

# Philatelist

SA

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REGISTERED AT THE GPO AS A NEWSPAPER

Vol 61 No 4

April 1985

## AUCTIONS IN MAY

- 7th: AUSTRALASIA** — with New Zealand proofs and covers including 4d. rose and 6d. brown. AUSTRALASIA sold for the benefit of Aston University, Birmingham Development Fund including a section of New Zealand Australian Commonwealth, New Guinea including N.W. Pacific Islands overprints.  
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# SAFHA 85

# Philatelist

Vol 61 No 4 — April 1985 — Whole No 721

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## How to or how not to . . .

BOPHUTHATSWANA has provided the philatelic world with another example of "how to" — and this time it is how to issue new stamps and postmarks when the GPO is closed.

It happened last month, on Monday 11 March 1985, which was a public holiday in the country's capital of Mafikeng.

Both the GPO and the Mmabatho post offices were closed, and no postal business was transacted.

Yet two stamps (11c and 25c) were issued for the "centenary of Mafikeng", there was a first-day postmark, plus the first day for a special temporary datestamp to mark a Boy Scout Camporee coinciding with the centenary celebrations.

Collectors who arrived at the Mafikeng post office during the day to have items genuinely postmarked on the first day, had to turn away in dismay. Some had taken special trouble to get to Mafikeng on the day of issue, and were rather upset.

In its press statement Philatelic Services and Intersapa had advised collectors that:

These items will be on sale at the General Post Office, Mafikeng, at post offices with philatelic counters, and at Philatelic Services and INTERSAPA, Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001 (Tel. (012) 293-1029; 293-1031/32).

Asked about the stamp issue by a closed post office, a Philatelic Services' spokesman said it was only the philatelic agent for Bophuthatswana, and was unaware of 11 March being a public holiday, with the GPO closed.

It appears that the following happened:

Two days before the holiday, a notice was put up inside the Mafikeng GPO to the effect that the office would be closed but that philatelic items would be on sale at a kiosk on the town square.

On the Monday a postal official manned the stand on the square during the celebrations. He had only 'philatelic items' for sale, such as pre-prepared FDCs. The special postmarkers were not there, and no postal business could be done.

During the day the kiosk ran out of its supply of FDCs, and the official made a list of people still wishing to buy such items. He said they could come and buy at the Mafikeng GPO the next day.

Sale of first-day items continued the next day, but then of course the special first-day datestamp could not be used.

Several collectors brought the position to the attention of *The SA Philatelist*, and one irate collector obtained formal confirmation from the Bophuthatswana Police that the Post Office was "completely closed".

## New society launched

THE INAUGURAL meeting of the "Revenue, Railway & Cinderella Study Group of Southern Africa" was held in February 1985 at the home of Mr and Mrs David Crocker in Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort. The nine members present enjoyed a pleasant afternoon which was predominantly devoted to the revenues.

Exhibits and short talks were given by three members: Howard Godwin showed West Indies Red Cross Labels, David Crocker showed Rhodesian revenues from BSA Co to KGVI and Cedric Roché showed Stellaland, Bechuanaland, Cape & OFS revenues.

There was active discussion of each exhibit and everyone present came away with new insights into the material showed.

At present there are 17 members and it is planned to hold four meetings a year at members' homes, as well as an annual meeting at the national stamp exhibition. The study group is affiliated to the Federation, having had its constitution approved in 1984.

Plans are going ahead to organise an exchange packet for members. Subscriptions are R10 per annum and would-be members may contact Cedric Roché at Box 11058, Brooklyn 0011, or telephone (012) 46-2044, for application forms.

## Jeugfilateliejaar

VANJAAR IS "nasionale jeugjaar", met die tema van betrokkenheid, ontwikkeling en vrede! As 'n mens die filatelie toets aan hierdie doelstellings, is daar min aktiwiteite vir die jeug wat by ons stokperdjie kan bykom.

In die afgelope vier jaar is enorm veel vermag met die bevordering van jeugfilatelie in Suider-Afrika. Daarvoor is al heelwat geskryf, want ons sien die bewys van wat inderdaad gedoen word.

Vir die geesdriftige werkers en organiseerders het elke jaar 'n jaar van jeugfilatelie geword.

Ons wil graag hoop dat die paslike tema van die nasionale jeugjaar nog meer versamelaars tot filateliese jeugwerk gaan aanspoor.

## Doubtful issue

MAFIKENG'S centenary stamp issue, announced by Bophuthatswana after its 1985 stamp issuing programme had been finalised and published, was spawned under a cloud.

We still do not know what "centenary" is being celebrated.

And now the issue (and the matter) is clouded even further with the official day of release of the two stamps being a public holiday on which that country's General Post Office was closed, thus denying the public access to the postal counter for the purchase of the stamps, in fact for any postal business.

Perhaps Mafikeng has a heritage of philatelic production. But eighty five years ago the postmarkers, at least, were wielded with integrity. — **The Editor/Die Redakteur**

## Elpex/Olfu '85

DELEGATES TO this year's philatelic congress — due in conjunction with the Elpex/Olfu 85 national stamp exhibition from 6 to 10 August 1985 in East London — are urged to register early.

Mr John Morris, chairman of the Elpex organising committee, says the exhibition will comprise 520 frames competitively, plus a court of honour. It will be held in the City Hall, a national monument.

Mr Morris says the entertainment and excursions arranged for delegates include a visit to a factory where vehicles are manufactured (he calls it "The car") and a bus tour of the pineapple trail.

The address of the organising committee is PO Box 925, East London 5200.

## Good response to appeal

MR GEORGE VAN DEN HURK, chairman of the Federation's Youth Committee, reports a good response from Afrikaans high schools to the committee's offer of guidelines on starting youth stamp clubs (see our January 1985 issue, p 2).

Schools which have now started youth clubs include the Hoërskool Outeniqua of George and the Hoërskool De Vos Malan in King William's Town.

Copies of the guidelines for starting youth clubs, with hints running such clubs, are available in both languages from Mr van den Hurk at 6 Glendower Avenue, Glendower, Edenvale 1610.



## SA's special postmarks

EIGHT SPECIAL temporary postmarks will be in use in South Africa in the next three months, while one new special permanent postmark will be introduced.

For all of them Philatelic Services and Intersapa will produce datestamp cards priced at 22c each.

Particulars are:

**2 April 1985** — 300th anniversary of Groot Constantia Estate, postmark for Constantia picturing a bunch of grapes. Also a first day cover at 70c.

**3-20 April 1985** — Ciskei participation in the Rand Show, Johannesburg postmark with Ciskei postal emblem.

**3-20 April 1985** — Transkei participation in the Rand Show, Johannesburg postmark with Transkei postal logo.

**15 April 1985** — 50th conference of the Post and Telegraph Association, oval Cape Town postmark with posthorn. Also first day cover at 70c.

**6 May 1985** — Centenary of organised pharmacy in South Africa, King William's Town postmark with R symbol. Also first day cover at 70c.

**9-11 May 1985** — Transkei commemoration of SAPDA stamp fair, Johannesburg postmark with Transkei and SAPDA emblems.

**24 May 1985** — Introduction of special permanent datestamp in the historical town of Pilgrim's Rest, showing the town's coat of arms and with an adjustable date slug. Also FDC at 70c.

**30 May 1985** — 75th anniversary of SA Transport Services, Johannesburg postmark in the shape of a locomotive wheel. Also first day cover at 80c.

**29 June 1985** — National junior stamp show, Sasolburg postmark with a stylised drawing of a young collector. Also a first day cover at 70c.

Philatelic Services has announced that a datestamp card (22c) was also issued for the first day of use of the new Parliament postmark on 25 January 1985.

**Mr David Crocker**, stamp dealer, has published a four-page price list of philatelic literature, with special emphasis on handbooks pertaining to Southern African countries. A free copy of the price list is available from him at PO Box 482, Florida 1710.

# NUWE SEËLS / NEW ISSUES

## More info on 12c definitives

WE HAVE some more information for wildlife and thematic collectors about three of the new 12c definitive stamps issued on 1 April 1985 to meet the increased domestic letter rate.

The SWA 12c Animal series shows *Syncerus caffer*, the buffalo, buffel.

Venda's 12c wildflower is a bush lily, boslelie, *Clivia caulescens*, locally known as tshianzwaanzwane.

Ciskei's 12c Bird is *Alcedo cristata*, the malachite kingfisher, kuifkopvisvanger.



## Swaziland remembers Rotary

On 23 February 1985, Swaziland issued four commemorative stamps to celebrate the 80th birthday of the Rotary International movement, started in Chicago by the late Paul Harris on 23 February 1905.

Two South African rotary districts will hold their 60th National Conference in Mbabane in April 1985 and to raise funds for Rotary a limited number of two covers for each conference will be issued.

Rotary International is a democratic international, non-political and non-sectarian service organisation of more than 20 862 autonomous clubs operating in 159 countries, with more than 962 500 members.

The stamps are:

- 10c — Building bridges of friendship
- 15c — Scholarships for training teachers of the handicapped
- 50c — Youth exchange
- El — Service above self.

## Swaziland overprints

NEWS HAS been received that Swaziland has overprinted five of its current Flower definitives with new (and higher) values. The overprinted stamps were released on 15 December 1984, according to the Crown Agents.

On the stamps the original value tablet has been blocked out in black, with the new value printed in bold black figures. The type face for the 25c overprint differs from the other values.

The overprints are 10c on 4c definitive; 15c on 7c; 20c on 3c; 25c on 6c; and, 30c on 1c.



## Lesotho roars in with locos

LESOTHO is reported to have had a stamp issue which that country's energetic philatelic bureau did not advise us about: an "anniversary of railways" set issued on 5 November 1984.

The issue does not seem to be connected with "the biggest locomotive collection in the world!" announced by J Lane Smith, director of Stanley Gibbons Promotions, last year.

The announcement says "Ever mindful of their responsibilities to collectors (sic), a number of important and respected Government Stamp Issuing Authorities around the world have announced that they are to participate in the new Leaders of the World Locomotive stamp series . . ."

Stanley Gibbons Promotions indicated that these locomotive stamps would be issued in vertically se-tenant pairs, and depicted some nice \$1 each pairs of West Indian islands (which may not have railways themselves).

The Lesotho issue comprises five single stamps and an M2 miniature sheet, appropriately called a "souvenir sheet". The stamps are:-

- 6s — Orient Express
- 15s — A German express locomotive of 1935
- 30s — A British 'Cardean' locomotive of 1906
- 60s — The 1940 Santa Fe Super Chief of 1940
- M1 — A GB A1 steam locomotive of the 1920s
- M2 (sheetlet) — South Africa's Blue Train (electric traction).

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Deur 'n depositorekening met 'n aanvanklike deposito van R30 by Filateliedienste en INTERSAFA te open, kan u seker maak dat u gereeld al die nuwe filatelie materiaal van u keuse van die RSA, SWA, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei en private instansies ontvang.



## High value definitives

by George P Bertos

TWO OF New Zealand's endangered native birds are the subject of new high value definitive stamps to be issued on 24 April 1985.

The stamps feature the Kokako (\$1) and the Black Robin (\$2).

New Zealand has a lamentable history of extinct birds. Some 45 species, including 24 species of moa, became extinct before 1800. Since the arrival of Europeans, New Zealand has seen the disappearance of eight species and six sub species. A further 23 birds are so reduced in number and distribution that they are now internationally recognised as endangered.

New Zealand has the highest number of endangered birds of any single country in the world — and also the dubious distinction of possessing the world's rarest bird — the Chatham Island Black Robin.

The Black Robin is about 16 cm long, and feeds on a range of grubs and insects. Smaller than its New Zealand mainland cousins, the Black Robin nests in sheltered hollow logs or branches, laying two eggs during October or November.

The Black Robin has been the subject of a great deal of attention by the Wildlife Service. With a total population of 20 individuals, the birds were confined to the small and precipitous Little Mangere Island, in the Chathams group, about 850 kilometres from the New Zealand mainland.

In 1976, the Wildlife Service re-established the group and nearby Mangere Island, after planting 150 000 trees in an effort to rejuvenate the habitat.

More recently, a small section of the community was transferred to South-East Island (Rangitira Island). Twelve birds have now been established there for the past two years.

The Kokako illustrated on the \$1 stamp is the North Island variety. There are actually two sub-species, the other being found in the South Island and Stewart Island. The South Island Kokako's existence is assumed rather than proved — it has only been sighted four times since the 1940s, last at Picton in 1961.

The North Island Kokako is also known as the blue wattled

crow, referring to the two blue bags which hang from the head of the bird. The South Island variety has orange bags.

The Kokako grows to about 38 cm long. With long legs and a disproportionately long tail, it is not a good flier but tends to hop along branches and trunks, and glide from one tree to another.

Living in dense pockets of kauri trees and rain forest, the Kokako is usually well away from the sight of man. Because of its protected status, the bird has also inadvertently been responsible for saving these last pieces of native bush from the timbermillers.

## Beautiful stamps from Britain

GREAT BRITAIN continues to issue anniversary (ie, dated commemorative) stamps of great beauty. The latest issue of five stamps depicts insects and marks the centenary of the Royal Entomological Society.

Issue on 12 March 1985, the stamps show:

- 17p — Buff tailed bumble bee
- 22p — Seven spotted ladybird
- 29p — Wart-biter bush-cricket
- 31p — Stag beetle
- 34p — Emperor dragonfly



*ZIL ELWANNYEN SESEL — yes, the Creole spelling of the Seychelles outer islands has again changed — has joined the "fungi" fad by issuing four fungi stamps on 31 January 1985.*

*The values are 50c and 2, 3 and 10 rupees and some spectacular fungi are shown.*

## Three issues in three weeks

MOCAMBIQUE is continuing its relentless spate of new stamp issues: the latest is three issues in three weeks.

18 March 1985 saw a 16MT stamp for Olympex 85, a stamp exhibition in Lausanne, Switzerland. The stamp shows the shot put.

On 23 March 1985 there was a 4MT stamp for World Meteorological Day.

Four stamps were issued on 1 April 1985 for the 5th anniversary of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), a regional economic development co-ordination body which excludes the RSA.

## Afrikaanse Filateliese Terminologie

deur Wilhelm Grütter

BY DIE deurlees van 'n brosjure vir 'n Nederlandse deelpublikasie vir die filatelie het 'n hele paar woorde my opgeval wat — in ver-Afrikaanse vorm — miskien vir ons nuttig kan wees. Dit is of nuut, of aanvullend tot die uitmuntende klein publikasie *Filatelie Terme* (wat, so meen ek, nou in alle geval reeds nie meer in druk is nie).

Hier is die terme:

*Brugpaar*: alternatief vir baanpaar (gutter pair)

*Deurgesteek*: as alternatief vir roelet (pierced, pierce)

*Hawid strip*: pleks van die handelsnaam, wat van klemstrook?

*Loslatende kleure*: vir ink/kleure wat vloei of, in Engels "run"

*Rampos*: saam met wrakpos vir "wreck mail"

*Skadelike uitgawes*: pleks van swartlys

*Voorfilatelies*: alternatief vir voorseëlse (pre-adhesive)

*Watermerksoeker*: alternatief vir -wyser

Persoonlik verkies ek ons "balkstempel" bo die Nederlandse "lynstempel" (vir barred canceller), maar dit was nog 'n moontlikheid.

In alle geval klop ons die Nederlanders maklik met "aspoester" waar die brosjure nie skroom om "Cinderella" te gebruik nie. Maar ek weet nie so reg of "strokie" my gans en al tevrede stel waar hulle tou opgooi en maar die Engelse "tab" aanvaar nie!

# TRANSKEI

## Second Definitive Series

1984-07-06

by Regina Smith

THE SET consists of 17 values; 1c-10c; 15c; 20c; 25c; 30c; 50c; R1 and R2, plus an 11 cent value issued on 2 April 1984, when the postal rates were increased from 10c to 11c.

For the 11c a maximum card was issued and for the rest, a first-day card with a special datestamp No 36 used at Umtata.

The set was designed by A H Barrett on customs and traditions of the rural peoples. Original photo material and text by Aubrey Elliot.

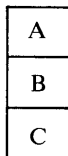
Litho-printed by the Government Printer Pretoria.

Printing presses 758 Roland (4 colour) and 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster (5 colour).

Perforator: Walter Kroll or Bickel.  
Perforation gauge: 14.20 x 13.70.  
Postage stamp size: 38,07 x 28,7 mm.  
Paper: Harrisons, not phosphorus-coated.  
Surface: Matt with PVA gum.  
Sheet size 295 x 630 mm.

The printed sheet consists of 3 unidentified panes above each other:

Each pane consists of 25 stamps, 5 rows of 5 stamps per row and all margins are perforated through. The control block is the top right-hand corner block of 4 (2 x 2) with the PT emblem and date on top margin and the colour block in the right hand margin.



### 1c Technical data

Job No 62244 28  
Requisition No: 1469/ER  
Quantity ordered 120 000 sheets.

#### Lithographic plates

Number: 724 — New tricolour blue; 725 — New tricolour yellow 726 — New tricolour red; 727 — New tricolour black.

Printing Press: Roland Press 758  
Perforator: Walter Kroll: 14,20 x 13,70  
Date of issue: 1984-07-06

#### Plating of 1c

**Pane A:** 726 Colour block: Small red dot, 05 mm above colour block, above 6.  
Row 2/2: Blue dot below N of Transkei near stamp frame.

**Pane B:** Row 5/1: Blue dot 4 mm to right of Transkei near perfs.

**Pane C:** C1/2: Brown dot above K of Transkei.  
Row 3/3: Blue dot above K of Transkei.

### 2c Technical data

Job No: 62243 27  
Requisition No: 1470/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
Expected date of printing: 21/2/84  
First Print

#### Lithographic plates

Number: 728 — tricolour blue; 729 — tricolour yellow; 730 — tricolour red; 731 — tricolour black.

Lay-out of cylinder plate: 3 x 1 sheet, lay-out of sheet (postage stamp): 5 x 5

Postage stamp size: 38,07 x 28,7  
Printing press: 758 Roland Press  
Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70  
Date of issue: 1984-07-06  
One sheet: 3 x 25 + 3 marked sheet x 25 @ 1c

Perforated through top, side and bottom  
3 Panes to a sheet  
Cylinder right top corner.

#### Plating of 2c

**Pane A:** Row 4/3: Between stamp 2 and 3 a black circle, in perf. gutter same size as perf hole with black spots inside.

**Pane B:** 730 Colour block: Red dot on bottom curve of 3 and red dot on left side of 0 of .30  
Row 2/5: Blue dot 1 mm left of ear of horse in foreground.

**Pane C:** Left-side margin: Red line left of ,08 7 mm long.  
Row 5/4: Black line left and below date (1984) in bottom margin.  
Row 1/4: Small red dot below A of ΔHB.

### 3c Technical data

Job No: 62242 26  
Requisition No: 1471/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
Expected date of printing: 1/3/84  
First print

#### Lithographic plates

Number: 732 — tricolour blue; 733 — tricolour yellow; 734 — tricolour red; 735 — tricolour black.

Lay-out of cylinder plate: 3 x 1 sheet, lay-out of sheets (postage stamps) 5 x 5

Postage stamp size: 38,07 x 28,7  
Printing Press: 758 Roland 4 colours  
Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70  
Date of issue: 1984-07-06  
One sheet: 3 x 25 + 3 marked sheet x 25 @ 1c.

Perforated through top, side and bottom  
3 panes to a sheet.  
Cylinder right top corner.

#### Plating of 3c

**Pane A:** C 1/2: Blue line through bottom of 4 of 1984  
Row 3/4: Black dot in top of A of Transkei on cross bar of A.

**Pane B:** C 1/1: Dot 3,5 mm below K of Transkei.  
C 2/2: Black dot 2 mm below S of Transkei near stamp edge N S  
Row 3/4: Brown dot 1 mm above headdress of woman.  
Row 2/2: Two dots 2 mm from top right edge of design.  
Row 2/2: Black dot 1 mm below edge of design below K of Transkei.

**Pane C:** C 1/1: Black dot just above right-hand top corner.  
PO emblem: Dot in right top of P near edge.  
Row 4/3: Dot at top curve of 3 of 3c.

### 4c Technical data

Job No: 62241 25  
Requisition No: 1472/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets.  
Expected date of printing 8/3/84  
First print

#### Lithographic plates

Number: 736 — tricolour blue; 737 — tricolour yellow; 738 — tricolour red; 739 — tricolour black.

Printing press: 758 Roland 4 colours  
Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13.70

#### Printed sheet

As previous values

#### Plating of 4c

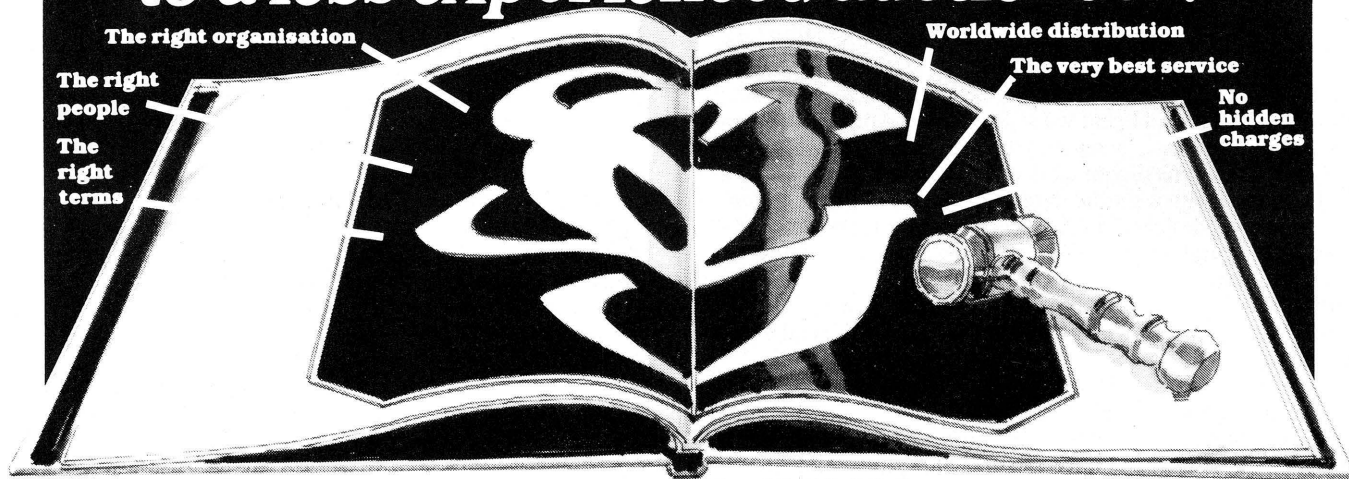
**Pane A:** C 2/2: Small red dot above top left of A of Transkei.  
Row 5/4: Black dot 2 mm above fist of dancer near or in perfs.

**Pane B:** C 1/1: Faint black dot left of T of Transkei.  
Row 2/3: Red dot in c of 4c

Row 2/2: Two black dots below B of AH  
Row 3/5: Small black and red dot, one above the other, above S of Transkei.  
Row 3/4: Blue dot 1-5 mm left of fist.  
Row 3/1: 2 red dots to right and below 4 of 1984.  
Row 5/2: Dot above R of Transkei.

**Pane C:** C 2/1: Three black dots 2 mm above stick and to right

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November 1985	London	5th August 1985
February 1986	London	4th November 1985
March 1986	Hong Kong	4th November 1985
March 1986	Johannesburg	4th November 1985
April 1986	London	9th December 1985
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of fist.  
C 2/1: Black dot 1 mm above head of 2nd woman.  
Row 3/4: Black dot in left perf gutter 7 mm from bottom.  
Row 1/1: Two brown dots above 4 of 4c.  
Row 2/2: Black dot above K of Transkei  
Row 2/2: Red dot between I of Transkei and 4c. 1+4c.

**5c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62240 24  
Requisition No: 1473/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
Expected date of printing: 8/3/84  
First print.

**Lithographic plates**

Number: 740 — tricolour blue; 741 — tricolour yellow; 742 — tricolour red; 743 — tricolour black.

Lay-out as in previous values.

Printing press: 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster (5 colours)

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

Date of issue: 1984-04-06

**Plating of 5c**

**Pane A:** C 1/1: Black dot in N of Transkei.  
C 2/2: Red dot 1 mm below S of donkeys.  
Row 2/3: Two black dots halfway between 5c and head of person.

**Pane B:** Small black dot below and to right of 9 of 1984.  
C 2/1: Two blue dots one below the other, below A of AHB.

**Pane C:** Row 3/1: Blue dot 1 mm below w of with.  
C 1/1: Blue dot halfway between 5c and head just above edge of stamp.  
Row 3/3: Small line 1 mm up in perf gutter.  
Row 2/2: Blue dot 2,5 mm from top edge of design above donkey's back.

**6c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62239 23  
Requisition No: 1474/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
Expected date of printing: 13/3/84  
First Print

**Lithographic plates**

Number: 744 — tricolour blue; 745 — tricolour yellow; 746 — tricolour red; 747 — tricolour black.

Lay-out as previous values.

Printing press: 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster 5 colours.

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

Date of issue: 1984-04-06

**Plating of 6c**

**Pane A:** Green dot 6 mm from right bottom up on edge of design. Could find no other identifying marks.

**Pane B:** C 1/2: Black dot 1 mm to right of concertina, above stick.  
Row 3/3: Red dot near bottom perfs. 2 mm to right and below second s of musicians.

**Pane C:** 744 CB: Blue dot left of colour block 2 mm from bottom.   
C 1/1: Blue dot in right hand top corner.  
Row 5/4: Red dot 2 mm to right of headgear near perfs.

**7c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62238 22  
Requisition No: 1475/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
Expected date of printing: 21/3/84  
First Print

**Lithographic plates**

Number: 748 — tricolour blue; 749 — tricolour yellow; 750 — tricolour red; 751 — tricolour black.

Printing press: 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster, 5 colours.

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

Date of issue: 1984-04-06

**Pane A:** PO emblem: Small black line 1 mm left of T of PO Emblem-T

Row 4/4: One red and one dark red dot one below the other on right side of white dress of middle woman near mantle.

**Pane B:** Top margin: Black dot middle right of 1 of 1,05. (1.,05)  
C1/2: Red dot above R of Transkei near perfs.

C2/1: Red dot in left perf gutter 2 mm from left top corner of design in or near perfs.

**Pane C:** Row 5/5: Black dot 6 mm from top right side of design.  
Row 5/4: Red dot 2 mm above head of middle woman.

**8c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 6223115  
Requisition No: 1476/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
First Print

**Lithographic plates**

Number: 752 — tricolour blue; 753 — tricolour yellow; 754 — tricolour red; 755 — tricolour black.

Printing Press: 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster, 5 colours

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating of 8c**

**Pane A:** C1/1: Blue dot 1 mm above bag (woman right side).

C1/2: Black dot below B of AHB.  
**Pane B:** 752 CB: Blue dot in top left of 5 of 752

Top Margin: Black dot to right bottom of 4 of 1984-07-06. 4.

**Pane C:** C1/1: Blue dot 1 mm left of bag and 2 mm from top.  
Row 3/4: Black line from left side of gutter into design 7 mm from bottom.  
Row 2/3: Green dot above head of second woman.

**9c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62232 16  
Requisition No: 1477/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
First print

**Lithographic Plates**

Number: 756 — tricolour blue; 757 — tricolour yellow; 758 — tricolour red; 759 — tricolour black.

Printing Press: 784 Heidelberg Speedmaster

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating 9c**

**Pane A:** Row 3/5: Blue dot in A of Transkei **A**

Row 5/2: Small blue dot after e of maize below leg of woman.

Row 5/1: Red dots in perf margin below T and H of thinning.

**Pane B:** Left Margin: Small red dot below comma of ,45.

**Pane C:** Row 5/4: Red dot above sheaf (4th figure)

**10c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62230 14  
Requisition No: 1478/ER  
Quantity ordered: 115 000 sheets

**Lithographic plates**

Number: 760 — tricolour blue; 761 — tricolour yellow; 762 — tricolour red; 763 — tricolour black.

Printing press: 758 Roland Press

Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating 10c**

**Pane A:** 760 CB: White dot 1 mm to right of 0 of 760


C 1/2: Blue dot below N of Transkei

C 2/2: Black dot left of T of Transkei

**Pane B:** 760 CB: White dot after 6 and 0 in 760CB 76.0  
C 1/2: Black dot to right of I and left of head of middle woman.

Row 3/3: Dot in A of Transkei **A**




Row 5/5: Red dot above K of Transkei. **K**

**Pane C:** Dot above N of Transkei   
C 1/1: Dot between I of Transkei and head of woman.

**11c**  
**Technical data**

Job No:  
Requisition No:  
Quantity ordered:  
**Lithographic plates**  
Number: 792 — tricolour blue; 793 — tricolour yellow; 794 — tricolour red; 795 — tricolour black.  
Printing press: Roland 758 (4 colour)  
Perforator:


**Plating 11c**

**Pane A:** Small red dot 2 mm above second 2 of 2,20  
C 1/1: Red dot below R in design  
794 CB: Dot in top line of 7   
795 CB: White dot bottom left of 7   
Row 4/3: Two red dots below c of 11c.  
**Pane B:** 793 CB: Two black dots above 9, 1 mm above colour block.  
C 2/2: Small red dot left of 8 of 1984 8  
C2/2: Red dot 2 mm to right of hut.  
Row 5/5: Red dot 1,5 m left of 1st bucket below K  
Row 2/1: Red lines through c of 11c.  
**Pane C:** 793 CB: Red dot in 7, red dot in 9 and red dot below 3 in colour block   
C 2/2: Two black dots above S of Transkei  
Row 3/5: Red dot right of AHB.

**15c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62233 17  
Requisition No: 1479/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
**Lithographic plates**  
Number: 764 — tricolour blue; 765 — tricolour yellow; 766 — tricolour red; 767 — tricolour black.  
Printing press: Roland 758 (4 colour)  
Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70



**Plating 15c**


**Pane A:** Row 5/1: Black dot left of stick below c of 15c.  
**Pane B:** Colour block: Small white line in colour block to right of 4 near edge.  
C 2/2: Dot 2 mm above head of first man on left side.  
C 2/2: Dot 1 mm left of back of second man (between face of first man and back of second man).  
Row 1/1: 2 blue dots right of stick in right hand perf. gutter corner.  
Row 4/2: Black dot below R of Transkei R  
**Pane C:** Right margin: Black dot 3 mm above blue colour block near perf. holes.  
C 2/1: Dot 1,5 mm up from right bottom corner of design in perf. gutter.  
C 2/1: Brown dot left of 1 of 15c. 

**20c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62235 19  
Requisition No: 1480/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
**Lithographic plates:**  
Number: 768 — tricolour blue; 769 — tricolour yellow; 770 — tricolour red; 771 — tricolour black.  
Printing press: Heidelberg Speedmaster 784 (5 colour)  
Perforator: Bickel 14,20 x 13,70.

**Plating 20c**

**Pane A:** Top margin: Scattered black dots left and inside of first 0 of 4,00   
Row 2/3: Red dot near perfs 1 mm from left frame in margin.  
**Pane B:** Top margin: Black dot 2 mm left of 5 of 5,00.   
C 1/2: Dot 2 mm to right of dance below foot.  
C 1/1: Red dot between knees of 4th figure.  
Row 4/5: Dot between A and B of Abakhwetna.

**Pane C:** Row 3/5: Red dot below 2 of 20c.   
Row 4/4: Red dot touching right frame near hand of 4th figure.  
Row 3/4: Red dot left of T of Transkei near perfs.

**25c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62234 18  
Requisition No: 1481/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
**Lithographic plates**  
Number: 772 — tricolour blue; 773 — tricolour yellow; 774 — tricolour red; 775 — tricolour black.  
Printing press: Roland 758 (4 colour)  
Perforator: Walter Kroll 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating 25c**

**Pane A:** Row 4/3: Black line left of A H Barrett.  
Row 4/1: Dot right of ,50 in left margin.  
Row 3/4: Dot in left gutter 1 mm from picture middle of stamp near perfs.  
Row 5/5: Blue dot above 5th stick from left.  
**Pane B:** Row 2/1: Small red dot below c of 25c.  
Row 3/1: Dot to left of T of Transkei in gutter.  
Row 4/2: Dot in lower part of K. K  
Left margin: Black dot to right of 1 of 1,00. 1  
Left margin: Three small dots below ,25.  
**Pane C:** C 2/1: Dot in bottom part of N of Transkei. N  
C 2/2: Blue dot to right and above 25c. 25c  
Row 1/1: Blue dot right of stick below I of Transkei above design.

**30c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62236 20  
Requisition No: 1482/ER  
Quantity ordered: 120 000 sheets  
**Lithographic plates:**  
Number: 776 — tricolour blue; 777 — tricolour yellow; 778 — tricolour red; 779 — tricolour black.  
Printing press: Heidelberg Speedmaster 784 (5 colours)  
Perforator: Bickel 14,20 x 13,70


**Plating 30c**

**Pane A:** 778 CB: Small red dot 2 mm left of colour block near or in perfs.  
Row 1/3: Dot left top of A of Transkei. A  
Row 1/4: Blue dot above left hand of 3rd woman.  
Row 5/2: Blue dot above R of Transkei.  
**Pane B:** Row 2/2: Brown dot below c of 30c. c  
Row 5/5: Blue dot below chin of 2nd woman, (left)  
**Pane C:** 778 CB: Little line protruding from first 7 in 778.  
Row 4/5: Red dot below left hand of 1st woman left side.  
Row 5/4: Red dot above head of 4th woman in line with 3 of 30c.  
Row 5/3: Red dot on frame below R of Transkei.  
Row 3/3: Blue dot 1 mm left and 3 mm from top left corner of stamp in gutter.

**50c**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62237 21  
Requisition No: 1483/ER  
Quantity ordered: 60 000 sheets  
**Lithographic plates:**  
Number: 780 — tricolour blue; 781 — tricolour yellow; 782 — tricolour red; 783 — tricolour black  
Printing press: Heidelberg speedmaster 784  
Perforator: Bickel 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating 50c**

**Pane A:** Row 5/5: 3,25 mm from design, to right, in margin small green spot.   
**Pane B:** Row 5/5: Three black spots below 50c. 50c  
Head  
**Pane C:** Row 5/1: Black spot in right gutter 8 mm above bottom right-hand corner.

**R1**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 62229 13  
Requisition No: 1484/ER  
Quantity ordered: 115 000 sheets

**Lithographic plates:**

Number: 784 — tricolour blue; 785 — tricolour yellow; 786 — tricolour red; 787 — tricolour black.

Printing press: Heidelberg Speedmaster 784  
Perforator: Bickel 14,20 x 13,70.

**Plating R1**

**Pane A:** 786 CB: Small green dot to right of colour block. [786]

**Pane B:** C 2/1: Black spot 3 mm above head of second woman.

**Pane C:** C 2/1: Red mark  $\pm$  1 mm long in bottom right-hand corner just in front of leg of woman.

**R2**  
**Technical data**

Job No: 61913 27

Requisition No: 1485 /ER  
Quantity ordered: 110 000 sheets

**Lithographic plates:**

Number: 788 — tricolour blue; 789 — tricolour yellow; 790 — tricolour red; 791 — tricolour black.

Printing press: Heidelberg Speedmaster 784  
Perforator: Bickel 14,20 x 13,70

**Plating R2**

**Pane A:** 788 Colour block: Blue mark on 7. 7

Left side margin: Before Row 1: Small red dot before T of Transkei 4½ mm before top end of T. Transkei  
Before Row 4 stamp 1: 4,00: Black dot after „ 4,00

**Pane B:**

**Pane C:** 788 Colour block: Small blue dot left top curve of

first 8. 8

Row 1/1: Red dot in gutter below foot of 2nd person.  
Row 5/4: Red dot above head of 2nd person.

# Wat is waarheid?

'N SKEWE voorstelling op Nederland se koerant-seël van 1983 is aan die lig gebring deur mnr Arie Bakker RDPSA, wat 'n kort artikel hieroor in *The SA Philatelist* van Oktober 1984 geskryf het ("Wat is waarheid?", bl 282).

Die seël toon 'n koerantbladsy met 'n berig oor die 75e staansvoering van die Nederlandse dagbladpersvereniging. Die drukwerk is so helder dat die berig gelees kan word!

Mnr Bakker het aangedui dat een van die naasstaande berigte op so 'n manier "gesny" is dat dit die indruk wek dat koning Hoessein van Jordanië met die Palestynse Bevrydingsorganisasie (PBO) gaan onderhandel.

Die volle berig oor hierdie saak sê juis die teendeel! Dus, sê mnr Bakker, is die seël 'n pragtige voorbeeld om die Nederlandse dagbladpers te tipeer.

*Hieroor skryf dr Gerrit Jonkers FRPSL van Schiedam, Nederland:*

Bakker se aanval is oordrewe, om dit sagkens te stel. Ek glo 'n korreksie is nodig.

Daar het nooit 'n koerant verskyn met dieselfde inhoud as op die posseël nie. In hoeverre die komposisie "toevallig" is, is sekerlik moeilik om te bepaal. Om nou hiermee die Nederlandse koerantberiggewing te tipeer, gaan myns insiens heeltemal te ver.

Daarvoor kan 'n mens ander voorbeelde noem.

*Mnr Bakker lewer soos volg kommentaar:*

Die knipsel wat dr Jonkers verskaf, is 'n aanhaling uit *De Volkskrant* van 21 Mei 1983 waarin hulle skryf oor die deel van die seël wat handel oor die 75-jarige jubileum van die Nederlandse dagbladpers.

Hierdie berig, en dus die koerantbladsy soos dit op die seël staan, is volgens *De Volkskrant* nooit gepubliseer nie; die bladsy is opgemaak vir die seëlontwerper Jaap Drupsteen. Dis interessant om hiervan kennis te neem.

My beswaar is teen die berig wat bo die "spesiale" berig afgedruk is, en hierdie berig is wel gepubliseer, naamlik op die voorblad van *De Volkskrant* van 22 Februarie 1983. Hierdie



berig oor Hoessein en die PBO kom van die koerant se korrespondent Jan Keulen.

By die Filacento-uitstalling verlede jaar (toe die artikel in *The SA Philatelist* reeds in drukproses was) in Den Haag het die Vereniging Nederland-Israël Philatelie 'n foto-afdruk uitgestal van die hele berig, wat gepubliseer is onder die opskrif "P.L.O. Houdt deur open naar Amerikanen".

Ek stem heeltemal met dr Jonkers saam dat baie voorbeelde van verkeerde beriggewing in Nederlandse koerante gegee kan word, maar ons gesels nou net oor die seël.

Juis op grond van "ander voorbeelde" moet ek tot die slot-som kom dat die komposisie op die seël nie toevallig is nie. 'n Mens kan mos nie verwag dat die berig van 22 Februarie 1983 somer willekeurig as 'n knipsel by 'n nie-gepubliseerde artikel van *De Volkskrant* bygevoeg is nie. Die verhouding tussen Israel en die PBO is te sensitief om daarmee te lol.

Nederland het die voordeel van die twyfel lankal verloor en wie botter op sy kop het, moenie in die son gaan staan nie.

Ek het net geskryf oor die skewe voorstelling wat op die seël waarneembaar is. 'n Mens bemerk dat dr Jonkers dié feit nie ontken nie. Hy is net jammer dat ons dit raakgesien het.

## Calling our Black youth

A YOUNG BLACK South African, Solomon Bonoko from Mabopane, just outside Pretoria, is very interested in stamp collecting and has written to *The SA Philatelist* in the hope of promoting philately among other young Black people.

Solomon says that stamps are challenging, historical and educational, and on top of that are also a good investment. They help people find new friends, build bridges across the world and promote international understanding.

If you want to reach Solomon write to the Editor who will put you in touch with him.

## SEËL-VASVRA

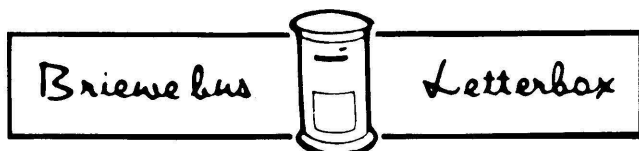
### Kyk hoe jy die vrae hieronder kan antwoord:

- 1 Gee 'n definisie van 'n posseël.
- 2 Noem twee sake wat amper altyd op 'n posseël aangedui word.
- 3 Hoe word die landsnaam aangedui?
- 4 Hoe doen twee of meertalige lande dit? Noem voorbeelde.
- 5 In watter muntsoort word die waarde van die seël uitgedruk?

**Kyk na antwoorde op bladsy 93.**

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## A conflicting cover

DEAR SIR — Your February issue carries a report of a cover from Durban to Johannesburg in December 1979, franked with 50c worth of stamps which were cancelled with a SA Airways rubber datestamp at Louis Botha Airport, Durban.

This cover appears to have been carried by a service which was rather like the Rail Letter Service, except of course that aeroplanes were involved instead of trains. I do not know when this service was introduced but I have a cover carried this way in 1951.

The earliest PO Guide on which I can quickly lay my hands is the December 1959 one, which describes the service on page 64. A letter to be sent in this way had to bear 6d worth of stamps in addition to the normal postage and had to be handed to an official of the South African Airways at least 20 minutes before the scheduled departure of the aircraft which was to carry the letter.

The Airways would take the letter to whichever airport was most suitable and pass it on to the Post Office at that place. The December 1966 PO Guide contains effectively the same entry, with 6d replaced by its equivalent of 5c.

A supplement to this guide, evidently printed in 1967, adds the provision that letters thus sent would be treated as express letters by the Post Office if they bore an 'Express' label and stamps to the value of 10c (the express fee at that time) in addition to the normal postage and the 5c already mentioned.

The 1978 PO Guide contains the same rules, except that the express fee had risen to 20c. In particular the 5c airways letter service fee had not changed.

However, it soon rose rapidly. PO Bulletin 93 (January 1980) recorded the raising of this fee from 5c to 20c, and in PO Bulletin 99 (July 1981) it was announced that the fee had gone up from 20c to 50c. The Supplement to PO Bulletin 109 (January 1984) contains an instruction to the effect that the service had been discontinued. As far as I know it has not been re-introduced.

I am not quite sure how to account for the 50c total postage here (assuming that the letter was correctly charged; not always a justifiable assumption). As the changes announced in the PO Bulletin are usually announced after they have taken place, it seems likely that the airways fee was 20c at the time this letter was sent. I think that I am right in saying that the express fee was 20c at that stage, and the other 10c would have been the airmail postage on a non-standardised letter weighing between 50 and 100 grams. Perhaps this is the explanation.

In all three guides quoted it is stated that this service is restricted to aircraft of South African Airways. However I have an envelope franked with two 5c stamps cancelled by Air Cape at Oudtshoorn on 13 APR 1981. This cover seems to conflict with the rules both as regards the carrier and as regards the postage charged.

— David Allison, Rosebank, Cape

## The other point of view

DEAR SIR — I would like to contradict, with the greatest respect, the sentiments expressed by Dr D A Izamis, *SA Philatelist*, February 1985.

Stamp dealers are not philanthropists, they are businessmen whose existence is sustained by the profit motive, and in true capitalist tradition, they charge what the market will bear, influenced by supply and demand.

I do not deny that I, like most other collectors in their early days, have been conned but I can always rationalise the situation by acknowledging that I need the particular item to complete this or that project.

Joking aside, we collectors need healthy stamp dealers who will go on risk to purchase quality material on overseas markets

in an effort to whet our jaded palates, nor without dealers would the finance be available to fund the various Stampex's. It would be well to remember that without dealers there would be little but new issues to collect covering such stimulating subject matter as the Mafikeng Centenary (that never was), Match Factories and the Medicine Heroes that if we are very lucky will stretch on for decades.

Turning to the question of stamp catalogues (which I assume, should not be charged for), these price lists give the collector/investor the opportunity of pitting their wits against the dealing fraternity by spotting under and/or overpriced items, and acting accordingly.

Before the PFSA takes steps to protect we naive philatelists, they (the PFSA) should canvas the Royal Philatelic Society on their views about the Gibbons catalogues. A careful reading of the latter's preamble will reveal that even the illustrious Gibbons catalogues are merely "Stamp Price Lists".

No, I am not a dealer.

No, I do not receive fancy discounts.

No, I am not paid to write this letter.

I simply enjoy collecting stamps and like the choice of what to buy and where to buy it from, and the wider the choice, the better — C Cordes, Marshalltown

## SA needs an anniversary stamp

DEAR SIR — I am indebted to an English publication, viz *Stamp News* 3-16 January, 1985 Page 42, for the following snippet of information and I quote:

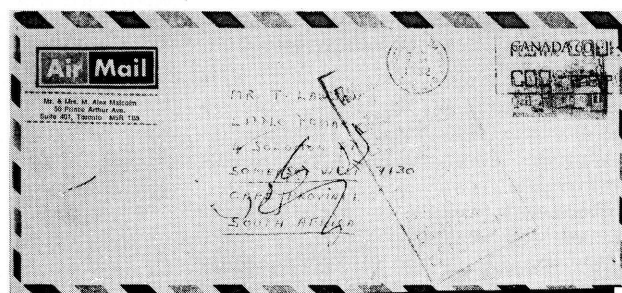
"1985 marks the 75th anniversary of the first stamp issued by the Union of South Africa."

I wonder why this philatelic event has been ignored by the South African stamp issuing authority. They acknowledge the need to commemorate some truly questionable events — why is the one under discussion disregarded?

In my opinion it is not too late to put the matter right. How about a special issue for a special philatelic event to be issued on a special day known as "Stamp Day". For 1985 this should be 4 November.

The date for "Stamp Day" should be allowed to float and be allocated to important philatelic anniversaries.

— S Fanarof, Port Elizabeth



More  
missent  
mail



DEAR SIR — Leon Jacobson's article "Missent to" *SA Philatelist*, February 1985, page 41, sent me rummaging through my hoard of odd covers which had either been misdirected and/or redirected or simply sent back home.

One cover — addressed to me from Toronto, Ontario, Canada — had a longish trip to Jeddah as evidenced by the back-stamp, but it was not re-directed to me. The cachet on the front of the cover, in English, "Returns it to sender". He, the writer, subsequently sent it to me!

— Tom Lawson, Somerset West

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We have experienced a tremendous growth in the value and quantity of consignments from residents in the USA and Canada. Much of this material is bought in our auction by American clients. Besides, many lots owned by Europeans are also sold across the Atlantic. In view of these considerations we have decided it would be to everyone's advantage to begin regular New York auction sales. The first one is planned for **November 1985**.

We shall also have our usual Zurich auction planned for 4-9 November 1985 after the Rome exhibition.

This dual activity will give our vendors the possibility to sell in Switzerland or U.S.A., wherever we feel the market will be better and as usual take advantage of our standard Swiss facilities and service.

***Mr. Feldman will be in South Africa shortly. If you would like a meeting please contact us as soon as possible.***

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Zurich — November 1985: 30 June 1985

New York — November 1985: 30 June 1985



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# REVIEW

## All the world's stamps in one edition

**Stanley Gibbons Simplified Catalogue : Stamps of the World Vol 1 Countries A-J (1040 pages) and Vol 2 Countries K-Z (1024 pages), 1985 Edition, price £15,20 (surface postage included) per volume or approximately R35 per volume.**

STANLEY GIBBONS Simplified Catalogue is a straightforward two-volume listing of the whole world's stamp issues since the very first — Great Britain's Penny Black in 1840. The 1985 edition continues the two-volume format started in 1983, with Volume 1 covering countries A to J (up to March 1984) and Volume 2 countries K to Z (up to June 1984).

The two volumes now list over 240 400 stamps and contain no fewer than 54 700 illustrations. The type numbers given to the illustrations now correspond with those quoted in the standard catalogue range.

Prices have been revised where necessary and brought into line with the new editions of the standard 22-part SG Catalogue — particularly important are the revised prices for Portugal, Spain, Central and South America, Russia and Independent African Countries (A-E). In addition several sections including Andorra, France and Germany have been revised specifically for Volume 1.

An essential catalogue for all beginners and especially invaluable for thematic collectors, the 1985 edition maintains its reputation as the standard work of reference in the English-speaking stamp world. — **Cedric Roché**

## More in the new British checklist

**Stanley Gibbons Collect British Stamps Checklist, 35th edition, Winter 1984, 108 pages, price £3 (including surface postage) — approximately R7.**

THE LATEST edition of this popular checklist covers all issues of British stamps up to October 1984. There are now no less than 112 Machins listed! The 108 pages include over 650 illustrations in full colour.

The checklist lists and prices many GB items that are not included in Part 1, such as inverted watermarks, phosphor omitted varieties, gutter pairs, first day covers etc. Thus it is an essential acquisition for anyone who intends collecting GB in more than a basic way.

The edition lists the 'Royal Mail Postage Labels' for the first time. Also new to this edition is the inclusion of prices for first day covers bearing QE2 definitives and regional stamps. This edition also includes the updated post office commemorative FDC listing, which now alternates with the stamp booklet section which will next appear in the 36th edition.

— **Cedric Roché**

## Simplified revenue listing

**British Commonwealth Revenues** by J Barefoot & A Hall (J Barefoot Ltd, Box 8, York YO3 7BE, England), 2nd edition 1984, 123 pages, price £10 plus postage.

THIS CATALOGUE aims to present a simplified listing of all adhesive revenue stamps of the Commonwealth, Ireland, Pakistan and South Africa. Excluded are directly embossed issues, Tobacco issues, Great Britain and Indian States.

The first edition published in 1980 was the first general listing of revenues since Forbin's catalogue in 1915 and was, by the nature and magnitude of the task, very incomplete. However, its publication provided the stimulus for collectors of these much neglected issues to look at their holdings and to attempt to fill in the gaps.

The fruits of the co-operation received by the authors is now to hand in this enlarged second edition in which many of the omissions and errors have been rectified.

Two areas of particular interest to local readers are the completely revised listings of SWA and the consular issues of the Union. Unfortunately many of the changes have necessitated alterations in the numbering system used which, although to be regretted, is understandable.

It is to be hoped, however, that the authors will keep such changes to a minimum in future editions and possibly follow Stanley Gibbons' example by providing a list of number changes. The authors have also taken the opportunity to completely revise prices, bringing them into line with current market trends.

The authors, who are specialist dealers in Cinderella and revenue material, are to be congratulated on the sterling services they are performing for revenue collectors, and it is to be hoped that collectors will once again collaborate to ensure the production of yet more complete future editions.

— **Cedric Roché**

## Valuable addition to Scandinavian philately

**Scandinavia Revenues** by Andrew Hall, No 14 in the European philately series published by J Barefoot Ltd (PO Box 8, York YO3 7BE, England), 42 pages, price £4 plus postage.

INFORMATION on Scandinavian revenues has in the past appeared piecemeal, being scattered over many specialist journals and books inaccessible to the average collector. This catalogue is an attempt by Andrew Hall to collect together all the available information both in print and gathered from the stocks and reference collection of J Barefoot Ltd as well as specialist Scandinavia revenue collectors. Excluded from listing are tobacco issues and savings stamps.

All prices are in British currency and the catalogue is a valuable addition to the literature of Scandinavian philately. It is recommended to all Scandinavia collectors looking for new areas to collect as well as to all lovers of Cinderella material in general. — **Cedric Roché**

## Major changes in SG9

**Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 9 : Portugal & Spain, 2nd edition October 1984, 368 pages, price £13,75 (surface postage included) — approximately R31.**

SOME FOUR years have elapsed since the first edition of this part was published in October 1980, and the 2nd edition now incorporates several major changes. The British PO crowned-circle handstamps are listed for Azores, Cape Verde Islands, Macao, Madeira, Spain, Cuba, Fernando Poo and Puerto Rico as well as Great Britain stamps used in Cuba, Fernando Poo and Puerto Rico.

The listing of the stamps of Cuba has been revised by Jones and Roy, authors of the recent handbook. In addition there has been a renumbering of the 1928/9 surcharges and 3rd independence issues of Portugal.

A useful addition to the Spanish listings are indexes to the Paintings, Monasteries and Tourist & Castles issues. Hopefully this is the beginnings of a complete design index which has been desired by most collectors of modern Spain.

All prices have been examined and revised where necessary; in general there has been a downward revision of prices for Spain and colonies, while prices for Portugal have remained fairly static and those for Andorra have increased. All in all an essential addition to the library of anyone who professes to be a serious collector of Portugal or Spain and their colonies.

— **Cedric Roché**

**Private cover** — The Cape Town Highlanders, PO Box 3014, Cape Town 8000, will issue a private cover for the regiment's centenary in April 1985. The cover is priced at R2,50.

# This is no ordinary 'siege cover'

A KURUMAN "siege cover" sold for £500 in a Robson Lowe auction in May 1984 has raised a number of questions.

The cover, addressed to Mrs Fisher in Bournemouth, is franked with a Cape of Good Hope ½d and 2d stamp (the normal sea mail rate of 2½d) and is postmarked Kuruman, Bechuanaland, 6 November 1899.

By this time the western Boer forces had occupied Griqualand and Vryburg and besieged Mafeking and Kimberley, but Kuruman was still held by a British force under Capt A Bates.

On 11 November 1899, a Boer commando under field cornet J H Visser arrived, the next day making a written demand for the surrender of the town on 13 November. This was refused, and a short-lived siege ensued: by 19 November the defenders of Kuruman to their surprise found that the Boers had left.

Field cornet Visser was back on 5 December 1899, and after some skirmishes the British force capitulated on 1 January 1900. The Boers then sent 120 POWs to Pretoria.

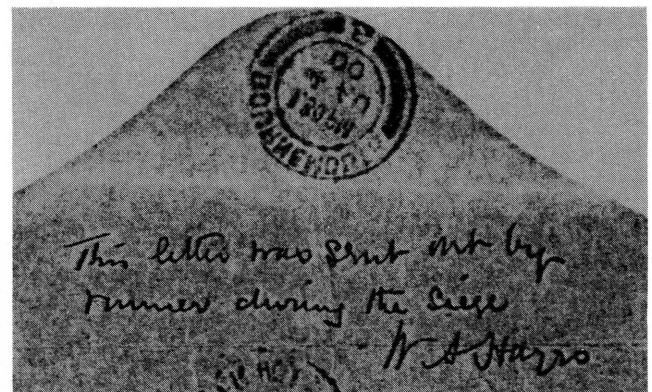
The cover, postmarked at Kuruman before the first of the two short sieges, bears a Southampton Packet strike of 4 August 1900 and a Bournemouth arrival mark of the same day.

This suggests that the cover could have lain in Kuruman throughout the sieges and subsequent Boer occupation until the British reoccupation late in May 1900, after which it would have been forwarded to its UK destination.

But inside the back flap there is a handwritten annotation to the effect that "This letter was sent out by runner during the siege", signed W A Hayes. Mr Robson Lowe believes this was probably the doctor who designed the Cadet Sgt Goodyear stamp for Mafeking.

Which makes it possible that the letter was carried from Kuruman (besieged or unbesieged or Boer-held) to the besieged Mafeking, which would make it a very unusual cover indeed. Or would it have reached Mafeking after the ending of the latter's siege on 15 May 1900?

But then, why is Hayes' endorsement inside the back flap?



## SEËL-VASVRA

### Antwoorde op vrae van bladsy 89.

- 1 'n Posvars seël is 'n bewys van vooruitbetaling vir 'n diens wat die posdiens nog nie gelewer het nie.
- 'n Gestempelde seël is 'n kwitansie vir 'n gelewerde posdiens.
- 2 'n Landsnaam en 'n geldwaarde (nominale waarde).
- 3 In die taal van die land se uitgawe.
- 4 a. Landsnaam in twee tale;  
Suid-Afrika — South Africa, Suid-Wes Afrika —

South West Africa (party keer om die andere seël, soms op 1 seël.

België — Belgique

Finland — Suomi

- b. Landsnaam in drie tale soos

Israel in Ivriet, Arabies en Engels

Ceylon im Sinhala, Tamil en (Engels (sedert 1972 Sri Lanka) of in Latyn pleks van drie tale: Helvetia vir Switzerland.

- 5 In die muntsoort van die betrokke land.

## Jeug se eersdedagkoevert

LEDE VAN 'Die Jong Filatelis', die jeugafdeling van die Afrikaanse filatelistevereniging, kry soms hul jeug-omsendbrief in 'n egte eersdedagkoevert wat deur die pos gegaan het.

Daarvoor sorg die jeugdige Carla van Veenendaal, ywerige bestuurslid van die jeuggroep, wat selfs die jonges se nuusbrieff skryf en versend.

'n Voorbeeld van so 'n egte eersdedagkoevert vir die nuusbrieffie was met die uitgawe van die Oerder-seëls op 22 Februarie 1985.

Carla, wie se ouers jarelange versamelaars en AFV-lede is, het 'n pragtige versameling van seëls wat gebrandskilderde vensters toon.

**Kans vir jong uitstallers** — Die Sasolburgse Filateliëvereniging laat weet dat 'n bykomende kategorie vir vanjaar se junior nasionale seëluitstalling Junass 85 ingestel is, naamlik die uitstallers in die ouderdomsgroep 16-21 jaar.

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## Die terrein is nou lugfilatelie

deur Kapt D J Uys

WEL MAATS, wat verstaan julle onder Lugfilatelie? Ek sou sê dit is die versameling van seëls of pos waarby vliegtuie betrokke is of die versameling van briewe wat deur die lug vervoer is. Ons kan dit ook beskou as 'n afdeling van 'n land se posgeskiedenis. 'n Mens beseft dit nie altyd nie maar lugpos of lugfilatelie dek 'n baie groot veld. Laat my toe om kortliks 'n paar voorbeelde te noem:

### 1. Tematies

'n Versameling seëls met vliegtuie op.



Seëls met vliegtuie

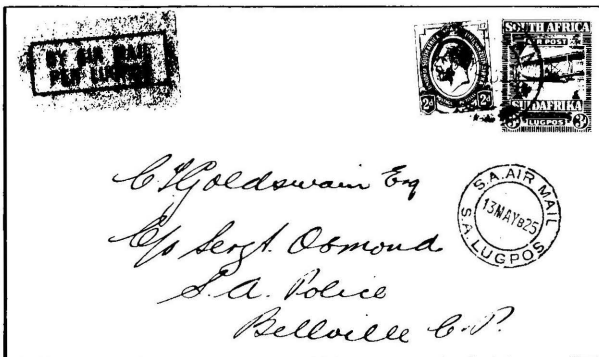


### 2. Tema of onderwerp

'n Versameling oor die Zeppelin-pos of net 'n sekere lugdiens.

### 3. Landversameling

'n Lugpos-versameling van die Unie van Suid-Afrika, Australië, Engeland of 'n ander land.



Landversameling: Unie SA Lugpos 1925

### 4. 'n Lugpos-tydperk

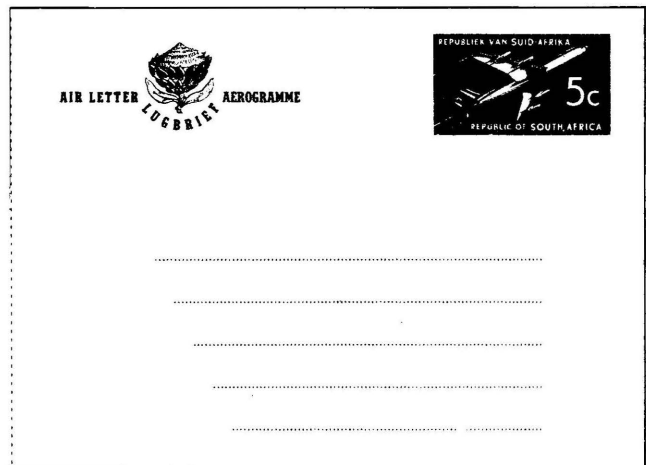
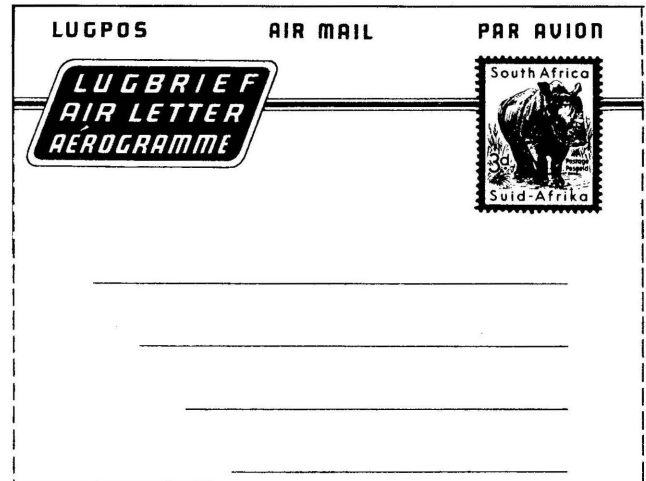
'n Versameling van lugpos vir 'n gegewe tydperk; 'n mooi voorbeeld is die Federasie van Rhodesië en Njassaland 1953-1963.

### 5. Lugposbriewe

"Aerograms", lugbriewe, of "airgraphs", foto-lugbriewe wat tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog gebruik is.

### 6. Lugpos-etiket of plakkers van rederye

Verskillende lande en lugrederye gebruik verskillende etikette of plakkers of lugposkoevertte.



Ons kan elk van die bogenoemde nog verder onderverdeel, waarna julle sal beseft hoe groot die lugfilatelie-veld werklik is:

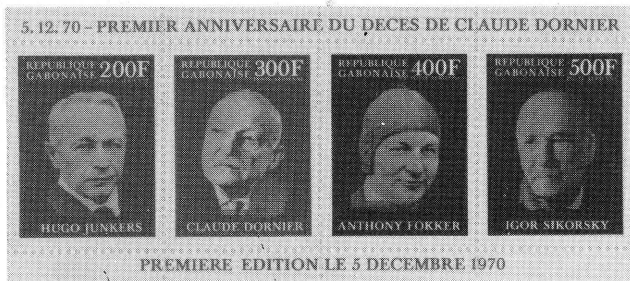
### 1. Tematies

1. Die geskiedenis van lugvaart.
2. Ou vliegtuie wat gebruik was in die tydperk 1900-1930.
3. Meer moderne vliegtuie 1940 - tot ± 1960.
4. Sportvliegtuie.
5. Ligte vliegtuie.
6. Sweeftuie.
7. Militêre vliegtuie.
8. Vliegboote.
9. Lugskepe.
10. Ruimteseëls.
11. Lugballone.

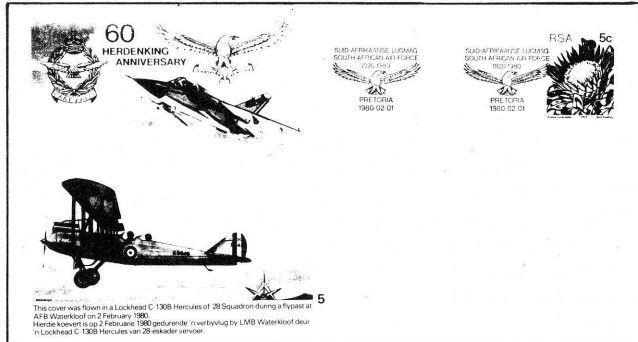
Dan bly daar nog die lugvaart-persoonlikhede, vlieëniers, lughawens en verwante lugvaartseëls.

### 2. Onderwerpe

- Seëls en pos wat handel oor 'n sekere gebeurtenis of bedryf:
1. Zeppelin-pos is pos wat destyds vervoer is deur die Duitse



**Lugvaart persoonlikhede**



**Lugmag museum koeverte**

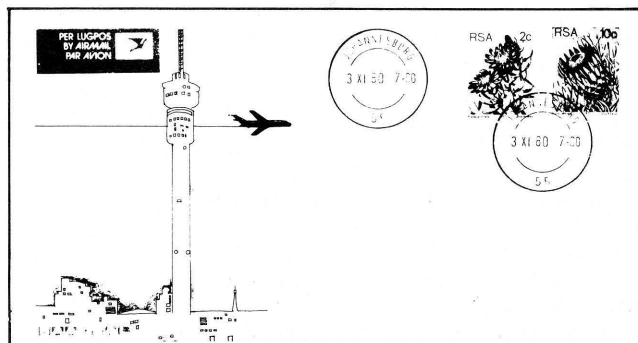
1. lugskepe van Europa na die VSA en Suid-Amerika.
2. Pos wat gevlieg is deur die Duitse Dornier X-vliegboot, algemeen bekend as DOX-pos.
3. Die lugposgeskiedenis van SAL, of die Unie-Lugdiens of byvoorbeeld Imperial Airways.
4. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag se museumkoeverte.
5. Die Royal Air Force-museumkoeverte.
6. Die pos wat gedra is deur die Concorde op al sy bekendstellingsroetes.
7. Duiwepos, dws pos wat deur duiwe gedra is.
8. 'n Baie interessante afdeling is pos wat herwin is uit vliegtuigrampe, dws pos wat herwin is nadat die vliegtuig neergestort het of in 'n ongeluk betrokke was.
9. Ballonpos.
10. Vliegbootpos.
11. Pionierspos.
12. En byvoorbeeld die geskiedenis van Charles Lindberg uitgebeeld deur briewe wat hy gevlieg het, en nog baie meer.

**3. Landversamelings**

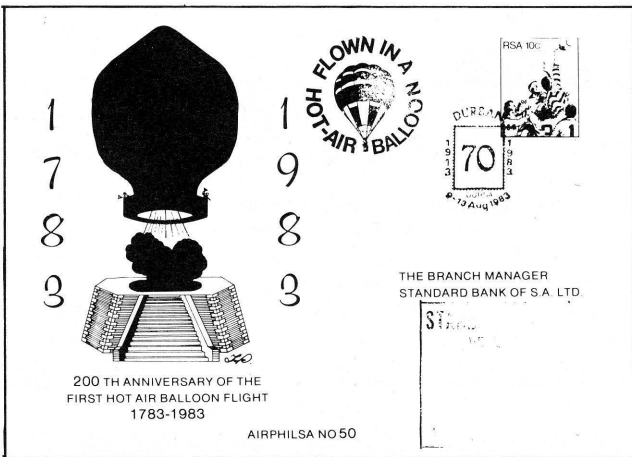
Lugpos versamelings van die volgende lande is baie interessant en enige één kan versamel word na gelang van die keuse.

1. Unie (1911-1961).
2. RSA (1961-)
3. SWA
4. Rhodesië
5. Groot-Brittanje
6. VSA
7. Nederland (KLM)
8. Australië
9. Kanada
10. Duitsland

Indien jy egter voel dat alles sover nog te veel vir jou was om



**RSA-SAL pos**



**Ballonpos**

af te byt, dan kan jy 'n klein versameling op die been bring wat net so interessant is, byvoorbeeld 'n tydperk-versameling met betrekking op 'n spesiale gebeurtenis. Soos:

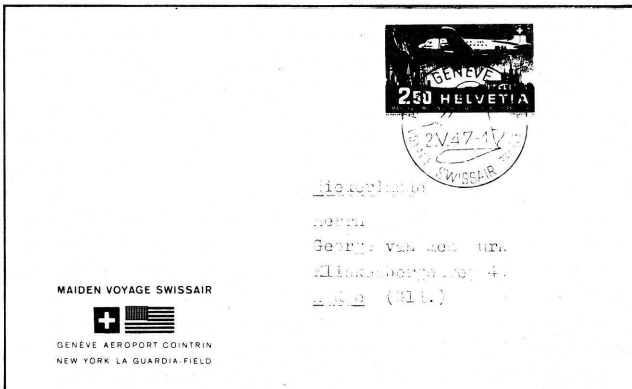
**Tydsperk**

1. Die Federasie van Rhodesië en Njassaland 1953-1963.
2. Unie van SA se eksperimentele lugpos oor 16 weke gedurende 1925.
3. Britse kroningspos 1911.
4. Unie-lugdiens 1929-1934.
5. Imperial airways.

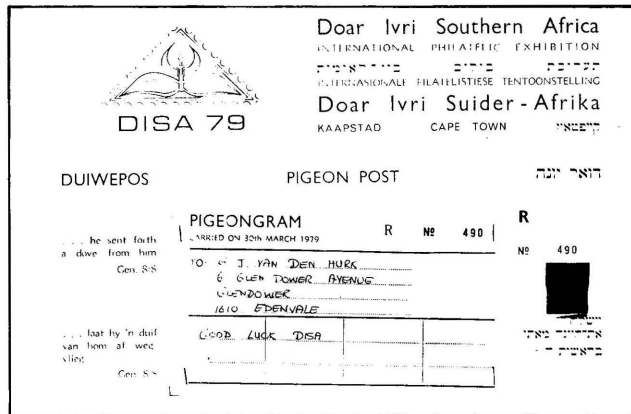
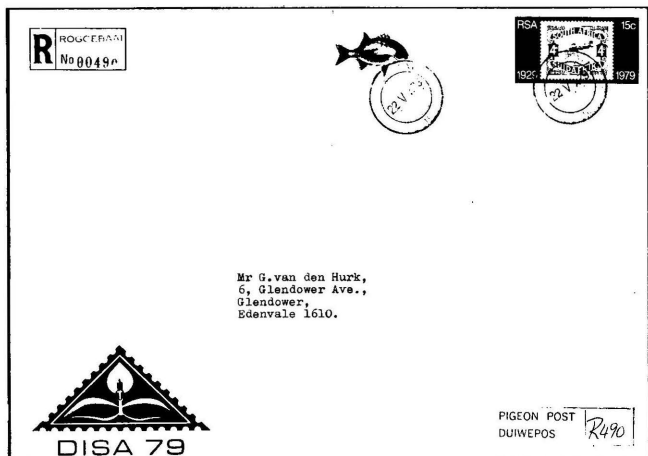
Dan bly daar nog oor om 'n paar te noem:

1. Lugbriewe, "aerograms"
  2. Airgraphs
  3. Lugpos-plakkertjies
  4. Redery-etikette.
- Noudat julle 'n redelike idee het van die omvang van lugfilatelie, is die volgende vraag seker, waar kry ons dit? Julle kan dit kry by:

1. Handelaars.
  2. Deur middel van uitrustingspakkies van byvoorbeeld die AFV, die SA Lugposvereniging of ander posseëlklubs.
  3. Ruil met vriende of lede in jou klub.
- Indien julle naslaanwerk wil doen, beveel ek die volgende aan:
1. Handboeke; elke land beskik oor sy eie.



**Lugpos van Switzerland: 1947 Swissair eerste vlug na New York**



2. Koerante; berigte wat geplaas is, kan nageslaan word.
3. Biblioteke.
4. Raadpleeg persone wat kennis dra.
5. *The SA Philatelist* publiseer gereeld artikels oor lugpos.
6. Sluit by 'n lugposvereniging aan.

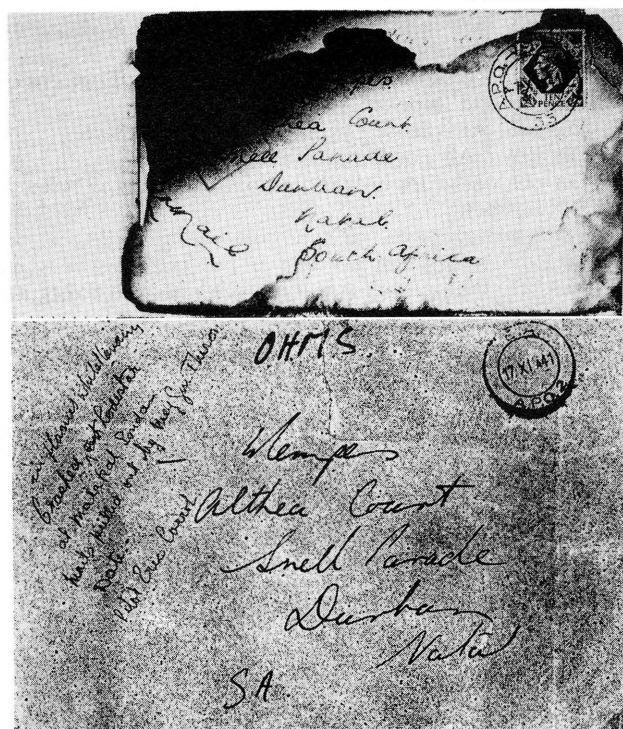
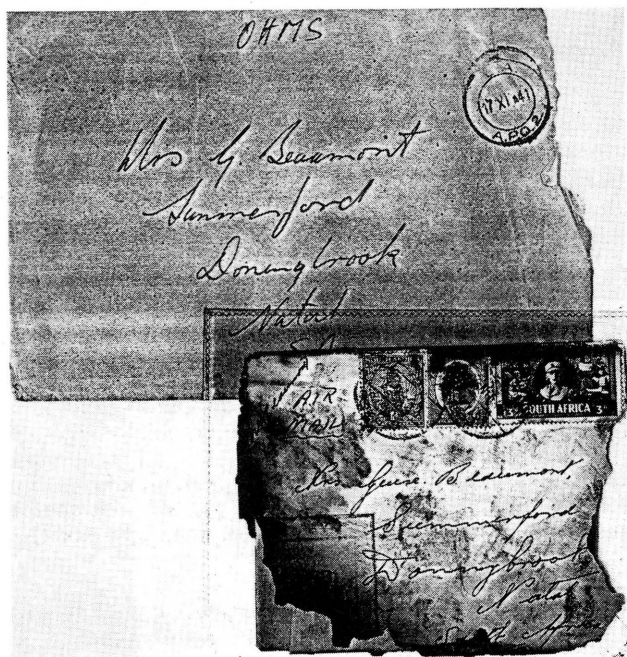
Die volgende vraag is seker, hoe duur is dit? Dit hang af wat jy bymekaar maak. Die goedkoopste is natuurlik om met 'n tematiesse versameling te begin oor vliegtuie. Maats, dan het ek ook goeie nuus vir julle. Om julle te help om te begin het die

Lugposvereniging besluit om koeverte wat hulle nog oor het, aan julle beskikbaar te stel teen 'n nominale bedrag.

Die koeverte kan by die Jeugkomitee, Glendowerlaan 116, Glendower, Edenvale 1610, verkry word; ongelukkig moet ons dit beperk tot één koevert per lid, per gebeurtenis.

Indien julle nog verdere vrae wil vra, rig dit aan die Jong Filatelis. Ek sal probeer om dit na die beste van my vermoë te beantwoord. Lekker versamel.

Groete,  
 Kapt D J Uys  
 President van die Lugposvereniging van Suider-Afrika.



## Mail from the Malakal crash

TWO READERS have reported mail from the wartime crash at Malakal in the Sudan following the appeal by Mr Jack Burrell RDPSA in our issue of December 1984, p 355.

A shuttle service plane with mail from Egypt and the Middle East crashed on 12 November 1941, and the 18 bags of mail were partly destroyed by fire. No mail items from this crash had been identified, Mr Burrell said.

Two items are now recorded, by Judge Tom Mullins of Grahamstown and Mr Rudi Jeidel RDPSA of Cape Town.

A cover dated 6 November 1941 (with the letter of the same date still inside), endorsed "airmail" and franked with a Union 1d Ship, 6d Orange Tree and 3d Large War stamp, was cancelled with the "Egypt Postage Prepaid 34" postmark on 7 November 1941, and addressed to Donnybrook in Natal.

Badly charred by fire, the cover was enclosed and forwarded to the addressee in an envelope manuscript marked "OHMS"

and cancelled with the East African APO 2 postmark dated 17 November 1941.

Judge Mullins says the writer of the letter, Major Guise Beaumont, and his wife to whom the letter was addressed, are still living in Grahamstown.

Mr Mullins says a similar item was offered as lot 292 in the Sotheby's sale of 28 August 1984, where it fetched R200. According to the description mails were pulled out of the burning aircraft by Maj-Gen F H Theron.

Mr Jeidel reports this cover, and says the plane was a SAAF Lodestar. The cover was addressed to Durban, franked with a GB KGVI 10d stamp cancelled with the South African APO/MPK 33 postmark on 7 November 1941, and it is also badly charred.

It was also forwarded from the East African APO in a largish reddish envelope endorsed "OHMS".

# What do philatelic society members collect?

by Howard Godwin

Howard Godwin, secretary of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and committee member of the East Rand Philatelic Society, read this paper at the philatelic congress held in Durban, August 1983.

ALL PHILATELIC societies stand to learn from an exercise undertaken by the committee of the East Rand Philatelic Society — particularly the reasons for its project and the possible benefits to be gained from it.

The committee had taken it for granted that it knew the workings of the society and the interests of society members. Yet a survey showed how little the committee actually knew about the members and their collecting interests!

You may be thinking "As long as the committee has a broad idea, that's enough".

But if a society's committee only has a broad idea, let me pose these questions: How do you decide on the programmes for your meetings?

Do you actually cater for your members, or do they have to accept what their committee thinks they should have at meetings? Is your annual programme put together with your members in mind? Is there innovation? And a last question do you have a 50% or more turnout at meetings, excluding country members?

If your answer is "No" to two or more of these questions, I make bold to say that **you do not** know what your members collect. Let's take a look at an average medium to small society of 50 to 60 members and review the background to the survey, and what the survey showed.

The East Rand Philatelic Society has, in the past, organised "house" meetings for those of its members who are collectors of Union of South Africa material, as well as for newcomers to philately, where basics like watermark detection, perforation identification and measurement, etc were discussed.

In the case of the South African collecting group, such items as the identification of the printings of the ½d Springbok and 1d Ship issues were discussed, to the benefit of all attending.

The committee decided to try to extend the range of these "house" meetings to cover other collecting interests, and there arose the first problem — what do the members collect? We needed to know what the interests were so that we could get collectors of the same countries together. We also felt that collectors of mint stamps only would not really benefit by meeting with a group of used stamp collectors — so we had to delve a little deeper than just knowing what countries were collected.

Going back to the interests listed on our application for membership forms would not have served any purpose, as interests change over the years. It was therefore decided that a new survey of current interests should be made to ascertain these interests, and to act as a guide to the committee regarding potential numbers for "house" meetings.

The next problem was whether a reasonable return of the survey forms would be received. It was estimated that at least a 40% return would be required to obtain meaningful data.

A simple form was designed and sent to all members, together with a stamped envelope, for their replies. Members were asked to list the countries they collected, and to indicate which of the following sections they collected in each country: mint stamps; used stamps; FDCs; postal stationery mint; postal stationery used; postal history; cancellations; control cylinder blocks and booklets. Provision was also made for the listing of thematic collections.

After six weeks we were gratified to find that we had received SA Philatelist — April 1985

48 replies to the 63 survey forms sent out — excellent response of 76%.

We could now go ahead with the analysis — and this was where the surprises started! We looked first at the countries collected, and found that these 48 members had an interest in no less than 84 countries between them! If we took each thematic subject as a 'country', then the 19 themes pushed the total up to 103!

It should be noted that this figure of 103 is a minimum figure. Two members stated that they collected, inter alia, "British Commonwealth". These two are included in the 48, but no further data for them has been included under countries collected or interests.

We next took each listed section of each country as an 'interest' — eg, if a collector of New Zealand indicated that he collected mint and used stamps, FDCs and postal history, then this was listed as four 'interests'. Having analysed the returns we found that our 48 respondents had 859 interests — an average of 17.9 per member!

The basic statistics which emerged are as follows:

the 48 members collect 103 different subjects  
they have 308 collections  
the 308 collections involved 859 interests

In terms of the individual collector the figures are 6.4 collections and 17.9 interests per collector. Only two members listed one collection each, while the greatest number of collections listed by a member was 15.

A breakdown of the data shows the expected predominance of Southern African material. The following listing is of countries of which there are 5 or more collections:

## 308 collections

39 = 12,7%  
24 = 7,8%  
19 = 6,2%  
16 = 5,2%  
12 = 3,9%  
12 = 3,9%  
11 = 3,6%  
8 = 2,6%  
6 = 1,9%  
6 = 1,9%  
5 = 1,6%  
150 = 48,7%

South Africa  
Great Britain  
SWA  
Transkei  
Bophuthatswana  
Venda  
Ciskei  
Australia  
Canada  
New Zealand  
Netherlands  
All others

## 859 interests

139 = 16,2%  
69 = 8,0%  
62 = 7,2%  
47 = 5,5%  
32 = 3,7%  
34 = 4,0%  
30 = 3,5%  
17 = 2,0%  
11 = 1,3%  
17 = 2,0%  
21 = 2,4%  
380 = 44,2%

As can be seen, 11 countries provide 158 collections with 479 interests, while the remaining 92 countries provide 150 collections with 380 interests. The countries collected are from all quarters of the globe with the exception of the South American continent.

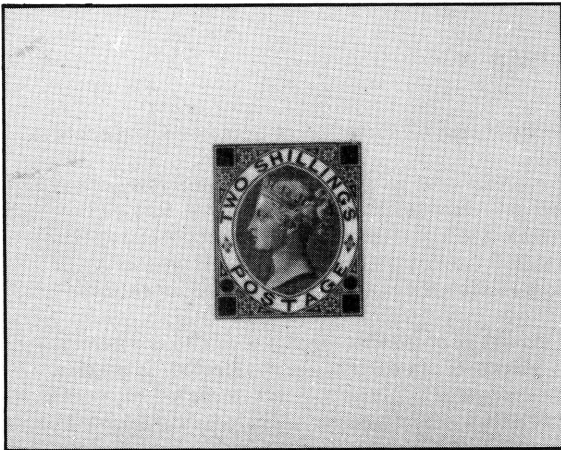
The collecting interests are shown in the bar graph on the opposite page — as can be seen, just over 60% of the interests are in mint and used stamps and FDCs. Add to this control blocks at 70%, and you have left only a third of the total interests covering 5 collecting sections — postal stationery M and U, postal history, cancellations and booklets.

Obviously, from a survey such as this a large amount of statistical data can be extracted, most of which is of purely academic interest.

The data which follows is felt to be of practical interest in that it shows trends which may well apply to other societies, and as such be a guide when speakers are to be invited or slide shows selected for a monthly meeting. The subject and content can now

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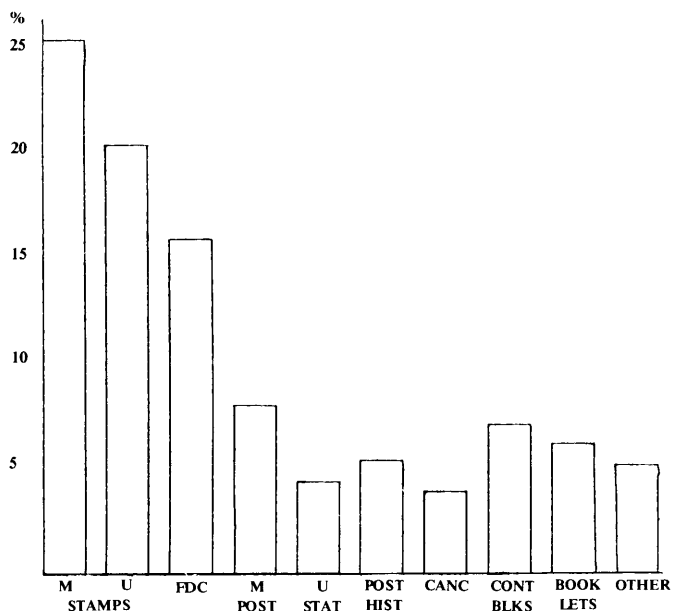
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be tied in to at least some of the member's interests.

The 5 main areas of interest for our members are:

1. SA Homelands — 51 collections
2. South Africa — 39 collections
3. Great Britain (incl Channel Isles) — 30 collections
4. South West Africa — 19 collections
5. Australia, New Zealand & Deps — 15 collections

These 5 total exactly 50% of all collections.

Taken in comparison with the other 50% of collections, the most interesting fact to emerge is that in the 5 main collecting areas, the stamps, mint and used, FDCs and control/cylinder blocks are the prime interests (77,9%) with the other interests taking a back seat.

By contrast, the percentage of the same interests in the "rest of the world" group is 55,9%, with the other interests showing a proportionate increase, particularly postal history and used postal stationery.

Also interesting is the fact that not one of the 51 collections of the Homelands listed either postal history or cancellations as an interest, and only one collection listed used postal stationery as an interest!

While there are "specialist" collections, ie collections listing all or most of the listed interests, of South Africa, Great Britain, the Channel Islands, Australia and New Zealand, they are relatively few and far between.

More collections which fall under the "rest of the world" group are specialised, as evidenced by the overall higher percentage of interests other than stamps, FDCs and control/cylinder blocks.

The bar graph (right) highlights the comparisons between the five main collecting areas and the "rest of the world", the latter being the shaded half of each bar.

Briefly, the main points are that in the "rest of the world" group both mint and used stamps are collected in about equal percentages, against the "Top 5" where mint has a 10% advantage. FDC's are far more popular in the "Top 5", as are control blocks. In all other interests the "Rest of the world" group is ahead of the "Top 5", on average, almost double.

Before taking a look at the habits of the collectors of South Africa, here are some general facts:

1. 23% of our collectors do not collect South Africa in any form.
2. 20% of all countries listed have only their used stamps collected.
3. 18% of all countries listed have only their mint stamps collected.
4. Only two members collect mint material exclusively.

Turning to our South Africa collectors, we found that 35 members have 39 collections, which figures brought to light one

SA Philatelist — April 1985

of the weak points of our survey. We should have asked that our members specify whether they collected the Union of South Africa or the Republic of South Africa, and, if both, to list them as separate collections. This would have provided more accurate data — as it was we felt that the data received was not 100% correct. For example, there were a couple of instances where RSA was the listed collection and booklets were shown as an interest. This caused a little confusion. The split of the countries was 12 for South Africa, 5 Union and 22 for RSA. Obviously, some of the 12 who stated South Africa collect RSA — or Union — or both!

Bearing this in mind, we probably have more interests than have been listed due to understatement, and the listed interests for the whole group totalled 139. Checking through these interests showed that there were 29 mint collections and, to our surprise, no less than 26 collectors of used stamps. Twenty collections of cylinder blocks exist, and 31 people collect FDCs, of whom only four specifically listed Union FDCs.

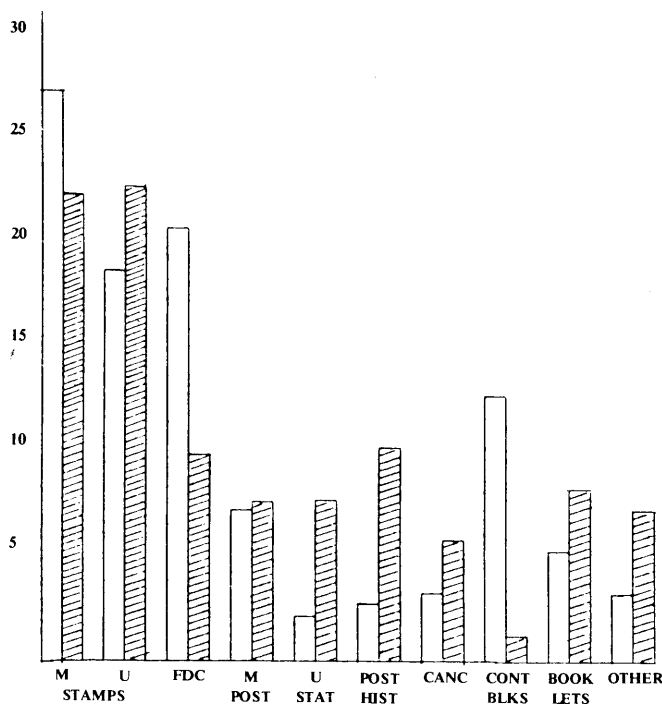
Looking now at the "Homeland" collections, ie Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei, we found that they outnumber the South African collections by 51 to 39! You will recall that these countries were respectively 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th in the list of most popular countries. However, in our society, this is the group with the least specialisation, in the sense that all items are on standing order direct from Philatelic Services and there is little or no research involved — hopefully these collectors will expand their interests in these countries and develop their collections on a more specialised basis.

As far as thematic collecting is concerned, and here both topical and thematics are listed together, there were 16 members who collected 19 themes, with a total of 25 collections between them.

The subject range was varied, as is to be expected, with Birds topping the list with five collectors, followed by Flowers and Animals with two collectors each. The other 16 subjects had one collector each. Angling, Table Tennis and Warships were the more unusual subjects listed.

Thus, a third of the members who responded to the survey had one or more thematic collections — it is interesting that all but one of these respondents also had one or more non-thematic collections.

The results of this survey provided both good and bad news for the committee. The bad news was that the committee of the East Rand Philatelic Society did not know what its members



collected! The good news was that the 76% response which was obtained indicated an interested and co-operative membership which appreciated its committee's efforts, and which, in turn, warrants even greater efforts from the committee to maintain and

encourage this interest in philately.

Future activities at the monthly society meetings which the committee can now consider, based on the data received, are:

1. The organising of 'house meetings' for members with like interests.
2. The arranging of slide shows, visiting speakers and/or exhibitors for the benefit of the largest number of members.
3. The arranging of slide shows, visiting speakers and/or exhibitors on subjects where we have no collectors, ie on a 'look and learn' basis.
4. The encouragement of "basic" collectors to expand their interests within their own collecting spheres.
5. The use of its own members to exhibit and talk on a large number of diverse subjects.

In conclusion, it must be said that, while this was a time-consuming exercise, the results have been very worthwhile. It can be recommended to any society committee which wants to know what is happening in its society. It is not known if any other society has undertaken such a survey, but, if they have, we would be most interested in comparing results. Are all societies basically the same as far as collecting interests go? This survey was designed for a general society, but with a little modification it could easily be adapted for use by any specialist group, and may provide unexpected results.

The sharing of information between members, or between members and their committees, or between committees, can only be of benefit for the promotion of philately — which, after all, is a stated reason for the existence of every society.

# Ballooning at DURSA

by Jack Burrell RDPSA

HERE ARE the true facts relating to the Dursa balloon covers: The organiser of this aerophilatelic balloon flight knew full well that the postal services could **not** handle these covers. Nevertheless other means were used to authenticate that covers were carried by a balloon.

Mr John Pank, the Public Relations Officer of the Standard Bank of South Africa, was interviewed re their co-operation in this venture. Arrangements were made so that all bank managers in the Durban area would be alerted.

Preliminary preparations: An artist, Terry Devine, would design the cover from an idea submitted to him by our Hon Life President, who described the end result as "devine".

The "Dursa" brochure committee would print a full page blurb in their exhibition publication.

The 2 000 special balloon covers were duly taken to Durban where the current 10c Sport series (rugby) stamps were licked and stuck, ready to be cancelled with the special self-inking Dursa hand strike No. 64. (A similar machine canceller used in Pretoria is numbered 63).

Our team motored down to Durban a week in advance in order to make preliminary arrangements with the PRO of Durban, Mrs E Butt, and her assistants, who had alerted all branch managers in the area re the arrival strike to be applied.

As pre-arranged, Mr Terance Adams, with over 1 000 hours as a professional pilot, brought his balloon ZS HOY and ground staff to Dursa, where the "Balloon Enterprises" trailer was parked in readiness for the flight from a suitable area in front of the pavilion.

Letters notifying our intention were sent to the Chief Constable and Chief of Parks Department in this connection.

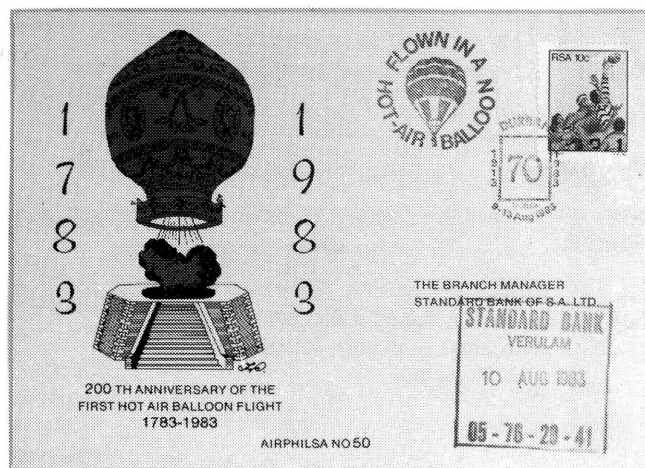
On Friday 5th August, at 16h45, as we were about to leave to attend a special dinner, arranged by David and Peggy Slater-Kinghorn, I was called to answer an urgent telephone call.

The Chief Constable's secretary informed me, quote: "That permission had been refused . . ." and the following suggestion: "Try Margate, Scottburgh, Umhlanga . . ."

After several phone calls (and drinks) Mr John Bannerman was contacted. He could see no objection to our flight. Next morning a visit to Umhlanga was made where we were received with open arms. Mr Bannerman stated: "You may fly from any suitable place and at any time that suits you."

Despite attempts to change the "take-off" from Umhlanga back to Dursa, the final decision was: "We fly from Umhlanga where we were welcomed".

Referring to the note in *The SA Philatelist*, quote: "but the wind blew the balloon out to sea". In answer to this, why did the writer not state that small, gas-filled pilot balloons to test air currents were sent up at regular intervals to establish prevailing air currents?



Wednesday morning pilot balloons did fly over the sea.

Midday: conditions improving for possible takeoff.

15h30: conditions were favourably improving.

15h45: Terry announced "We fly!"

The balloon trailer was hooked up, heading north, we called in at Virginia Airport for permission to fly, which was okayed, and on to Umhlanga.

The crew consisted of Terry, Anne, Colin Plen, Martie Vos and Jack. The area behind the post office, police offices and traffic department was selected.

Frantic preparations were made for the flight. Jack ran to the traffic department. The chief and first officer, very helpful, assisted in holding the balloon opening for the inflation by a portable fan. The burners were switched on and the huge 85 000 cubic metre hot-air bag rose, ready for takeoff. Jack with covers and pilot Terry, climbed into the basket. "Let her go boys" Terry commanded, checked the time (just 17h10) and we were up, up and away, with dogs barking, kids screaming and cars hooting. We were on our way!

From the floating balloon we could see the traffic officer, followed by the pick-up truck, following a maze of tracks in an attempt to stay with the balloon.

In the balloon we watched the sun setting. Terry pointed out to me where we all should be, at the Huletts Country Club where the Dursa braai was in progress at 17h30.

Straight ahead of us was the Ottawa polo ground where Terry made a perfect touch-down. Within minutes we were surrounded by people, who had emerged from the dusk like ants, to see the balloon.

With expert experience and willing hands from us the balloon was back in its trailer. We followed the traffic officer's tail light and were soon through the lanes in the cane lands back on to the tarred road to Durban. The traffic officer, having heard that we were due at the braai, turned off the Durban road, stopped and said: "There is your braai".

Thanks Umhlanga traffic department, you were great!

We then enjoyed the hospitality of Dursa.

**Large library** — The Philatelistische Bibliothek in Munich, Germany, has published a catalogue of 5 800 philatelic handbooks housed there. The catalogue is arranged by country and theme.

# Orange Free State Postal History

Part 5

by Ralph F Putzel

**THIS IS the fifth and final part of our serialised article on the postal history and post offices of the Orange Free State. Part I was carried in our August 1983 issue, page 227, part 2 in our December issue, page 335, part 3 in our May 1984 issue, page 140, and part 4 in our October issue, page 293.**

## OFS post offices and postal agencies (Alphabetical list 1850-1899)

*(New improved listing showing opening dates and new agencies as researched in Bloemfontein Archives from Volksraad Notulen, etc). ("PMG" stands for Postmaster General Report).*

SPITSKOP	Philippolis/ Fauresmith	opened 1892 (Batten) but not listed 1894 Cape PO Guide. Either had short life or is error (there was a Spitzkop near Barkly West, Cape).
SPITZKOP	Ficksburg	opened 1898 (PMG).
* SPRINGFIELD	Harrismith	opened 1877 (PMG).
SPRINGFIELD	Heilbron	opened 1893, closed 1898 (Batten).
* SPRINGFONTEIN	Philippolis	opened 1890 (PMG). Probably same office as next entry.
SPRINGFONTEIN RAIL	Philippoli	opened approx 1891 (Batten) (PMG writes in 1897 that office is still open at station).
* STEIJNSPRUIT	Bloemfontein	opened 1898 (PMG) (*) (see Steynspruit).
** STEYNSBURG	(district unknown)	opened 1879 (PMG).
** STEYNSDRIFT	(district unknown)	opened?/closed 1885 (PMG).
** STEYNSPRUIT	Thaba N'Chu	opened 1892/93 (PMG). (It is not clear whether there were two different offices or change of control and reopening of same office) (*)
STROOM ZAMENLOOP	Winburg	opened 1898 (PMG).
SUSANDAL		opened 1898 (PMG) —replaced KOPJE ALLEEN PMG).
TAAIBOSCHSPRUIT	Winburg	Believed opened Sep 1883 and probably closed by 1889 (Batten).
TAFELKOP/TAVELKOP	Vrede	opened Aug 1893 (Batten).
* TERLAPSFONTEIN	Smithfield	opened 1894/95 (PMG). Previously opened 1893 and closed again as postal agent resigned. Office was then brought back to Breipaal. (PMG).
* THABA N'CHU	Bloemfontein	opened 1884, closed 1885 (PMG), reopened soon thereafter.
THABA PATCHOA	Bloemfontein	opened April 1896 (Batten), closed 16.7.1899 (reopened 15.8.1908 — Batten).
PO THEUNISSEN	Kroonstad	Smaldeel was renamed — in 1898 to "Winburg Aansluiting", and finally Theunissen in Dec 1907.
* TITIESPAN	Fauresmith	opened 1878 (PMG) (no further information).
* TOBA	Thaba N'Chu	First listed 1889/90 PMG (branch post to Thaba N'Chu) (closure unknown).
* TRAVELLING PO (REIZENDE POSTKANTOOR POSTWAGENS)		Commenced operation as listed by Batten: May 1894. (First shown in PMG records in 1897).
* TROMMEL	Winburg	opened (private post) 1878 (PMG) — later taken over by Government post office.
TROMPSBURG	Fauresmith	Renamed from Middelfontein 1.7.1899 (Batten).
* UITHOEK	Bethlehem	opened 1889/90 (PMG). (Batten states opened Jan 1882 — possibly closed and reopened?)
UITZICHT	Bloemfontein/ Fauresmith	opened before 1899 but not on 1899 list (Batten). (Must have had very short life).
* VAALBANK	Bethlehem/ Bloemfontein	opened 1.8.1874. (1874/75 office was moved to Majoorsdrift but when town was rehabilitated, office reopened 1878 (PMG).
** VAALRIVER/ VAALRIVIER	Heilbron	opened 1892/93 (PMG). Batten's entry of 1850 probably refers to Vaal River district (of which Harrismith was the capital). No further information.
VAALSPRUIT	Smithfield	opened 1898 (PMG).
VALSCHRIVER	Bethlehem	(Recorded by Batten with unknown dates). I cannot find any entry of this name.
* VAN REENENS PAS	Harrismith	opened 1892/93 (PMG). (No further information). (Listed later by Kantey under Natal).
PAS		
PO VENTERSBURG ROAD	Ventersburg	opened July 1892 (Batten).

\*\* : Indicates not previously listed by Mr Batten.

\* :Indicates earlier dates or new information not shown in Mr Batten's books.

George W. Holschauer



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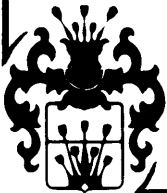
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** VERDWAALDAM	Bothaville	opened 1897 (PMG) (no further information).
** VERKEERDEVLEI	Winburg	opened (private post) 1878 (PMG)/closed?/again opened 1894 (PMG).
* VIERFONTEIN	Kroonstad	opened Mar 1893 (Batten). In 1897 PMG states that Vierfontein is being replaced by Bothaville, but still on 1898 postal routes.
* VILJOEN'S DRIFT (RO) VILJOENSDRIF	Heilbron	(Batten states renamed from Vaal River (?) — see there). RO office opened approx 1893. In 1897 PMG states PO already open at Viljoensdrift Sta, and that "Volksraad is contributing towards costs". (Batten lists two different offices but probably RO office was changed to departmental office by 1897).
* VILLIERS	Vrede (later Frankfort)	opened before 1893 (Batten). The SA Encyclopaedia states that the Volksraad was already asked in 1882 to open a post office (Villiersdorp). Town was only proclaimed 1891. PMG mail contract routes. (see below).
* VILLIERSDORP	Vrede	Original name of Villiersdorp — name changed to Villiers (probably as there is Villiersdorp in the Cape) probably before first postal services.
* VIRGINIA (RSO)/ STATION/SIDING	Kroonstad	opened probably 1894 (Batten). (In 1897 PMG states railway staff now handling office. Batten lists three different offices but almost certainly up to the Anglo-Boer War all names belong to the same office.
VISCHGAT	Bethany	opened 1887 (Batten) — probably closed by 1899.
VLAKFONTEIN	Philippolis	opened 1898 (PMG).
** VLAKPLAATS	Harrismith	opened (private post) 1877 (PMG). Taken over by Government 1879 (PMG).
* VOGELSTRUISKOOI	Moroko/ Ladybrand	opened 1885 (PMG). Batten states probably closed soon after 1889.
VOLHARDING	(district?)	opened 1867 (Batten) — no listing found anywhere so doubt that office lasted long.
PO * VREDE	Harrismith	opened 1880 as branch "Kafferpost" to Newmarket (PMG).
PO * VREDEFORT	Kroonstad	opened 1878 (PMG). Batten states before 1867 — this is unlikely as application for township made 1877 (town proclaimed 1881).
* VREDEFORT ROAD/WEG	Kroonstad	Renamed from Heilbron Road 31.1.1889 (Batten). Listed in PMG report of new offices 1892/93 — was it a reopening?
* WAAIHOEK	Vrede	opened Oct 1895 (Batten). In 1898 PMG listed as closed in 1898.
* WAGENMAKERSVLEI	Harrismith	opened 1889/90 (PMG).
WATERKLOOF	Philippolis	opened Oct 1899 (Batten).
* WATERVAL WEST	Jacobsdal	opened 1898 — replaced Landhoek PA (PMG).
WELGELEGEN	Winburg	opened 1892/93 (PMG).
* WELGELEGEN SIDING	Bloemfontein	opened 1898 (PMG) It is not clear whether this was a second (rail) office.
WELKOM	Bethulie	opened 1897 (PMG). Batten states opened 1892 — but not listed 1894/95 in PO Guide. (1897 could be reopening).
WELKOM	Winburg	opened 4.7.1883 (VRN); closed before 1896 as again shown as new opening 1896 (PMG). Both Welkom offices are listed from 1897 POG.
** WELTEVREDEN	Bloemfontein	opened 1884 (PMG). No further information.
PO * WEPENER/ WIPENER		opened 1871 (PMG) as Wipener, later changed to Wepener.
** WILDE AALSKRAAL		opened 1877 (PMG).
* WILLOUGHBY	Smithfield/Bethulie	opened 1878 (PMG).
PO WINBURG		opened 16.9.1850 (VRN) — one of the original six post offices. The town was originally the capital of the Voortrekkers until 1848 when Major Warden made Bloemfontein the capital.
WINBURG	Winburg	opened 1899 (Batten). Probably renamed from Smaldeel (but not the other way round) (Batten) and in December 1907 became Theunissen.
AANSLUITING JUNCTION		
* WINBURG RAIL/STATION	Winburg	opened 1892 (PMG) (Batten states 27.7.1893). New office Winburg Station opened 1898 (PMG). See below.
WINBURG WEG/ROAD	Winburg	opened July 1892 (Batten). In 1897 PMG states that the Railways contributed towards expenses. (Apparently this office is not separate from previous entry).
** WINDSORTON- WEG/STATION		opened about 1896 (on route from Boshof) — listed in mail routes 1896 (PMG).
* WINKELDRIFT	Kroonstad/ Vredefort	opened (private post) 1878. Taken over by Government about 1883.
** WITPAN	(district?)	Transferred from Leeuwpán in 1882 (VRN 23.6.82), again closed and transferred to Groot Constantia 4.7.83.
** WITWATER	(on route Bloemfontein to Ladybrand	opened 1879 (became PO in 1881) (PMG).
* WITZIESHOEK	Harrismith	opened 1870 (VRN) (full PO in 1882).

* WOLVEHOEK	Heilbron	opened Aug 1893 (Batten). PMG 1897 reports PA moved from "Mr Pierce's shop to railway station."
* WOLVESPRUIT	Boshof	opened pre-1889 (Batten)/closed as per PMG 1896/reopened 1897 (PMG).
WONDERFONTEIN	Hoopstad	opened Jan 1894. (Batten).
WOODSIDE	Frankfort/Vrede	opened 1883 (PMG).
WOOLWICH	(district?)	opened? — Batten states 1883 or earlier. Batten reports postmark of 1883. Not on any lists so far seen. Probably had very short life.
* ZAAIPLAATS	Kroonstad	opened 1897 (PMG).
* ZAMENKOMST	Bloemfontein	opened 1898 (PMG).
** ZANDFONTEIN	Kroonstad	opened 1878 (PMG). Branch post Zandfontein-Kroonstad. This cannot be the same office that opened in Frankfort district 1903).
ZANDRIVIER/ SAND RIVER	Bethlehem	opened 1857 (VRN). Postmaster appointed 1871, closed July 1874, reopened late 1874 or early 1875. Town replaced by Paul Roux much later.
PO ZASTRON	Rouxville	opened 1883 (PMG).
ZIETSPAN	(district?)	opened 1883. Closed by 1889 (Batten).
ZEVENFONTEIN	Boshof	Renamed from Sevenfontein in June 1894 (Batten).
ZOETVLEI	Hoopstad	opened 1898 (PMG).
* ZOUTPAN	Bloemfontein	opened 1893 (Batten). Closed 1896 as agent resigned (PMG).
* ZURINGKRANS/ ZURINGKRANTZ	Bethlehem	opened 1889/90 (PMG). Zuringkrans-Bethlehem route.
ZWARTKOP	Boshof	opened 1897 (PMG).
** ZWARTKOPPIES	Vredefort	First listed in 1888/89 PMG routes (Zwartkoppies-Vredefort).

# Masonry — an intriguing theme

by Eddie Howie

A SPECIALISED aspect of collecting which has gained much popularity in the past few years is Masonic Philately.

At least two organised groups operate in the United States and one very good one in the UK. This has led to "special" covers being produced from time to time to fill the collector's needs, but in conjunction with a brief history, usually printed on the front of the cover, they serve as an interesting thematic for the collector associated with Freemasonry.

The list of famous Masons on stamps is long and at times surprising. Here research is very necessary in order to find out just who was, is or was not a Freemason.

It is well-known that many of the rulers of England were Freemasons, King Edward VII, King George V and VI, the Duke of Edinburgh and King Edward VIII to mention some of the more recent ones. Their portraits appear on all the stamps issued in their respective reigns. But the Peace issue of 1947, KG VI, shows the square and compasses of Freemasonry quite clearly.

Here in South Africa research has revealed few well-known people, Piet Retief and President Burgers. Only the President is portrayed on a stamp and this is the Burgerspond issue.

The United States carries perhaps most portraits of Freemasons in history, and in the entertainment world.

The first stamp was that of Benjamin Franklin, closely followed by George Washington. Many of the Presidents of the United States were known Freemasons with the exclusion of Abraham Lincoln who refused entry "in case the public thought that he would use Freemasonry to influence people".

Other US personalities include Paul Revere, Sam Houston, Henry Ford, General MacArthur, Virgil Grissom and Edwin Aldrin (the astronauts), Gerald Ford, General George Pershing, President Eisenhower, Harry Truman, both Roosevelts, John Paul Jones and Melvin Jones (founder of Lions International).

In the world of entertainment, everyone has heard of Will Rogers, WC Fields, Walt Disney, Nat King Cole, Red Skelton, William Handy (composer of the St Louis Blues), Roy Rogers, Al Jolson, Charles Coburn, Cecil B de Mille, Houdini, Buffalo Bill and Ernest Borgnine.

Britain had its share too with Robert Burns, Oscar Wilde, fieldmarshal Douglas Haig, Sir Malcom Campbell, Sir Winston

Churchill, Sir Alexander Flemming, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes.

Other interesting personalities include: George Paulling, Cecil Rhodes, Richard Gatling, Jack Dempsey, Charles Lindbergh, Captain James Cook, Charles Mayo, Wolfgang van Goethe, Edgar Hoover and Thomas Machin designer of the head on many postage stamps.

In the South American countries many stamps portray famous Freemasons and in European many of the countries also show Freemasons on stamps.

So you can see that as a thematic, Freemasonry provides much scope for the collector, across a wide frontier. Any collection can be divided into politicians, heads of state, musicians, entertainers and general symbolic representation without portraits.

In the field of Masonic postal history various postcard companies have produced cards depicting Masonic interest. Strachan and Company, well known for their Rhodesia series, depicted a Masonic group in the field during the Mashonaland war in 1896. An American company also lampooned Freemasonry in a series of comic cards. These are highly prized by collectors.

But this is just the tip of the iceberg. Just like any thematic collection, Masonic philately needs research and a personal interest by the participant. I have found that most of the material can be found scattered throughout the philatelic spectrum as part of other collections or themes. It is up to the enthusiast to research and go on the hunt for himself.

It may be surprising what the result could be.



This Rhodesia postcard, sent from Marandellas in 1912, shows "Masonic Installation Meeting under Arms, Salisbury, July 1896".

# Gedagtes oor maksimumkaarte

deur J C Evertse

DIE MAKSIMUMKAART of soos dit in die volksmond bekend staan, die maksikaart, is onlangs 'ontdek' deur versamelaars en kleinskaal beleggers in Suid-Afrika. 'n Mens hoor nogal dikwels van handelaars dat hulle ook dink dat die kaarte wat hier vervaardig word, lelik is en dat dit in elk geval tot die 'kitch'-filatelie behoort. Maar dan sug hulle "dis wat die mense wil hê en dus gee ons dit vir hulle".

Die idee van 'n maksimumkaart kom al van voor die laaste eeu-wisseling en het ontstaan uit die prentjieposkaart van daardie tyd. Soms het die mense 'n seël op die prentjiekant geplaas en met die koms van geleentheidseëls en -stempels, het die maksimumkaart-idee ontstaan.

Die maksimum wat dit in gemeen kon hê, was die afbeelding, die seël en die stempel. Terugkykend is daar natuurlik talle voorbeelde van maksimumkaarte wat style van vergange se dae baie oulik uitbeeld of waar die kombinasie vernuftig uitgedink is. So is 'n George Washington-poskaart met sy seël in Washington DC gestempel op sy geboortedag (presies tweehonderd jaar later natuurlik) heel toepaslik.

Daar is natuurlik baie te sê vir 'n vrye vervaardiging van maksikaarte. So is dit dan ook op die oomblik en vir elke seël word daar deur verskillende instansies kaarte vervaardig. Omdat dit verwarrend is, het daar dus stemme opgegaan vir 'n amptelike maksikaart. Kom ons beskou egter die huidige reekse eers. 'Over smaak valt niet te twisten' lui die spreekwoord en ek hoop dus maar dat die kunstenaar van die huidige 'maksies' nie wil twis nie!

Toe ek dit die eerste keer sien het ek gedink dat dit ontwerp en geteken is deur 'n sesjarige met 'n belowende tekentalent! Maar miskien pas dit by sommige seëls wat in ieder geval lyk of dit winkelpoppe of plastiekberge uitbeeld. (Waar tog is die graveerkuns?)

Dit wil egter voorkom dat daar in hierdie vrye filateliese ekonomie afsprake gemaak is tot uitsluitlike voordeel van die handel. Dit gaan natuurlik oor die sogenaamde 'nommer eenmaksie'. Vir jare en jare was die einste item Eerstedagkoevert nommer 2.18A genoem al was hy dan ook wel 'n kaart. Hy was teen R12 dan ook wel effens duurder as sy eweknie, koevert nommer 28. Nou skielik is hierdie kaart wat eers 'n koevert was weer 'n kaart en dan nog wel 'n maksikaart! Met sy gedaanteverwisseling het sy prys dan toegeneem tot R80, maar dis seker te verwagte al gaan dit ook maar sleg met die meeste ander items.

Op 'n dag ontdek iemand natuurlik die maksimumkaarte wat tydens Pretoria se eeufees by die seëluitstalling verkoop is. Een kaart met President Kruger en een met President Pretorius, netjies vervaardig met die seël voorop en die toepaslike stempel bo-op. Wat nou gedoen? As die skip van 1976 nommer een is, wat is hierdie kaarte van solank gelede? Skynbaar het hulle nie die rekenkundige agtergrond gehad nie — volgens die gekose metode is dit kaart 'minus een' en

kaart 'nul'.

Indien daar dan later nog kaarte ontdek word dan kan 'n mens dit nog altyd kaart 'minus een derde' noem! Die geagte filabroeders het natuurlik na die ABC gegryp en die begrip 'voorloper' daaruit gelig. Bid jou aan, Oom Paul as voorloper!

'Maar nog is het, het einde niet' (soos 'n ander frase dit stel). Die gelukkige publiek het selfs die geleentheid om 'Specimens' te koop. Uiteraard vir baie geld, hulle is mos duur, die Specimens (kyk maar in Stanley Gibbons). Gemaklikheidshalwe kan jy selfs inteken op alle toekomstige Specimen-maksikaarte. Man, dis nou vir jou lekker hoor!

Kom ons kyk nou koel, saaklik en analities na die toestand van maksimum-verwarring:

'n Amptelike filateliese item is tog immers iets wat geheel en al deur die poskantoor gemagtig is en waarby daar gedurende die produksiestadium die nodige kontrole was oor hoeveelhede, proefdrukke ensovoorts. Verder kry hierdie soort items nommers indien daar met groot of volkome sekerheid beplan word om gereeld die tipe-items uit te gee. Aan hierdie vereistes voldoen die amptelike eerstedagkoeverte van die Republiek.

Vir goeie balans mag privaat-instansies eie koeverte gebruik en dit met seëls laat afstempel op die dag van uitgawe. Dit blyk egter dat die groot meerderheid die amptelike stukke verkies en gekoppel aan getalle, wissel die pryse wat vir amptelike koeverte betaal word tussen R350 en 50c op die ope mark. Indien die poskantoor dus met so 'n reeks begin, is dit dus te hope dat dit genommer sal wees vanaf 'nommer een'.

Die woord 'voorloper' word gereserveer vir gebeurtenisse met die korrekte geskiedkundige inhoud. So is die seëls van Palestina voorlopers van die seëls van Israel en is Suid-Afrikaanse seëls gestempel in Umtata voor 26 Oktober 1976, wel deeglik voorlopers van die seëls van Transkei. Sou 'n mens die gebruik van 'voorloper' in die Kruger-Skipverband tot sy logiese gevolgtrekking neem kan snaakse dinge daaruit voortvloei. Alle nie-amptelike koeverte word dan amptelike voorlopers. Selfs Wright se vliegtuig word 'n voorloper-straler.

Aangesien spesimenseëls bedoel is vir die Wêreldposunie is die spesimenkaarte dus iets anders. Dit is gewoonweg privaataarte met die woord Specimen opgedruk en verder normaal gefrankeer en afgestempel. Daar is niks onheiligs aan so iets nie en 'n mens sou selfs die woorde Mooi Meisie daarop kon druk. Ek sou egter nog steeds my vrou verkies bo 'n kaart!

'n Mens kan argumenteer dat die poskantoor nou weer 'n monopolie gaan bykry en dat hulle nog meer geld gaan maak uit die arme versamelaars en ook dat hul verbeeldinglose maksies gaan produseer. Minstens sal die kaarte aan die neergelegde standaardte voldoen en 'n sekere harmonie van seëlontwerp en kaart sal bestaan, die poskantoor sal immers die regte kunstenaars gebruik.

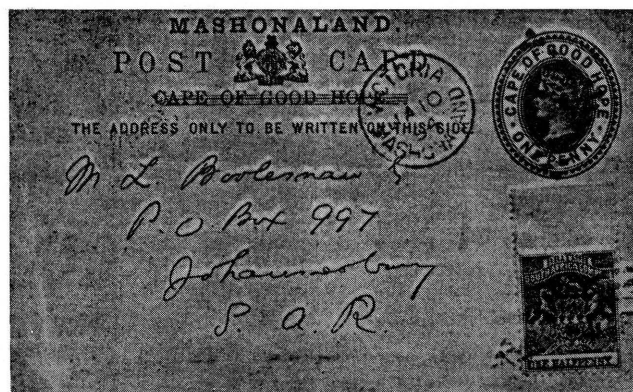
Dit behoort steeds moontlik te bly om privaat kaarte te vervaardig en as iemand vindingryk genoeg is om sy produk te bemark mag sy winste groot wees! Die filateliese pers behoort dan sy kant te bring en mense in te lig oor semi-swendelary met die misbruik van filateliese terme.

## Another Booleman find

ANOTHER fine Booleman item is reported by Mr G Koefman of Sea Point: a Cape of Good Hope 1d postal stationery card overprinted Mashonaland postmarked with F in barred diamond obliterator and with the circular datestamp of Victoria Mashonaland on 10 January 1894.

The card is addressed to Booleman in Johannesburg, with backstamps of Tuli Mashonaland on 13 January and Pretoria ZAR on 21 January 1894.

The direct postal connection between Rhodesia and Transvaal (Tuli to Pietersburg) was started in June 1893.



# CHENNAULT and the 'FLYING TIGERS'

RECENT screenings of the American series "Tales of the Gold Monkey" on TV1 will have acquainted thousands of viewers with the famous "Flying Tigers".

Known earlier as the American Volunteer Group, from the early 1930s these airmen were the only serious help that the Republic of China received during the years while the Western democracies watched Japanese "frightfulness" at work.

Over the years a retired USAF captain in China named Claire Chennault painstakingly built up the AVG into several crack fighter squadrons.

By 1938, Chennault added an air warning net to protect his bases from surprise air attack.

Intercepts of Japanese radio codes, which the Chinese had broken, enabled the Flying Tigers to mount numerous successful counter-strikes.

After Pearl Harbour Chennault was officially re-inducted into the US army as Brigadier-General and his "Flying Tigers" designated the China Air Task Force.

As the allies in the Pacific area suffered defeat after defeat the brilliant performance of the Flying Tigers seemed the only upholder of Western prestige.

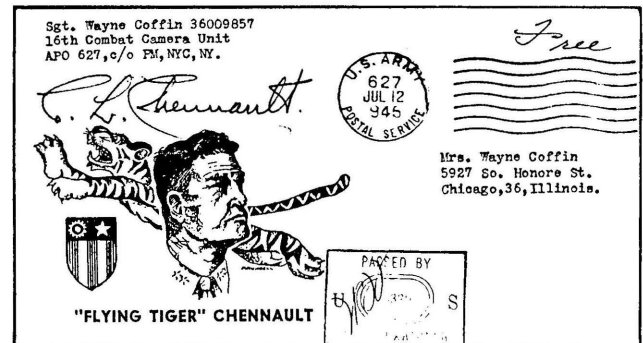
For example, when Japan decided to sever the Burma Road supply route to China a hundred thousand men and 700 planes swept aside British and Chinese opposition, took Lashio, and were only stopped on the Salween River by a desperate RoC Army stand and intensive air strikes by the Flying Tigers.

Those days, like almost all the Flying Tigers, are long gone although one — Mr Wayne Coffin — was alive and well five years ago and working in Florida, USA.

Late in 1944 as an aerial photographer for the USAF Sgt Coffin arrived at Chennault's HQ Command (APO.627) at Kunming in South China.

An avid cover collector, when the US firm Arundel announced a cover honouring Chennault, Sgt Coffin ordered a batch.

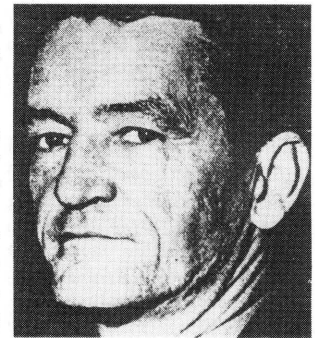
He then persuaded "Old Leatherface" Chennault (now Major General) to autograph 20 of them — at a cost of one dollar a cover, which Chennault promptly donated to China's Red Cross, as was his custom.



I illustrate one of the surviving 17 autographed covers which found their way back to Mrs Wayne Coffin.

Actual size 16,5 x 9 mm it is "free mail" cancelled by APO.627 on July 12, forty years ago.

Located in early 1978 by China Stamp Society member F C Brown (see "China Clipper" January 1979) the original sender was also traced — still active in philately!



Claire Chennault

This cover is also an object lesson in philatelic private enterprise.

It was not printed by a government department, and has actually been through the mails.

In the long tradition of American commemorative and Special Event covers, such as are superbly produced today by Artmaster and others, the time and place of cancellation is the thing and — in this case — the rare autograph which reinforces the meaningful printed cachet.

As far as I know the USPS have produced no commemorative stamp for Chennault, perhaps because public reminder of Roosevelt and Truman's ignoble "stop-go" policy towards the Republic of China is best left under the carpet.

In salutation I will send Wayne Coffin a copy of this article, with all our best wishes!

## LOOKING BACK

From the South African Philatelist

by D Lamont Smith

60 YEARS AGO

April 1925

### Penny Postage and new stamps

In introducing the Budget this month the Minister of Finance for the Union stated that penny postage would be restored on January 1 next. This rate would only apply to letters addressed to places in the Union and SW Africa. Letters for countries outside the Union will have to be stamped as at present. The rate for inland postcards will be reduced to ½d on the above date.

The return to penny postage would, said the Minister, result in an annual loss of £400 000, but the first year's loss would be only £100 000, as the Minister of Posts proposed to celebrate the event by the issue of a pictorial set of stamps. This statement will be of interest to philatelists, who, apparently, are expected to provide the differences of £300 000! In this connection it must be remembered that the stamps will be alternately English and Dutch in the sheets, as is done in South West Africa. The new set will be an expensive one for philatelists!

It will take some months to prepare the new stamps, but they will be on issue by January 1st next.

The farthing rate on newspapers weighing up to 8 oz posted in bulk is being restored this month.

30 YEARS AGO

April 1955

### HELP WANTED

In a letter addressed to the "South African Philanthropist" (but which found us) an optimist says he has just started a collection of mint Union stamps.

He wishes to mount the 1d roll stamp in one continuous strip, but as it is 40 feet long he has difficulty in finding a suitable album.

The local stamp dealers are not at all helpful. Can anyone offer a really practical solution. No leg-pullers wanted.

**Exchange wanted** — An elderly stamp collector from Central America would like to exchange stamps with South African philatelists. He is Mladen Blagaich, Panama I. Apartado 905, Republic Panama, Central America and will exchange only complete mint sets of Latin America, British West Indies and thematics. He also has many FDCs. His special interest is African stamps, complete mint sets.

# Society News ~ Onderonies

## BOPHUTHATSWANA PHILATELIC CLUB

**February** — Rather less than half the town members attended. The chairman welcomed a new member, Mrs Arina Cowley, and her son Trevor to the meeting as well as his wife who was attending as a guest. He advised members that he had, that day, received notification from the Audiovisual Committee of the bookings for slide shows for meetings to be held during 1985. A list of the shows would appear in the next newsletter.

The Chairman referred to items which had been presented to the club in the past few months, some intended as prizes in the 1984 Christmas competition. Some of these items were offered for sale and the proceeds raised about R70 towards club funds.

Club members would mount an exhibit on Mafikeng during the centenary celebrations. He was a bit worried about security of the exhibit but it was hoped to overcome this. The chairman advised that the local postal authorities would be manning the period post office in the Square during the period of the celebrations so that it would not be necessary for Club members to assist. There would be an issue of two stamps on 11 March as well as the Camporee Special datestamp on the same day.

The chairman said he had received a letter from Philatelic Services and Intersapa in which they intimated that they would supply the club with advance information on new issues for Bophuthatswana, together with photographs. The meeting then continued when the chairman presented the slide show entitled "Collecting RSA Stamps — Part I". The secretary advised that this was a new show which he had seen when he attended the 1984 philatelist congress. It was the opinion of members that the show could be improved by the addition of more arrows pointing out the flaws which were mentioned by the speaker. Some such flaws were not obvious to some members who did not collect RSA stamps. Otherwise it was agreed that the show was very good and worthwhile.

— R H G Howden

## EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**February** — The 65th AGM of our society was attended by 24 members which, in general terms, is an excellent turn-out for this type of meeting. After the apologies the minutes of last year's AGM were read, followed by the reports of the various office-bearers.

The financial position is healthy and thanks were expressed to Mrs R van Riet and Mr A Crayston for assisting Ray 't Hart with the sales packet service. A word of thanks also to those who prepared the tea at our meetings during the past year and last but not least to the library staff.

The list of trophy-winners for 1984 is as follows: Legator Trophy: Ian Matherson with British Honduras

Suklje Trophy: Dave Hunt with Pitcairn Islands  
Godwin Trophy: Rodger Lingley with Central African Republic.

Ernest Holden announced that he was putting down his secretarial pen after 14 years' continuous service to the society. Many thanks Ernest for all you have done for us. The following members were chosen to serve on the committee:

President — Dave Ransom

Vice-president — Ray 't Hart

Hon Secretary — Pat Kitts (Mrs)

Hon Treasurer — Joan Coody (Mrs)

Sales packet superintendent — Ray 't Hart

The SA Philatelist correspondent — Luke van Riet

Hon Librarian — Dave Hunt

Committee members — Archie Crayston, Gunther Wossler, Peter Coody

Delegates to PPSA — Sam Legator, Dave Ransom (alt)

Hon Auctioneer — Howard Godwin

— L J van Riet

## FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**February** — A well-attended meeting was treated to

exhibits of the highest quality when viewing Mr and Mrs Wannerton's award-winning collections.

Mrs Wannerton showed SA Shipping Postmarks — 1910 to date. The early examples revived mail ship memories for lots of members!

Mr Wannerton first showed The Canadian Contingent in Siberia 1918-1919; a unique slice of postal history that clearly demonstrated the atrocious conditions under which the contingent operated.

Mr Wannerton's second exhibit was Canadian Pioneer and Semi-Official Airmails 1897-1934. The earliest items referred to pigeon post — long before the advent of powered flight! The air mail stamps and labels were issued by private air transport companies when the aeroplane was the only means of reaching remote mining camps quickly.

Our members' postmark date competition ended in a draw and the two winners will compete again at our March meeting — M L Roberts

**March** Our new office bearers elected at the AGM are:

President — Mrs M Reynolds

Vice-President — Mr Roberts

Secretary — Mr G Knight

Treasurer — Mr D Sylvester

Hon Exchange Supt — Mrs Walker-Wells

Members — Mrs Stark and Mr Singels.

Our previous president stood down after being president for about eight years. The society wishes to thank Mr J Hodgson for the hard work, dedication and interest that he has put into stamps and his position. We wish Mrs Reynold success in her new portfolio as president, nobody envies her the job.

We have begun yet another monthly competition, this time called 'Hunt the spider' and are looking forward to see the members' response.

— D A Sylvester

## GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**14 February 1985** — This was the date of our Annual General Meeting when we had a fair turnout and our Chairman reported on the year's happenings.

At the beginning of the year our members totalled 25. Two members Messrs Coombs and Haines did not renew their subscriptions and we were very sorry to lose Dr Cory who died in August.

During the year five new members were enrolled — Dr T Williams, Miss Kitching, Jessie Vlavianos, Mr P Callins and Mr A Fortgens. At the end of the year we had 27 members on our books.

During the year 11 meetings were held and the average attendance was 12 members.

Often this number was boosted by visitors from Cape Town, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Grahamstown. We were also visited by interested young stamp collectors from St Andrew's College and Kingswood College.

**September** — We had an accent on the 'young collectors' last year and our meeting was held at Kingswood College. From the school point of view it was very successful and the society offered display exhibits on the stands that Woter Holleman has prepared so well. There was a mini auction and sale, and Jessie Vlavianos came from PE to exhibit some stamp wares. The formal meeting was held in the Staff Room (a suitable alternative venue).

**July** — A very successful evening was held at St Andrew's College to a packed attendance of collectors from the college and particularly enthusiastic collectors from the prep.

Mr Burton urged that the society continues in this vein of promoting philately to the Grahamstown youngsters. Reg Simpson visited St Andrew's and presented a talk at their request and it is hoped that other members too might share their interest and expertise at the schools in 1985.

Our other activities included two evenings of five page displays, five evenings of individual displays, a Cover evening and a slide show and quiz.

The 1984 winner of the Pettit Trophy for the second year running was Prof van Wyk Smith with his display of Cape Triangulars and Jurgens Forgeries. There were three entries for this competition.

The 1984 winner of the Five Pages Competition display was Prof John Haigh with his exhibit of Southern Rhodesia and Rhodesia stamps. There were six entries for this competition (hopefully in 1985 we will have more!)

Mr Burton thanked all members of the Society for their active participation during the year and particularly for the delicious fare that they had enjoyed after each evening. — R P Simpson

## MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**February** — As the weatherman decided it was time for a break from the weeks of welcome rain, there was a large turnout. 65 members (2 of whom had come from Mutare) and 12 visitors (including Mr and Mrs Ross from Malawi and 2 juniors) helped to make this a most enjoyable one.

The meeting was opened by Mr de Sathmary, who showed a number of interesting items brought in by members. Then followed a short address by Mr Rainbow and a suggested idea to be given consideration by the committee.

The very full programme commenced with five entries for the Peter Beck Trophy (postponed in January) being mounted on the boards. Imagination ran wild with the chosen title of "Islands"!

The exhibits were of a high standard and so members had some difficulty in casting their popular votes. Eventually, the winner obtained about half of the votes and the two runners up almost tied — only one mark separating them.

After the tea break, Mr A Fourie submitted his entry for the Peinke Cup on Ghana and the Gold Coast. His interest in that country had stemmed from the fact that he had lived there as a child and had started collecting with stamps from cigarette boxes. His mint stamps were mounted on black pages, which rather helped to subdue the rather gaudy colours of the later issues of Ghana. The collection was complete but for 7 stamps and 2 miniature sheets. However, he still needs some of the very early Gold Coast stamps. At present, it is said that about 100 languages are spoken in Ghana but they are now trying to establish one official language.

After this, Mr Mike Fox conducted the house auction. He had everyone rocking with laughter but competition was not too brisk. Mike's final remark "too far away from pay day" was acknowledged!

— (Mrs) Cecilie Coventry

## NATAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**16 January** — We had the pleasure of seeing Mrs B Zarnack's 'Drink a philatelic toast with me'. This exhibit, which won a prize at Aupex, was very well thought out and amusing.

Our competition for the letter M attracted 11 very good entries. Mr G Ponsford showed 'Mademoiselles & Mesdames'; Mrs C Corke Music; Dr A Arnoldi merino sheep; Mrs Zarnack Malta; Mr N Hartley Malaria eradication; Mr H Cook Men of Merit; Mr R Broderick Mulready envelopes; Mr R Wakely-Smith Monte Carlo Rally; Mrs J Schultz Mosaics; Mr R Osborne Mauritius postal markings and Mrs J Osborne showed President Masaryk stamps.

Mr R Broderick, of Scottburgh, was judged the winner, with Mrs Zarnack second and Mr Osborne third.

**6 February** — We saw a magnificent display of Australia by Gerald Buttigieg. We saw the first issues after the forming of the Commonwealth, the familiar Kangaroo on map issue, the King's head issues, with all varieties, the KG VI issues, Queen Elizabeth issues, miniature sheets, commemorative

issues and aerogrammes.

In a most interesting talk we were told of the beginnings of the collection when Gerald was a small boy, its resurrection when he grew up, and many interesting incidents connected with the stamps. It was a good indication of what you can do if you stick to one country and build it up. — **Rex Osborne**

#### SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**February** — A new committee was elected for the ensuing year. Some of the old stalwarts stayed on to ensure continuity together with some new brooms to do the clean sweeping:

Chairman: Les Schmal

Treasurer: Neil Malherbe

Secretary: Audrey Metelerkamp

Committee members: Pierre Rubber, Errol Warten, Thomas Muller, Eddie Kier.

The monthly philatelic crossword (which is compiled by Allen Viner) was won by Howard Sarsby and the monthly stamp competition went to Alan Viner.

Ken Joseph gave a most enlightening demonstration of the use of the ultra violet lamp. He showed everyone how to identify phosphors, various papers, repairs and regumming.

After the demonstration, some of our members who specialise in South Africa and considered themselves as "philatelists", have now reclassified themselves as "stamp collectors". One always needs an expert to show up one's limitations.

The circuit books under Pierre Rubber seem to be transfused by Pierre's enthusiasm and are really getting around. Possibly the January fact finding meeting has fired the whole society with new vitality.

— **E A Kier**

#### WINDHOEK-FILATELIEVERENIGING

By die jaarvergadering, wat in Februarie in die United-ontspanningsklub gehou is, is die volgende bestuur gekies:

Voorsitter — Frank Snyman

Ondervoorsitter — Gert Keding

Sekretaris — Gunter von Schumann

Ondersekretaris — Edith Peter

Bykomende lede — Leon Jacobson, Helmut zur Strassen.

Die Maart-vergadering was in die vorm van 'n lesing met demonstrasies oor hoe om 'n seëlversameling te begin.

Ons klub se uitstalling word vanjaar op 7 en 8 Junie in Windhoek gehou. Die organiseerders is Gert Keding en Leon Jacobson.

Mnr Snyman, ons voorsitter, het aangekondig dat nie minder nie as tien van ons lede vir vanjaar se nasionale seëluitstalling Elpex/Olifu ingeskryf het.

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