



Founded 1911

[www.rpsct.org](http://www.rpsct.org)

Hon Life President: David Sinclair

President 2020/2022: Ida Potgieter

Hon Sec: Victor Millard ([royalphilct@gmail.com](mailto:royalphilct@gmail.com))

The next meetings will be  
Bellville on 10 April and the Athenaeum on 26 April

Covid19: the current state of Covid19 simply means that we must take care.

Dear Members

### Brian Dennis, RIP

Brian Dennis has died, and Covid19 has claimed another victim. All who knew him will be sad: he enthused about everything he was involved in, whether it was his professional involvement as a materials and minerals consultant, birds or perfin patterns. He was President of the Society in 2009 and 2010, and for many years a Committee member. He will be missed.

### Contents of this newsletter

- Dates of meetings
- Editorial
- AGM report
- Society Awards for 2020
- Committee for 2020/2021
- Society Auction
- Syllabus for 2020/2021

### Dates of meetings

Please diarise:

- **Saturday 10 April 2021:** Bellville Fair (from 09h00) and RPSCT Meeting at 12h30 (Brian Fenemore will show Anglo Boer War material tracing the progress of the British during the conflict (1899-1902))
- **Monday 12 April 2021:** The society Library will be open for members use at the Athenaeum from 2 pm to 5 pm.
- **Monday 26 April 2021:** Society Meeting at the Athenaeum: Danie Scheepers RDPSA will show his Open Class exhibit "*The tale of South Africa*"
- **1 May 2021:** *Entries close for this year's national exhibition.*
- **24 May:** 2pm Society Auction at the Athenaeum;
- **22-25 July 2021:** *National Exhibition plus JUNASS at Bloemfontein*

## Editorial

Covid19 remains with us and the need to practice social distancing, sanitize and mask wearing is as acute as ever; as President Ramaphosa has warned us the future is in our hands and we must do everything we can to avoid a third wave. The long-awaited Cape Town international show has had to be postponed – a new date has yet to be settled on – but, sadly, it will not be *Cape Town 2021*. There will be a national, in Bloemfontein, and there will be a JUNASS to go with it, and there will also be a one-frame virtual exhibition, along the lines of the very successful SAVPEX shows of recent years.

Several members plan to submit entries for this year's National. Some have not been able to find the entry forms on Federation's website BECAUSE THEY HAVE USED THE OLD website URL. The Federation's revamped website is at: <https://stampssa.africa>

This year's National Exhibition (the organisers plan a modest 200 frames actual), **VRIJSTAAT 2021**, will take place under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa on **22 – 25 July 2021** at Kopano Nokeng Conference Centre in **BLOEMFONTEIN**. Exhibits will be judged on 22 July 2021 by a panel of judges to be appointed by jury chair Michael Wigmore. Click here for the [Prospectus](#) and [Entry form](#) . For more information, please contact Joof van der Merwe at [jnc1@vodamail.co.za](mailto:jnc1@vodamail.co.za).

Covid19 notwithstanding 2021 has provided to have much to offer the philatelist. If you have US \$ 40 million spare you might consider the forthcoming auction of two of the world's headline grabbing philatelic items, unique, yes, but to a real philatelist, not the most alluring. They will be on offer at a public auction and they are the (in)famous British Guiana 1c black on magenta used at Demerara and the equally crazy unique plate block of four of the 24c inverted Jenny US stamp.



The British Guiana is so well known but it is worth repeating something of its history: it bears marks of this history on the back of the stamp



Afraid of forgery, the British Guiana postmaster insisted that each postal clerk sign the stamp, and the initials EDW, of clerk ED Wight, can be seen on it. In 1873, L. Vernon Vaughan, a twelve-year-old Scottish schoolboy living with his family in British Guiana, found the stamp among a group of family papers. It was bought by Ferrary in 1878. In 1922 **France seized his collection**, which Ferrary had donated to the Postmuseum in Berlin, as part of the war reparations due from Germany, and sold it to New York textile magnate (and philatelist) Arthur Hind for \$35,000. In 1980 John du Pont, heir to the Du Pont chemical company paid **\$935,000** for it. John Du Pont was convicted of murder in 1997 and died in 2010 in prison. It was sold in 2014 and though it was expected to fetch up to £12 million it went for £5.5 million to luxury shoe tycoon Stuart Weitzman. Each of its owners has defaced the stamp (actually no, on the back not the face), the most recent – and egregious – being Weitzman whose “SW” initials are together with a stylised high-heeled shoe, with what seems to be some form of ball point writing instrument!!!!

The second unique item is unique only as a positional piece: the whereabouts of most of the 100 inverted 24c Jenny stamps are known so it is not a rarity, really. But it’s headline grabbing, and its sale will no doubt generate more headlines, and someone will pay a lot of money for it. Bragging rights go with it!



The Covid19 lockdown has released many old and not so old collections and among the material now plentiful. But, try to find genuine used stamps and TBVC issues on cover. More fun than the inverted Jenny! Or the 1c black on magenta, for which condition can only be described as poor – a space filler!

### ***Society AGM Report***

The Society AGM was held on 22 March 2021 at the unusual time of 2pm. It was well attended. The Committee for 2021/2022 was elected (see below) and the Society took leave of Mary and Alan Rogers who have returned to the UK; Mary who was Secretary from 1998 to 2016 and President thereafter was presented with a certificate of hon life membership of the Society. Society Awards for 2020 were made and the competition for the Jacob Cup was held.

### *The Arthur V Jacob Competition*

Three exhibits competed for the Jacob Cup (the 4<sup>th</sup> invited exhibitor, John Carter, was unable to show). These were: Alan Rogers (GB George V); Keith Brodovcky (Postal Stationery of N Rhodesia from his exhibit of "What I collect"; and Victor Millard (Imperial Airways). Hugh Amooore filled the boards with a non-competitive exhibit of 100 pages of universities of the world, including much new material.

The rules for this competition allow competitors to make a short speech on their exhibits which are then judged by popular vote of members present. The meeting voted to award the Arthur V Jacob Cup to Alan Rogers.

### *Society Awards for 2020*

- Royal Cup: Malcolm Suttill
- RW Wilson Award for Classics: Malcom Suttill
- Jacob Cup: Alan Rogers
- G R Morris Award for publication: Jan Hofmeyr for articles in *The Chronicle*, especially "***Essays for the 1861 issue: the path to discovery***"
- Crocker Shield: Brian Franklin for ***Malta: George V issues***
- C R V Solomon Cup: Victor Millard for his study of the ***10c value of the RSA 1<sup>st</sup> definitive issues***

### *Society Committee for 2021/2022*

- President: Ida Potgieter
- Vice-President: John Rycroft
- Hon Secretary: Victor Millard
- Hon Treasurer: Keith Brodovcky
- Immediate Past President: -
- Hon Life President: David Sinclair
- Additional members: Hugh Amooore, Brian Fenemore, Brian Franklin, Andrew McLaren, and Krish Ranchod

### ***Library Meetings in 2021***

Our aim is to have regular afternoon/morning library meetings at the Athenaeum. The first of these will be held on **Monday 12 April 2021 from 2pm.**

Please take advantage of the opportunity to find out more about a collecting interest you may have.

### **Syllabus for 2021**

The syllabus for 2021/2022 is subject to Covid19. For the immediate future we have exhibits on **10 April** (at **Bellville**) and at the **Athenaeum** (on **26 April**). We hope to have Bellville meetings (12h30 on 8 May, 5 June, 10 Jul, 14 August, 4 September, 9 October, 6 November and 4 December) and at the Athenaeum (at 2pm - NOTE TIME -) on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month through November and on 13 December.

Let Hugh Amoore know what you will contribute: email to [hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za](mailto:hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za)