

DECEMBER
2015

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 91:6. 933

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*Mrs L. Katz
barron*



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Contents

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Awards:

- o Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
- o Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
- o Vermeil APS Stampshow 1999,
- o Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- o Federation Plaque 2004,
- o Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- o Large Silver NZ Literature Exhib 2007,
- o Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.



217



213



192

REGULARS

- 184 Letters to the Editorial Board
- 184 Closing dates for future issues
- 192 Marcophily *Phun Postmarks*
- 206 Post Office Art *ESCOURT*
- 214 Thematically yours
- 215 New issues
- 228 Classifieds
- 228 Society news
- 229 Errors on stamps

ADVERTISERS

- 182 Filat AG
- 187 Sandafayre
- 192 Dave Morrison
- 193 Rand Stamps Paul van Zeyl
- 195 WBHO
- 204 Janssen Stamps
- 212 Faroe Islands
- 225 Pilot Pen
- 227 Jacques Kuun Stamps
- 231 SAPDA
- 232 Spink

FEATURES

- 186 Letter from London
Dr Frank's insight into events from the UK
- 188 Deficiency Noted
by Andrew Briscoe
- 190 Nasionale Seëldag 2015
by Joh Groenewald RDPSA
- 193 Obituary - Colin Ewels
- 194 National Stamp Exhibition
CAPEX 2015. Reports and Awards
- 208 Revisiting The 'Dragon' Flaw
by Mike Tonking RDPSA
- 209 Stamps and Labels Printed by the
Government Printer in Pretoria 1949
to 1961 by Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA
- 213 1929 Cigarette Tax Stamps
by Jan van Beukering
- 216 1935 KGV Silver Jubilee Issue
Frameplate Characteristics of
the 1d stamp by Andre du Plessis
- 217 Collect Mozambique Company
Stamps. Part 2 by Andrew Fischer
- 220 The Half-Penny Springbok - Part II
1949 - 54 Screened Printings
by Otto Peetoom
- 224 Sasolburg
- 225 The CHALLENGE for 2016
From the Marizburg PS
- 226 2c Protea. Vic Sorour takes a closer look



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- David Wigston: wigstdj@unisa.ac.za
- Moirá Bleazard: bleazard@telkomsa.net
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- Janice Botes Production Editor: janice@gdb.co.za
- Emil Minnaar RDPSA Advertising: emil@minnaar.org
- Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL: molens@pixie.co.za

EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS

- Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL: mobsbyc@mweb.co.za
- Alex Visser : alex.visser@up.ac.za
- Michael Wigmore RDPSA: dcrocker@lando.co.za

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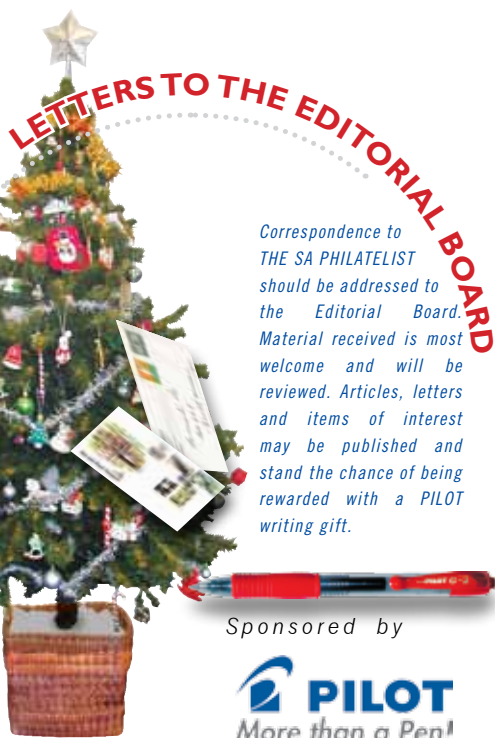
- Jill Redmond RDPSA: pfsasec@mweb.co.za
- Tel: +27 (0) 11 917 5304

WEBMASTER

- Chris Carey: ccarey@icon.co.za

*Wishing our readers a Happy
Festive Season and a Prosperous New Year*





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This issue's award of the PILOT pen goes to Andrew Fischer for his Mozambique series

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Enquiries regarding subscriptions and membership can be referred to Jill Redmond RDPSA at pfsasec@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 (0)11 917 5304

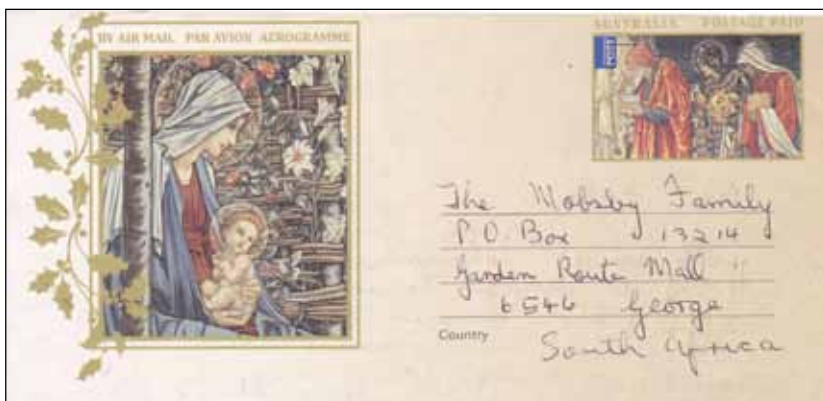
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WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON

What is more mouth-watering than the smell of freshly-baked honey cakes? For many people, the festive season only starts when bakers make space in their display for the festively iced cakes for Christmas. PostNord has issued three stamps featuring images of a traditional Christmas honey cake man, honey cake woman and a honey cake heart. The popular Danish honey cake, baked using a mix of wheat and rye flour with honey and dark brown muscovado sugar, various dried fruits and different herbs and spices, is part of a shared European cultural heritage. Many families come together before Christmas to bake cakes.



Royal Mail has issued Christmas stamps since 1966. From 2005 it introduced a policy of alternating secular with religious designs each year, and 2015 is a religious year. The stamps tell the traditional Nativity story in an impressionistic style, from the Annunciation, through to the Nativity and journey of the Magi. As is usual, separate stamps at 1st and 2nd class rate of the Madonna and Child will also be available from Post Offices.



An aerogramme received from Australia in 2013 - it is quite appropriate for this time of year and a nice example of what our Post Office could perhaps produce at Christmas time.

Chris Mobsby.

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Postage Stamps worth more than €1.4 Million stolen in France

Postage stamps worth more than £1 million have been stolen from a French warehouse. Brazen thieves used a 'Mission: Impossible'-style method to lower themselves into the interior of the suburban Paris building on ropes. They then allegedly hauled 75 boxes packed full of stamps back up to the roof and escaped.

Workers were stunned to arrive at the Seine-et-Marne building on Monday morning to find the ropes dangling from the ceiling. Police were called and an investigation has been launched.

The total amount of stamps stolen has not yet been confirmed, but a police source said it was currently estimated to be around €1.4 million (£1 million). It comes in the same month that a British man avoided jail for stealing £13,000 worth of postage stamps from his workplace. Scott Winterton recruited colleague Terence Roberts-Richards to sell them on, but they were caught after falsely reporting the stamps were missing from a delivery by the Royal Mail. The duo, who worked at Office Depot in Leicester, were both given suspended jail sentences.

(published 8 Oct 2015. World Stamp News)

ROYAL MAIL CELEBRATES THE END OF RUGBY WORLD CUP 2015 WITH A SPECIAL POSTMARK



Andrew Hammond from Royal Mail, said: "Postmarks are used to commemorate significant moments in the country's history. England being chosen as the hosts for Rugby World Cup 2015 is certainly something to remember."

New Zealand were crowned RWC 2015 champions of the 44 day contest.

England played host to the tournament for the second time with matches taking place at 13 venues around the country, including Cardiff. The postmark will be applied to stamped mail from Saturday 31 October to Wednesday 4 November 2015. The postmark says 'Congratulations to New Zealand Rugby World Cup 2015 winners'.

South Africa placed third.



BOTSWANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

I collect mineral stamps and am trying to gather information on the Botswana new currency surcharges issues between 1976 - 77. I have only very basic data on dates and printers available in UK and would appreciate a link or contact where I might learn more about these fascinating varieties

Ken Gibb

ken_gibb54@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Ken

Thank you for your enquiry which I think would make an interesting item for our house journal, The SA Philatelist. Hopefully a number of people will reply and assist with your research.

Jill Redmond,

Secretary: Philatelic Federation of SA

HELP NEEDED



Dear reader,

I am a member of the Highway Philatelic club and am doing some research on the shipwreck stamps of South West Africa. The stamps were issued on 15 October 1987 and are numbered 498 to 501 in the *South African Stamp Colour Catalogue*.

The ships mentioned are *The Hope*, *The Tilly*, *The Eduard Bohlen* and the *Dunedin Star*. I cannot find any information on the *HOPE* and *TILLY* as to where they were built, in what year, what type of ship were they, did they belong to a shipping company and where did the voyage start and where was the ship's destination when it was wrecked.

Is there any reader who can help?

As I have a hearing problem can the information be sent by email to

liebfam@mweb.co.za

Laurence Liebbrandt

Thanks and References

Dear Editor

Thanks for another copy of *SAP* jam packed with interesting articles. I wish to thank the editorial board for the Pilot pen and pencil set, awarded for my series on DECORATED POST OFFICES, announced in the *SAP* of October 2015. They found permanent employment on my desk.

In this series on 'Decorated Post Offices' I try to combine a few aspects: To relate the correctness of the artwork to the historical background. Also to provide some information on the artist, the building and the location. I acknowledge sources with references and also acknowledge contributions from people for information or other assistance.

Recently I was accosted by a fellow philatelist who accused me of plagiarism. I have to admit that, in the specific article, I erred during the proof reading and missed the absence of a reference. The episode was particularly appalling because it came through official channels of my employer and my scientific competence was taken to task.

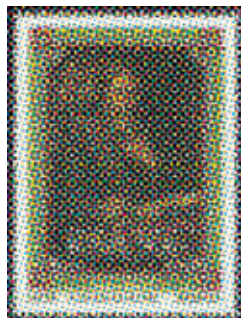
Currently the *SAP* has no guidelines with regard to referencing facts. Has the time come that the *SAP* requests references? What should be referenced: philatelic facts only? Should non-philatelic, but historical, facts be excluded from referencing? Which of the many styles of referencing should be followed? Perhaps the editorial board could discuss this and comment. Comments from readers would also be valuable.

Prof G. Osthoff, OFS Philatelic Society

Letters continue on page 232

GUESS THE STAMP - WHAT IS THIS?

YES - Mr Neville Smith from the Bellville Philatelic Society was the winning entry drawn; he correctly guessed the stamp quiz in October issue of *The SA Philatelist* as S. Nowers' 50c design reflecting paintings by Rembrandt, from the Bible Society issue of November 1987. We had a response of eight correct entries submitted. Now try and guess our second stamp at far right ...



*an image - enlarged so far that the viewer sees the individual pixels that form the image, the enlargement having reached the point at which no further detail can be resolved.



WHAT IS THIS?

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LETTER FROM LONDON

by Dr JR FRANK RDPSA, FRPSL
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

After the summer break, September started up well for philatelists, in spite of Great Britain's eight (!) Rugby World Cup commemorative stamps.

Attendance at Autumn Stampex was good, although the exhibits were not as strong as in previous years. This does not mean that there were no notable highlights. Dr. Woo's Large Gold exhibit of 'Guatemala, 1879-'81', with its superb proof material, inverted centres and remarkable array of covers was most impressive. A Penny Black exhibit also caught the eye, as did two exhibits of the Gibraltar Post Office's activities in Morocco. The Great Britain Overprint Society showed exhibits of Bechuanaland and Zululand. The Open Class featured an incredible twenty frame exhibit of Great Britain Army Officials.

September also brought the Queen's opening exhibit of the 'season' at the Royal Philatelic Society. This year it was 52 frames of the West African Colonies. The material was notable for the many blocks of four, rare varieties and the freshness of its colours. The latter is due to the fact that it is really is a 'one owner' collection, without having passed through dealers' windows and stock books, auction examinations as well as adverse storage conditions.

The spectacular item was the pristine mint plate block of four of the Northern Nigeria 1904 £25 value, probably a unique item.

The attractive Gambia Cameos were well-represented, including the rare 1880 1d maroon with CC watermark and also the one shilling aniline violet. The King George V issues were impressive, as were the die proofs of the 1938 definitives.

In the Sierra Leone section early die and plate proofs were shown, but the outstanding item was the double overprint variety of the 1897 2½d on 1d Fiscal stamp. Plate blocks of the King George V £2 and £5 were striking, as was the complete set of Die proofs of the 1933 Wilberforce issue.

In the Niger Coast Protectorate material there was an astonishing array of overprints, with some on covers. It was a wonderful exhibit of rare material from what is probably the largest collection in private ownership, valued at £49 million by Bloomberg Billionaire Index.

The next meeting was completely different. Dr John Horsey presented an 80-page exhibit of the iconic Great Britain Victoria £5 orange. The didactic display covered everything from essays and proofs to the issued stamps in multiples and their usages. These stamps were primarily used on dockets for internal accounting and



Great Britain £5. Rare postal use

were subsequently destroyed. However, "fewer than five provable postal use pieces" have been recorded. This display forms the basis for the definitive handbook on the subject.

On the auction scene Cavendish had some interesting Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp items in the Manning Sale of Indian Postal History. A franked 1830 (Goldblatt DLS3) cover from Cape Town to Daventry with both *St Ives/Ship Letter* and the unique *India Letter/St. Ives Com.* markings realised £4,200, while a Port Elizabeth to Poole 1838 cover with the only recorded *Ship Letter/Poole strike* was sold for £2,200.

Spink's sale of a West Indies section of the Vesty collection included some real gems, which proved to appeal to the buyers. Die proofs of the Britannia issue for Barbados and Trinidad sold for £2,300 and £4,000 respectively. A superb corner marginal example of the Barbados 1861 ½d grass-green 'prepared for use, but not issued' was sold for £19,000, against an upper estimate of £15,000. In Jamaica the very rare 1932 2d black and green in an 'imperforate between' mint pair fetched £13,000, against an upper estimate of £6,000. A marvellous unused Trinidad 1847 5cts *Lady McLeod* stamp reached £34,000, *1847 - Trinidad 'Lady McLeod' local.*



Fig. 3. - Cairo to Cape Town, 1 MAR 1926. Survey flight by Royal Air Force and returned to England. Endorsed 'Per Trans African Air-Mail'

where the upper estimate had been £20,000.

A 1918 Cairo to Delhi First Flight cover with an upper estimate of £1,800, realised £3,500. Two Marc Pourpe Cairo to Khartoum and return flights of 1913-'14, which are ex-Rudi Jeidel, realised £2,000 and £3,400 respectively.

A rare Survey Flight cover from Cairo to Cape Town with an oval *Heliopolis Details 1 MAR.1926 Royal Air Force* cachet, and an upper estimate of £1,000, found a new owner at £2,200.

Another surprise was the 1933 proof of the Iraq Airmail letter card with a Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd dummy label, estimate at £250-300, reaching £1,600.

The auction houses all charge a ± 20% buyer's premium, although I have noticed some easing of late by some smaller firms.

A new local development is the appearance of the journal *Southern Africa Philately*. Its pedigree is good, as it is the outcome of an initiative mooted at the Annual Southern African Conference at Royal Leamington Spa. Brian Trotter, Otto and Simon Peetoom are the driving force behind this endeavour. The initial 41-page publication consists mainly of survey articles covering topics ranging from the Cape and Stellaland to Northern Rhodesia in World War I. The standard augurs well for the future. However, the editors of the journals of many of the small specialist societies struggle to find material for publication. There is a shortage

of contributors and many of those are 'greying'. Editors are compelled to rely on the same authors. Many of these contributors have limited philatelic interests, which reduces the spectrum of articles available.

On a positive note, the Club de Monte Carlo, which organises Monacophil 2015 in December, has

come up with a novel approach. Named *Action Young Philatelists*, it suggests that it "would like to do a very special effort for young philatelists with high potential. They propose to assist philatelists under the age of 35 and are looking for sponsors to cover the travel expenses to Monte Carlo of these 'young people'. An interesting approach indeed, if it works as intended.

With this happy thought, I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and Joyous 2016.

JRF

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DEFICIENCY NOTED

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



The illustrated wrapper bears a weak strike of a CAPE TOWN date stamp applied in June 1905, and an unusual handstamp which has puzzled me since I acquired the wrapper several years ago. The DEFICIENCY NOTED mark is not listed in Robert Goldblatt's *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*, published in 1984, nor in the *Supplement* published four years later. There is, however, an incomplete strike of this mark, apparently cut from a newspaper wrapper privately-printed for use by the *Cape Times Weekly Edition*, illustrated in the Cape Town section of Ralph Putzel's *Postmarks of South Africa* (vol 2, page 120). Putzel lists this mark under 'PO Cachets' and states "It is not clear how this [mark] was used".

DEFICIENCY NOTED is an explanatory mark which may be unique to the Cape of Good Hope. Since acquiring the wrapper, I have searched for similarly worded handstamps used by English-speaking postal authorities throughout the world, but discovered none.

A comparable, but significantly different, marking is the two line handstamp reading 'DEFICIENT POSTAGE / FINE' which was utilised in Britain, from approximately 1865 to 1900. This stamp was applied to underpaid mail, mostly letters, where insufficient postage had been prepaid by the sender. The stamp imposed a surcharge to be paid by the addressee, and also provided an explanation for the surcharge. There are many variations in the wording and format of the information provided by this type of handstamp, which typically allowed the amount of surcharge or fine to be inserted in manuscript by the post officer who had identified the deficit. Similarly worded handstamps were also utilised in some of the Australian States, including Queensland and Tasmania.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Cape DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp is that it is merely an explanatory mark. It does not impose a surcharge for the postage underpaid. The wording of the handstamp suggests that a postal officer has observed and noted that the postal item was underpaid, but decided not to raise a surcharge. The illustrated newspaper wrapper therefore bears no accompanying

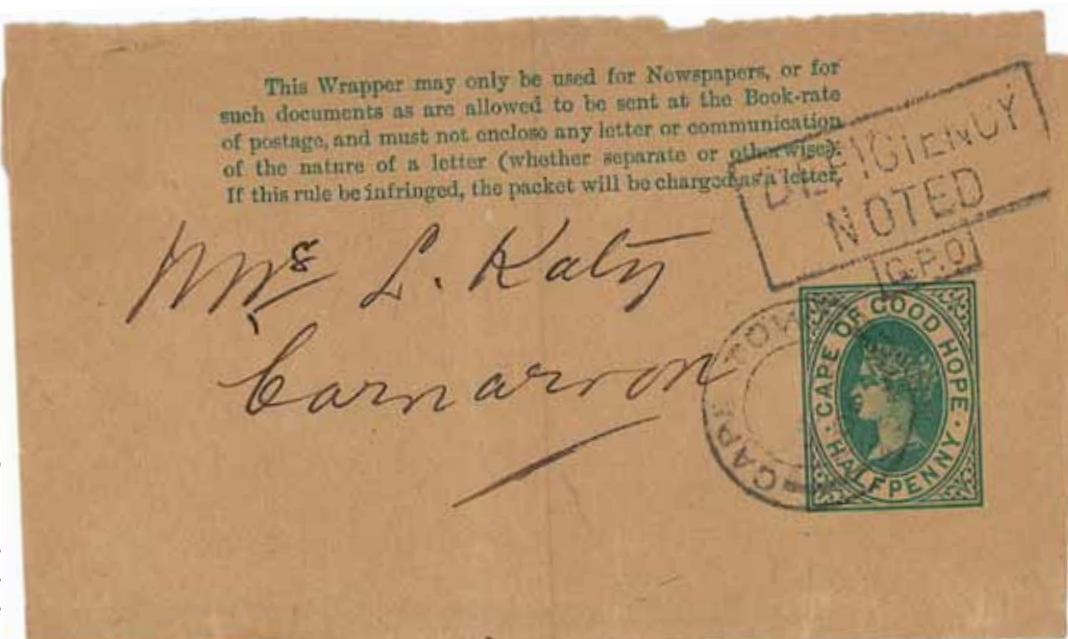
mark or notation to indicate that the addressee was required to make good the deficit.

The practice of noting a deficit but failing to raise a surcharge is peculiar in as much as it defeats one of the basic premises upon which a postal system is founded. In trying to understand how this practice arose at the Cape, I have found no explanation in the Cape postal records, but research on the operations of the London Post Office has yielded a possible explanation.

Procedures Followed at the London Parcel Office

In Britain, a new parcel post service was introduced in 1883. In order to provide a better service for the larger mail order businesses, the Post Office soon began to collect parcels from such business premises rather than require the business customer to deliver them to the parcel depot. However, a problem emerged regarding

for mail order businesses and a further concessionary arrangement was then introduced, as described by Edward Sanderson, Vice Controller of the London Postal Service, to the Secretary of the Post Office in a report dated 6 November 1895: "To obviate this delay, the Inspectors at the Depots where such collections are principally received have held postage stamps to the value of 10 shillings or £1, so as to enable them to make good an occasional deficiency of postage on parcels from firms who have asked that this might be done, undertaking to repay the amount. This has worked admirably for many years, and is much appreciated by the firms who make a large use of the Parcel Post, and who say that when their parcels are collected direct into a Post Office they have not the control which they have over the counter, of paying deficient postage caused by an error in weight at the time, and so avoiding delay. There will be no difficulty



Newspaper Wrapper of June, 1905.

parcels subsequently discovered at the depot to be insufficiently prepaid. Under the normal Post Office procedure, such items would be marked as underpaid, and surcharged at double the deficiency upon delivery to the addressee. Officials at the parcels office appreciated the potential loss of goodwill which mail order businesses would suffer under this procedure, and agreed instead to an alternative arrangement whereby underpaid parcels were delayed at the depot until the deficient amount was collected from the sender. The resulting delay in delivering such parcels was of course also problematic

in making a uniform and satisfactory arrangement by simply advancing a few shillings' worth of stamps to the Inspectors in charge of the duty, who will, of course, have to account for the use of them, and if the Secretary approve, instructions will be given accordingly."

The postal historian James A. Mackay records that on 9 November 1895, the Secretary of the Post Office gave formal approval to this practice, and a Deficiency Form was introduced for recording the deficiency when a business firm utilising the scheme was found to have insufficiently prepaid postage on a parcel. Instead of being delayed, the parcel was forwarded immediately, and the deficiency was made



up in postage stamps affixed to the form, which was then delivered to the sender, and returned with payment to the parcel office the following day. This arrangement apparently worked well, and cases of dispute were rare. If a firm despatched a large number of underpaid parcels, an officer from the postal depot would visit the firm and check their scales in order to remedy the problem.

Although this concession initially applied only to parcels, it appears that from around 1903, officials employed in other branches of the London Post Office were also, in exceptional circumstances, prepared to be flexible as regards underpaid letters and newspapers posted by their largest business customers. If a batch of such mail from a clearly identifiable source was discovered to have been posted underpaid, the local post office detained the relevant mail while a form was delivered to the sender informing him of the circumstances, and requesting immediate payment of the postage deficit. This practice was significantly different to that followed at the parcel office, in that the mail was delayed until the deficit was paid by the sender.

Mackay also records an incident which arose in January 1903 when some 25 urgent letters from Thomas Cook and Sons were found to have been accidentally posted underpaid, and consequently delayed whilst the deficiency was recovered, thereby missing the night, midnight and early day mails. Thomas Cook then made a formal request to the Controller of the London Postal Service that in future, such mail might be sent forward without delay, and the deficiency recovered later. The Controller instructed his Assistant, Mr Hunter, to investigate this request, and Hunter discovered that a similar concession had already been granted to three large organisations including *The Times* newspaper. Hunter was unable to find any authority or regulation to justify the concession, but recommended that it be extended to Thomas Cook: "It is desirable that the concession should be carefully guarded, but I think it might be extended to Messrs Cook and Co. It would be less trouble to the Department to send the correspondence rather than retain it, and a great boon to the senders and addressees in obviating delay." The concession already granted to *The Times* newspaper incorporated a slightly different procedure to that operated at the Parcel Office. If underpaid *Times* newspapers were discovered by the newspaper branch, they were marked with a PAID handstamp, and forwarded without delay; the deficiency was then added to *The Times'* weekly postage account. Although the Controller expressed

concern about the lack of authority for these concessionary arrangements, the privilege was subsequently extended to Thomas Cook and Co.

Mackay also reports that the London Post Office Archives contain an extensive dossier on subsequent developments in the concessionary arrangements and its extension to the underpaid mail posted by four or five additional large mail order companies. However, in 1925, the Controller became concerned that these special arrangements were being availed to the concessionaires on virtually every underpaid item which they posted. He noted that the concession "has been regarded as covering all short-paid items, whether in batches or individual loose items The collection of deficient postage in respect of isolated items involves trouble and clerical work out of proportion to the benefits gained, and it is thought that the Secretary may wish to confine the special arrangement in future to cases where not less than, say, 20 short-paid items posted by the firms in question come under notice at the same time."

This recommendation was initially accepted by the Postmaster General, but its implementation led to an immediate complaint from the subscription department of *The Times* who protested at the decision to send forward underpaid copies of the newspaper with a surcharge raised, instead of endorsing the packets with the PAID handstamp as happened previously: "To us, the surcharging of a newspaper addressed to a subscriber (who pays his postage charges to us in advance) has always been viewed with apprehension, but the concession which you have granted for the past 20 years has been a safeguard and has relieved us of this anxiety. Should you still find it necessary to adhere to this decision, would you agree to accept a supply of stamps from us for the purpose of meeting deficiencies in postage, and so obviate the necessity of special book-keeping which we understand you wish to avoid?" As a result of this and other protests, the Post Office subsequently reversed its decision, and allowed the concession to continue unchanged for the benefit of those organisations which had already been granted the privilege. Care was however taken not to extend the benefit of the concession to other postal users.

The Cape handstamp

The likely explanation for the usage of the DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp in Cape



Town is that the General Post Office for a while operated concessionary procedures for some of its large business customers similar to those developed in London. Since the only two reported surviving examples of the mark are to be found on newspaper wrappers, it is possible that these special arrangements applied only for the benefit of newspaper proprietors.

If this explanation is correct, it may also account for the scarcity of the mark. The law applicable to underpaid postal items at the Cape in 1905 was provided by section 15 of the Post Office Act of 1882:

"Any inland letter, inland packet, or inland newspaper, or any parcel posted with an unobliterated postage stamp of any denomination shall be regularly transmitted and delivered although the stamp be insufficient, but before delivery in this Colony there shall be paid in money double the amount of postage omitted to be prepaid, and the sum so to be paid shall be written or stamped on such letter, packet, newspaper, or parcel, by the postmaster who transmits or delivers the same."

Section 15 clearly requires mail insufficiency prepaid to be charged before delivery with double the deficient postage. The usage of the word 'shall' in this section means that this was obligatory. The Post Office and its employees had no authority or discretion to make other arrangements such as transmitting or delivering an underpaid newspaper without raising a surcharge. In fact, by applying the DEFICIENCY NOTED handstamp to an item of mail and not indicating the sum to be paid upon delivery of the item, the relevant officer was not only committing an unlawful act, but also providing compelling evidence of his misconduct! It is therefore likely that the concessionary procedure was terminated as soon as the relevant authorities became aware it was unlawful, and the handstamp was thereupon withdrawn.

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- Ralph Putzel *Postmarks of South Africa* (vol 2), Self published, Tokai, South Africa, 1992.

Nasionale Seëldag 2015 National Stamp Day

Smaller societies show enthusiasm and energy in promoting our hobby

While smaller societies were happy with their stamp day efforts, misgivings about the unserved National Stamp Day envelopes were expressed by the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

The Pretoria society was the only one of the country's six largest societies which staged a stamp day promotion.

The Philatelic Federation made free 2015 National Stamp Day envelopes available for all club members registered with the Federation, and the envelopes were provided in advance to secretaries for their club members.

It had been suggested that collectors could frank the envelopes with their preferred stamps, and have the items cancelled at their local postal offices, preferably on the stamp day, 10 October 2015.

The Federation also provided free individualised preprinted shop window posters to advertise stamp day events. "The posters were beautiful and stood out," said Prof Mike Dove of Pretoria, "but the lack of a proper serviced souvenir cover was really disappointing."

George sien glaskas vol seëlboeke

George - "Ons het 'n goeie klompie navrae hanteer en dit geniet om met mense te gesels," sê dr Charles Deacon, wat die George Philatelic Society se seëldag in die groot voorportaal van die George-biblioteek gereël het.

Met die samewerking van die biblioteekmense is die drie staanrame vanjaar so geplaas dat al ses kante gebruik kon word vir toonstukke.

Baie aandag is getrek deur Ken Coetzee se kleurrike versameling Soogdiere (2 rame) en Victor von Grutter se Transkei. Terry Walton, voorsitter van die klub, het Voëls gewys en van Chris Mobsby was daar Issuing authorities of Europe. Laastens het Charles self Kaapse inkomsteseëls gewys.

Elmine Vorster, die bibliotekaresse, het 'n groot glaskas na die voorportaal gebring vir 'n mooi uitstalling van katalogusse en seëlboeke uit die biblioteek se naslaanafdeling.

Daar was inligting en seëlpakkies vir belangstellendes. "Ons lede het heelhartig kon hand gee, so veel so dat op geen tydstop daar meer navraers as lede was nie," sê Charles.



Klein Ruth Muller (5) wys na 'n seël waarvan sy hou. Sy en haar sussies het elkeen 'n pakkie seëls by oom Charles Deacon gekry toe hulle George se biblioteek besoek het.

Mosselbaai laat touwys-video heeldag draai

Mosselbaai – Die wind het woes gewaai en die uitstalrame moes na 'n kalmer plek in die Langeberg Mall verskuif word, maar "alles was oor en oor die moeite werd", sê Gerrie Conradie, sekretaris van die Posboom-Filateliëklub.

Daar was die hele tyd 'n stroom mense, verbygangers en mense wat spesiaal gekom het nadat hulle in die koerant van die seëldag gelees of oor die radio gehoor het. Een nuwe lid is dadelik gewerf, en 'n vrou het besonderhede gevra om by 'n seëlklub in Pretoria aan te sluit.

"'n Tiental mense wou ou eersdedagkoeverte verkoop, en ons het hulle probeer aanspoor om weer te versamel," vertel Gerrie.

Daar was 'n uitstalling van koerantberigte

geïllustreer met seëls (soos Mandela se vrylating), 'n junior versameling "Hiervan hou ek" (speletjies en pret), en 'n onderwerpversameling oor Churchhill. Japie de Vos se DVD van 15 minute oor seëls en versameling, met kommentaar en klassieke musiek, is deurlopend gespeel op 'n skerm wat Game verskaf het.

Ander lede wat deur die dag gehelp het, was François Conradie, Nico de Bruin en voorsitter Jack Visser.

Many Maritzburg helpers radiate stamp happiness

Pietermaritzburg – The Maritzburg Philatelic Society had quite a large stand and many willing helpers at the Hayfields Mall in Pietermaritzburg.

Aubrey Bowles says there was a steady flow of people who expressed an interest mainly because they had collected in the past or knew somebody who did collect stamps.

One lady told the helpers that her son was an avid collector, so she was given a donation of stamps and invited to bring the son to the regular Monday afternoon club meetings.



Posboom-bestuurslede Gerrie Conradie (sek-retaris) en Jack Visser (voorsitter) gesels met 'n besoeker wat by 'n seëlklub in Pretoria wil aansluit.



Energetic stamp friends – Maritzburg Philatelic Society members enjoyed the day at their stand in the Hayfields Mall.

"Our club enjoys the get-together and fellowship which is shared by our members at events such as this, so we will definitely continue to celebrate National Stamp Day in future. Our club also benefits from the exposure at this event in a major shopping centre," Aubrey says.

Fish tank of stamps hooks viewers in Pinelands

Pinelands – “Please can we see a Penny Black?” Sure, and Marilyn Crawford opened one of her albums to reveal an array of Penny Blacks to the amazement – and delight – of onlookers in the Howard Place mall, where the Pinelands Stamp Circle had an information table for National Stamp Day.

Actually Marilyn had a few mounted and bound collections which onlookers could page through, for instance ‘Circus’, ‘Fairy Tales’ and ‘Valentine’s Day’.

She and husband Martin had a variety of stamps and items on display. Being an information table, they could not sell envelopes but handed out leaflets and brochures, and took e-mail addresses and later e-mailed the Pinelands stamp newsletter plus invitations to forthcoming meetings to a number of enquirers.

“Our fish tank scratch box was an eye catcher. It was a friendly atmosphere, and we were kept busy chatting to people all the time,” she says. “All in all, it was a successful morning.”

Good exhibits but dismay about ‘mint’ envelopes

Pretoria – This year’s National Stamp Day was a ‘damp squib’ - this was the report-back which Prof Mike Dove gave to the committee of the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

The society, with the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria, held a stamp day promotion on Saturday 3 October 2015 to coincide with the regular Pretoria stamp fair in Queenswood.

It was a good effort with a special enquiries table and 20 frames with exhibits – *Bloemfontein, Fountain of Flowers* (M. Dove), *South Africa 1925 Airmail* (André du Plessis), *Postcards of Cape Town Ladies, Church Square, Hungarian Trains and New Zealand Natural Disasters* (Terry Lynne Harris), *Porsche and Shapes and Sizes of Stamps* (Marge Viljoen), *Kremetartbome* (Cassie Carstens), *Pilanesberg* (Petra Heath), *Facebook Jan van Riebeeck* (Gina Wilgenbus), *Etosha* (Pieter Wilgenbus) and *Stamps of Africa* (Centurion Club). “The Federation provided commemorative envelopes, but there was no issue of stamps for World Post Day, and no special postmark. This was disappointing. One had to use one’s own stamps and have the item postmarked elsewhere,” Mike says.

“People were not interested, and in the end we had to give away envelopes.

“Marge Viljoen took a



Martin and Marilyn Crawford flew the philatelic flag at the Howard Place mall in Pinelands. The passer-by was intrigued by the fish tank full of stamps.



Die Mosselbaaiers het die uitstalruimte in die Langeberg Mall goed benut om seëlversameling bekend te stel.

number of envelopes, affixed standard postage stamps and had these cancelled by Philatelic Services. Altogether less than satisfactory, Stamp Day is an event that should be supported by the postal authorities.”

Hierdie poskantoor gee sonskyn-samewerking

Stellenbosch – Pragtige samewerking van die posmeesteres van Soneike het ‘n kenmerk geword van die Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging se Nasionale Seëldag-promosie by die Soneike-winkelsentrum, een van die bedrywigste koopsentrums in die Kaap. “Vinanda Burger het ons

met raad en daad bygestaan,” sê Robert Harm, die Federasie se vise-president vir Wes-Kaapland. “Dit is ‘n plesier om met so ‘n poskantoor saam te werk.”

Die vereniging het twee tafels gehad, beman deur Ida Potgieter, Leon Smith, Elliot Swart en Robert, met ‘n verskeidenheid promosiemateriaal. “Soos maar die geval is, was daar heelwat navrae van mense wat ‘n seëlversameling of EDKs geërf het en nou nie weet wat om daarmee te doen nie. Daar was ook navrae van mense wat wil versamel, en gawe gesprekke is met hulle gevoer. Aan die hand van die uitstallings kon ons ook wys met wat met seëls en posmateriaal gedoen kan word,” vertel Robert.

Daar was drie uitstallings, elk in ‘n raam, naamlik ‘Slagskepe’, ‘Chocolate, drink of the gods’ en ‘Audi Philately’. “Almal is dit eens dat dit ‘n heel bevredigende oggend was,” sê Robert.



Leon Smith en Robert Harm was twee van die Stellenbosse by die inligtingstafels in die Soneike-sentrum.

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser, Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



Where is Marabastad?

Dave Young from Fish Hoek recently sent me a 1904 cover posted from Marabastad. He had shown this at his society meeting, and no one was able to place Marabastad. If one were to ask any Pretorianer they would immediately locate it just north of the CBD in Pretoria. On the city map it is called Asian Bazaar. But this area did not have a post office.

Marabastad was situated on the Pretoria – Pietersburg railway 14 km southwest of Pietersburg and was named after a local chief Maraba. It was one of the earliest post offices in the Transvaal having opened in 1868 but it was renamed Eerstegoud in 1955 at the request of the inhabitants to commemorate Edward Button's discovery of the first Transvaal gold at Eersteling in 1871. When Schoemansdal was evacuated in 1867 the magistracy was moved to Marabastad. On 31 July 1886 the magistrate's office was moved to Pietersburg and the importance of Marabastad started to decline. Eerstegoud appeared on the 1999 list of post offices, but not on later lists. Evidently it was closed shortly after 1999. Any additional information is welcome.

A total of 5 date stamps have been recorded for Marabastad, including the earliest type of date stamp shown in Figure 1a. Eerstegoud also had 5 date stamps, and the first one is shown in fig 1b.



Fig. 1. First date stamps of Marabastad, and its successor Eerstegoud.

Caveat emptor

I recently obtained a nice strike of Barrydale, shown in fig. 2a. Clear impressions are always popular. However, on closer inspection it did not match the Cape style of a double circle with a cross at the base enclosed by curved bars, shown in fig. 2b. Someone had taken two partial impressions on stamps, stuck them on a piece of paper and filled in the missing parts. The pencil lines were evident once one knew what to look for. This is a primitive fake, but professionals make date stamps that look exactly like the original, and the only indication is a fixed date as the forgers do not make rotating dates. More about this in a future column. It is obvious that knowledge of your collecting field is crucial to avoid mishaps that are occurring regularly with internet purchases.



Fig. 2. Doctored and correct impressions of Barrydale.

A recent telegram impression

Telegrams formed a fundamental means of rapid communication in the previous century. I had not heard of telegrams being used nowadays because of all the modern means of communication, such as cell phones and email. Great was my surprise to receive a fastmail envelope that originated in Milnerton in the Cape with a telegram date stamp shown in fig. 3. The letter was addressed to Johannesburg, hence the Witspos transit mark. Perhaps our readers in the Cape can explore the use and origin of the telegram date stamp.



Fig. 3. Telegram date stamp on fastmail letter originating from Milnerton.

Eertydse belangrike sentra verloor hulle status as gevolg van veranderde ekonomiese en sosiale omstandighede. Marabastad, naby Pietersburg, gestig in 1868 is so 'n sentrum. Dit was voorheen 'n bekende punt op die spoorlyn na die noorde maar deesdae heeltemal vergete, waarskynlik ook as gevolg van die naamsverandering na Eerstegoud in 1955. Die voorbeeld van 'n gedokterde stempel van Barrydale bewys weereens hoe kundig en opletend mens moet wees, veral met internethandel. Kan iemand asseblief in die Kaap help met die bepaling van oorsprong en gebruik van die telegram datumstempel wat skynbaar in Milnerton sy oorsprong het?

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- 21 Apr - HM The Queen's 90th Birthday
- 17 May - Animapl
- 21 June - First World War - 1916
- 07 July - Music Giants
- 28 July - Beatrix Potter
- 16 Aug - Landscape Gardens
- 02 Sept - The Great Fire of London
- 15 Sept - Agatha Christie
- 20 Oct - To be announced
- 08 Nov - Christmas



29 May - 04 June '16

NEW YORK 2016 USA - FIP Patronage

SOUTH AFRICAN EXHIBITS
ACCEPTED FOR NY2016**Class 2A**1. *The development and use of the 3c Washington of the United States: 1861-69.* Jan Hofmeyr, 5 frames**Class 2D**2. *Israel First Airmails 1950.*
Brian Gruzd, 5 frames3. *The Rhodesia George V Admiral 1913-1922 Issue – The Geneses of the bi-coloured Stamps of the Issue.*
Patrick Flanagan, 8 frames**Class 3C**4. *Germany-Mail Postilion on Postcards used from May 1921 to April 1924.* Herwig Kussing, 5 frames5. *The Netherlands – Postage Due Stamps of 1912.*
Jan A. Bakker, 5 frames**Class 3D**6. *Official Mail of the Cape Colony.*
Hugh Amooore, 8 frames**Class 7C**7. *The Allure of Diamonds.*
Frank Friedman, 5 frames**Class 9**8. *South West African Revenues and Allied Tax Stamps.*
Howard Green. 8 frames**Class 11**9. *Swaziland Philately to 1968 ('E' Book Edition).* Peter van der Molen, Author10. *Swaziland Philately to 1968* (printed book edition). Peter van der Molen, Author**Class 12A**11. *The 1961 Decimal Overprints of Basutoland.* Avi Barit, 1 frame**Class 12B**12. *World War I: The 1914 Rebellion in South Africa.* James Findlay, 1 frame**Class 14**13. *The South African Border War, Including the Involvement of the Cubans, 1966-1989.* Gawie Van der Walt, 5 frameswww.ny2016.org**COLIN EWELS**
1930 - 2015

It is with deep regret that we have been informed that Colin Ewels has passed away. Our deepest sympathies go to his widow, Patricia, and his family on their sad loss.

Colin Edgar Ewels, was a member of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society for over 30 years. He passed away from leukaemia on Wednesday, 28 October 2015, at the age of 85. He and his wife, Patricia were married for 58 years. They had three daughters - Lynette (Cape Town), Myrtle (Bryanston) and Deanne (Australia). A private cremation was held for the close family only.

Colin had been the official photographer of the Society and was always available to say grace at banquets and dinners. Colin joined the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society as a home member in 1994 when the Society relocated to the Country Club Johannesburg, but was a member at the old Wanderers Philatelic Society many years before then. He very seldom missed a meeting and as the official photographer of the Society, Colin always showed up at meetings with his cameras and distributed many of the photos he took. We shall definitely miss him.

Herbie Schaffler

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NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION CAPE TOWN CITY HALL, DARLING STREET, CAPE TOWN

The exhibition venue.

The CAPEX 2015 National Stamp Exhibition, organised by the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town with assistance from other local societies, was held from 14 to 17 October 2015 in the City Hall at Cape Town. That historically significant building erected in 1905, which featured on the cover of our October 2015 issue, was kindly made available by the City of Cape Town and its Auditorium provided a magnificent setting for the exhibition, as shown with the impressive organ comprising 3165 pipes in the background. In other parts of the building still being restored, the absence of furnishings did somewhat affect the acoustics.



The Auditorium showing the magnificent setting of the exhibition in the City Hall



Alderman Ian Neilson during his speech at the official opening of the exhibition

The Official Opening

This was performed on Wednesday 14 October, by Alderman Ian Neilson, in the magnificent Mayor's Parlour in the City Hall, lined with paintings of Mayors and Aldermen of years past.

Very interesting refreshments were served afterwards and an 'official' Capex cake went down well.

His principal comments were "We live in a changing world – a world of instant communication and short messaging, of the expectation of immediate gratification and limited attention spans.

It is therefore quite wonderful that an age-old activity, like philately is still thriving in our city.

And so it is a great opportunity for this community to come together at this exhibition in our historical city and marvel It is also encouraging that philately is not just for the more mature person. There are some budding young philatelists at this exhibition, the youngest of whom, Isabella, is just eight years old.

Today, at the opening of the Philatelic Federation's National exhibition, we are lucky to bear witness to some truly valuable and praiseworthy stamps.

I would like to wish you well for the rest

of the exhibition. I'm sure that events like this give you a much-needed chance to exchange thoughts around philately and to view each other's collections.

Thank you again for the opportunity to address you today and enjoy the exhibition."



Mrs. Lydia Smith, inhouse caterer with the specially decorated cakes made for the official opening.



An attentive audience during the Official Opening speech by Alderman Ian Neilson



A guided tour of the exhibition and its highlights for Alderman Ian Neilson by President Keith Brodovky



Mike Walker and Andrew McLaren manning the entrance table



Garry Brown and David Figg with their spouses



The Judges doing their job - Emil Minnaar RDPSA and Michael Wigmore RDPSA

Exhibition Medals

All competitors and Jury Members were issued with a handsome 50mm diameter medal, with colour appropriate to qualification (for the Jury was 'Bronze'), and inscribed with name and award level / reason



Adrian de Bourbon, John Carter, Brian Dennis and Malcolm Suttill clearing the exhibits in the Bin Room



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Henk de Lange.



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Volker Janssen.



Verena Mary Rogers.



Kevin Lodge.



Charl Poole (SAPO).



Brian Fenemore.



Ida Potgieter.



Marlies Stephan.



Malcolm Suttill.



Neil Matthee.



David Figg, Australian member of the Jury. On Saturday 17 October David conducted a well attended workshop on exhibiting of Picture Postcards.

The Jury and Dealers Function

The Jury dinner was held at the Western Province Cricket Club and was attended by members of the Jury, Dealers and members of the Organising Committee together with partners. Rather than a formal dinner, guests were able to make selections from an extensive buffet table.



Western Province Cricket Club

Emil Bührmann thanked the members of the jury for the willingness to form part of the jury and for their balanced assessments of the exhibits.

It was a relaxed and informal evening, enjoyed by all present. No formal photographs were taken.

Dealers in Attendance at Capex 2015

DEALERS AND POSTAL AUTHORITIES

- 1 Janssen Stamps - Volker Janssen
- 2 Spink - David Parsons
- 3 Henk de Lange Philatelists
- 4 John & Mark Taylor
- 5 Gerald Bodily
- 6 Alan MacGregor / Michael Deverell
- 7 Crocker & Wigmore
- 8 Andy Kriegler Stamps
- 9 Filat AG, Zurich - Johnson Philatelics
- 10 Namibia Post
- 11 Chris Rainey / David Morrison
- 12 Doreen Royan & Associates (Pty) Ltd
- 13 Argyll Etkin - Adam Cooke
- 14 Paul van Zeyl t/a Rand Stamps
- 15 SAPDA
- 16 Eden Stamps - Steve van den Hurk
- 17 Stamp's Friend - Francois Friend
- 18 South African Post Office



The 'Senior' Jury comprised 17 persons: *Front row, L to R: Mervyn Rosenberg, Emil Bührmann (Chairman), David Figg (Australia); Middle row: Neil Cronjé, Hugh Amoore, Howard Green, Mrs Jill Redmond, Emil Minnaar; Back row: Alan McGreor, Richard Bodily (UK), Henk de Lange, Steven Gardiner (Learner), Andrew Fisher, David Parsons (UK), Colin Hoffman (UK). Not in picture: Chris Carey (Secretary), Michael Wigmore.*

Awards Listing of Senior Exhibits

LARGE GOLD

- *The Development and use of the 3c Washington; 1861- 1869.*
Dr. J.H. Hofmeyr Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Grand Prix Award (Best Exhibit in Show)*
- *The Road to Democracy In South Africa 1850 - 1994.*
Dr. H.J.G. Kamffer RDPSA Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *SA Post Office Trophy (Best Exhibit in SA Philately)*
- *The British South Africa Company Rhodesia - The Small Arms Issues - 1892 to 1898.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
* *The Total Stampex 95 Trophy (Best Exhibit from area outside SA) and * The Rhodesia Award (Best Rhodesia Exhibit)*
- *Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.*
Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
* *The Royal Medallion (Best British Commonwealth)*
- *Anglo Boer War: Boer Prisoners of War Camps in India.*
Dr. N.J. Zerbst RDPSA Orange Free State Philatelic Society
* *The Stampcor Award (Best Pre-Union Exhibit)*
* *The Anglo-Boer War Society Cup (Best Anglo-Boer War Exhibit)*
- *1900 Paris Exhibition.*
Mrs. J.L. Roland Australian Philatelic Society
* *The Picture Postcard Thematic Cup (Best Picture Postcard Exhibit not Southern Africa)*

GOLD

- *British South Africa Company Rhodesia: The Double Head Issue of 1910.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
* *The IIsapex '98 Award (At the Discretion of the Jury)*
- *Cape of Good Hope 1853 - 1910.*
R. Debney Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Pilot Pen Award (At the Discretion of the Jury)*
- *Postal History of the Original George District (c. 1777 - 1911).*
Ds. J.P. Steyl RDPSA George Philatelic Society
* *The D.G. Crocker Cup (Best Postal History Exhibit)*
- *Patent and Proprietary Tax Stamps of CoGH.*
Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
* *The Vrijstaat Trophy (Best One Frame Exhibit)*
- *Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika: The George VI Definitive Issue.*
P. Flanagan RDPSA Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- *GB - The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge 1871 - 1885.*
M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
- *A Day Out in Aden.*
G. Brown Australian Philatelic Society
* *The David Figg Award (Best Postcard Title Page)*
- *Australian Philanthropic Organisations with the Forces in World War II.*
M.J. Roland Australian Philatelic Society

• *The First Five Years: Southern African and Related Picture Postcards 1896 - 1940.*

G.V.H. Flack Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *The Archie Atkinson Trophy (Best Picture Postcard Exhibit of Southern Africa)*

• *Southern Rhodesia: King George V and VI Definitive Series: 1924-1953.*

K. Brodovcky Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *Die AFV Eretoekenning (At the Discretion of the Jury)*

• *Germany: The Postilion on Postcards used during the Inflation Period May 1921 - April 1924.*

H Kussing RDPSA Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
* *The Terence Radue Shield (Best Foreign Exhibit)*

• *Transvaal.*

C.F. Welling Oilphilat Sasolburg
* *The Tony Chilton Transvaal Award (Best ZAR/Transvaal Exhibit)*

• *Selection of Postal Rates and Regulations of the Republic of South Africa (1961-1994).*

Dr. H.J.G. Kamffer RDPSA Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *The Potch 78 Award (Best Exhibit Post-WW II)*
* *The C.E.D. Enoch Trophy (Best Philatelic Research)*

• *The Pursuit of Butterflies and Moths.*

Prof. H. Geertsema Stellenbosch Philatelic Society
* *The Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup (Best Thematic Exhibit)*

• *Natal Postal Stationery.*

G. Brown Australian Philatelic Society
• *Revenues of Southern Rhodesia 1924 - 1953.*

A.P. de Bourbon Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *Dawie de Villiers Display Trophy (Best Presented Exhibit)*

• *The 'Bittereinder' Rebellion and Union's Entry into WWI in German SWA.*

P. van Zeyl South West Africa Study Circle
* *The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Trophy (Best Open Class Exhibit)*

• *Art Nouveau and Art Deco.*

Mrs. A.V. Broodryk Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

LARGE VERMEIL

• *Great Britain: The Low Values of 1879 to the Penny Lilacs.*

M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *1910 Union of South Africa number 1.*

R.A.W. Boezak Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
• *Made in the Union of South Africa. Stamps and Varieties of the Unhyphenated stamps of 1925 - 1933.*

A. du Plessis Pretoria Philatelic Society
* *The South African Stamp Study Circle Award (Best SA Exhibit after 1910)*

• *IBM - The History of International Business Machines.*

W.O. Vegter Belville Philatelic Society
* *Australian Philatelic Federation - Open Class (Best in Class)*

• *The Stamps of St. Helena (1884-1935).*

J.F.C. Friend Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
• *Oranje Vrij Staat & Orange River Colony - Aspects of Postal History Oct 1899 - May 1902.*

J.A. Cheminais RDPSA Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
• *The Western Campaign of the Anglo Boer War.*

R.J.A. Sparks Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *GB - The Circular Delivery Companies.*

M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Story of a Swiss Mountain, The Rigi 1850 - 1912.*
S. van den Hurk Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Malta, 1863 - 1936.*

B.A. Franklin Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Federal Duck Stamps of the USA: 1934 - 2015.*

A.H. Putter Oilphilat Sasolburg

• *Flaws Galore of Northern Rhodesia.*

P.A. Evans Maritzburg Philatelic Society

• *Postcards made of different materials.*

Mrs. P. Edwards Para Hills, Australia

• *Picture Postcards of Swaziland.*

P. van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL East Rand P S

VERMEIL

• *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek/Transvaal Postal Stationery.*

P. van Zeyl South West Africa Study Circle

• *Union Commemorative Stamp of South Africa - 1910.*

W. Barnard Belville Philatelic Society
* *The Arie Bakker Trophy (Best First-time One Frame Exhibit)*

• *Stellaland to the Bechuanalands.*

M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *South Africa's Postage Dues, its Usage and Aftermath.*

W.O. Vegter Belville Philatelic Society
• *Local Stamps in Germany 1945 - 1946.*

A.P. de Bourbon Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *GB- Wensleydale with Bedale, it's Post Town.*

M.I. Suttill Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *South African Postcards of the Anglo Boer War.*

R.J.A. Sparks Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *A Cornish Tour.*

A.G. Downes Australian Philatelic Society
• *Zambian Booklets & Coils: 1964 - 1981.*

K. Brodovcky Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *The Stamps of German South West Africa & the Mandated issues of South West Africa 1889 - 1945.*

P.J. Siebert Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
* *East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy (Best First-time Exhibitor) and *The Rose Mary Crocker Bowl (Best SWA Exhibit)*

• *British Honduras Postal Stationery.*

Dr. I.A. Matheson RDPSA P S of Johannesburg
• *Springbok Shuttle: South African Air Force in WWII.*

Dr. J.B.R. Findlay RDPSA P S of Johannesburg
• *North Terrace, Adelaide.*

Mrs. P. Edwards Para Hills, Australia
• *Great Britain: George V.*

A. Rogers Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
• *Cairns - Kuranda Scenic Railway.*

Mrs. P. Edwards Para Hills, Australia
• *Look Closely.*

D.J. Edwards Salisbury Philatelic Society (Australia)
• *With a Camera down memory lane.*

Ds. J.P. Steyl RDPSA George Philatelic Society

LARGE SILVER

• *Tafelberg, op die Agtergrond.*

G.J. Hugo Paarlse Filateliste

* *The F.A.K. Trophy (Best write-up in Afrikaans)*

• *The High Inflation In Germany 1923.*

F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Union of SA: Christmas Seals, the South African Post Office and the Government Printer - A Partnership in fighting child tuberculosis.*

P.S. Coetzee West Rand Philatelic Society

• *The Stamps, Postmarks & Postal History of the Bechuanalands (1861 - 1966).*

B. Fenemore Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *The A-Z Overprinted Postage, Revenue and Surcharged Stamps of GB from Abu Dhabi (Das Island) - Zululand*

B. Fenemore Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Egypt's Cassette Post.*

W.O. Vegter Belville Philatelic Society

• *The Mystifying and Unexplained.*

Mev. R. De Villiers Belville Philatelic Society

• *The Extended Compulsory Military Service of 1977.*

W.P. Venter Paarlse Filateliste

• *Colonial Hong Kong & The Treaty Ports of China 1862-1997.*

J.G. Kilroe Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Cape of Good Hope.*

F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

• *Value Errors on Queen Elizabeth II Stamps.*

Dr. A. Barit Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *Stamp Booklets of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and UDI Rhodesia.*

P.S. Coetzee West Rand Philatelic Society

• *Cape Government Railways Postcards Third Series.*

M.D. Murphy Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *Cecil John Rhodes ... "A Good Story To Be Told".*

P.J.J. Meyer Mossel Bay Philatelic Society

SILVER

• *1c Kafferboom Flower.*

N.C. Smith Belville Philatelic Society

• *Air Letter Forms of Rhodesia 1941 - 1963.*

A.P. De Bourbon Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

• *South Africa - the 'Official/Offisiel' Overprints.*

W.O. Vegter Belville Philatelic Society

• *Southern Rhodesia 1924-1964.*

D. Viljoen Belville Philatelic Society

• *GB King George Typographed & Photogravure Postage Stamps 1911 - 1936.*

M.J.H. Tonking South African Stamp Study Circle

• *Animal Farm.*

Thematics SA Cape Chapter

• *Great Britain: Missing Queen Heads.*

Dr. S. Barit Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

• *South African Stamp Exhibitions 1961 - 1987.*

V.J. Mitchell Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

- *South African Stamp Exhibitions 1988 - 2014.*
V.J. Mitchell Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

SILVER BRONZE

- *The Formula Registered Envelopes of Eastern Africa.*
B.P. Beston Australia
- *Lighter than Air - A History of Balloon Flights.*
D. Viljoen Belville Philatelic Society
- *Slesvig – Plebiscite 1920.*
F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *Stamps and mail of the Union's Experimental Air Mail Service 1924.*
A. Du Plessis Pretoria Philatelic Society
- *Domestic Dogs - Origins of the Various Breeds.*
G.J. Butcher Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
- *Cape of Good Hope: Postal Stationery 1878 - 1910.*
D. Viljoen Belville Philatelic Society
- *The Funeral.*

- Dr. C.J. Molyneux Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *Early Architects of Cape Town and a Selection of their Buildings in South Africa.*
M.J. Walker Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

- *I, Robot - the story of the young robot Kiddo talking to his Mom.*
W.O. Vegter Belville Philatelic Society
- *Kurland.*
F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *Postmarks and Postal History of Grahamstown – Cape of Good Hope Period.*
Dr. J.M. Haigh Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

BRONZE

- *Wyn en Wyngerd.*
Dr. N.J. Zerbst RDPSA OFS Philatelic Society
- *The South African 5th Definitive issue (1988 -1993).*
J.F.C. Friend Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
- *Mourning Stamps..*
F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *South Africa's Political Shifting Identity.*

- Mrs. D. Kapp Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
- *Agricultural Crops in South Africa.*
Maritzburg Philatelic Society

- *Livestock Farming in South Africa.*
Maritzburg Philatelic Society
- *TIBET.*
F-V. Janssen Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *The South African Medical Corps in World War I.*
D.G. Young Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
- *'Doen Dit Self'.*
Mev. H.H Botha Orange Free State Philatelic Society
- *Handstempels lyk soms anders.*
Mev. H.H Botha Orange Free State Philatelic Society
- *Captain James Cook – an introduction.*
Mrs. M. Stephan Stellenbosch Philatelic Society
- *Beautiful Bodies.*
A.W. Bowles Maritzburg Philatelic Society

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

- *The Centenary of the Anglo Boer War.*
R.J. Wood Highway Philatelic Society

THE 77TH NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION

Welcoming delegates to this Congress, President Keith Brodovky announced the election of Peter van der Molen RDPSA FRPSL as Honorary Life President of the Philatelic Federation. Peter expressed his appreciation for this great honour and was thankful for the confidence expressed in him. (See Citation on page 202.)

In his 'In Memoriam', the President then mentioned many philatelic friends who had closed their albums since the 2014 Congress.



Peter van der Molen, photo taken at the Palmars.

The Official Opening of Congress

Congress was opened by Ian Shapiro of Spink who was most appreciative of the honour.

Ian said "I grew up in Cape Town and was a junior member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town. I thought I would give you a brief view of the philatelic world as I see

it from my vantage point in London, where I am involved in both the retail and auction business, and now associated with Spink.

The philatelic world is healthy at a certain level. The demand is strong for rare stamps, proofs, essays, postal history and the unusual. But the way of collecting is changing. Many choose not to attend shows or to join societies and acquire new material in other ways. On-line auctions including E-bay are highly significant stimulants to the market. Having a daily auction in one's home is the greatest boost to collecting in recent times – and it is made so easy.

However, the role of the dealer must not be underestimated, not only as the repository of stock for sale but the source of information and guidance. I lament the absence of the old fashioned relationships that existed between dealer and collector, and it isn't all about money; friendship and trust are so important.

With regard to youth philately I am pessimistic. The definition of a pessimist is an experienced optimist. Youngsters today have other distractions and South Africa is no different to the rest of the world in this regard. JUNASS is to be commended for continued excellent work against tough odds. The encouragement of new collectors is imperative. Here I must highlight the mentoring programme being undertaken by the American Philatelic Society, whereby young collectors are guided by their seniors, and have even been brought on philatelic tours to the UK and Europe.

Turning to national exhibitions in South Africa, and I have attended all 25 in the past quarter of a century, I urge you to concentrate on greater publicity for these shows. There is no point in going to the immense effort in staging annual exhibitions when they appear to be held in secret. Find commercial sponsorships and engage a professional company to deal with publicity.



Ian Shapiro of SPINK

Philately has never been short of politics and I trust you will approach today in a spirit of unity of purpose in your deliberations. Healthy debate is good, but in a shrinking philatelic market in South Africa there has to be closer cooperation within organised philately. I hope that as Congress comes to an end, you all have a sense of satisfaction at being part of the philatelic future of the country. I too will do my best to help promote the hobby in SA because this is where my heart still belongs.

South Africa has a proud philatelic tradition to uphold and I wish you well today. I declare the 2015 Congress now open. Thank you".

Presidential Address

Philatelic Federation of South Africa Congress: Oct 2015, Cape Town, by Keith Brodovsky who welcomed all to the 77th Congress of the PFSA.

"Organised philately, Federation and the affiliated societies are indeed fortunate to have so many dedicated people working for our hobby. The Management Committee under the Chairmanship of Vernon Mitchell, Secretary and Membership Secretary Jill Redmond RDPSA and Treasurer Emil Minnaar RDPSA form the core of the administration of Federation, ably supported by the Chairmen of the various committees and the Regional Vice-Presidents. Every contribution is crucial to the smooth and effective running of Federation.



Keith Brodovsky

Unfortunately two key members of the Management Committee have resigned; Vernon Mitchell after 3 years in the Chair and Emil Minnaar as Treasurer, a position he has held for 11 years. It is not easy to chair a large and diverse Committee when the members are scattered throughout South Africa and Vernon has gone about this task with great dedication. As treasurer, Emil has played a major role in ensuring that Federation's finances have been kept on a sound footing. Emil has agreed to complete the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2015 and his expertise will not be lost, as he continues as Chairman of the FIP/FIAP Standing Committee. To both gentlemen, many thanks - your contributions are immeasurable.

A welcome was extended to Andrew Fischer as Treasurer, to the Management Committee. *The SA Philatelist* is paramount in promoting our hobby and the study of all its facets, with special emphasis on Southern Africa. Under Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL, Chairman of the Editorial Board, the journal has gone from strength to strength. I applaud the steps taken to cater for a wide range of philatelic interests, whilst retaining its pre-eminence as one of the top publications on South African philately.

Internationally, Emil Minnaar RDPSA who serves on the Board of FIAP, acted as

Commissioner for *Singapore 2015 World Stamp Exhibition* for the six South African exhibitors who participated with much success. Congratulations to all, especially to Emil Bührmann RDPSA who received a Large Gold and special prize.

Later this year a number of South African exhibitors will be taking part in Hong Kong 2015 with Jim Findlay as commissioner. We wish them every success.

The Publicity Committee chaired by Joh Groenewald RDPSA continues to expand the hobby through promotional pamphlets, highlighting National Stamp Day and publicising the National Stamp Exhibition Cape Town 2015.

The new website, not as yet fully operational, is a key component in promoting Federation and our affiliated societies, and in addressing members' needs. Included in the website is a section to which members only, will have access.

As part of the programme to promote the benefits of belonging to Federation, membership cards, kindly sponsored by Eden Stamps, were distributed to society members in August.

The Task Team, under Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL continues to provide valuable insight and recommendations to the Management Committee and Congress on the challenges facing our hobby. At the 2014 Pretoria Congress the team recommended streamlining Federation's operations. One of their proposals was that the May Management Meeting be held via teleconference, which proved a great success and will certainly form part of future meetings.

The Heritage Committee chaired by Gawie van der Walt RDPSA, plans to set up a Philatelic Heritage Trust to oversee the preservation of philatelic material and related items owned by the PFSA.

Earlier this year a dispute between the Bellville Philatelic Society and the Management Committee was resolved by Adjudication. The Adjudicator, Advocate Adrian de Bourbon SC, noted some shortcomings in 'Article 24 - Dispute Resolution' of the Constitution, and recommended that the by-laws provide for procedures regarding dispute resolution. There is a motion before this Congress to address these shortcomings and I would like to thank Adrian for his professional and comprehensive report and recommendations.

Cape Town has a tradition of hosting National Exhibitions of the highest standard and CAPEX 2015 is no exception. Thanks go to Alan Rogers, Chairman of the Organising Committee and his team from the Western Cape societies on a job well done.

Declining society membership is the most important challenge facing philately.

Divergent views, vigorous debate and exchange of ideas will enable us to find solutions to the various issues and I have no doubt that as a group with a common goal we will find solutions to the many challenges facing our hobby." He concluded by saying "There is no music having a single sound. Different sounds are needed to give music harmony."

Congress Nominations & Awards



Howard Green RDPSA read the Citations

- **Roll of Honour:** Richard Stroud (UK) and Mike Tonking were elected to sign the Roll.
- **Skinner Cup:** Alex Visser was elected to receive this prestigious award.
- **Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion** awarded to Dr Chris Board OBE FRPSL for his outstanding research into aspects of Transvaal Philately.
- **J Harvey Pirie Memorial Award** to David Wigston for his work in compiling PFSA's first E-book, the electronic version of *Swaziland Philately to 1968*.
- **W E Lea Cup** awarded to Mrs Connie Liebenberg for 15 years' meticulous checking and recording of the printing and appearance of SA stamps and with publication thereof in the monthly *Newsletter of the RSA Study Group*.
- **Jack Hagger Award** to Dr Jim Findlay RDPSA for his articles in the SAP on *World War II SA Censor Types & Numbers and their Allocation*.
- **Federation Plaque** to Kevin Price of Australia for his research relating to the philately of the Orange Free State.
- **Congress Award Certificate** to Vernon Mitchell in recognition of three years as Chairman of the Management Committee and the Exhibitions Committee.
- **Long Service Award** of a desk clock to Emil Minnaar in recognition of his dedicated and meticulous service to the PFSA as Treasurer for eleven years.
- **Congress Awards** were also extended to authors of significant or serialised articles in *The South African Philatelist* for articles in the issues from October 2014 to August 2015:
 - Robin Messenger - New issues
 - Ds Cassie Carstens - Thematically Yours
 - Dr JR Frank - Letter from London



Ds Cassie Carstens receiving his Congress Award from President Keith Brodovcky

Volker Janssen - Comic Corner
Chris Mobsby - Cinderellas
Garry Osthoff - Decorated Post Offices
Alex Visser - Phun with Postmarks

Principal Congress Debates and Decisions

Many topics were debated, with much attention given to dwindling memberships and the need for effective promotion of the hobby. Only an overview of some are given here; those members who require further detail should request their Societies to provide them with a copy of the Congress Minutes.

Motions Debated At Congress

1 - The present prohibition on members of the Management Committee being also an office bearer of a non-affiliated Society was debated. The original rationale for this prohibition was that such members ought to be fully committed to Federation and should not have such a conflict of interest. This prohibition was lifted and replaced by a requirement to disclose such interests.

2 - On capitation fees, there was a motion

to confirm the standing arrangement that each Society shall declare all members to Federation and that capitation fees shall be payable for all home members. Another motion proposed to introduce a dual level capitation fee, the lower level giving a reduced level of benefits. The former motion was carried; the dual capitation fee motion was defeated.

3 - A series of motions concerning the Constitution were proposed, originating from the Task Team to streamline PFSA operations. Many of the original motions had not been carried at the Management Committee level, most of the remaining motions concerned minor operational amendments and were carried.

4 - Concerning the affiliation fee for 2016, Management proposed that it remain unchanged at R150 p.a. for each and every 'home' member, to which there were no objections.



Andrew Fischer receiving his Congress Award from President Keith Brodovcky

5 - Under the heading of 'Restructuring Operation and Services of PFSA' there was lively discussion. Two previous recommendations of the Task team, introducing membership cards and teleconferencing, had proven successful. A series of other proposals were mentioned which resulted in three action points being minuted: (a) instigate research by an independent research company, (b) collect more feedback, and (c) consider feedback for implementation.

Incoming Management Committee

This was advised as:

Chairman – to be elected after conclusion of Congress, as had been decided at the preceding Management Meeting.

Treasurer: Andrew Fisher

Secretary: Mrs Jill Redmond RDPSA

Foundation Representative: Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL

Exhibitions: Herwig Kussing

Expert: Michael Wigmore RDPSA

FIP/FIAP: Emil Minnaar RDPSA

Heritage: Gawie van der Walt RDPSA

Judging & Ethics: Neil Cronjé RDPSA

Promotions: Joh Groenewald RDPSA

Publications: Emil Minnaar RDPSA and Joh Groenewald RDPSA

SAP : Peter van der Molen RDPSA

Youth: Mrs Jill Redmond to continue as Consultant.

Other functions:

Awards Custodian – Peter van der Molen;

Archivist: vacant.

Elections at Congress

Steven van den Hurk (SAPDA) was elected as President for the coming year. There was no nomination for the position of Deputy President since the venue for the 2017 National Exhibition had as yet not been agreed.

Regional Vice Presidents

Region 1: Gauteng & North-West:
to be advised

Region 2: Eastern Gauteng:
Jimmy Mitchell

Region 3: Pretoria, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo: Ds Cassie Carstens

Region 4: Free State & Northern Cape:
Dr Leon Jacobson

Region 5: KwaZulu Natal:
Mrs Bev McNaught-Davis

Region 6: Western Cape:
Robert Harm

Region 7: Eastern Cape:
Vernon Mitchell

Region 8: Outside Areas:
Andrew Higson (UK).



Happy Congress Delegates



The Palmares Dinner, held at the Tsogo Cape Sun Hotel, was attended by 87 guests. The Master of Ceremonies was Hugh Amoore RDPSA and the Guest Speaker Mr. Twiggs Xiphu – Group Executive Public Affairs at the South African Post Office. Organising Chairman Alan Rogers and President Keith Brodovcky both gave short speeches of thanks to all who helped to make this Exhibition a success

Awards from Vermeil to Large Gold plus the Grand Prix were presented on the evening. Howard Green RDPSA read the Citations for the two persons elected at Congress to sign the Roll. As neither of the gentlemen were present, the official signing would be carried out at a later date.

Outgoing President of Federation, Keith Brodovcky handed over the Chain of Office to Steve van den Hurk.



Guest Speaker Mr. Twiggs Xiphu – Group Executive Public Affairs at the South African Post Office.



Vernon Mitchell, outgoing Chairman of the Management Committee, collecting the Terence Radue Shield on behalf of Herwig Kussing.



Hugh Amoore RDPSA – Master of Ceremonies at the Palmares Dinner



Dr Gerhard Kamffer, Pretoria with The SA Post Office Trophy. He was also awarded 'The Potch 78 Trophy' for the Best Exhibit Post WWII and the The C.E.D. trophy for Best Philatelic Research for his exhibit: 'A Selection of Postal Rates and Regulations of the Republic of South Africa 1961-1994'.



Adrian de Bourbon (at left) receiving his medal from Alan Rogers, Chairman of the Organising Committee.



Dr. Jannie Hofmeyr, Grand Prix Winner, for his maiden exhibit titled 'The Development and Use of the 3c Washington, 1861-1869'.



Mrs Charlotte Welling-Botha of Cape Town, collecting the Tony Chilton Transvaal Award on behalf of her father, Carl Welling.



Outgoing President Keith Brodovcky (at left) congratulating Steve van den Hurk after handing over the Presidential Chain of Office.



Signatories to the Roll in attendance at the CAPEX 2015 Palmares Front row; left to right - Neil Cronjé, Howard Green, Richard Johnson, Jill Redmond, Colin Hoffman, Pauw Steyl, Gawie van der Walt, Back row - Emil Minnaar, Joh Groenewald, Patrick Flanagan, Michael Wigmore, Hugh Amoore, Ian Matheson, Emil Bührmann, Gerhard Kamffer and Peter van der Molen.

Welcome to the New PFSA Honorary Life President

PETER VAN DER MOLEN RDPSA, FRPSL

Peter is one of the most dedicated and meticulous workers for our hobby. If you need advice or assistance in setting up a national exhibition, Peter is the man. He can drive one scatty with his insistence on doing things right, but his heart is in the hobby and he can be kindness itself. His history tells all. Peter has given extensive support to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA). He was President of PFSA for the year 2001-2002, after which he was Chairman of the PFSA Management Committee from 2002 to 2006 and chaired the ad hoc Committee to review and update PFSA's Constitution.

He chaired the Organising Committee for the very successful Benoni '94, afterwards writing up extensive guidelines on running a national exhibition, used to this day. He served as Chairman of the Organising Committee for Egoli 2001 in Sandton. Exhibitions would not have been the same without Peter and friend, Harry Birkhead, organising the frames, giving much-needed advice and transporting frames, exhibits and trophies.

For some years to 2010 he was Chairman of PFSA's Exhibitions Committee. He has been PFSA's Awards Custodian for a number of years, even replacing two prestigious trophies that were stolen from his car whilst assisting with Jomapex 2013. He now chairs the Editorial Board which publishes *The SA Philatelist* six times a year. Peter chaired PFSA's FIP Committee dealing with international exhibiting for some time and

acted as Commissioner for various international exhibitions; he will again act as Commissioner to the New York 2016 Exhibition.

He has also served on the Board of the Philatelic Foundation, as President in 2000, and subsequently broadened the independence of Foundation by restructuring its relationship with the Post Office which had declined, and by according a trustee role to the signatories of the PFSA Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Peter has been the Honorary Secretary of Foundation for six out of the last eight years. In the field of exhibiting he has formed notable collections of the Southern African 'Protectorates' of Swaziland, Bechuanaland and Basutoland. Starting with a Gold medal at Stamps 150 in 1990, he has participated in every S.A. National since, either as an exhibitor showing variously Traditional Philately, Revenues, Postal Stationery, Open Class and Postcards, or as a national judge after he qualified in 1994. In 1999 he received the President's Award (Best in Show) for Swaziland. He has exhibited extensively at international exhibitions, gaining high awards.

Peter has published quite extensively in *The South African Philatelist*, *The Transvaal Philatelist* and *The Runner Post* and was awarded the Tapling Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society London for his article in *The London Philatelist* published in June 1998. Many years of research into the philately



Two great men of philately, Hon. Life Presidents - the late Harry Birkhead and newly elected Peter van der Molen.

of Swaziland culminated in the publication by the Royal Philatelic Society London in February 2013 of the book *Swaziland Philately to 1968*, edited and largely written by Peter. The publication immediately sold out and is now published as an e-book. For his literary achievement The Royal Philatelic Society of London awarded him the Crawford Medal for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period.

He is an active member of the East Rand Philatelic Society, the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society and a member of the Royal Philatelic Society London since 1992, a Fellow from 2001. In 2000 he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa.

It would be difficult to find someone more qualified and able to fill the position as PFSA's Honorary Life President. Congratulations to you Peter from all your friends in PFSA.

JDR:24.11.2015



Senior Awards Ceremonies for Persons Not Present at The Palamres

CITATIONS FOR NOMINEES TO SIGN THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

MICHAEL TONKING

Mike Tonking is one of the longest serving members of the SA Collectors' Society and probably the most knowledgeable on matters concerning the Union and Republic of SA, as well as the De La Rue Georgians and official stamps of South West Africa. He is also an active member of both the South African Stamp Study Circle and the RSA Stamp Study Group.

Collecting Interests

His interests extend across the whole of the Union, Republic and South West Africa and Mike is an expert on how stamps are manufactured, from the preparation of plates, then cylinders, to their perforation. He has published high level research and amassed a vast collection with in-depth studies on a wide range of subjects; sections of which have become reference material for others. He also maintains the records of the Jack Hagger Collection, an important reference point for Union collectors.

Publications

Mike has been a regular contributor to *The South African Philatelist* and the *Springbok* where his contributions are always erudite and well researched. He generously shares



Michael Tonking RDPSA, Signing the Roll at the Foundation AGM on 26 November 2015

his knowledge and material with members of the SACS in the form of copies of his collections which are bound and archived for study purposes. These now total 13 collections ranging from his favourite 2d London Pictorials, the 2d Rotogravure Pictorials, Union and RSA Roll Stamps, RSA and SWA Postage Dues, the ½d and 1d Unhyphenated Rotogravure as well as the Hyphenated Pictorials.

Awards

He was awarded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion at the October 2014 Congress in Pretoria. He has exhibited at the

vast majority of national exhibitions; in fact, 42 exhibits in 35 years since 1979. All were awarded medals ranging from Silver to Large Gold, with 16 of them receiving additional awards. He won the 'Rand 77' Award in 1977 for his *Unhyphenated ½d and 1d Rotogravure* and the 'Jo'burg 100' Award in 2004 for *The ½d and 1d Rotogravure*. He won the Enoch Trophy three times - in 1984 for his *De La Rue Georgians*, in 1986 for his *2d London Pictorials* and in 2011 for his *RSA Postage Dues*. He has won the

RM Crocker Award four times - in 1992 and 2005 for his *SWA De La Rue Georgians* and in 1995 and 2007 for his *SWA Postage Dues*. As if these achievements weren't enough, he also won the SASSC Award in 1999 for his *RSA Rolls*, in 2002 for his *2d Union Rolls* and in 2003 for his *Union Rolls*.

Mike is a great ambassador for South African philately and is a worthy candidate to be invited by the PFSA Congress to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. This citation has been prepared in consultation with the South African Collectors' Society and carries theirs, and my, full endorsement.

Dr A J Howgrave-Graham
Chairman,

South African Collectors' Society

J R (RICHARD) STROUD

Richard has shown dedication to the study of Southern Africa philately for over 40 years. He has recorded his research and ensured his books and articles have been published for the benefit of all. In addition, he has promoted both Orange Free State and Anglo-Boer War philatelic interest to a wide audience by the countless displays he has given to societies and study groups throughout the United Kingdom, including the RPSL.

Richard joined the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society in 1974. He became the Editor of the Society journal *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist* in 1985, a post he held for 22 years and was elected Vice-Chairman in 2013. He joined the OFS Study Circle in 1976 and was elected Honorary Secretary in 1978, a post he still holds today. From 2002-2012 he served as Editor of their quarterly journal the *OFS Bulletin* and in 2013 he became President.

Richard was also a founder member of the Cape & Natal Study Circle. Although he has formed superb collections of both the Anglo Boer War and the Orange Free State, Richard has not exhibited competitively for many years, preferring to share his knowledge with fellow collectors through displays, where he is best able to explain the material and place it in context with reference to the historical circumstances.

His research articles in the Society journals are too numerous to list individually and in

addition, he was the author of the following major philatelic publications, all of which are the recognised standard works:

- *Ceylon: The Camps for Boer Prisoners of War 1900 to 1902 – Their Postal History* (1989)
- *Rossiter Postal History Journal Vol 3: The Impact of the Anglo-Boer war on the Orange Free State – The First Six Months* (2002)
- *The Postal History of the Burgher, Refugee and Concentration Camps of the Anglo-Boer War 1900-1903* (2014)

Richard is currently working on a new publication about the impact of the Anglo Boer War on postal services, with emphasis on the dates when individual post offices across South Africa closed and subsequently re-opened.

As well as being heavily involved in South African philately, Richard has also taken a keen interest in philately in the United Kingdom. He is a past President of the Somerset & District Philatelic Federation and was presented with a Merit Award for service to British Philately by the Association of British Philatelic Societies in 2007. Richard is also a member of the Society of Postal Historians and was President in 1998.

Richard's service to South African philately was recognised by the PFSA in 1998 with the award of a Federation Plaque and in 2002 with the Skinner Cup. This was followed by the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion



Richard Stroud RDPSA, Signing the Roll at Leamington Spa on 7 November 2015. The ceremony was attended by RDPSAs Alan Drysdall, Colin Hoffman and Patrick Flanagan, together with RDPs Brian Trotter and Robert Johnson.

in 2005 for philatelic excellence.

Richard has made a major contribution to the philately of Southern Africa, most notably through his research, writings and displays relating to the philately of the Anglo Boer War. Leading members of the OFS Study Circle and the Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society recommend that now is the time for the ultimate recognition of Richard's efforts and outstanding achievements.

Michael Smith FRPSL.
Chairman OFSSC

Tony Meacher Chairman ABWPS

Award of the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medalion to Dr Chris Board OBE, FRPSL.

This award was made in recognition of Chris Board's research into many aspects of Transvaal Philately.



Chris Board (at left) receiving the Award (with certificate) at the Leamington Spa Conference in England on 7 November 2015 from Dr Andrew Higston FRPSL, Federation's Regional Vice-President for outside areas.

Presentation of The Skinner Cup

Citation

The Skinner Cup is the Federation's highest award for exceptional services to organised philately, especially during the last 3 years. It may be awarded to a person only once. Prof. Alex Visser, who has been personally involved with successful National Stamp Exhibitions in Pretoria since 2000, has provided outstanding service to South African philately.

In 2013 he needed to step in as acting President of the Federation due to the sudden resignation of the then President. In 2014 he served his full term as Federation President and has



Peter van der Molen (at left) presenting the Skinner Cup Award to Alex Visser in Pretoria on 15 November 2015.

fulfilled a pivotal role as immediate past-president this year.

Over and above these services, he was Chairman and Principal Organiser of the successful Stamp Show Pretoria 2014. Due to his influence, the exhibition was held free of charge in a superb venue within the University of Pretoria. As a member of the task team with the undertaking to modernise the workings of the Federation, he has worked tirelessly during the past year and a half to make stamp collecting more enjoyable for all.

His successful negotiations with the senior management of the Post Office has led to a new approach regarding the issue of stamps - far fewer issues and stamp values that represent standard postal tariffs. We shall witness the fruits of his efforts in 2017. Bravo Alex.

Alex Visser is a worthy recipient of the Skinner Cup.

The W E Lea Trophy

Awarded to Mrs Connie Liebenberg for 15 years of meticulous checking and recording of details of the printing and appearance of South African stamps, and the publication thereof in the monthly newsletter of the RSA Studiegroep/RSA Study Circle.

The Trophy was presented by ds. Cassie Carstens PFSA Vice- President Region1, to Mrs. Liebenberg in Pretoria on 15 November 2015.



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W Competitive Exhibits

- **One Penny Drommedaris Ship.** 79 - Vermeil
Keanu Barnard - Bellville Philatelic Society. Winner of:
Sam Legator Trophy - Grand Prix - Best exhibit on show.
Conradie Trophy - Best Traditional Exhibit
East London PS Cup - Best SA Exhibit including Homelands
- **Cat Family Story.** 67 - Silver
Sara Knight
- winner of the *Setempe 2000 Trophy* - Best Thematic Exhibit
and the *Wobbe Vegter Special Prize*
- **Stamps from SWA from 1947-1989.** 69 - Silver
Jaluca Bester - winner of the *Fanie Vermaak Bronze Medal* -
Best exhibit 10-12 years old Silver or higher. And the winner of the
Ratcliffe Trophy - An Exhibit having Outstanding Merit
- **The 1961 Decimal Overprints of Swaziland.**
Chavah Barit - Silver
- **Ek leer.** 79 - Vermeil
Vihan Horn winner of the *Wigmore Cup*
- Best Exhibit 9 years and under and the
Derek Brown Centurion Shield - Best
Exhibit by a first time National Exhibitor as well
as the *Rapportryerkorps Wierdapark Trofee* -
Best Exhibit written up in Afrikaans
- **Succulents.**
58 - Silver Bronze - by Alicia Niehaus
of Paarl, *Special Award* - and the *Fanie
Vermaak Silver Medal*, Best in her age group.
- **Italian Stamps.**
Giamaria Prati 59 - Silver Bronze
- **South Africa from 1910.**
Roniah Anderson 41 - Bronze
- **Scouting Around the World.**
Roniah Anderson 53 - Silver Bronze

Star Class Exhibits

- **Buildings of Germany.** 3 Star
Simeon Davies
- **South African Stamps.** 2 Star
Isabella Prati
- **Birds.** 1 Star
Asher Anderson
- **The Telephone.** 2 Star
Sarah Benade & Sofia Mayward
- **Waterfalls.** 3 Star
Lelethu Quvile
- **Woof.** 2 Star
Abi Benade & Jaime Haakonsen
- **Flowers.** 1 Star
Jordan English
- **The Dino Park.** 2 Star
Armand van Tonder

Club Exhibit and Award

- **World Flora. Leponoland Philately**
winners of the *David Stern SIP Club Award*
- Best Club Exhibit



Members of the Fishhoek Club and friends on the stairs of the City Hall



Keanu Barnard of the Bellville Youth Club – Grand Prix winner with his many awards



Vihan Horn, member of Die Kùilen, Stellenbosch and winner of the Wigmore Cup and the Derek Brown Centurion Shield and Rapportryerkorps Wierdapark Trofee.



Ronia Anderson of the Penny Black Club



At left, David Sinclair, Penny Black Club, as the Youth Leader of the Year for his dedication to young collectors through all of his trials and tribulations.



Sarah Benade and her exhibit



Sara Knight being congratulated by Peter van der Molen



Jaime Haakonsen and Abi Benade



Wobbe Vegter congratulating Sara Knight



Prize winner Lelethu Quvile of Fish Hoek, doing research. (The photographer Jim Knight)



The organizer of our Juniors, Chantal Benade, bending (rather unflattering but hard at work) and Des Haakonsen and kids from Fishhoek club.

A comment from Jill Redmond: "Having attended all but one Junior National Stamp Show since it started in 1984 in Johannesburg, Pinegowrie, this has been the very best for a long time. Except for one, all the exhibitors were showing their exhibits for the very first time and there were some delightful displays on show. The prize-giving was the best attended in many years which was heartening for everyone concerned. Well done to the youngsters and their Youth Leaders. I hope the hobby will continue to fascinate the new generation of collectors."



JUNASS prize-giving was in the same room where the official opening took place and the turnout was excellent. There was good attendance of exhibitors, parents, grandparents and well wishers at the JUNASS prizegiving on Saturday 17 October.

Special thanks to the official photographer, Marlies, partner to Malcolm Suttill as well as images for JUNASS by photographer Jim Knight. We are also grateful to Emil Minnaar for his submission of photo's and to everyone who contributed and assisted in putting together this summary of events of CAPEX 2015.



Back row: Giamaria Prati, Ronia Anderson, D.J.Sinclair (holding Youth Leader of the Year Award) Front row: Jaluca Bester (holding Ratcliffe Trophy awarded for an exhibit of outstanding merit); Isabella Prati; Asher Anderson; Simeon Davies.

POST OFFICE ART

Part 16

DECORATED POST OFFICES

by Prof Garry Osthoff, OFS PS Bloemfontein

ESCOURT



The first inhabitants in Southern Africa were the Khoisan. Around the 15th century offshoots of the Karonga arrived as the first settlers to KZN Natal, and were followed by the aba-Nguni from Mozambique at the beginning of the 17th century. The first European settlers were hunter/traders who arrived in 1824 and established themselves around the Bay at Port Natal. Other Englishmen drifted into Natal before its annexation by the British in 1843, mostly from the Eastern Cape. Voortrekkers arrived in 1837, and after defeating King Dingane's impis at Blood River in December 1838, began to settle down in the territory they had conquered for themselves as Natalia Republic. The British used the prior existence of the Port Natal Colony as justification to extend British jurisdiction. When the British defeated the Voortrekkers in 1842, Natal was proclaimed a British Colony in 1843, and administered from the

Cape Colony in 1844. Many Voortrekkers trekked back over the mountains. German settlers were brought out in 1848 from the areas around Osnabrück and Bremen. The greatest number of settlers arrived from the United Kingdom between 1849 and 1851. Great Britain was in the midst of a depression in the 1840s, causing many millions to emigrate to the United States, Canada and Australia. Only a small percentage came to Natal. Finally Dutch settlers came between 1857 and 1860. There were various schemes under which the British settlers came to the Colony.

The main idea behind the granting of land to emigrants was to establish a solid agricultural population. Emigration on a large scale began as a result of the efforts of Joseph Charles Byrne.

For the payment of £10, a 'statute adult' (i.e. someone over the age of 14) could get a steerage passage and 20 acres of land.

With the neat patchwork of rolling countryside of England in mind, owning 20 acres seemed an attractive proposition.





Only people in certain occupations, for example, farmers, farm labourers, millers, blacksmiths, wagon makers, carpenters and wheelwrights, etc., were approved by Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners as settlers to take advantage of the land grants. This led to many prospective emigrants 'changing' their occupations overnight. A hairdresser and perfumer was turned into an experienced agriculturalist or a lady's maid became an experienced cook or dairy maid. While most emigrants came from the large cities in the UK, only about 2% were from the country areas. The nature of the emigrants plus the general unsuitability of the land being too rugged for cultivation, low rainfall, general absence of water etc. led, in most cases, to the abandoning of allotments and congregating in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. Settler who had a bit of capital, but no occupation of use, became shopkeepers. Only Richmond seemed to have prospered from the beginning. The post office at Estcourt was built in 1936 on the corner of Harding and Connor streets. It is of red face brick while the arches of the entrances and windows are of black bricks. The main entrance has a double arch supported by a pillar. The building is U-shaped with more windows and smaller entrances

on the Eastern and Western sides. The buttresses on the sides are detailed with a 'tumbled-in' brickwork and it bears a red shingled roof. The fence of black granite complements the building.

One ceramic tile panel by Wilgy Vann Hall is situated on the right hand wall of the main entrance porch portraying the arrival of settlers on a farm. Estcourt was not an area where the British settlers were established. It was named after a British member of parliament, Thomas HS Estcourt, who sponsored the settlement of immigrants, hence the connection. The village was laid out in 1863 and was named Bushmans River Post or Bushmans Drift.

When the seat of magistracy was moved from Weenen in 1904, it became a township and reached borough status in 1914.

The theme shows a horse cart being off loaded. The dress, head dress and hair style of the new arrivals are excellently detailed. Judged by the sparse luggage, this was probably the best they possessed. The artist portrayed a sense of anxiety and tension in these people by the body postures and facial expressions. The host family, in turn, is clad less extravagantly in every day working clothes and seems very friendly by greeting with kisses and hugs. Not only were settled English

farmers providing temporary shelter to new arrivals, but the remainder of the Voortrekker families also helped. While the cart is being off loaded another pair of horses is led away in the background. This action, as well as the number of new arrivals, suggest that at least two carriages were involved. The paintwork of the cart was characteristic of the time. The farm house is shown as a sturdy building, possibly of sand stone, which would have been a welcome haven for the travellers, after a journey at sea and uncomfortable temporary housing in the barracks at Durban. The farm hands are sparsely clad and in hand down clothes. This was not unusual for the time, as many of the workers found this environment to provide a more secure living than the bush.

Currently this building is used by the KZN Natal provincial government. It is not well maintained and when I visited I was told that some people wished the tiled panel could be removed for safety.

References.

- Bulpin, T.V. (1966). *Natal and the Zulu Country*.
- Raper, P.E. (2004). *South African place names*.
- Schmidt, W. (1955). *Deutsche Wanderung nach Südafrika*.





REVISITING THE 'DRAGON' FLAW

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

The introduction of the rotogravure printing process for the production of Union postage stamps in 1930 caused the Government Printers a number of problems which were largely due to a lack of experience with the new process. These problems were well illustrated in the case of the B8 and B9 booklet issues. The well known interior cylinder multi-positive 'dragon' flaw found on row 17/9 of the 1d stamps was first noted on the 1930 B8 and B9 booklet issues and in various other forms ending with the 1932 sheet issue 7a. During the two year period the Government Printer attempted a number of retouches in a vain attempt to eliminate the flaw. The original cause of the flaw was due to damage to the multi-positive at that position.

During the two year period, the row 17/9 flaw developed as follows:

STAGE	ISSUE	FLAW DESCRIPTION
1	Booklet B8/9	'Dragon'
2	4	'Buckle or Imp'
3	4 and Roll 11	Blob retouched
4	5	White spot in retouch
5	6	Black Blob
6	7/7a	'Rigging on fire'

It should be noted that the row 17/9 flaw was not present on Issue 2 and only first appeared on the booklet B8/9 issues.

Issue 2 with no flaw present on row 17/9.



STAGE 1 - B8/9 BOOKLETS - 'DRAGON FLAW'
Booklet B8/9



STAGE 2 - ISSUE 4 - 'BUCKLE or IMP FLAW'



B9 ECONOMY STRIP
9 10



9 10
ISSUE 7

By the time the Government Printer had managed to eliminate the row 17/9 flaw in stage 6 it must have been frustrating to see it return in a new form on Issue 7/7a. The problem was finally resolved when Issue 8 was printed from a new set of cylinders.

References:

- *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa* - S.J. Hagger RDPSA, 1986.
- *The SA Philatelist*, August 1958.
- *The Springbok*, November / December 1970.

STAGE 3 - ISSUE 4 and ROLL R11 - 'BLOBE retouched'
COIL ROW 9



SHEET ISSUE 4

STAGE 4 - ISSUE 5 - 'White Spot in retouch'



STAGE 5 - ISSUE 6 - 'BLACK BLOB'



STAGE 6 - ISSUES 7/7a - 'RIGGING on FIRE'
Although previously eliminated the flaw returns in a new format



ISSUE 7a - Deep carmine shade



Part 1: Postage stamps, Postage due labels, Officials and Customs Duty stamps**TYPES OF STAMPS AND LABELS PRINTED, OVERPRINTED AND SURCHARGED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER IN PRETORIA OVER THE PERIOD 1949 TO 1961**

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



Research that was done a few years back in the Post Office Archives revealed some interesting types of stamps and labels that were printed and overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria. These were discovered in the inventory records of loose pages received from the Government Printer to which sheets of postage stamps, revenue stamps, Christmas stamps, stamped stationery and postal orders and similar items had been affixed. There are also items not proper to the Post Office which had been included e.g. stamps and labels used by other Government Departments such as External Affairs, Assize Department and the South African Railways etc. It was, however, not possible to separate and return these pages to the Government Printer for the reason that in many instances they could not be removed without damage to the sheets the property of the Post Office. These records cover the period from 1949 to 1964. For the purpose of this article mainly the period 1949 to 1961 till the end of the Union, will be covered.

From a philatelic point of view these sheets of stamps in the inventory records of the Government Printer in Pretoria, provide valuable information for research purposes. Philately as a hobby has developed internationally over the last number of years to not only include, postage stamps, but provision is also made for other categories such as Revenue stamps, Christmas stamps, Railway stamps and various types of Cinderellas etc. Revenue stamps and other Cinderellas illustrated in this article have been part and parcel of stamp collecting for many years and are legitimate collecting fields in the world of philately. In this series of articles a variety of these types of stamps and labels will be illustrated.

In 1927 the plates which had been used by Waterlow in London passed to the Government Printer at Pretoria where the stamps were produced in the same colour and on paper with the same multiple Springbok's Head watermark. The perforator used at Pretoria was again a single comb appliance, with the same gauge of 14½ x 14.

In 1929, following a series of tests and a satisfactory report from their agents in Britain, Messrs Hunter Penrose Ltd, the South African Government decided to purchase a Goebel A.G. machine for the printing of postage and other stamps by rotogravure. As a result the Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931.

S.J. Hagger RDPSA indicated that after this date right up to 1961 all the Union's stamps, with the exception of the re-issue of the ½d, in July 1948, were printed by the rotary process.

The stamps of the Union and other similar requirements were printed by the photogravure, or as the technique is more commonly termed by collectors, rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria for the period covered in this article. A second machine was bought



Fig.1: Hans Kumpf employed as a graphic artist by the Government Printing Works in October 1951, busy preparing the art work for the 3d Rhinoceros stamp of the Definitive issue.

later and two rotary machines were doing duty. These machines were also equipped with cyclometers which printed each sheet number, spaced and placed in such a way that the number appeared twice on one margin of a sheet. The larger but slower machine was capable of printing in three colours and registered a five-figure black sheet number whilst the smaller but faster machine printed in two colours and the sheet number consisted of four figure red numerals.

From March 1937 onward *The South African Philatelist* published details supplied by



Fig. 2: The artists carefully scrutinising the multi-positive in order that any minor flaws can be corrected.

the Government Printer of the quantities of stamps (postage, officials, douane etc) and the numbers of the cylinders used to produce them.

Stamps and labels for South West Africa and the High Commission Territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland were also printed and overprinted from time to time by the Government Printer in Pretoria. Some of these examples will also be illustrated.

The Department of Treasury was involved with the Government Printer to provide the necessary authority for the printing of these various types of stamps. Also in the case where stamps have been removed from a sheet, for example for exhibition or auditing purposes, the necessary receipt was issued. Stamps were distributed by the Controller of Stamps and postmasters were responsible for the requisition of postage, revenue and cigarette labels.

In the Post Office Circular distributed in April 1950 it was indicated that the post office was selling: Postage stamps, Booklets containing postage stamps, Reply Coupons, Stamped stationery, Revenue stamps that were obtainable at the majority of Money Order Offices, Cigarette Duty Labels, Cigarette Tobacco Duty Labels, Postage Due Labels and 'Cape' Entertainment Duty Labels.

THE PRODUCTION AND PRINTING OF POSTAGE STAMPS

During the 1950s the Government Printer in Pretoria printed more than 800 million postage stamps every year in fourteen denominations. The first stage was the preparation of the Master Design for the vignette and frame, usually an artist's drawing. The first step during this stage was for an artist to make up the intended design much larger than life. In the case of the Union separate panels were designed for the wording in English and Afrikaans.

The Government Printing Works employed a number of artists throughout these years. The Unhyphenated Rotogravure Pictorials consisted of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, and 2/6 denominations, all with designs similar to those of the London Pictorials. The ½d. and 6d. were redrawn by J.L. Booysen and the other values by J. Prentice.

These two artists were joined by Johan Josef (Hans) Kumpf who was employed by the Government Printer in 1951. On 14 October 1954 a new series of definitive postage stamps were placed on sale portraying animals found in the national parks in South Africa. All the designs were drawn by Hans Kumpf from photographs which J.L. Booysen had taken at the Pretoria Zoo, with the exception of the 4d (elephant) which was based on a photograph by Dick Wolff and the 6d. (lion) which was based on an engraving by an unknown artist. In this case the well-known Rhinoceros 3d. stamp which would be used to illustrate the process.(fig.1).

With the 'step and repeat' camera the one photograph was transferred over and



Fig. 4: An official of the Government Printer inspecting the copper cylinder with the design etched in to a depth of about three-thousandths of an inch.

over again in miniature on a glass plate known as the multi-positive. Each image was then spaced out as it was intended to have them on a sheet. By means of carefully scrutinising the multi-positive any minor flaws could be corrected. If a flaw was detected it could have been retouched out by hand by means of a very delicate process (fig. 2). Having achieved as far as possible a flawless multipositive, the next step was to take a 'print' from it through a fine screen on to a gelatine-coated carbon tissue. The screening process was to enable gradations of tone to be faithfully reproduced when printing.

The next step was the process of wrapping the tissue round a smooth copper cylinder (fig. 3). This was a delicate operation because as it has to be perfectly aligned without any damage to the tissue which carries the stamp images. Once the transfer to the cylinder was successfully achieved, the coated cylinder was immersed in hot water, where the untreated part of gelatin, corresponding with the actual stamp design, melts away and leaves the copper surface beneath exposed, while the plain parts of the design remain protected (fig. 4).

When the coated cylinder was transferred to an acid bath, the design was etched in to a depth of about three-thousandths of an inch. When the desired etching was completed,



Fig. 3: An employee of the Government Printer busy with the process of wrapping the tissue round a smooth copper cylinder.

the cylinder was ready for use to print a few sheets. A copper cylinder was used because this metal gave the best results in etching, but it does not make a durable surface when millions of postage stamps were to be printed. To get the advantage of a copper etching without its liability to wear. The next step was to chromium plate the cylinder. The thinnest coating of chromium would increase the wearing properties of the cylinder to such an extent that as many as five million sheets could be printed.

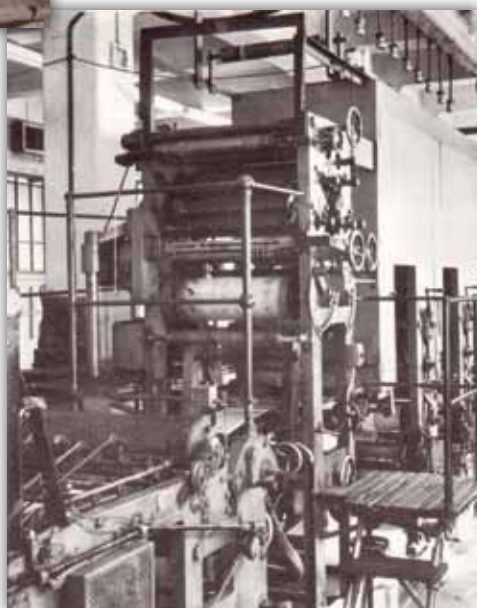


Fig. 5: The Goebel 840 printing machine. The first Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931. After this date and right up to 1961 all the Union's stamps, with the exception of the re-issue of the 1/2d, were printed by the rotary process.

From the chromium plated cylinder the Government Printer could proceed to run off sheets of stamps at high speed where the finished sheets came off the continuous roll of paper and were guillotined into separate sheets ready for distribution to the various post offices (fig. 6).

The stamps from 3d to 1/6 inclusive, were bi-coloured and portray animals more in the entire and not just their heads as in the

1/2d. to 2d. denominations. The paper used varied from time to time in texture however all printings to appear after September 1959 were on a different paper, watermarked with a reproduction of the Union Coat of Arms in skeleton form. Some colour trials were also printed for the 3d value (figs. 7 & 9). Once a selection has been made of the preferred colour, after the colour trial printing, printing commenced of the stamps (fig. 10).



Fig. 6: Officials busy inspecting sheets of stamps. Mr. Johnny Booysen was responsible for the quality control of the printed postage stamps at the Government Printer by certifying that the printed sheets were up to standard before they could commence with the printing of the bulk of sheets of a particular issue.

Mr Johnny Booysen was the official in charge of the stamp printing section of the Government Printer for many years. He was sent overseas to study stamp printing many years ago and as a result the Goebel 830 machine was installed in 1931. He was responsible for the quality control of the printed postage stamps by certifying that the printed sheets were up to standard before they could commence with the printing of the bulk of the sheets of a particular issue.



Fig. 7: Part of a sheet of colour trials printed in a light green for the 3d value.



Fig. 8: Part of a sheet affixed in the Government Printer's inventory records of the 3d value in the approved colours of Red-brown and Sky Blue and made up in sheets of 120 stamps. Printed by a rotary cylinder Interior 16 and Exterior 107. Note the inscription in the left bottom corner: Page 00420, Job no. 12509, June 1955.

POSTAGE DUE/TE BETAAL STAMPS

Postage due stamps were used for bringing to account surcharges collected on unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence. They were not valid for postage but they were however available for philatelic purposes at any Post Office (fig. 10).

OFFICIAL/OFFISIËLE STAMPS

Union postage stamps were overprinted for the use of Government departments' correspondence addressed to territories outside the Southern African Postal Union and were first brought to use on 1 December 1926. In April 1929 their sale for general purposes was authorised. From that date, therefore, they served little purpose, and their overprinting was terminated in January 1955. During the whole period of use the overprints always in black, consisted of only two words 'OFFICIAL' and its Afrikaans equivalent, 'OFFISIËL', mostly without, but sometimes with the diaeresis over the second 'E' in Afrikaans (fig. 11)

Right throughout this period the overprinting was done by the Government Printer in Pretoria on the required number of sheets of each value supplied from post office stocks and approved by Treasury. Until 1949 the method of production was by flat bed letter press, and from 1950 onward by stereotype blocks.

CUSTOMS DUTY / DOUANE STAMPS

Customs Duty stamps were introduced to

enable overseas business concerns to prepay the customs on packets containing printed advertising matter with the exclusion of catalogues and price lists. The duty was charged on the nett weight in terms of the Customs Tariff. The stamps were produced by initially overprinting selected values of the different former colonies with the words 'CUSTOMS DUTY'. After 1913 the Union's postage stamps were overprinted 'CUSTOMS DUTY' and since 1931 'DOUANE'. These stamps were available at the offices of the Union High Commissioner in London and New York. It was requested that the stamps should be placed at the bottom left hand corner of the label or cover of the packet containing the dutiable material (fig. 12).

Sources:

- S.J. Hagger RDPSA, *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961*, Reijger Publishers (Pty) Limited, Cape Town, 1986.
- The Post Office Archives Philatelic Services, Silverton, Pretoria.
- *The SA Philatelist*, June 1957. Article: *The story behind our stamps*, pp. 88- 91. The original illustrations were from a feature article in *Die Vaderland* newspaper issue of 15 March 1957.
- *The SA Philatelist*, March 1969.
- Gert Nel, *Stamp Artists of South Africa*, 2008.

The author is truly indebted to Talita Fourie, Curator of the Post Office Museum, at Philatelic Services in Silverton in Pretoria, for her support in compiling this series of articles.



Fig. 9: Colour trial in green with the stamp of the 'Ondersekretaris: Poswese' (Under secretary of the postal service) who was probably responsible to decide on the final colour to be used for this stamp.



Fig. 10: An example of a sheet of the 4d postage due stamps certified correct by Mr. J.L. Booysen of the Government Printer in Pretoria.

The author is also indebted to Connie Liebenberg, the Editor of the *RSA Stamp Study Group Newsletter*, for her support in terms of research and encouragement in the writing of this article.

The author is also indebted to Werner Barnard from Cape Town for taking some of the photos in the archives.

Photo's in figs. 1-7: *The SA Philatelist*, June 1957.

Fig. 11: at right - Part of a sheet of 240 x 6d stamps overprinted Official/Offisieel in March 1952.



Fig. 12: Part of a sheet of 120 x 1/- stamps overprinted Douane affixed in the 'day books' of the Government Printer. Note the inscription in the top left corner of the page: Job no. 8516, Dec 1950.

In part 2 of this series further stamps printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria to be discussed and illustrated: Revenue, Penalty, Assize stamps, Entertainment Duty stamps, Cigarette labels, Consular, Native Tax stamps and Medicine Fee stamps.

Faroe Islands Stamps

- November 2015



Christmas Seals
This year's Christmas Seals illustrate a beautiful Christmas tree with candles. Desing: Edward Fuglø. Price: 30,- KK.



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Illustrated Printing Processes for the production of South West Africa 1929 Cigarette Tax Stamps

by Jan van Beukering, OFS Philatelic Society



The 1927 Union 2d Postage Due stamp, (SACC 19), and the 6d definitive postage stamp (SACC 31P) both typograph printed in Pretoria, were overprinted during 1928 for use in South West Africa with the S.W.A. overprint, the 6d also for Official use. These in turn were further overprinted for use as 1½d Cigarette and Tobacco Tax labels in South West Africa.

To create these labels six steps were required, which in turn required careful alignment when setting up the panes. What is illustrated here are the steps in the printing processes necessary to produce the Cigarette Tax labels using the 2d postage due and 6d Pretoria definitive.

THE 1½ CIGARETTE TAX OVERPRINT ON THE UNION 2d POSTAGE DUE STAMP :

Unwatermarked paper was used for this stamp issue, guillotined to the correct size and loaded into the printing machine tray. Then the base colour – mauve for the 2d value - using frame plate 1 was applied in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6 each) separated by a narrow vertical gutter. The panes were surrounded by jubilee lines, but these were absent in the vertical gutter.

Step 1 : Guillotining of the unperforated unwatermarked paper

Step 2 : Typograph printed mauve frame in two panes of 60 with jubilee lines all around (not in vertical gutter)

Step 3: Black '2d' value tabs – printed from stereotypes in rows of 6 only

Step 4: Perforating the sheets by single comb perforator fed in from the top edge leaving perforated top margins



Fig. 1. R1/7 right of vertical gutter no jubilee line Top margin perforated base stamp

Step 5: S.W.A. overprint by the Government Printers at Pretoria for postal use in South West Africa

Step 6: Supplies of the above postage due stamps (SWA CC 7) overprinted in Red with CIGARETTE TOBACCO TAX 1½d / SIGARETTE TABAK BELASTING 1½d Afrikaans and English. Quantity unknown. Barefoot cat. No. '2'

THE 1½ CIGARETTE TAX OVERPRINT ON THE 1927 UNION 6d PRETORIA DEFINITIVE :

Multiple Springbok head watermarked paper was used for the 6d Pretoria Typograph printed stamp, guillotined to the correct size and loaded into the printing machine tray.

Step 1 : Guillotining of the unperforated watermarked paper

Step 2 : Orange frame printed using Plate '2x' in single panes of 240 stamps (20 rows of 12) with orange jubilee lines all around with 3mm gaps at top and bottom

Step 3: Green centre printed from interior Plate 2

Step 4: Perforating the sheets by single comb perforator fed in from the right side margin

Step 5: OFFICIAL S.W.A. overprint by the Government Printers at Pretoria for 'official' postage postal use in South West Africa

Step 6: Supplies of the above official stamps (SWA CC 12) overprinted in Red with CIGARETTE TOBACCO TAX 1½d / SIGARETTE TABAK BELASTING 1½d Afrikaans and English.

Quantity unknown. Not listed in Barefoot



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3



OFFICIAL SWA overprint.

SWA Official CC 12

Tax Overprint

Final stamps



Thematically Yours

by Rev Cassie Carstens,
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria



Get Collecting - it's fun!

This is the 82nd of the Series!

*** World Rugby Cup 2015**

As expected, the winning team was the fearsome All Blacks – for a historical third time. For a few nail-biting minutes on the previous Saturday (24/11) we all thought (hoped / prayed) that the Springboks would conquer the terrible Haka-Haka's, but to no avail. Our comeback after the Japan-disaster (*Tora! Tora! Tora!*) was a miracle. In the end the bronze medal – not bad, I think. And perhaps, in four year's time – there will be new blood and new young faces, who still want to play rugby and do not rest on their laurels!

*** The longest reigning monarch**

Did you know? Queen Elizabeth II has given regular audiences to 12 Prime Ministers. There have been 6 Roman Catholic Popes during her reign. She has personally held over 610 investitures. She has answered around three and a half million items of correspondence and has sent over 175,000 telegrams to centenarians in the UK and Commonwealth. She has taken 261 official overseas visits to 116 different countries. She is now 88 years old, and the longest British reigning monarch. She is also addressed as the Duke of Normandy!

*** Congress of Mathematicians Seoul 2014**

First convened in Zurich in 1897, the International Congress of Mathematicians is held every four years. The Fields Medal, often described as the 'Nobel Prize of Mathematics' is awarded to mathematicians under 40 years of age who have accomplished a remarkable mathematical achievement. The Congress in Seoul attended by more than 5,000 mathematicians from around the world. 'All is number', Pythagoras, a Greek mathematician said. The film 'Beautiful Mind' is based on the life of mathematical genius John Neale, the Nobel Laureate in Economics, who suffered from schizophrenia.

*** The Franklin Expedition**

When Sir John Franklin and his expedition entered Arctic waters in 1845, he and 128 sailors hoped to find the sea link between Europe and Asia, the Northwest Passage. In command of the HMS *Erebus* and the HMS *Terror* – two state-of-the-art ships equipped with reinforced hulls, auxiliary steam engines and supplies for three years – Franklin had every reason to believe his mission would succeed. By the fall of 1846, however, both ships were trapped in the ice. By 1848, conditions were dire and the ships were abandoned. No one survived.



*** Great Australian Walks**

The varied and spectacular terrain of Australia is a bush walker's paradise. The six-kilometre long national Pass in the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Area of New South Wales lies 1,000 km from Sydney and is easily accessible by car or train. The trail was built with picks, shovels, crowbars and dynamite between 1906 and 1907 and was officially opened in 1908.

***Heroes of the Korean War**

The freedom, peace and prosperity of the Republic of South Korea were enabled by the sacrifice of countless heroes during the Korean War who gave their lives in the name of democracy. And some of them were American! William Hamilton Shaw (Marine Corps captain) was born in Pyongyang and spent his childhood in Korea. Upon hearing about the war in Korea, his 'second home', while attending Harvard University, he voluntarily joined the US Navy and played a crucial role in the success of the Inchen Landing Operation. Sadly he lost his life during the Seoul Recapturing Operation.

*** World Heritage : Borobudur Temple, Indonesia**

The Borobudur Temple is one of the greatest Buddhist monuments in the world. The temple is located in the Kedu Valley in Central Java, Indonesia. It was built during the 8th and 9th Centuries AD, during the reign of the Syailendra Dynasty. The Borobudur Temple is truly a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture and monumental art. The site was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1991.

*** Joy to the World!**

This is my special Christmas wish for you in 2015 – and may this message of joy resound in the year to come. Make some time to share fellowship with your family and friends, and even with your pets!

References

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- Details : Canadian Stamps, August 2015
- Australia Stamp Bulletin, July-August 2015
- Korean Stamp Review, Spring/Summer 2015
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South African Stamp Issues - 2015

- part V by Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle.

Additional information on issues reported on in Part IV, page 176 of October 2015 issue of *The South African Philatelist*

• **26 June 2015 – 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER**

• **7 August 2015 – 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CHARTER**

Printer's sheets for the above two issues were not supplied. However, Cartor provided Philatelic Services with a print-out of the layout. Both issues were printed together on the same sheet.

Printing sheet size: 597 x 475mm comprising 24 miniature sheets arranged in six rows of four, the top three rows being FREEDOM CHARTER and the bottom three rows being WOMEN'S CHARTER.

• **12 August 2015 – JELLYFISH IN SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS**

Printing sheet size: 600 x 440mm comprising eight sheetlets arranged in two rows of four.

First Day Covers: Nos. 8.86, bearing the horizontal stamps, and 8.87, bearing the vertical stamps, both of standard size (190 x 102mm) of which 2,000 of each were produced'

• **7 September 2015 – 14th WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS**

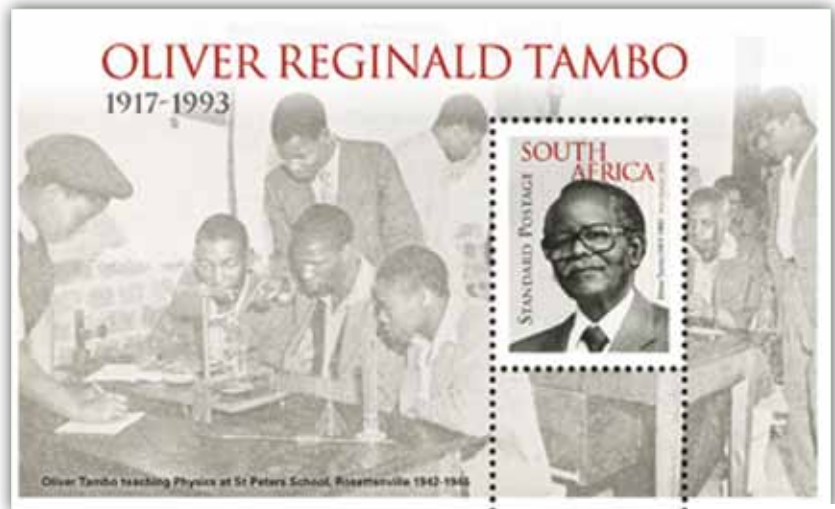
Printing sheet size: 610 x 500mm comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in four rows of three.

First Day Cover: No. 8.88 of standard size of which 2,000 were produced.

• **9 October 2015 – WORLD POST DAY**

(Due to operational reasons, this issue was only available from 11 November 2015)

Denominations: 5 x Standard Postage (R3.30)



Designer: Peter Sibanda, highlighting some of SA Post Office's historical milestones, as well as current services. They include, anti-clockwise from bottom left:

- (i) Mail transport - Mail boat (1815) and Springbok Air Service (1945);
- (ii) Cullinan Diamond posted to London as an ordinary, registered mail article (1905);
- (iii) Electronic services - pay a bill and money transfer;
- (iv) Electronic Services - Hybrid mail and on-line banking;
- (v) Parcel service.

Printer: Thai-British Security Printers

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp sizes: 38 x 29mm

Perforation: Gauge 13 extending through top, right and bottom sheetlet selvages

Gum: PVA

Phosphor: Yellow bands at base (6mm) and right (5mm) of design, on each stamp

Quantity: 20,000 sheetlets

Cylinder numbers: 8480 (blue), 8481 (red), 8482 (yellow) and 8483 (black)

Printing sheet size: 430 x 255mm comprising six sheetlets arranged in two rows of three.

Canceller:

No. 8.77 – 'PRETORIA 2015:10:09', depicting postboxes over a globe with an open carton at the base.

• **27 October 2015 – HONOURING OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO 1917-1993**

(Also, only available from 11 November 2015)

Denomination: Standard Postage (R3.30)

Designer: Thea Clemons. Stamp features a portrait of OR Tambo, superimposed on a photograph of himself as a science teacher at St Peter's School, Rosettenville, Johannesburg.

Printer: Thai-British Security Printers

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp size: 24 x 30mm incorporated in a miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm

Gum: PVA

Perforation: 14 x 14.3 extending downwards to bottom margin of miniature sheet.

Phosphor: 3mm yellow bands at base and left on stamp

Quantity: 20,000 miniature sheets.

Cylinder numbers: None.

Printing sheet size: 465 x 315mm comprising 16 miniature sheets arranged in four rows of four.

Canceller: No. 8.78 – '2015.10.27 / OLIVER / REGINALD / TAMBO / WATTVILLE'

The following issues from the 2015 programme have been deferred to 2016:

- KINGFISHERS OF SOUTH AFRICA;
- SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS;
- SOUTH AFRICAN BIOSPHERES; and
- 21ST ROUTE DEVELOPMENT FORUM.



Acknowledgement: The above information was supplied by Connie Liebenberg, Research Officer of the RSA Stamp Study Group, Philatelic Services e-mail newsletter, *WHAT'S NEWS* and personal observations.



The Union 1935 KG V Silver Jubilee Issue: Frameplate Characteristics of the 1d stamp

by Andre du Plessis, Pretoria Philatelic Society



When collecting stamps, especially the older ones, one might think that most work and research has been done and there may not be something new. Maybe if all research and findings had been stored in one central data base, it might have been so. Fortunately this is not the case with stamps, there will always be something new to discover and explore. This is the second article discussing characteristics of the Union's Silver Jubilee stamps. **Characteristic:** Peculiarity on a stamp originating during the design process. (*My definition*)

Smaller portion of white below tail of both springbok's. (All 3 printings).

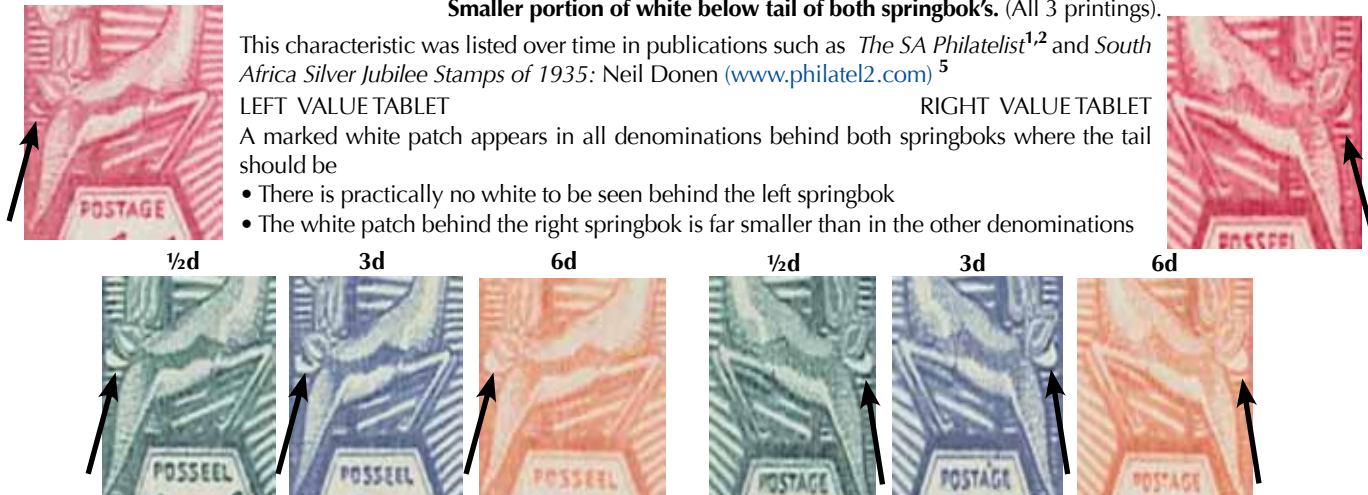
This characteristic was listed over time in publications such as *The SA Philatelist*^{1,2} and *South Africa Silver Jubilee Stamps of 1935*: Neil Donen (www.philatel2.com)⁵

LEFT VALUE TABLET

RIGHT VALUE TABLET

A marked white patch appears in all denominations behind both springbok's where the tail should be

- There is practically no white to be seen behind the left springbok
- The white patch behind the right springbok is far smaller than in the other denominations



Scans shown here of other denominations for comparison of the white tail

Different number of lines between left '1' and right '1' of 1d. (All 3 printings).

R P Jonas⁴ described this only to be present on the English headed stamp. The reality is that it is the same on both language headed stamps.

- This characteristic was discussed under the heading 'The Union of South Africa 1935 Silver Jubilee: Further observations' on page 23 of *The SA Philatelist*, February 2015.

The following Frameplate characteristics were identified of which no previous descriptions could be found.

As the language setting of 'SOUTH AFRICA' and 'SUID-AFRIKA' appear alternately at the top of the stamps, they are respectively referred to as English and Afrikaans headed stamps.

Only with the 1/2d and 1d values some characteristics of the same character, especially in the two value tablets, occur on both values.

At right are scans that constitute a block of 4 stamps. The value tablets are inscribed in English and Afrikaans, in this sequence from the first stamp on the first row on the sheet. On the English headed stamps, English appears in the left value tablet with Afrikaans in the right tablet and vice versa for the Afrikaans headed stamps.

- The sheet layout of the 1d value is different from those of the other values. 'SOUTHAFRICA' at the top of the first stamp of the sheet and POSTAGE/REVENUE in left value tablet.

1. The 'V' of 'REVENUE', where it appears in both value tablets, does not come down to be level with the other letters. In fact the word 'REVENUE' looks the same in all printings

(Black arrow).

- This characteristic was described by Gilbert^{2,3} and RP Jonas⁵ to be present only on Afrikaans headed stamps of the 1d value. It also appears on the 1/2d stamp. (See my comments regarding the 1/2d in *The SA Philatelist* of August 2015, page 116/7).

2. The 'INK' of 'INKOMSTE' is shaved at the bottom where it appears in all value tablets. (Yellow arrow). This is also the case with the 1/2d stamp. (See my remarks in *The SAP of August 2015* on page 116/7 regarding the 1/2d

setting. (Green arrow)

5. The appearance of the 'd' of 1d in the two value tablets are different from each other. The one in the left value tablet is shorter and the middle of the 'd' is smaller. (Purple arrow)

6. A thinning of the line in the inner left frame-line of the left value tablet is present on all Afrikaans headed stamps. (Red arrow)

COMMENTS

Both value tablets on every alternate stamp have the same characteristics and look exactly the same. It seems that the same die was used to print

POSTAGE/REVENUE and POSSEEL/INKOMSTE in the different value tablets. The value figure however remains in the same value tablet throughout.

References

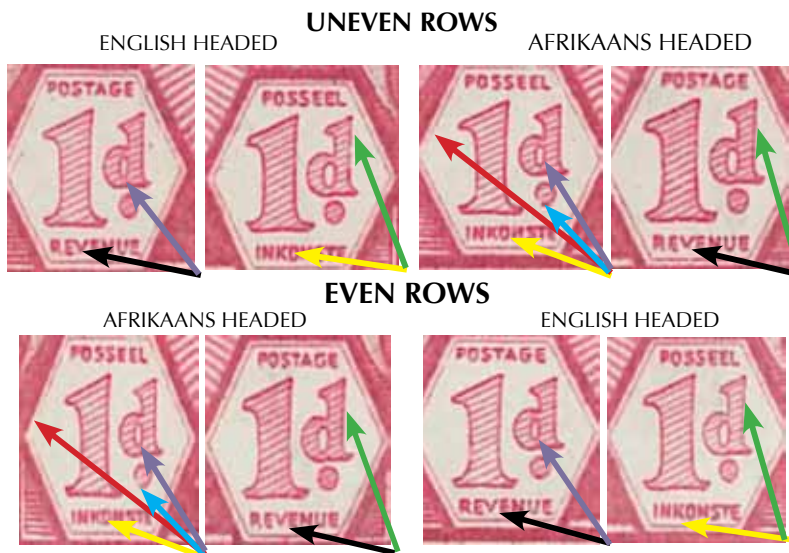
1. Gilbert GN. 'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union' - *The South African Philatelist*. 1935 June p. 87
2. GN. Gilbert. 'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union - The South African Philatelist'. 1935 September p. 133
3. G.N. Gilbert.

'The Jubilee Stamps of the Union' - *The SA Philatelist*. 1935 October p. 154

4. R.P. Jonas. 'A study meeting in London on the Silver Jubilee Issue' - *The Springbok*. 1966 Nov/Dec p. 118

5. King George V Silver Jubilee: www.philatel2.com/jubilee/id32.htm.

Accessed various times



stamp)

3. The dot under the 'd' of 1d on all Afrikaans headed stamps, where it appears in the left value tablet, have a break in the bottom left at 8 o'clock. (Blue arrow)

4. The 'd' of 1d in the right value tablet has nine lines inside the outline against 8 in the left value tablet, irrespective of the language



COLLECT MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY STAMPS

by Andrew Fischer, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Introduction

This article is a continuation of my previous article entitled *Collect Mozambique Stamps* (Published in *The SA Philatelist* of June 2015). With a bit of luck my previous article tempted you into a new collecting field. Hopefully this article will now entice you to expand your interest in Portuguese East Africa! Much of the comments regarding the stamps of Mozambique in my previous article can be equally applied to the issues of the Companhia.

The Companhia de Moçambique came into being in March 1888, founded by French investors, with the purpose of exploiting concessions in the regions south of the Zambezi River. Curiously there was initially no Portuguese interest in the Companhia.

The granting of a charter to the British South Africa Company over Mashonaland in 1890 galvanised the Companhia to push for a charter of its own over the territories of Manica and Sofala. The charter agreement was made with the government of Portugal in February 1892 for an initial period of twenty five years (in 1897 the charter was extended to 1942).

The charter gave the Companhia the right to, amongst other things, issue postage stamps and operate its own postal administration.

Why the Stamps of Mozambique Company?

The stamps of the Companhia came about directly as a result of the 'Scramble for Africa' by the powers of Europe, and in particular the expansion of the British Empire into what became Southern Rhodesia.

The stamps of the Companhia provide a rich source of interesting material to collect and research. Most of the stamps of the Companhia are readily obtainable at reasonable prices and, with a few exceptions, are also available in both mint and used condition. Again it is the early postal history that attracts higher prices, later issues being much easier to purchase on cover.

In addition, as most of the duties issued by the Companhia after World War I were printed by British printers, proof material is easier to come by for the Companhia than for other territories of Mozambique.

Set out below is a summary of the definitive stamp issues of the Companhia from its inception until the termination of the charter in 1942.

authorised by a Decree dated 8 August 1892 (fig. 1).

A total of nine duties were issued between September 1892 and late 1894. The stamps were issued on two papers in three different perforations - 11½, 12½ and 13½, and are found with a total of three different overprints.

The issue was withdrawn on 31 December 1894.

However, in 1895 50,000 of the 50r duty of this issue was overprinted 'Provisorio' in red due to a shortage of this value. The duty went on sale on 25 May 1895 for about fifteen months (fig. 2).

The Elephant Issue

This issue bore the Coat of Arms of the Companhia, two elephants bearing the shield of the Companhia – thus this issue is known as the 'Elephant' issue (fig. 3).

First issued on 1 January 1895, this issue comprised fifteen duties printed on two different kinds of paper and again being variously perforated 11½, 12½ or 13½.

On 30 April 1895, due to a shortage of 25r duties, 75r stamps were surcharged locally. Being on sale for only six days, these duties are rare used on cover.

In 1898 thirteen duties were overprinted to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Voyage of Vasco da Gama (fig. 4). The duties went on sale on 16 May 1898 for just over three months. Again, usage on cover is scarce. Please note that forgeries of this issue do exist.

A further surcharge issue was done in 1899, again due to a lack of 25r duties. 3,000 80r stamps were surcharged locally and issued on 20 February 1899 (fig. 5). As the stamps were withdrawn on 15 March 1899, usage on cover is rare.

Faced with yet another shortage of low value duties in 1900, the authorities of the Companhia issued further surcharged issues. On 8 June 1900, 15,000 50r on 20r and



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3

The Currency used in Mozambique Company

While the Companhia issued its own currency distinct from Mozambique, it issued its stamps in the currency of Mozambique. The Milréis and réis were used until decimalisation of the currency in 1913. The Mozambique Escudo, equivalent to 100 centavos, replaced the Milréis thereafter.

The First Postage Stamps

The first postage stamps issued by the Companhia were duties of Mozambique overprinted 'Comp. de Moçambique' in two lines in red or black. This issue was



Fig.4



Fig.5



Fig.6



Fig.7

22,000 25r on 5r duties were issued. In addition, the 50r on 20r duties were perforated down the middle – thereby doubling the number of duties available (fig. 6). Although the duties remained on sale for thirteen months, covers are very hard to come by. On 17 October 1904 four new values were issued to meet postal requirements.

This issue was in service until its withdrawal in 1907.

The 'New Colours' Elephant Issue

On 1 April 1907 the same design was used again, belatedly this time to provide new values and colours in keeping with certain resolutions passed at the Universal Postal union Congress of 1902. A total of thirteen duties – all perforated 11½ - were issued (fig. 7).

This issue was withdrawn in 1911 after the revolution in Portugal replaced the monarchy with a republic.

The Elephant 'Republica' Issue

In early February 1911 the Companhia authorised the overprinting of the local stocks of the 1907 Elephant issue – the duties were overprinted 'Republica' in red and green. The overprint slopes downwards from left to right (fig. 8). There are two types of overprints known.

In addition, the stock of duties held by the Casa da Moeda (the printers in Portugal) were also overprinted 'Republica' in red and green. This overprint slopes upwards from left to right.

The duties were withdrawn on 15 December 1918 when the new definitive issue was put on sale.

The New Currency Surcharges Issue

During late 1916 certain stocks of the Elephant 'Republica' issue were surcharged in the decimal currency (100 centavos = 1 Escudo) (fig. 9). The duties were issued on 25 October 1916.

The Local Pictorials Definitive Issue

This issue was the first Companhia issue not printed by the Casa da Moeda in Lisbon. Waterlow & Sons of London won the contract for this issue. Sixteen duties were issued on 16 December 1918 and remained in issue until 15 June 1937 (fig. 10).

The issue is listed with in two perforations – 14 by 15 and 12½ - in most catalogues.

However, this issue is found with at least three further perforations.

Once again, due to a shortage of certain low value duties, seven values were surcharged locally and



Fig.8

issued on 1 June 1920. Due to the low quantities surcharged, these duties are difficult to find on cover.

On 14 July 1921 a further two duties were surcharged locally to increase the stock of ½c duties available for sale. A total of 20,000 duties were surcharged; again finding these on cover is not easy.

During April 1921, two new values – 4c and 6c – were issued due to recent changes in the postal rates. Waterlow & Sons also printed these duties.

During late 1923, the Companhia issued seven new duties, again printed by Waterlow & Sons. Again these duties were necessary due to changes in the postal rates applicable in the territory.

Unlike the issues printed by the Casa da Moeda, there is plenty of archival material ex the printer's archive available for this issue at reasonable prices, thus enabling collectors to explore a fascinating adjunct to the collection of stamps and postal history.

This issue had a very long circulation, with the duties remaining in circulation until 15 June 1937.



Fig.9

The 1925 Local Pictorials New Colours Definitive Issue

With stocks of the existing definitive issue dwindling by late 1924, the Companhia decided to re-issue the definitive issue in different colours. Using many of the same dies as for the 1918 definitive issue to save costs, fourteen new duties were printed by Waterlow & Sons. The duties were line perforated 12½.

In addition, a contract was given to another British printer, Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co for further five new values (fig. 11). These duties were line perforated 12.

On 1 December 1925, the new definitive issue was put on sale at post offices in the territory.



Fig.11

Again due to changes in the postal rates, five new values were issued in the middle of 1931. Waterlow & Sons printed the 30c duty, and Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co printed the 85c and 1E40 duties. However, the 45c and 70c duties were printed by a third London based printer, De la Rue & Co.

This issue remained in circulation until 15 June 1937, and was used in conjunction with the original 1918 issue.

The 1937 Local Pictorials Definitive Issue

This is arguably the most beautiful set of stamps issued by any authority in all of Mozambique. The contract for this issue was awarded to Waterlow & Sons.

On 16 May 1937 the nineteen duties of this issue went on sale. All of the duties were line perforated 12½ (fig. 12).

Again there is plenty of archival material ex the printer's archive available for this issue at reasonable prices.

In July 1939 to commemorate the visit of President Carmona to the territory, the seven triangular duties of the definitive issue



Fig.10



Fig.12

were locally overprinted '28 VII 1939 Visita Presidencial' in two lines in red and black.

The issue remained in service until the termination of the Companhia's charter on 19 July 1942.

The 1935 Airmail Definitive Issue

On 1 November 1935 a definitive airmail issue consisting of fifteen duties was issued. The purpose of these duties was to prepay airmail postage for mail sent via airmail. Postage stamps intended for the prepayment of surface mail rates were invalid for airmail postage.

The duties were printed by Waterlow & Sons and line perforated 12½ (fig. 13). The issue remained in service until the termination of the



Fig.13

Companhia's charter on 19 July 1942.

Conclusion

I hope that this glimpse into the stamps issued by the Companhia de Moçambique encourages new collectors of the Companhia and inspires collectors who have dipped their toes into Portuguese East Africa to expand their interest to the issues of the Mozambique Company.

The Steinberg Covers

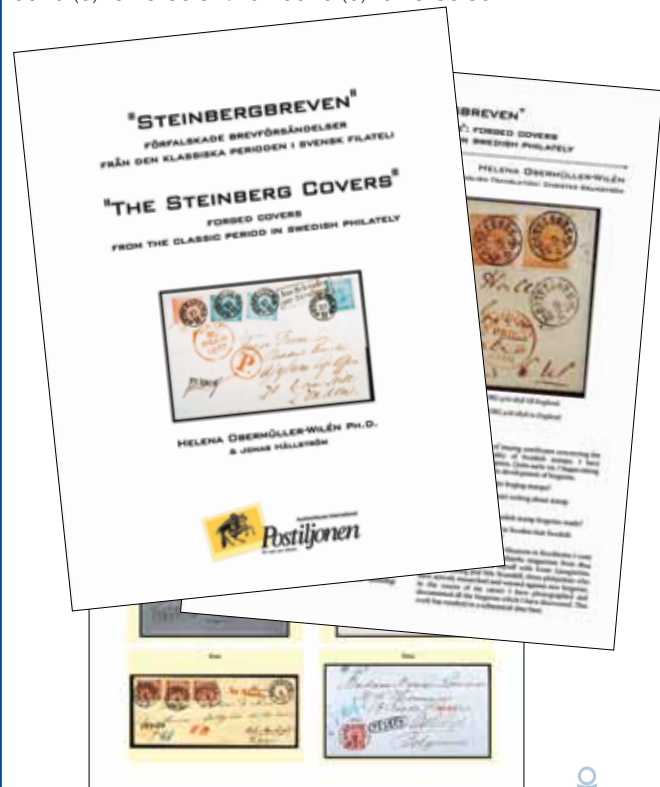
A new book about forgeries by author and expert Helena Obermüller-Wilén has been published. The book is in both Swedish and English, issued by Postiljonen and edited by Jonas Hällström.

Helena Obermüller-Wilén is the leading expert in classic Swedish philately until 1920 and a member of AIEP since 1996. Between 2004 and 2012, she was secretary of the FIP Commission for the 'Fight against Forgeries'. Her work to document forgeries has been extensive and especially interesting is her registration of the so-called *Steinberg Covers*.

The *Steinberg Covers* came to Sweden in the early 1970s with whom we think was the international forger Robert Steinberg. The man in Sweden who called himself Mr. Steinberg sold a lot of Swedish covers, many in very fine or exceptional quality. Many of these covers received certificates as the forgeries were expertly made.

Helena Obermüller-Wilén, together with the Expert Committee of the Swedish Philatelic Federation, have until today documented 207 of these forged covers and the work continues. In the book *The Steinberg Covers*, these 207 covers are described and in most cases illustrated. The aim is to broaden the knowledge of these covers both in Sweden and internationally.

In case you need further information or pictures please do not hesitate to contact us at anna.johnsson@postiljonen.se > Postiljonen AB. Anna Johnsson Winqvist Box 537. SE-201 25 Malmö. Sweden. 0046 (0)40 25 88 51. Fax 0046 (0)40 25 88 59



SAPDA THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Organisers of the SAPDAPEX 2016 National are proud to announce that Mr Emil Minnaar has been appointed Head of Jury for next years October event.

As all planning and arranging for this Exhibition, which takes place at the Italian Club in Bedfordview, is on track, you are now welcome to submit applications for exhibits. Please contact the committee secretary, Paul van Zeyl or myself with any queries you may have.

Steve van den Hurk
PRESIDENT OF SAPDA
and PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION

The Half-Penny Springbok - Part II 1949 - 54 Screened Printings

by Otto Peetoom, South Africa Collector's Society, UK mail: ottopeetoom@btinternet.com



1949 - 54 Screened ½d Springbok Printings

Ward¹ classifies the *All screened* issues as Group - E3 and remarks: *This is a very mixed group and one full of interest.*

It differs from the other sub-groups in that it is neither cross hatched nor yet does it have any R + P sets.

E3 is Ward Set 39 to 43. Set 42 being the June 1951 ½d Booklet Stamps. Listed in the 1986 UHB as Issues 19 to 22.

These *All Screened* stamps are grouped as SG 114c and were produced from four sets of cylinders. Certain confusion that arises from these four groups of cylinders is not immediately apparent. In the 1952 to 1986 Union handbooks - these printings are referred to as *All Screened* which is essentially correct.

Ward on the other hand defines two methods of screening and uses the abbreviations P = Photo screened and R = Roto screened. For instance, SG 114 (Ward 35 - 38), the frame is

P = Photo screened. On the four groups in E3 (SG 114c) the first and the fourth are P + P and the other two are unique printings being P + R (second) and R + R (third).

Comments and observations published in the 1949 - 1954 editions of *The South African Philatelist* confirm that UHB issues 19 and 22 are similar and issues 20 & 21 are different.

Unfortunately none of the 1952 - 1986 UHB editions mentions that or clarifies the situation.

It appears that Ward's classification of Photo or Roto screening is very relevant to the four groups of ½d printings.

Extensive notes on cylinder 31/70 appeared during 1952 in the *SAP* on pages 43, 61 and 177. T.B. Davie of Cape Town intimates that cylinder 31/70 and 7020A/B were both printed using *cross-lined or mesh screening* and this corresponds to Ward calling it Photo screening. Which of these phrases are thought to be technically correct I cannot say.

Screened Issue I - January 1949

Cylinders 7020A (Head) and 7020B (Frame)

Ward 39 - Both P = Photo screened - Issue 19 (1986 UHB)



Ward 39 - UHB Issue 19

Job 8218 Order for one million sheets

Previous Cylinder 86/82 - 355,000 sheets

Cylinder 7020A/B - 238,000 sheets - First delivery 14-12-48²

Job 8218 - 593,000 to date

The South African Philatelist February 1949 page 21

Union Notes - *Sheets of the ½d denomination bearing the marginal imprints 'Cylinder No 7020A' and 'Cylinder No 7020B' appeared on sale at the GPO Johannesburg during the first week of January... Examination through a magnifying glass, however, will show one change in the fact that both the vignette and the frame of the new issue have been produced through a screen whereas only the frame was screened in the previous issue. The sheet numbers are in red, as before...*

The SA Philatelist **March 1949** page 39

Correspondents have noted the new ½d stamps, with marginal cylinder numbers, as now being generally available throughout the Union, and Mr A.H. Sydow records their appearance at the Ysterplaas Post Office on 7 January 1949; which is about the same date as on the Rand.

Screened Issue II - April 1949

Cylinders 7020A (Head) and 11B (Frame)

Ward 40 - Head P = Photo screened - Frame R = Roto screened.

Remarks **The only P + R issue.** Issue 20 (1986 UHB)

Job 8218 continued - 199,000 sheets - First delivery 3-3-49²

Delivery up to 8.8.49 - 96,750 Sheets = Total 295,750³

Delivery up to 21.11.49 - 20,606 = Total 316,356 sheets⁴

Job 8218 - 909,356 complete

The SA Philatelist May 1949 page 75

Union Notes - A new printing of the ½d postage stamp with the sheets bearing the old vignette cylinder '7020A' in the left-hand bottom corner and a new frame number '11B' in the right-hand bottom corner, appeared on sale at post offices on the Reef about the 12th April...The frames also appear to have been produced through a slightly finer, or different type of, screen to that employed

for the 7020B cylinder and in consequence the frame portion of the stamps is not so well defined as in the last printing. This, however, may only be due to factors arising in the process of printing the stamps. **Note the underlined comment** above clearly points out that the printing from this set of cylinders is different, that is because they are Ward P + R instead of P + P.

Comments on this issue continues in the May 49 *SAP* and occupies a full page, the relevant remarks clarify that the frame on the stamps is quite different to the previous printing.

Observations - On 7020B the Green frame lines are clearly defined. On 11B the lines of shading are almost fusing together and the colour is bluish-green. Held up to the light, both frames are shiny. This is in sharp contrast to the next two issues as their frames, by comparison, appear dull or matt. I also examined the four sets of cylinder issues under an ultra violet lamp, but that failed to produce any significant differences. - I thought it may be of interest to the readers to quote Ward's notes on his CS 40.

Ward abbreviation CS = Cylinder Set.



Ward 40 - UHB Issue 20

Ward 40 - Cylinder Set 40 (Plate 20 H/C)

This C.S. is remarkable in that it uses the same head cylinder as before (i.e. cylinder 7020A) but the new frame cylinder uses rows 2-21 of the multipositives instead of rows 1-20 as had been the case previously. The result of this is that the well-known multipositives flaws appear one row higher than before, and correspond to different head flaws (where there are any).

For example, the line between the horns on 1/3 is still in that position, since it is a head cylinder flaw, but is associated with a frame which was formerly 2/3 but has now been moved up. In the same way the multipositive flaws which are so obvious on 9/12, 14/1, etc., have now to be looked for in the 8th and 13th rows.

The first issue was in April, 1949, and the cylinders were 7020A & 11B. The first has a photo screen, the other roto. This is the only photo-roto C.S. in the whole springbok series, so that specimens from this C.S. are easy to identify. Serial numbers are in red and have four figures. The heads are usually in brown. This C.S. has been overprinted DOUANE and also in the third type of OFFICIAL.* This type is described on page 2615 of the Handbook/Catalogue.

There are no varieties peculiar to this C.S. since the head cylinder has already been used in a previous set (39) and the frame cylinder occurs again in set 41, where its varieties are discussed.

*OFFICIAL overprints on Cylinder 7020A/11B is noted in the April 1951 SAP on page 50...Sheets of the half-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders numbered 7020A and 11B have been overprinted "Official-Offisiel" (small type)

Source - March 1951 Philatelic Bulletin

The South African Philatelist June 1949 page 91

Notes on the New 1/2d printing Cylinder No 7020A/11B

A.H. Sydow wrote...that Cylinder No 11B was prepared from a carbon tissue sheet printed from a 264-set Diapositive, i.e. 22 rows x 12 instead of 20 rows x 12. The two surplus rows not required in the finished sheets of stamps, were either varnished out after having been etched onto the cylinder, or the 264-set carbon tissue obtained from the Diapositive was reduced to a 240-set by cutting off the two extra rows of images.

In the August 1949 SAP there are further extensive notes on this issue by Sydow mainly to do with the flaws on the sheet.

Screened Issue III - August 1949

Cylinder No 11A (Head) and Cylinder No 11B (Frame) The first head inscription (Cylinder No. 11A) now reads up and on Issues I & II it read downwards.

Ward 41 - Head R = Roto screened - Frame R = Roto screened. Remarks The only R + R issue. Issue 21 (1986 UHB)

Job 5134 Order for one million sheets

Delivered since 29.11.49 - 215,950 sheets⁶

Delivered by 14.6.50 - 153,370 = 369,320 sheets so far⁷

Delivered by 4.1.51 - 74,972 = 444,292 sheets to date⁸

Delivered by 4.1.51 - 54,990 = 499,282 sheets to date⁹

Job 5134 - 499,282 to date

In the September 1949 SAP Sydow reported this issue was for sale at Ysterplaat Post Office on 4 August and provides details

of the different layout of the sheet. Sydow concluded: *The new sheets were noted on sale in Johannesburg on 10 August and may have been available a few days earlier than this date.*

February 1950 SAP page 26 1/2d Cylinder 11A/B

Under a heading **Change in Colour and Form of the Cyclometer Numbers on Recent 1/2d Pictorials.**

Another report by Sydow reads...*It may not be generally known, but the five-figure sheet numbers in black indicate that this latest printing of the 1/2d stamps has been carried out on the larger of the two printing machines in use at the Government printing works in Pretoria.*

It is a three-colour machine as compared with the two-colour type generally used for the printing of the postage stamps and is fitted with a single comb perforator instead of the eleven-row multiple-comb equipment installed on the smaller, but faster machine. In consequence...a complete absence of 'narrow row' of stamps frequently found at the centre of the sheets printed on the multiple-comb perforating machine.

An additional point of interest in this latest printing of the 1/2d pictorial stamp is that the lines of the Springbok's Head on the vignette portion of the design stand out with a distinct charcoal black appearance and in strong contrast to the frame, when the stamps are held up to a suitable position and viewed against the light.

Ward dates this issue as January 1950 which is clearly incorrect and comments:

Cylinder Set 41...Cylinder No. 11A reads upwards instead of down...*This is the only cylinder set in this sub-group to have the formula R + R and it is therefore easy to identify stamps of this issue. The fact that the heads are seldom if ever in a brown shade is also of assistance...cylinder 11B is peculiar in that it was prepared from rows 2-21 of the multipositives...all flaws on either cylinder are one row up. The old top row with the vertical line between horns on 1/3 is missing and a new bottom row, both head and frame, appears.*

Charcoal Centre - Ward stated:

Somewhere about the middle of the life of this C.S. an experimental or emergency printing was made on a machine not hitherto used for the half penny value. This printing differed from the normal in the following particulars:

1. The head was printed in a very dark ink which was absolutely 'matt', i.e., when held up to light it appears not in the least shiny (as is usually the case) but remains dull and black. This is the easiest way of detecting what are well called "charcoal prints".

Illustrated at right Cylinder No. 11B with a five figure sheet number in black - from the **Charcoal Printing**.



Ward 41 - UHB Issue 21

The illustrated No. 11A is from the Charcoal Printing, the No. 11B is not.

2. The perforation is as usual (14.7 by 14) but there is no perforation over-lapping at the centre of the sheet. This points to a difference of technique and it may be that a comb perforator of more up-to-date type was now available.

3. The serial numbers differ from the usual in that (a) have five figure numerals, (b) are provided with serifs and (c) are printed in black.

These charcoal sheets were otherwise normal in design, flaws, etc. They are not uncommon. Sheets from cylinder-set 41 were overprinted DOUANE and also with type 11 of the OFFICIAL* series.

*OFFICIAL overprints on Cylinder 11A/11B is noted in the June 1951 SAP on page 94... *Sheets of the half-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders 11A and 11B have been overprinted "Official-Offisieel" (large type - reading down)*

Source - Philatelic Bulletin & July SAP page 110.

In the October 1950 SAP on page 154 W.N. Sheffield produced a summary of printings and noted Cylinder 11A/B as August 1949 - First Printing. December 1949, second printing with five figure sheet numbers in black (Charcoal effect) February 1950 third printing, return to four-figure sheet numbers in red and printing similar in all respects to the August 1949 issue.

Note - Although the Author does not say so, it implies that the initial printing also had four-figure sheet numbers in red.

From the **Quantities Printed**, it suggests there were more than three printings and not as stated by Sheffield.

Observations on 11A/B - The vignette is very different to issue I & II and held to the light, the frame appears dull compared to the previous two cylinders. I have a nice large multiple of the charcoal printing on an album page that is described as 'Raised heads' - this is an appropriate description. When holding the stamps to the light in order to observe the charcoal effect. The Springbok does appear to be proud of its surrounding.

The difference of the vignette between the four figure red serial number printing and the charcoal effect on the five figure black serial number printing is essentially a good reason to classify them separately, but then I came across a report in a 1955 SAP that provides food for thought.



A Controversial Claim Fact or Fiction?

According to Sydow and Ward the so called **Charcoal Printing** was confined to having been produced on a different printing machine that included a five figure sheet No in black.

I extended my search for contemporary information in the *The South African Philatelist* to 1970. To my surprise I came across a report in the April 1955 SAP entitled:

Charcoal Centre ½d Springbok Stamps - Red Serial Numbers

A matter mentioned some three years or so ago by Mr A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein and Dr G.L. Faerber of Germiston, and unfortunately not recorded at the time, has recently been brought to light again by Mr R.T. Lilley, Johannesburg, showing us a portion of a sheet of the ½d Plate XXI Springbok stamps with the dull charcoal centres and four-figure red serial numbers in the margin instead of the five-figure black numerals.

At the time of its issue, the dull charcoal ('Rough') centres of the ½d Plate XXI printing was believed to be confined to those sheets bearing only the five-figure black serial numbers and notes to this effect were published on page 114 of the Union Handbook of Postage Stamps.¹⁰ From information and examples that have since come to hand it is evident that the dull charcoal centre stamp was produced with both four-figure red and five-figure black serial numbers printed twice on the right hand margin of the sheets.

Mr Lilley also notes that the frames of these particular stamps appeared in three quite distinct shades of green light, medium and dark - and that the cylinder flaws on R17/5, 19/4 and 20/3 are constant on all three shades.

For the moment, the above report can only be taken as read.

Screened Issue IV - December 1951

The final **Cylinders for the ½d Springbok**

Cylinder 31 (Head) and **Cylinder 70** (Frame) **Ward 43 - Head and Frame P + P = Both Photo screened.**

Issue 22 (1986 UHB)

Job 5134 continued - Order for one million sheets

The first part of this Job was 499,282 sheets of Cylinder 11A/B 31/70 Commenced on 13.11.51 - 105,371 sheets delivered¹¹
No further deliveries for Job 5134 appeared in the SAP

Job 5134 - 604,653 in total

Job 6112 Order for 25,000 sheets x 240 stamps - 16,500 sheets delivered on 20.1.53¹²

8,700 delivered by 22.1.53 = Total 25,200 sheets¹³

Job 14150/3 Order for 14,000 sheets- 14,500 sheets delivered on 11.3.54¹⁴

Job 106069 Order for 10,000 sheets - 14,200 sheets delivered on 27.7.54¹⁵ **Total No of sheets for Cylinder 31/70 = 159,271**

January 1952 SAP under Union Notes by W.N. Sheffield

New printing of ½d Postage Stamps from Cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior

A new printing of the ½d pictorial postage stamps from cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior appeared on the post office counters early in December.

The new issue shows a change in the language setting and the first stamp on the sheet is now inscribed in English instead of Afrikaans as in the 11A/11B printing...the reappearance of the vertical black line in between the horns of the Springbok on the third stamp of the top row indicates that the images for cylinder 31 have been taken from one row higher up on the glass plate than was the case in the 11A/11B printing.

In addition the movement of the green flaw in the top right hand corner of the frame design, from stamp No 12 in the 8th row of the 11A/11B issue to the same position in the 9th row of this latest printing, shows that the same procedure has been adopted for the transference of the frame images on to cylinder 70 and these factors, together with the language change, brings the setting of the stamps on the sheet back to the same position as that of the 7021A/7020B printing, issued in February 1949.



The Colour is described as a deeper if duller and more bluish-green frame and a distinct olive-grey centre compared to the previous 11A/11B with a more vivid deep green frame - usual red sheet numbers.

Extensive notes on this issue appeared during 1952 in the SAP on pages 43, 61 and 177. T.B. Davie of

Cape Town intimates that cylinder 31/70 and 7020A/B were both printed using cross-lined or mesh screening and this corresponds to Ward calling it Photo screening.

In April 1952 Davie devoted half a page in the SAP in an attempt to provide guidance between the two sets of cylinders.

My own simple observation is that Issues I & II compared to III & IV, held to the light, the frames of the first two are shiny and the latter two are dull.

Ward in his Booklet also made a string of remarks and one comment provides a clue as to when he made his notes...The sheets from this set were brought into use in December 1951 are still current... DOUANE and OFFICIAL (Type 10) overprints are recorded.

Ward - Three States of C.S. 43

Three states may be discovered in printings from this C.S. In the first state there are serious defects in the head cylinder. A very large black mark appears at the bottom of the sheet below stamps 4 and 5 and a small dot is present above the top left corner of 20/12. A small smudge has already been noted close to the cylinder number 31 and a much larger smudge covers much of the right side of stamp 17/12. It was perhaps this large smudge which made some repair essential and the second state shows it completely removed. The third state appeared in 1954 and shows the cylinder number 31 missing, except for a very small dot. The adjacent smudge has also vanished, but the black dot above still remains.

Cylinder 31- Faded or Omitted?

From my own observations the number 31 gradually faded away, whereas some of the contemporary comments indicate that it was considered as 'missing'.

A paragraph - *Missing Cylinder Number Variety*, accompanied by an illustration, on the foregoing appeared in the October 1953 SAP and a similar report followed in May 1954.

Union ½d Cylinder 70-31



Cylinder No 31 fading on Sheet No 0491 and almost completely vanished on sheet No 1087

The above illustrations suggest that the contention of a 'missing 31' is somehow flawed. I have four blocks ranging from sheet No's 0445 to 0491 that show various stages of fading and another four No's 1084 to 1088 with faint traces of the number remaining.

Union ½d Cylinder 70-31 continued

Mr Sam Legator informs us that he has made a study of the ½d, Cylinder 70-31 with the '31' missing, and has found there are *hundreds more such items than collectors imagine.*

He has traced them with sheet numbers 0116 up to 1158 (which would mean at least 1000 sheets). He has been reliably informed that the '31' did not wear off from the cylinder but missed picking up the ink through a 'wobble'. Presumably it could start working again correctly after having been missing for a bit.

The last comment on the above subject appeared in the June 1954 SAP reporting an example of a cylinder block overprinted OFFICIAL with the number '31 missing'.

Quantities Printed

1986 UHB	Cylinders	Sheets Printed
Issue 19	7020A/7020B	238,000
Issue 20	7020A/11B	316,356
Issue 21	11A/11B	499,282
Issue 22	31/70	159,271

Regarding the quantities printed, the 1986 UHB includes the following notes

Issue 20...The quantity printed was small compared to the other productions of this group.

Issue 22...like No 21, was also a very large one.

Oh Dear, Oh Dear, Oh Dear!

Notes:

¹Articles by Dr Gordon Ward - Reported in SAP November 1955 page 191.

The South African Philatelist Union Notes - Recent Printings.

²June 1949 page 89, ³October 1949 page 153, ⁴February 1950 page 24 . ⁵This is an incorrect page reference (261) and is 272 No 089 - 1952 UHB, ⁶April 1950 page 49, ⁷August 1950, page 118, ⁸March 1951 page 34, ⁹June 1951 page 92 ¹⁰Page reference to the 1952 U.H.B., ¹¹March 1952 page 42, ¹²March 1953 page 37, ¹³July 1953 page 113, ¹⁴July 1954 page 117, ¹⁵February 1955 page 13.

Varieties on the Screened Issues

The majority of flaws are minor and often mere fly specks. **Cylinder 7020A/B** UHB V4 - 10 list seven and Ward added another three. **Cylinder 7020a/11B** UHB V11 - 15 (Five). UHB V16 - 18 found on Issues 20 & 21.

Cylinder 11A/B - UHB V19 (1) and Ward added another four **Cylinder 31/70** UHB V20 - 24 (5) and Ward added another 13.



Issue 19 R3/3 & 3/4 Flaws

Issue 21 R2/4 Corrected Bush Tick

Some of the better variations include a line between the horns on R1/3 UHB V1 on Issues 19 & 22. A white dart in the vignette (See illustration below) The most prominent variety is the Bush Tick Flaw, also listed as **SG 114cb** found on R3/4, Issues 19 and 20 and R2/4 on Issue 21 and was partly corrected during the use of these cylinders (See illustration below). It was completely removed on Issue 22.

THE 2015 SASOLBURG INTERCLUB COMPETITION

This annual event was once again held at the Sasolburg Library with the Jury being Jill Redmond and Emil Minnaar.

With the usual friendly rivalry between Sasolburg and East Rand Philatelic Societies - this year saw East Rand winning the Interclub competition. Jimmy Mitchell won the Grand Prix, but there were a number of splendid exhibits as well. The judging took place on 1 November and prize giving on 7 November 2015.

The only junior to enter was Abigail Mitchell, Jimmy's granddaughter, with an exhibit called *Meaow and Roar*.

Dr Eddie Pretorius, President of Sasolburg Philatelic Society, thanked everyone for their participation and as usual, the hospitality extended by the Sasolburg PS was appreciated by all, as can be seen from this gallery of photos.



Exhibitors and non-exhibitors at the prize giving function - frames with exhibits in the background.



Emil Minnaar sharing the judges' comments on the exhibition.



Dr. Eddie Pretorius (Chairman of Oilfilat) listening to Emil's talk.



Jan Bakker receiving certificates for his entries



Jimmy Mitchell receiving the trophy for the best exhibit overall and at right receiving the trophy for the winning club at the exhibition - ERPS



Abigail and Dr. Eddie doing the draw for the Christmas cake and above, Abigail receiving the trophy for the best exhibit by a junior philatelist



Johan van Wyk showing the certificates he received for his entries, and below - receiving the trophy for the 2nd best exhibit overall



The CHALLENGE for 2016

MPS Challenges ALL Societies in South Africa by Aubrey Bowles

The Maritzburg Philatelic Society, established over ninety year ago and still going strong, would like to challenge ALL Societies in South Africa to enter an *Open Class - One to three frame - Club Competition* at the **National Stamp Exhibition** in Edenvale, Gauteng, during October 2016 based on the changing face of their town or city.

SAPDA, the organisers of the 2016 National, have welcomed this initiative as it will give every Society (Club) an opportunity to compete at national level and win an awesome trophy!

Recently, the MPS compiled two 16 page (one frame) exhibits based on 'Farming in South Africa' and competed against Bellville and Centurion in Cape Town. The Bellville society were awarded Silver as apposed the Bronze medal achieved by the MPS and consequently emerged as victors! Bellville were also awarded the Sykes Memorial Cup for their efforts which they, in turn, will hand over to the winner of the 2016 challenge.

What is important is the fact that all members of a society get an opportunity to work on a project together and, if there are say, 16 members participating, then each member would be responsible for writing and compiling one page. Clubs in the UK held a *The Changing Face of London* competition some time ago which was a huge success.

Every town in South Africa has a history and we challenge you to enter an exhibit in the Open Class and compete for the awesome floating trophy, THE SYKES



MEMORIAL CUP.

Remember that the Open Class allows you to make use of both philatelic and non-philatelic material.

Come on, give it a go - start working on your 2016 *The Changing Face of.....* exhibit now!

SAPDA'S VIEWPOINT

SAPDA will be promoting joint exhibits as an important 'society growth' element at next year's National in Edenvale. You might be aware that the Japanese are able to write poetry jointly ... something else they can teach us! Joint production not only demonstrates the 'how to' part of doing something like an exhibit, but within a positive/practical/constructive group, it is also capable of bringing out the best in each one of us; old or young, rich or poor. Nothing breeds success like joint/communal success. We're back at hands-on encouragement, of the type where all benefit in the process. Go on, try out this growth truth in your home Society!

Paul van Zeyl

To celebrate the Tokyo Olympics in 1964, Pilot's engineers created many new products, the greatest of their achievements being the Pilot Capless fountain pen. Known as the *Vanishing Point* in the US, the Pilot Capless is 'the perfect combination of luxury and technology'. A simple push-button withdraws the nib into the body, closing an air-tight seal behind it, to prevent it from drying out. The Capless can be used with ink cartridges and is also supplied with a converter to allow use of bottled ink. Available in a range of finishes and colours, all come supplied in a luxury gift box and are available from leading stationers

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

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

- a corrected final draft of the article in a 'text' document either on compact disk or emailed directly to the production editor, Janice BOTES: janice@gdb.co.za
- scanned copies of the philatelic items for the submitted material, scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi emailed to the production editor or on a compact disk saved as a tiff, pdf, high resolution jpeg.

Back Issues: of *The South African Philatelist* can be obtained by writing to:

The SA Philatelist, P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504. or email: Email@Minnaar.org

2c Protea

by Vic Sorour, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



There were two issues of the 2c stamp, with the design, *Protea punctata*, printed by photogravure.

cycle is completed, and these cycles are run continuously and consecutively, irrespective of what the printing has been." In the case of

Issue	Date	Cylinders	Suffix	Perf	Cyl 722	Printer	Perforator
1	30 September 1976	722, 727-30	-0	12.5	State 2	De-La-Rue	Internal
2	24 March 1977*	722, 727-30	-0	12.5	State 4	De-La-Rue	Internal

Table 1. 2c Protea

*The date on these sheets is 30 September 1976 and the suffix is -0, the same as in Issue 1. However this was a new Issue, because a different 722 cylinder was used. Cylinder 722 State 2 (Government Printer No 32) was used for Issue 1 and Cylinder 722 State 4 (Government Printer No 66) was used for Issue 2. In spite of this, the Government Printer regarded it as a 'Supplementary' print and did not change the date or suffix (1).

The differences between the Issues 1 and 2

Although the cylinder numbers are identical in the two issues, Cylinder 722 State 2 was used in Issue 1, while Cylinder 722 State 4 was used in Issue 2. The two issues can be identified by

1. Marginal bars

The marginal bars in Issue 1 are all the same colour. In Issue 2 the outer marginal bar is a lighter shade of green at

Pane A, left margin, rows 1-7 and
 Pane B, right margin, rows 1 – 10



Fig. 2. Pane B. The lighter outer bar.

2. Sheet numbers

a. In Issue 1 the sheet numbers are even on Pane A and odd on Pane B.

In Issue 2 the reverse is true.

b. Sheets from Issue 1 have either a low or a very high sheet number.

In Issue 2 the sheet numbers fall between the two limits of Issue 1.

Issue 1 sheet numbers run from 247,394 to 968,704. Issue 2 sheet numbers run from 916,786 to 453,331. Dr H. J. Raubenheimer (2) explained how the cyclometer worked in the De-La-Rue Printing Machine. "The numbers run in cycles of one million, starting at 999,999 and ending at 000,000. When the



Fig.1. 2c stamp

the 2c the run would have started at about 247,000 and continued through 000,000 and stopped at about 968,257. Issue 2 would have commenced at approximately 916,000 and continued to 453,000.

Pane	Position	Description	Issue
A	R5/1	A green mark after 'Findlay'	1
	R10/1	Tiny green dot above the 'A'	1
B	R1/10	Dot below right leg of 'A' of 'RSA'	2
	R1/10	'Lightning' flaw outer marginal bar	2
	R2/10	Two white spots outer marginal bar	1
	R8/1	Green dot above 'A' of 'RSA'	2
	R10/1	Tiny green dot in top loop of 'B'	2
		Tiny green dot between '7' & '2' of '722'	2
	Two green dots 4 and 8 mm to left of 'B'	2	

Table 2. Issue Identification Varieties.

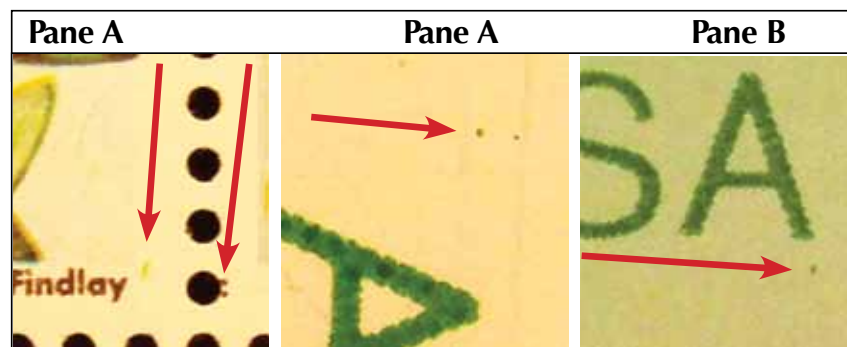


Fig.3. Row 5/1

Fig. 4. Dot above the 'A'

Fig.5. Row 1/10

3. Identification Varieties

Many collectors only collect the control blocks. The following summary will help in the identification of the control blocks.

Identification of Cylinder Blocks.

Control blocks can be identified - as Issue 1 or 2 by:

i. Sheet numbers are even on Pane A and odd on Pane B in Issue 1.

The reverse is true in Issue 2

ii. Sheet numbers range between 247,000 and 960,000 in Issue 1 and between 916,000 to 453,000 in Issue 2.

iii. There is dot above the A in Issue 1.(Fig. 4)

iv. In Issue 2, Pane B. there is

a. dot in the B and 2 dots to the left of the B (Fig. 9 and 11)

b. dot between the 7 and 22 in 722. (Fig. 10)

c. a dot above the 'A' of 'RSA' on R8/1. (Fig. 8)

Mark Barnes named new Post Office CEO

The Telecommunications & Postal Services Department has confirmed his appointment.



Last month, acting CEO Mlu Mathonsi stepped down for personal reasons.

The Telecommunications and Postal Services Department has confirmed Mark Barnes' appointment, saying it will bring much needed leadership to the embattled parastatal. The Post Office has been embroiled in financial and maladministration scandals, with Minister Siyabonga Cwele revealing in July that it owes about R245 million to creditors.

The SA Post Office was put under administration in November 2014 after a protracted four-month illegal strike.

Cabinet has approved the appointment of Mark Barnes as the Group Chief Executive Officer of SAPO on Thursday, 19 November 2015.

Barnes has been appointed for a five-year period, starting from 15 January 2016. There is expected to be a handover from Trevor Ndlazi who was appointed as acting group chief executive officer in October.

Barnes graduated from UCT with an Honours Degree in Actuarial Science and attended Harvard Business School. He is also the single biggest shareholder and executive chairperson in investing and trading solutions company Purple Group.

He also has leadership experience in financial services at Standard Bank, Capital Alliance and Brait, according to the Purple Group website.

Barnes told Fin24 that he sees the Post Office as "delivering more than just letters" as he plans to evolve its role in the internet age. He also sees the Post Office as standing on its own two feet.

"I expect to see evidence of a turnaround strategy probably within 6 to 18 months," Barnes told Fin24. "In three years' time I would hope that we have an established different way of doing business".

The Editorial Board and Organised Philately wish Mark Barnes much success in his appointment.

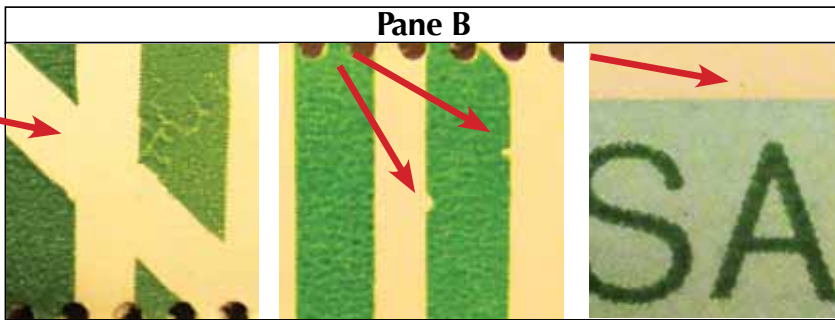


Fig. 6. 'Lightning flaw'. Fig. 7. Two white spots. Fig. 8. Dot above 'A' of 'RSA'.

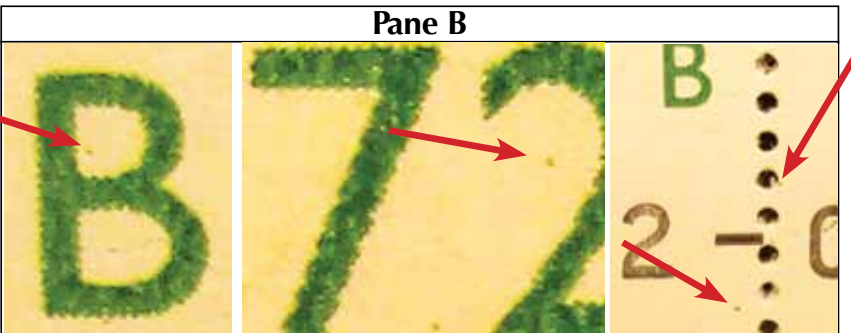


Fig. 9. Dot in the 'B'. Fig. 10. Dot in '722'. Fig. 11. Two dots below B.

References

1. Reinders F., The Bars over the 'blank' Protea Stamps, *The South African Philatelist*. 1978 June p152.
2. Raubenheimer H.J., The Cyclometer, *South African Study Circle Newsletter*. 1977 February p3.



GOEDGEMERK APPROVED

20c NAMIBIA 20c NAMIBIA 20c

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WANTED: Philatelist looking TO BUY – 500 Ring 22 Album Sheets. Please contact Mike North, north@waterfallhillsestate.co.za

EXCHANGE: An Argentine collector looking for information and local stamps and covers to exchange. Contact: Alois Filipan, Mendoza №.560, Lanus. C.P. 1824, Prov. Bs Aires. Argentina.

EXCHANGE: Modern Railway postcards x346 different. Mainly from SA but also overseas. Price negotiable or to swap for vintage SA cards. Contact: B Brummer 0437262858 or brummerb@hawcweb.co.za

WANTED: Oleg Novoselov's father, a High school teacher of 40 years, now he retired, has a small philatelic club. In an attempt to grow and revive the hobby - asking for South African stamps. Contact: Oleg Novoselov. Rudneva St 61a-26. Tula. Russia. 300026.

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

- **PRETORIA STAMP FAIR:** 1st Saturday of every month; Denis Adami Hall, Wren St, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Paul van Zeyl on 076 124 9055.
- **TSHWANE EXHIBITIONS:** 1st Saturday of every month; Afrikaanse Filatelie-vereniging Pretoria. At the Denis Adami Hall, Wren Street, Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact Rev Cassie Carstens: 012 653 2279.
- **SANDTON STAMP FAIR:** 2nd Saturday of every month; 433 Maple Road, Kyalami. Contact Clinton Goslin: 083 272 9367. also known as the Kyalami stamp fair.

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

• **EAST RAND STAMP FAIR: NOTE THE VENUE.**
Last Saturday of all months, except December; at **Edenvale Bowling Club.**

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

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

• **DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR:** Meeting 12 Dec. Venue: D.R. Church Hall Durbanville - Bergsig, corner of Boland Way & Protea Way. Directions & map available on request. Contact: Ken Joseph or Robert Harm. cell: 028 840 2160 or 072 597 1287.

QSA AUCTIONS

Ullman Recreation Centre, SANDTON

All the QSA auctions are held at the Ullman Recreation Centre, on the 3rd Saturday of every month, at 11h00, with lot viewing from 09h00. Ullman Recreation Centre, Sandton. **Directions - from Marlboro Rd (M1) off-ramp, proceed west to Bowling Ave, go north until Alma St, go down the hill to the river.**

Paul van Zeyl, Rand Stamps. 072 400 4697.

Society News

TO ALL SOCIETY SECRETARIES:

Please advise *The SA Philatelist* Editorial Board of your **FUTURE MEETING** programme so that the information can be published **timeously**.



WITWATERSRAND
PHILATELIC SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 62106 WILLOWDALE 2007

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier St, Auckland Park. For further info contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA 082 722 7604. **Dates for Society Meetings 2016 always on a Wednesday at 20h00**

13 January	Annual General Meeting
10 February	Visit by East Rand PS
09 March	One to Five Page Exhibits
13 April	First Competitive Evening
11 May	Modern Philatelic Exhibits
08 June	Grand Challenge Match
13 July	Open Class Exhibit Evening
10 August	One Frame Evening
14 September	Annual Auction

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O.Box 198 Florida Hills 1716. Contact: Alistair Mackenzie (Chairman) Tel: 011 768 7565 or Ian Walker (Secretary) Tel: 011 4721161

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VENUE: The Victorian Secret, corner Russel/Woburn St, Benoni; last Saturday of each month, at 2:00pm. Contact: Jimmy Mitchell on jimmy.hcmitchell@gmail.com

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

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

Exhibit programme for meetings 2016:-
2016: Jan 20 : Africa and its islands.
Feb 17 : General.

Mar 16 : AGM and invited exhibits.
and then - 20/4, 18/5, 15/6, 20/7, 17/8, 21/9, 19/10 & 16/11. No meeting in December. We have not yet agreed on the exhibit programme.

Please note : The postal address for the PS of J is P O Box 131037, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.

PRETORIA, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

- Mike Dove (President) 012 348 9393
- Alex Visser (Deputy President & Secretary) 082 922 2927

Monthly newsletter.

Specialists on traditional philately, postmarks and postal history.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

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

POLOKWANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CENTURION STAMP CLUB

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

THEMATICS SA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Meeting 1st Saturday of each month at the Adami Stamp Fair @ 10:15. Vibrant & active group of attendees – lots of expertise amongst them. Contact: Cassie Carstens 012 653 2279.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

LOCAL EVENTS & SOCIETY NEWS

Exhibition news invited for all future local events

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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

STELLENBOSCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month at 19h00. **Venue-** Le Donjon, La Soci  , La Clemence, Webersvallei Road, Stellenbosch. *Activities include internal & external exhibitions, visiting speakers, informative, instructive talks and demonstrations. Monthly Newsletter with information on local philatelic activities: exhibitions, stamp fairs, society meetings; includes semi technical articles on matters of philatelic interest authored locally or abstracted from international journals.*

Visitors are welcome at all meetings



PAARLSE FILATELISTE Sedert 1951



Die Paarlse Filateliste vergader elke maand op die tweede Donderdag van die maand om 19h30.

Filateliste, seelversamelaars 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 criffies@telkomsa.net

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. Circa 20 - 30 members and often a few guests gather once a month. FHPS is now reaching a wider audience on the internet since launching their own website. Please have a look and maybe get ideas or inspiration for your own society. email: info.fhps@info. Website: www.fhps.info Volker Janssen FHPS Secretary



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

• Dave Brown (Acting President). 041 360 4025.
• Rodney Maclachlan (Secretary Treasurer) 072 619 5409. *This society meets at Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Ave, Cotswold.*



MEETINGS always on Monday evenings:
11 Jan, 1 Feb, 7 March - AGM, 4 April, 9 May (Public holiday on 2 May), 6 June, 4 July, 1 Aug, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 31 Oct (Nov. meeting as Venue not available on 7 November).

28 Nov or 5 Dec. NB School's already closed by 7 Dec and members involved with year end activities. Committee to decide.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HARARE ZIMBABWE

Meetings - 9am, 3rd Saturday of each month at the Orchid Society Hall, Mukuvisi Woodlands, Hillside Road (off Glenara Avenue South), Harare. Stamp displays, talks, advice, auctions, swopping and socialising. Contact: Ian Johnstone, landline 308950; email: kupas@mweb.co.zw cellphone 0772 859 759

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

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

- Trevor Harris (President)
- Ted Brown (Vice-President) 083 284 6554
- Harald Deg (Secretary) 084 222 1123
- Bev M'Naught-Davis (Zone Representative) 031 904 1522

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



HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

President: Ian McMurray. mail: ianjarvismcm@gmail.com

HIBISCUS COAST PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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



Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

26 Maud Avenue, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg
• Thematics Group Meeting 09h00
• Executive Committee Meeting 11h00
3rd Monday of every month: St Mathews Parish Hall, Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Monthly Club Meeting. 16h00
President: Dave Wyllie. 082 926 8888. Email: davewyllie@telkomsa.net
President's Deputy: Marianne de Jager. 082 853 3361 Email: mdj@iuncapped.co.za
Treasurer: Ruth Sykes. 082 402 2103. Email: rsykes@absamail.co.za

Secretary: Aubrey Bowles. 082 558 0283. Email: burncree45@telkomsa.net

Publicity & Monthly Newsletter, information on Society activities can be obtained from Aubrey Bowles, burncree45@telkomsa.net

- Tony Evans: Competitions & Events Manager.
 - Mike O'Connor: New Issues
 - Val de Jager: Catering Officer
 - Joyce Hulse: Library Assistant
 - Julia Evans: Liaison Officer
 - Gordon Bennett: Stamp Circuit Book Manager.
- EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
• Graham Bruce: Librarian. • Heather Wyllie: Stamp Sales Table.

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Tweede Maandag van elke maand om 7nm Posbus10647. Danabaai. 6510
Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering: November
President: Jack Visser (082 332 5353)
Tel / Faks: 044 6903030
E-pos: jackvisser@yahoo.com
Sekretarise: Gerrie Conradie (082 952 6700)
Tel / Faks 044 6981074
E-pos: gajcon@gmail.com

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

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

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Contact: Chairperson: Jan de Jong. 011 839 2031 djhome@iburst.co.za. Secretary Eugene du Plooy; Connie Liebenberg, editor of the Newsletters. Meeting 1st Saturday of the month at 09:15am at the Adami Stamp Fair in Pretoria. email: eugene@umalusi.org.za PO Box 8727, Centurion 0046. or Connie Liebenberg. P O Box 33378, Glenstantia 0010. Tel: 012 345 3616. email: jacoli@mweb.co.za

RSA SEELSTUDIEGROEP

Vergader elke 2de Woensdag van elke onewe maand (Januarie, Maart, Mei, Julie ens) by Filateliedienste in Silverton. Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrieff, 10vm. Connie Liebenberg. epos: jacoli@mweb.co.za

Comic Corner

Stamps

that make us

SMILE

Episode 33 of :

Errors on Stamps...

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

This commemorative stamp of the British Virgin Islands was issued in 1987 for the 200th Anniversary of the postal services on the islands.

The 35c stamp shows a Post Office building of the 1930s together with the four Pence stamp of Virgin Islands issued in 1867, showing a statue of St. Ursula, the patron Saint of the islands.



The error is in the symbolic postmark: 'TORTOLA / DE 30 / 61' which means the stamp is cancelled on the main island Tortola on 30 December 1861. This is impossible because this date is almost five years before the first stamps of the Virgin Islands were issued.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTION: 'Who Knows?'

SAP 91:5 932 October 2015. Letter, page 148, titled "Who Knows?" refers:

Seeking out printing flaws is part of the fun of philately and Anne Southwood's sharp-eyed spot of her 'star and moon' flaws on the 1983 8c and 20c 'Weather Stations' issue (reported October 2015 SAP (p.148)) is a great example of introducing 'depth' to your stamp collection - advancing it beyond assembly of a basic catalogue listing.

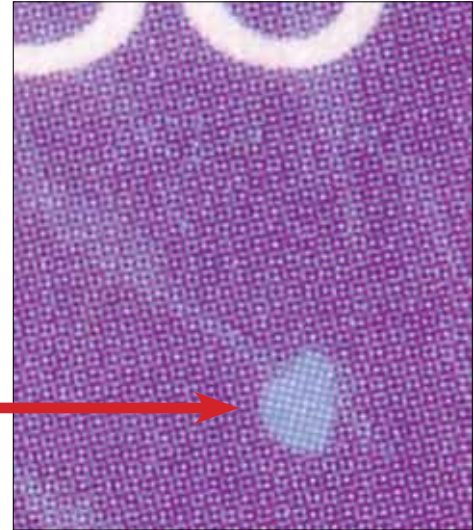
These stamps were printed lithographically and occurrence of such flaws (frequently termed 'ring flaws') would probably have been transitory as the cylinders / inking blankets were periodically wiped during the course of printing. Cause of the flaw was most likely some third party interference such as a fleck of dust or a spot of moisture. The flaws would not be consistent - lasting just as long as the offending cause took to fall off or be wiped away. For this reason they are referred to as 'batch flaws.' A logical explanation for one owner having the same flaw repeated more than once within their stocks is that original source was most likely a new issues multiple

purchase - thus from the same 'batch.' Q.E.D.

Case in point is from a stock book on my desk at the moment. The 1983 Gough Island weather station 8c has a similar 'ring

(moon) flaw' but this one located far right, below the face value. The original collector obviously bought 'three of everything' and all three 8c cylinder blocks here show the same flaw.

If you want to be a bit creative, the 'moon' is not quite round - shadowy in places - so why not an 'eclipse' flaw!



"Who Knows?" - not a mystery...

In response to Anne Southwood's query iro RSA Weather Station varieties in the October SA Philatelist (P148)..... yes, those 'moon' varieties she shows are constant and known.

In addition, I have scanned some other varieties on these two stamps that I believe are also constant. Many take the form of additional small 'moons', but on the 8c there is also a 'blue streak' on the right above the weather station's weather balloon hut's doorway. Their sheet positions can be determined as most are marginal copies!

Martin Crawford
Pinelands Stamp Circle

A reprint of the 4c Protea? A mystery...

I have recently seen a 'Philatelic Particulars' form, reproduced below, from the Government Printing Works dated 1 February 1980 and signed by Mr C. Prinsloo. It informs of a reprint of the 4c Protea on 24 August 1979 with a suffix of (-7). 200,000 sheets were printed.

This is a mystery. Nobody I have spoken to has any knowledge of this 'mystery printing'. The 200,000 sheets seem to have disappeared into thin air!

Has any other collector come across this printing.

Vic Sorour



STATISTIEK GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS STATISTIEK GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS		Form no. 1001 (1/79)	
10. Bestelnommer: No. 888 Protea/Postage		Blad of omslag: (Protea)	
11. Titel van die blad: 13852P		12. Besluit van die Reguleerder No. 1980/1.2.2.1	
13. Omslagmaat: 200 000 velle/sheete		14. Omslagmaat: 200 000 velle/sheete	
15. Omslagmaat: 200 000 velle/sheete		16. Omslagmaat: 200 000 velle/sheete	
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May the closeness of friends, the comfort of home and the unity of our nation, renew your spirits this holiday season. Here's to a joyful present and a well remembered past. Best wishes for blessed Christmas, Happy Holidays and a magnificent New Year.

Steve van den Hurk
PRESIDENT OF SAPDA
PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION

- *Vice-President:* Jacques Kuun.
- *Secretary:* Paul van Zeyl.
- *Immediate Past President:* Kenny Napier.
- *Management Members:* Ken Wright & Chris Bennett.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.sapda.co.za

SAPDA MEMBERS SERVE THEIR CLIENTS WITH REGULAR STAMP FAIRS AND AUCTIONS

SAPDA THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

SAPDA'S CODE OF ETHICS: Members of SAPDA are bound by a Code of Ethics. These members also agree to accept the decision of SAPDA's Executive Committee in the event of a dispute. Collectors are therefore protected from wrongdoing by dealer-members (only). It is the responsibility of individual collectors to ensure that they deal with SAPDA members should they want assistance in the event of a philatelic dispute. Should a collector have a dispute with a dealer-member, he/she should refer the matter IN WRITING to SAPDA's secretary at Box 11133, Queenswood 0121 Pretoria.

Richie Bodily • *contact: Gerald Bodily.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: rbcollect@yahoo.co.uk T: +44 208 940 5174

Sherwood Collectables • *contact: Jean Chadwick.* GAUTENG:
E: sam@acs-sa.co.za T: +27 11 907 5046

Southern Cape Philatelic Auctions • *contact: Ray T Upson.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: scpa@xsinet.co.za T: +27 44 871 2286

SPINK • *contact: David Parsons.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: dparsons@spink.com T: +44 207 563 4072

Stamp's Friend • *contact: Francois Friend.* EASTERN CAPE:
E: info@stampsfriend.co.za T: +27 82 554 8900

Stephan Welz & Co • *contact: Savo Tufegdzcic.* GAUTENG:
E: jhb@stephanwelzandco.co.za T: +27 11 880 3125

Steve's Stamps & Boer War Memorabilia • *contact: Steve Catlin.*
E: pennyblack@vodamail.co.za T: +27 82 892 0459

Wembley Philatelic • *contact: Desray Whitney.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: deswhitney@mweb.co.za T: +27 21 674 1540

Willy Kruger • *contact: Willy Kruger.* GAUTENG:
E: cgh.stamps@gmail.com T: +27 12 804 5044

Wigmore MJ • *contact: Michael Wigmore.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: dcrocker@lando.co.za T: +44 126 859 0781

Alan Macgregor • *contact: Alan MacGregor.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: alan@rhodesia.co.za T: +27 21 786 1931

Alcrem Stamps • *contact: Francisco Arce.* NORTH WEST PROVINCE:
E: fjarce@global.co.za T: +27 18 771 6656

Andy Kriegler Stamps • *contact: Andy Kriegler.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: landy@global.co.za T: +27 28 754 1425

Arcade Stamp Shop (Pty) Ltd • *contact: Coen Slagt.* GAUTENG:
A: Shop 10, De Molen. 47 Van Riebeeck Ave. Edenvale. 1609. T: +27 11 454 2026

Argyll Etkin Ltd • *contact: Adam Cooke.* BRITAIN:
E: argylletkin@yahoo.co.uk T: +44 20 7930 6100

Atlas Auctioneers • *contact: Clinton Goslin.* GAUTENG:
E: atlasauctioneers@lantic.net T: +27 83272 9367

Chris Rainey • *contact: Chris Rainey.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: chris@chrisrainey.com T: +44 126 859 0781

Cosmo Philatelics • *contact: Dennis Comminos.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: dennis@cosmophilatelics.com

D. Morrison Ltd • *contact: David Morrison.* BRITAIN:
E: africonect@aol.com T: +44 476 591 791. www.forpostalhistory.com

De Postboom • *contact: Jack Visser.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: jackvisser@telkomsa.net T: +27 44 690 3030

DM Philatelics • *contact: Dom Martino.* GAUTENG:
E: dmphilatelics@gmail.com T: +27 86 697 8717

Doreen Royan & Associates • *contact: Doreen Royan.* GAUTENG:
E: royana@icon.co.za T: +27 11 706 1920

East Rand Stamps • *contact: John Bleazard.* GAUTENG:
E: bleazard@telkomsa.net T: +27 11 914 5535

Edenstamps • *contact: Steve van den Hurk.* GAUTENG:
E: steve@edenstamps.com T: +27 11 392 1020 www.edenstamps.com

Filat AG Subs • *contact: Richard Johnson.* SWITZERLAND:
E: info@filat.ch T: +41 44 251 2622, A: Postfach 273. Ramistrasse 7, 8024 Zurich,

Jacques Kuun Stamps • *contact: Jacques Kuun.* GAUTENG:
E: jacqueskuun@gmail.com T: +27 82 836 9746

Janssen Stamps • *contact: Volker Janssen.* WESTERN CAPE:
E: info@janssenstamps.com T: +27 21 786 1548

John Bracey • *contact: John Bracey.* KWA-ZULU NATAL:
E: john@rsastamps.co.za T: +27 31 266 1020

Johnson Philatelic • *contact: Richard Johnson.* EASTERN CAPE:
E: rj@johnson.co.za T: +27 41 583 3159

Kenny Napier Stamps • *contact: Kenny Napier.* GAUTENG:
E: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za T: +27 83 444 0249

Ken Wright Stamps • *contact: Ken Wright.* GAUTENG:
E: kenwright@iburst.co.za T: +27 11 868 3032

Lord Morne De La Guerre • *contact: Morne de la Guerre.* GAUTENG:
1/4 Stamp & Coin Dealer E: info@stampandcoindealer.co.uk T: +27 83 419 179

Mike Wierzbowski • *contact: Mike Wierzbowski.* GAUTENG:
E: kenny.napier@mweb.co.za T: +27 11 234 8340

Mr Thematics • *contact: Chris Bennett.* GAUTENG:
Local agent for Stanley Gibbons E: chris@asapcc.co.za T: +27 82 566 3378

Murray Payne Ltd • *contact: Stuart M Babbington.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: info@murraypayne.com T: +44 193 473 2511

PhilaClassica AG • *contact: Martin Eichele.* INTERNATIONAL:
E: Info@philaClassica.ch T: +41 61 261 7379

Pierre Krigler • *contact: Pierre Krigler.* GAUTENG:
E: pkrstamps@gmail.com T: +44 (0) 83 327 5953

Rand Stamps Auctions • *contact: Paul van Zeyl.* GAUTENG:
E: paulvz@mweb.co.za T: +27 12 329 2464



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For more information contact David Parsons or Ian Shapiro:

Tel: +44 020 7563 4072 | Fax: +44 020 7563 4085 | Email: dparsons@spink.com

Tel: +44 020 7563 4000 | Fax: +44 020 7563 4085 | Email: ishapiro@spink.com

69 Southampton Row | Bloomsbury | London | WC1B 4ET



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