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The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



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ORANGE RIVER COLONY

That "Missing" Booklet...



The booklet proposal remained unaccepted. Buckley & Marriott (1976) illustrate the ORC booklet trial with commentary "There is a complete booklet in the De La Rue Archives and a dismembered booklet in the Reginald Phillips GB collection in the National Postal Museum, London. No other examples appear to have been recorded."

GBP4500

1905 De La Rue "Post Office of Africa" SAMPLE BOOKLET TRIAL provided in response to a request from the Orange River Colony postal authorities for a 2/- booklet. Salmon covers with interleaves between four panes of green (1/2d) and two panes of red (1d) De La Rue dummy stamps. VF intact unexploded. An exhibition showpiece for connoisseur, likely unique from the De La Rue Archives.



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- o Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.



157 *TV screens at BOFEX 2017, creating an 'up-front and close-up' view of the one frame exhibits - seen here with Jimmy Mitchell.*



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The National Exhibition
the Italian Club in Bedfordview
11 to 14 October 2017

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DO YOU KNOW?

This block of four 1913 King George V 1½d stamps has been cancelled with what looks like a unique cancellation with the letters 'D N' over a '1' in a purple colour. It would be appreciated if any reader could help to unravel the mystery surrounding the use and purpose of this cancellation and possibly where and when it could have been used. Please send comments to janice@gdb.co.za.

Jimmy Mitchell, ERPS.



Alex Visser sheds light on the query: "The item illustrated is a parcel canceller, and one does not see many of them because they were invariably ugly impressions or used on parcels that were not saved. The item is listed in the Putzel Postmarks Addendum as No. 238z5. Durban had a range of these cancellers in different styles up to counter 13. Since there is no date and items are usually on piece or soaked, the stamp issues suggest that they were used from the early 1910s to the 1940s. Besides Durban, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria used a similar style with abbreviated office name."

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION

From: Jan and Martha Viljoen
 mailto: janv1@lantic.net

To the Editorial Board,
 My husband Jan recently dug out his stamp collection, last looked at in the late 60s. It started a renewed interest in the family and when I recently went through old family memorabilia, I came across a postcard/Christmas card dated November 1944, the month and year in which I was born. The fact that the air mail stamp was hand-drawn caught my attention. Is it possible to tell from where it was posted?

Is it of any significance to a collector?

Regards
 Martha Viljoen

... a few notes from Jill Redmond...

According to 'Militaria' (Military Historical Periodical) South African APO (Army Post Office) 5, (6 SA Armed Division HQ), had been in Prato, in the foothills of the Apennines, 13 km NW of Florence, Italy since 4th October 1944. In November 1944 the SAAF Shuttle Service was increased to seven planes each week between the Union, Middle East and Italy. However, heavy rains caused washaways between Prato and Arezzo and possibly the mail went via road. Before 23 April 1945 APO5 moved to San Giovanni. To answer your question, correspondence from a South African in Italy during WW2 would be of interest to a collector.

Sincerely,
 Jill Redmond
 Secretary: Philatelic Federation of SA

The SA Philatelist

Publication closing dates for final submission of advertising material to avoid late delivery. Articles should be submitted in the month prior:

- **December** 2017
 Vol. 93: 6. 945 : 08/11/2017
- **February** 2018
 Vol. 94: 1. 946 : 08/01/2018
- **April** 2018
 Vol. 94: 2. 947 : 08/03/2018
- **June** 2018
 Vol. 94: 3. 948 : 08/05/2018
- **August** 2018
 Vol. 94: 4. 949 : 05/07/2018

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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.

ADDING TO THE DISCUSSION

The Editor

Despite the interesting contribution in *SAP* August 2017 there appears to a question mark about attributing the **Cork Cancellor to 'Rietfontein'**. The markings on the card nowhere involve 'P.O. Rietfontein'. The word Rietfontein appears only as the writer's address. That name is ubiquitous (and found even in Pretoria) - as is Doornfontein (found even in Johannesburg), often with duplication within the same district due to subdivisions and otherwise. A special tie is known in Winburg where there is a Dutch Reformed Church congregation named Rietfontein. It may have been a sentimental play on the first 1837 settlement on the farms Waayfontein, Doringpoort and Rietfontein.

Why then a Doornfontein hand stamp? The writer of the card, mentioning his grandchild, may have been a farmer or trader who moved beyond his Rietfontein farm, district Winburg and for convenience posted the card at Doornfontein. I, however, read the card as posted at Winburg. There was handling of the card at Doornfontein on the same day as in Winburg. Doornfontein seems the second and not the first stamp to have been applied. The best route for an overseas letter was probably via the rail system. Winburg had no rail link. It gained a rail line in 1898 and then only to Smaldeel (Theunissen). That was three years after the dates on the post card. In 1892, after gold was found on the Reef, the rail line went from Bloemfontein to Smaldeel to Kroonstad. In 1895 Doornfontein office or Postal Agency could have had proximity to that line if only it was west of Winburg and not east. The cork canceller discloses nothing. There is only an argument on probabilities: Winburg as the older and more settled place rather than newer small places would be a site possessing cork cancellers that are associated with an older era. But then that cork canceller was that of Winburg, not Rietfontein P.A..

I doubt whether Archie Batten was correct.

H C J (Monus) FLEMMING

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COMMENT on Mike Tonking's article 'SOME OBSERVATIONS ON VALUE AND RARITY' published in *The SAP* August 2017, page 121

Concerning the above article, we received a communication from Howard Green RDPSA, who felt that the article constituted mis-information.

We thank Howard for his response and apologise for the facts that the values quoted in the table are somewhat out-of-date, and are expressed in R(ands) which should in all cases have been in Pounds Sterling, at the noted exchange rate 1£=R16, but since this latter mistake is a constant, it does not affect the relative comparisons which Mike Tonkin made.

Howard Green kindly provided more recent values which are given below, now all expressed in Pounds Sterling at the same rate of exchange of £1 to R16:

Stamp	Quantity	SG Catalogue £	SACC Catalogue £	Recent Realisations £
Academy of Science	6 mint	6,000	15,625	4,673.00 Murray Payne 07/17
Centenary of Red Cross	12 mint (MT:40, HG:12)	4,500	15,625	7 551.60 SPINK 04/17
Transkei Legislative	15 mint (MT:22, HG:15)	3 250	13,750	no recent sales recorded
Nursing Anniversary	25 mint	3 500	10,000	4,557 Spink 04/17

Based on the above, it would be difficult to fault Mike's observation that the SACC values are up to three times higher than those of SG, and his other observations about relative rarity remain largely valid - in two cases Howard Green quoted a different quantity but they are all extremely rare!

As Mike Tonking stated at the close of his article, *"At the end of the day, the true value of any stamp is what someone is prepared to pay for it."*

The Editorial Board

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

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

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

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

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trading as



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COLLECTING REVENUE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (1910-1961)

Part 1: Background to revenue stamp collecting and the Interprovincial Period (1910-1913)

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



REVENUE STAMPS AS A FIELD OF COLLECTING IN SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELY

In the philatelic world, the collecting and display of revenue stamps was once considered to be on par with the collecting and display of postage stamps. The advent of the First World War, however, saw a marked decline in this field of philately and it was not until the mid-1970s that it regained its popularity. The only exception during this period was the United States of America. In South Africa, interest in revenue stamps was reignited in April 1956 when the doyen of South African revenue stamps, Leonard J. Dodd of Pretoria, co-authored the first in a series of articles in *The South African Philatelist* (SAP) entitled 'The Customs Duty Stamps of the Union of South Africa' with T.B. Berry.

This was followed in the September 1956 issue of the SAP by 'Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa'. In the article Dodd stated the following: "Collectors of revenue stamps comprise a small percentage of the world's collectors of stamps. Overseas the percentage is greater than in the Union, where, perhaps due to custom, the collection of Revenue Stamps is a very neglected sideline of the Union's issues, notwithstanding the fact that Revenue Stamps are produced by the same means, from the same materials, and in like manner as are postage stamps. They are sold side by side over the post office counter with postage stamps, the ½d. and 1d. values which are inscribed accordingly, may be used for postage and revenue purposes, and find a place of honour in every collection comprising the postage stamps of the Union".

This was followed in the November 1959 edition of the SAP with 'The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa', a paper which Dodd had read before the Pretoria Philatelic Society. It was an overview of the entire series of revenue stamps issued between 1910 and 1961. Dodd was also responsible for the classification of the different series of revenue issues of the Union.

Clive Akerman from *The Revenue Society of Great Britain* stated that the prime mover behind the renaissance in revenue stamp collecting was Robson Lowe who held a series of major auction sales of

revenue stamps in the mid-1970s. These included large volumes of archival material representing the majority of countries in the world including the Union of South Africa. People, such as myself, used this opportunity to build a fascinating collection of revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa. At the 1987 national stamp exhibition Paarl 300, I had the privilege of gaining the State President's Trophy - the National Grand Prix - for my collection *Inkomsteseëls van die Unie van Suid-Afrika*. Complaints were later lodged that the Grand Prix had been awarded to a collection of 'Cinderella' material, these being revenue stamps. An article was subsequently published in *The*

they were often used for postage as well as revenue, that they were dispensed by postal offices, collected by stamp collectors since the origins of philately and widely catalogued in stamp catalogues from 1843 to approximately 1916. "It is part of classic philately" he concluded.

Since then, revenue stamp collecting has grown from strength to strength globally as well as in South Africa. At the 1991 FIP Congress in Japan, revenue stamps were included as a separate category for exhibitions with special regulations being drawn up for their evaluation and exhibition.

While postage stamps of the Union of South Africa have been minutely studied, their revenue stamp counterparts still provide the seasoned philatelist with an opportunity to explore something new and fascinating in the field of South African philately. An added advantage to collecting revenue stamps is that the cost involved is relatively modest when compared to that of postage stamps.

South Africa is well represented internationally in

terms of revenue stamp collecting; Cedric Roché RDPSA has been elected as a Bureau member on the FIP Revenue Commission and he, along with Howard Green RDPSA, are both qualified international jurors.

The *British Commonwealth Revenues* catalogue issued by Barefoot has colour images of revenue stamps and aims to present a listing of all adhesive revenue stamps of



Fig.1: Part of a document with the manner of payment by means of a 2/- Natal revenue stamp cancelled on 28 March 1913. Note the rubber stamp applied below the stamp referring to the Stamp Duties and Fees Act.

Cinderella Philatelist in July 1988 where the issue was thoroughly debated. The chairman of the Jury, Oom Thys Rall RDPSA, responded to the critics that revenue stamps had outgrown any possible past prejudices and that the Paarl 300 National jury was completely satisfied that it had made a well-deserved award.

In the same article Cedric Roché, (Pretoria Philatelic Society) commented that Revenues were stamps, frequently printed by the same printers who printed postage stamps using the same paper and watermarks as postage stamps. He pointed out that



Fig.2: Transvaal 1d postage/revenue stamp used on a Stock Bond dated 28 December 1910 during the Union-period.

the British Commonwealth in simplified form. This is currently the most authoritative source on British Commonwealth revenue stamps. In another recent article published in *The Springbok*, the South African Collectors' Society Quarterly magazine in the UK, Tony Howgrave-Graham wrote a series of two articles: *The Revenue Stamps of the Union 1910-1946*, in which he indicated that: "The revenue stamps are generally considered the poor cousins of their postage counterparts but they are, in fact, equally interesting and have added appeal of having some juicy high values". A recent worthwhile publication adding to our philatelic literature is, *Entertainments Tax in South Africa*, co-authored by Ian Matheson and Andrew McClellan.

THE DEFINITION OF REVENUE STAMPS

Revenue stamps were introduced to collect taxes for a variety of fiscal reasons. They are issued by national and local governments as well as official bodies of various kinds. No direct service is rendered for the paying of a revenue stamp but it can be regarded as a receipt for taxes or duties. Their use is not optional but forms part of the law of the land as they are issued by different levels of government.

In terms of the FIP exhibiting guideline, a competitive revenue exhibit should comprise embossed, imprinted or adhesive tax, fee or credit stamps issued by, or under, the origination authority of a state or municipal or intermediate governmental authority. Such exhibits will display one or more such type of stamp and, where appropriate, will explain and make suitable reference to the reasons for - and where necessary the regulations relating to - the services and transactions of other matter being considered.

A display of Union Revenue stamps could include the following types of stamps: Revenue stamps, Penalty stamps, Consular stamps, Assize stamps, Customs Duty stamps, Entertainment Duty stamps, Native Tax labels and Cigarette labels. All of these will be illustrated in the series of articles to follow.

THE STAMP DUTIES AND FEES ACT, 1911 (ACT NO. 30 OF 1911)

Any collector of the revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa should take note of The Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911, as amended, to understand the manner of denoting payment of duty by means of revenue stamps in terms of the Act. (fig.1)

"Revenue or postage/revenue stamps: The payment of any duty or fee payable by law shall be denoted by means of an adhesive revenue stamp or stamps of not less than the required value affixed to the instrument chargeable and defaced as prescribed by the Stamp Duties and Fees Act of 1911 as amended providing that: in the case



Fig.3: Impression of a die for a cheque stamp.

of any instrument liable to the duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting duty (fig.2) and payment of duty may be denoted by means of impressed stamps in respect of the following classes of instruments: cheques, bills of exchange liable to a fixed

or the name or title of his firm or company or his business name, together with the true date of the defacement liable to a fixed rate of duty, proxies and receipts".

INTERPROVINCIAL USAGE OF REVENUE STAMPS

On 31 May 1910, the Union of South Africa came into being. No Union postage or revenue stamps were available on 31 May 1910. The revenue stamps which were used

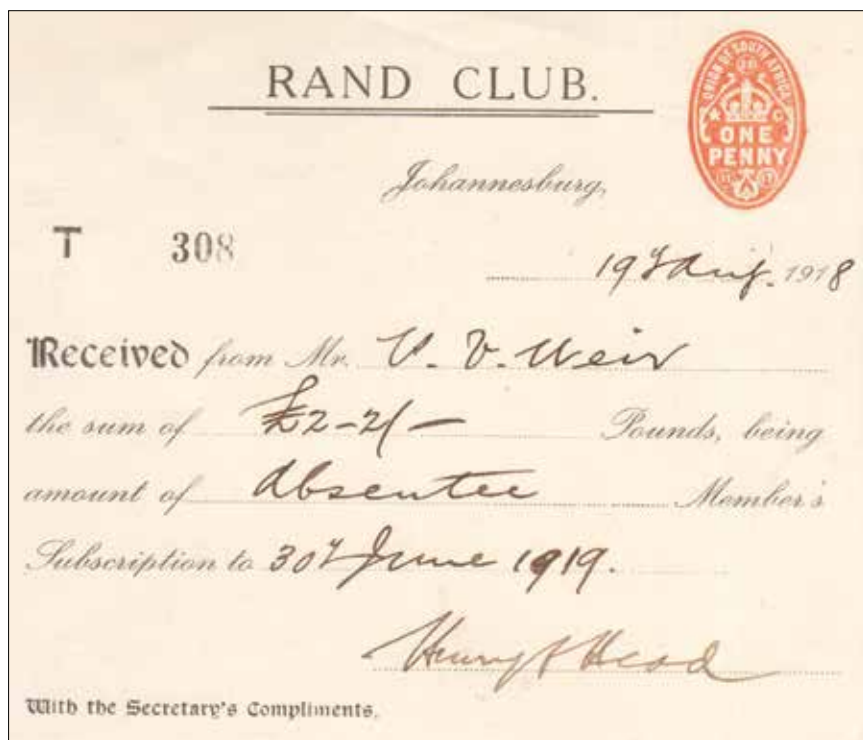


Fig.4: Receipt of the Rand Club dated 19 August 1918 with the impressed revenue stamp.

rate of duty, proxies and receipts" (fig.3,4). The Act also defined the defacement of revenue stamps: "An adhesive revenue stamp shall not be deemed duly stamped unless the person required by law to deface the stamp by writing or impressing in ink on or across the stamp his name or initials,

from that date until the King George V series appeared on 1 September 1913, were those previously current in the former colonies, bearing the head of King Edward VII.

Government Notice No. 349 dated 15 August 1910 stated: "Revenue stamps in authorised use on the 30th May 1910 in



Fig.5: Deed of Transfer originally lodged when Cape revenue stamps of £31 were affixed and cancelled in the Deeds Registry Office in Cape Town on 21 December 1911: £20 Standing Hope design, £10 Queen Victoria issue and a £1 Edward VII revenue stamp. Rare usage of the Cape £20 revenue stamp on document.

the four colonies are recognised as available throughout the Union" (fig.5) It also stated that, from 31 May 1910 until the publication of this notice, each of the former colonies use its own stamps. This notice removed any restrictions confining the use of postage and revenue stamps to the territorial boundaries of their original colonial use. This notice heralded the advent of so called 'Interprovincials': used over the period 1910-1913. However, the cancellation or manuscript showing the date is necessary for their identification. The custom then came about of collecting each of those stamps of the four colonies with a cancellation or manuscript showing the dates of what became known as the Interprovincial period (fig.6).

It was also stated that: "Nothing in this notice contained shall be taken as affecting the tariffs of stamp charges or duties in force in the four Colonies prior to Union, which, until altered by Parliament or other competent authority, remain in operation within the territorial limits to which they have hitherto applied"

According to reports of the Auditor-General in 1911, the Cape had the biggest stock of revenue stamps available. Cape revenue stamps were therefore used extensively during the Inter-provincial period throughout all the provinces of the Union of South Africa. These Cape revenue stamps



Fig.6: Combination of revenue stamps from all four the former Colonies Cape, Natal, Transvaal and Orange River Colony cancelled on 10 February 1913.

in Pretoria wrote a letter to the Secretary of Finance dated 15 July 1913, stating that he intended to immediately commence distribution some of these values from the new Union King's Head revenue issues (fig.8).

USE OF POSTAGE/REVENUE STAMPS DURING THE INTERPROVINCIAL PERIOD

In the Union of South Africa, many stamps bear the



Fig.7: Cape revenue stamp overprinted 'PENALTY' cancelled on 15 August 1911.

Some of the lower values of postage stamps (1/2d, 1d) of the different provinces comprising the Union of South Africa were dual purpose stamps and the words "Postage/Revenue" were printed on some of them. The Stamp Duties and Fees Act, No. 30 of 1911 stated that "in the case of any instrument to the duty of one penny, a postage stamp may be used for denoting the duty" (fig. 9).

CONCLUSION

The field of revenue collecting is vast but the stamps and labels of the Union of South Africa provide both the seasoned and the novice philatelist with an opportunity to start collecting something new and very interesting.

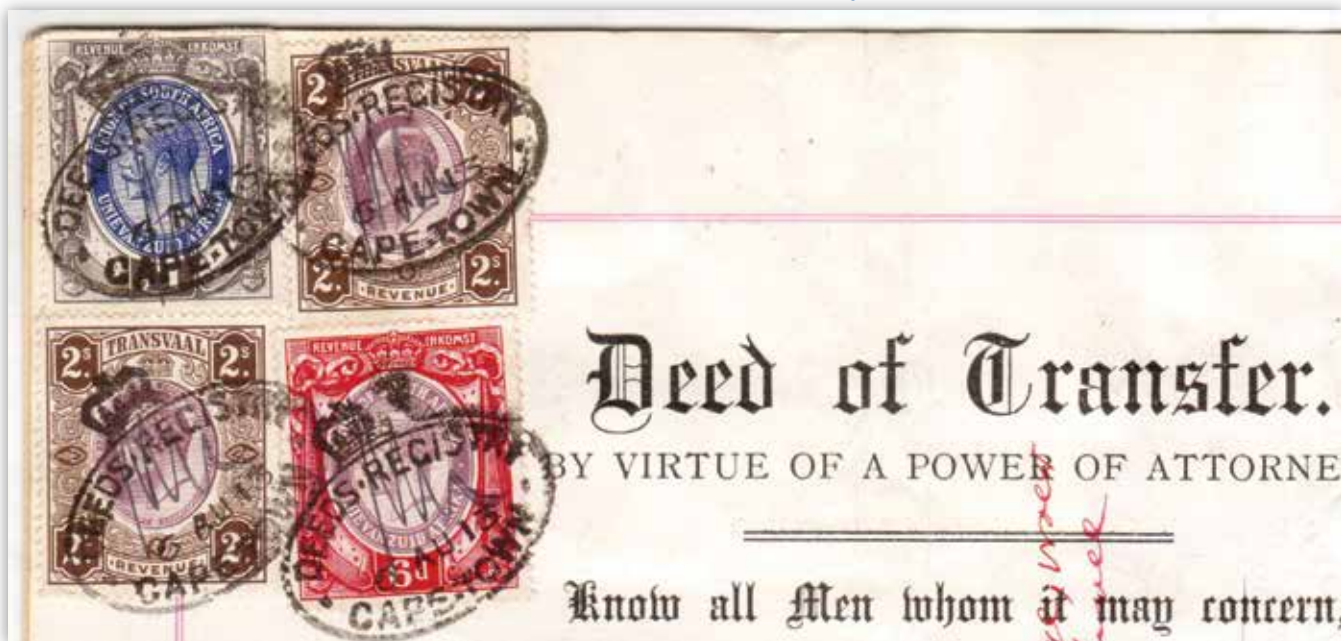


Fig. 8: Deed of Transfer lodged on the 6 August 1913 in Cape Town and stamped by two Transvaal 2/- stamps as well as a 6d and £1 stamps of the new King's Head series. The usage of the 6d and the £1 King's Head stamps was 25 days before the official release on 1 September 1913.

were therefore the only revenue stamps overprinted with 'PENALTY' (fig.7) except for the Transvaal 2/6d.

Towards the end of the Interprovincial period shortages developed in 3d, 6d & £1 revenue stamps. The Distributor of Stamps

inscription 'Postage & Revenue' indicating that they are valid for both postage and revenue purposes. The meaning of this inscription is simple - not only were these stamps valid for the payment of postage but they could also be used to pay certain small taxes or duties.

- In the next issue of *The SA Philatelist* the first three series of the revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa will be examined.
- The items illustrated in this article are all from the author's collection.



Fig.9: Receipt issued on 25 October 1910 in Zastron bearing an ORC 1d postage stamp used as a revenue stamp. (Reduced in size).

SOURCES:

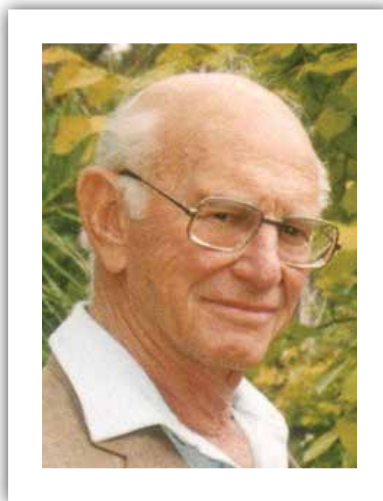
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OBITUARY

Dr Israel Reuwen (Issy) Yudaken 1924-2017

Issy was raised in Witbank, Transvaal and graduated from the Witwatersrand University with a medical degree; he then qualified as a specialist physician in the UK. He was a popular and brilliant doctor who solved patients' medical and personal problems in a most astute and professional manner. On retiring from his medical practice, Issy volunteered in a teaching capacity at the Helen Joseph Hospital, until the management decided that his 60+ years of experience were no longer needed, thus ending his lifelong association with medicine.

Issy was a serious philatelist and a home member of the SWA Stamp Study Group for close to 30 years. He compiled a number of formidable collections, including postal history of the German Shipping Lines, South West Africa and the German East Africa campaign. One of his many philatelic interests concerned the rubber cancels issued in 1916 to 36 South West African



post offices after the postal administration of German SWA, occupied in 1915 by South African forces, came under civilian control. His German shipping post collection focused on the route from Bremen or Hamburg to Japan and Australia with the various cancellations of Deutsche Seepost and Australische Hauptlinie and Ost-Asiatische Hauptlinie. With his interest in German shipping he

built up a superb collection of the Kaiserliche Marine and Ost Afrikanische Linie mail and town cancellations during the German East Africa period before the First World War. In the late 1990s the South African Military Mail Study Group was started and Issy was a regular participant, always showing interesting items that he had found and researched. He concentrated on the German East Africa campaign during World War I but also started a collection of South African forces in World War II. We will miss his wisdom and the general knowledge that he shared with us all.

His daughter Linda Rosenthal described her father as the most honest, upright, generous person with the highest moral standards and disciplined to the end. Although he will be sorely missed, there is some comfort in that he will be with Sheila, his beloved lifelong partner who passed away barely 5 months ago. We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

Compiled by Dr. Jim Findlay, RDPSA (S.A. Military Mail Study Group) and Dr. Uli Bantz (SWA Stamp Study Group).

Social Media and Face Book

by w, Edenvale Philatelic Society

The world is changing so fast that new technologies have to be embraced, else one risks losing ground in the global village. Our hobby is not dying but evolving at the same rapid pace. We have to adapt or fade away.

For example, a website was originally viewed as the ultimate global access point, but now this has changed. Websites do have their place for repositories of knowledge and statistical data, as well as the processing of transactions and business. Visitors tend to visit only when they need to and the biggest problem with information websites is that they tend to become stale very quickly. Unless the site is kept alive and vibrant with new material on a daily basis, they tend to wither and die. Websites, by their design, tend to be cumbersome beasts to manage with the need of a webmaster and maintenance.

Social media, and for this discussion, Facebook in particular, offers a different view into the online world. There are, as per the latest report, more than two billion Facebook users. Most, if not all, young folk have active accounts which are used on a daily basis for communication, entertainment, knowledge and other interaction. In fact, for many folk, this is the basis of a daily existence.

This is where stamp collecting comes into its own. The current way organized philately does its work is via a meeting, normally held once a month where club members can get together and interact and enjoy the hobby. It is still a crucial link between collectors. But, as time goes by, and as more mature collectors depart, this format will become more difficult to pursue and we can see this in the number of declining clubs. Stamp shops flourished a few decades ago. Today they are almost extinct – did the customers go? No, they evolved and many dealers with an online presence will tell you that up to 85% of their business is now conducted online. Picture a stamp club that is functioning 24/7. Its members can be from all over the world, from different time zones and have varied interests; many are too far away to get to a physical club. Now enter the Facebook page of the Edenvale Philatelic Society and the South African Stamp Study Circle, who joined forces here. We are fortunate to have exco members of the APS and other bodies in attendance, which ensures that questions get answered timeously and properly.

We offer ...

- members from all over the world.
- active and robust debate on stamp related issues.
- assistance in identification, and in some cases, opinion on value,
- and encourage our members to post and show their prized items.
- trading, as long as all parties understand that deals are between individuals. We keep an eye out to ensure that dodgy, or unsuitable, material is not passed on.
- advice and encourage South African collectors to join Federation affiliated societies with an explanation of the benefits.
- encouragement to new collectors in their endeavours to foster their growth in the hobby.
- new items of interest which are loaded on a daily basis for discussion, and for all to engage and enjoy.

We ensure that ...

- all posts are stamp related
- all new members are vetted and checked to ensure we only admit stamp collectors
- there is no form of abuse; transgressors get a warning followed by exclusion.

Running the page

I am online every morning at about 5am to ensure a daily item of interest is posted as well as to check posts that came in overnight. During the day members will post material and have discussions. In order to keep control, other members of the EPS act as administrators and moderators to ensure the page is monitored. I also go online during the evening to do a further review and round up.

Our prime objective is to act as a virtual club; to share knowledge; and foster growth. To achieve this we try and keep trading to a minimum as there are other websites that cater for this. In the early days, I had to do much of the work myself, but now I tend to watch a lot more from the side-lines, as members interact amongst themselves, with myself and other moderators acting as referees. Members can choose to receive e-mail notifications when new posts are made. This allows them to have a look and comment if they feel the need.

We have turned the page into a community of lovers of the hobby.



How to access Facebook

There are four pre-requisites:

- Access to a computer
- A fair knowledge of computers
- Access to the internet
- An internet browser, such as Chrome or Firefox, installed on the computer
- An e-mail address - Have a separate email address just for social media, so your usual email address is not broadcast and cannot be affected by social media


The quickest, and easiest, way to access the Edenvale Philatelic Society Facebook page is to Google the term. However, you will not be able to participate until you have created a Facebook account of your own and then applied for admission to the Edenvale PS Facebook page. A pop-up will automatically open asking you if you want to login or sign up.

Account set up

To create a Facebook account you need to go to the home page (www://facebook.com), or simply click on the 'sign up' button on the Edenvale PS Facebook page. When the Facebook homepage opens, complete all the details asked for and submit. An excellent 'How to use Facebook' can be found at www://wikihow.com/Use-Facebook. Novices are urged to work through this nine part tutorial before creating a Facebook account.

Costs involved

Setting up a Facebook account is free. However, you will need to pay for any data used, unless you have access to free Wi-Fi or have a generous employer who allows you to use work related computers for private use. Facebook can also be accessed on smart phones and iPads in much the same way as described here.

☺ "...if you have difficulty in accessing Facebook, ask your grandchildren to show you" 

Comic Corner

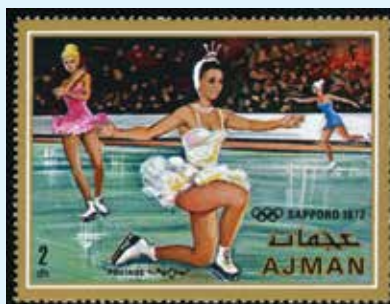
Stamps that make you SMILE

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

Episode 44 of: Errors on Stamps...

CHAOS ON ICE

The Emirate of Ajman issued an series of commemorative stamps for the Winter Olympics 1972 in Sapporo / Japan.



On the 2 Dirham stamp we see an attractive young lady in the foreground while two others are skating in the background.

The error is that for security reasons and for proper judging there will be only one ice skater performing at a time. A fact that might be unknown in a desert country with no ice.

'Corporate / personalised' stamps – a new dimension?

by Peter van der Molen, RDPSA Witwatersrand PS



A photo with a high contrast view of the stamp, as the white stamp on a white envelope is difficult to see from a scanned image.

Until recently, most private stamp issues were in fact issued stamps either placed in a miniature sheet with a private identification and/or message, or with an attached 'tab' which had no postal value – such as the 'Smilers' stamps. Lately some postal administrations are allowing private or corporate messages to appear on the actual stamps, which thus have a postal purpose and a very recent development appears to be to extend that to the cancellation of such stamps, as illustrated.

The stamp issued by 'b post' (the Belgian Post Office) features the logo of the Royal Philatelic Society London that was used to

frank a cover from the Society to me which arrived as regular mail in my postbox. In addition, the stamp is cancelled with a 'personalised' cancel marking the date of the Society's Annual General Meeting in London. I enquired about this franking arrangement and the Chairman of the RPSL Management Committee, Mr Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, most kindly provided the following explanation:

"The Belgian Post has a 'personalised stamp' department. You can have a photo or a logo reproduced on a stamp. Many countries do and charge twice the rate of the stamp for this. Belgian Post also develops 'personalised

cancels'. In Belgium, anyone can have it; abroad it should be linked to a philatelic happening. In that case, an employee of the Belgian Post attends the event to cancel any envelopes or souvenirs submitted to him. If one wishes the cancelled items to enter the mail system, he collects that particular mail and takes it in a post bag to Belgium, from where it is forwarded."

We hope this will be noted by the S.A. Philatelic Services.

**The US and New Zealand have personalised stamps that are postally valid as opposed to a tab added next to an ordinary stamp.*

JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

GRIQUALAND WEST



A rare incoming cover, with Du Toits Pan arrival oval date stamp for 'MY 17 1881' on reverse'

Address: P.O. Box 37324,
London N1 - 2YQ

Tel: 020 7226 1503 Fax: 020 7359 7456
email address: markjtaylor@btinternet.com



Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za

Confusion with post office names

Most South Africans are well aware that when the Union was formed in 1910 there were towns, and consequently post offices, with the same name. For example Middelburg and Heidelberg existed in both the Cape Province and Transvaal. All references to these offices normally contained the province as well.

David Allison, however, discovered that similar sounding names evidently resulted in mis-sorting of the mail as in the case of Robertson in the Cape and Robinson in the Transvaal. Robertson Post Office was first listed in 1856, as described in Volume 3 of the *Putzel Encyclopaedia*. While the Cape was still an independent postal entity most of the early date stamps had reference to the colony, but after Union this was stopped. Robinson, in Randfontein, was opened 4.12.1939, and the first date stamp shown as Fig.1a was probably issued at opening, without any province indication. However, in the 1953 post office listings the name was shown as Robinson, Tvl, and the next date stamp has the province indication as shown in Fig.1b. This office closed in 1995.

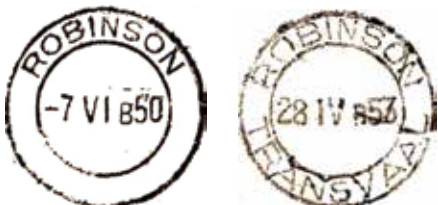


Fig.1a & b: Postmarks of Robinson.

To obtain a better perspective of when the different cancellers (Figs.2a to 2f) were used Table 1 was compiled which showed the recorded dates of use of the cancellers. Based on the recorded usage, the following can be seen from the Robertson date stamps:

- Fig.2b succeeded Fig.2a, as there was only about 1 year between latest and earliest dates of these date stamps.
- Fig.2d was the last date stamp without province, and Fig.2e the first with province. There was about a two month's gap between these cancellations, which suggests that the conversion took place during this period.
- The latest date the PAID date stamp shown in Fig.2g was recorded is 18.7.1952, which narrows the date of conversion.
- The possible range is also corroborated by the Robinson date stamps, although in this case the range is about 1 year.
- After the inclusion of CAPE in the Robertson date stamps in 1952 all date

stamps showed this or the postal code. After 1995 the distinction was of course no longer necessary, as Robinson had closed.

- There is one exception to this style, and that is for the 1975 Type V relief canceller shown as Fig.3a, which does not have CAPE, although the 1980 Type VI relief canceller, shown as Fig.3b, is correct.

Table 1. Recorded dates of cancellations around 1953 of Robertson and Robinson.

Figure number	Putzel number	Earliest date	Latest date
Robertson			
2a	12	11.8.1928	27.3.1933
2b	13	14.4.1934	6.7.1946
2c	14/14x	5.2.1941	26.11.1947
2d	15	7.3.1942	26.5.1952
2e	16	29.7.1952	18.11.1996
2f	17	25.8.1955	27.4.1978
2g	33x		18.7.1952
2h	33	28.8.1958	15.8.1978
Robinson			
1a	1	2.10.1940	8.4.1952
1b	2	28.4.1953	1.2.1955

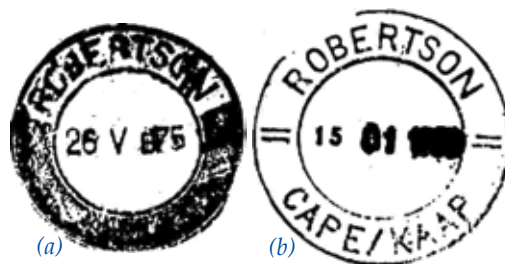


Fig. 3. Relief postmarks of Robertson.

From an analysis of the time sequence it was possible to support the deduction that Robertson and Robinson without a province caused a headache for the sorting staff. It was possible to identify when this occurred to within a 2 week period, namely 18.7.1952 to 29.7.1952 if we accept that the new date stamps were taken into service on the same day. Evaluation of other collections may narrow down the date range, and readers are invited to share their information, preferably by sending me a scan at 300 dpi.

A modern day riddle – further insight

The SAP had hardly arrived in the hands of readers when Dr Gerhard Kamffer sent me a note suggesting that Evanross is a combination of Evander and Kinross. None of my sources make this connection, and perhaps a reader can shed further light on this name.

Sestig jaar nadat die poskantoor skynbaar verplig was om die provinsie van Robertson en Robinson te gebruik omdat die possorteer personeel deurmekaar geraak het, word hierdie 'n saak wat bestudeer word. As dit nie vir die ondersoekende oog van David Allison was nie, sou ons miskien nooit daarvan gewete het nie. Die belangrikheid om hedendaagse gebeurtenisse te dokumenteer kan nie oorbeklemtoon word nie. En die terugvoer, soos die moontlike oorsprong van Evanross, word hoog op prys gestel.



Figure 2. Postmarks of Robertson.



BOFEX 2017 NATIONAL VIRTUAL ONE FRAME EXHIBITION – BLOEMFONTEIN

by Jan van Beukering, Organising Chairman

The BOFEX 2017, held at Kopano Nokeng in Bloemfontein, as part of the second Hobby Expo, drew 50 entries, of which six were withdrawn for various reasons. The remaining exhibits were judged by a strong 10-man accredited jury under very able chairmanship of Emil Minnaar RDPSA, who was also instrumental in preparing all the exhibits for inclusion in the PFSA website (Visit the website at stamps.org.za).

The website is now open for public viewing. As there are no medal classes in competitive one frame exhibitions, only a points system was used for judging.

Top scorer was the 'Entertainment tax in Russia' from Dr. Ian Matheson RDPSA with 91 points, followed by two 88 pointers, those of Dr Ross Marshall of the Wellington PS New Zealand – 'Russian Mail to Britain via Hamburg' and Malcolm Suttill of the

Royal Philatelic Society Cape Town with 'Great Britain - The Low Value Printing Changes of 1879'. Copies of these three entries are on the frames at SAPDAPEX 2017.

The exhibition attracted 15 foreign entries and was of high standard. As the jury members got an opportunity to study the exhibits allocated to them in detail on the website, the outcome of their 'verdicts' are discussed in detail, a chance which normal jurying at usual exhibitions is not afforded to jurors. These results and comments on exhibits are then likely to be more accurate.

Three large TV screens were set up by Emil Minnaar and his team, so viewers could select whatever exhibit they wished to see using a 'tablet' to project the material onto the TV screen.

A 'novelty' was proposed by Frans Massyn of the OFSPS, who manned a 'letter writing desk' where the public were invited to write a letter and prepare it in the 'old fashioned

way' with stationery provided by the society. The pens used were of the quill type complete with student desks and ink pots.

People had to literally train themselves again to write, before attempting the final 'product'. Support came from as far as a Spanish and Peruvian couple writing letters to their kin abroad, as well as a Mrs Lee Groenewald, who battled her way into the student desk while in her last weeks of pregnancy! Some fifty such letters were eventually posted, hopefully to reach their destinations? A novel idea which could be utilised to attract some interest in our hobby again. Well done Frans!

As the initial rough road has now been paved to stage future virtual exhibitions, interested societies can contact the writer or Emil Minnaar for advice and assistance with the arrangements. The intention is to have one National 'One frame' exhibition of this nature annually. Interested?



Joof van der Merwe at his desk



Richard Johnson and Francois Friend at their dealer stands



Frans Massyn and Ilse Smith



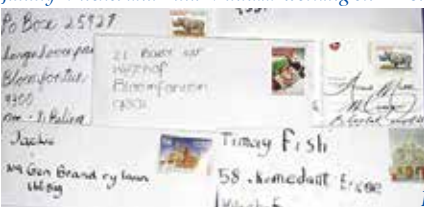
Organisers - Daniel & Tarryn Cronjé with Jan van Beukering



Jimmy Mitchel and Emil Minnaar working on TV stations and seen above with Tarryn & Daniel Cronjé



Youngsters at Francois Friends' free stamp box and, at left, trying out the letter writing with 'dip' pens.



Examples of letters from young and old

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

www.stamps.org

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

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

- a corrected final draft of the article in a 'text' document either on compact disk or emailed directly to the production editor, Janice Botes: janice@gdb.co.za

- scanned copies of the philatelic items for the submitted material, scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi emailed to the production editor or on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg.

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



Commissioner's report for 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition

by Francois Friend, Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

Introduction

The 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition was held from 3 to 7 August 2017 under the patronage of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) in the city of Bandung, Indonesia. Bandung is situated on the island Java, the world's most populous island, and Indonesia is the world's largest island country with more than seventeen thousand islands.

Bandung is located approximately 140km southeast of Jakarta, the nation's capital, and 768m above sea level resulting in cooler temperatures than most Indonesian cities throughout the year. The city lies on a river basin surrounded by volcanic mountains. The Dutch colonialists first established tea plantations around the mountains in the eighteenth century and Bandung gradually developed into a resort city for plantation owners. Luxurious hotels, restaurants, cafés and European boutiques were opened; hence the city was nicknamed the 'Paris of Java' (in Dutch the *Parijs van Java*).

After Indonesia declared independence in 1945 the city experienced rapid development and urbanisation, transforming Bandung from an idyllic town into a dense 16,500 people/km² metropolitan area, a living space for over 8,5 million people. Although the city has encountered many challenges (ranging from waste disposal and floods to a complicated traffic system and poor road infrastructure), Bandung still attracts large numbers of tourists, weekend sightseers and migrants from other parts of Indonesia.

Apart from the privilege of visiting international stamp exhibitions, like the one held in Bandung, and its associated pleasure of viewing world class exhibits and interaction with international participants in the stamp hobby; one is also afforded the opportunity to experience and observe good practices at such an exhibition, and to witness those issues/examples rather avoided. With the upcoming international exhibition in Cape Town in 2021 and also all the other national exhibitions in South Africa before and after that, the feedback in this report's main objective is to inform on such good practices and which to avoid.

Venue, accommodation and transport

The venue for the event, the Trans Convention Centre in Bandung, is stunning. The actual exhibition hall is large and beautiful - see Fig.1. Dealer stands were situated at one level below the exhibition hall and were well set out with sufficient space and good lighting at each booth. The bin room was also set out at the same level as the dealer stands but was



a bit small and not user-friendly. Rooms for jury and commissioner activities were made available in meeting rooms, another level lower. The only deleterious aspect of the exhibition venue was its location in a part of Bandung not well suited for international events as there were not that many places of interest within short distances

from the exhibition venue, none whatsoever within walking distance. (One of the pleasures associated with international travel is to view new surroundings and places of interest on foot during 'off' periods, something that was unfortunately not really available for this venue. I believe the Peruvian commissioner summed it up well, "it is as if the venue is in a bubble - it does not fit its surroundings".)

The two hotels (the one a luxury hotel the other an economy hotel) providing accommodation for the event were interconnected with the convention centre allowing easy access (albeit sometimes confusing) to all activities of the event. Although the weather was excellent for



Fig.1: The exhibition hall at the 2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition.

the duration of the event, this was a very good setup in case of foul weather and something all exhibitions should consider, if practically possible. Commissioners and judges were accommodated in the economy hotel and unfortunately the standard of the hotel neither matched that of the event nor what one would expect from such an international occasion.

Transport was a major issue at the start of the exhibition. This included from the airport to the venue on arrival, as well as for the opening ceremony. Insufficient provision of transport coupled with an almost walking speed flow of traffic in the city were severe challenges. However, these were suitably addressed on the night of the Palmares when more than ample transport, coupled with police escort, made the travelling to the glamour evening quite exciting and enjoyable.

Exhibit travails and the exhibition

The preparations for custom clearance of the exhibits in Indonesia were quite extensive and prepared one for anticipated long and drawn out inspection periods. However, this did not happen and the actual clearance at the airport on arrival went quite smoothly. Unfortunately the same could not be said for the return at the airport where a number of commissioners waited nearly three hours after arrival for custom officials to arrive. (But the wait was worth it to see the extensive operation that followed upon their arrival - the removal of the security plastic wrapping around a relevant suitcase via a sharp object and then to be told that was it, one can go.) Note though that the period from taking down exhibits until final clearance at the airport was quite worrisome as customs took possession of the exhibits at the bin room and then only handed them to relevant commissioners at the airport the following day. During this time some exhibits were left unattended at the airport without any security supervision (fortunately by this time the Peruvian and South African Commissioners already had their exhibits with them, albeit fully wrapped in plastic).

There were 450 exhibits at this event resulting in approximately 1,900 frames. The frames were of the A-frame type and resulted in extremely easy mounting and dismounting (although the protruding legs resulted in a small number of tripping from viewers). Assistance by volunteers during mounting and dismounting was excellent, with frames secured via screws and security stickers. The spacing around the exhibits was sufficient to accommodate a number

of people at a frame, and the lighting inside the exhibition hall quite good. The exhibition was very well attended and various forms of activities/promotions were held, aimed at the public at large. This included, inter alia, new stamp issues by the national postal services to commemorate the exhibition and the issue of a small book in which a person could obtain datestamps for different countries represented at the exhibition. (*Commonly know as a Philatelic Passport - Ed.*)

In total there were exhibits from 55 countries with the biggest number of exhibitors from the home nation Indonesia; 48 exhibits, followed by Japan; 28 exhibits, China; 23 exhibits and the Netherlands; 20 exhibits. All relevant information was contained in the exhibition catalogue. The printing of this catalogue, along with the Palmares catalogue, certificates and various invitations during the event, was exceptional - really an excellent example for all future exhibitions.

Results and jury comments

South Africa entered four exhibits and the individual results are given in Table 1. Apart from the exhibits South Africa was also represented by Emil Minnaar RDPSA on the panel of judges.

Table 1 Results of South African exhibits at the

Exhibitor	Title of exhibit	Class	Total	Medal
Andrew Fischer	British South African Company postal stationery	postal stationery	80	vermeil
Andrew Fischer	Transkei: commemoratives of the first ten years	modern	63	bronze
Francois Friend	King George V stamps of St Helena (1912 - 1937)	traditional	86	large vermeil
Herwig Küssing	Germany - mail postilion on postcard	postal stationery	75	large silver

2017 Bandung World Stamp Exhibition.

The publication of jury results and subsequent engagements with jury members followed the normal way of events at international exhibitions, and some national exhibitions. The succeeding comments and related recommendations are not a reflection on the Bandung exhibition, although it was confirmed at the event, but based on the archaic practice of judging employed at most international exhibitions. Results are published per country with relevant marks obtained given as four 'scores'. These scores represent the FIP breakdown of marks according to treatment and philatelic importance (30 points), philatelic and related knowledge, personal study and research (35 points), condition and rarity (30 points) and presentation (5 points). No individual (per exhibit) mark sheet was available and for further feedback on relevant scores one has to 'obtain' the time from a judge (no easy matter, as discussed later) for feedback and final breakdown of the marks.

Now, with the advent of computers and laptops being easily available it surely cannot be such a difficult matter to have proforma mark sheets prepared for an exhibition (before judging starts) that contain the relevant juror(s) name(s), a complete breakdown of points, plus provide a couple of remarks/guidelines per individual exhibit? The complete breakdown of marks achieved (the judges in any case have this available so why not provide it from the onset?) should thus be philatelic importance (10 points), treatment (20 points), philatelic knowledge (35 points), condition (10 points), rarity (20 points) and treatment (5 points). Failure to do so is good cause for conspiracy theorists believing that the main reason for not issuing such individual reports is to negate any proof of future inconsistencies.

The biggest drawback of jury reporting is the illogical way in which commissioners/exhibitors need to obtain feedback on exhibits. The current method is that jury members are supposedly available during a certain period of time the day following the publishing of results for providing feedback on exhibits. While this does not even sound good in theory, in practice this method is completely nonsensical as the actual result is commissioners/exhibitors walking

from frame aisle to frame aisle trying, first of all, to determine who the relevant juror is they should be talking to, and then, try and find that relevant juror. Case in point, in four hours it was impossible to determine and find the responsible juror for modern exhibits in Bandung. Not that traditional class fared any better. After finding the relevant juror after two hours, it took another hour to eventually have him in front of the relevant exhibit. At that stage he appeared so tired, and communicated as such, that one can use that as an excuse for his apparent lack of knowledge on the relevant British Commonwealth exhibit conveyed through non-sharp comments. (Fortunately another juror was roped in who provided some solid and sensible feedback on the particular exhibit). Surely the most simplistic, easy and logical way would be to prepare a schedule of five to ten minute slots for each applicable juror and then for relevant commissioners/exhibitors to fill in their name at a suitable slot if they so wish to see a particular juror?

Final comment on the Bandung exhibition with regard to the jury. When asked the question: "What is the most important requirement of an exhibit?", jurors and exhibitors gave all different 'feel good' answers. However, it must be to 'see' an exhibit, failure of which negates any reason to exhibit? The reason for this was the jury's eventual winner of the Grand Prix International award - the exhibit was protected in near-opaque covers making the actual viewing of the exhibit cumbersome. Not that this was the case in this instance, but such near-opaque covers also allow the 'hiding' of flaws in material shown (or as one commissioner commented on the case, one can't be sure the actual stamps are 'in' there). Exhibits making use of such near-opaque covers should attract a penalty of at least 5 - 10%, otherwise why exhibit if people cannot see it? (If the reason behind the use of the covers was to 'protect' the material shown, this was first of all not a harsh environment for stamps and secondly, if that is the case the material should be stored in one or other museum as one in any case cannot see it clearly.)

Palmares and medals

The Palmares, held on Sunday 6 August 2017, at the Landmark Convention Centre in Braga, Bandung. The whole event, from arriving via luxury bus under police escort until returning to the hotel via the same method was a wonderful experience. Albeit that prize giving was a slightly prolonged affair, the food, entertainment and everything else in relation to the Palmares

was well planned and executed. Only large gold and gold medal winners received their awards at the Palmares and in the case of such international exhibitions this is highly recommended as there were in total 21 large gold and 65 gold medals awarded. The medals themselves were beautiful and heavy (seen from a 'pack-horse's' perspective that had to cart all the South African medals back home). All the medals were the same, irrespective of award, and unfortunately none were engraved; which was a bit disappointing. Finally, at the end of the evening one of the best experiences of the Palmares - one received the photos taken during arrival at the event in the form of a miniature sheet with the personal photographs represented as stamps on the miniature sheet, illustrated in Fig.2. Really very very cool.



Fig.2: Personalised miniature sheet issued at the Palmares.

Final comments and acknowledgements

Attending such an international exhibition as South African Commissioner to the event is not only a privilege but also represents an opportunity to witness world class exhibits, interact with various representatives from a myriad of countries, and to see how such events function. One can only wish that this report in some way highlights good and other practices for such international exhibitions to provide some guidance for similar future events in South Africa. I wish to thank Emil Minnaar and Andrew Fischer for their guidance and support during this assignment, and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa who nominated me for this event and paid for my trip.



The Rotogravure, Unhyphenated Springbok 1/2d Stamps - Identification of the Key Pieces*

by Dr Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

There were three issues of the unhyphenated Springbok 1/2d stamp, produced by rotogravure.

Issue	Date	Cylinders	Watermark
1	May 1931	(1)+(1x)	Upright
2	1932	(1)+(2x)	Upright and inverted
3	June 1934	(2)+(3x)	Upright

The identification of the key pieces in the three issues can be difficult, but the following information will help make the task easier.

1. The watermark. If the watermark is inverted the piece belongs to Issue 2, but the inverse is not true.
2. There are two printings in Issue 2 that are immediately identifiable by looking at the buck's head. The third printing of Issue 2 had the vignettes in a soft grey colour which led to the erroneous conclusion that the cylinder had been treated in some way and this became known as the 'Cleaned Plate' printing. In the fourth printing, a different but still greyish ink was used, which combined with the worn condition of the cylinder gave rise to a different appearance of the buck's horns. This became known as the Splintered Horns printing.



Fig. 1. Normal Print Cleaned Plate Splintered Horns

3. There are smudges on the left margin of the sheet in Issue 2.
4. The presence or absence of varieties, as described below will enable all the key pieces to be placed in the correct issue.

Top Left Corner



Step 1: Is V4 present? (V4. Row 1/1: Small horizontal black mark above 'DA' of 'SUIDAFRIKA')

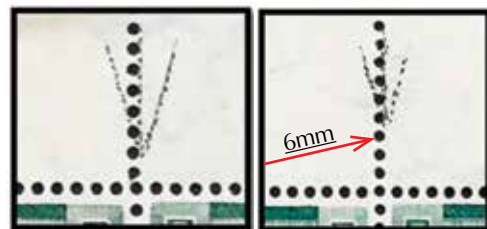
- Yes = Issue 1 or 2. Go to Step 2
- No = Issue 3



Step 2: V4 is present (Issue 1 or 2).
Row 1/1. Is there a white flaw above the 'S' of 'SUIDAFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 1
- No = Issue 2

Top Arrow

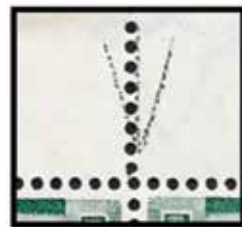


Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

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

In Issues 1 and 3, the arrow is 3mm from the stamp, while in Issue 2, the arrow is 6mm from the stamp.

Top Arrow



Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp (Issue 1 or 3).

Are the side barbs of the arrow long or short?
Long = Issue 1.
Short = Issue 3.

Top right corner



Step 1: is V5 present?

(V5.R1/11. Small green dot on left gutter)

- Yes= Issue 1. • No = Go to Step 2.



Step 2: V5 is absent (Issue 2 or 3)

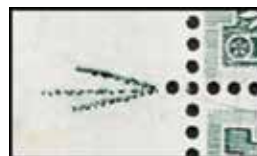
Is V6 present? (V6. R1/11. (Green dot in right gutter)

- Yes = Issue 2
- No = Issue 3



Issue 3 can be confirmed by a green dotted line near the bottom right corner of R1/12.

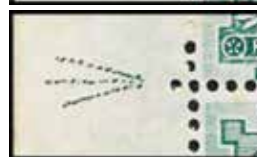
Left Arrow



Issues 1. 3mm



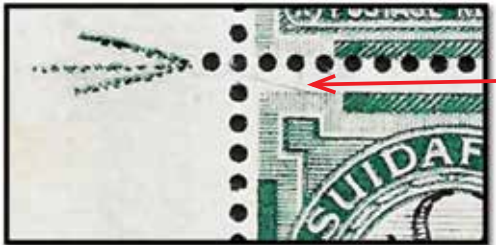
Issue 2. 6.5 mm



Issue 3. 4.5 mm

Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

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

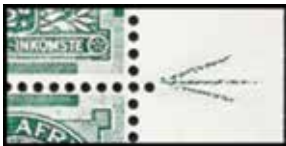


Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp
(Issue 1 or 3).

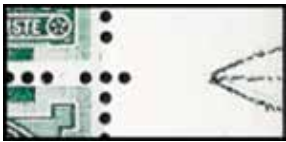
R11/1. Is there a sloping green line in the top left corner?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Issue 3.

Right Arrow



Issue 1. 3mm



Issue 2. 8mm



Issue 3. 2.5mm

Step 1: Is the arrow close to the stamp?

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



Step 2: The arrow is close to the stamp
(Issue 1 or 3).

R11/12. Is there a green dot above the 'R' of 'AFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Issue 3.

Bottom Left Corner



Step 1: R20/1.

Is there a tail on the 'R' of 'Revenue'?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2.



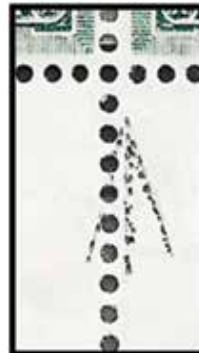
Step 2: R20/1. There is no tail on the 'R' of 'Revenue' (Issue 2 or 3)

R20/1. Is there a triangular white flaw below the 'R' of 'AFRICA'?

- Yes = Issue 2. *
- No = Issue 3.

* This flaw may be absent in the 'Cleaned Plate' and the 'Splintered Horns' print, but the pieces are identifiable by looking at the vignette.

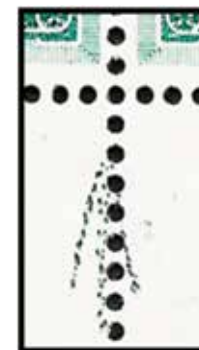
Bottom Arrow



Issue 1. 3mm



Issue 2. 3mm



Issue 3. 5mm

Step 1: Are the side barbs of the arrow long?

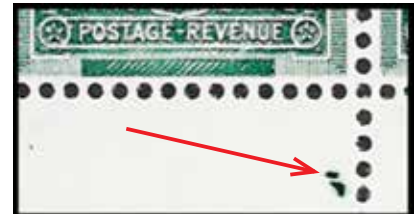
- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2

Step 2: The side barbs of the arrow are short (Issue 2 or 3).

Is the arrow shifted left?

- Yes = Issue 3.
- No = Issue 2.

Bottom Right Corner



Step 1: R20/11. Are there green smudges below the stamp?

- Yes = Issue 1.
- No = Go to Step 2.



Step 2: There are no smudges below R20/11 (Issues 2 or 3).

R20/12. Is there thickening in the line above the 'F' of 'SUIDAFRIKA'?

- Yes = Issue 2.
- No = Issue 3.

Summary

In trying to allocate a particular piece to the correct issue, the following steps are recommended.

Step 1: Does the piece belong to the 'Cleaned Plate' or the 'Splintered Horns' Printing?

If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 2: Are there smudges in the left margin?

If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 3: Is the watermark inverted?

If so, the piece belongs to Issue 2.

Step 4: Consult the list of varieties above

**EDITORIAL NOTE:*

'Old-time' Union collectors strove to assemble 'miniature-sheets' comprising the eight 'Key pieces', i.e. the four corner blocks and the four arrow blocks, preferably in blocks of four.





BUZZING AROUND

Writing this on 1st September, Spring has now officially sprung - the willows are green, the peach blossoms are out and a pair of Hadedas strut about collecting twigs to refurbish the untidy nest they build every year in one of our big trees.

Unfortunately, we also have a swarm of bees that has returned to a hole in the garage wall, trying to re-establish the colony they had there a few years back. A beekeeper closed the gap but said other bees could return to the same spot in the future and he was right. Quite a few scouts are buzzing around trying to find an entrance to their old 'homestead', from which they were unceremoniously banished one dark night. Isn't it amazing that after such a long time, the residue smell of honey or other 'bee-odours' can still attract others to the same spot? Bees are fascinating creatures and here are a few more facts about them that you may enjoy. See also the SAPO *Bees for Africa* sheetlet on page 175 in our New Issue feature.

The best known bee is the common European Honeybee or *Apis mellifera* (Fig.1). Bees live in colonies which may contain up to fifty thousand inhabitants. Today they mainly live in domesticated hives, but when these become too crowded, some bees will move to a new location - perhaps a hollow tree, under house eaves or in my garage wall. The hive is filled with vertical combs of wax secreted by the bees formed in perfect hexagonal cells (Fig.2).

The art of beekeeping is called apiculture and stems from ancient times. Three castes of bees inhabit the hive - a queen, the drones and worker bees (Fig.3).

The Queen is larger than the worker bees and although longer than the drones, she is not as broad. As a larva, the queen is fed only royal jelly and hence attains her bigger size and dominant position. She plays a purely reproductive role and is the mother of all the bees.

Drones serve as potential mates for the queen but when the nectar supply runs low and honey production stops, the worker bees prevent the drones from eating and when weakened, the workers carry the drones from the hive and leave them outside to die.

Worker bees feed and care for the larvae (Fig.4). They also produce the beeswax and clean, ventilate and guard the hive. Worker bees also collect water, nectar and pollen from

which they make the honey.

Bees are extremely susceptible to extremes of temperature. When the outside temperature is too high, the workers fan the air in the hive with their wings to cool it down. At low temperatures they can't fly and instead huddle together in a 'dormant' state to conserve heat and energy.

In areas where the climate is temperate all year round, summer activities continue and no dormant sequence occurs. The queen needs the temperature in the hive to reach about 32°C to begin laying her eggs. In late spring, the hive becomes over-crowded and some bees begin to swarm and leave the hive with the 'old' queen to establish a new colony (Fig.5). The new queen then takes over the hive.

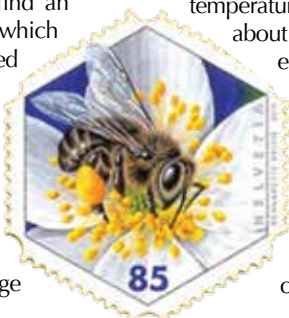


Fig.1: The Honey Bee - note the bulging pollen sac



Fig.2: Perfect hexagonal cells of wax



Fig.3: Bee castes within the hive

In summer when there is an abundance of nectar-producing flowers, scouts head out to find the rich food sources. On their return to the hive they perform a 'waggle' dance which gives extraordinarily accurate directions to the crop of flowers (Fig.6). The scouts also bring back a sample of

the nectar for the others, who then search for the same nectar. Honey consists of nectar (for energy) and pollen (protein and nutrients) and is the food source for the larvae.



Fig.4: Caring for the larvae



Fig.5: A new colony is formed



Fig.7: Collecting



Fig.6: The 'waggle dance'

Nectar is a watery solution of mainly fructose, glucose and sucrose, with the sugar content depending on the type of flower, soil condition and moisture in the air.

Obviously the bees will go for high sugar content flowers and avoid plants that offer less than 15% sugar content in the nectar. Nectar is changed into honey by enzymes in the salivary glands of the worker bees, when the water content evaporates and the sugar content reaches about 80%.

Collecting the honey requires the beekeeper to protect himself with a hat, veil and gloves (Fig.7). A cool, overcast day is the best time to work and a smoke source helps to keep the bees calm. The apiarist who removed the

bees from our garden preferred to work in the early evening when the bees were 'asleep'.

Bees play a crucial role in the pollination of plants to produce seeds and fruit. Vegetables, fruit trees, legumes, clovers - all rely on insect pollination and on bees in particular. Bees have a number of natural predators like the honey badger and bee-eaters

but these are insignificant when compared to the devastating effects of humans. Rapid urbanization has destroyed the bees' natural habitat, whilst climate change has resulted in the spread of drought conditions in many countries. With the use of herbicides to control weeds and kill pests in cultivated crops and

at roadsides, pollinators are also destroyed. When there are no bees left how will mankind survive? The time is now to save our bees (Fig.8).



Fig.8: Save our bees!

REFERENCES:

- Wikipedia
- Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol 3.
- Postage stamps from Botswana, Fiji, Helvetia, Israel, Poland, Royal Mail, USA.

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Swaziland 1961: The 50c on 5/- Decimal Surcharge

by Dr Lawrence Barit, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



The Context

When in Swaziland the currency was converted on 14 February 1961 to Rands and Cents from the prior Sterling system of Pounds, Shillings and Pence, at the rate of £1 = 2 Rand, some of the lower stamp duties had already been printed in decimal currency in anticipation of the new currency, but probably in the interest of economy, all available stocks of stamps denominated in Imperial Currency were surcharged with their decimal equivalent value, except for the 1/3d duty. These surcharged stamps were issued on 14 February 1961 and when exhausted, were replaced by the definitive duties where available..

The surcharging was done by the South African Government Printer in Pretoria. The lowest value was ½c on the ½d stamp, whilst the highest value was R2 on the £1 stamp. One of these stamps was the new 50 cent value, surcharged on the 5/- (deep lilac and slate-black) stamp, which depicted a Swazi Warrior together with the head of Queen Elizabeth II. This 5/- stamp was originally issued as part of the Swaziland definitive set on 2 July 1956 (Fig.1).

The 50c Surcharge Types

The initial 50c surcharge - known as Type I - was soon followed by a second surcharging on the 5/- stamp taking place. The second surcharge had a different typeface known as Type II. This was followed by a third surcharge - known as Type III - which was to become the most valuable of all the decimal surcharges (excluding errors and varieties) of the 1961 Swaziland surcharged set.

The surcharging of the 50c value could roughly match what van der Molen (2013 p285) described as 'three waves of surcharging'. Van der Molen described what took place as follows: "(The first surcharging was) on the stocks of stamps held at the Union Post Office Store at Pretoria. (The second surcharging) on



Fig.1: 5/- original stamp from the 2 July 1956 set



Fig.2: 50c on 5/- Type I

(900 sheets of 60 stamps) whilst 16,260 stamps (271 sheets) were destroyed when the issue was withdrawn, leaving a total number of 37,740 stamps sold.

Due to the irregular trim of the original 5/- sheets, the exact position on the sheet of the 50c surcharge varied (Fig.3). There are numerous such examples of the 50c on 5/- Type I stamps, where the surcharge position varied from stamp to stamp. Fig.4 illustrates a pair where the shift goes into the margin.



Fig.4: 50c on 5/- Type I

the stocks held at the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau in London which were sent to Pretoria and (the third) on the stocks which were returned from the Post Offices in the territory after Decimalisation Day". A contributory reason for the three surcharging could be to avoid a shortage of the 50c surcharged stamps because that duty was one of the last to be reprinted with the 50c denomination by Bradbury Wilkinson in England.

50c on 5/- Type I

This was the original surcharge issued on 14 February 1961. Known as Type I (Fig.2) the surcharge was in 18pt. Tempo Bold. A total of 54,000 stamps



Fig.3: 50c on 5/- Type I

Further Fig.5 illustrates the bottom row of six 50c on 5/- stamps, together with margins. It can be clearly seen that the 50c surcharge slants slightly upwards, giving a 1.5mm rise. The reason is likely due to a possible out of square trim or in-feed of the original sheet.

50c on 5/- Type II

This surcharge appeared on a short run of a 110 sheets of 60 stamps, totalling 6,600 stamps. (Fig.6), the surcharge typeface was 18pt. Bodoni. The surcharge position was middle left.



Fig.6: 50c on 5/- Type II

On at least two sheets this Type II exists with the surcharge placed bottom left and not middle left where the printing was meant to be. Van der Molen (*Swaziland Philately to 1968*) states that these stamps "are believed to have originated from a 'trial sheet'". It

does however appear that there must have been at least two of these trial sheets. The reason is that there is a 'spacing error' in row 7, where the vertical spacing between surcharges in row 6 and 7 is 37.5mm and between row 7 and 8 is 33.5mm. (Fig.7). The result is that the surcharge on row 7 vertically straddles

the perforation. Only one sheet of this error is believed to exist since this 'spacing error' does not exist on the second discovered sheet. The reason why these 'trial sheets' made their way onto the market is believed to be the result of the Government Printer in Pretoria returning each and every sheet supplied, to Swaziland which would include sheets which were meant to have been destroyed, once they reached the Swaziland postal authorities, and not distributed. Somehow these two sheets found their way onto the market. Hence, a maximum of 120 of these stamps with surcharge placed bottom left can exist,



Fig.5: 50c on 5/- Type I



Fig.7: 50c on 5/-Type II, spacing error assuming there were no more than two sheets.

50c on 5/- Type III

For some unknown reason a small quantity of 6 sheets were surcharged with a new type face (Fig.8). It is believed that in an attempt to utilize all existing remaining stock of certain values, the Government Printer in Pretoria was instructed to surcharge whatever sheets were left over with the designated new decimal value. These 6 sheets were so surcharged with the 18pt. Tempo Medium typeface.

Franco Frescura, writing in the 1978 *Robemark Catalogue Handbook of the Stamps of Swaziland* stated: "The Type III was limited to an issue of a mere six sheets giving a maximum possible of 360 stamps which could be in existence. These stamps were placed on sale to the public and four sheets had been used up on postal matter and telegrams before the difference was noticed. Of the remaining two sheets, some stamps were found to be creased so that the number of the existing mint stamps can be little more than one hundred".

This can be compared to what P.N. Bullivant writing in the 'Shelley Catalogue of the Decimal Surcharges on the Stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland', published in November 1968 had stated: "Of 360 copies of the 50c Type III only two sheets of 60 are thought to have been made available for postal use and of those some were found to be either creased or damaged".



Fig.8: 50c on 5/-Type III



Fig.9: 50c on 5/-Type III with short 'c' (in bottom loop)

hand side on one of the stamps on the sheet. This could be rather unique, with respect to the 50c on 5s Type III, as only six could exist. In the light of less than two sheets being discovered, the chance of more than two of this 'fish hook' example existing is slim. Fig.10 illustrates this 'fish hook' in the right hand frame.



Fig.10: 50c on 5/-Type III with 'fish hook'

This 50c Type III surcharge has become the show piece of the 1961 Swaziland decimal surcharges. It is also recognised as the rarest of all the standard surcharges which occurred with respect to the three British Protectorates - namely Swaziland, Basutoland and Bechuanaland - during the process of decimalisation of their currencies in 1961. This needless to say excludes any errors and varieties.

The question still remains as to why there was such a limited number of this particular surcharge? Why by way of example was the previous run (Type II) not increased by the remaining six sheets, assuming that there

were only six sheets left? Also why after a total of 76,860 stamps of this denomination were printed was it necessary to print a further six sheets? Van der Molen's hypothesis of the 'three waves of surcharging' noted earlier appears to be the only possible answer. However the result is that the 50c on 5/- Type III has become one of the rarest of the standard (ie non-error) surcharges, and in many instances the 'face' of the Swaziland decimal surcharges.

The 50c Definitive:

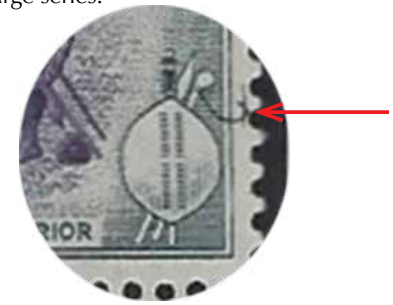
The surcharge process of the 50c value, was followed by the issue of a 50c definitive stamp, on 10 September 1961 (Fig.11), nearly seven months after decimalisation.




Fig.11: 50c definitive issue

Summing-up:

The 50c on 5/- Swaziland decimal surcharge makes for an interesting study. Three separate surcharges exist with the show piece being the Type III 50c value. In addition the small trial run of Type II adds further interest to this 50c value. Of all the decimal surcharges, the 50c value Type III, in terms of standard surcharges, has received the greatest attention and further has achieved the highest value. It has become a key item in any collection of Swaziland stamps especially with respect to the 1961 decimal surcharge series.



References:

1. Bullivant P.N; *The Shelley Catalogue of the Decimal Surcharges of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland*, Stamp Collecting Ltd, London November 1962.
2. Frescura, Franco. *The Provisional Decimal Surcharges of Swaziland*, ca. 1980, published in the Robemark Catalogue.
3. Stanley Gibbons. *Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Southern and Central Africa*. 2nd Edition 2014 London.
4. Stanley Gibbons. *Stamp Catalogue. 2017 Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps. 1840-1970* London.
5. Van der Molen, Peter. *Swaziland Philately to 1968*. 2013 London.
6. Van der Molen, Peter. *Unpublished copies of his 1961 Decimal Surcharge Exhibits*. 

Punch Magazine's Anti-Graham Campaign of the 1840s

by Dr Robert McLennan-Smith, Highway Philatelic Society



In 1844 it came to the attention of the British public that the Foreign Office was intercepting and reading mail under the auspices of the Secretary of the Home Office, Sir James Graham (fig.1). The campaign against mail interception started with the MP Thomas Slingsby Duncombe (fig.2), and was taken on by *Punch Magazine* and one of its illustrators, John Leech (fig.3).

Sir James Graham was a British Statesman and Member of Parliament from 1818 until his death in 1861 (fig.4). He held the positions of 1st Lord of the Admiralty 1830 - 1834 and Secretary of the Home Office



Fig.1: A portrait of Sir James Graham

one of the most popular early Mulready Caricatures, Fore's Comic Envelope No.1 (fig.6).

The *Punch* 'Anti-Graham' design shows various scenes of midgets in top hats, some with wings, spying on people, reading letters over their shoulders, intercepting their mails and opening them (fig.7). At the feet of Britannia is a snake in the grass with the head of Sir James Graham. Below the snake is the name W.J. Linton (fig.8), who engraved the design. William James Linton was a famous English born American wood engraver, author, painter and political reformer. In 1844 he was prominent in exposing the violation by the Post Office of

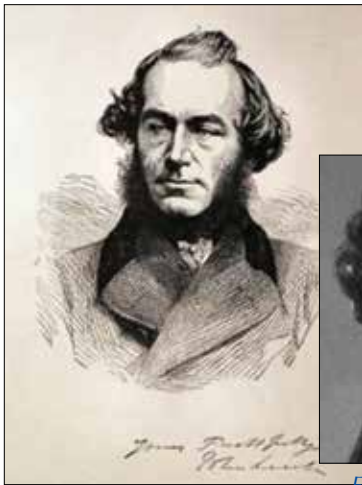


Fig.3: John Leech



Fig.2: Thomas Slingsby Duncombe, MP.

directing letters to be opened. Giuseppe Mazzini (1805 - 1872) was an Italian politician and journalist who spearheaded the Italian Revolutionary Movement to unify Italy from its several separate states, many of which were dominated by foreign powers. When he became aware of the Home Office interception of his mail and the consequences,

he took it up with the British Parliament and gained support from the outraged Liberals, the general public and the British press, led by *Punch Magazine*.

Punch approached John Leech, one of its artists, to design an Anti-Graham envelope. Leech was well known as the designer of



Fig.5: Photograph of Giuseppe Mazzini by Domenico Lama

1841 - 1846.

In June 1844 another MP, Thomas Slingsby Duncombe announced in Parliament that the Home Office under the control of Sir James Graham was intercepting and copying mail at the St Martins le Grand Central Post Office in London.

The letters that were opened were addressed to the Italian freedom fighter and refugee, Giuseppe Mazzini (fig.5). These letters had been sent by his followers in Corfu, Emilio and Attilio Bandiera. The contents disclosed their plan to take part in an armed attack on Calabria in south west Italy. When they landed at the pre-arranged beach, they were arrested and executed by soldiers from the Neapolitan Government.

Duncombe told parliament that these killings were a direct result of the mail interception by the Home Office which had then informed the Austrian and Neapolitan Governments of the planned insurrection. Graham vigorously defended his actions, stating that his department had the power to issue warrants



Fig.4: A personalised envelope sent by Sir James Graham with a parliamentary free franking handstamp of 5th September 1836.



Fig.6: Fore's Comic Envelope No. 1 by John Leech sent from Belfast to Cork on 6th Nov 1840 with a 1d Black plate 1b, which has been lifted and replaced, and cancelled by a red Maltese Cross.



Fig.7: Design 1 of Punch's Anti-Graham envelope by John Leech. It is franked with an 1844 imperforate 1d Red plate 4 2 and cancelled with the 1844 numbered obliterator of Exeter. On the rear there are circular datestamps of Exeter and the receiving office of Lewes dated 18th August 1844.



Fig.8: William James Linton

Mazzini's correspondence. This led to a long standing friendship with Mazzini.

The *Punch* 'Anti-Graham' Envelope comes in two designs. Design 2 is without the inscription at the top (fig.9). At the same time as the envelope *Punch* also produced a sheet of 'Anti-Graham' Wafers initiated by Henry Mayhew, to be used to seal envelopes with 'extra strong' adhesive on the rear to make it more difficult to open by the Post Office (fig.10).

The design, drawn by H.G Hine, is of sixteen green wafers with differing inscriptions relating to mail tampering. They are surrounded by a design in brown with witty scenes of letter opening and another snake in the grass (fig.11). The wafers are gummed on the reverse. The sheet was published by *Punch* in 1844 and sold for 2d. A later sheet was produced in 1850

in a pale green. The campaign had the desired effect and the Post Office interceptions ceased but Sir James Graham managed to keep his job as Home Secretary for a further two years!

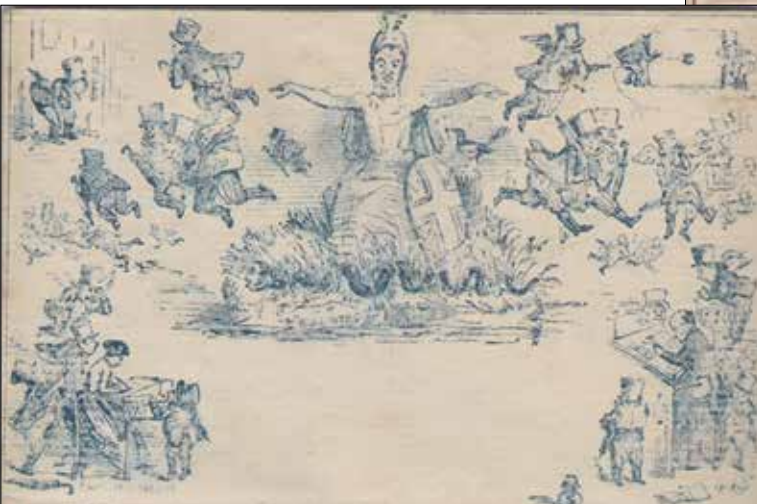


Fig.9: Design 2 with no inscription and subtle changes in the design, notably Britannia's face. This is a Derademak identical copy of the design, with his name bottom left



Fig.10: On the rear of the envelope in Fig.7 - Punch's Anti-Graham Wafer 'handcuffs' seal



Fig.11 A sheet of the 1844 Punch's 'Anti-Graham' Wafers (reduced in size-original is 25.4 x 19.6 cm).

Nuwe inligting oor seëlhandelaars in die Vrystaat en die Moederstad

deur Pauw Steyl RDPSA, George Filatelies Vereeniging



ENGLISH SUMMARY:

NEW INFORMATION ABOUT OLD STAMP DEALERS IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND THE MOTHER CITY

The particulars of these stamp dealers are as scarce as hen's teeth.

The two letters I received from a family member and the cover I found in a scratch box of a dealer at a Stamp Fair. Judging by the price, I don't think the dealer realised the rarity of the item he no longer possesses.

1931 - Boville Stamp Co. Kroonstad:

The company advertised in *The South African Philatelist* between February 1931 and July 1932 only seven times.

1955 - J E Frouws, Cilliersstraat 32A, Heilbron: I could find no advertisements in *The South African Philatelist*. His business practices were of special interest: Cash with Order, every order under 5/- required 3d postage and if you spent 5/- or more you had to register the packet.

1955 - Stamp Mail Order House, Cape Town:

The letter was signed JSC. No advertisements could be traced in *The South African Philatelist* at the time. With the kind assistance of Mary Rogers and David Watts of the *Royal Philatelic Society* of Cape Town it now can be established that Mr J Schrage Cohen was the stamp dealer. He lived in Seymour Avenue Vredehoek, Cape Town and also ran a photography business at 30 Darling Street, Cape Town.

Posseëlversameling, sê iemand op 'n dag, is die koning van stokperdjies, asook die stokperdjie van konings. Daarom is ons almal 'konings' en 'koninginne' wanneer ons met ons stokperdjie besig is. Navorsing het nog altyd vir my, veral op die gebied van posgeskiedenis, groot vreugde gegee. Enigiets, van 'n ou brief tot 'n koevert met pragtige posmerke, trek altyd my aandag. Mag ek hiermee 'n lansie breek vir posgeskiedenis? As u op seëlskoue en seëlbeurse kom, raak 'n krapper! Die handelaars sal maar te bly wees. Bly positief jou dag kom, die verrassing is op hande.

Die afgelope jare het ek dikwels deur versamelings van afgestorwenes gewerk om raad aan familie te gee. Twee van die briewe van seëlhandelaars in hierdie artikel kom uit so'n familieversameling. Die koevert van die Kroonstadhandelaar het ek by 'n seëlbeurs in 'n krapboksie van 'n handelaar gevind. Te oordeel aan die prys het die handelaar definitief nie besef watter rariteit hy nou nie meer besit nie!

Ongelukkig moet ek verskoning vra. Die besonderhede oor die drie handelaars is so skaars soos hoendertande. Daar is min of niks bekend oor hulle bedrywighede nie.

1931 – Boville Stamp Co. Kroonstad:

Boville Stamp Company was, glo ek, 'n een man besigheid. Te oordeel aan die drukwerk op die koevert het die eienaar ook 'n kwekery besit. Die kwekerykoevert is ook vir sy seëlbesigheid gebruik. Die drukwerk op die besigheidskoevert is verander van Boville Nursery na Boville Stamp Co.

Datumstempel: 28mm sirkel; verdeelde binne-sirkel met datum 4 MAR 31 7 – PM

Ek het die uitgawes van *The South African Philatelist* 1931-1933 deurgewerk en gevind dat Boville Stamp Co. vir ses maande in 1931, Februarie – Augustus advertensies geplaas het. Gedurende Mei is geen SAP uitgegee nie. Die laaste advertensie was in die *Small Advertisements* Julie 1932.

1955 – J E Frouws, Cilliersstraat 32A, Heilbron:

Hier het ons ten minste die handelaar se naam en huisadres. Hierdie omsendbrief is gerig aan 'Geagte Aanvrager'. Bestellings is Kontant met Bestelling. As jou bestelling onder 5/- bedra moet jy 3d posgeld bysit! Indien 'n koper meer as 5/- spandeer moet hy die pakkie laat registreer om diefstal te voorkom.

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Packet list on application.
Approvals on request.

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BOX 26 - - - - - KROONSTAD.

Advertensie SAP Maart 1931

July, 1932 THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST 47

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FOR SALE: 200 Europe, 50 Asia, 50 Br. Africa, 12 Kenya, 30 New Zealand, 50 C. & S. America, 40 U.S.A., 30 Australia, 25 Union S.A., 12 Cyprus, 1s. each packet, six for 5s.—BOVILLE STAMP CO., Box 26, Kroonstad.

Laaste advertensie wat ek kon opspoor.



Besigheidskoevert van Boville Stamp Co Kroonstad

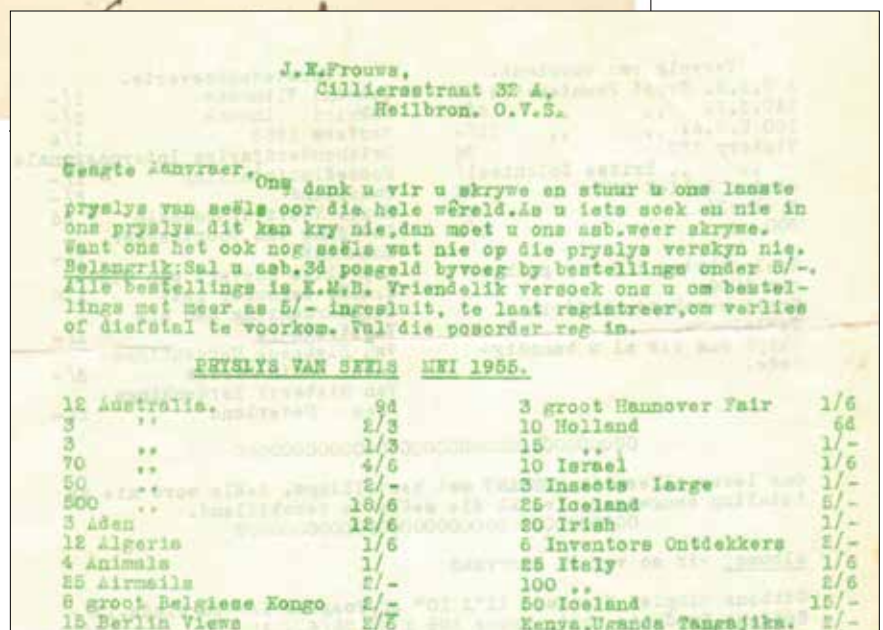
Hierdie handelaar het behalwe 'n groot verskeidenheid seëls ook Gibbons, Goddons, Stirling en Trafalgar Albums verkoop. Sy goue reël met sy kliënte was: "Sal u asb altyd 'n tweede en 'n derde keuse vermeld ingeval die eerste of tweede een uitverkoop is?"

Geen advertensie kon in *The South African Philatelist* opgespoor word nie.

1955 – Stamp Mail Order House, Kaapstad:

Hierdie briefhoof bevat interessante inligting maar niks wat die handelaar identifiseer nie. Die brief is wel geteken JSC. Geen advertensie kon in *The South African Philatelist* gevind word nie. Wel, dis lekker om altyd seëlvriende te hê, konings en koninginne! Een oproep aan Verena Mary Rogers, President, Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, het vir my groot vreugde gebring. 'n Vriend van haar, David Watts, het die raaisel grootliks opgelos.

David het in sy *Cape Times Cape Peninsula Diary* 1953-4 onderstaande besonderhede



J E Frouws: Deel van 'n lang briefpryslys aan sy kliënte.

gevind: Posbus 4067 is gehuur deur J S Cohen. Verder het J Schrage Cohen ook in die Cloutsgebou, Darlingstraat 30, 'n Fotografie-besigheid gehad met Posbus 4052. Cohen se huisadres was Anmar Mansions 3, Seymour Avenue, Vredehoek.

So die eenaar van hierdie seëlbesigheid was J Schrage Cohen.

Ek vertrou ek kon hiermee 'n paar legkaartstukkie van ons mooi stokperdjie by mekaar inpas.

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Society Auctions - Observations and Experiences

by Johan Bezuidenhout, Bellville Philatelic Society



I joined the Bellville Philatelic Society four years ago and continue to enjoy my membership. One of the interesting activities at our society is its bi-annual stamp auction, which I find to be a great source of new material for my collection at affordable prices. However, I have realised that there is much more to it than that and the purpose of this article is to share my personal experiences and provide a framework for other societies to consider.

Firstly, I believe that the reason for our society's continued success of our auctions is that we deem it to be a service to the community, to the members and to philately in general. Our auction material comes from a plethora of sources, including a local hospice, estates, ex-collectors and even members from other societies. We have established good relationships with repeat sellers, regularly have announcements of our meetings and auctions in two local newspapers, and have a website as well as a Facebook page. We are regularly contacted by potential sellers and can truly claim that we are a community based service provider.

The success of our auctions is built on relationships, trust and reliability, which started with our previous President, Wobbe Vegter, who created a network of repeat sellers and buyers from not only the Western Cape, but also distant buyers from all over SA. With our

exposure to Facebook, we even have interested parties from other countries.

Sellers are more than happy to get rid of material about which they know nothing, or which they no longer collect, while buyers are exposed to a wide variety of philatelic material, varying from simple stamps torn from envelopes, to country collections in old pre-WW2 albums. This serves philately as it recycles philatelic items, sometimes even rare material, which has not been available before. Prices vary from very low – occasionally we do auction lots for R1 - up to a few thousand rands, but we seldom exceed R5,000. This results in interest even for a collector with limited funds.

Furthermore, the structure which seems to be a successful is to prepare a proper auction list distributed well in advance of the auction; at least one month ahead. The auction listing describes each lot in great detail, which ensures the attraction of non-local bidders, as evidenced by the many email bidders who regularly participate. As on all auction lists, we allocate an advisory price at which bidding will start. In some cases this results in a bidding war, meaning we missed something and the bidder has spotted an interesting item; we cannot check every individual stamp, so sometimes buyers are extremely lucky.

The auction itself takes roughly two hours,

in which we sell 95% of all lots – we handle about 160 lots in these two hours. We operate with a nifty spreadsheet, thanks to our secretary Reanie de Villiers, where, prior to the auction, we record all bidders and sellers. During the auction all successful bids are also recorded live. When the last lot has been hammered down, we press a few buttons and we have all information required immediately available: total sales, total commission, list of items sold per seller, list of lots bought per buyer with the total due. Payments can be processed immediately afterwards or are done via EFT; lots are only released after payment has been received. Sellers are paid out usually within one week after the auction.

This auction structure generates an ever growing popularity in our geographic area, to the extent that we usually have an oversupply of auction material. The result is that we create not only a reliable means of selling the community's philatelic related material, but also generate additional revenue for our society.

Finally, the purpose of this article is to open constructive dialogue regarding society auctions. We are all volunteers, trying our best to serve the local community, as well as the broader philatelic community and I hope that my contribution will improve society auctions in South Africa.

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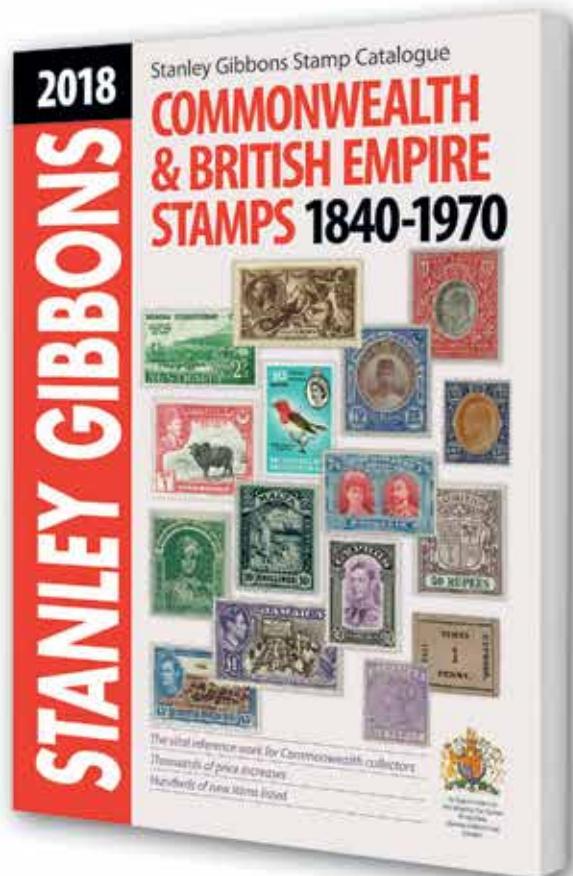
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The 120th edition of 'Part 1', due to be published in September includes a number of new additions and improvements, probably the most welcome of which is a full listing of Indian stamps used in Aden. This includes separate priced listings of usage in the smaller offices, such as Kamaran, Khormaksar and Sheikh Othman. Also listed for the first time in this catalogue are the surcharges on the stamps of Denmark issued during the British occupation of the Faroe Islands in World War II.

Prices have, as always, been meticulously checked throughout the catalogue, from Abu Dhabi to Zanzibar, with an enormous number of changes, mostly upwards and some of them spectacular, so any dealer or collector who is thinking of 'making do' with the 2017 edition for another year places themselves at a distinct disadvantage!

CODE: R2813-18 R2,200



King George V Album (1910-1936)

The King George V set of albums is pre-printed, on cream paper, with spaces for all main SG numbers as per the Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 catalogue. For all Postage, Air, Due, Postal Fiscal and Official Stamps. There are spaces for all perforation and watermark changes (including sideways but not inverted or reversed), different plates, Types and Dies. Shades and varieties are not included. In line with the original New Imperial the SG Catalogue numbers have been included.

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The Cullinan Diamond

by Bryan McGee and Colin Whittle



The Cullinan diamond (Fig.1) discovered during the pre-Union period played a symbolic role in the reconciliation between the Boers and British around the time of Union and thereafter, but the high hopes for peace were eventually dashed by increasingly recalcitrant politics in later periods.



Fig.1: The Cullinan Diamond I & II

We have passed the centenary of the adoption of the *South Africa Act* by the British parliament in September 1909, after which the Union of South Africa was inaugurated on 31 May 1910. This took place on the eighth anniversary of the Treaty of Vereeniging, which had brought the Anglo-Boer War to an end (Fig.2). Regrettably, this significant anniversary passed by without adequate recognition either in South Africa or in Great Britain.



Fig.2: Table on which the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed, Melrose House, Pretoria.

The *South Africa Act* represented the culmination of nearly seven years of acrimonious post-war negotiations between four parties, the two British colonies (the Cape and Natal) and the two former Boer republics (Transvaal and the Orange Free State), to agree a framework for a unified independent state within the British Empire. At first the prospect of creating a unified state seemed bleak, as the High Commissioner, Lord Milner, who had taken a hard line in his negotiations for the Treaty did not endear the British ideal to the defeated Boers, especially the 'bitter einders'. The eventual foundation for the reconciliation between the parties was laid after Jan Smuts had pleaded his case with

the new British Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, in February 1906. Campbell-Bannerman, having shown his commitment to ameliorating the terms of the Treaty prompted Smuts to later write: "They (the British) gave us back our country in everything but name. After four years. Has such a miracle of trust and magnanimity ever happened before." It was this agreement which created the climate for the gift of the Cullinan Diamond to the King, by the government of the Transvaal in the following year.

The celebrated diamond was discovered in January 1905 by Captain Frederick Wells at the Premier Mine in the Transvaal (Fig.3), whose chairman was Thomas (later Sir Thomas) Cullinan. The gem, at 3,106 metric carats (almost 1½ pounds), is the largest



Fig.3: Premier Diamond Mine

diamond ever found and created a sensation both in South Africa and abroad. The Premier Mine, subsequently owned by De Beers has been the source of a quarter of all large diamonds ever discovered and is now only rivalled in that respect by the Letseng Mine in Botswana. De Beers, still the world's largest diamond mining and trading company, was formed by Cecil Rhodes in 1872 in Kimberley. In 1927 it was taken over by Ernest Oppenheimer, who had formed Anglo-American ten years earlier. In 2011 the Oppenheimer family sold their controlling interest in the Company.

The government of the Transvaal purchased the Cullinan stone prior to Union and at the instigation of its Prime Minister, Louis Botha, former Commandant General of the Transvaal forces during the Anglo-Boer War and one of the great figures in the creation of a united South Africa, the stone was presented to King Edward VII in 1907 as a 'token of the loyalty and attachment of the people of Transvaal...' (Fig.4). This was only five years after the end of the war with its bitter legacy still fresh in the minds of the participants. Botha was encouraged to make this gesture by David Pieter de Villiers Graaff, former mayor of Cape Town and a member of the Cape Legislature and

the proposal was overwhelmingly approved by 42 votes to 19 in the Volksraad. Under the circumstances at the time, this was a generous act of extraordinary reconciliation. The King was delighted with the gift and it was agreed that Joseph Asscher & Co of Amsterdam would produce two large flawless gems and that Asschers should retain the 'cleavings' as payment for their work. On 21 November 1909 these two largest diamonds, Cullinan I and II, were formally presented to King Edward VII at Windsor Castle. They were, and still remain, the two largest flawless colourless (blue/white) cut diamonds in the world. They were temporarily mounted as a brooch for Queen Alexandra, but after the King's death in 1910, King George V commanded that they be respectively mounted in the Sceptre and Imperial State Crown to form part of the Crown Jewels where they remain today; although they are detachable and were occasionally worn by Queen Mary.

Cullinan I, a pear-shaped blue-white gem of 530 carat is the centrepiece of the Sceptre and is known as *The Great Star of Africa* (Fig. 5). The Sceptre is an important symbolic item of the regalia used during the Coronation ceremony.



Fig 4: Prime Minister Louis Botha and King Edward VII

Cullinan II, at 317 carats, is known by some as *The Lesser Star of Africa* and is set in the Imperial State Crown (Fig.6) which is worn annually by the Sovereign when presiding over the State Opening of Parliament.

Cullinans I and II are viewed daily by countless visitors to the Tower of London (Fig.7) where the Crown Jewels have recently



Fig 5: The Royal Sceptre

been given an impressive new display which, appropriately, has been in part sponsored by De Beers. Queens Alexandra and Mary are the only queens to have actually worn I and II as individual gems.



Fig 6: The Imperial State Crown

From the cleavings of the Cullinan, Asschers produced seven more significant gems, Cullinans III to IX which range from 94.4 to 4.4 carats, as well as about 96 smaller stones. King Edward purchased the 11.5 carat Cullinan VI as a personal gift for his wife, Queen Alexandra. Cullinan VI is now generally worn as a pendant to Cullinan VIII. In 1910 Louis Botha, then Prime Minister of the new Union of South Africa, insisted that all the remaining gems, that is the remaining six Cullinans as well as the 96 smaller gems, be purchased by his government lest they become dispersed to private individuals. The government planned to present them to Princess Mary, then Princess of Wales, when her husband, the future George V, presided over the State Opening of the first parliament of the Union in Cape Town. The tour was however cancelled, due to the unexpected death of King Edward. Instead, the gems were presented to her as Queen Mary, in London in June 1910 by Sir Richard Solomon, High Commissioner of the new Union of South Africa.

Botha died in office in 1919 at the tragically early age of 57 and was succeeded by Jan



Fig 7: Tower of London

Smuts, who embodied similar high minded ideals and objectives (Fig 8). Smuts, of course, went on to take a leading role in both national and international affairs until his final retirement in 1948.

In 1947, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, with their two daughters undertook a post-war tour of South Africa (Fig.9) to express appreciation for the country's contribution to the Allied cause in WW2. Princess Elizabeth's 21st birthday, on 21 April, was declared a public holiday. Field-Marshal Smuts, in his last year in office as Prime Minister, presented her with a splendid long necklace of 21 large diamonds of up to 10 carats, interspersed with smaller ones, all cut and polished in South Africa. In addition, during her visit to the Big Hole in Kimberley, Mary, the granddaughter of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Chairman of De Beers (Fig.10), presented the Princess with a superb round-cut 6 carat blue/white diamond.



Fig 8: General Smuts



Fig 10: Sir Ernest Oppenheimer and the De Beers 'Big Hole' Diamond Mine in Kimberley

has continued to wear throughout her reign. Due to the personal nature of the gifts she is reputed to refer to them as 'my best diamonds'. They thus form another lasting bond between the British Crown and the people of South Africa.

In 2012, the 60th Anniversary of the King's death and thus the Diamond Jubilee of H.M. the Queen, most of the principal gems that were cut from the Cullinan, i.e. Cullinans III to IX were displayed at



Fig 9: The Royal Visit

a special exhibition in Buckingham Palace (Fig.11) during the summer opening. Look for www.royalcollection.org.uk

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- *Cullinan Diamonds – Dreams and Discoveries* by Phillida Brooke Simons, Ferwood Press, 2004
- *The Jewels of Queen Elizabeth II – Her Personal Collection* by Leslie Field, Thames and Hudson, 1992
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- *DIAMONDS - A Jubilee Celebration* by Caroline de Guitaut, Royal Collection Trust, 2012
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- *Winston Churchill vol 2* by Randolph Churchill
- *Greater South Africa – Plans for a Better World* by J.C.Smuts, The Truth Legion, 1940
- *Jan Smuts - Man of Courage and Vision* by Antony Lentin, Jonathan Ball, 2010
- *Sir David Pieter de Villiers Graaff - First Baronet of de Grendel* by Ebbe Dommissie, Tafelberg, 2011



Fig 11: Buckingham Palace

GUESS THE STAMP

Try your hand at identifying this pixelated* image - Guess correctly - send your answer to the Editorial Board and you stand to WIN a stationery hamper! The August issue stamp - the fish eagle on SACC 997 - the R20 additional value to the definitive issue of the day: Thank you Chris Cullen of Hillcrest, KZN who is the winner and the first correct entry drawn.

Send your answer to janice@gdb.co.za by 12th November 2017

*it's an image that is filtered so that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, which is stylised, having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.

NOW GUESS WHAT THIS IS?



My Favourite Cover

by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



Introduction

While attending the FIAP exhibition in Melbourne during March 2017, I was alerted to a postal history item from Portuguese East Africa that was coming up for sale at an Australian auction. Needless to say, my interest was piqued, and in due course the cover made its way into my collection.

On the face of it, there is nothing remarkable about this cover, except perhaps for the uncommon Anti-podean destination.

The cover was posted in Lourenço Marques on 7 September 1942 and addressed to Australia using a fairly common stamp to pay the correct 1E75 foreign surface rate. The cover travelled by steamer to Durban where it was censored and resealed with censor tape, and then again by ship across the Indian Ocean to Australia. Upon arrival in Australia the cover was censored again, and resealed with censor tape.

However, when one looks at the reverse of the cover, a veritable mystery emerges. The return address given by the sender of the cover is 'Shanghai China'. The obvious question arises: 'How did a resident of Shanghai China come to post a letter in Portuguese East Africa to an address in Australia during the middle of the Second World War?'

Exchanges of Civilian Internees during World War II

World War II was the first 'total' war, directly affecting not only combatants of the warring nations, but also non-combatants of both hostile and neutral nations. In addition, many civilians of combatant nations were interned after being caught on the wrong side of the front at the outbreak of the War. This was especially true in the case of Japan on the one hand, and the United States, Great Britain and the Commonwealth nations on the other, due to the abrupt outbreak of hostilities in the Far East after Japan's surprise attacks on Pearl harbour and the European colonies in the Far East.

Within a week of the commencement of hostilities the United States and Japan began negotiating to exchange civilian internees. Through their intermediaries, Spain for Japan and Switzerland for the United States, an exchange was agreed.

The first exchange of civilians took place in Lourenço Marques during July 1942. Lourenço Marques was selected as it was a colony of Portugal, a neutral nation, and

the closest large neutral port to both sets of belligerents. The *MS Gripsholm*, a Swedish ship contracted by the United States government, carried approximately 1,500 Japanese passengers from the United States and Brazil to Lourenço Marques arriving on 20 July. On 22 July, two Japanese ships – the *Asama Maru* and the *Conte Verde*, an Italian liner contracted

City of Canterbury that had departed Melbourne on 16 August.

Somewhat surprisingly, no alternative arrangements were made for the Australians to return home. The *SS City of Canterbury* was not scheduled to return to Australia and instead headed for Durban on 16 September carrying 115 internees, including the seven Australians, where it continued its service to the Royal Navy.

The *SS City of Canterbury*, internees in tow, made for Suez on 19 September, then onto Aden, Basra and Bandar Abbas before finally docking in



by the Japanese government, delivered 1,554 Allied civilians to Lourenço Marques. The exchange of internees took place on the following day.

The Exchange of Australian and Japanese Civilians

The first exchange of civilians between Japan and Great Britain and the Dominions was agreed in July 1942, following a Swiss proposal to both sides in February 1942. The agreement encompassed two sets of exchanges, all of which were to take place at Lourenço Marques. This first exchange took place on 31 August, and involved the British diplomatic staff in Japan.

On 6 September 1942, the second (and what proved to be the final) exchange of British civilians took place. This second exchange included Australian diplomatic staff. The Japanese liner *Kamakura Maru* departed from Shanghai on 17 August and delivered 150 internees, including seven Australian diplomatic staff from Shanghai, to Lourenço Marques. The Japanese internees from Australia, 871 in all, were conveyed to Lourenço Marques by the *SS*

Bombay on 16 November 1942. Here the Australians were left to find their own way home!

Conclusion

This cover, posted at Lourenço Marques on the day after the arrival of the Australian internees in the port, is no coincidence. Given the manner in which the Japanese authorities treated internees and prisoners of war, it is most likely that this was the first opportunity that the writer had to communicate with her family.

To date this is the only known cover posted by an internee from the Japanese liner *Kamakura Maru* in Lourenço Marques. However, as this is an area where little or no philatelic research has been conducted, it is quite possible that more covers will now come to light. Happy hunting!

References

- *Lifeline Across the Sea: Mercy Ships of the Second World War and their Repatriation Missions* by David L. Williams, The History Press 2015.
- Australian War Memorial archives 54 Series: 780/2/4/ - *History of Prisoners of War and Internees Administration in Australia, 1946.*



New South African Stamp Issues 2017 - Part IV

by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

12 July 2017 – BEES FOR AFRICA

Denominations: 3 x International Small Letter (R9.15)

Designer: Jessica Delaney, depicting the two species of honeybees found in South Africa.

Stamp 1: African bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*);

Stamp 2: Cape bee (*Apis mellifera capensis*);

Stamp 3: A bee performing a natural function of pollinating crops.

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Process: Offset lithography

Stamp sizes: 38 x 38mm

Gum: Self adhesive

Sheetlet size: 153 x 109mm comprising two se tenant strips of the three designs arranged one above the other.

Phosphor: Yellow-green bands along right (3mm wide) and bottom (4mm wide) margins of each stamp.

Quantity: 50,000 sheetlets

Cylinder numbers: 8513 (blue), 8514 (red), 8515 (yellow) and 8516 (black).

Perforation: Die-cut simulated of gauge 11.75. Stamps are separated by 6mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through the sheet margins and also through the backing paper.

Printing sheet size: 710 x 500 mm, comprising 16 sheetlets arranged in four rows of four

First Day Cover: No. 8.107 of standard size, of which 1000 were produced.

Canceller: No. 8.954 – 'PAARL 12-07-2017'.



Acknowledgement:

This information was collated from the electronic edition of *SETEMPE* (Vol 22 No 2 May - Aug 2017), Philatelic Services newsletter *WHAT'S NEWS?* (July 2017), newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group and personal observations. The images shown here are of original artwork, supplied by courtesy of Thea Clemons of Philatelic Services and may differ slightly from the issued stamps.

10 August 2017 – SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS (Part 3)

Denominations: 5 x Registered Small Letter (R27.30)

Designer: Thea Clemons, from photos supplied by SAN Parks, depicting the following:

Top row 'Golden Gate Highlands National Park';

Middle row 'Garden Route National Park – Tsitsikamma' and 'Camdeboo National Park';

Bottom row 'Bontebok National Park' and 'Table Mountain National Park'

Printer: Cartor Security Print, France

Process: Offset lithography

Stamp sizes: 65 x 26mm

Gum: Self adhesive

Sheetlet size: 166 x 152mm comprising the 5 different designs arranged as illustrated

Quantity: 15,000 sheetlets

Cylinder numbers: 8417 (blue), 8418 (red), 8419 (yellow) and 8420 (black)

Perforation: Die-cut simulated of gauge 11.

Stamps are separated by 5mm gutters in the centre of which are roulettes to aid separation of the individual stamps. These roulettes extend through sheet margins and also through the backing paper.

Phosphor: Yellow-green bands in an 'L' shape



along left (4mm wide) and bottom (3mm wide) margins of each stamp.

Printing sheet size: 403mm x 605mm, comprising eight sheetlets arranged in four rows of two.

First Day Covers: Nos. 8.108 of standard size, of which 1,000 were produced.

Canceller: No. 8.96 – 'Bethlehem / 10.08.2017'.

SAPDAPEX 2017 – 11 – 14 October 2017

The miniature sheet illustrated on the front cover is a Corporate Product sponsored by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa to raise funds. The sheet incorporates a valid postage stamp denominated Standard Postage (R3.90) and will be available at SAPDAPEX 2017 at a cost of R20.00.

Technical details are not yet available but will be reported on in the next issue of *The South African Philatelist*.

2015 FIRST DAY COVER

At the time of issue, First Day Covers for the first four stamp issues of 2015 were not available.

The following are now available:

- 2 February 2015 – SA AVIATION CORPS CENTENARY - Cover No. 8.78
- 3 March 2015 – ANIMAL POACHING AWARENESS – Cover No. 8.79
- 2 April 2015 – 8th NEPHROLOGY CONGRESS – Cover No. 8.80
- 4 May 2015 – INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY – Covers Nos. 8.81 and 8.82

Only 1,000 of each cover were printed and serviced by La Poste of France. The stamps are no longer available from Philatelic Services but the prices of the covers reflect the postage rates at the date of issue.

FIELD POST OFFICE 3 AT THE RAND SHOW, JOHANNESBURG, 2017

by Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and S.A. Military Mail Study Group



As in 2011 and each subsequent year, the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was a major exhibitor at the Johannesburg Rand Show from 14 to 23 April 2017. This annual trade and industry show is held at the Exhibition Centre (Expo Centre) in the suburb of Nasrec over the Easter holiday period. Field Post Office 3 (FPO 3) has participated at the Rand Show since 2011.

In 2016 FPO 3 functioned from 25 March to 3 April. (See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2011* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 87, No. 5, October 2011; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2012* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 88, No. 3, June 2012; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2013* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 90, No. 1, February 2014; See *Field Post Office 3 at the Rand Show, Johannesburg, 2014 and 2015* in *The SA Philatelist*, Vol. 91, No. 4, August 2015.)

As described previously, the SANDF display included the functional FPO 3 which is under 11 Field Postal Unit. A special 'Rand Show' datestamp was commissioned in 2011 and was again used during the period of each of the shows to date, which is illustrated on the cover in Fig.1. The souvenir postcard, the same format as

illustrated in 2014 and 2015, was produced by the staff of FPO 3 and handed out to visitors as a souvenir.

The first day of the show and of FPO 3 functioning was 14 April 2017, which was Good Friday, a public holiday in South Africa. Again, this was perhaps the only functioning Post Office open in South Africa on this day.

For the record, the datestamp is 9-pointed

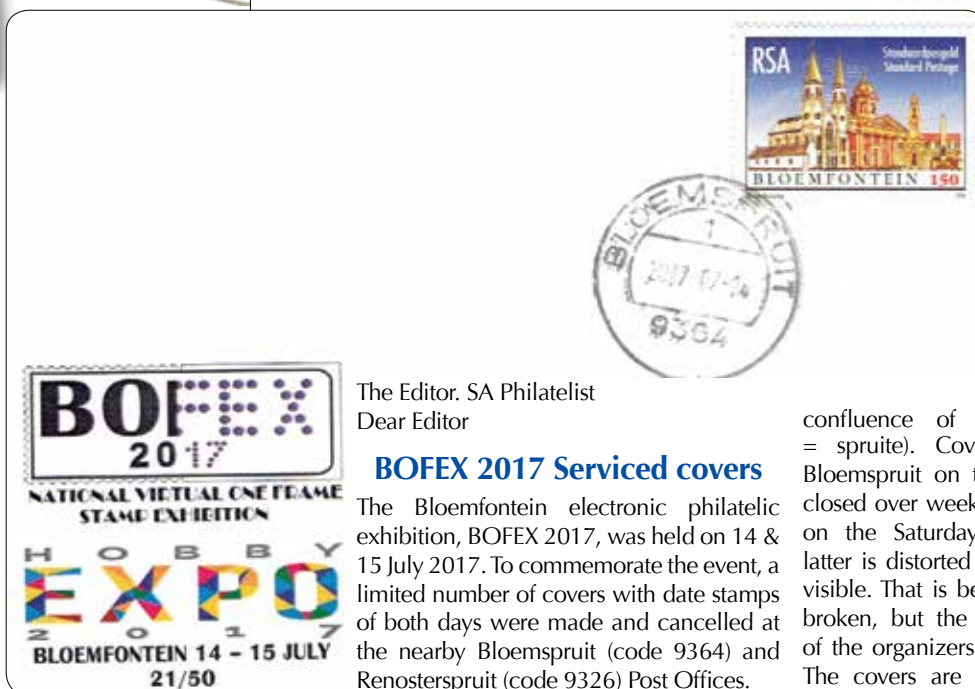
with a maximum diameter of 29mm. It incorporates the 11 Field Postal Unit emblem at the top between the words 'RAND' and 'SHOW' with the alphanumerical date in the middle and 'FPO3' at the bottom.

FPO 3 was scheduled to be at the SANDF exhibition at the Bloemfontein Show from 27 April to 7 May 2017 but due to budget constraints, the FPO 3 did not participate in this show.



J. Findlay,
P.O. Box 3474,
Parklands, 2121.

Fig. 1: A privately produced cover of FPO 3 at the 2017 Rand Show. (Image reduced)



The Editor. SA Philatelist
Dear Editor

BOFEX 2017 Serviced covers

The Bloemfontein electronic philatelic exhibition, BOFEX 2017, was held on 14 & 15 July 2017. To commemorate the event, a limited number of covers with date stamps of both days were made and cancelled at the nearby Bloemspruit (code 9364) and Renosterspruit (code 9326) Post Offices.

The choice of these two Post Offices was because the BOFEX venue is situated on the

confluence of the two streams (Afr = spruite). Covers were cancelled at Bloemspruit on the Friday, because it is closed over weekends, and Renosterspruit on the Saturday. The canceller of the latter is distorted and the date not clearly visible. That is because the canceller was broken, but the office granted the wish of the organizers for the special purpose. The covers are available from the OFS Philatelic Society at R30.00 apiece.

Garry Osthoff



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

Dates for Society Meetings 2017 always on a Wednesday at 20h00

- 11 October Favourite Cover/s
- 8 November Second Competitive Evening
- 6 December President's Evening and Cocktail Party

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

For 2017 in Bishops at Woodmead. The second meeting of each month, except December, is held on the last Wednesday of the month. This is effectively a study group

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7 - search for *Edenvale Philatelic Society* - all welcome to join. **Contact:** Colin Bousfield 082 309 8656

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG



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

Exhibit programme 2017:
 Oct 18 : My favourite (Max- one frame) & thematics
 Nov 15 : Inter-society quiz, invited exhibits
 Nov 29 : 5th Wed - Festive Function

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

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

President: Jimmy Mitchell; jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com
Treasurer: Tom Dooley; dickens@global.co.za



SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the first Monday of the month (Feb to Dec) **Venue:** Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Park Lane (off Susman Avenue), Blairgowrie. Time: 7:30 for 8:00 PM. **The society has an active exchange packet circuit and has members with a wide range of philatelic interests.** Visitors are welcome.

For further information contact: Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 6732229 / ccarey@icon.co.za

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. **Contact:** Andries Nel, 083 269 9374. **Chairman** or Ian Walker, **Secretary:** Tel: 011 4721161. email: iwalker@vodamail.co.za

Meet on 3rd Wednesday of every month at 19H30 at Panorama Sports Grounds, Comelius St, Weltevreden Park.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meet at 7:30pm on the first Monday evening of the month at Statech Centre, St. Alban's College, Clearwater Street, Lynnwood Glen.

- **Mike Dove (President)** 012 348 9393
 - **Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary)** 082 922 2927
- Monthly newsletter. Specialises on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by Glen Carpendale se Seëlwinkel in Kilnerpark. Baie aktiewe groep wat gereed bywoon. Nuusbrieff 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter is Petra Heath en Sekretaris is Herman van Niekerk.

Kontak: arnot@telkomsa.net

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

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

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

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

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society meets every 4th Friday of the month, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein.

President: Neil Cronjé and **Vice president:** Garry Osthoff email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

Smalls

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

WANTED: CHRISTMAS BOOKLETS. SA collector looking to buy South African Christmas Stamp Booklets (1934-1965) to complete collection. Outstanding list can be provided. **Contact** Dirk Strooberg dirkstrooberg@telkomsa.net

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

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

FOR SALE: Contact Emil Minnaar 061 983 2942. Antigua QE2 SG180-195 u/m mint - R215.⁰⁰
 Gambia GVI SG150-161 Fine used - R125.⁰⁰
 Gambia QE2 SG171-185 lightly mounted mint - R380.⁰⁰
 Gambia QE2 SG193-205 lightly mounted mint - R340.⁰⁰

Western Cape and the KZN Stamp Fairs are run independently.

STAMP FAIRS:



All SAPDA run fairs feature 'mini-auctions'. Please note that only the Gauteng and Durban (Bluff) fairs are run by SAPDA - with associated SAPDA control over dealers, and non-SAPDA dealers who also trade within SAPDA rules. The other fairs are run independently by societies. SAPDA views these Fairs as a development and testing source for both new and collector growth.

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

• **TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:**
 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria.

• **KYALAMI STAMP FAIR:**
 2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. **Contact** Kenny Napier: 083 4440249 email: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

Directions: From the N1: Take the R51 Allandale Rd turn off, drive 4.5km along Allandale Rd towards the Kyalami Race Track (west). At the Race Track turn right on the R55 Kyalami Main Rd - drive 1.6km north to the M71 road to Bryanston. Turn left on to the M71 and drive 2km to Maple Rd. Turn right into Maple Road and drive 1km to the Kyalami Country Club entrance on the right.

• **EAST RAND STAMP FAIR:**
 Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club**, located at 6th Ave / 11th Street, Edenvale. **Contact:** Kenny Napier 083 4440249 mail: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za

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

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

• **DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:**
Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. **Contact:** Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287. As usual, dealers are in attendance to sell, buy, evaluate and advise on all aspects of philately, including stamps, envelopes, covers, post cards, correspondences, postal history, revenues, documents & non-fiction books of a historical nature, etc. **Meeting dates 2017:** 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (auction day). Note: All on the 1st Saturday of the month. If you have material for auction, bring it to the Stamp Fair - mark it clearly with your details.

International Exhibitions



PRAGA 2018

Venue: Prague, Czech Rep.
Date: 15 to 18.08. 2018
Comissioner: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

Exhibition news invited for all future local events

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month at 19:00. *Plek:* Biblioteek, La Clémence aftree-oord, Webersvalleiweg/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 robharm@mweb.co.za

PAARLSE FILATELISTE Sedert 1951

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



FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 – 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS reaches a wider audience on the internet since launching their website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. The society meets every 1st Tuesday at 19h30 at Civic Centre, Minor Hall, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek. *President:* Dave Young, email: davsue@telkomsa.net *Secretary:* Volker Janssen. *Website:* www.fhps.info



DE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

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

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



GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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



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

MEETINGS always on Monday evenings: starting time for monthly meetings 19h00

2017 meeting dates: 2 Oct, (Venue unavailable 6/11/17),

30 October. *Be advised the December President's evening - 29 November in the form of a supper and not on 4 December.*

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, excluding Jewish & Public holidays. Contact for details: Aubrey Katzeff: akatzef@mweb.co.za, +27 (21) 4615134 the President of CASPIP

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HPS, Durban, meets at the German Club, Barnham Rd, off Essex Terrace, Westville. 09h00 – 11h30 every 2nd Saturday of the month. Open invitation to other Philatelic Societies and interested visitors. Youth encouraged to attend. 'Theme' Exhibits & Frames by Members, Instructive talks and general networking. Free entrance and teas/coffees available. Safe parking. German Restaurant open for lunch. The Committee encourages past and new visitors /youth to come and get involved in this wonderful social hobby. *President:* Ian McMurray. ianjarvismcm@gmail.com *Secretary:* Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za *Membership:* Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za *Bev McNaught-Davis*, telephone: 031 904 1522 or 081 270 2873.



Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

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

Contacts: Ted Brown (President) 083 284 6554 Zbigniew Kaweck (Vice-President) 082 968 6888 Email zseptepi@3i.co.za Trevor Harris, (Secretary) 082 377 8465 Kraft von Aulock (Treasurer) 031 2629162

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

'All are welcome'



HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Meetings in the Captain's Table at Woodmead - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December). 2017 Dates: 25 Oct, 29 Nov.

TBVC STUDY GROUP

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

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

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

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Meetings: First Saturday of month at 13h00 at the Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall, Modderfontein. *Contact:* Secretary, Keith Perrow 083 379 2626, email: keith.perrow232@gmail.com

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

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

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Meets on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 19h30 in the Activities Hall of Pinelands Library, Howard Centre, Western Cape. The Circle caters for all those interested in stamp collecting - from beginner to the more experienced



philatelist. Programmes for meetings include displays of stamps, talks by visiting speakers and member's 'Show and Tell' exhibits. The Circle operates an Exchange Circuit and holds auctions from time to time. Visitors are always welcome!

Contact Marilyn Crawford at 021689 5050 or email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com



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