cachet with the new name was also recorded as shown in Fig.3. Table 1 gives the date ranges for the different postmarks. The latest postmark in my collection is 8.6.1995, but according to the official post office listing it was still operational in 2017 in a local supermarket, sometimes listed as Louw's Creek, and most recently as Low's Creek. Anybody visiting that region may wish to pop in and try and clarify the situation, and help document current history.



Fig.1: Postmarks of Louws Creek.

Illustration	Earliest recorded	Latest recorded
Figure 1a	9.6.1910	21.7.1966
Figure 1b	6.4.1970	23.3.1992
Figure 2	2.9.1992	8.6.1995
Figure 3	2.9.1992	

Table 1: Louws Creek postmarks showing period of use.



Fig.2: New spelling of Lows Creek, with original spelling on registration label (Haigh).

Fig.3: Office cachet with new spelling (1992).



## Part 2 of the challenge

In the December 2016 Phun column I posed the challenge for a post office name which was used in all four provinces. Mooiplaas/Mooiplaats was the only one I had found, and since then no one else has taken up the challenge. I have discovered another name, Springfield, which meets the criteria. The name may have been imported from the UK, but the consensus is that the name derives from a spring, a source of water, and field or pasture. It demonstrates how well-endowed South Africa was at that time with natural water sources. Table 1 shows the offices and their approximate location.

Name and prov.	Location	Dates of operation	Renamed
Springfield - C	Claremont	1896 - 1898	Philippi
Springfield - C	Griqua Town	1912 - 1935	Goup
Springfield - N	Ladysmith - N	1879 - 1907	Winterton
Springfield - O	Harrismith	1877 - 1907	
Springfield - T	Johannesburg	1940 - 1994	

Table 1. Springfield offices and dates of operation.

No postmarks have been recorded for the first Cape office, and a Philippi postmark has only been recorded from 1910. Only one date stamp has been recorded for the second Cape office, namely in 1915/20, shown in Fig.4, which was probably used until office closure. It was of the type issued in about 1913.



Fig.4: Springfield, Cape date stamp.

The Natal office used the Post Office Agency canceller (Fig.5a) during 1900/4 (Hart, Kantey and Leon). Fig.5b was in use from 1883/98, and probably until the Boer War. From 1901 two date stamps were in use, namely a single circle seen used 1901/2 (Fig.5c) and a double circle seen used 1901/5 (Fig.5d).



Fig.5: Springfield, Natal date stamps.

Only one date stamp of the Orange Free State office was recorded and is shown in Fig.6 (Kevin Price, OFS Study Circle). The year is an inverted '2', presumably 1892. Post Boer War cancellers have not been recorded.

Fig.6: Springfield, Orange Free State date stamp.

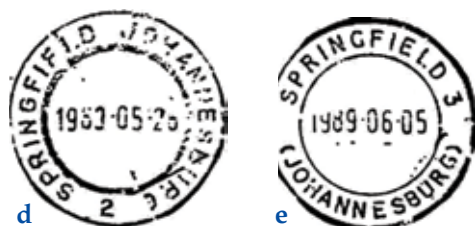


Initially only one date stamp was used in this Johannesburg suburb. It had the month in letters and was seen 1940/53 (Fig.7a). This date stamp was modified with the month in Roman numerals, seen 1970/92 (Fig.7b). By 1943 a second date

stamp (Fig.7c) was used, and was recorded seen until 1995. Date stamps with counter codes 2 and 3 were seen used from 1984 to 1994 (Figs:7d and 7e). No further date stamps were recorded and it is presumed that the office closed about 1994, which updates the *Putzel Encyclopaedia* information.



Fig.7: Springfield, Transvaal date stamps.



Soos wat ons na allerhande interessantheide kyk kom ons agter dat ons hedendaagse inligting agterweë bly. Die naamsverandering van Louws Creek na Lows creek in die vroeg negentiger jare het tot die besef gelei dat ons nie weet of die kantoor nog funksioneer nie. Wie kan asseblief help? Met die navorsing het ons ook ontdek dat Springfield in al vier provinsies bestaan het, nes Mooiplaas wat in die SAP Desember 2016 rubriek bespreek is. Ek herhaal die uitdaging aan ons lesers om nog sulke gevalle te ontdek.



## The South African VIRTUAL Philatelic Exhibition

Held under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

### SAVPEX 2020

Saturday & Sunday,  
22 & 23 August 2020  
at Kopano Nokeng in  
Bloemfontein,  
Orange Free State,  
South Africa.

## TRADITIONAL

### THE ONLY SWA KING'S HEAD POSTAGE STAMP WITH INVERTED WATERMARK

by M.J.H.Tonking RDPSA, SA Stamp Study Circle

When the first Union definitives were issued in 1913 a number of values appeared with the watermark inverted due to sheets being inverted when fed into the printing press. Amongst the various values with the watermark inverted was the 4d. sage and green.

#### Fig.1: Union 4d. with inverted watermark

In 1923 the King's Head issue was overprinted for use in the Mandated Territory of South West Africa. During the period 1923 - 1927 nine different overprint types were used. Since a number of the King's Head stamps in the Union had inverted watermarks, it was to be expected that some of the overprinted stamps issued in South West Africa would also have inverted watermarks. This did not happen apart from two examples of the 4d. value. The first example was a used single 4d. stamp first noted in *The South African Philatelist* of August 1926. The overprint was English inscribed and postmarked Lüderitz DEC B 24. The type was 111A setting with 'South West' measuring 14mm and 14mm



Fig.1.

Fig.2.



Fig.3.

between the lines of overprint with a small stop after Africa. This overprint was applied to 300 sheets of the 4d. value, requisition 631 and issued on 11 April 1914.



#### Fig.2: 4d. Used single overprinted for use in SWA with watermark inverted

There is no doubt that at least one sheet of 240 stamps of the 4d. value was issued with a watermark inverted and in the first instance a single used example was discovered. About

80 years later, a mint pair of the 4d. value was discovered with the watermark inverted and exhibited in the collection of a prominent SWA collector. This same pair is now again on the market.

#### Fig.3: 4d. Mint pair overprinted for use in SWA with watermark inverted

To date these are the only known examples of the SWA King's Head stamps with the watermark inverted. Maybe others will turn up one day. As a matter of interest the pair was originally purchased around 2004 for R18,000, sold in 2017 for R33,000 and is now for sale in 2019 for about R1million.

#### References:

- *The South Africa Philatelist* August 1926
- *The De Rue Georgians of South Africa*. H.E.Lobdell 1944
- *The Overprinted Stamps of South West Africa*. N.Bekker RDPSA 1990

# The ABC of stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



## ENTIRE

In the letter shown in Fig.1 the writer asks for some used stamps and entires. What is an entire?

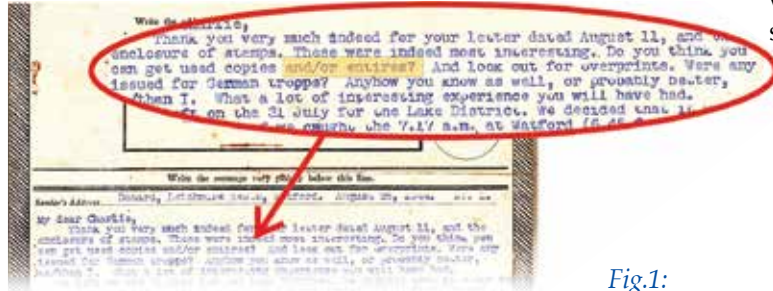


Fig.1:

Fig.1: Correspondence towards the end of WWII asking for used stamps and entires.

According to the dictionary, the word 'entire' is an adjective meaning something is complete, with no parts left out. In philately, the meaning is the same, except the word is now used as a noun. That means a postal item is complete with all aspects present. A single sheet of paper forms the letter on one side; becomes the envelope with the address on the opposite side, which has the stamp and airmail label imprinted. To send a letter you only had to fold the paper and seal it as shown in Fig.2.

dated 2 August 1969. Ink and hand stamps were made from wood or cork and were used to verify postage which was paid by the recipient. These are known as stampless, or pre-stamp or pre-adhesive, entires.



Fig.3 An entire sent from France to England, closed with sealing wax.

Today the most common form of an entire is the aerogramme, or air letter, as shown in Fig. 2. The aerogramme needs to have an imprinted stamp or some form indicating that postage has been paid, as seen in Fig 4.



When folded, this becomes the front, with space for the address.

However, today the term 'entire' is used rather loosely and differing definitions can be found, which may include an envelope, postcard or wrapper with or without the contents, with stamps affixed or printed.

Fig.2 The various parts of an air letter which make it an entire.

Before the introduction of postage stamps in 1840, envelopes were not known, simply because there was no need. Fig.3 shows an entire sent from Paris to London,



Fig.4 A German air letter with a 'taxe percue' imprint indicating that the postage of 100pf had been paid.

# ALGOAPEX

14 to 17 October 2020

Sun International Boardwalk Hotel Convention Centre  
Port Elizabeth, South Africa

## welcome to Port Elizabeth in 2020

The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society (PEPS) is hosting the ALGOAPEX 2020 National Stamp Exhibition next year and as PEPS is a non-profit organisation this is the first call for patrons, people who know possible patrons, people who know people that know possible patrons, people ... ok, you all get the picture, we will require funds to host the exhibition. Please either get hold of people or break open your bank vaults. See table alongside for benefits of becoming an ALGOAPEX 2020 patron.



Patron class	Amount (R)	Benefits
Silver patron	1 000	mention in exhibition catalogue.
Gold patron	10 000	free half page colour advertisement in exhibition catalogue and one place citrus farm tour.
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Diamond patron (naming rights)	250 000	naming rights, free full page colour advertisement (any placement) in exhibition catalogue, free dealer stand, two places citrus farm tour and two Palmares banquet tickets.

For further information or should you wish to

become an ALGOAPEX 2020 patron, please contact either Rodney ([rhmaclachlan@gmail.com](mailto:rhmaclachlan@gmail.com)) or Francois ([francois@softchem.co.za](mailto:francois@softchem.co.za)).

## THE VIRTUAL STAMP EXHIBITION THAT IS ATTRACTING THE RIGHT ATTENTION


Once again participating at the Hobby Fair, taking place at Kopano Nokeng in Bloemfontein, SAVPEX 2020 will showcase a number of the winning entries on big TV screens.

This year, along with the same International Federation members that have enjoyed participating in this event in the past, the Organising Committee has also received positive participation from as far afield as India, Czechoslovakia, Dubai and of course Australia and the UK as well as our local philatelists.

Emil Minnaar RDPSA, who is again co-ordinating this year's Jury, is enthusiastic about the way this event is attracting both local and international support. "The Jurors have more time to evaluate the submitted exhibits," says Emil. "And there is a point system evaluation as well as a medal for participation". Judging takes place in July.

Under the guidance of Garry Osthoff, JUNASS 2020 will take place alongside SAVPEX 2020 and Hobby Fair in Bloem.

Contact Joof van der Merwe, of the OFS Philatelic Society for further details: [<jnc1@vodamail.co.za>](mailto:jnc1@vodamail.co.za)



**JUNASS 2020**

The theme for this year:  
Technological development  
Tegnologiese ontwikkeling

**Bloemfontein 22 – 23 August 2020**

Entry information posted on the web site:  
[www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa)



## A FIRST DAY COVER OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

by Dr Ted Roberts, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg <tedrob1942@gmail.com>

I don't collect Great Britain but I did pick up the letter shown here (Fig.1) from a small batch of similar items. It was apparently spurned by GB collectors and the reason is not difficult to see. The 1½d KGV stamp is common, as is the London postmark. In addition the cover has a tear on the top and a large stain under the stamp. So why did I bother to acquire it? The date!

It was cancelled on 1 September 1939. This was the day German troops invaded Poland, thereby precipitating the Second World War. It is therefore a (non-philatelic!) First Day Cover of the Second World War. Great Britain did not, in fact, declare war on Germany until 3 September, but there were few doubts that war was imminent, so a blackout was already imposed on this day. This was to prevent German night bombers easily identifying potential targets in those pre-radar times.

Fortunately the letter, which was sent to an SRN (State Registered Nurse), survived (the first page is shown in Fig.2) and for clarity I record the more interesting contents here:

"...Have been covering the windows with green cloth for Blackouts – so don't be thinking I'm out if you should come one night and find the place in darkness.....You're not worried about the war are you! All sorts of things are going on at the office. Rehearsals for evacuating the place, black curtains, tomfoolery, coffees, darts – practically everything except work. Van Biene is terribly worried, Ginger is thrilled and we're all making fun of the situation - which is dreadful. We must make the best of it I suppose. I'm wondering what I shall do with all my junk when I am called up\*..."

(\*presumably to serve in the armed forces)

The blackout was strictly enforced and certainly proved very effective when the 'blitz' on Britain began.

Unfortunately, in the early months of the war, it led to many pedestrian casualties due to people stepping in front of dimly lit buses etc., since street lighting was also forbidden. As a result of this, many different posters were issued to alert people of the danger. These bore slogans such as: 'UNTIL YOUR EYES GET USED TO THE DARKNESS TAKE IT EASY', 'WALK FACING TRAFFIC WHERE YOU CAN SEE AND BE SEEN', 'THINK BEFORE YOU CROSS THE ROAD', 'SHINE YOUR TORCH DOWNWARDS WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD'.

Because cats were supposed to have nine lives and were able to see in the dark, these featured prominently on posters as seen in the example in Fig.3.

The complete blackout remained in force for five years until September 1944 when a 'dim-out' was permitted.

Finally, on 30 April 1945, only a week before the war in Europe ended, the blackout was completely lifted.



Fig.1 Envelope posted on the first day of WWII

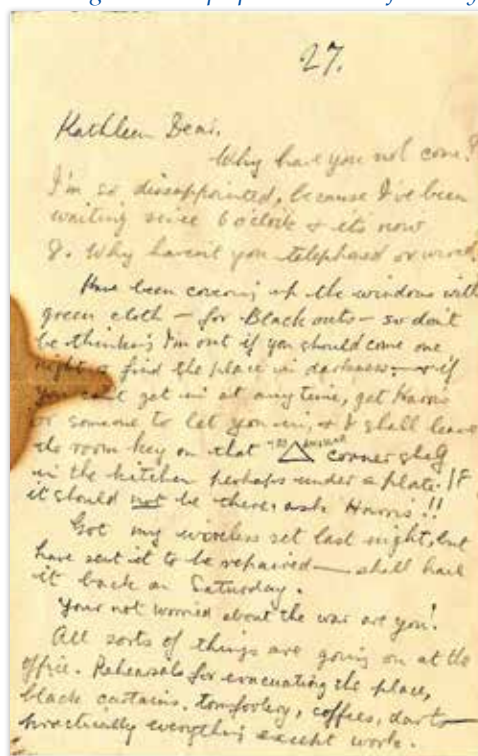


Fig.2 Page 1 of the enclosed letter



Fig.3 Blackout poster used in London in 1939

## NEW SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP ISSUES

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society




### • 27 November 2019 – 100th ANNIVERSARY OF SANNC DELEGATION TO LONDON CONTESTING THE 1913 LAND ACT

This issue was fully described in the December 2019 edition of *The South African Philatelist*. It was intended that the footnote would give the meaning of SANNC, which is: South African National Native Congress. My apologies for omitting this information.

Although several stamp issues due for release in 2020 are at an advanced stage of design, the new issue programme for this year has not yet been approved.

However, the following issues from the 2019 programme are expected to be released shortly:

1. Stars and Constellations of the Southern Skies;
2. New President 2019;
3. World Post Day 2019 - Social Grants (SASSA);
4. Poets of Word and Sound;
5. SA Birds Series: Woodpeckers.

**Acknowledgement:** The above information came from the Philatelic Services electronic newsletter *WHAT'S NEWS* dated November 2019. 

## COLIN JOHNSON

12.12.1930 – 21.12.2019


My father, Port Elizabeth philatelist Colin Johnson passed away peacefully at home on Saturday 21 December 2019 aged 89 years.

Educated at St Andrews College, Grahamstown, Dad represented Eastern Province in rugby and angling, his two sporting passions. He enjoyed fishing in all disciplines from rock and surf to fly, throughout his very active life. He loved nature and animals, always having a much-loved canine companion.

Upon relatively early retirement from a successful Insurance and Real Estate career, stamps worked their magic in capturing his attention: The allure of the Cape Triangles proved irresistible forming the base of his interest which broadened into what would become Large Gold collections of various aspects of Cape Eastern Frontier postal history. He was a meticulous exhibitor with a flair for showcasing material to best visual effect.

Dad enthusiastically assisted me in the establishment and ongoing operations of Johnson Philatelics. He was a regular presence on our booths at National exhibitions so enjoying interaction with collector clients and colleagues. He was a prolifically active philatelist who loved all aspects of involvement in the hobby. Stamps so enriched his life that he continued to 'work' unrelentingly until 3 months ago... an inspiration!

If asked, he would likely count as one of his most satisfying achievements as having drawn me into professional Philately back in the 1980s with our father-and-son trip to the London 1980 exhibition. Mourned by myself and Deborah with grandchildren Evan & Callan. A full life well-lived. Father & Teacher. RIP Dad.

Richard Johnson RDPSA. 



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## The 1986-88 Lesotho Surcharge Stamps and Errors - a listing

by Morgan Farrell, Hamilton, MT 59840, USA

An article by Lawrence Barit in the October, 2019 *The South African Philatelist* has prompted me to write an article that I have been thinking about doing for some time. From 1986 through 1988, Lesotho surcharged several stamps from the 1981 - 82 bird definitives and the 1984 butterfly definitives in order to meet the demand for new postal rates. These surcharges were rife with printing errors. Stanley Gibbons lists many, but not all of them. My intention here is to provide as complete a list as possible. During the time of this surcharging there were, I am told, five serious collectors inside Lesotho who were chasing down and studying them. Three of them are now deceased. My material and much of my information comes directly from two of them and indirectly from two others. Though all five knew each other, I could find no evidence that there was a group effort to make a complete list of what exists.

My list includes those items that would deserve catalogue status in Stanley Gibbons, and probably other catalogues. I list them in the order that SG does and I include the major catalogue number for each issue. Though I add some variation to these varieties, such as normal and faint multiples, I omit many others that would not have catalogue status but are interesting all the same. Some of those varieties are misregistered surcharges, offsets, creased paper, heavy and light impressions, as well as the many minor varieties in the surcharges themselves. Also, if a double or multiple surcharge is not complete, it doesn't fully 'qualify'. An example is shown in Fig. (10.12). Here there are several inverted values but the bars are not all present. It doesn't make the cut. All of the varieties are in my collection except for those few that are marked with an asterisk. Those are listed in SG and so there must be proof of their existence.

First, some points should be made - Slurs - some stamps on the market are being offered as double surcharges but are actually slurs or kiss prints. These occur when the blanket, in lithographic printing, slips slightly during printing thus causing an appearance of doubling.

These are sometimes difficult to determine. They are not true doubles. An example is shown in Fig.(6.10).

**Doubles and Multiples** - where there is a double and multiple with the same intensity in inking; it has gone through the printer more than once, either in error or purposely as a correction to a misregistered surcharge. Where a double or multiple is faint, this is likely from remnant impressions on the blanket as corrections were made to the registration of the surcharge during printing. There's much evidence that this registration correction was done on an 'as you go' basis. Both types are bonafide doubles or multiples, but the distinction should be understood.

### SG 715 - 9s on 10s Red-billed pintail, 1982 imprint - watermarked

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge inverted
- Surcharge double, one inverted \*



- 1982 imprint - unwatermarked
- 1981 imprint - unwatermarked - perf 13
- Surcharge double

### SG 717 - 15s on 2s Speckled pigeon, 1982 imprint - watermarked

(There are two different settings of this overprint)

- Surcharge double, one is faint
- Surcharge triple, two are faint
- Surcharge quadruple, one is faint
- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal \*

### SG 718 - 15s on 5s Bokmakierie shrike, 1982 imprint - unwatermarked

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge double, one is faint
- Surcharge triple, two are faint
- Surcharge quadruple, three are faint
- Surcharge double in pair with normal
- Surcharge omitted in pair with misregistered surcharge

### SG 719 - 15s on 60s Cape longclaw, 1981 imprint - unwatermarked

1982 imprint - watermarked

### SG 720 - 35s on 25s, Malachite kingfisher, 1982 imprint - watermarked

(There are two different settings of this overprint)

- Surcharge with small 's'
- Surcharge missing in pair with normal (horizontal)
- Surcharge missing in pair with normal (vertical)

### 1981 imprint - unwatermarked

- Surcharge with small 's'
- Surcharge double
- Surcharge double, both with small 's'
- Surcharge double, one with small 's'
- Surcharge double in pair with normal
- Surcharge inverted
- Surcharge inverted with small 's'
- Surcharge missing in pair with misregistered surcharge

### SG 721 - 35s on 75s, Hoopoe, 1981 imprint - unwatermarked

- Surcharge with small 's'
- Surcharge double
- Surcharge double, one is faint
- Surcharge double, both with small 's'
- Surcharge double, one is faint, both with small 's'
- Surcharge double, one with small 's'
- Surcharge double, one is faint, one with small 's'

- Surcharge triple, two are faint
  - Surcharge quadruple, three are faint
- (Triples and quadruples often show combinations of large and small 's')

- Surcharge double, one faint in pair with normal (vertical)
- Surcharge quadruple, three faint, in pair with double, one faint (vert)
- 1982 imprint - watermarked
- Surcharge with small 's' \*

**SG 721d - 35s on 75s, Hoopoe, 1981 imprint - unwatermarked** - new overprint

**SG 722 - 9s on 30s, Charaxes jasius**

- Surcharge double, one inverted
- Surcharge quadruple, one is faint
- Surcharge omitted in pair with misregistered surcharge

**SG 722a - 9s on 30s (smaller '9s')**

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge triple
- Surcharge quadruple
- Surcharge double in pair with normal
- Surcharge triple in pair with normal
- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal

**SG 723 - 9s on 60s, Pontia helice**

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge double, one inverted
- Surcharge triple
- Surcharge inverted
- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal
- Surcharge double in pair with normal

**SG 724 - 15s on 1s, Danaus chrysippus**

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal

**SG 725 - 15s on 2s, Aeropetes tulbaghia**

**SG 726 - 15s on 3s, Colotis evenina**

- Surcharge omitted in pair with misregistered

**SG 727 - 15s on 5s, Precis hierta**

- Surcharge double
- Surcharge double, one is faint
- Surcharge triple
- Surcharge triple, one is faint
- Surcharge quadruple, three are faint
- Surcharge double in pair with normal
- Surcharge double in pair with triple
- Strip of three, single, double, triple

(Other multiples exist but are so faint that I 'hold' their status for now)

- Surcharged on reverse (gum side) with normal

(Most stamps with surcharge on reverse show through on the surface in reverse from heavy ink offsetting)

- Surcharge on reverse with normal in pair with normal
- Surcharge on reverse with double surcharge on surface
- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal
- Surcharge omitted in pair with double surcharge



**SG 728 - 35s on 75s, Colotis regina**

- Surcharge with small 's'

**SG 729 - 9s on 5s, Bokmakierie shrike,**

1982 imprint - unwatermarked

**SG 730 - 16s on 25s, Malachite kingfisher,**

1981 imprint - unwatermarked

- Surcharge omitted in vertical pair with normal
- 1982 imprint - watermarked

**16s on 35s on 25s - Surcharge on SG 720, 1982 imprint - watermarked**

16s on 35s on 25s - Surcharge on SG 720 with small 's'

16s on 35s on 25s - Surcharge on SG 720(b), 1981 imprint - unwatermarked

**SG 731 - 35s on 25s, Malachite kingfisher,** 1981 imprint - unwatermarked

1982 imprint - watermarked

**SG 732 - 20s on 4s, Precis oenone**

- Surcharge double, one inverted
- Surcharge triple, one is faint

(It's possible that this could be a double with one surcharge a slur)

- Surcharge omitted in pair with normal

- Surcharge printed on reverse, sideways

**SG 733 - 40s on 7s, Phalanta phalantha**

**SG 734 - 3s on 9s on 30s, Charaxes jasius**

- Surcharge of 9s double, one is faint

(This is misdescribed in the current SG catalogue)

- Surcharge of 3s double

- Surcharged with additional 7s (from next stamp)

**SG 735 - 7s on 9s on 30s, Charaxes jasius**

I have written a couple of articles on these issues in the past. Subsequently I learned that some of my writing contained errors of fact and many omissions. In fact I have learned a lot more about them and I am still learning. I hope to one day complete a publication.

One of the reasons why information is so difficult to gather is that there seems to be - surprisingly little interest in these stamps. How can that be? They offer quite a bit more than just what this list shows. I find it difficult to compete in auctions with Basutoland 1961 surcharges and yet these 1986 - 88 surcharges as well as those from the 1980-81 issues are usually mine for the taking.

Maybe it was all of the Disney issues, etc., of Lesotho that did irreparable harm to Lesotho stamps as a collecting interest. At least it has worked in my favour. Similar type varieties from, say, Great Britain, the US, or South Africa - would be well out of my means. Instead I have been able to amass a large amount of what I consider to be very interesting issues.

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who shares an interest in these stamps. I would look forward to learn more as well as share my knowledge of them.

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## The impact of the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) and its aftermath on the postal history of towns: A case study based on Standerton in the Transvaal

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



Wars, battles, and the occupation of countries and regions by military forces have a major impact on the postal systems of towns in those areas. The result, from a philatelic point of view, is that it provides postal history collectors with a variety of interesting fields of study and collecting. The interest in the postal history of the war led to the establishment of The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society in the UK in 1957. This Society leads the study of the Postal History and usages of the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) in South Africa.

### Introduction: The Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902)

Giliomee and Mbenga stated in their book *New History of South Africa*, that the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902), also known as the South African War, remains the most terrible and destructive modern armed conflict South Africa has experienced. This conflict helped shape the modern South Africa and marked the end of a long history of British conquests of South African societies, both black and white.

The British, by the end of the war, had been forced to mobilise almost 450,000 Imperial soldiers to defeat the Boer forces which comprised, at its height, at most 80,000 combatants. Of the roughly 116,000 Boer civilians housed in concentration camps some 28,000 died, largely from measles, dysentery and pneumonia. It is estimated that at least 20,000 blacks also died, mainly from epidemic diseases.

### The impact of the Anglo-Boer War on the postal history of towns

Richard Stroud in his latest publication (2014) *The Postal History of the Burgher, Refugee and Concentration Camps of the Anglo-Boer War during 1900 to 1903*, clearly illustrates the impact of the Anglo-Boer War (ABW) from a philatelic point of view on just one aspect of the war, namely the camps. However, there are many other philatelic aspects of the ABW that makes the war one of the most fascinating fields of collecting from a postal history point of view.

The aim of this article is to use Standerton in the Transvaal as a case study to illustrate the impact of the ABW and its aftermath on towns from a philatelic point of view. Only a selection of

interesting postmarks and cachets emanating from the period of the ABW and its aftermath will be illustrated. The author's interest in the Heidelberg/Standerton area arose from the fact that he was born and raised in the area and farmed for many years in the district. He also started a so-called 'heimat' collection of the area in the 1970s.

### The occupation of Standerton by the British Forces in June 1900

Standerton was a small town in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) on the railway line running from Johannesburg to Durban, when the war broke out in October 1899. The ABW impacted every aspect of life in the Standerton area. The fact that Boers serving in the Standerton Commando under Commandant H.J. Alberts took active part in the war, together with the importance of the main railway line from Johannesburg to Durban running through Standerton, drew this area even deeper into the war. The railway line being strategically as well as tactically important in war circumstances, for both sides, resulted in the movement of numerous British soldiers through the town.

When the ABW broke out in 1899 the double circle canceller 24mm and 14mm diameter respectively with the place name at the top and 'Z.A.R.' at the bottom was used in the Standerton Post Office. This common canceller was introduced to nearly all post offices in the ZAR in 1894. As the British campaign gathered momentum, they gradually removed the letters ZAR from the canceller in the post offices in some of the captured towns.

As the Boer resistance began to crumble, Major-General C.F. Clery was instructed to move through Standerton on route to

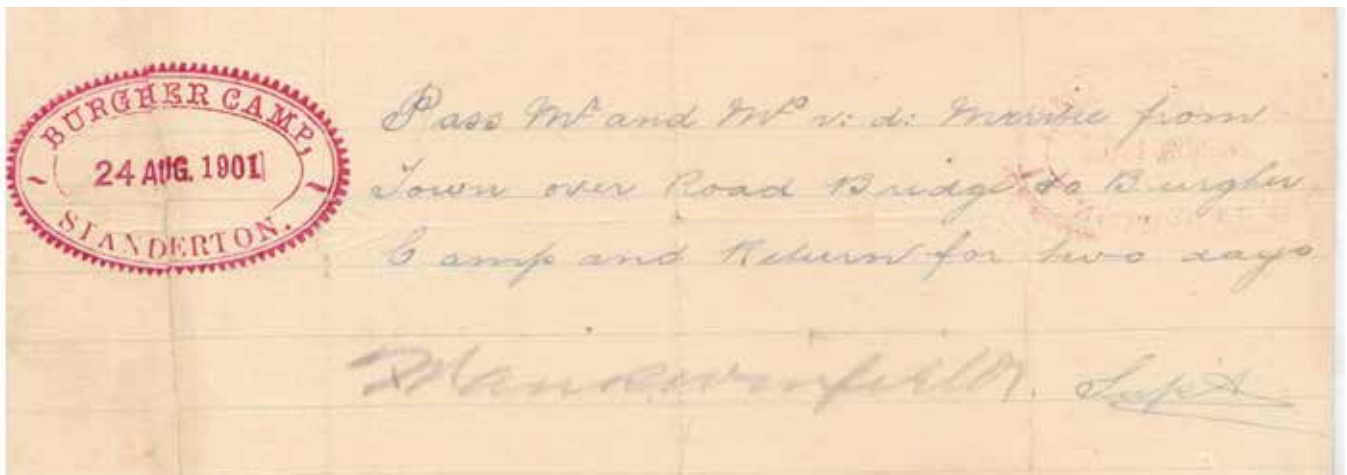


Fig.1: Pass issued by Mr. Winfield to a certain burgher in the camp: "...from Town over Road Bridge to Burgher Camp and Return for two days" with the Burgher Camp Standerton cachet dated 24 August 1901.

Heidelberg. A good first-hand account of what happened is given by Private Tucker in his diary: "23rd June 1900. We finished our march arriving at Standerton about 2.00 p.m. and pitched camp. We are here to rest for a few days. After all, we have marched eighty miles in five days!..We marched without opposition to Waterval and pitched camp, a distance of twelve miles".

During the second half of 1900 the British were disheartened by the constant attacks by Boers on their communication lines and transport. Kitchener, in response, developed a strategy based on erecting manned blockhouses along the railway line. This proved insufficient as the Boers used local farms to hide from the British. Kitchener, therefore, felt compelled to destroy the farmhouses by burning them down.

*Fig.2: The Reverend N.J. Theunissen. He was the Boer minister in the camp in Standerton. There must have been a good relationship between him and Superintendent Winfield because he was frequently given permission to leave the camp to attend to his people's problems. (Theunissen was the first Afrikaans-speaking person to play cricket for South Africa. He played against England in a test in the 1888-1889 season while he was still a student at the University of Stellenbosch).*



*Fig 3: Postcard with the Standerton Post Office on the left.*

He was then confronted with the problem of what to do with the women and children. The solution settled upon, in December 1900, was to erect camps to house the woman and children.

The Standerton Burgher Camp was an important camp and many women and children from the surrounding farms were interned there. It was started by the military in December 1900 and then handed over to civil control in February 1901. It was located to the east of the railway station on both banks of the Vaal River (Fig.1).

W. K. Tucker was the first superintendent and Frank Winfield replaced him in June 1901. The census of 30 June 1901 recorded 3,154 burghers (670 men, 1,124 women and 1,360 children in the camp) This figure increased to 3,470 in June 1902. In February 1901, the General Superintendent of Camps, Maj Goodwin, reported negatively on the situation in the Standerton Camp.

According to him the situation was pitiable in the extreme. The Reverend Theunissen played an important role in the camp (Fig.2). In August 1902 Frank Winfield reported "...As usual the Sunday afternoon Divine Service has been held in the Camp under the direction of the Revd Theunissen. These open-air services are well attended".

**Selection of postmarks and cachets used during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) in Standerton.**

One of the most interesting cancellers used in Standerton was the ornate rectangular strike identified by Maj Ian Mathews (ret) as Type 20 in his publication *Transvaal Philately* (Fig.4). Similar designs were also recorded for Middelburg, Springs, and Krugersdorp. In the case of Standerton two similar types were used for administrative purposes in the District Commissioner's Office (Fig.5) and the Registrar of Births and Deaths Office (Fig.6).

Towards the end of 1900 the organisation of the British Army changed. Brigades ceased to exist as discrete units and infantry battalions and artillery batteries became subdivided into detachments garrisoning the various towns and points on the lines of communication.

Most of the mail in the Standerton camp was censored and a variety of censor markings and cachets were used in the Standerton Burgher Camp. On 15 July 1901, a burgher camp post office was started which was a great convenience to the refugees who formerly had to walk into Standerton.

The following four types of censor marks or cachets were used from June 1901 up until June 1902:

- An oval double circle with date in different colours of ink was used from 28 June 1901 to 29 May 1902 (Fig.7).
- An unusual four-line censor cachet that was used for a short period from 28 August 1901 to 28 November 1901 (Fig.8).



*Fig. 4: Cover with ornate rectangular STANDERTON date stamp dated '19 DEC 1900'. The British Forces occupied Standerton on 23 June 1900 with the post office being reopened by the British on 1 November 1900.*



Fig.5: Rubber cachet 'District Commissioner's Office Standerton' dated '26 DEC 1900' used on a pass to give permission to Rev. Theunissen to retain five cows and three calves.

- A triangular type of cachet used from 25 August 1901 to 13 May 1902.
- A triple ring cachet used for a short period from 22 May 1902 to 19 June 1902.

The forces operating in Natal which forced the Boers back from Colenso, relieved the siege of Ladysmith and recaptured the coal country around Dundee and later occupied the eastern Transvaal up to the point at which junction was made with the forces coming up from the Cape and the Orange Free State. These forces were collectively known as the Natal Field Force with fixed post office date stamps in towns where they were based (Fig.9).

About the middle of the second half of 1901 so called 'Field Post Offices' were established in various towns such as Standerton (Fig.10). The British Army Post Office ceased operations on 16 August 1902 according to the PMG's Report for 1903.

#### The Standerton and Standerton Cantonment Post Offices during the Transvaal Colony period 1903 - 1910

After peace was concluded in 1902, the various post offices started functioning as part of the Transvaal Colony. The first *Transvaal Post Office Guide* was issued on 1 July 1902 where all the postal rates and regulations were explained. In this guide the 'Class of Office' of



Fig. 7: An oval double circle censor mark with date used on 23 October 1901 on a cover posted from Standerton on the same date to a POW in Bermuda.

Standerton was indicated as a Money Order Office.

Hasso Reisener indicated that the military camp in Standerton was established by the Imperial Army in December 1900 and remained in use until 1909. The post office was handed over to civil control on 1 February 1904. *Cape Post Office Circular No. 268* of 1 March 1904 stated that a post office 'Cantonment Standerton' had been opened (Fig.11). This post office was listed for the last time in March 1908. Three types of date stamps have been identified. The earliest recorded date stamp is 15 February 1904.



Fig.6: Ornate canceller used in the office of the Registrar for Births and Deaths in Standerton in 1911.

Standerton Cantonment 'LXXXV' (Fig.12). A posted late cachet also with numeral 5 used in 1904 has been observed. This is an indication that there was possibly a consistency in the numbering system (Fig.13).

#### Conclusion

The development of the postal history of Standerton and its

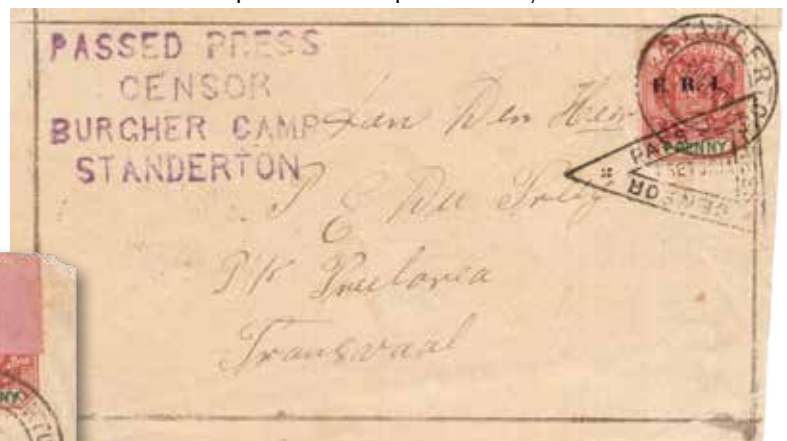


Fig.8: Cover posted from Standerton '5 OCT 1901' to Pretoria '7 OCT 01' (back stamp). Letter censored as indicated by the four row censor mark.

surrounding postal agencies is interwoven with the socio-economic development of the area, the building of the railway line to Durban, the occupation by the British, as well as the First and Second Anglo-Boer Wars.

All of this can be illustrated by means of date stamps and cachets depicting these events. Towns like Standerton as well as many others affected by the Anglo-Boer War can be regarded as a 'philatelic feast' from a collector's point of view.

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Fig.9: Pre-printed envelope posted from the 'ARMY POST OFFICE NATAL FIELD FORCE STANDERTON' dated 11 August 1900 addressed to Major Irvine in Standerton.

Fig.10: Army Post Office Standerton canceller used on 10 May 1902 with index letter 'A'.



Fig.11: The Standerton Cantonment Post Office.



Fig. 12: Cantonment Standerton B.O. date stamp 19 March 1904 with the Edwardian Tax mark LXXXV allocated to Standerton Cantonment.

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Fig.13: A 'Posted Late' cachet used in Standerton in September 1904 with number 5.

All the illustrated items are from the author's collection: *The Postal History of the Heidelberg - Standerton area 1872 - 1961*.

# ENTERTAINMENTS TAX IN SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA,FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg



## Part 4. TRANSWAAL

### INTRODUCTION

Parts 1 to 3 were published in the last three issues of *The South African Philatelist* and described the issues of Cape, Natal and the Orange Free State. Each of these three Provinces introduced Entertainments Tax in the 1917-1921 period. It is not clear why Transvaal did not follow suit. South West Africa introduced Entertainments tax on 1 July 1930; this may have prompted Transvaal to join the others – they introduced the tax on 28 October 1931.

All the stamps issued by Transvaal are scarce, probably because most establishments made plans to include the tax in the ticket price, and to make payment directly to the Administrator.

### THE STAMPS

#### The First Issue (1931)

The tax table for 1931 showed rates of 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 9d or 1/3. The earliest set was a horizontal format rouletted issue in a similar design to the early stamps of the Cape with very wide numerals. Two copies of the 5d duty have been recorded but no other values have yet been found (Fig.1). Both are intact unused copies. Other duties must have been printed to meet the requirements of the Ordinance. The rules stipulated “Every person about to be admitted to any place of entertainment with a ticket to which an adhesive stamp is affixed shall, immediately before admission, hand the ticket to the promoter, and the said promoter shall forthwith deface the stamp on the ticket by tearing the ticket in two portions across the stamp”. Maybe collectors had no interest in these torn stamps.



Fig.1: First Issue 5d – the only recorded duty (rouletted).

#### The Second Issue (1933-35)

The second issue was in a similar design, but was perf 14 X 15, and probably followed soon after the rouletted issue. Recorded duties are 1d, 2d, 3d, and 6d (Figs.2a - d). There was no 5d rate after 1936, so this duty was probably not required. Less than five mint copies of each duty and a couple of examples used on tickets are known to exist.



Fig.2a, b, c & d: Second Issue. All recorded duties (perf 15 X 14).

Ordinance 5 of 1936 introduced tax-free entertainment in Transvaal up to a ticket price of one shilling. This would also explain the scarcity of the stamps.

#### The Third Issue (1940-42?)

The horizontal format was replaced by a smaller format bilingual issue from about 1940. A single value (6d) has been seen with roulette instead of



Fig.3: Third Issue. Small format (rouletted)

perforations, and is assumed to have been issued first (Fig.3).

#### The Fourth Issue (1940-45?)

This set was similar to the third issue but was perf 15 X 14. Five duties have been recorded - 1d, 3d, 6d, 7d and 9d (Fig.4). The stamps were printed alternately in English and Afrikaans.



Fig.4: Fourth Issue. Small format (perf 14 X 15)

Although Entertainments Tax was in place until 1965, no other tax stamps were printed. The tax was collected either directly from the venue by inclusion in ticket price, or by using Government tickets. The Government tickets were available from the Provincial Administration at no premium price over the tax payable, and were to be used in place of admission tickets. The tax was obviously based on the admission fee.



### THE GOVERNMENT TICKETS

#### The First Issue (1958?)

The print format in the sheet is unknown as no copies exist in the archives of the South African Post Office. Three copies are known to the author, each being 1d tax tickets



Fig.5: Government Tickets (1st issue) - left and right portions of separate tickets.



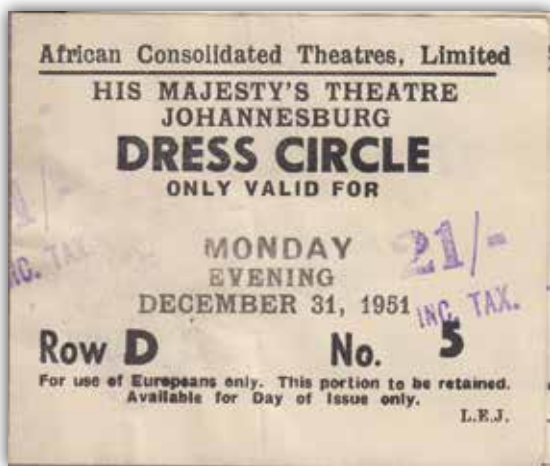


Fig 10b&c: (above) Tax included in ticket price.

Many institutions were exempt from payment of tax if the objectives were educational, charitable, religious, etc. (Fig.11), or if the event was an amateur sports event, where nobody was paid for the participation or administration. Exemption had to be approved in advance by the Administrator.

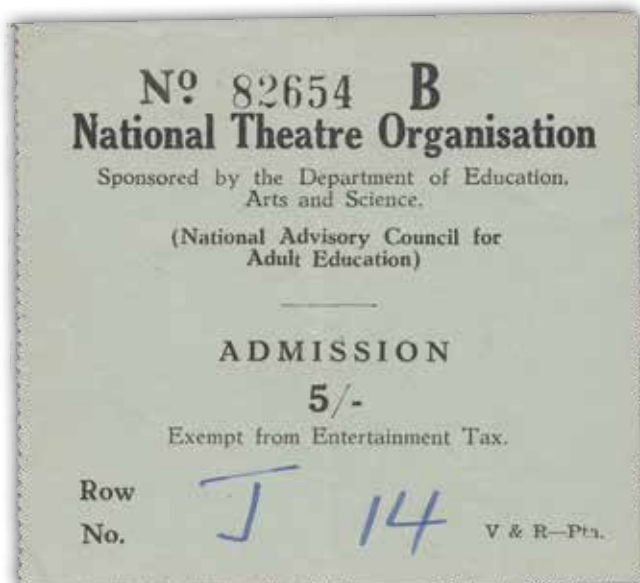


Fig 11: Exemption from Entertainments Tax

## Mail in Occupied German Southwest-Africa 1914-1919



A new publication released from the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V.* the Study Group of the Collectors of German Colonial Stamps

The *Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V.* has about 400 members worldwide who collect the stamps and postmarks of the German Colonies and Post Offices Abroad and was founded in 1928 and is therefore the oldest Study Circle in Germany.

### Mail in Occupied German Southwest-Africa 1914-1919 Censor Label - Censor Cachets - Censor Post Service - Prisoner of War Camps

In this book, the authors cover the consequences of WWI on the mail service in German Southwest Africa from beginning of the war to 1919. The text is in large parts bilingual German/English so that the non-German speaker can also make use of it.

The South African occupation administration kept the postal service in their occupied territory running with almost no interruption. For this they made use of the existing postal infrastructure, including the use of the adapted German postmarks and even German forms. The listing of the used censor marks and sealing labels - always with illustration and a rating of rarity - form the first part of the book. The civil postal connections with foreign countries - especially Germany - form the second part. This is followed by around 100 pages about prisoners of war and internee mail.

The book is a fantastic addition to the *2016 Catalogue of the Adapted German Postmarks in Southwest Africa after 1915*, by the same authors. (Also still available!)

208 pages, 7" x 10", softcover, durable high-quality binding.

The book can be ordered from the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V.* at €25.- + € 8.- international postage. Payment is also possible by PayPal.

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Germany

e-mail: [2.Geschaeftsfuehrer@kolonialmarken.de](mailto:2.Geschaeftsfuehrer@kolonialmarken.de)

# ROBERT BLOHM - SPECIMEN CARD 'MUSTERKART'

by Paul Hammerton, East Rand Philatelic Society



The Francotyp Company was established in Bielefeld, Germany in 1923. For every franking machine that was installed by the company, a Specimen Card, 'Musterkart,' was made up to record, amongst other things, the date it became operational and a sample (specimen) of the printed indicium.

Each specimen card is unique as there was only one card per machine. This particular card is also very special as not only did it, and its machine, survive World War II, but the same customer continued to use it even after a factory move. (If used by a different company had used the machine, this would have been noted on the card.) In the 1980s, Francotyp's entire archive collection of pre-war machines and cards was destroyed in a fire thus making all surviving cards rare indeed.

Deutsche Reichpost changed to Deutsche Post in 1947 in the Trizone, and to Deutsche Bundespost in 1950. Although these changes in the postal authority were not recorded on the specimen card, the numeral 50 was added by a Francotyp technician after the datestamp on the original specimen indicium at the top of the card.

Figure 1 shows an indicium used by Blohm up to 6.5.39 which has a printed advertisement showing the Blohm logo, the company name, ROBERT BLOHM, Universal-Werkzeugschleifmaschinen, Bohrbuchsen nach DIN in gothic script (universal tool grinding machine/drill bushes to DIN standards), and a Hamberg- Bergedorf 1 datestamp. The specimen card for the new machine, Fig.2, shows the sample or specimen of the printout, together with details of the machine: the date of delivery; 6.5.39, the serial number; C312317, model number, special requirements (spezielleinrichtungen) and the approved monetary limit (DM100). In addition to the company logo the indicium carries an illustration of their legendary WURI 2 tool and cutter grinder, five drill bushes and the same legend with an identical datestamp. The postal authority in both cases is the Deutsche Reichpost, which is correct.

On 25 August 1951 a label with a manuscript date, illustrating a Blohm surface grinding machine was added to the card at the bottom right corner. This carried the legend Fabrik für Werkzeugmaschinen (Machine Tool Manufacturer). The label shows the machine fitted with a dust extraction unit (left) and with a coolant system (right).

The indicium in Fig.3, dated 18. December 1956, has a Hamburg-Bergedorf 1 CDS, and the same illustration as the label on the card, but carries the Deutsche Bundespost cancel.

In 1958 after corporate restructuring the manufacture of drill bushes was moved to Buchen. A new datestamp showing the delivery post office as Buchen (Lauenb) was attached to the card, top left. A new label with the Bloem logo, the manuscript date: 6.3.58. and the legend Normteile (standard parts) was added to the card, bottom centre.



Fig.1.

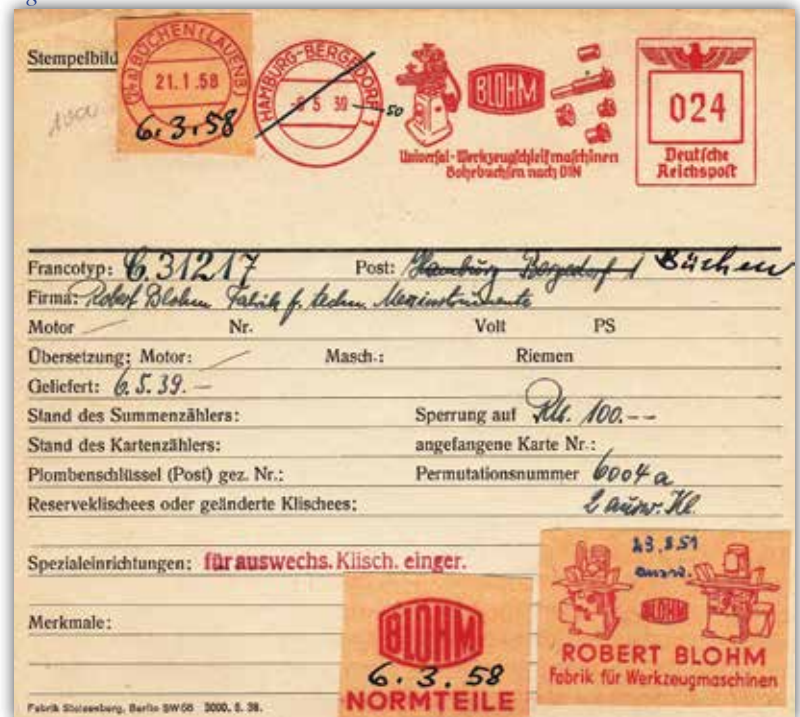


Fig.2.



Fig.3.

The Robert Bloem company was started in 1924 as a factory for the production of measuring instruments (Messinstrumenten) as given on the card (Firma). They developed the WURI 2 tool and cutter grinder in 1937 initially for their own use, whence it proved superior to any other machine on the market. Accordingly, effort was concentrated on the production and sale of this machine. In 1948 they developed their surface grinding machine (Fig.2 & 3) which again proved superior to its competitors. Manufacture of these machines continued after the take-over in 1978 by Hauni-Werke, Hamburg

Drill bushes and other precision parts continue to be produced by Bloem Normteile in Buchen.



# The Postal Road past Ruytersbosch

by ds Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Philatelic Society

## Introduction

When the George District was proclaimed in 1811, it covered a large tract of land, in fact 16,402 km<sup>2</sup>. In this vast area other towns like Knysna/Plettenberg Bay and Mossel Bay developed along the coast, and Calitzdorp, Oudtshoorn and Uniondale to the inland in the Little Karoo.

In 1816 Governor Lord Charles Somerset granted 2,322 morgen of land along the foothills of the Outeniqua Mountains to Johannes Petrus Marx. A condition of title was that an outspan had to be established at the foot of the Attaquas Kloof Pass.

*In the 1930s the farm became a popular spot for visitors, particularly seamen from ships of the Royal Navy docked at Mossel Bay – as well as the Royal Air Force based in Oudtshoorn at the time, as the Little Karoo was considered to be an ideal training ground in preparation for battle in North Africa. The regular presence of naval personnel influenced naming the farm 'Eight Bells'. At sea, the bell is rung once for each half hour of a four-hour watch. Eight Bells signifies the end of the full watch – the time to rest. This is really a fitting name for a beautiful place with wonderful hospitality.*

## Early postal services in the Mossel Bay area

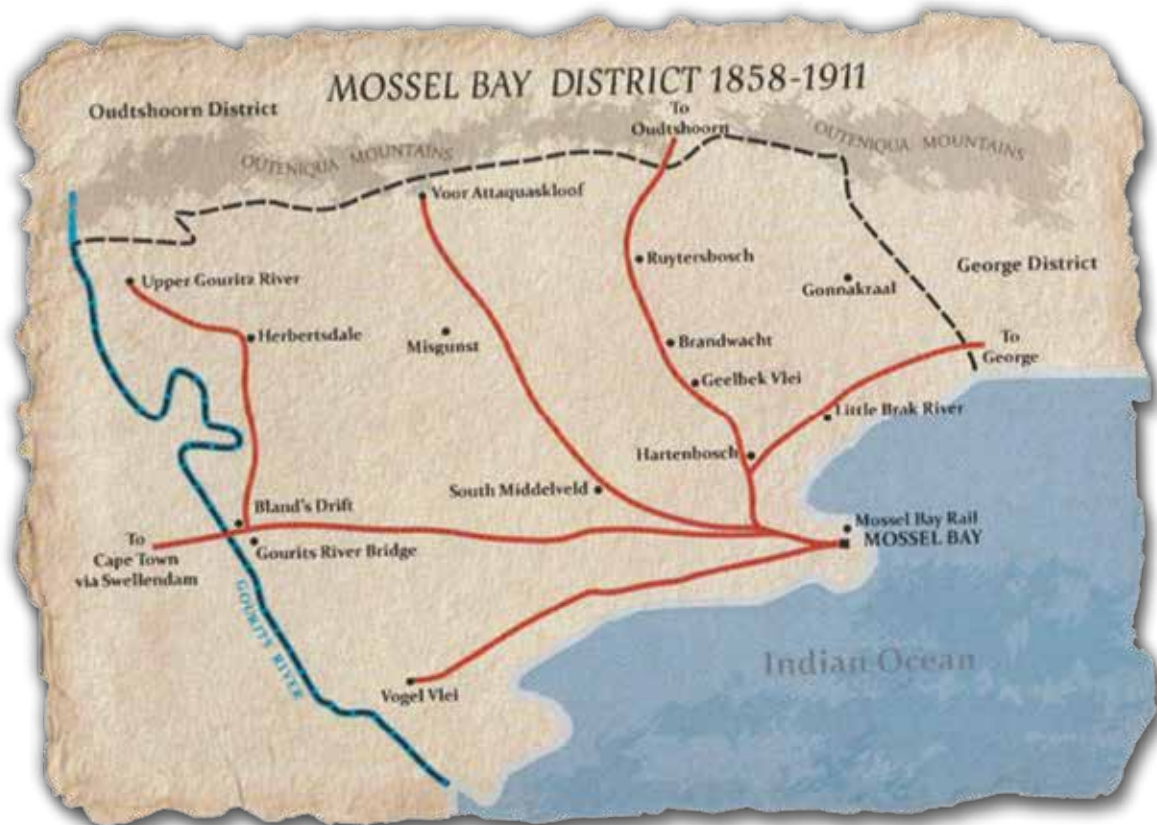
The first postal route including Mossel Bay was established in 1803. The *Groote Wagen Weg* from Cape Town followed the foothills of the Langeberg Mountain Range and entered

the then Mossel Bay area at Outeniqua Drift in the upper reaches of the Gourits River. The Attaquas Kloof Pass over the Outeniqua Mountains was used by Izaq Schrijver in 1689 to enter the Little Karoo and Lange Kloof areas. The pass, actually an ancient elephant path, crossed the mountain near the Robinson Pass with Ruytersbos on the foothills.

To improve the postal service the route was diverted in 1806 from the farm *Hagel Kraal* over the Outeniqua Mountains via the Attaquas Kloof to the farm Matjies River of P. Raubenheimer. However, the poor postal service continued. It appeared the problem was the handling of the mail at *Hagel Kraal*. In 1809 the authorities were obliged to divert the mail to Plettenberg Bay and from there over the mountains to a farm in the Lange Kloof.

A new postal route in 1810 stipulated that the mails be carried from the Gourits River to Mossel Bay and George. In 1834 the route changed from Gourits River (Bland's Drift) to Geelbek Valley (Vlei). J. B. A. Bland undertook the conveying of the mails on this route on behalf of Resident Acker at Mossel Bay. By 1844 it branched off at Brandwacht to Mossel Bay.

Different branch posts were established after Mossel Bay became a Magisterial District in 1848. In 1852 a postal communication was established between *Hagel Kraal*, over the Attaquas Kloof Pass, to Saffraan River. For the first time it was possible to forward letters directly between Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn.



*The Mossel Bay District during the time when a post office was established at Ruytersbosch.*

John Fraser Hudson was one of Mossel Bay's most prominent community leaders. He owned Hudson, Vreede & Co. The development of postal services, especially between Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn over the newly built Ruytersbosch Pass over the Outeniqua Mountain, was a dream of his. It would benefit Oudtshoorn a great deal to have a second weekly communication to Cape Town, Mossel Bay and every other place along the main postal route.

To effect this, it was necessary to call for tenders to convey the mails from Brandwacht via Ruytersbosch to Saffraan River, leaving Brandwacht on Mondays on the arrival of the field-cornet post and returning on Tuesday morning, all to be carried on horseback.

The Civil Commissioner of Oudtshoorn supported Hudson's plan. He stated in a letter to the Postmaster General on 21 June 1862 that it would be much cheaper if the people of Oudtshoorn could receive their mail from Mossel Bay via Ruytersbosch and Saffraan River instead of from George via Doorn River. At that stage the Ruytersbosch Road was not as yet completed on the Oudtshoorn side of the mountain.

The Ruytersbosch Pass was nothing more than a bridle path. By 1862 it was already under construction close to the present Robinson Pass. However, it soon became inadequate and could not accommodate the increasing traffic. Complaints and petitions were the order of the day. The end of the story was an inspection of the Ruytersbosch Pass and the construction of the Robinson Pass. Construction work commenced in 1866 and the new road was opened on 4 June 1869. The pass was named after M. R. Robinson, Chief Inspector of Public Works and Commissioner of Roads.

### Post Office Agency at Ruytersbosch

The Cape Archives confirm that the history of the Ruytersbosch Postal Agency started on 14 November 1875 when N. V. Martenson wrote to the Postmaster General. Living next to the main road to Oudtshoorn he mentioned that, as a field-cornet's post was already approved to Ruytersbosch, he wished to apply for the appointment as a postal agent at Ruytersbosch.

Civil Commissioner Marsh of Mossel Bay approved the establishment of a postal agency at Ruytersbosch as well as the appointment of Martenson as postal agent. Marsh informed the PMG that Ruytersbosch was situated at the foot of the Robinson Pass and not on the main postal route to the eastern frontier. Ruytersbosch would receive a bi-weekly post. Marsh was authorised to pay for a foot-runner to take the mail from

Mossel Bay to the field-cornet at Geelbeks Valley, thence to Brandwacht and continued to Ruytersbosch (when appointed) from 1 January 1876.

According to the *Post Office Guide* of 1882 the Ruytersbosch/Ruytersbosch postal agency (PA) already existed by 1882. On 22 March 1926 it became a Post and Telegraph Agency (PTA). In 1952 the PTA was renamed Ruytersbosch. By 1 May 1972 it reverted to being a postal agency, and finally closed for business on 2 February 1987.

I think one could safely conclude that the little postal agency in the shadow of the old oak tree at *Eight Bells* was indeed the first Ruytersbosch Postal Agency. Something crosses my mind. How big was the old oak tree when Mr Martenson opened the postal agency for business on 1 January 1876?

If you ever visit *Eight Bells* you'll be welcomed by one of the largest, oldest and most beautiful oaks in the Cape today. It dates back to the 1800s with branches in extent of 20m radius. Shaded by this 'masterpiece' is the billiard room (Bosun's Whistle Pub) and the original homestead. The pub, with its beautiful wooden curved counter, is today a nostalgic reminder of the struggle to establish a postal service between Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn.



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BROCHURE:

*The History of Eight Bells Mountain Inn* (Author: Not mentioned) [🔗](#)



# The Growing Interest in Advertising Covers

by Sean Burke <seanburke\_1@yahoo.com>  
Rhodesian Study Circle



A recent subset of postal history that is attracting some attention is the collecting (and exhibiting) of covers which contain advertising. A cursory glance at some recent sales and their realisations points to this heightened awareness. Besides the 'normal' interest around rates, routes, cancels, stamps, etc., there is the possibility of further research surrounding the firms or products being advertised. I demonstrate using two recently acquired Rhodesia ad Nyasaland covers.

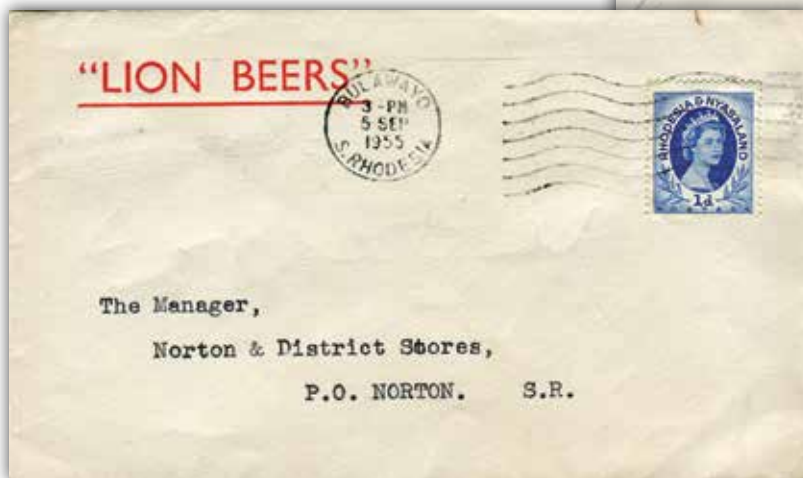
Firstly, a cover from Practical Gunsmiths in Salisbury, Rhodesia, now Harare, Zimbabwe. It has the correct 2/6d airmail rate to the USA. I could not find much about the firm involved, although their 'products' are well known! On the back of the envelope was a logo for the *Gunmakers Association*.



The next cover, paying the internal postage rate of 1d, advertises Lion Beers. On the back of the cover is the sender's printed name and address: *Ohlsson's Cape Breweries Ltd, P.O. Box 506, Bulawayo*.

One of the major founders of the brewery industry in Southern Africa was the Swede Anders Ohlsson, who first arrived in the Cape in 1864. Beginning as an importer of Swedish goods and timbers, he turned to brewing, basing himself at Newlands, Cape Town, where he produced his Lion Lager. In 1956, Castle Brewery bought out Ohlssons and Chandlers Union Breweries and the company, for the first time, became known as the South African Breweries.

*(Postscript: In a recent visit to Cape Town in 2019, I enjoyed a good lunch and glass of wine at the Forester's Arms in Newlands. Anders Ohlsson was, at one time, the owner of the Forester's Arms).*





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# Why Do We Collect Cylinder Blocks?

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

A Cylinder Block or a Control Block can be defined as a segment of stamps, with attached margins containing printed information. There are usually six stamps (3 rows of 2 stamps) in a control block. The information typically consists of details of the cylinders and colours used, the date of printing, the sheet number with or without a suffix, the pane letter and other printer's markings (Fig.1).

Why do stamp collectors, who are normally so sensible, rational and intelligent collect Cylinder Blocks? Why are we all so gullible that we collect these?

We have been brain-washed into believing that we must have cylinder blocks. I ask the question, because whenever I'm shown a collection of Protea stamps, all I see are pages and pages of beautifully mounted control blocks and very little else.

London and Pretoria Printings of the Springbok ½d stamp without too much trouble.

The Pretoria Printing below has two cuts in the jubilee line (Issue 2 or 3).

Collectors are not always so lucky (Fig.3). In the later issues of these stamps there were no jubilee lines and collectors had to rely on other features to identify the issues (Fig.4).

*Fig.3. Rotogravure Pretoria Print 1931.*



*Fig.1. Typical Cylinder Block.*



*Fig.2a. Springbok ½d Stamp. London Printing perforations through right selvedge.*



*Fig.2b. Pretoria Printing with broken Jubilee line*



*Fig.4. Vertical lines top left corner of stamp.*

## The Evolution of Cylinder Blocks

There is a tremendous variation in what collectors collect. The field is extremely wide and varies with respect to the country and the time period of the issued item. It does not have to be stamps - covers, postal history even tax labels are all acceptable and desirable. Generally, collectors will strive to have an example of each value in a set of issued stamps. They like to be complete. A problem arises when the same stamps are in use for a long time (usually definitives). Due to wear and tear, the cylinders used to print the stamps get damaged and have to be replaced. This results in changes to the stamps, some obvious and others not so obvious. Naturally the collector would like to have an example of the various issues of the stamp in order to have a complete collection. The problem arises in identifying the various issues. In some cases this is relatively easy (Fig.2). Collectors were able to identify the

Issue 19 of the Springbok ½d stamp was issued In February 1949. It was the first of these ½d definitives with the cylinder numbers printed on the sheet margins - Fig.5.



*Fig.5: Cylinder Blocks, Issue 19. February 1949.*

### Three Reasons why I believe we should not collect Cylinder Blocks.

#### 1. Cost

There are usually six stamps in a cylinder block. This means that we must pay six times more than we would pay for a single stamp. But it gets worse. There are at least two panes per sheet, often there are four panes. We are now expected to pay 12 to 24 times more. Cylinder blocks come at a premium. They are valued at much more than the sum of the six stamps. If in addition we factor in the cost of the extra pages in our albums to accommodate the cylinder blocks, the cost saving in collecting single stamps is obvious.

#### 2. Pleasure derived from the study of your stamps and finding an alternative to cylinder blocks

It is possible to find single stamps usually with the margin attached that can be positively identified as belonging to a particular Issue and Pane. Figure 6 shows the four stamps I have identified to represent the two Issues and Panes of the One Cent Protea.

With enough patience it is possible to identify single stamps for all the values in the Protea series

#### 3. Wrong Information

The information that we rely on and the reason we collect cylinder blocks is often incorrect. Collectors tend to accept whatever is printed on the margins as the truth with the result that many cylinder blocks are placed in the wrong Issues.

Some of the more obvious mistakes are listed below.

##### a. The Two Cent Protea

For many years collectors believed there was only one Issue of this stamp because the information printed on the sheet margins is identical in all the two cent cylinder blocks. Further study has identified two Issues (5).

##### b. Cylinder 722.

This cylinder was used in the printing of all the stamps printed by photogravure. Four different cylinders were used but the cylinder number did not change resulting in many cylinder blocks being allocated to the wrong Issue.

##### c. The Wrong Suffix in the Four Cent Protea.

Several cylinder blocks have been found with the suffix (0) and the date 16 August 1977 instead of the suffix (1) with the same date.

Fig.6. 1c Protea: Alternative Controls



Issue 1. Pane A. R7/1

Issue 1. Pane B. R7/1

Issue 2. Pane A. R7/1  
Issue 1 - Yellow marginal bars.  
Pane A - Sharp point.

Issue 2. Pane B. R7/1  
Issue 2 - Orange marginal bars  
Pane B - Broken point.

#### d. The Wrong Date in the Eight Cent Protea.

Collectors thought that there were four printings in Issue 2 of this stamp because four different dates were printed on the margins. However it has now been revealed that the date 4 February 1982 with the suffix (-3) is incorrect (6). These cylinder blocks belong to those with the date 11 May 1982 with the suffix (-3). I think the time has come to stop collecting cylinder blocks and to put the stamp back into stamp collecting by concentrating on the stamps themselves and not just relying on the information spoon fed to us by Philatelic Services.

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#### Comic Corner

## Stamps that make you SMILE

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

### Episode 57 Errors on Stamps...

The small West-Africa country of Gambia issued a series called 'Milestones of Air Transport' in 1988. The Zeppelin on the stamp of 25b is inscribed 'LZ 7' which was the first regular air passenger service in 1910.

This stamp is wrong as the Zeppelin 'Hindenburg' LZ 129' of 1936 is depicted!



#### 'ZEPPELIN WITHOUT AN ENGINE!'

The graphic designer must have retouched the type to 'LZ 7' which had only a few test flights in 1910. It originally had the black-white-red flag of the German Empire and would have had the swastika flag of 1936. This stamp shows a flag of modern Fed. Republic of Germany. Another important error was the removing of the engine part at the back because without this the Zeppelin cannot fly.

# The 1967 UK Christmas Stamps

by Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



## Introduction

In 1967, Great Britain issued a set of 3 stamps for the Christmas season (S.G. 756-758). This was the second time that such British stamps had been specifically issued to commemorate Christmas and it is a tradition that has been followed on an annual basis ever since. Of particular interest in the 1967 set is the 4d stamp portraying 'Madonna and Child' (Fig.1). Painted by the Spanish artist, Murillo, it has eye-catching beauty. Furthermore, the errors and varieties that occurred make it of considerable philatelic value.

## Christmas 1967 Stamps

This 1967 set featured famous Christmas paintings. The 3d value showed 'The Adoration of the Shepherds' from the School of Seville (Fig.2), while the 4d depicted the 'Madonna and Child' (Fig.1). The 1s6d value also had a painting of the 'Adoration of the Shepherds' but by Louis Le Nain (Fig.3).

## The 4d Christmas Stamp

The 4d stamp features Bartolomé Esteban Murillo's famous painting of the 'Madonna and Child'. The original hangs in the 'Museo Nacional del Prado' in Madrid. Murillo is regarded as one of Spain's greatest artists. Born in 1617, he spent a great deal of his time on religious subjects. He died in Seville in 1682 aged 64.

The stamp is printed on chalk-surfaced paper with two phosphor bands. The perforation is 14 x 15. The number of copies sold was 287,827,440 equaling 2,398,562 sheets of 120. Each sheet consisted of 12 stamps across and 10 down. The stamp's colours are bright purple, greenish yellow, new blue, grey-black and gold.

## The First Day Covers

What is interesting about the set is that it was produced in two stages. The 4d stamp was issued on 18 October 1967, with the First Day Cover of this stamp postmarked '18 Oct 1967' (Fig.4). The other two stamps were issued over a month later on 27 November 1967, with their First Day Cover postmarked '27 Nov 1967' (Fig.5).

A further FDC was issued depicting all 3 stamps with two different postmark datings (Fig.6). Gibbons refers to this as 'double-dated'.



Fig.1: The 4d depicting 'Madonna and Child' by 'Murillo'.



Fig.2: 'Adoration of the Shepherds' by the School of Seville.

## Errors on the 4d Stamp

The stamp is known for a number of significant errors. Some, it is speculated, originated from proofs or proof sheets which made their way onto the market. Others were due to mistakes occurring in the printing process, but not noticed before distribution. With over two million sheets printed, and only a small number of known errors having slipped through, they are scarce and make for an interesting philatelic study. They are the following:

- Imperforate Pair (Fig.7)

Other than the stamps having no perforation, they are exactly the same as the issued ones. Hence it is not known whether it was a proof sheet which found its way onto the market or a sheet that for some reason missed being perforated. It is believed that 60 such mint pairs exist, being an entire single sheet.



Fig.3: 'Adoration of the Shepherds' painting by Louis Le Nain.



Fig.4: FDC postmarked '18 Oct 1967'.



Fig.5: FDC with 2 stamps postmarked '27 Nov 1967'.

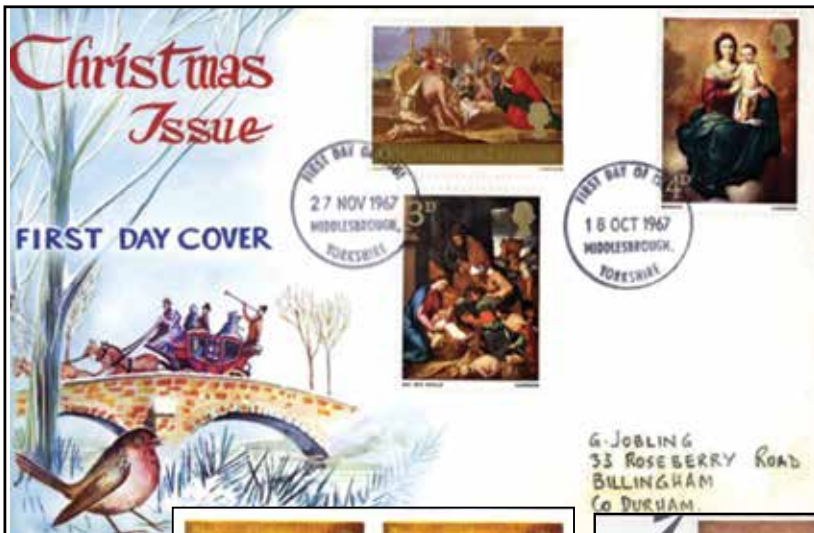


Fig.6: (at left) FDC with three stamps and two different postmarks. 'Double-dated' according to Gibbons.

• Imperforate Pair and Gold Missing (Fig.8)

This imperforate pair has no trace of the Queen's Head or the value – both of which would have appeared if the gold colour had been printed. It is believed to have come from a proof sheet. Originally, there must have been 60 pairs, being an entire single sheet.

• Gold Missing (Fig.9)

This results in both the Queen's Head and the value being omitted. In his catalogue, Pierron states that two sheets with the gold omitted were discovered, as well as a few individual finds.



Fig.7.



Fig.8: Imperforate Pair. Gold Omitted.



Fig.9.



Fig.10: Part of a complete sheet of the 4d with gold omitted.

The reduced size copy of one of the two sheets with gold omitted (Fig.10) shows the missing gold in the traffic light corner of the sheet (Fig.11). The sheet reveals no trace of gold on any of the 120 stamps nor on the traffic light, which proves the sheet missed the gold printing process.

• Value Omitted (Fig.12)

The omission of '4d' is the result of the partial omission



Fig.11: 'Traffic light' at top shows missing gold.

of the gold colour. The Queen's Head which is also in gold remains intact. Pierron states that there are '10 mint copies' of this error, originating from the first column (vertical row)



Fig.12



Fig.13.

of a sheet, which resulted from the gold cylinder being stopped, thus leading to the value not being printed (see also Fig.14).

• **Queen's Head Omitted** (Fig.13)

The head of Queen Elizabeth II is omitted, but the value partially remains (third stamp from left). This is due to the gold being partly omitted. Assuming the balance of the sheet has the same error, and that all the stamps in row 3 have been saved, then 10 such examples exist.

• **Gold Completely Misplaced** (Fig.14)

This is a marginal top vertical pair where the gold has been subjected to a downward shift. The result is three-fold. Firstly, the top stamp has no value. Secondly, the top stamp has the Queen's Head in the wrong place. Thirdly, both the value and the Queen's Head on the bottom stamp are in the wrong place. Only one sheet with the shift of the gold is said to exist. Therefore, as it only affects the top row, there can only be 12 such pairs.



Fig.14.

• **Strip of 3 Value omitted** (Fig.15)

The two stamps on the right have both the Queen's Head and the value. However, the left marginal stamp has the Queen's Head but no value. The reason for the omission could either be a stoppage of the printing press, or that something got in the way of the left hand side, resulting in the printing process being incomplete. This ties in with Pierron's explanation regarding the ten copies which he believes exist on the left hand side of the sheet.

**Summing Up**

Errors on stamps make for an interesting philatelic study and the errors on the 1967 4d Christmas stamp are an excellent example of this. The different errors and the details of how many were printed tell a story all on its own, namely that errors do slip through, but such rarely occurs.



Fig.15.

• **Partial Omissions of Gold** (Fig.13)

The 8 stamps show the effect that a partial colour omission can have on various stamps in a strip. From left to right: the first stamp is as it should be. Second stamp has a partial omission of gold resulting in the Queen's Head being incomplete. Third stamp has the Queen's Head totally omitted and value partly omitted. Fourth, fifth and sixth stamps have a total omission of the gold, resulting in no Queen's Head or value. The seventh stamp has the value omitted, but the Queen's Head appears. The eighth stamp features the Queens' Head, but the value is incomplete.

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**References**

- Bradbury, A. 2008. *Collecting British First Day Covers*, 28th edition. London
- Pierron, T. 2005. *The 2005 Catalogue of Great Britain Stamp Errors and Varieties*. Bacchic Multimedia
- Stanley Gibbons. 2019. *Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue*. London.

**SAPDA dealers fair at Da Vinci**

On Friday 15 November 2019 to Saturday 16 November 2019 the SAPDA dealers fair was held at the Da Vinci Hotel and Suites in Sandton Johannesburg. The fair was attended by dealers from far and wide, the Eastern Cape, Western Cape and some of SAPDA's international dealers were present, along with a large Gauteng representation. The show was a huge success and it is envisaged to make this an annual event, similar to the old Rosebank fair of years ago. The Friday night dealers and partners were entertained at the Butcher Shop and Grill in Sandton Square for its annual dinner, a new arrival on the present SAPDA calendar that will hopefully also turn into a repeat event.



Present at the SAPDA dealers fair held at the Da Vinci in Sandton were back (left to right): Ken Joseph, Kenny Napier, Stephen Hale, Richard Johnson, Michael Wigmore, Lee Luyckx, Doreen Royan, Bill Barrell, David Morrison; and front (left to right): Chris Bennett, Xavier Laubscher, Francois Friend, Howard Green, Clinton Goslin and Alan Donaldson.





# RAILWAY PIONEER REGIMENT- hoe seldsaam is hierdie stempels?

deur Gawie van der Walt, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society (gawievdw@lantic.net)

In this article, the author argues the scarcity of the Railway Pioneer Regiment (RPR) cachets used on covers. Recruiting for the RPR commenced on 23 December 1899 during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). The regiment's duty was to 'execute works on the railways' and when not engaged to make itself available for 'pioneer work and general duties'. An American, Louis Seymour played an important role in the RPR. Very few covers with cachets of the RPR have been seen and the author would like any surviving covers that may still be available, to be recorded.

## Inleiding

Tydens die Tweede Anglo-Boereoorlog het die idee posgevat om gebruik te maak van die talente van die talle buitelandse ingenieurs, wat aan die Rand gewerk het (hoofsaaklik op die myne) en wat gevlug het as gevolg van die oorlog. 'n Groot voorstander vir dié idee was die Amerikaner, Louis Seymour (Fig.1). Hy het later tot die rang van Majoor gevorder en was tweede in bevel van die eenheid wat gestig is en wat bestaan het ingenieurs, die sogenaamde Railway Pioneer Regiment.



Fig.1.

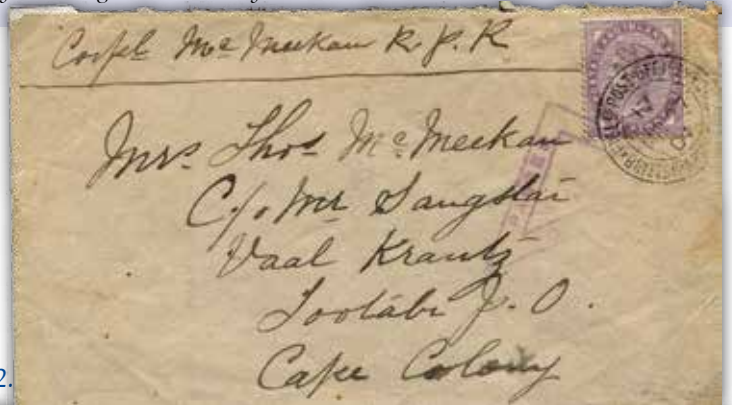


Fig.2.

Volgens Hagen & Naylor in *The Railway Postal History of South Africa* (1998) het werwing vir die Railway Pioneer Regiment (RPR) op 23 Desember 1899 begin. Dit het bestaan uit een bataljon met verskeie kompanjies. Verkeie brûe is ook herstel deur die RPR, o.a. by Oorlogspoort (Noord van Colesberg), Vetrivier (OVS) en Sandrivier (OVS). Die regiment was betrokke in 'n skermutseling met die boeremagte by Roodewal waar in 'n poging om van die possakke te beskerm, agt lede van die RPR gesneuwel het. Na die Roodewal insident het die eenheid gewerk om brûe te herstel oor die Rhenoster- en Vaalriviere. Nadat die normale spoordiens tussen die Kaap en Transvaal herstel is, is die RPR onttrek. Die eenheid is op 1 Mei 1903 ontbind en die Witwatersrand Rifles is in hulle plek gestig.

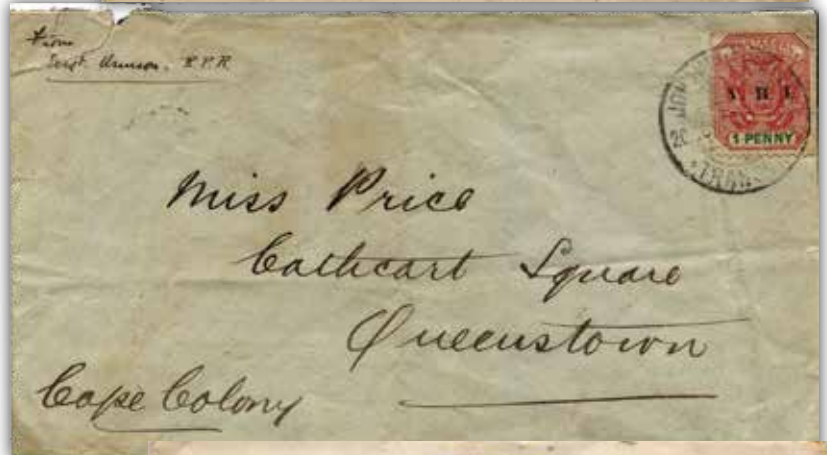


Fig.3.

## Postukke vanaf die RPR

Posstukke vanaf die RPR is nie volop nie, en die wat voorheen aangemeld is, is hoofsaaklik uitgeken aan die feit dat die afsender iewers op die koevert 'n aantekening gemaak het dat hy 'n lid van die eenheid is, gewoonlik deur die letters 'RPR' aan te bring (Figs.2 & 3).

So ver vasgestel, kon die Skrywer geen rapportering vind van 'n rubberstempel (sg cachets) op 'n posstuk nie.

Daarom die volgende:

### 1. Railway Pioneer Regiment Quarter Master

Die koevert is gepos op 16 November 1900, geadresser na Kaapstad met die 1d seël gekaneselleer met die dubbelring Field Post Office nr 17 stempel (wat volgens Prime deur die nr 25 Veldposkantoor te Johannesburg gebruik is). 'n Kaapstad aankomstempel gedateer 22 November is ook



Fig.4.

op die voorkant. 'n Ovaal rubberstempelaafdruk in pers, gedateer 16 Nov. 1900, Railway Pioneer Regiment Quarter Master verskyn bo in die middel van die koevert (Fig.4).

### 2. RPR Quartermaster

Die koevert is gepos op 15 Julie 1901 geadreseer na Seepunt, Kaapstad met die 1d seël gekaneselleer met die dubbelring

<sup>1</sup> Louis Seymour is ironies genoeg deur 'n buitelandse skerpskutter wat vir die Boeremagte geveg het tydens 'n skermutseling by die Sandrivier te Virginia in die Vrystaat op 14 Junie 1900 doodgeskiet terwyl lede van die RPR besig was om aan die brug oor die rivier te werk. Volgens die rekords van The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is hy te Kroonstad begrawe en nie in 'n klein militêrebegraafplaas by die stasie soos wat in die Suid-Afrikaanse Biografiese Woordeboek beskryf word nie.

'Field Post Office' nr 38 stempel (Prime = Advance Depot Kroonstad). Daar is ook 'n 'PASSED BY CENSOR' merk op die voorkant. 'n Ovaal rubberstempelaafdruk in pers, met datum in pen ingeskryf 15/7/01, 2 ? R.P.R. Quartermaster. Daar is ook No en Date en die stempel verskyn bo in die middel van die koevert (Fig.5).

**3. Die koevert is gepos** op 21 September geadresseer na Pietermaritzburg met die 1d seël gekanselleer met die agthoekige Natal Field Force Standerton stempel. 'n Ovaal RAILWAY PIONEER REGIMENT No. 9 COMPANY rubberstempelaafdruk van die datum 19 SEP. 1900 in pers verskyn onderste linkerhoek van die koevert (Fig.6).

**Verwysings:**


- [www.s2a3.org.za/bio/Biograph\\_final.pjp?serial=2554](http://www.s2a3.org.za/bio/Biograph_final.pjp?serial=2554)
- *Railway Postal History of South Africa* – Hagen HS & Naylor SP, Philatelic Federation of South Africa, Johannesburg, 1998.
- *British Army Postal Cancellations of the Anglo-Boer War 1899 to 1902*. Prime P, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, 2003.
- Persoonlike e-pos boodskap vanaf die Suid-Afrikaanse kantoor van die Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 23 September 2019
- Suid-Afrikaanse Biografiese Woordeboek, Volume 1 – Tafelberg-Uitgewers vir die Raad vir Geesteswetenskaplike Navorsing, 1968. 



Fig.5.



Fig.6.



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## LOCAL EVENTS & SOCIETY NEWS

VISIT the website [www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa) There is a complete society listing with information about meetings, chair-persons and other contacts. It needs to be maintained by the society, who could easily include advertising space on the same page or places to upload auction catalogues and other relative news. Jannie Hofmeyr

### BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

### THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

Meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 8.00pm at the Athenaeum, Camp Ground Road, Newlands. Visitors are always welcome.

Email: [royalphilict@gmail.com](mailto:royalphilict@gmail.com)

*President:* Jan Hofmeyr 021 7901811

*Secretary:* Victor Millard 0828028882 or 021 6714613

**Website:** <https://www.rpsct.org/>



### STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

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



### PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Die Paarlse Filatelite vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30. *Filatelite, seëlversamelaars en besoekers is baie welkom. Vergaderings is baie informeel en daar word lekker gekuier en daar is altyd iets te leer (en te ete). Vir meer inligting oor die program en vergaderplek kontak gerus vir:* Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410

[gawiehugo@gmail.com](mailto:gawiehugo@gmail.com) of Riaan

Crafford: 022 4824005

n/u [craffies@telkomsa.net](mailto:craffies@telkomsa.net)



### GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, in the Minor Hall, Presbyterian Church, 8 Caledon St. *President:* Nick Zerbst 0836255804, *Secretary:* Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337. Email: [robrita@mweb.co.za](mailto:robrita@mweb.co.za)

### FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

**Website:** [www.fhps.infoFHPS](http://www.fhps.infoFHPS)



### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society meets monthly at 19:00 on first non-holiday Monday at the Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold. For more information contact either *President* Francois Friend, 082 554 8900, [francois@softchem.co.za](mailto:francois@softchem.co.za); or *Vice president*, David Brown 041 360 4025; or *Secretary / Treasurer* Rodney Maclachlan 072 619 5409.

**Hosts of the ALGOAPEX 2020  
National Stamp Exhibition,  
Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society (PEPS).**



### FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909 EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Heritage Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Berea Gardens 70 Jarvis Road, Berea. **Meetings :** Every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Time: 19h30

*President :* David Preston

082 7742090.

Email: [prestee@telkomsa.net](mailto:prestee@telkomsa.net)

*Secretary:* Carlos Da Fonseca  
082 334 7603.



### CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

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

### ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe meets the second Saturday of each month (Except December) - 2:00pm to 2:30pm. at the National Natural History Museum, Park Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo. email: [phil.soc.zim@gmail.com](mailto:phil.soc.zim@gmail.com)

#### \*PLEASE NOTE:

**BACK ISSUES** of *The SA Philatelist* are limited. Requests for any issue should be made in writing to P.O. Box 131600, Benornyn, 1504 An electronic PDF file may be requested should a printed copy of the journal not be available. VISIT [www.sapa.africa](http://www.sapa.africa)

**QSA auctions - Kyalami Country Club, Midrand, 09h30 to 13h30.**

## Study Groups

### EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

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

### TBVC STUDY GROUP

**Contact:** *Chairperson:* Jan de Jong [djhome606@gmail.com](mailto:djhome606@gmail.com) *Secretary:* Eugene du Plooy [eugeneduplooy@gmail.com](mailto:eugeneduplooy@gmail.com)

**Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 09:00am for 09:15am at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair. Corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Hillcrest, Pretoria - right opposite the entrance to the University of Pretoria.

**Pretoria Fair & mini-auction**, Greek Orthodox Church, cor Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Pretoria, 09h00 to 14h00).

### RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

*Kontak:* [djhome606@gmail.com](mailto:djhome606@gmail.com)

Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrief. Jan de Jong: 079 190 1066.

### SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

This society has amalgamated with the EDENVALE Society. See details on page 34.

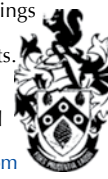
### RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information on meetings, visit <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings> or Contact the Secretary, Brian Zlotnick. Email [bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk) or postal address 10 Fortis Green Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9NA. UK.

**The SA representative is Patrick Flanagan RDPSA**

### PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

**Meetings:** Last Wednesday each month (except December) at 19h30. Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. Caters for all interested in stamp collecting, from beginner to more experienced philatelists. Programmes for meetings include displays, talks by visiting speakers and 'Show & Tell' exhibits. An Exchange circuit and auctions from time to time. Visitors always welcome! *Contact:* Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050. Email: [m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com](mailto:m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com)



### THE CAPE STAMP FAIR

Bellville Valley DRC Hall, c/o Postma & Saint Andrews Streets, 9am - 12:30pm. Public parking & entrance - St Andrews Street. All welcome, free entrance and parking. Refreshments available. Large contingent of dealers in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, postcards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, plus coins, banknotes & medals, etc. Stamp Fair dates for 2020: 1 Feb, 7 March, 4 April, 9 May (2nd Saturday), 6 June, 18 July (3rd Saturday), 1 August, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec. Auctions continue to be at Bergsig DRC Hall. *Contact:* Ken Joseph [ken@philatelicfriends.com](mailto:ken@philatelicfriends.com)

### Postage Due Mail Study Group

For more details, look at their website: <http://www.postageduemail.org.uk/>  
*Contact:* Bob Medland, Secretary & Treasurer of the Postage Due Mail Study Group, email: [secretary.pdmsg@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.pdmsg@gmail.com)



**WITWATERSRAND  
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P O Box 528, Florida Hills, 1716

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

### Dates for Society Meetings 2020 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

- 12 February 2020 - Invited Exhibitor
- 11 March 2020 - One-to-Five Page Exhibits
- 8 April 2020 - First Competitive Evening
- 13 May 2020 - Visit by Pretoria PS
- 10 June 2020 - One-Frame Evening

### EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2020 the meetings - Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group.

### EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first Saturday, monthly at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein at 1pm. Meetings consist of club competitions, workshops, themed events and many other fun activities. Membership is varied and mainly consists of general stamp collectors. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome - from the novice to more advanced collectors. Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for Edenvale Philatelic Society. All welcome. Contact: Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Now meeting at the Games Room, Country Life Retirement Village, corner Main/ Stanley Rd, Brentwood Park, 13h30 last Saturday each month. Exhibits, talks and workshops by members and invited guests. Items of interest, quiz, general networking.



Refreshments and safe parking.  
President: Jimmy Mitchell;  
jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com  
Secretary: Paul Hammerton.  
hampaul@ananzi.co.za

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357  
Meetings: 19h30, Third Wednesday of the month, at Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane, Blairgowrie. P O Box 131037, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

#### 2020 meeting programme

- 19 Feb : AGM & invited exhibits
- 18 Mar : Open Class, all categories & postal stationery
- 15 Apr : Anything relating in any way to letters 'O &/or P'
- 29 Apr : 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - Theme to be decided
- 20 May : British Commonwealth
- 17 Jun : Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages
- 15 Jul : Foreign, the art of philately & philately as art
- Jul 29 : 5<sup>th</sup> Wed, Society auction

### WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at 19h30 at Panorama Sports Grounds, Cornelius St, Weltervreden Park. PO Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. Chairman or Secretary Ian Walker. Tel: 011 4721161. email: ianwalker@vodamail.co.za

### OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memoriam Road, Bloemfontein. President: Dr Neil Cronjé and Vice president: Garry Osthoff email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

### SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday evening monthly at 19:30 at Statech Centre, St. Albans College, 110 Clearwater Street, Lynwood Glen. Monthly newsletter, active exchange section and loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. Day meeting: Thursday, after first Monday of the month, 9.30 am at Philatelic Services, Pretoria. Stamp displays, talks and socialising. President: André du Plessis. andredups@gmail.com 083 399 1755. Secretary: Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za Box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; cell 082 922-2927.

### AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by die NG Kerk Queenswood in Garretweg, Queenswood. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrieff 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk. Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

### THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly at the Greek Orthodox Church Pretoria Stamp Fair @ 10:00 for 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees - loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions. Group Leader: Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

### DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

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

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



### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

Meetings are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Road, Bluff, Durban at 10h00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

Contacts:

- President: Zbigniew Kawecki, 082 968 6888
- Treasurer: Jeroen Wentink, 082 33 97 588
- Secretary: Harald Deg, 084 464 7171

Association email : [KZNPhilately@holistic.cc](mailto:KZNPhilately@holistic.cc)  
'Stamp Exhibitions' with a theme of what to do and what not to do to achieve success...  
**'All are welcome'**



### HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY DURBAN

HPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, 7 Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 - 11h30 every third Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors - from beginners to seasoned collectors. Youth encouraged to attend. Theme Exhibits & 'Show-and-tell' Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance. Teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join us and get involved in this wonderful social hobby of Kings. President: Leigh Hen-Boisen, leigh.hb@gmail.com Secretary: Bronwen Edwards, edwards@worldonline.co.za Membership: Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za or Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za



Established in 1924

### MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUES:

- All meetings now take place at St Mathews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Pietermaritzburg
  - All meetings are held on the same day i.e. the THIRD MONDAY of every month
  - 14h00 Executive Committee Meeting
  - 15h00 (i) Thematic Group and (ii) Traditional Philately Group
  - 16h00 Ordinary Stamp Club/Society Meeting
1. Secretary: Aubrey Bowles 082 316 3308, 033 239 2136  
36 Amberfield, Private Bag X010, Howick 3290  
E-mail/s: <burncree21@telkomsa.net>  
<aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com>
2. President: Dave Wyllie (all contact details unchanged)
3. There is one committee member change: Gordon Bennett is no longer Stamp Circuit Book Officer. He has been replaced by Russell Bowton  
Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles.

### SMALLS

**Wanted:** Student, a young lady - R.Ashwini, in Grade 9, interest in collecting stamps; nature, animals & art. R.Ashwini. 5/2 South Avenue, Srinagar Colony, Saidapet, Chennai 600015, India. mail to: <Srividhya\_vs@infosys.com>

**Wanted:** Vintage postcards of old Pietermaritzburg. Please contact Mike O'Connor [dumbuzaac@gmail.com](mailto:dumbuzaac@gmail.com) advising availability (preferably a scan) and asking price.

**Swap:** Australian / SA new or old stamps. My grandfather had a great South African collection and I have a lot of the older stamps as I was born and lived in SA for ten years. Toni Phillips <tonijejan3@hotmail.com>

**Beginner:** thematic - sci-fi & fantasy, cartoons, comics, space. Pavel Tregubenko. Spasskaya street, 4 bld., 476 off. 143401, Russian Federation, Krasnogorsk, Russia. [ptregubenko@gmail.com](mailto:ptregubenko@gmail.com)



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