

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

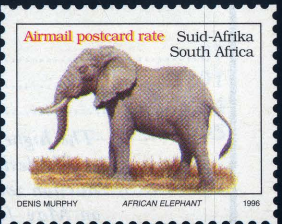
JUNE
1996

R8,00 incl.

ISSN 0038-2566

Vol 72:3 816

- The tourism booklet saga revealed
- Gesprekforum met SA Poskantoor
- The lowdown on CGH British revenues
- Possak: Stemme gaan op oor Frescura
- All senior and junior rendezvous
- Weer 'n rekord op Welz veiling



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Publication: This journal is published by The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000. The Hon. Secretary of the Federation can be reached at PO Box 375.

Publikasie: Hierdie tydskrif word uitgegee deur Die Filateliese Federasie van Suid-Afrika, Posbus 375, Johannesburg 2000. Die Ere-Sekretaris van die Federasie kan bereik word by Posbus 375.

Subskripsie en sirkulasie: *The SA Philatelist* kos R8,00 per eksemplaar, en die jaarlikse intekengeld in Suid-Afrika is R45,00.

In die res van die wêreld – gebiede in Afrika ingesluit – is die intekengeld R65,00 per jaar, posvry.

Indien oorsese intekenare hul eksemplare per lugpos wil ontvang, is die intekengeld R120,00.

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Subscription and circulation: *The SA Philatelist* costs R8,00 per copy, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R45,00.

In the rest of the world – territories in Africa included – the subscription is R65,00 per year, postage free.

Should overseas subscribers wish to receive their copies by air mail, the subscription is R120,00.

Should you wish to subscribe, or have queries, please write to the Hon. Circulation Manager, PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000. If you are changing your address, please enclose the wrapper of your last copy.

Advertising: Details available from the Hon. Advertising Manager, J. Michelson, RDPSA, PO Box 9314, Johannesburg 2000. ☎ (011) 493-6260, 493-6297, fax 493-0602, cell ☎ 083 266 4359.

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SA Philatelic Dealers Association/SA Filateliese Handelaarsvereniging:

The SA Philatelist June 1996

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Soos ek dit sien/In my view The Editor/Die Redakteur

Dear Dr Frescura

There is so much evidence of a growing rift between philatelic collectors and your department in this issue of our journal that the matter can no longer be ignored or wished away.

Yet, in my view, the issues are simple to reduce to essentials. Neither do they have anything to do with the – I must admit, sometimes bleakly amusing – aspersions which are currently being cast back and forth so freely. These can safely rest then, at least for the moment.

The first issue is that collectors are not being informed timeously of the stamp issues they can expect, let alone of the issuing programme. It is now June – and the first time I have been able to publish something resembling a year's programme, on page 91.

This creates apathy.

The second issue is that collectors are frequently not informed at all of any of the material which could be classed as special products, were it not for the alertness of some of our readers. It is thanks to them that we have, starting on pages 75 and 92, a reasonable overview of the Tourism booklets which have been in circulation since. . . ?

This creates frustration.

The third issue is that collectors complain consistently of incompetence of one kind or another in the handling of their orders.

This creates anger.

The fourth issue is that special products are being created to which collectors do not, for one reason or another, have access.

This is in conflict with the ethics of all reputable issuing authorities.

Perhaps apathy, frustration and anger are the issues to address, before resorting to other accusations about the current state of philately.

Uit die possak/From the mailbag

Reply to Frescura: I

MP Barry of Bellville writes: In answer to dr. Frescura's letter (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 34), I think he is the blind one who is hell bent on taking the hobby to the grave, as thanks to him, Philatelic Services are in a state of crisis.

I wrote to Philatelic Services on 27 November 1995 regarding the Rugby World Championship stamps, which I ordered. I received a reply in January 1996, but they have not yet arrived.

Since then I have written twice again, at the end of February and again on 5 April 1996 (this time asking for my Rugby stamps plus others ordered) asking them to at least return my money – without any reply.

I also bought RSA stamps for friends overseas, but as from my last letter I've given up collecting RSA, as many other South Africans have done, as their service leaves much to be desired.

I belong to the Bellville Philatelic Society, and I'm not an old man at 51.

Antwoord op Frescura: II

JP van Zijl van Graaf-Reinet skryf: Miskien is "the days of the White Old Boy's Club. . . over, maar sakkerloot! Ek kan helder en duidelik konstateer dat toe hulle nog aan die bestuur was, is ons korrespondensie beantwoord, ons bestellings gereeld en (vroegtydig!) uitgevoer, en ons het met elke besending 'n rekeningstaat ontvang sodat ons gewéét het wat ons saldo was. . .

Valete ac plaudite.

Reply to Frescura: III

David Sinclair of Cape Town writes: I would like to make some comment regarding Dr Franco Frescura's letter published in the April 1996 *The SA Philatelist* (p34).

A number of important issues have been raised, and Dr Frescura has expressed his views on the problem of shrinking attendance at philatelic societies and the general decline of philately itself in South Africa.

I would add that declining interest appears to be a world wide trend. For instance, *The American Philatelist* recently published the results of a survey on collecting interests in the USA

and compared it with a much earlier survey undertaken (if I remember correctly) in the 1960s. The first survey showed stamp collecting very highly placed, but in the recent survey stamps didn't even make the top ten.

The dwindling numbers have also been discussed at some length in the philatelic magazines of the UK and Australia. Thus one could say it is a matter giving rise to some concern throughout the collecting world and possibly not just a South African phenomenon.

Surely the real question is what can be done in South Africa to halt this trend? I would suggest that a committee be set up to find ways in which declining numbers can be halted. This should be treated as matter of urgency. Cognizance should be taken of the methods being discussed and implemented in countries overseas. There must be a wealth of ideas out there on this matter. Dr Frescura has commendably stated his interest and support for youth philately. This is, indeed, an area which should be thoroughly explored.

I would also think that readers of *The SA Philatelist* have much to contribute in this area. Perhaps the Editor could have a special section in this magazine for such ideas?

I would close by saying that we, as stamp collectors, must find solutions. Nobody else will.

Antwoord op Frescura: IV

Ds Cassie Carstens van Centurion skryf: Die tirade van dr Franco Frescura PhD (*The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, p 34) verwys. Ek vind dit nogal interessant dat die agbare PhD die "wit" seëlversamelaars en die bestuurskomitee van die Federasie aanvat en bykom, terwyl hy eintlik kleinerig (soos gewoonlik?) reageer op kritiek oor die rugbyseëls – dit lyk mos vir my nou al te veel na die soek van 'n stok om die onskuldige hond mee te slaan. . .

Oor die rugbyseëls het ek niks (verder) te sê nie – ek het reeds by die Alberton Kongres 1995 my waardering teenoor Filateliedienste (én die persoon van PhD Frescura) gelug vir die besonder smaakvolle uitgifte. PhD sal dit nie kan onthou nie, want hy "hoor" nie Afrikaans nie.

Of ek deel is van die "White Old Boys Club" is ietwat van 'n debatteer-

bare saak. Ek is nog nie 50 nie, en versamel minder as 20 jaar. Maar ek skaar my graag by die "vet wittes", soos PhD by 'n vorige keer na ons verwys het, en ook by die "blindes" wat met groot ywer bereid is om sonder enige vergoeding diens te lewer aan ons stokperdjie.

En wys my die klub of vereniging of aksie wat nie in hierdie onsekere tye waarin ons leef juis sukkel met meelewing en bywoning en fondse nie!

En gedagtig aan die feit dat Filateliedienste se dienslewering tans in chaos verkeer, en dat die "mense hoër op" dreig om dit binne drie maande "toe te maak" (indien daar nie merkbare verbetering intree nie), vra ek myself nou af: Kan die pot (alias PhD) nou die ketel (alias die Old Boys) verwyf?

Dit bring my by die Bestuurskomitee – 'n klompie manne en 'n dame wat hulle tyd en talente (sonder vergoeding!) ten bate van filatelie in breër Suid-Afrikaanse verband inspan.

● Dat hulle almal "wit" is, is nie hulle skuld nie. Ek weet nie van enige "swart" of "bruin" filateliste wat bereid is om leiding te gee nie.

● Dat hulle "geamendeerde Viktoriane" is, is 'n blatante leuen.

● Dat hulle eenvoudig moet "padgee"?! Wie de dywil gaan hulle portefeuuljes oorneem – PhD en die "young philatelists" vanuit die "global village"?! Wat jy wáár kry?! Behoede ons. . .!

Tog jammer dat PhD nie teenwoordig was by die afgelope Algemene Komiteevergadering van die Federasie nie. Daar kon hy mos (soos 'n man) deelgeneem het aan die gesprek oor die "doel en toekoms" van die Federasie. Maar nee, hy skitter in sy afwesigheid! En nou vertel die mense dat hy juis wegbly omdat hy nie meer die baie kritiek op Filateliedienste se patetiese diens kan vat nie. Hy is skynbaar ook moeg om aanhoudend apologie vir blapse te maak. Dit laat mens dink, né?

Vergun my hiermee 'n opregte woord van dank en waardering aan die FFSA-Bestuurskomitee vir hulle onbaatsugtige dienslewering. Ek stal nie nasionaal uit nie, maar ons klub (Afrikaans Pretoria) is nog elke keer doelmatig bedien met die nuutste kompetisiereëls (Thank you, Richard Knight).

Wanneer my jeugklub in 1999 die JUNASS aanbied, weet ek by voorbaat sal ons volle ondersteuning en

The SA Philatelist June 1996

hulp van die Uitstillingskomitee ontvang (Dankie, Harry Birkhead).

Van "jeug" gepraat: die leiding en inspirasie wat ons van YAC kry, is genoeg om ons met ywer en entoesiasme te laat voortgaan (Thank you, Jill Redmond).

Van finansies verstaan ek nie veel nie, maar ek weet dat die Finanskomitee by elke kongres die grootste applous ontvang (Dankie, Danny Swart en Howard Green).

Wanneer *The SA Philatelist* oor die pos arriveer, los ek gewoonlik alles waarmee ek besig is en geniet die lekkerte van die blad (Dankie, Wilhelm Grütter).

Die Audio-visuele programme is so 'n groot treffer by ons, dat ons nou elke jaar twee vertoon (Dankie, Emil Minnaar).

En so kan ek voortgaan – dankie David Crocker (Keurkomitee), dankie Peter van der Molen (FIP), dankie Joh Groenewald (Bestuurskomitee), dankie Jan van Beukering (Bloem 150), dankie André Bezuidenhout (huidige president met die mooi tema: "Elkeen-bring-iemand"), dankie George van den Hurk (FFSA-sekretaris), en al die ander seëlmense wat so baie-baie vir ons "gewone ouens" doen en beteken! Julle is almal sterre!

'n Laaste woord aan dr Franco Frescura PhD: Gaan vlieg!

Reply to Frescura: V

Ronald Mephius of Germiston writes with the heading, "A Dichotomy that must be healed": It doesn't take much reading between the lines of (a) Joh Groenewald's recent open letter to societies re discussions with the Post Office, and (b) the Senior Manager, Philatelic Services letter in "From the Mailbag", to realise that a rift is developing between the Philatelic Federation and the Post Office. One of the main bones of contention seems to be on the matter of a philatelic publication. On this issue we feel that papering over the cracks will in no way help the future of our hobby.

While Mr Groenewald's letter appears to stick to facts, the tone of Dr Frescura's is taking side-swipes at anything and everything that the Philatelic Federation stands for. This couldn't come at a worse time for Southern African philately when both parties very definitely are mutually dependent upon one another.

To take the very minor subject first, Mr Nel's letter (in the February 1996

issue, p4) regarding the Rugby Stamp designs is perhaps, facetiously, a little bit over the top, but nevertheless anyone in politics or even in quasi-Government occupation knows that if the heat is too great he can resort to vacating the kitchen!

The larger issue of *The SA Philatelist* being "an outdated publication" needs a firmer response to the allegation of being an "Old Boys Club". It has, and will, outlive its detractors, and that, largely because over the years it has created a niche of excellence which has been acclaimed not only locally but around the world – thanks to the quality of its contributors who can be measured rather for their intelligence and agility of mind than for their physical age.

(Note from the Editor: The above appeared in the May 1996 issue of the newsletter of the Germiston Philatelic Society – Vol 34, No 5 – and the Editor was requested to consider it for publication here as well.)

Reply to Frescura: VI

Collector of Stellenbosch writes: I think Dr Frescura should face the facts: Despite his protestations to the contrary, he inherited an organization that ran efficiently and to the satisfaction of deposit holders for many years.

Through disastrous transformation policies and the appointment of incompetent staff, he is now losing customers at an alarming rate.

Shifting the blame, and a sarcastic response to criticism, will not solve the problems of Philatelic Services.

Reply to Frescura: VII

Maurice Daniels of Sandringham writes: Whilst Dr Frescura's choice of expression, sarcasm and obvious dislikes are perhaps too boldly stated, he is, in essence, correct in what he writes. Mr Nel is nit-picking, the Springbok emblem was at that time under review, Dr Frescura does have experience in matters graphic, and it is time for Victorian ideas to be discarded.

One can only agree that our hobby "is in a state of crisis, with shrinking attendances at club level. . . a poorly funded youth programme. . . and an (regretfully) outdated publication".

If Dr Frescura has the answer I don't rightly know, but what I do know is that South African philately is not the vibrant hobby it once was.

Ons stokperdjie se toekoms

Neville Gomm van Auckland Park skryf: Die briewe van A R van der Berg van Wonderboom-Suid (*The SA Philatelist*, Februarie 1996, p 2) en van Martin Nicholson van Northamptonshire (*The SA Philatelist*, Oktober 1994, p 158) het my laat besluit om hierdie brief te skryf.

Wanneer 'n mens in die algemeen kyk na wat die twee briëfskrywers te sê gehad het, dan wil 'n mens tot die gevolgtrekking kom dat dit hoofsaaklik te make het met finansiële implikasies. Ek wil met eersgenoemde saamstem dat filatelie nie deurgaans bekostigbare plesier aan deelnemers bied nie.

Daar is diegene wat vinnig en lief daarvoor is om te sê 'n mens versamel wat jy wil, en dat jy dus sonder groot uitgawes 'n versameling kan opbou. Ek is self 'n voorstander van hierdie beginsel, maar juis daarom sal ek nooit met my goedkoop versameling enige hoogtes bereik nie.

Nou gaan die nuwe filatelist, en hy soek goed wat hy kan bekostig, en hy begin sy versameling. Hierna kom die probleme en die groot onkoste wanneer die nuweling 'n bietjie verder wil gaan as net sy versameling wat hy teen bekostigbare pryse bymekaar gebring het. Dit is die stadium waar mense besluit om maar liever tou op te gooi.

Laat ons nou maar eerlik wees. Enigiemand wat 'n betekenisvolle merk in die filatelie wil maak, moet finansiël vermoënd wees.

Die publisiteitsplakkers sê seëls versamel is groot pret, en dit is gesinsvermaak, en vra dat mense op seëlversameling verlief moet raak want dit is die stokperdjie van konings. Maar dit wil voorkom of dit net konings is wat dit deesdae kan bekostig om in die filatelie bolangs uit te kom.

Diegene wat met die filatelie gemoeid is, sal maar verlief moet neem met die werklikheid. Baie mense begin belangstel, en begin met 'n versameling. Namate hulle vorder, ontdek hulle dat die filatelie in sy wese nie is soos hulle dit vir hulself voorgestel het nie, of soos dit aan hulle voorgehou is nie.

Veral die finansiële implikasies wat vordering meebring, blyk die groot afskrikmiddel te wees. Ek meen baie mense vergelyk mettertyd die koste van filateliese plesier met die koste van al die ander plesier in die lewe, en vind dat dit na hulle mening meer waarde vir geld bied.

Ek het 'n spesialis versameling majsien posmerke wat uit duisende items bestaan. Die versameling word met baie navorsing verbeter. Dit is na my mening een van die grootste en omvattendste in sy soort in die land. Daardie versameling sal egter nie in my leeftyd uitgestal word nie. Dit sal ook nooit so volledig wees soos wat dit kan wees, of soos wat ek begeer om dit maak nie.

Die rede hiervoor is suiwer dat ek nie finansiël in staat is om aan die vereistes wat die filatelie stel, te voldoen nie.

Skulp met 'n "c", nie "g"

Frank van Rensburg van Roodepoort skryf: In *The SA Philatelist* (Februarie 1996, p 22) word die RSA se seeskulpe behandel – almal behalwe die laaste een heel regs, naamlik *Gyptraea fultoni*. (Sien *The SA Philatelist*, Desember 1995, p 181 vir illustrasie).

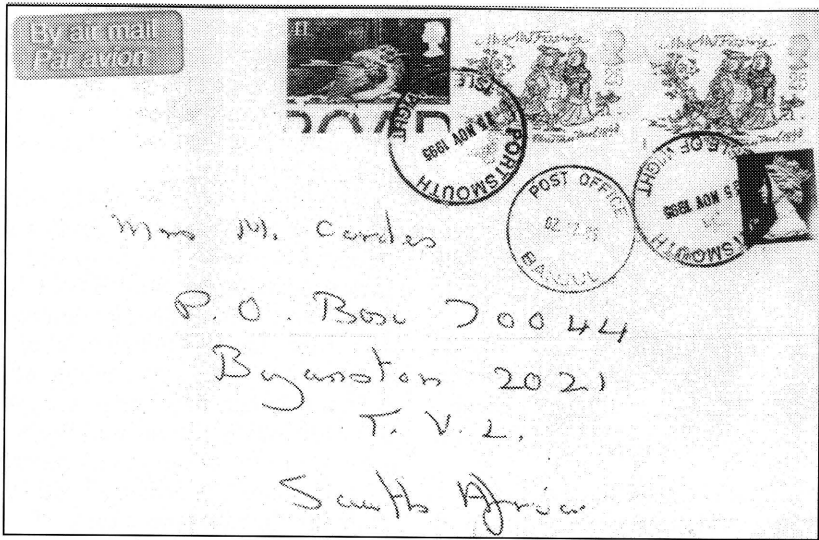
Rudolf Lasar van Keulen in Duitsland het my aandag daarop gevestig dat dit *Cypraea*, met 'n "c", en sonder 'n "e" ná die "r", moet wees. In *Sea Shells of South Africa* deur Richard Kilburn en Elizabeth Ripley, is daar 'n *Cypraea felina* maar die *fultoni* word nie aangegee nie.

Is daar dalk 'n skulp-foendi wat kan help met die juiste weergawe?

Another Rugby World Cup slogan find

Brian Bredenkamp of Stellenbosch writes: The slogans of the Rugby World Cup have had extensive coverage with the article by John Bleazard in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1995 p 103 and the sequel by Dick Klein in the December issue p 168. According to these sources the earliest recorded date of the "Rugby '95 South Africa 25 May – 24 June 1995" slogan is 22 May 1995, cancelled with inkjet at Capemail.

From the same source I show on the accompanying illustration an impression dated 23 February, 1994, one and a quarter years earlier!



Sorting problems all over

Chris Cordes of Marshalltown writes:

I enclose herewith a photocopy of a cover my mother received on 13 January 1996. It enclosed a Christmas card, relatively clearly addressed to South Africa (including Transvaal!), posted from the

UK on 25 November 1995.

The transit strike of Banjul (ex Bathurst, Gambia) is dated 2 December 1995.

This illustrates that our own Post Office is not the only one to have sorting problems. It is also interesting to note that it took some six weeks to get here from the Gambia.

Obviously this is not the date of actual usage. The cover was found within the limits of usage defined by Bleazard and Klein. It was not contrived, and it served normal postal usage. As it is obviously a mere error, the implication is that there may have been many more items cancelled with the incorrect date on that one day during late May or June 1995.

The more things change. . .

DG Mordant of Florida Park writes: I have a sunset cover which shows that the more things change, the more they remain the same.

It carries a London Tombstone postmark of 5 May 1840 – the last day before the introduction of the Penny Black. It was addressed to Mr William Sloan, Miller Street, Glasgow, posted from Wapping, and arri-

ved in Glasgow on 7 May 1840.

The contents are so similar to the sort of complaint still being voiced today in the commodity trading business: Denying liability for a claim.

"We are this day favoured with your letter of the 2nd instant, with manifest pr *Olive* and enclosing two bills of lading for Iron p that vessel.

"We observe that Mr. Murdoch had received a letter from the Great Western Railway complaining of the 41 bags of Waste. . . being damaged. . . but as far as our judgement goes, we can discover no fault belonging to it. . .

"We have been given to understand that some other parties have been offering waste to the company. . ."

Be on the alert for a forgery

Ken Joseph of Hout Bay writes: Readers should perhaps be made aware of a rather inept forgery which recently popped up. It purports to be a Peddie handstamp, but no such South African type with the initials "S.A." exists, and it is dated (also in a non-existent type of dateline) "6-JNE/42".

The copy shown here has been manipulated on a photostat machine to



make as much as possible of the background drop out. The forgery was found on blocks of four of the Large Union War issue, 3d and 6d, and on a pair of the 4d.

According to the Union Handbook, these were issued on 1 August, 3 September and 20 August 1941 respectively. So our forging friend at least got the date in his bogus handstamp right!

Apologie oor 'n illustrasie

Die Redakteur skryf: Op p 35 van *The SA Philatelist* van April 1996 is daar 'n wit gat waar 'n illustrasie moes verskyn het by die brief "Eerste vlug van Kaapstad na PE".

Dit was 'n ou koerantfoto van die vlieënier majoor Allister Miller, waarvan die reproduksie op die laaste oomblik onoorkomelike tegniese probleme veroorsaak het. Dit moes derhalwe helaas geskrap word.



It went through the mails

The Editor writes: A collector who wishes to remain anonymous – as he has just defrauded the SA Post Office, of course – has offered proof of the fact that the “press release” sheetlet of January’s soccer stamps went through the mails. He had stuck it onto an envelope which he addressed to himself.

The Capemail handstamp was applied in February 1996, the day’s date is unfortunately illegible. (The sheetlet was described in

The SA Philatelist of February 1996 on p 21.)

He had better luck with the Standard Postage Bloemfontein 150 “press release” (see illustration on p 59, *The SA Philatelist*, of April 1996). With PAID/BETAAL in a rectangular box on the right of the double circle Capemail datestamp – the colour is a violent magenta – the date clearly reads 1996 -3 - 20.

The actual date of issue was, in fact, 28 March 1996!

■ J E VAN PUYENBROEK *Cinderella Stamp Club*

British embossed colourless revenue stamps at the Cape, 1825

THE second British occupation of the Cape of Good Hope followed the battle of Blaauwberg when the Dutch Settlers and troops under Lt-Gen Janssens were defeated by Maj-Gen David Baird. The Articles of Capitulation detailed by Proclamation were signed at 4 o’clock on 10 January 1806 in the Castle of Good Hope.

The Articles declared that “private property was to be untouched, and the Dutch VOC paper money was to continue in circulation”. Unfortunately, that did not mean that only the VOC rix-dollars and stuivers were in circulation (Fig 1), but also the guilder and skilling of the Batavian Republic.

Transfers of property, of loan places and mortgages were paid for in guilders, with VOC embossed revenue stamps impressed on the relevant documents to pay the stamp duty. Even worse, the confusion over currency did not end there. Spanish gold dubloons, Portugese gold Johannes, Indian gold Mohurs and other coins, making eleven in all, were also in circulation.

No wonder the C-in-C felt obliged to issue the proclamation “to prevent all disputes, and the better regularity of trade” (See Fig 2). Something of a

THE author’s first contribution on the revenue stamps of the Cape of Good Hope – in the VOC period – was in *The SA Philatelist* of December 1995, p162.

For the record, a contemporary document shows that what is described as “Cleyen Zegel” in the second paragraph of that article, was properly written as “’t Kleyen Zegel”.

This article continues what John van Puyenbroek has aptly described as “the Cape Revenue saga”, which he would seem to be the first to have tackled at such length and depth.

financial nightmare!

The British were obviously at ease with the VOC rix-dollars, stuivers, guilders and skillings because this currency and the VOC embossed revenue stamps continued in circulation for no less than nineteen years, until the introduction of the British Embossed stamps in 1825. Even then, the new stamps did not prevent



Fig 1
The SA Philatelist June 1996

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Major-General Sir DAVID BAIRD, &c.

WHEREAS it is highly necessary for the prevention of all disputes, and the better regularity of trade, that the several Coins of Money which are current in this Colony should have a fixed and determined value assigned to them, I having taken the same into my most serious consideration, have determined, and do hereby order accordingly, that the respective values of the Coins hereafter mentioned should be as follows:

	Sts.	Stvs.	Sterling-
A Guinea,	44	264	£1. 2. 0.
A Doubl. 16 Span. Dollars,	100	900	4 0 0.
A Johanna, 8 ditto,	80	480	2 0 0.
A Ducat,	19	114	0 9 6.
A Venetian Sequin,	19	114	0 9 6.
Gold Mohr, 13 Sic. Rups.,			1 17 6.
A Pagoda,	10	96	0 8 0.
A Spanish Dollar,	10	60	0 5 0.
A Rupee,	2	30	0 2 6.
English Shilling,	2	12	0 1 0.
Copper Coin,	2	0	0 0 2.

And whereas it is important for the prosperity and welfare of this Settlement, that the exportation of all Gold or Silver currency should be prohibited; and whereas the same has been accordingly forbidden by several Proclamations issued from time to time, not only in the Dutch Government, but also by the British Governors and Commanders, I think proper to issue this Proclamation, strictly prohibiting the exportation of any Money or Monies current in this Settlement.

Any person convicted of attempting to act contrary to this Regulation, and found guilty of having exported a greater sum than the value of Ten Pounds, will be punished by the confiscation of the whole of the Money or Monies so exported, one third of which will be given to the Informer.

Given under my Hand and Seal, this 23d day of January, 1806.

(Signed) D. BAIRD,

Major-General, Commanding in Chief.

By Order of His Excellency,

(Signed) J. C. SMYTH, A. C. Secretary.

Fig 2

the VOC issues being used until well into the British period. I have a document dated 18.11.33 bearing an 1825 embossed 9d, 3/- and 6/- together with a 1791 VOC embossed 6 stuivers. No doubt there are even later dates of usage than this.

A proclamation issued on 23 January 1806 valued the English shilling at 12 stuivers. A further proclamation on 12 June 1806 said that "the Quarter Guilder is to pass for 6 Stivers (sic) Currency, or be equal to the present Paper Skilling". Further, "the English Copper Pennies imported into the Settlement during the last war are to be thrown again into circulation and to pass current for two Stivers (sic) or the third part of a Paper Skilling". The rix-dollar was valued at 4 shillings sterling.

A Government Advertisement published on 23 January 1806 "By Order of His Excellency Sir David Baird" and signed by JC Smyth, Acting Colonial Secretary, Castle of Good Hope, gave notice that "all Stamps above the value of One Rix-dollar are to be signed as usual by the Colonial Secretary or Officer acting as such, and all stamps of a smaller value by Mr Brand, Chief Clerk in the Secretary's Office".

On 22 May 1812 a "Tariff of Stamp Duties in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope" was issued by proclamation. Again, the rates were listed in stuivers and rix-dollars. The

tariffs were little changed from the tariffs issued by the Dutch Authorities of the VOC period. (This tariff is reproduced here in typescript.)

April 1996 THE CINDERELLA PHILATELIST 29

district in which he resides, to be placed on right side of each cart and waggon. Fine for non-compliance 50Rds. A person must lead the first pair of any waggon drawn by oxen. A penalty will be levied upon all carters who shall crack their whips on passing through the Town.

Tariff of Stamp Duties
Published 22 May, 1812

- Art. 1 Transfers passed at the Secretary's Office
- 2 Transfers of Loan Places
- 3 Mortgages passed at the Secretary's Office
- 4 Government Bank and Officers Chamber
- 5 Bonds passed before Notaries
- 6 Wills and Codicils
- 7 Deeds and other Papers connected with the Government Secretary's Office, Court of Justice or other Inferior Courts
- 8 Agreements and all other Deeds relative thereto
- 9 Vendue Notes, or Vendue Accounts, and all other documents relative to Public Sales
- 10 Privileges and Licences
- 11 Powers of Attorney
- 12 Protests of Bills of Exchange, Drafts, Promises or Affidavits
- 13 Transfers of Mortgage Bonds, Moveables or Slaves
- 14 Civil Servants, Deeds of Appointment or Promotion, Admissions of Notaries and Attornies
- 15 Court of Appeals, Exhibits, Sentences, Cases, Orders of Court and Reports Admiralty Court, Affidavits, Claims, Every other and each Witness, Decrees of Unlawful, allegations, Minutes of Court, Letters of Marque, etc.

Sd. Lieut-Gen Sir John Craaddock
and Henry Alexander, Secretary
Cape of Good Hope

Proclamation of 12 May 1806 announced: "Silver coinage issued; ¼ Guilder = to 6 Stiver. Penny pieces equal to 2 Stiver currency. Proclamation of 8 December 1808: Licences are renewable on January 1808. After 15 January no such licences will be granted but lists will then be forthwith transmitted to His Majesty's Fiscal for his information and guidance [veiled threat] Government Advertisement: 1 December 1811. TG Ter Blans dismissed from his situation of Heemraad (Cape District Officer for George) for ill treatment of his slave. Proclamation of 3 June 1814 listing a tariff of stamps to be used for the receipts of rent payable on land granted on perpetual quitrent. Loan leases were changed to perpetual quitrent on 6 August 1813 (See Fig 4, page 30). Quitrents were rents payable by a freeholder to the Cape Government. No land was to be granted which had been occupied before a legal tenure was obtained.

By a Proclamation dated May 1817 deeds of burghership could be granted to foreigners and aliens having resided for the last five years in the colony, to be written on a stamp of 250 rix-dollars.

On 23 June 1809 a certificate on a stamp of 6 St was introduced for waggons. The proclamation said "Accidents frequently happen and that great danger is incurred especially in the night-time, from the negligence of Drivers of Carriages and particularly Bullock Waggons passing backwards and forwards from and to the Country and Cape Town. Number of regulations issued; keep to the left-hand side of the road giving always the right hand to carriages they meet. Numbers to be painted 1½ in in length on a blackboard 1 ft. sq with owner's name and district in which he resides, to be placed on right side of each cart and waggon. Fine for non-compliance 50Rds A person must lead the first pair of any waggon drawn by oxen. A penalty will be levied upon all carters who shall crack their Whips on passing through the Town."

A proclamation of 12 May 1806 announces "Silver coinage issued; ¼ Guilder = to Stiver, Penny pieces equal to 2 Stiver currency".

Proclamation 8 December 1808: "Licences are renewable on 1st January 1808. After 15th January no such licences will be granted but lists will then be forthwith transmitted to His Majesty's Fiscal for his information and guidance". (Veiled threat!)

Proclamation 3 June 1814, listing a tariff of stamps to be used for the receipts of rent payable on land granted on perpetual quitrent. Loan leases were changed to perpetual quitrent on 6 August 1813 (See Fig 3)

PROCLAMATION.

His Excellency Lieut-General Lord CHARLES HENRY SOMERSET, &c. &c.

WHEREAS in consequence of the Regulations directed by the Proclamation of the 6th August, 1813, for the change of the Tenures of Loan Leases to Tenures on Perpetual Quitrent, some doubts have arisen with respect to the value of the Stamps on which the Receipts for the several amounts of Quitrent due to His Majesty's Government should be drawn out, I do therefore, by virtue of the Power and Authority in me vested, hereby order and direct, that Stamps, according to the following Tariff, be hereafter used for all Receipts for Money paid, on account of Quitrent due to the Government, of which the Receiver General of Land Revenue, the Collector of Tithes, and the respective Landdrosts, are desired to take especial notice.

TARIFF of Stamps to be used for the Receipts of Rent payable on Land granted on Perpetual Quitrent.

From	To	Morgen	Rds. & Sks.
1	to	10	0 2
10	to	30	0 3
30	to	50	0 4
50	to	60	0 5
60	to	80	0 6
80	to	100	1 0
100	to	500	1 4
500	to	1000	2 4
1000	to	2000	4 0
2000	and upwards,		5 0

And that no Person may plead ignorance hereof, this shall be published and affixed as usual.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and Seal, at the Cape of Good Hope, this 3d day of June, 1814.

(Signed) C. H. SOMERSET.

By His Excellency's Command,

(Signed) H. ALEXANDER, Secretary.

Fig 3

Quitrents were rents payable by a freeholder to the Cape Government, and no land was to be granted which had been occupied before legal tenure was obtained.

By a Proclamation dated 2 May 1817, deeds of burghership could be granted to foreigners and aliens "having resided for the last 5 years in the Colony, to be written on a stamp of 250 Rix-dollars".

Proclamation 14 March 1823: "The Annual Fair is to be held at Hartham(?) in August next. Arrangements to be made for a sufficient number of armed inhabitants to attend to maintain order and tranquility. Natives of the Colony to Northward allowed and encouraged to bring their wares for sale. The superintending Magistrate is to ascertain that all the transactions with the Natives are just and fair and he is to arbitrate in any disagreements over price of bartering.

"Disposal of Spirits, Wines and Beers etc. is forbidden (Fine 50Rd on a stamp) and seizure will be effected. No firearms or ammunition to be sold or bartered. Inhabitants attending the Fair are to be kind and courteous to

the Natives, to ensure a continuance of friendly intercourse with neighbouring people.”

Proclamation 18 March 1823: “Regulations for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Slave Population; eg No Field Labour on the Sabbath Day. Christian Slaves exempt from all Taxes. Slave Children to be sent to Free Schools. In cases of Marriage, the children to belong to the Proprietor, Husband and wife not to be sold separately nor Children to be separated from their parents by sale until 10 years old. If to a Christian woman, but not in wedlock, not until 9 years old; if Mother is not a Christian, 8 years old.

“Reports on slaves in irons to be made within 24 hours. Maltreatment of a slave punishable by law, by fine, imprisonment or banishment. Every day the slave is to be supplied with sufficient and wholesome food (Penalty 25Rd). Slaves not to be compelled to work more than 10 hours in each 24 (1 Apr to 30 Sep) or 12 hours in 24 (1 Oct to 31 Mar) Number of Stripes given to a slave in one day is limited to 25.”

Advertisement 4 June 1823: “His Majesty having been pleased to dispense with the Services of Lieut-Col Christopher Bird as Secretary to the Government, HE the Governor has been pleased to appoint Pieter G Brink Esq to be Acting Colonial Secretary until the arrival of Lt-Col Bird’s Successor.”

Col Bird was nominated “Signer of Stamps above 1 Rix-dollar” in 1818, a duty taken over by Brink.

A new tariff of stamp duties was issued by proclamation on 10 December 1824, also in stuivers and rix-dollars as previously, and which made some amendments to the 1812 issue.

In Art. 7 the Hiring of Houses and Lands was increased from 24 St. to 1 Rd. Under Art. 9 the Annual Licence for Wine Merchants went up 5 times, from 50 Rd to 250 Rd and Letters of Burghership from 100 Rd to 250 Rd.

A Special License to be United in Marriage without publication of the Banns was introduced on a stamp of 200 Rd, and a very large duty of 600 Rd on an Annual License to “Brew Cape Beer”.

The stamp on Transfer of a Slave by Gift, Sale or Inheritance went up from 3 Rd to 5 Rd. Against Art. 14 Court of Appeal, stamp duties for Exhibits and Reports doubled to 24 Stuivers.

Finally, under Art. 15 Admiralty Court Tariffs including Affidavits, Claims, Decree of Unlivery and Allegations etc were all doubled. All the new charges were 1 Rd or below except for “Letters of Marque” (a lisen- se granted to a private citizen to arm a ship and seize merchant vessels of another nation). This lisen- se was in- creased from 50 Rd to 100 Rd.

On 15 June 1825 a proclamation reduced the value of the rix-dollar to 1/6d and the skilling to 2 1/4d or 9 far- things, and the Cape guilder to 6d. At about the same time, the first British embossed uncoloured issues were in- troduced.

The stamps ranged from 1/2d to £50, and the dies were made for the Cape Government at the Stamp Of- fice, Somerset House, London (see Table I)

Some of the 1825 stamp duties/ta- riffs are listed in Table I. £15 for a Special Marriage License was a small fortune in those days!

An annual license for inhabitants of Constantia, Wynbergen (sic) and Steenberg (sic) to graze their cattle cost 15/-. Constantia is now an exclu- sive suburb of Cape Town and recent “new settlers” there are Earl Spencer, Mark Thatcher, and families. (I hope

they don’t forget to pay their sheep grazing tax!)

The dies for the 1825 issue are all of a similar design (see Fig 4) These stamps do not photocopy well and the 6/- and 3/- in Fig 4 have been given a little artistic(?) help so they can be seen better.

All the stamps have “Cape of Good Hope” in a banner at the top, with a crown beneath, over a decoration with the value inside, in capitals. The shields surrounding the stamps are all different.

The 1825 issue was superseded af- ter the promulgation of Act No 3 of 1864, by the 1864 Embossed in Co- lour, and the 1865 Embossed unco- loured issues, and the 1865 De La Rue perforated adhesives. The Stamp Act came into force on 1 Sep- tember 1864, but the De La Rue ad- hesives were not ready for shipment to the Cape until 6 March 1865, ar- riving in Cape Town on 13 April 1865, along with the De La Rue Em- bossed, uncoloured issue stamp dies.

To bridge the gap the Cape Go- vernment gave permission for Cape triangulars and rectangulars to be used for revenue purposes until 1868. The triangulars are found used mainly on cheques and promis-

TABLE I

Cape of Good Hope 1825 Rates of Stamp Duty

1/2d	No Rate. Used with 4d to make up 4 1/2 Rate, for example
3d	(1) Licence for a waggon (2) Transfers, value 6d to £7. 10s
4d	Receipts of Perpetual Quintrent on land of 1 to 10 Morgen
4 1/2d	(1) Deed proving the Inheritance of Minors (2) With a 4d stamp, Acknowledgement of a Debt
6d	Every other and each Witness in Admiralty Court
9d	(1) Annual Licence to go to the Hot Baths (2) Licence to cut timber, each load
12d	Receipts of Perpetual Quintrent, 30 to 50 Morgen (Morgen is approx 2/3 of an acre)
18d	(1) Arrests of Persons or property (2) Bottomry Bonds from 1/6 to £36 (3) Annual Licence for a Boatman (3) Extracts from the Register of Slaves
2/-	Decree of Appraisalment and Sale, with Decree of Removal
3/-	Certificate of Mortgage on Transfer of a Slave
4/-	Vendue Notes (Public Sales) from £7 tot £9
5/-	Used on a Quitrent receipt with a £2 stamp, for 60 to 80 Morgen
6/-	Bottomry Bonds from £35 to £70
7/6	Annual Licence to kill Game (6/- used with 1/6)
10/-	Used with a 6d stamp for Vendue Sale Notes of £25 to £35
12/-	Bottomry Bonds from £70 tot £170
15/-	(1) Charter Parties for a Ship under 200 tons or 100 Lasts (2) Licence for Inhabitants of Constantia, Wynbergen and Steenberg to graze their cattle (3) General Power of Attorney to Persons not residing in the Colony
18/-	Reply to a Memorial for Venia Agendi
20/-	Grants on Land on Quitrent from 10 tot 30 Morgen
25/-	Transfers passed at the Secretary’s Office, from £500 to £750
30/-	Annual Licence for keeping a Retail Shop in Cape Town
£2	Bills of Lading from 50 Tons upwards (2) Licence for retail of Cape Brewed Beer
£3	(1) Annual Licences for Clubs or Societies (2) Annual Licences for Wine Merchants
£4	Deeds of Venia Aetatis. (2) Annual Licences for Butchers and Bakers (3) Mortgage Bond, with a stamp of 5/-
£6	Annual Licence for each Public Billiard Table
£10	Annual Licence for Vendue Master
£15	(1) Special Licence to be united in Marriage without publication of the Banns (2) An- nual Licence for retailing Foreign Wines
£20	Granting of Deeds of Burghership to Foreigners and Aliens having resided in the Co- lony for the last 5 years
£50	Annual Licence for the Brewing of Cape Beer (2) Annual Licence to sell Cape Wines, and Cape and Foreign Spirits, in the Table Valley

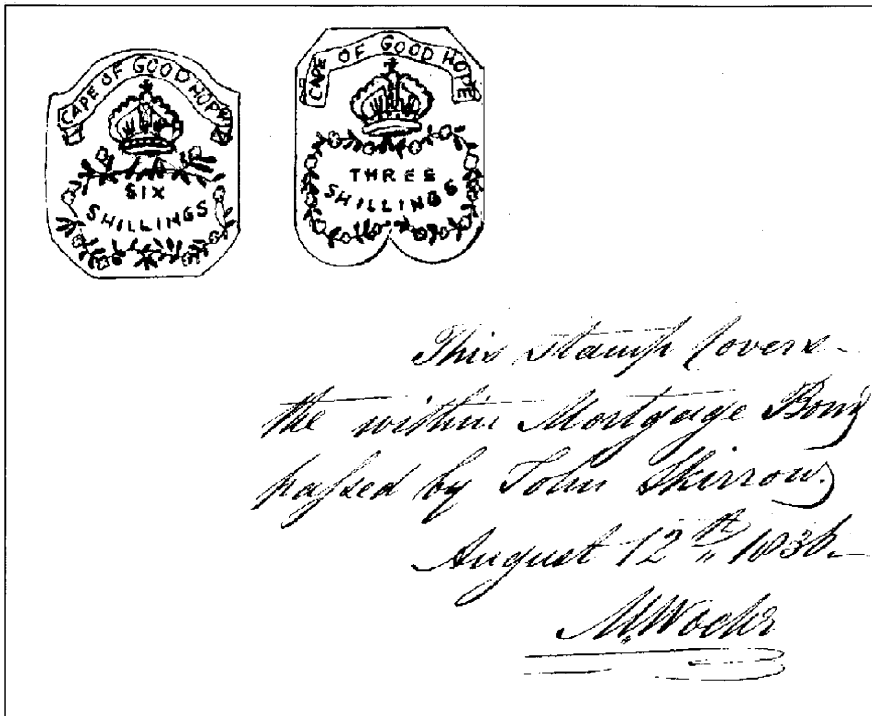


Fig 4

sory notes. Pairs of 1/- triangulars are to be found rouletted, on notes. (These stamps will be covered in future articles.)

Initially, taxable documents were taken to the Stamp Office in Cape Town and there impressed with the appropriate stamps. Later stamps were embossed on slips of paper approximately 172 by 80,3 mm and supplied to Distributors of Stamps at the various drostdys (magisterial offices) etc., where they were sold to the public as required. They were then affixed to the document by glue or wafers.

The 1825 issues are to be found on coloured laid paper – blue, white, azure and a pale greyish azure – and on white wove paper. A white to yellowish paper was the commonest used until around the 1860s, when blue predominated for the embossed issues. The paper bore a watermark, the year of manufacture and the name of the manufacturer.

The earliest I have seen has a Britannia watermark, the name “Laverstoke” and the date “1825”.

I have not seen the white wove paper with a watermark, and it appears to have been the least used.

The earliest pale greyish azure seen also has a Britannia watermark, the date “1827” and the name “W Tucker”.

There appears to be no real significance to the various colours, this see-

med to depend solely upon which manufacturer supplied the paper. This tends to be supported by the fact that I have five Powers of Attorney bearing 9d stamps on each of the five papers. (If anyone knows differently, I would be very pleased to hear from them.)

The Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser for 8 November 1822 carries an advertisement. This requests “Tenders for the supply of 100 Reams (50 000 sheets) of Foolscap paper for use of the Stamp Office, stating price per ream accompanied by a sample of the paper, by 13th November 1822. P G Brink, Acting Commissioner, Stamp Office”. There was no mention of colour.

A further 50 000 sheets were requested on 1 March 1823, 11 July 1823 and 62 500 on 28 November 1823, another 50 000 on 3 April 1824 and 10 000 sheets on 30 July 1824.

In all 272 500 sheets were ordered over a period of sixteen months. The Cape Stamp Office was certainly getting through a lot of paper!

In Table II, I have listed the number of 1825 embossed stamps in my collection, together with those known in other collections (eg The Kay Collection in the British Library and Gary Ryan’s Gold Medal collection of Cape Revenues) plus information from dealers, and auction catalogues.

It is obviously a very incomplete listing because it does not take into account collections, dealers and auction catalogues around the world.

TABLE II

Cape of Good Hope: British Embossed Colourless Revenue Stamps 1825

Value	Number in my Coll.	Others known to me	Total	Price Rand
1/2d	15	11	26	35
3d	7	11	18	60
4d	11	5	16	80
4 1/2d	5	4	9	85
6d	6	18	24	50
9d	20	11	31	45
12d	1	2	3	125
18d	8	17	25	80
2/-	9	15	24	85
3/-	9	9	18	90
4/-	3	2	5	115
5/-	4	3	7	90
6/-	10	17	27	65
10/-	2	6	8	100
12/-	3	2	5	105
15/-	1	3	5	115
18/-	1	3	5	140
20/-	2	11	13	75
*25/-	2	1	3	170
30/-	5	13	18	115
£2	3	3	6	150
£3	3	3	6	160
*£4	1	0	1	260
£6	1	2	3	220
£10	0	1	1	275
£15	1	2	3	320
*£20	0	1	1	375
£50	0	1	1	430

* Not listed by Sherwood

But from the point of view of my 25 years of collecting (the last 15 years, exclusively Cape Revenues) it does give a rough idea of which values are commonest and which are the rare ones. I still await my first 1825 £10, £20 and £50.

The price quoted are an update of the Sherwood South African Revenues Catalogue of 1980, and prices I have paid or noted. If anyone has any suggestions regarding prices I would be very pleased to hear from them.

Acknowledgements

Virtually all the historical information in this article including all references to

Stamp Tariffs comes from the Cape Records held by the British Library and stored in Doncaster, Yorkshire. They are shipped to London when required for research by a reader.

My sincere thanks to Mr Richard Chefins, Head of Official Publications and Social Sciences Services at the British Library in London for his kind assistance in making available to me the various Cape publications listed below, and to Chrissie Ronalds of the Photocopy Desk in BL Reproductions for help in producing a mountain of photocopying, most expertly done. ■

References

British Library Records:

Cape of Good Hope Proclamations and Government Advertisements, from 10 January 1806 to 25 January 1825, Ref. No. CSD10

Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser, from 18 January 1806 to 26 December 1827 Ref. No OGC70

Cape of Good Hope Gazette, from 3 January 1818 to 31 December 1830 Ref. No OGC70

Other References

Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal by Leonard J Dodd, Pretoria, 1958 and 1967 Editions.

Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of South Africa by Eric Sherwood, Sale, Cheshire, England, published 1980, with prices.

■ JOH GROENEWALD RDPSA *Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society*

‘Stopped by censor’ – hoe party briewe teruggekomp het

“STOPPED BY CENSOR – Return To Sender” – maar het die briewe ooit teruggekomp?

Dit was in die eerste maande van 1900, en die Britse Ryk was gewikkel in oorlog met die twee klein Boere-republieke in die Suid-Afrikaanse binneland.

Posverbindinge tussen die republieke en die aangrensende Britse kolonies is met die begin van die oorlog in Oktober 1899 opgeskort. Die republieke het egter nog ’n pos-poort na die buiteland gehad: die hawe van Lourenço Marques in Delagoabaai, in die neutrale Portugees-Oos-Afrika.

Vanuit die republieke is pos na die buurlande en na die buiteland gemerk “via Delagoabaai”, en vir Europese pos soms selfs met die naam van ’n vertrekkende skip.

Die meeste van die pos was vir die res van Suid-Afrika of vir Brittanje en is van Delagoabaai verskep na Durban.

Hier is die briewe ooggemaak en meestal teruggehou. Party is gemerk “Mail service suspended”. Sulke stempels vir “posdiens opgeskort” is egter in hoofsaak (in Kaapstad en Durban) gebruik vir pos wat vanuit die Kaapkolonie en Natal na die republieke gerig is.*

Hierdie kennisgewing beteken bloot wat dit sê: daar is geen posdiens nie want dit is gestaak.

In werklikheid was daar steeds ’n posdiens (oor Delagoabaai), onderhewig aan briewesensuur. Vroeg in

DIE skrywer se versameling van die Boerepos in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog is by Disa 79 met ’n internasionale Grand Prix bekroon, en is sedertdien ’n waardevolle besit van die Oorlogsmuseum in Bloemfontein. Soos hierdie artikel toon, het sy belangstelling in sy onderwerp voorgeduur.

Joh Groenewald is ook voorsitter van die Filateliese Federasie se bestuurskomitee, die vorige redakteur van *The SA Philatelist*, en steeds voorsitter van die Federasie se subkomitee vir die tydskrif.

1900 het ’n reghoekig omraamde handstempel in Durban verskyn, met in hoofletters:

STOPPED BY CENSOR RETURN TO SENDER

Hierdie merk, in violet, word hoofsaaklik gevind op posstukke vanuit

die republieke. Die aanwysing lui dat die sensor die brief onderskep het en dat dit aan die afsender terugbesorg moet word – nie omrede die “diens opgeskort” is nie, maar waarskynlik omrede van sensuur.

Die merk is aangebring op die voorkant van poskaarte en van briewe, al het die briewe verdere plakkers wat aandui dat sensors dit oopgesny en weer verseël het.

Sulke posstukke het reëlmatig dan ook op die voorkant die enkelkringstempel van die “RETURNED LETTER OFFICE / NATAL” met datum in die middel.

Dit het nog altyd gelyk of hierdie kantoor die laaste rusplek vir menige brief geword het. “Return to sender”? In die afgelope halfeeu se studie van

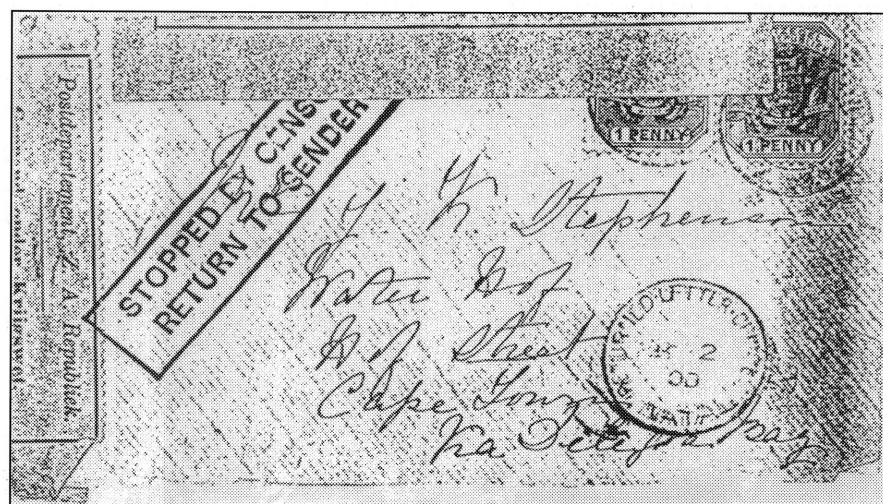


Fig 1: Koevert vanuit die ZAR na Kaapstad, via Delagoabaai. (Fig 2 toon die rugkant).

die oorlogspost was daar nog nooit getuienis dat enige briewe ooit teruggestuur is nie.

Nou het ons twee soorte voorbeelde wat bevestig dat dit wel gebeur het.

Dr Mark Chutter van Pretoria het 'n koevert met twee ZAR 1d seëls, gestempel Potchefstroom op 27 Januarie 1900 na Kaapstad. (Fig 1) Die pienk ZAR-sensorplakker "Geopend onder Krijgswet" is linksom, met 'n Pretoriase rugstempel van 29 Januarie 1900. (Fig 2)

Die Durbanse aankomsmerk is vir 7 Februarie 1900. Voor op die koevert is die reghoekige STOPPED BY CENSOR / RETURN TO SENDER, met die sensorplakker "Opend under Martial Law" bo-oor die hoek van die reghoekmerk.

Ook op die sigkant is die stempel van die Returned Letter Office/Natal met moeilik leesbare datum 19-2-00.

Mark het nie die oorspronklike brief nie, maar binne die koevert is 'n bleekgroen papiertjie (Fig 3) van 64 mm diep by 107 mm wyd, met daarop gedruk:

Deze brief is niet verzonden, daar de militaire autoriteiten in Natal weigeren brieven van dezen Staat te laten doorgaan.
 ISAAC VAN ALPHEN
 Postmeester-Generaal

Aan die regterkant is daar in twee lyne "Datum" en "Stempel" en hier-tussen is 'n dubbelkring-stempel aangebring: "ONAFGEHAALDEN BRIEVEN DEPT / Z.A.R." met datum -9 MRT 00.

Dus het die brief teruggekom, met die verklaring oor die omstandighede. Mark benadruk dat daar niks is wat die strokie met die koevert verbind nie, behalwe dat hy die twee items jare gelede as 'n eenheid verkry het.

Die tweede soort voorbeeld is verskaf deur Harry Birkhead RDPSA.

Die koevertjie is aan Misses K & J Leask, c/o Mrs Copland, Dundas St, Stromness, Orkney, Scotland. Dit is gefrankeer met 2 ZAR 1d seëls en een 1/2d seël (vir die oorsese brieftarief van 2 1/2d), gestempel Wolmaransstad/ZAR op 6 Januarie 1900. (Fig 4)

Dit is van hul ma, aan die twee klein meisietjies op kosskool: (Fig 5) Dit lees:

Wolmaransstad
 Jany 5th 1900

*My darling Children
 Another year has dawned on us. You are still young and I am getting advanced in years, but may we all be enabled to spend this year better than any previous year of our life. May God give us grace to do our duty faithfully. May we all be enabled to live nearer our Heavenly Father, and to perform our daily routine conscientiously.*

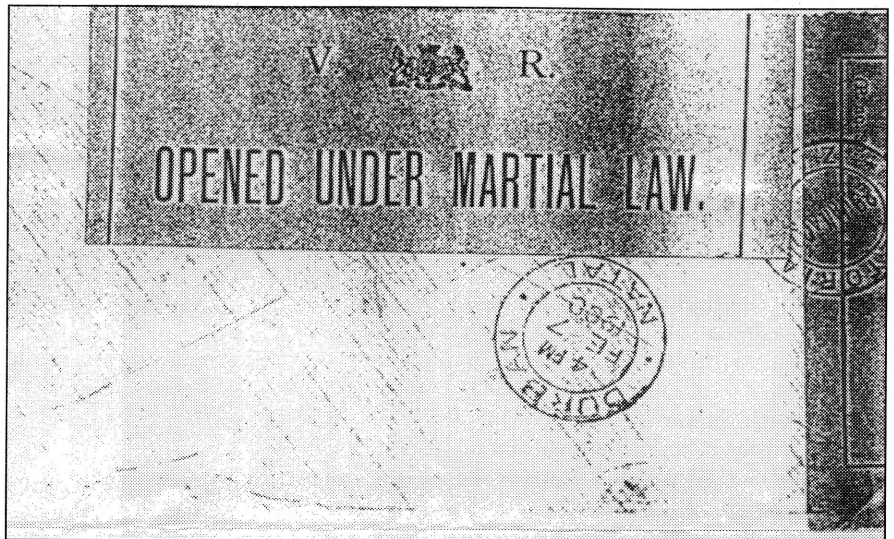


Fig 2: Rugkant met sensorplakker



Fig 3: Binne die ZAR-koevert was die strokie met die verduideliking onder die naam van die ZAR se Postmeester-generaal, gestempel met die datumstempel van die onafgehaalde briewe-departement.

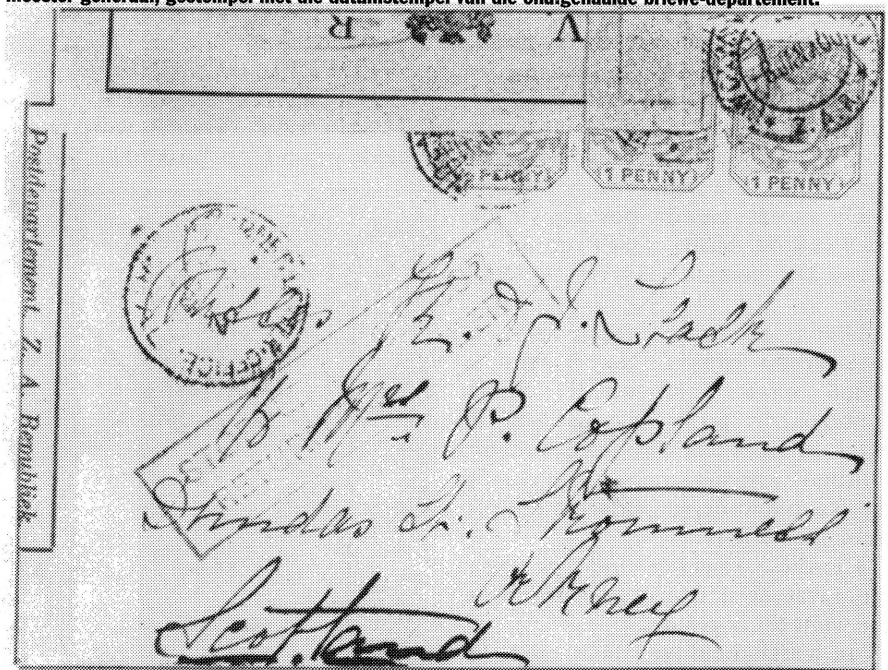


Fig 4: Die koevertjie aan twee jong meisies op kosskool in die Orkade.

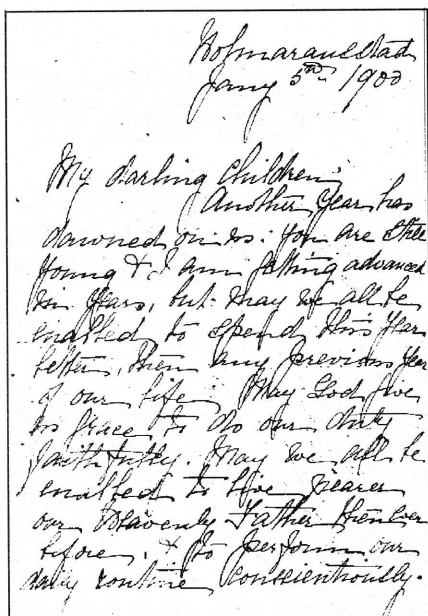


Fig 5

Try and learn your lessons well and be good girls, both in school and out of it, & I hope we will receive as favourable reports of you when the war is over. Never forget to be gentle and polite . . . [en verder in hierdie trans] Ever your loving Mother

Die ZAR-sensorplakker is in Pretoria gerugstempel op 30 Januarie 1900. In Durban het die brief die "Opened under Martial Law"-plakker gekry, die merk "Stopped by Censor/Return to Sender" en die Returned Letter Office se stempel van . . .-2-00.

Hierdie brief het in Wolmaransstad teruggekom in 'n groen amptelike koevert ("In Dienst") gerig aan "Mrs Leask, Wolmaransstad" (Fig 6). Die koevert het aan die regterkant die woorde "Terugezonden Brief", met links bo: "Wet No 1, 1886 (Art 61)" en links onder: "Terugezonden Brieven Departement, Generale Postkantoor, Pretoria, Z.A.R." met bo-oor hierdie adres 'n klein reghoekige omraamde stempel in donker violet.

Dit lees:

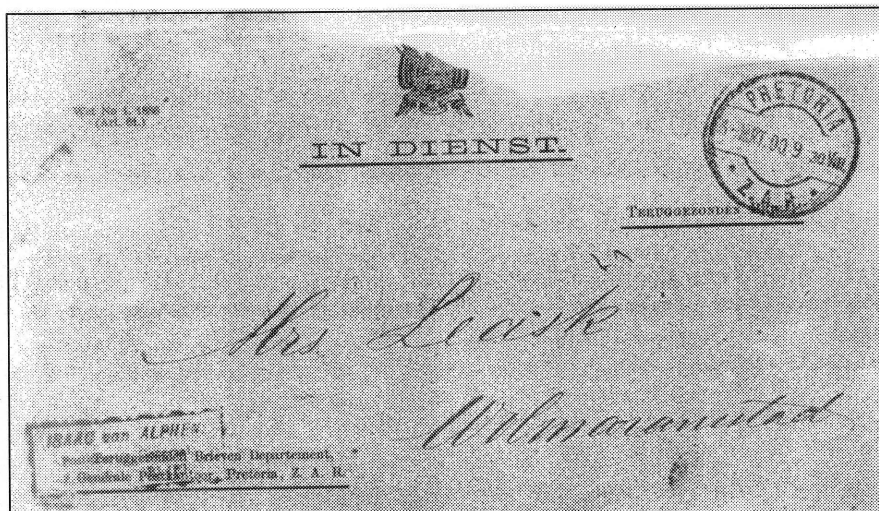


Fig 6

Die amptelike koevert waarin die moeder se brief teruggekom het, nadat die sensor in Durban dit na die ZAR teruggestuur het.

ISAAC VAN ALPHEN
Postmeester Generaal
Z.A. Republiek

Die koevert, wat aan die bokant oopgesny is, het 'n Pretoriase poststempel vir 6 Maart 1900, 'n Johannesburgse rugstempel van 6 Maart 1900 en die aankomsmerk vir Wolmaransstad op 8 Maart 1900.

'n Tweede soortgelyke koevert is op Wolmaransstad gestempel op 21 Januarie 1900, met 'n Pretoriase rugstempel van 22 Januarie 1900. Die pienk ZAR-sensorplakker "Geopend onder Krijgswet" het 'n Pretoriase stempel van 30 Januarie 1900.

Ook hierdie koevert het die "Stopped by Censor/Return to Sender", en die Returned Letter Office/Natal se datumstempel vir 20-2-00.

Die amptelike ZAR-koevert vir die "Terugezonden Brief" toon die Pretoriase stempel vir 6 Maart 1900, 9.30 vm; 'n Johannesburgse deurgangsmerk van 6 Maart 1900, 4.30 nm; en die Wolmaransstadse aankomsmerk van 8 Maart 1900. Voorop het die koevert ook Van Alphen se

stempeltjie.

Soos die vorige, is hierdie ouerlike briefie gerig aan *My darling Children* en geteken deur *Ever your loving Mother*. Die datum van die briefie is 21 Januarie 1900.

Getuienis van 'n hartelose Britse sensor? Minstens het die ouers toe geweet wat van die briefie geword het.

Hierdie twee koevertjies, met briefies en die terugstuur-koeverte, het sorgvuldig as eenhede bewaar gebly. Anders as die voorbeeld van Mark Chutter, is daar nie enige verduidelikende poskantoorstrokie by nie.

*** Verwys:**

The "Mail Service Suspended" cachets applied at Cape Town and Durban. Richard Stroud. *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, Vol 34 No 4, December 1991.

The "Mail Service Suspended" and "Stopped by Censor" cachets applied at Durban. Richard Stroud. *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, Vol 35 No 3, September 1992.

■ FRANK VAN RENSBURG *West Rand Philatelic Society*

The Jackass Penguin booklet and its forerunners

IT was found that outlets selling picture postcards to tourists could not readily supply stamps for the cards to be sent airmail to overseas friends/relatives. Meanwhile, all unsold "Tourism" booklets held by Philatelic Ser-

vices were acquired by Leisure Stamps, of Horison, Roodepoort.

A single strip of 10 x 5c stamps was pasted into the inside front cover (Fig. 1) of the "Easipost" booklet (Fig. 2) and made available at Kruger

ON p56 of *The SA Philatelist*, April 1996, the Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, responded to a question concerning current rumours about 90c international postcard rate booklets.

Fortunately, the author of this article had kept abreast of the situation, and the picture can now be rounded out thoroughly, and with illustrations.

It must be recorded that no information, except what was provided in response to direct questions, was released to collectors or *The SA Philatelist*, and that the illustrations are from the author, and not from Philatelic Services.



National Park as a market survey. A sticker "FOR OVERSEAS POSTCARDS ONLY" was affixed to the cover with instructions to use 1 x 85c plus 1 x 5c stamp (Fig. 2) making a total of 90c which is the international airmail postcard rate.

These 90c booklets (5 + 85c) proved so popular that further orders were received, but as complete tourism booklets were no longer available and tourism booklet stamps depleted, all unused tourism folders were attained. A strip of 5 x 2 stamps of the tourism series sold in post offices to the general public was pasted therein with two rows of 5 x 5c stamps. Two versions of this booklet was made, one with the 5c succulent stamp, and the other with the 5c girdle-tailed lizard (Figs. 3 and 4).

The 85c stamps were, of course the same as those shown on the inside back cover at Fig. 1.

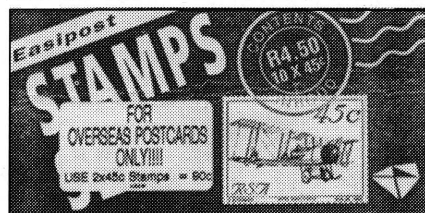
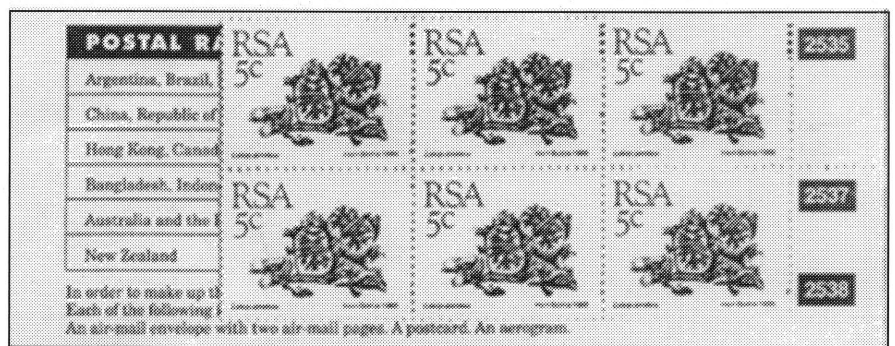
The sticker which was used previously was again affixed. These booklets too, were soon sold out. To replenish orders, booklets of the 45c "AVIATION" series which were still available were used, and a sticker affixed with instructions to use 2 x 45c stamps (Fig. 5).

Of the Aviation booklets, only the May 1993 cream board with basic postage rates on the inside front cover, and July 1993 white board with station numbers on the inside flap and the "Savings Bank Certificates" advertisement on the back cover, have been seen. However, as no record was kept of the individual types of the aviation folders, there is a strong possibility that the May 1993 issue on white board, without basic postage rates on inside front cover, was also used.

Approximately 22 000 Tourism and 1 700 Aviation booklets were prepared.

The idea of providing stamp booklets for international airmail postcards at the Kruger National Park was so successful that it was decided to produce booklets with stamps for such cards. The first is the "Jackass

76 (816) 72:3



Penguin" booklet (Fig. 6) containing 10 x 90c penguin stamps of the Threatened Fauna Series.

Release of the Jackass Penguin booklet was announced on 15 January 1996 on GMSA television by Dr Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services and DR McCabe, Managing Director of Leisure

Stamps.

Rumour has it that a more "tourist attractive" stamp booklet with appropriate international airmail postcard stamps will be issued shortly.

(Editor: The rumour was not confirmed/denied by Frescura in the response referred to above. See also p92.)

The SA Philatelist June 1996

Gedagtes oor filateliese rariteite

ELKE filatelis streef daarna om iets uitsonderliks vir sy versameling te bekom, hetsy dit 'n posseël met 'n afwyking is, of 'n rare posstempel. Dit maak nie net 'n versameling uniek en waardevol nie, maar verskaf ook groot genoegdoening aan die eienaar.

Die vraag is egter: hoe betroubaar is rare posstempels om *bona fide*, in die normale uitvoering van 'n posbeampte se pligte of deur toevallige meganiese toedoen geskep te gewees het? Of miskien moet gevra word: hoe betroubaar is posbeampstes aan wie se sorg en verantwoordelikheid posstempels en meganiese toerusting toevertrou is? Is baie sogenaamde rare posmerke nie maar gemanipuleer-

WILLIE KOTZÉ het die eerste maal tot *The SA Philatelist* bygedra met "RSA se apartheidsmeeesters" (Oktober 1994, p 140). Hy is ook 'n gerekende Afrikaanse prosaïs, 'n oud-LV en voormalige ambassadeur in Bophuthatswana.

Die volledige titel waaronder hy hierdie artikel voorberei het, is "Is filateliese rariteite, meer bepaald posstempels, altyd betroubaar?"

de materiaal nie? 'n Verder vraag wat gevra moet word is: wat is die filateliese waarde van sulke "gefabriseerde" materiaal?

Rare Posmerke

Met 'n rare posstempel of -merk be-

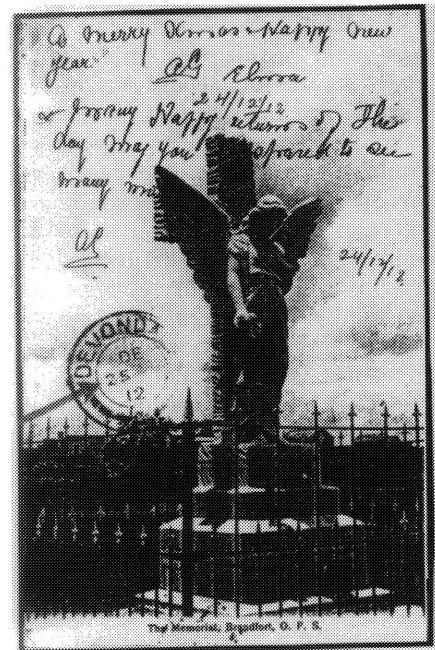


Fig 2

doel ek 'n stempel wat te goedertrou in die normale uitvoering van sy taak, sonder enige manipulasie, deur 'n posbeampte in 'n poskantoor deur middel van 'n hand-posstempel of meganiese toerusting geskep is om iets unieks te wees.

'n Voorbeeld wat ek wil gebruik is 'n poskaart wat op 26 Desember 1910 te Devondale (Kaapprovinsie) gestempel is. (Fig 1) Dit was op Tweede Kersdag. Ek kan my dit indink dat 'n ywerige en toegewyde posbeampte op 'n klein plekkie soos Devondale, die pos selfs op 'n vakansiedag sal sorteer. Want daar is seker niks anders te doen nie!

Omdat die poskaart op Tweede Kersdag afgestempel is, is dit 'n rare of unieke posstempel. En ek hou my daarvan oortuig dat dit nie 'n foefie was nie, want Fig 2 dui aan dat 'n soortgelyke poskaart op 25 Desember 1912 (Kersdag) afgestempel is, ook by Devondale, die keer by ontvangs, op die rugkant.

So ook die posstuk by Fig 3 wat op 2 Januarie 1913 afgestempel is, terwyl 2 Januarie tot betreklik onlangs 'n openbare vakansiedag (Tweede Nuwejaar) vir die Kaap was. Die optrede deur die posbeampte te Devondale is te patroonmatig, want ek beskik oor verskeie ander voorbeelde, om foefies te kan wees. Elkeen van hulle is unieke versamelstukke, in die sin dat elke

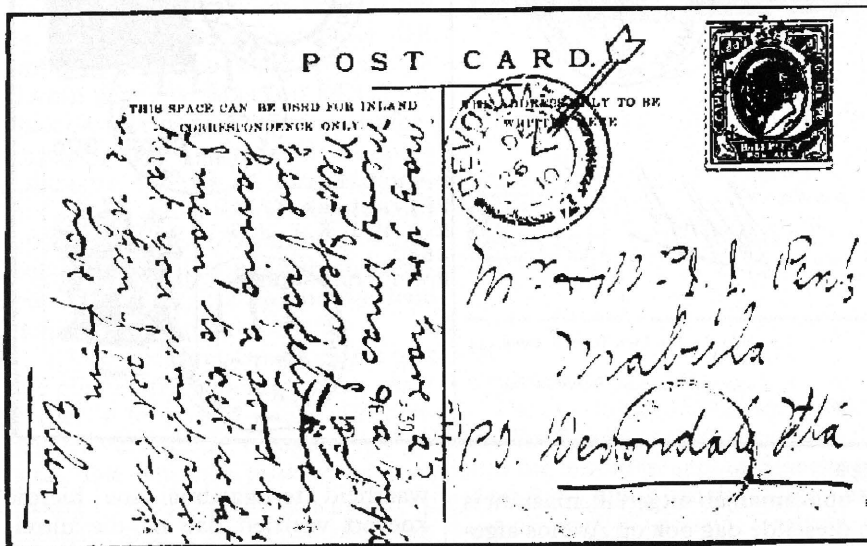


Fig 1

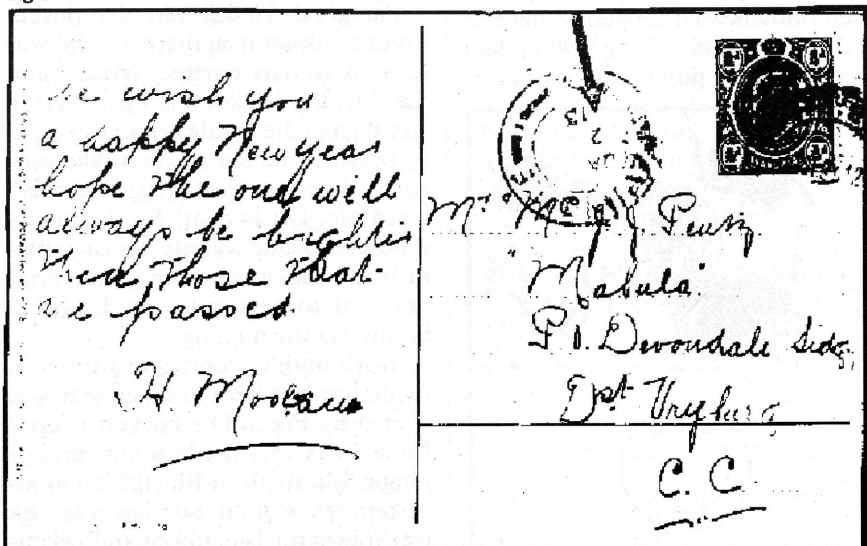


Fig 3

individuele poststuk uniek is – die stempels is dit uiteraard nie.

Foefies

'n Posstempel wat 'n foefie, vervalsing, boereverneukery of bedrog is – noem dit wat u wil – is een waar daar ooglopend met die posstempel of meganiese toerusting gepeuter is om iets buite die normale te skep. Dit wil sê waar die posbeampte nie op 'n betroubare wyse rekenskap gegee het van die taak en verantwoordelikheid wat aan hom toevertrou was nie, naamlik die korrekte hantering volgens posbedryfinstruksies van die posstempel en/of toerusting nie.

Daar is streng voorskrifte in die posbedryfinstruksies betreffende die gebruik van poskantoordatumstempels wanneer spesiale versoeke deur filateliste ontvang word: Dit moet summier geweier word!

(Vir die volledige teks van paragrafe 16.6.1 en 16.6.2 van die posbedryfinstruksies in hierdie verband, sien later.)

Die vraag is nou: het so 'n vervalsing enige filateliese waarde? Die meeste filateliste sal waarskynlik "nee" sê, maar andere sal ook "ja!" sê. Ek wil my by laasgenoemde skaar, want vervalste posseëls het filateliese waarde en maak goeie versamelstukke. Waarom nie ook iets wat met 'n posstempel geskep is nie? Vindingrykheid wat deur 'n versamelaar aan die dag gelê word, kan 'n bydraende faktor wees om iets buitengewoons oor 'n poskantoortoonbank te bekom.

Ek wil egter 'n kwalifikasie hieraan toevoeg, en dit is dat so 'n poststuk posdiens met sy vervalste posstempel moes verrig het.

'n Voorbeeld van 'n foefie wat nie posdiens kon verrig het nie, is by Fig 4 te sien. Die koevert is op 1987-05-

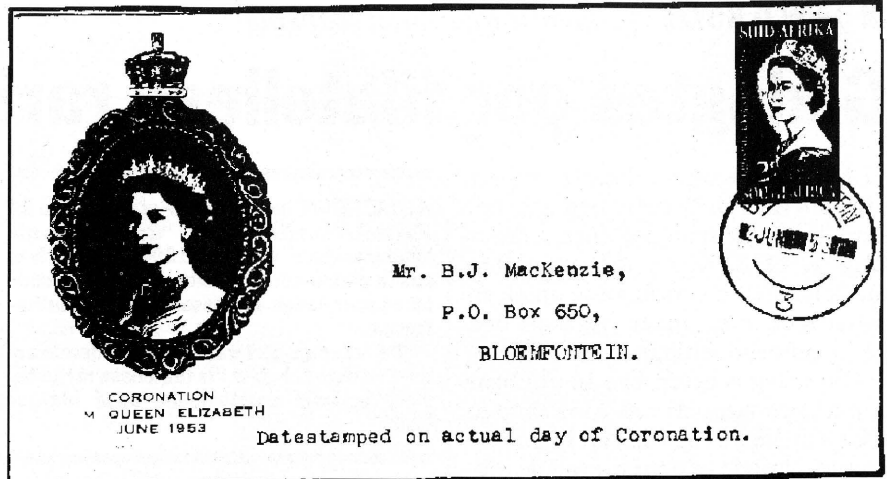


Fig 4

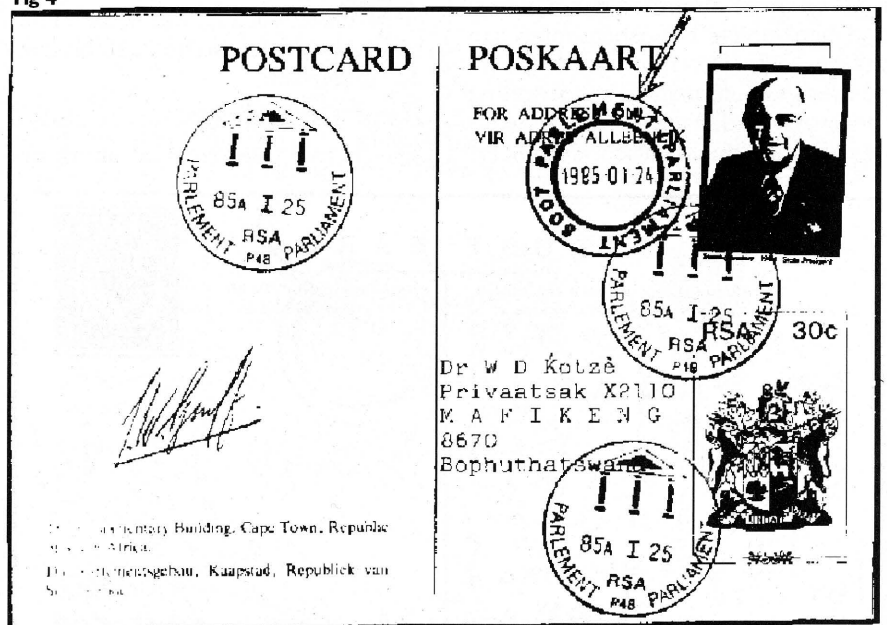


Fig 5

07 op Kamanjab uitgereik, maar dit is op dieselfde dag ook op Aranos afgestempel. Die koevert is aan niemand geadresseer nie. Aranos het nie 'n filatelietoonbank waar eersaterdagkoeverte op die dag van uitreiking gekoop kan word nie. Die posstempel is inder-

waarheid teruggedraai toe hierdie koevert veertien dae ná die uitreikingsdatum vanaf Filateliedienste op Aranos ontvang is.

Paragraaf 16.6.2 van die posbedryfinstruksies is in hierdie geval wilens en wetens oortree. Maar bloot die feit dat die koevert op aanvraag strydig met die regulasies afgestempel is, beteken nie dat die betrokke posstempel genegeer of weggewens kan word nie. Dit is daar! En daarom is dit toegevoegde waarde. As so 'n foefie by dit alles nog posdiens ook verrig het, is dit toegevoegde waarde plus 'n bonus, na my mening.

'n Moontlike voorbeeld van so 'n foefie wat posdiens kon verrig het, is te sien by Fig 5. Die koevert is op 2 Junie 1953 met die kroning van koningin Elizabeth in Bloemfontein afgestempel, wat 'n Sondag was. Ek weet nie of die Bloemfontein Poskantoor op 'n Sondag oop was om afstempeling van koeverte te doen, wat

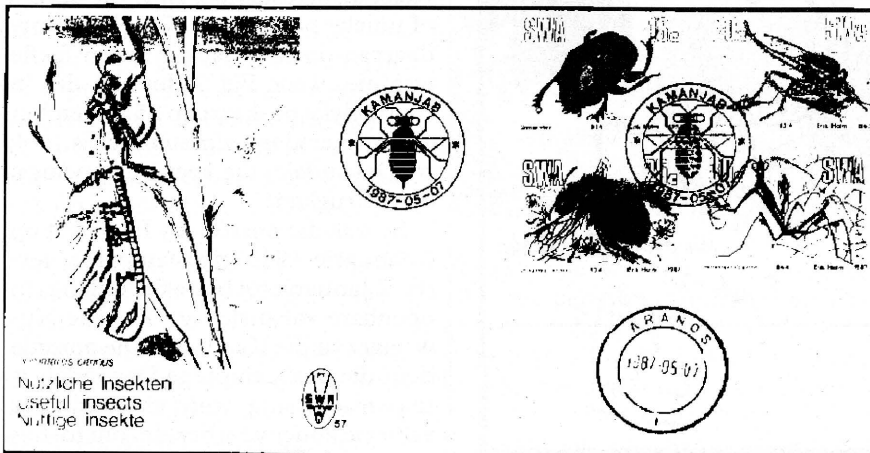


Fig 6

nie as amptelike eerstedagkovert deur die Poskantoor uitgereik is nie. Ek betwyfel dit ten sterkste en glo dat die posstempel willens en wetens gestel is om 'n buitengewone posstuk te skep. Die kovert is behoorlik geadresseer. Voordeel word dus aan die twyfel gegee of die kovert wel posdiens verrig het.

Fig 6 is 'n duidelike voorbeeld van manipulasie. Met die uitfasering – filateliegewys – van die ou konstitusionele stelsel van 'n blanke parlement onder Staatspresident P.W. Botha en oorskakeling na die Driekamerparlement, wat deur artikel 37 van die Wet op die Grondwet van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika, Wet No 110 van 1983, geskep is, is op 1985-01-24 weggedoen met die bestaande posstempel van die Parlement.

Die poskaart by Fig 6 is behoorlik geadresseer na 'n bestemming in Mafikeng en op bogenoemde datum, die laaste van die gebruik van posstempel nr. 8007, daarmee afgestempel. Dit impliseer dat die posstuk op gemelde datum gepos is. Maar op 85.1.25 is dit ook met die nuwe stempel afgestempel, wat beteken dat dit nie op 24 Januarie 1985 as 'n posstuk ingeneem is nie. Die poskaart is goedskiks op 25 Januarie 1985 van beide stempels voorsien. Die posstuk en stempels dra dus die littekens, hoewel baie netjies, van manipulasie.

'n Voorbeeld van waar daar nie met die posstempel gepeuter is nie, maar eerder 'n toonbeeld is van effektiwiteit van vervloë jare, word by Fig 7 gevind. Die betrokke poskaart is op 1 Maart 1930 op Tafelberg gepos en op dieselfde dag is dit, nadat dit reeds posdiens verrig het, deur Kaapstad gesorteer, afgestempel en op sy reis na Vryburg geplaas.

Dit was nie opsetlike manipulasie met die doel om op dieselfde dag 'n posstempel van twee verskillende poskantore op die posstuk te kry soos wat die geval met die posstuk by Fig 4 was nie. Dit was die gebruik om posstukke te stempel elke keer as dit vir 'n nuwe bestemming gesorteer en versend word.

Anders as wat die geval was met die posstukke by Fig 4 tot Fig 6, is hier by Fig 7 dus geen sprake van onbetroubaarheid deur beamptes wat posstempels in hulle hande hou as die bewaarders van 'n erekode nie.

Hulpvaardigheid deur welmenende posbeamptes kan ook vir groot opwinding sorg en ware filateliese juwele oplewer. Maar heelpad is dit een lang oortreding van die Posbedryfin-

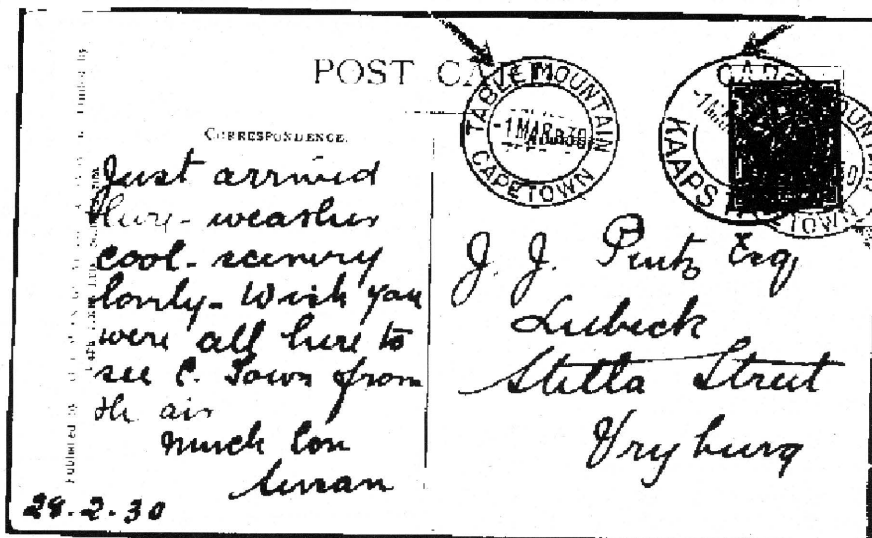


Fig 7

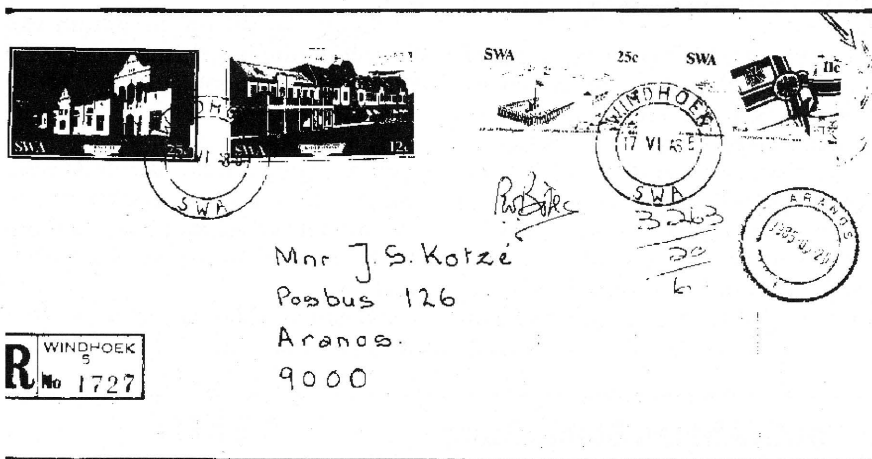


Fig 8

struksies.

Die posstuk by Fig 8 is op 17.VI.85 in Windhoek geregistreer op die dag van die inhuulding deur Staatspresident P.W. Botha van die Oorgangsregering van Nasionale Eenheid vir SWA/Namibië. Die posstuk is te Aranos afgelewer sonder dat Windhoek die seëls behoorlik met die belangrike historiese datum afgestempel het.

Daar het net 'n paar merke op die 11c-seël by Fig 8 verskyn soos met die pyltjie aangedui, en ook aan my bevestig is deur 'n brief van die posmeester van Windhoek, gedateer 4 Julie 1985. Dit lees ten dele: "Dit spyt my om te verneem dat die posstukke wat ingehandig is, nie reg behandel is nie . . . Die kovert is nou van die nodige datumstempels voorsien . . ."

Die posstuk is aan die Windhoek Poskantoor teruggestuur met die versoek dat die seëls gekanselleer moet word met 'n posstempel wat teruggedraai is na 17.VI.85, wat die datum is waarop die stuk geregistreer is. En hoewel die posstuk behoorlik as geregistreerde stuk te Aranos afgelewer en

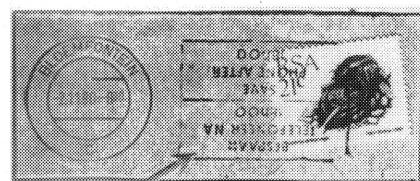


Fig 9

deur die geadresseerde ontvang is, waarmee die poskantoor inderwaarheid sy taak volvoer het, is geredelik aan die versoek voldoen om die datumstempel terug te draai en die kovert weer eens te stempel.

Fig 9 toon 'n posstempel aan van 2.11.90 waarvan die slagspreuk onderstebo is. Ek het die posstuk toevaldig self deur die pos ontvang en glo dat die huls van die slagspreuk op 'n bona fide wyse onderstebo aangebring is.

Die huls is ongeveer 7cm van die posstempel geleë en die strepe wat dit veroorsaak, loop simmetries met die baan op die posstempel. Dit is die normale posisie van 'n huls teenoor die posstempel en dui daarop dat die posstuk meganies gerojier is.

Dit is dus 'n ware afwyking van die

normale, wat iets heeltemal anders is as die manipulasie van hulse en poststempels wat ek twee jaar vroeër ervaar het.

Vloedramp

Die verwoestende vloedramp van 1987/88 het tot gevolg gehad dat die Regering besluit het 10c toeslag te plaas op die 16c-vastereeksseël. Hierdie seëls is op 1987-11-18 uitgereik met die woorde: "Vloedramp Natal" en "Natal Flood Disaster + 10c" afwisselend oorgedruk.

Die slagspreuk: "Help/Vloedramp/Flood Disaster/Natal" is aan agt poskantore in die land uitgereik, naamlik: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Kaapstad, Port Elizabeth en Kimberley.

Die vloedskade het voortgeduur en 'n verdere geleentheid tot noodleniging is geskep met die uitgifte van die Hugenote-seëlreeks (1988-04-13) wat afwisselend met die woorde "Nasionale Vloedramp" en "National Flood Disaster + 10c" oorgedruk is.

Die volgende slagspreuk is aan dieselfde agt poskantore soos hierbo genoem uitgereik met 'n duidelike aan-

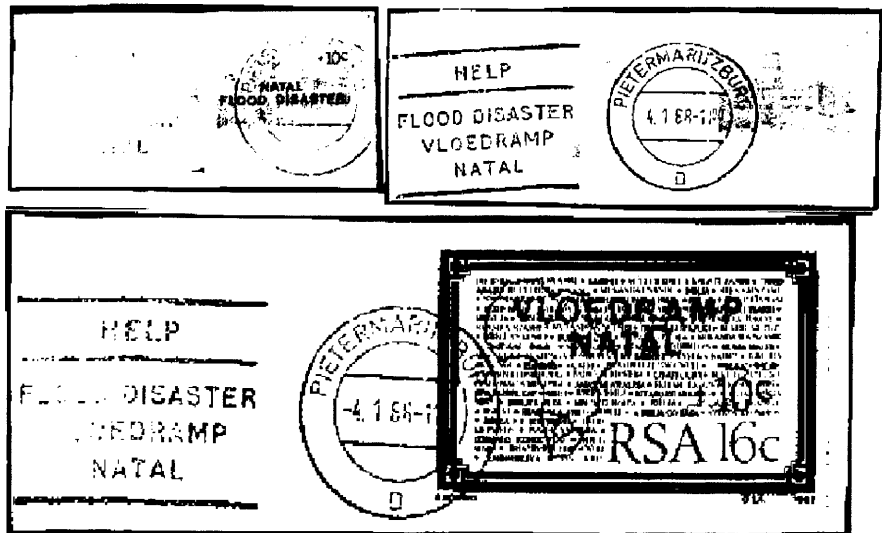


Fig 10
kondiging dat dit op die datum van die seëluitgifte in gebruik geneem sal word: "Rampnoodleniging Koop Toeslag seëls/Disaster Reliefs Buy Surcharge Stamps."

In 'n poging om bogenoemde twee slagspreuke van al agt poskantore te bekom, het skeppings na vore gekom wat 'n versameling van 45 bladsye beslaan.

Die aanvanklike versoek was bloot

dat die seëls met die betrokke slagspreuk afgestempel word sodat dit duidelik leesbaar is, terwyl die poststempel slegs die rand van die seël moet raak omdat ek die koeverte as versamelstukke wil gebruik.

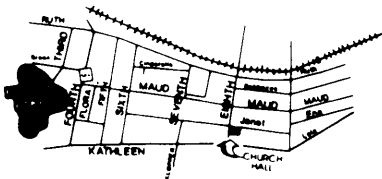
By Fig 10 is slegs die eerste item meganies deur die seëlrojeremasjien gerojeer. Die daaropvolgende twee items is uit eie beweging deur die Postmeester van Pietermaritzburg met die

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Tables available, dealers welcome, clubs special rates
Tafels beskikbaar, handelaars welkom, klubs spesiale tarief
CREDIT CARD FACILITIES AVAILABLE

1996 DATES/DATUM
Every Second Saturday of the Month

*8 June *13 July/Julie *10 Aug *14
Sept *12 Oct/Okt *9 Nov
*14 Dec/Des



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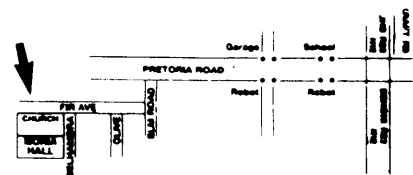
EAST RAND STAMP FAIR

N.G. CHURCH HALL (MORIA HALL)
BELHAMBRA ROAD/WEG,
PRIMROSE EAST/OOS,
GERMISTON

08:30 am/vm to/tot 16:30 pm/nm
ADMISSION FREE/TOEGANG GRATIS
Tables available, dealers welcome, clubs special rates
Tafels beskikbaar, handelaars welkom, klubs spesiale tarief

1996 DATES/DATUMS
Every Last Saturday of the Month

*29 June *27 July/Julie *31 Aug
*28 Sept * 26 Oct/Okt *30 Nov
*27 & 28 Dec/Des



ENQUIRIES/NAVRAE:
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LIGHT REFRESHMENTS/LIGTE VERVERSINGS

hand afgestempel "omdat die afstempeling wat meganies gedoen is van 'n swak gehalte is daar die seëlrojerma-sjien die afstempeling teen 'n hoë spoed doen en gehaltebeheer onmoontlik is," aldus die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg. Hy skryf verder soos volg: "Die stempels . . . is om die rede onleesbaar en waardeloos as versamelstuk. Ek sluit ander koeverte in wat per hand gedoen is en waarop die slagspreuk en datum duidelik voorkom."

Let op die posisie by items 2 en 3 van die posstempel teenoor dié van die seël, die dikte van die inkstrepe en die posisie van die huls teenoor die stempel in vergelyking met item 1 van Fig 10. Dit beteken dat die rojerma-sjienhulse spesiaal gemanipuleer is en dat 'n filateliese rariteit geskep is deurdat die meganiese proses hier "gefnuik" is.

Hierdie optrede deur die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg het my op die gedagte gebring om al agt die poskantore wat met die hulse toegerus was, te vra om die afstempeling met die hand te doen.

Die presiese omvang en betekenis van hierdie optrede deur die Posmeester van Pietermaritzburg word beklemtoon in 'n brief van die Streekdirekteur: Noord-Kaapland, wat soos volg lui:

"Die betrokke hulse is vir gebruik in seëlrojerma-sjiene ontwerp en kan nie normaalweg vir handstempeling aangewend word nie. Voldoening aan u versoek, sal vereis dat die betrokke rojerma-sjienhulse spesiaal gemanipuleer moet word wat nie gewoon gangbaar is nie. Dit sal ook meebring dat 'n filateliese rariteit geskep word wat nie billik of regverdig teenoor ander filateliste sal wees nie. Ooreenkomstig Posbedryfinstruksies is die terugdraai van die datum- en tyndekssyfers of -letters van datumstempels ongelukkig ook nie toelaatbaar nie, hetsy rojerma-sjienhulse of handstempels."

Nieteenstaande die Streekdirekteur se antwoord hierbo, het Kimberley Poskantoor tog my posstukke met die hand afgestempel en selfs die datumstempel by item 1 van Fig. 11 terugdraai na 14.11.88. Let op die dikte van die ink, die kurwes wat die strepe van die huls maak, die afstand tussen die huls en die posstempel by item 2. Die huls lê by item 2 aan die regterkant van die stempel, wat verkeerd is omdat die slagspreuk nie veronderstel is om oor die seël te strek

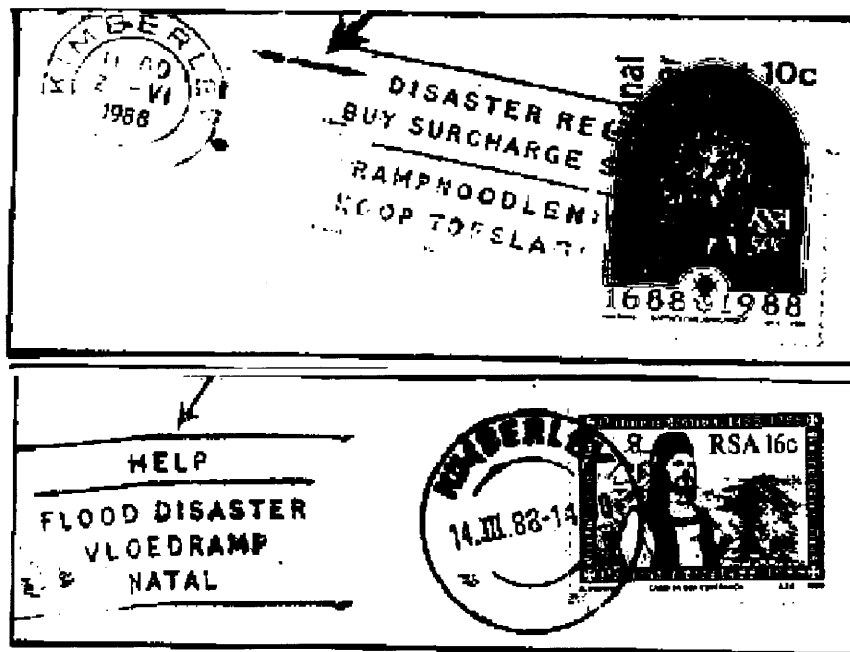


Fig 11

nie, want dit maak dit onleesbaar. Die graad waarmee die huls by genoemde item teenoor die stempel lê is opvallend. Dit alles is duidelike bewyse dat die stempels en hulse gemanipuleer is.

Soos gesê, het ek talle verdere voorbeelde van soortgelyke manipulasie in verband met die vloedramp-verhaal. Byvoorbeeld: hulse wat nooit in Kaapstad gebruik is nie, is op my versoek in Pretoria as afstempelingsvoorsien en in Kaapstad na-gedateer.

Ook poskantore elders (Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Durban, Pretoria en Johannesburg) het gereedelik aan soortgelyke versoeke voldoen.

Presies welke filateliese rariteite bostaande materiaal – betreffende die vloedramp – is, en in hoe 'n erge mate die posbedryfinstruksies sonder uitsondering deur al die groot poskantore wat ek aan die begin genoem het, oortree is, word weerspieël in die brief van die Streekdirekteur: Noord-Kaapland wat hierbo aangehaal is.

Dit word onderstreep deur onderstaande memo, wat seker as 'n ernstige teregwyding beskou kan word, deur die Senior Direkteur: Posdienste aan die Streekdirekteur OVS gerig na aanleiding van 'n verdere versoek om handgestempelde koeverte te bekom:

"1.0 Dit is ongelukkig nie duidelik onder watter omstandighede daar aan die buitengewone versoeke van dr. W.D. Kotzé voldoen is nie, veral gedagtig daaraan dat die voorskrifte in die Posbedryfinstruksies met betrekking tot die afstempeling van filateliese stukke uitdruklik soos volg bepaal –

1.1 Paragraaf 16.6.1 – Die enigste datumstempels waarmee posseëls vir filateliedoeleindes afgestempel mag word, is die volgende:

16.6.1.1 Gewone poskantoor datumstempels

16.6.1.2 Permanente spesiale datumstempels

16.6.1.3 Tydelike spesiale eendag- en tydperk-datumstempels.

1.2 Paragraaf 16.6.2 – Ten einde wanpraktike te voorkom, word die terugdraai van die datum- en tyndekssyfers of -letters van datumstempels ten strengste verbied. Dit volg dus dat indien 'n filateliese versoek dat die datum van 'n datumstempel teruggedraai moet word vir die afstempeling van posseëls op 'n filateliese stuk, sodanige versoek summier geweier moet word.

2.0 Aan die hand van die voorafgaande blyk dit dat die koeverte wat op dr. Kotzé se versoek van 2 Februarie 1988 met die gewone Bloemfontein hand-datumstempel en 'n afdruk van die slagspreuk, 'HELP/VLOEDRAMP NATAL' afgestempel is, onreëlmatig behandel is aangesien slagspreuke in die gewone gang van sake nie tesame met gewone datumstempels uitgereik en gebruik word nie. Insgelyks is die 4 koeverte wat op sy versoek van 14 April 1988 met die 'Pilanshoek 1688 - 1938' datumstempel (teruggedraai tot 13 April 1988) afgestempel is, asook dié waarna in paragraaf 3.2 van die Posmeester, Bloemfontein se brief van 16 Julie 1988 verwys word, onreëlmatig behandel."

Slotsom

Die slotsom waartoe gekom kan word is ongelukkig dat filateliese rariteite nie altyd betroubaar is om in die normale bedryf van die posdiens geskep te gewees het nie. Manipulasie vind plaas, en items vind hulle weg na die versamelings van filateliste wat nooit onder normale omstandighede daar sou gekom het nie.

Dieselfde gebeur ook ten opsigte van posseëls. 'n Mens sien dikwels items wat twyfel by jou laat ontstaan of sulke materiaal ooit oor 'n poskantoor toonbank verkoop is. Vandaar die volbladadvertensie op die voorblad van *The SA Philatelist*, Nr 6 Desember 1995, aangaande seëls wat (by die Staatsdrukker/Poskantoor?) gesteel is.

The C-crown-C and other early South African postal slogans

IN the April 1994 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, p39, I wrote about two early slogans. There was some very encouraging reaction to that article, and I am in the process of following up on some information as a result. The previous reaction has led me to present the following, and I hope that again there will be readers who will be able to add information to our philatelic record.

In that article, I mentioned the book *A Chronology of the Postal Slogans of South Africa*, which was published in 1979 by S J (Fanie) Vermaak RDPSA. The items dealt with then are the C-crown-C mark of the Cape Colony, and the mark bearing the word TRANSVAAL.

Vermaak did not include the C-crown-C item, but commenced his book with the TRANSVAAL cancel-

INSTEAD of his usual postmark column, Neville Gomm in this issue returns to one of his favourite research subjects.

Since 1992, his writing and research have earned him congress awards and research have most notably for his "Operational area territorial divisions in the SWA war" in *The SA Philatelist*, March/April 1992, p34.

lation. I can still do with more good photocopies and information of these two items as there are still some outstanding questions concerning the C-crown-C cancellation.

They are posed in this article in the hope that answers will be obtained. (Is it not an indictment that almost a century after the introduction of this postmark, we are still not able to tell its full story?)

Since the April 1994 article, I have had an opportunity to peruse some

more sources. The most important aspect is to determine the brand of machine that was used to apply the early C-crown-C marks with the large letters and crown as in the illustration (Fig 1). The indications were that they originated from either a Boston or a Bickerdike machine, with Bickerdike being the more likely.

As a result of the article, David Allison sent copies of correspondence he had received from Paul Reynolds of Sketty in Swansea. Paul said the early C-crown-C mark was reminiscent of the British Bickerdikes of the same period (V-crown-R), but the way in which the length of the cancelling bars were shaped to the circle of the datestamp, was Boston.

There the matter rested until I visited George van den Hurk RDPSA early in August 1995. (It was George



WHEN LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL LOOK FOR THIS LOGO



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On the other hand, our members are bound by the Association's strict Code of Ethics and, whilst we support and protect our members when they are in the right, we will do all we can to ensure justice for the complainant when they are not.

**LOOK FOR THE DEALER DISPLAYING THE SAPDA LOGO!
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WE ARE THE ASSOCIATION TO WHICH THEY BELONG.**

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who had suggested that the C-crown-C mark ought to be included as a slogan, something which Vermaak did not do in his book.) While chatting to George about machine cancellations, he drew out a copy of the book *Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia* by Frederick Langford of Pasadena in the USA.

In this detailed work of more than 100 pages, Langford provides the answer to the type of machine used in Cape Town. He said that in the middle of 1897, efforts had been made to get some Bickerdyke (he spells it with a "y" in the third syllable) machines into use in the British postal service. Eight of them were put into service in England, and one more went to Cape Town, where it was installed in 1899. Langford said on the title page of his book, which was published in 1976, that it had been compiled from original sources, including official records no longer existing.

It now seems that we have to accept, until the contrary is proved, that the Cape Town C-crown-C impressions with large letters and crown emanated from a Bickerdike machine. It now also seems that we have to accept that the machine went into use in 1899.

What now remains, is to try to ascertain the day and month in 1899 on which the machine was commissioned. In the absence of definite details, a start would be to look at earliest dates of actual examples. Robert Goldblatt, in his *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope*, illustrated a Bickerdike cancellation with date 30 March 1899, which would have been on a Thursday. An illustration prepared by Franco Frescura and appearing on p30 of *The Post Office Stone*, Volume 15 Number 4 (Consecutive Number 84) December 1983, had a date of 28 March 1899, two days prior to Goldblatt's example. If there are readers who have earlier of similar dates, please let me know.

Associated with the date of introduction of the Bickerdike machine, is its date of withdrawal, or last day of use. The latest date I have seen is 3 June 1903. However, I think the machine remained in use until 1904, when a Columbia machine was introduced in Cape Town. There also may have been an overlapping period during which both machines were in use. We need to determine the latest date of usage for the Bickerdike. Who can help?

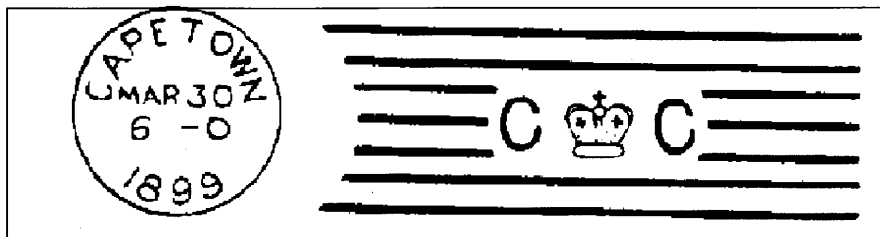


Fig 1

George van den Hurk also lent me several pages of material that had been photocopied from publications of which the titles were not included. From these pages, to which I would very much have liked to have given due recognition, I extracted the following information concerning the Bickerdike machine.

It was first produced in 1897. It was the first stamp cancelling machine to be driven by electric power, and letters could pass through the machine at a rate of 250 items per minute.

The next three items in Vermaak's book are the slogans UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA/UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA, POSTAGE FREE PASSED BY CENSOR, and PAQUEBOT. The information that has been published on these three items is rather scant. What appears here, is mainly from Vermaak.

There are two types of UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA slogan. They were used in the period 1910 to 1917. Who can give dates of actual items so that earliest and latest dates can be established? My collection contains only one partial item from 1913.

The first type of the slogan consists of a continuous impression. There are eight equi-distant horizontal lines of the same length between the circular datestamps. Seen from the top, the words UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA appear between the second and third lines, and UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA between the sixth and seventh lines.

Figure 2 shows type 1 of the slogan. The illustration comes from Vermaak's book. David Allison has pointed out that the letters MY for the

month in the illustration should presumably be MAY, because the type of machine involved did not have three-letter abbreviations for the month.

Type 1 was used in Johannesburg only, and then from 1910 to 1913. There were two types of circular datestamp for Johannesburg, but Vermaak did not indicate how they differed. Can any reader help, please? This first type of the slogan is scarcer than the second, because the second was used at four post offices.

It may be of interest to note here that the Union Postmaster-General's report for 1913 mentions that stamp cancelling machines had been installed at the Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth post offices.

The PMG report for 1914 said the use of stamp cancelling machines had been extended by the introduction of a third machine at the Johannesburg post office, and one at Pretoria.

These extracts from the PMG reports therefore confirm that by 1913, Johannesburg had had two machines. It was therefore possible that type 1 of the slogan as applied at Johannesburg could have appeared with two different circular datestamps as pointed out by Vermaak.

Type 2 of the UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA slogan was used from 1912 to 1917 at the Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth post offices. As with type 1, more accurate dates need to be established for the use of this type.

Figure 3 shows type 2 of the slogan. It is a continuous impression. There are four horizontal lines of the same length between the circular da-

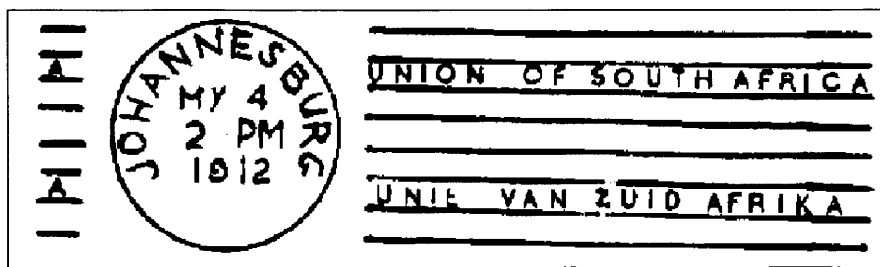


Fig 2

testamps with UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA appearing between the first and second lines, and UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA between the third and fourth lines. Figures 2 and 3 are touched-up examples of the originals. I would be grateful for some photocopies of items in the collection of readers, especially so if they prove new information. Complete strikes of both types are scarce.

As mentioned, type 2 was used at the Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth post offices. Some of the circular datestamps were numbered, and some not. Vermaak says the datestamps in the Cape Town machines did not have numbers. Cape Town at this time most probably had at least two machines.

In the case of Durban, Vermaak says there were machines with the figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 in the datestamps. This seems to suggest that by 1917, when the use of the slogan ended, Durban may have been using seven stamp cancelling machines. Could this be possible?

Johannesburg had, by the end of the period of usage of the slogan, had machines with circular datestamps 1 and 4. In the case of Johannesburg and Durban, are there readers who have examples of datestamps 2 and 3, and 5 and 6 respectively?

Port Elizabeth, like Cape Town, did not have any datestamps with numbers, at least not that have been recorded.

Postage Free Passed by Censor

Figure 4 shows what Vermaak described as the pioneer of South African postal slogans. It appeared in English only, was used in 1914 only, and is extremely rare. In the April 1946 issue of *The SA Philatelist* (p57), A Hilton Sydow wrote that only one example of the slogan was known, and it was in the collection of L Simenhoff. I wonder how many more have since come to light?

Vermaak shows an example with a Cape Town datestamp, but he does not say whether the slogan was used there only.

The slogan is believed to have been used for official bulk posting. If it was applied to official bulk mail that needed to be censored, then it could possibly have been mail sent out by the military authorities because 1914 saw the start of the First World War. Does any reader know more about the background to this slogan?

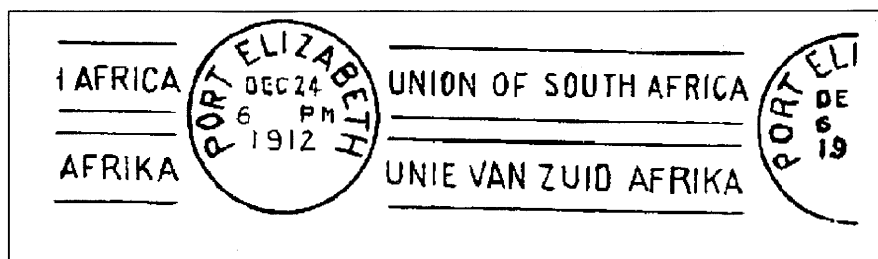


Fig 3

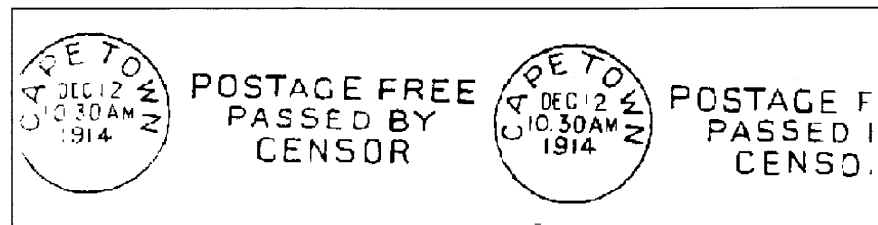


Fig 4

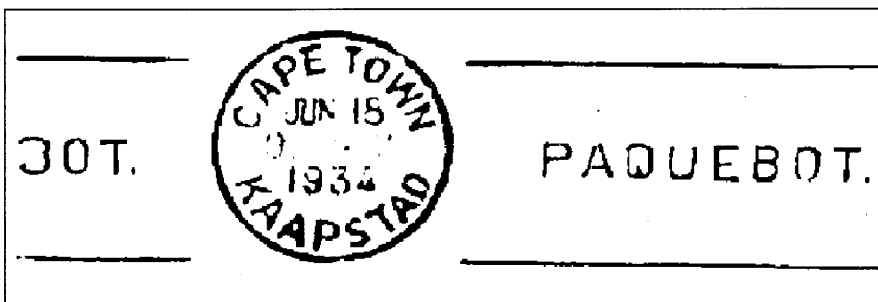


Fig 5

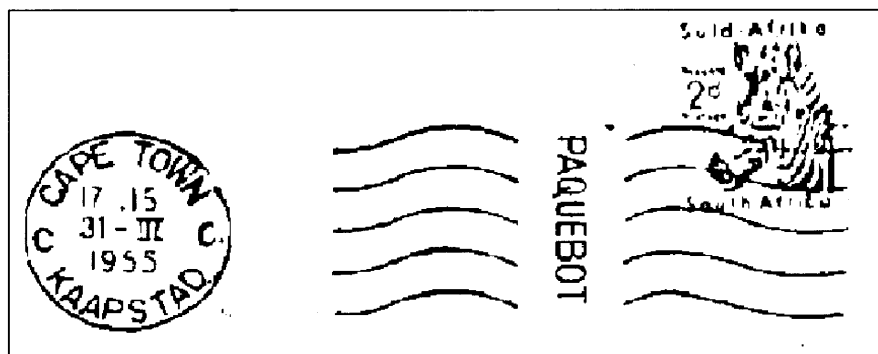


Fig 6

Paquebot

Vermaak illustrates two types of this slogan, but says there were many other types. It seems therefore that a lot more information and illustrations need to be gathered. The slogan was used from 1915 to 1969.

Figure 5 shows the first type illustrated by Vermaak. Of this one, he says it was used at Cape Town post office between 1915 and 1940, in ten different types. I am wondering how these types differed from each other? He said that during 1940, the circular datestamps were undated or were totally omitted.

Figure 6 shows the second type,

which was used in Cape Town from 1946 to 1969. Various other types also came into use later.

What appears above, seems to be the sum total of recorded information on the four slogans. I therefore would like to appeal again to any readers who are able to add to this philatelic record, to please try to let me have a communication at P.O. Box 91-114, Auckland Park, 2006, South Africa. Dates and illustrations are particularly important, and I would like more information – and particularly an illustration! – of the Bickerdike machine. I also need lots of information on the other early machines. ■

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

■ HOWARD GODWIN *East Rand Philatelic Society*

THE hunt is always on to find a new and different subject for a thematic or topical collection. The "old" subjects such as Sport, Birds and Animals are losing their following due to the proliferation of issues. Even some of the newer subjects such as Marine Life and its subdivisions, Whales or Turtles are becoming a little crowded with attractive new items which can cause the collector the pain of scrapping existing pages because a beautiful new item must be included – the judges will want to see the latest and best.

It is only in thematic collections that the issues the general public always enjoys are to be seen. This includes the majority of people who are stamp collectors and have no aspirations to being called philatelists.

A relatively new theme has emerged over the last year or two – the Cinema. While this is a section of the overall Entertainment theme, it is rapidly developing into an entity of its own. We have had the Elvis and the Marilyn issues as well as Stars of the Silver Screen from the USA.

The Royal Mail in the UK gave us pictures with the autographs of Peter Sellers, David Niven, Vivien Leigh, Charlie Chaplin and Alfred Hitchcock in its British Film Year issued in 1985, and this year have issued a set of five stamps celebrating "50 Years of 'Going to the Pictures'". (The first commercial screening of a film in Britain took place on 21 February 1896, and it was seen by 54 people at the Regent Street Polytechnic in London.)

The five stamps depict different aspects of going to the pictures. The 19p shows the exterior of the Odeon at Harrogate, a 1930s cinema. A classic screen embrace between Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh from the film *That Hamilton Woman* appears on the 25p stamp while a cinema ticket is shown on the 30p.

Newsreels were an important part of any visit to the cinema, and the familiar motif of the Pathé News cockerel is depicted on the 35p value with a "Big Screen Showing" appearing on the 41p stamp.

It is interesting that Sweden celebrated the "100 Years of Cinema" in October last year with a set of six stamps – did they really beat Britain by a year?

Sports to the fore



With the Olympic Games in the offing, there have been a number of sports sets issued recently. Not all have had the Olympic connection as, for example, the set of four from North Korea. An attractive set featuring Figure Skaters and commemorating the 5th "Paektusan Prize" competition, there are three individual stamps, the 10, 20 and 30 jon values, with a souvenir sheet with these values plus a 50 jon value. The cancel has a skater as central motif.

Also non-Olympic is the 32c USA Marathon stamp which was issued in conjunction with the 100th running of the Boston Marathon, but honours



all marathons. The stamp, designed by Michael Bartalos, has "a contemporary design depicting a fleet-footed character that alludes to the legend of the Greek god Hermes, the fastest mythological character."

Kenya has issued a Pre-Olympic set of 26 values. There is a sheetlet of nine x 20/- values, another of nine x 25/- values, a sheetlet comprising one each 14/-, 32/-, 40/-, 50/- and two x 20/-, with two souvenir sheets each bearing a 100/- stamp! Known Olympic sports and sportsmen and women are featured throughout, but the inclusion of Muhammad Ali is strange – he never competed in the Games under that name!

Selling sea shells

On the Marine life theme there have been three issues of a slightly different subject recently. From the British Indian Ocean Territory came a four stamp set of Shells. The 20p stamp shows the *Crenulata Auger* shell with





the "Warty Frog" appearing on the 24p value. The "Pimpled Nassa" and the "Cock's Comb Oyster" appear on the 30 and 56p values respectively.

The second shell set is the new definitive series from the Bahamas and comprises 15 stamps from the 5c to the \$5 values. The total face value is \$12,25 – which with our present rate of exchange would tend to make collectors think twice before ordering.

Third is the sea shells set from St Kitts. This comprises a se-tenant strip of five \$1,50 values depicting the "Flame Helmet", "Triton's Trumpet", "King Helmet", the "True Tulip" and the "Queen Conch". The "King Helmet" and the "Queen Conch" also appear in the Bahamas set, but there is no other duplication.

Low on values

The issue of a full new definitive set is no longer general practice as has been mentioned in earlier reports, and this trend is followed by the USA, where a new definitive 2c value was recently released. A Red-Headed Woodpecker is featured, and it is printed in sheets of 100.



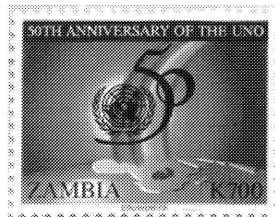
The American Kestrel appears on the 1c coil stamp, available in rolls of 500 and 3 000. It would be interesting to know what specific purpose these two values serve in the postal rates of the USA!

Southern Africa

Looking at some of the stamps from nearer home, we have a couple of interesting releases. Swaziland has is-



sued a four value Reptiles Part II set which shows a chameleon on the 35c and a rock monitor on the 59c value. The two top values, the E1 and E2, feature the African python and the tree agama respectively. All subjects are also found in South Africa and would make a useful addition to a local fauna collection.



Zambia commemorated the 50th anniversary of the United Nations with the issue of one K700 stamp with a rainbow over the logo of the UN.

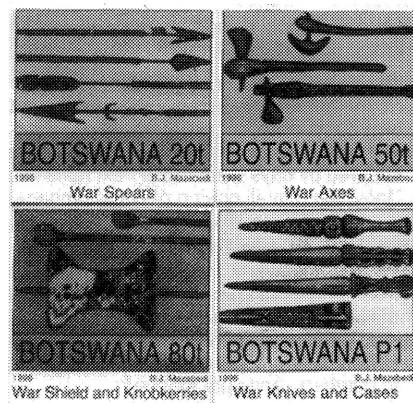
Another publicity set was the Monuments issue of four stamps. This featured the David Livingstone Monument and the Mbereshi National Monument on the K100 and K300 values. The K450 and K500 stamps depicted the Von Lettow-Vorbeck Monument and the Niamkolo Church National Monument

A recent issue from Kenya was the tourism set of five values. The 6/- and 25/- feature lion and hippopotamus respectively. Mount Kenya appears on the 14/- and water sports and culture are the subjects of the 20/- and 40/- values.

While traditional weapons are a talking point in South Africa, they are the subject of a set of four stamps re-



leased by Botswana. Among the items depicted are war spears and war axes (the 20t and 50t values), A war shield and knobkerries and war knives and cases, the latter appearing on the 80t and P1 values.



A set of particular interest to South African collectors of memorabilia is that issued by St Helena. Each of the four stamps depicts a ship of the Union Castle Line.

The RMS *Walmer Castle* (12 546 tons) on the 12p value, was the first vessel under the new company name of the Union Castle Mail SS Co to make the South African run. Her maiden voyage began on 15 March 1902, and apart from the First World War period, she called regularly at St Helena until 1930.

The RMMV *Llangibby Castle*, gracing the 25p value, was the first mo-



tor ship to operate the "Round Africa" service. She sailed from London to East and South Africa, returning via St Helena and Ascension. Built in 1929, she was withdrawn from service and broken up in 1954.

The RMMV *Stirling Castle* (of 25 554 tons), shown on the 53p value, was built in 1936, and in the very same year broke the old 1893 record for the journey from Southampton to Cape Town by completing the voyage in 13 days 6 hours. She was sold in 1966.

RMS *Pendennis Castle* (28 582 tons) shown on the 60p stamp was the last ship ordered by Union Castle Line before the merger with Clan Line. In 1973 she took over the calls at Ascension and St Helena that had been made by the *Good Hope Castle*. She also held the record for the

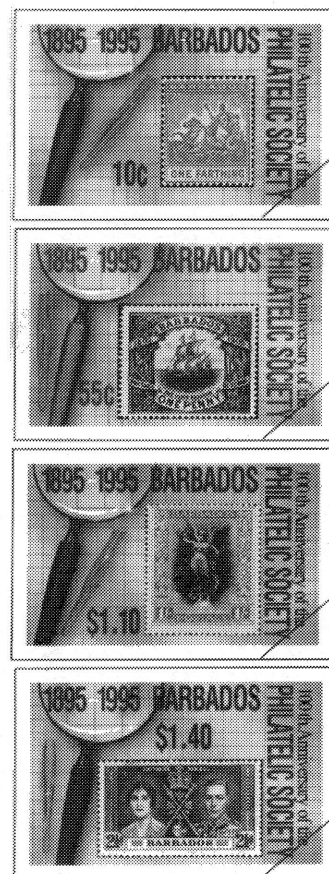
Southampton to Cape Town run, taking ten and a half days at an average speed of 23,75 knots (approx 44 km/h).

Philately honoured by issue

It is not uncommon to have special issues to commemorate 100 years of the birth or death of a famous person or major event in a country's history – it is unusual to have the founding of a philatelic society honoured! It is to be hoped that more such issues will occur in the future.

Barbados elected to honour the centenary of the Barbados Philatelic Society by the issue of a four value set which is an addition to the Stamp on Stamp theme. Each value shows one of the earlier Barbados issues on a background of an album page and a pair of tweezers and a magnifying glass.

The 10c features the 1896 One Farthing stamp, said to be the first of this value ever issued anywhere. The One Penny *Olive Blossom* of 1906 appears on the 55c, and the 1/- Victory stamp of 1920, one of a set of eleven stamps, is on the \$1,10 value. The top value, \$1,40, depicts one of the George VI Coronation issue of 1937.



News and notes/Aktualiteit

Welz doen dit weer!

VIR die eerste maal in Suid-Afrika het 'n filateliese veiling meer as R2 miljoen opgelewer. Dit was weer by Stephan Welz & Kie, waar 751 lotte op 15 Mei 1996 'n totaal van R2,13 miljoen bereik het, waarop nog 'n verdere premie van 10 persent betaal moet word.

Die sterk versameling van Rhodesië van dr. John Strong, wat oor 143 lotte versprei was, is vir meer as R630 000 verkoop, terwyl dit voor die veiling op ongeveer R350 000 geskat is.

Hier is ook die rekord opgestel vir die hoogste prys wat nog in Suid-Afrika vir 'n Rhodesiese seël betaal is, naamlik R110 000 vir lot 422: 'n £1 grys-pers BSA seëlpaar, in 1909 oorgedruk met Rhodesië, waarvan die oordruk op die onderste eksemplaar makeer.

In die Danna Strydom versameling van Kaap die Goeie Hoop (39 lotte) is die skaars "Cape Packet Letter" stempel van 1817 toegeslaan op R7 000, teenoor 'n geraamde hoogste

prys van R5 500.

Onder die goewerneursbriewe het Van de Graaff die beste gevaar (lot 124) met R2 200, maar Rhenius (agerend), geskat op R1 000 tot R1 300, is nie verkoop nie. 'n Briefstok brief na Swartruggens (lot 128, R700 – R900) is verkoop vir R1 700.

'n Besonder hoë prys vir Suid-Wes Afrika was lot 717, vyf waardes van boeteseëls (1931) in posfris ongetande velle van 60. Die raming was R12 000 tot R15 000, en 'n verstomende R135 000 is bereik! Dit was ook die enkele hoogste prys op die veiling.

Pryse van R20 000 en meer is behaal deur die volgende:

- Lot 213, 'n uitgebreide versameling van Duits-Oos Afrika posstempels van 1892 – 1917, R20 000 teenoor 'n hoogste raming van R15 000,
- Lot 298, die enigste bekende Noord-Rhodesiese hoekblokke van die 5/- en 20/- sonder waardeopdruk van 1963, R54 000 (R50 000),
- Lot 357, 'n BSA oordruk op Kaapse 4d paar (1896) waarop "Com-

pany" op die onderste seël makeer, R42 000 (R24 000),

● Lot 375, 'n drukkersproefplaat van die BSA £2, R38 000 (R9 000),

● Lot 425, 'n Rhodesië £2 oordrukpaar op BSA, R22 000 (R18 000),

● Lot 503, £1 rooi en swart "Double Head", posfris, van 1910 tot 1913, R34 000 (R40 000),

● Lot 655, 'n aangetekende brief van Windhoek na Java in 1919, gefrankeer met onder meer die enigste £1 koningskop op omslag, R60 000 (R40 000), en

● Lot 721, die vier waardes van die 1931 SWA "Offisieel" opdrukke in posfris ongetande blokke van 42, R92 000 (R12 000).

Welz & Kie het op 22 Maart 1995 vir die eerste maal meer as R1 miljoen vir 'n seëlveiling in Suid-Afrika behaal, 'n bedrag waarop in daaropvolgende veilings voortdurend verbeter is. Die volledige rekord is te vinde in *The SA Philatelist* van Junie 1995, pp 77 en 92; Desember 1995, p176; Februarie 1996, p30, en April 1996, p54.

Voorkant



Rugkant



Die wêreld se oudste posstuk

OP Hans R. Schwarzenbach van Zürich in Switzerland se veiling van 12 en 13 April 1996 was daar sekerlik die oudste posstuk wat nog ooit aan versamelaars aangebied is.

Onder die hofie "Irak", lot 1633, was daar 'n Sumeriese brief op kleitablet, wat presies op die jaar 2042 vC gedateer kan word! In die destydse jaartelling is dit gedateer vanaf Drehem, op die 5de in die jaar van Amar-Sin.

Dit bevestig in die gebruiklike wigskrif die ontvangs van 'n boodskap

■ In memoriam

Dick Findlay 28 March 1996

DICK FINDLAY is best remembered amongst South African philatelists for his Protea definitives, but he also designed numerous issues with biological themes for Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei and South West Africa. In the 1970s he designed one of the local airmail labels. His bird and plant stamps are especially well known for their distinctive, almost clinical quality.

Dick was born in Pretoria in 1928. He studied architecture and started his professional career as architectural assistant in the well-known practice of Burg, Lodge and Burg. He was skilled in water-colour, and executed the firm's perspective renderings.

Later, when he became a full-time artist, he worked in many media, but preferred water-colour for its fresh transparency. He always worked in a realistic style and his illustrations graced at least ten books and over fifty different journals. His paintings have been exhibited all over the world, in Europe, the Middle East and Japan, and his work can be seen in many South African art museums.

A versatile man, he tried his hand at playwriting, articles for magazines and coin design. His largest public commission was a mural at Johannesburg Airport.

The first stamp designs entrusted to him were the SWA 1973 Succulents, 1974 Protected Birds of Prey, and 1976 Fauna conservation. These were executed in the prevailing

photographic style established by Kobus Esterhuysen, Johan Hoekstra, Aschenborn and others. The whole stamp area was painted in (Fig 1).



When he was commissioned to design the Medicinal Plants issue for Transkei in 1977, he broke with tradition and established a new illustrative style for botanical and zoological themes, which left the background white (Fig 2). This was later also adopted by Denis Murphy, Jeanette Stead, Hein Botha and others.



Although this style was his trademark, he also explored other avenues, as in the 1982 and 1983 Indigenous tree series for Venda, where he simply painted landscapes.

Dick Findlay left his mark in Southern African philately and his contribution will be missed.

AP Burger

Huldiging: Dick Findlay

DIT was my besondere eer om Dick

Findlay in 1978 te leer ken as gevolg van my belangstelling in sy seëlontwerpe, en oor baie jare met hom kontak te behou. Ek bring graag hulde aan 'n ontslape vriend en 'n veelsydige kunstenaar – skilder, illustreerder, dramaturg en skrywer.

Hy het opgegroeï in 'n huis waar kuns, boeke en liefde vir die natuur huishoudelike verbruikersware was. Aan een kant was hy verwant aan die digter, Eugène Marais en aan die ander kant aan die skryfster, Olive Schreiner. Hy het homself as argitek aan die Universiteit Pretoria bekwaam en vir 12 jaar hierdie beroep beoefen. Tog het hy steeds tyd gevind vir sy stokperdjies, waterverfskildery. Sy enigste formele opleiding in skilderkuns het hy op skool onder prof. Walter Battiss ontvang.

Dick was 'n perfeksionis en vervolmaak sy besondere tegniek – delikate suiwerheid, frisheid en 'n absoluut getroue weergawe van dit wat hy waarneem – in sy eie woorde: "If you are unable to draw what you see, you are unable to draw what you imagine." Hy het wyd gereis, wyd gelees en was oop vir invloede van buite. So byvoorbeeld het hy groot bewondering gehad vir die werke van Japanse kunsskilders. Hierdie alleenmens kon lang tye in die natuur deurbring en dit was dan ook sy leerskool sowel as ateljee.

Hy was onder meer verantwoordelik vir 32 gedenkuitgawes van plant- en dierreeke vir SWA, RSA, die Tuislande en Lesotho. Hoewel Dick Findlay se kunswerke op baie plekke te vinde is, is dit sy seëlontwerpe wat wêreldwyd hierdie beskeie man se naam immer in herinnering sal roep.

Laurette van Tonder

wat deur 'n posbeampte, ene Abba Sjagga, na Toeram Dega oorgedra is.

Die stuk, wat voor en agter min of meer lewensgrootte hier afgebeeld word, is beskryf as "goed behoue", en is geskat op 1 500 Switserse franc. Die bod is toegeslaan op S.fr 1 700, het Schwarzenbach by navraag gesê.

Hy het ook daarop gewys dat 'n soortgelyke kleitablet uit die jaar 2031 vC in Junie 1994 S.fr 3 800 op een van hulle veilings gehaal het. Dit was gedateer van Oemma, in die sewende jaar van Sjoë-Sin, en op die rugkant was die afsender se identifiserende seël duidelik afgestempel. Waarskynlik die oudste rug- en versendingstempel in die wêreld!

Veilingskatalogus

Society seeks nominations

THE Philatelic Writers Society (PWS) in Britain is accepting nominations for two eminent awards in philatelic literature from anywhere in the world, published in any one of the main languages of philately.

The first is the Nugent Clougher

Award, which was established by the Postal History Society in 1968. It was reorganised by the PWS in 1987, and is awarded every year for research work published in book form for the benefit of postal history.

The Ronnie Spafford Award was established in 1988. It is awarded annually for philatelic writing of a general nature, excluding work qualifying for the Clougher Award.

Judging is by a jury drawn from the membership ranks of the PWS, and takes place at the annual PWS weekend event held every autumn. Further details can be obtained from Philip Lindley, Paddock House, High Street, Yardley Hastings, Northants NN7 1ER, UK.

News release

Stampex dates for 1997

SPRING Stampex is to be held from 22 tot 26 January 1997, the council of the Philatelic Traders Association in Britain has announced, and Autumn Stampex will be from 17 to 21 September 1997. Meanwhile Autumn

Stampex 1996 has already been 90 percent subscribed, the council says.

News release

A society for Natal on the cards

ONE of the neglected Southern Africa philatelic areas – in terms of there being no research group devoted to it – is Natal. This is now to be rectified with a proposal to form a collectors' society for the study of the stamps and postal history of Natal and Kwa-Zulu.

A number of collectors in this field have recently expressed enthusiasm for the formation of a society to cover this area. Although united by a geographically defined interest, the interests themselves are varied. Some collect colonial Natal, and hope to see a united effort to produce a handbook to match those covering Transvaal and the OFS.

Others are interested in colonial Zululand, or in the postal history of the early settlement, and others again

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in the Anglo-Zulu War or the Anglo-Boer War periods. Yet others are looking at current post offices and postal developments.

The originators of the proposal to form a society for Natal would like to hear from all with similar interests before settling on the precise objectives and mode of operation of such a society. Anyone interested should contact John Dickson.

His address is Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0LJ, in the UK. He can be reached at ☎ (+1460) 24-1534, or fax 24-0028.

News release

Bloem 150 posseël feestelik uitgereik

Die Bloemfonteinse Poskantoor het op 28 Maart 1996 die uitreiking van die Bloemfontein 150 gedenkposseël op feestelike wyse hanteer, en klante met verversings verwelkom. Die voorraad gedenkkoevertes was om 9 uur reeds uitverkoop en die belangstelling was groter as verwag.

Die vorige dag het die SA Poskantoor by 'n onthaal by die streekbestuurder se kantoor spesiaal gemonteerde seëls en EDKs oorhandig aan die burgemeester van Bloemfontein, raadslid Jani Mohapi, en aan die ontwerper van die seël, Jan van Beukering.

Hy, en Strooi Sorour van die OVS

Filatelievereniging, was op 28 Maart by die filatelietoonbank in Bloemfontein se hoofposkantoor, om te help met die afstempeling van EDKs en briewe.

Daar was twee handstempels van die spesiale tydelike datumstempel, maar onderskeid is feitlik onmoontlik. Heelwat versamelaars het spesiale stempels van vier uit die vyf geboue wat op die seël afgebeeld is op koevertes aangebring, naamlik dié van die Eerste Raadsaal ('n permanente stempel), die Tweetoringkerk (No 78, tydelik), die Vierde Raadsaal (P77) en die Vrouemonument (P39).

Spesiale korrespondent

Auction calendar

FURTHER dates up to the end of the year for auctions world-wide to be held by Christie's have been made known. London will have a Great Britain stamps and postal history auction on 8 October 1996, and Hong Kong on 6 November 1996 will see Fine Stamps and Covers of Hong Kong and China.

British Empire stamps and postal history come under the hammer at Christie's in London on 19 November 1996, and on 17 December it will be Great Britain stamps and postal history, with European and overseas stamps and postal history following the next day.

Wêreldwye navorsing oor die versameling van seëls

TYDENS die internasionale tentoonstelling Singapore 1995 het die internasionale firma Young en Rubicam 'n navorsingsverslag oor seëlversameling onder die titel "Worldstamp" vrygestel. Volgens die verslag daaroor deur Les Winick, in *The Philatelic Exporter* (Maart 1996) is die volgende posadministrasies kliënte van Y & R: Amerika, Australië, Brittanje, Denemarke, Frankryk, Kanada, Noorweë, Portugal, Singapoer, Switserland – en Suid-Afrika.

Worldstamp is, volgens Winick, die grondslag vir potensiële bevooringsveldtogte wat die reklameagentskap Y & R besig is om vir posadministrasies te ontwikkel. Van die gevolgtrekkings, is:

- Daar is konsensus onder medium-groot administrasies dat versameling óf stagneer óf afneem.
- In Europa het die vervaardiging van filateliese produkte betekenisvol afgeneem van 1980 tot 1990.
- In 1953 het Amerika se vier vernaamste filateliese tydskrifte 100 000 lesers gehad. Die hoogtepunt was 200 000 in 1973, en sedertdien het die leserskap bestendig gedaal.
- Die getal Amerikaanse huishoudings waarin daar seëls versamel word, het van 1989 tot 1991 met 2 persent gedaal. (Winick meen persoonlik dat die daling groter was.)

Y & R het op tematiëse versameling besluit as grondslag vir die stokperdjie se bevordering. Hulle redeneer dat daar 'n groot verskeidenheid mense is wat seëls bêre bloot omdat hulle dit aantreklik vind. So byvoorbeeld het die Amerikaanse posadministrasie 500 miljoen Elvis seëls verkoop, en dit was bepaald nie almal aan versamelaars nie.

Die ernstige versamelaar word beskryf as geesdriftig oor sy stokperdjie, hoofsaaklik manlik, 45+ jaar oud, in die hoër inkomstegroep, goed opgevoed, en hy versamel vir beleggingswaarde of weens die enigtheid van sy versameling.

Die terloopse versamelaar is hoofsaaklik vroulik, is slegs op klein skaal betrokke by die stokperdjie, jonger as 50 jaar en in die middel-inkomstegroep, met op die minste sekondêre kwalifikasies. Hulle versamel tematies, omdat hulle persoonlik in die onderwerp belangstel, of oor die algemeen die seëls aantreklik vind.



Die Streeksbesigheidsbestuurder OVS van die SA Poskantoor, mnr Van Schalkwyk, oorhandig 'n spesiaal gemonteerde velletjie posseëls en 'n EDK aan die ontwerper, Jan van Beukering (links), terwyl raadslid Jani Mohapi, die burgemeester van Bloemfontein (regs) toekyk.

Op die velrand/In the margin

SA Post Office issuing programme

OUR correspondent in Pretoria, Alewyn Burger, has thus far managed to elicit the following stamp issuing programme information from Philatelic Services. It is subject to review – and obviously to changes since going to press – and was issued with the proviso that there were four so-called wild card slots for possible usage during the course of the year, should this be warranted by events.



STAMP ISSUES

Theme	Items	Date, 1996
African Cup of Nations	5 stamps, 1 MS, 2 FDCs	10 January
Bloemfontein 150	1 stamp, 1 FDC	28 March
New Constitution	1 stamp, 1 FDC	to be confirmed
75th Comrades Marathon	1 stamp, 1 FDC	17 June
Gerard Sekoto	2 stamps, 1 MS, 2 FDCs	2 June
Youth Day	2 postcards	
Olympic Games	1 stamp, 1 FDC	8 June
SA Womens' Day	6 stamps, 1 MS, 1 FDC	5 July
SA Merchant Marine	to be confirmed	9 August
World Post Day	2 stamps, 1 FDC	August
Nobel Centenary Year	1 stamp, 1 FDC	9 October
Christmas 1996	to be confirmed	November
	1 stamp, 1 FDC	25 December

BOOKLETS

Theme	Items	Date, 1996
Masakhane (new format)	10 stamps, standard rate	January
Tourism (see article below)	10 stamps, postcard rate	8 May
Redrawn rhino stamp	10 stamps, standard rate	April
Aids awareness	to be confirmed	July
Christmas 1996	10 stamps, standard rate	9 October

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Theme	Items	Date, 1996
Capex 96	1 MS, 1 FDC	8 June
Bloemfontein 96	1 MS, 1 FDC	9 October
Centenary of the postcard	5 postcards	22 November



Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Algeria: Hamia Med, of PO Box 270, Rouiba 35300, is very interested in exchange contact with South African collectors.

Brazil: Julio Conde, of Caixa Postal 1131 CEP, 74001-970 Goiânia-Go, would like to initiate new issues exchange of stamps, souvenir sheets, FDCs and maxicards, for material of his own country.

Holland: CW Post, of Varendonk 1, 4907 XL, Oosterhout, is 62, very conversant with South Africa, and interested in exchanging stamps – as well as news and letters. He collects SA classics (Union), the small Ban-

tams and war effort postal history. He can exchange Dutch stamps and magazines, postcards and FDCs.

Poland: Jan Szejewski, of ul Kühna 39, 42-256 Olsztyn woj Częstochowa, can send complete mint sets of his own country and Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, North Korea and North Vietnam, as well as themes like birds, butterflies, ships, dogs, cats, etc. He uses Michel and Scott catalogues. He would like complete mint sets of the following themes: birds, butterflies, ships, mushrooms, and Pope John Paul II emanating from Southern

Africa.

Poland: Andrej Weinert, of 60-848, Poznan 6, PO Box 43, would like to exchange mint and used stamps from Poland, the USSR and Bulgaria, for mint RA material.

Russia: Timoor Haziev, of Klenoryi 3, Ulyanovsk 53, 432053, would like to correspond with South African and Namibian philatelists.

Switzerland: Roberto di Casola, of Via Ferri 29, 6900 Lugano, is hunting for meter franks of the Transkei and Ciskei, as well as similar South African material in sterling currency (i.e. £., s. and d.)

David McCabe and the Big Five

Alewyn Burger

THREE years ago Dave McCabe was selling packets of local stamps to tourists in the Kruger National Park. He supplied the shops in the park under contract as Leisure Stamps. He was also marketing picture postcards franked for local and overseas post.

It struck him that it was very difficult and cumbersome for a tourist from abroad to obtain the correct stamps for air mail postage home. The idea formed that one should sell booklets containing no more than five stamps and five airmail labels. The booklet would have to be attractive, with a tourist theme, and the stamps would be standardised for the overseas airmail postcard rate. Advertising for tourists would be possible, initially on the four sides of the cover, but perhaps also on inserted pages.

In July 1994 he approached the Post Office, and in September that year, Philatelic Services. Herman Steyn, former senior manager of Philatelic Services, was then about to retire, and the idea was shelved.

Early in 1995 Dave spoke to Dr Franco Frescura at a SAPDA bourse, and allowed the idea to take root. In March the park asked that Dave pro-



Fig 3

duce the booklets. He then ordered Tourism booklets with ten 85c stamps, and stuck a strip of ten 5c stamps on the inside front cover to make up the required 90c.

These booklets were supplied at R8,55 each, and 20 000 were sold at face value over the next five months in the Kruger National Park alone (Fig 1). A further 3 000 of the aeroplane booklets were sold in the Park during the same period, with a sticker to indicate that two stamps must be used.

In December 1995 he had follow-up discussions with the Post Office and Dr Frescura. They offered him the 90c Penguin stamp in booklets of

ten and with a suitable cover, to fill the gap, and Leisure Stamps was appointed an agent. The booklets appeared on the market in January, pretty much on the QT. Collectors were caught unawares, ostensibly because the booklets were meant only for the tourist industry. (See "The Jackass Penguin booklet and its fore-runners" by Frank van Rensburg on page 75 of this issue.)

The Penguin booklet did not fill the bill, however – a penguin is hardly something you find in the Kruger Park. Also there were too many stamps, and the stamps would become worthless at the first increase of postal rates.

Back to the bargaining table.

It was then decided to issue a se-tenant strip of five stamps as an extension of the animal definitives, bearing pictures of the Big Five of the animal kingdom and valued at the standard airmail postcard rate (Fig 2, but read also comments below). A strip of five airmail labels, shaped like stamps, form part of the sheetlet). These were inserted in a special booklet for the tourist industry, to be distributed by Leisure Stamps.

The cover has a lion, and describes the contents (Fig 3).

Now for the denouement. From 8 to 11 May the regular Indaba of the tourism industry took place in Durban, and it is strictly verboten to outsiders. On that occasion the booklets were released at the stand of Leisure Stamps.

A special VIP folder containing the issue was prepared in a limited edition of 5 000, of which 3 000 were distributed amongst delegates, and the rest sold at the Indaba only. After the Indaba the booklets will be on sale at tourist places countrywide.

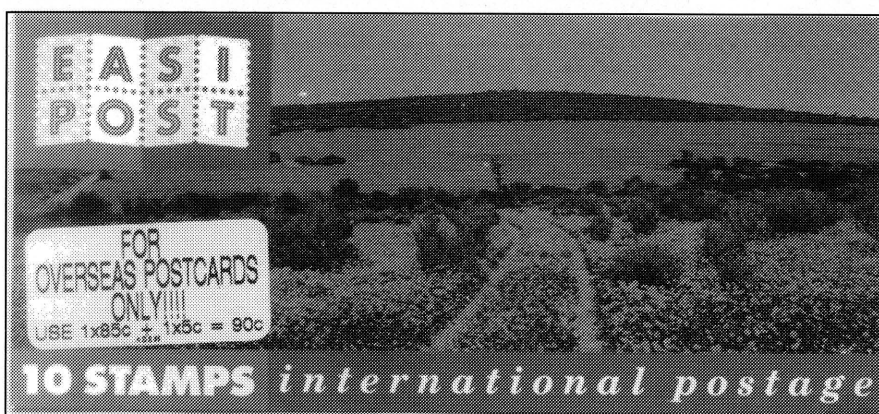


Fig 1



Fig 2

Philatelic Services issued and distributed another booklet for the man in the street (and, presumably, collectors). This was to contain the usual strip of ten stamps, but without the airmail stickers. (However, once again, read the note.)

Meanwhile, good luck to the enterprising Dave. He saw an opportunity and grabbed it. That is what business is all about.

(Editor's note: Advice was received from Philatelic Services that booklets for "the man in the street" had been put on sale on 8 May 1996 at all post offices and philatelic counters, where First Day Covers are also on sale for R7,00.

The first news about the issue reached Cape Town collectors in a report in the morning daily Die Burger on 15 May 1996, where the contents of the booklet were shown in full colour, and from where the accompanying illustration – Fig 2 – was "lifted".

At that stage, no illustration material except technically inferior computerised colour trials had reached The SA Philatelist, which is also editorially based in Cape Town.

Enquiries at the Cape Town GPO philatelic counter ascertained that the booklets were indeed in stock.

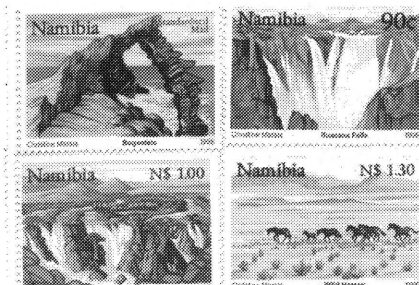
Surprise, surprise!

The booklet at Fig 2 illustrated in Die Burger was evidently not the one for the man in the street, but the limited issue for the Indaba, as it clearly carries advertising tags surrounding the two airmail stickers.

The booklet obtained at the GPO – which was not supposed to have stickers – does have them in a strip of five. The message "Advertise through philately" is on the inside front cover of the "MitS" booklet.

The stamps were designed by Denis Murphy, and a description of the animals, redundant here at this stage, should be available from Philatelic Services.

Two postmarks, illustrated here from the material supplied by Philatelic Services, were in evidence.)



Tourism in Namibia

ON 1 April 1996 the Namibian Post Office issued a special set of four stamps, along with a commemorative envelope and a maximum card, to celebrate the Namibian Tourism Industry.

The first of the four has a value of 45c and depicts the Bogenfels Arch. Situated in the Sperrgebiet (between Lüderitz and Keetmanshoop) on the west coast of Namibia, this folded dolomite rock arch is approximately 55 metres high. It is estimated to be between 700 and 900 million years old, and was caused by continuous wave erosion.

The second stamp has a value of 90c and depicts the spectacular Ruacana Falls. The falls are situated on the bend of the Kunene River where it turns westwards and forms the border between Namibia and Angola. Although situated on a perennial river, the flow at the falls can vary from a trickle to 500 cubic metres of water per second thundering over the 140-metre drop.

The third stamp has a value of N\$1,00 and it depicts the Epupa Falls. The falls are situated in the Kunene River in northwestern Namibia, approximately half-way between the Ruacana Falls and the coast, and are surrounded by palm trees, boababs and a spectacular rocky scenery.

Here the Kunene River is fairly narrow, and the falls consist of a series of cataracts ending in a drop of 40 metres.

The fourth stamp has a value of N\$1,30 and depicts the mysterious wild horses of the Southern Namib desert. These horses have been roaming the harsh desert regions between Lüderitz and Keetmanshoop for almost a century, and theories as to their exact origin abound. The most likely theory is that they are descendants of horses left behind when the German Schutztruppe abandoned Aus during the German South West Africa Campaign in

1915.

A few of the horses have been caught and used for research at the Veterinary Research Institute at Onderstepoort (South Africa). They provide valuable clues about animal adaptation to true desert conditions, as they have evolved physiological mechanisms which help to ensure their survival in the Namib.

The commemorative envelope has a value of N\$5,65 and depicts animals found in the Etosha Game Reserve. The reserve, also called "The great white place of dry water", is situated in the northern part of Namibia and consists of 2 227 000 ha of saline desert, savannah and woodlands. It was proclaimed a game reserve in 1907 by the German Governor, Dr Friedrich von Lindequist.

The four postage stamps and the commemorative cover described above, as well as the maximum card, were designed by Christine Marais. This material can be ordered from the Windhoek Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag 13336, Windhoek.

News release

UN in South Africa

ON 30 April 1996 the Pretoria correspondent of *The SA Philatelist* was informed by means of an unedited version of a press release that "for the first time in the history of South African philately, the stamps of the United Nations will be sold in this country". The information continued:

The United Nations Stamps are unique in that the UN is the only international institution entitled to issue its own stamps. These stamps are issued in three different denominations: US dollar, Swiss franc and Austrian schilling. The themes of the stamps deal with the problems of this world in our time.

The UNCTAD IX Conference (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) is being held at the Gallagher Estate, which is situated between Halfway House and Midrand.

The Post Office was selling these special stamps at the Conference from 27 April – 11 May 1996 from 09h00 to 17h00.

The stamps were available for one week after the Conference at Philatelic Services Hatfield, Pretoria. A special date stamp canceller and date stamp card commemorating this event were available.



Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Bloem 150 streef vooruit

DIE Bloemfontein 150 Nasionale Senior Posseëlskou wat van 9 tot 12 Oktober 1996 plaasvind is ten volle ingeskryf voor die sluitingsdatum en sekerre uitstallers se voorlopige inskrywings moes teruggestuur word vanweë beperkte ruimte aan rame. Om 'n paar ekstra uitstallings te kon aanvaar moes selfs van die genooide uitstallers versoek word om hulle versamelings te onttrek.

Daar is dus sowat 230 kompetende senior uitstallingrame van 19 verenigings waarvan lede van die Royal Philatelic Society van Kaapstad die meeste ingeskryf het, naamlik twaalf. Hierop volg die OVS Filatelievereniging met 9. Ander verenigings waarvan vier of meer lede ingeskryf het, is die Windhoek Filatlie Vereniging, die Philatelic Society of Natal en dié van Johannesburg, en die Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Vorige prestasies van uitstallers sluit in 9 eerstes, een vorige brons, twee vorige silwer-brons, tien vorige silwers, sewe vorige vermeils, twee vorige klein goud, en daar is altesame 27 nuwe uitstallings.

Slegs waar vorige prestasies van die uitstaller bekend was as vermeil of hoër, het die reëlingskomitee 'n vyfde raam toegestaan. Ses rame is slegs toegestaan aan vorige goue presteerders wat nou vir groot goud mik. Alle ander inskrywings het soveel rame ontvang as waarvoor gevra was.

Senior verenigings met moontlike jeuguitstallers in hulle geledere kan inskrywingsvorms aanvra vir die Junass Uitstalling by die reëlingskomitee van Bloem 150.

'n Totaal van sowat 75 junior kompetende raaminskrywings word verwag, waarvan sommige hierdie jaar reeds aan die internasionale uitstalling in Indonesië deelgeneem het.

Reëlings vir 58 ste kongres

VERENIGINGS is in Mei 1996 genader om hulle verteenwoordigers vir die Federasie se 58 ste Kongres te nomineer. Registrasie geskied in Junie geskied, teen R45,00 per verteenwoordiger. Slegs opbetaalde verteenwoordigers sal die kongres kan bywoon, aangesien 'n paar spesiale funksies daaraan verwant is, waarvoor lank vooraf beplan moet word.

Lyste van ander aktiwiteite waar-

voor verteenwoordigers kan bespreek word in Julie uitgestuur. Geen toegang sal by enige van die funksies verleen word tensy die persoon in besit is van uitnodigings, of kaartjies daarvoor gekoop het.

Akkommodasie in die Rosestad

BESPREKINGS by Bloemfonteinse gastehuse kan gedoen word by ANSU Gastehuse, wat plek het by privaatwoning, meesal met eie ingange en *en suite*, vir so weinig as R80,00 per dag vir enkelkamers, en tot R130,00 per dag vir dubbelakkommodasie. (Die dames wat hierdie gastehuse bedryf behandel gewoonlik hulle gaste soos konings!) Skakel ☎ (051) 436-5154 vir inligting of besprekings.

'n Kortlys van hotelakkommodasie in en om Bloemfontein (die skakelkode is deurgaans 051) behels:

Die Herberg, vanaf R77 (1) tot R 126 (3), ☎ 430-7500

Outspan Lodge, w/stelle vanaf R80 (1) tot R100 (2), ☎ 430-3483

**Unitas Herberg, vanaf R95 (1) tot R150 (fam.), ☎ 22-6874

Lala Dene, vanaf R130 (1) B&O tot R169 (2), ☎ 448-9205

Hydro Gastehuis, vanaf R80 (1) tot R150 (2), ☎ 448-0523

Halevy House Hotel, vanaf R120/kamer, ☎ 448-0271

**City Lodge, vanaf R165 (1) tot R186 (2), ☎ 447-5669

***Garden Court Holiday Inn, vanaf R219 /kamer, ☎ 430-5669

***Garden Court Naval Hill, vanaf R214/kamer, ☎ 430-1111

****Hotel Bloemfontein, vanaf R275 (1) tot R300 (2), ☎ 430-1911

Die naaste hotels is Halevy House en die Herberg, en daarna wissel dit van 1 tot sowat 3 km.

Spesiale geleentheid

VANAF Dag 1 is daar vir elkeen iets om te doen, en daar word veral gekonsentreer op aktiwiteite saans. Die opening van die uitstalling vind plaas op 9 Oktober 1996 om 11h00, en dieselfde aand word 'n onthaal deur die stadsraad aangebied vir genooide en bevestigde gaste.

Op 10 Oktober is Bloem 150 heel-dag oop vir besigtiging van die uitstallings, en saans is daar 'n toer na die bekende Thaba'Nchu Sun hotel waar gaste hulself ryk (of arm) kan dobbel of 'n kabaret kan bywoon.

Vrydag vind die kongres plaas, en registrasie begin om 08h00 op die kop. Die kongres word amptelik om

09h00 geopen, en behoort teen 16h00 voltooi te wees, waarna gaste en verteenwoordigers 'n uur kry om voor te berei vir een van die hoofdisse van die week – 'n museumtoer met 'n verskil. (Dit is waarvoor kongresgangers moet opdok!)

Die organiseerders belooft iets heel besonder wat kulmineer by die alombekende Oorlogsmuseum, waar die aand afgesluit word.

Die prysuitdeling en onthaal vir die seniors vind op Saterdag op die plaas Onze Rust, tuiste van President Steyn van die Vrystaat se agterkleinkinders, en histories soos min ander plekke. Dit geskied vanaf 17h00, met skemerkelkies en 'n maaltyd in 'n buitengewone atmosfeer.

'n Geskiedkundige perderit langs die posroete vanaf Colesberg sal gedenkkoerverte vervoer, en hopelik by Onze Rust se nuwe posagentskap ontvang en met 'n splinternuwe aankomsstempel afgestempel word ten tye van die banket.

Die tentoonstelling self

DIE uitstalsale van die nuwe Burger-sentrum word aldie benut vir die tentoonstelling, wat belooft om van die luuksste lokale te wees wat tot nog toe vir posseëls gebruik is. Ten volle luggereël, en voorsien van 24-uur sekuriteit, en met 'n kongressaal van die heel modernste, sal weinig dié geriewe kan klop.

Die program vir juniors word parallel aangebied, en alle belangstellendes is baie welkom by die uitstalling, waar toegang gratis sal wees. Brosjures kos R10,00 stuk, wat ook alle uitslae, senior sowel as junior, sal bevat.

The jury for Bloem 150

JURORS appointed for the Bloem 150 exhibition were noted by the Management Committee at a recent meeting as follows:

Danny Swart RDPSA (chairman), Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPS,L (vice-chairman), and Howard Green RDPSA (secretary).

Members are Jan Bakker, Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPS,L, Leo Crandel (Netherlands), David Crocker RDPSA, Martin East, Sebastian Endrödy-Younga, Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, Alan MacGregor, Gunter von Schumann RDPSA and Michael Wigmore.

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The learner judges are to be Emil Bühman, Des Hyland and Meyer de Kock.

Nominations for Junass jurors are Neil Cronjé (chairman), David Stern (vice-chairman), Dave Wigston (secretary), with Richard Johnson and Danie Scheepers as members. Learners are Henriette Botha, Dave Hunt and Captain Robbie Harms.

Spesiale stempels

DAAR sal twee spesiale afstempelings wees vir die seëlskou self, asook een vir Wereldposdag op 9 Oktober, en 'n miniatuurvel vir die Filatelistigting word oorweeg.

Navrae kan gerig word aan Jan van Beukering ☎ (051) 430-6550 of André Bezuidenhout RDPSA ☎ (051) 33-1122.

Bladsyborgskappe vir die brosjure is R50 per bladsy en individue of besighede kan hiervan gebruik maak. Tariewe vir advertensies in die brosjure is op aanvraag beskikbaar, en kan reeds teen einde Junie sluit. Reëlingskomitee, Bloem 150

Current and future FIP exhibitions

CONGRATULATIONS to our Juniors who did so well at Bandung, Indonesia – see separate report – and our thanks to Jill Redmond for a job obviously well done as our National Commissioner.

Capex '96 will now in full swing (8 to 16 June 1996), with our best wishes to our 6 exhibitors and the commissioner, Cedric Roché RDPSA.

Your next opportunity for international exhibiting with PFSA support will be at Israel '98 World Stamp Exhibition, Tel Aviv (12-21 May 1998) with commissioner David Stern FRPS,L. The first bulletin is expected to be published soon – contact David on (011) 403-3967 (w) to book a copy. The entry deadline is not yet known, but likely to be after Bloem 150, which is thus your last chance to qualify.

For Ilsapex '98, it appears that Bloem 150 is also your last chance to qualify, since Ilsapex entry closure will be well before our next national

planned in Cape Town during September/October 1997.

Please contact the PFSA FIP Committee Chairman P W van der Molen at (011) 899-6019 (w) for any information you require on international aspects of philately and exhibiting.

Peter van der Molen

Norwex 97 entries off to Oslo

WHEN entries for Norwex 97 in Oslo closed on 31 May 1996, the South African commissioner for the exhibition, Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA, had been able to send application forms from five exhibitors. These are David Deighton, Neville Polakow, Roger Porter, William Ross and Christian Wollbrandt.

Although South Africa was initially allotted only 15 frames in all (either three five-frame or two eight-frame exhibits) the assurance was received that the organisers would carefully review the position.

An indication of the international strength of potential South African

■ WILHELM GRÜTTER RDPSA *Royal Philatelic Society CT*

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

60 years ago

June 1936

Another Union Jubilee variety

MR. WB Simkins of Cape Town reports finding a 1/2d Union Jubilee (English stamp) showing a closed "9" in "1910" so that it looks like "1810". The stamp had been posted in Durban.

(News item)

30 years ago

June 1966

Skotnes unruffled by flare-up over stamps

MR CECIL SKOTNES, top Johannesburg artist, was completely unperturbed yesterday after a week-long flare-up over his designs for the Republic Festival series of stamps.

"I have been a professional too long to be concerned over criticism which is not constructive, or which comes from people who do not deal in design," he told me (writes David Pincus).

Mr Skotnes was referring to the

controversy in the Afrikaans press which was sparked off last Sunday. A week-end newspaper said it could not understand the symbolism of some of the stamps.

"Even the publicity department of the Post Office is slightly in the dark" it said, and advised its readers to "remain courageous" because an explanation was expected from the Postmaster-General later in the week.

The newspaper asked: "With which ravine or pair of space-pliers is the poor little dove on the two-and-a-half cent stamp due to collide?"

"What pennant or ribbon is draped around of the seven-and-a-half cent stamp and is the drawing in the background of Table Mountain, Karoo-kop, or of a mine dump?"

"And excuse me, but is that a diamond or a carrot on the one cent stamp?"

(News item, shortened)

60 years ago

July 1936

Jipex: 25 per cent reduction in fares for overseas visitors

EXCURSION rates for overseas visitors have now been approved. The South African Conference Lines (Union-Castle, German, Holland-Afrika and Italian) are making a reduction of 25 per cent on their ordinary rates, the only condition being that there must be a booking of a combined rail and sea ticket, including a visit to Johannesburg.

(News item)

30 years ago

July 1966

Auctioneer puts ban on lipstick

LONDON stamp auctioneer Robson ("Robbie") Lowe has been getting world-wide news headlines in recent months.

Cause of the uproar is his staff ban on lipstick and cosmetics. He pays the girls on his staff a third over the average wage, but insists they wear no make-up at work.

"It mucks up a young girl's magical charms", he explained, adding that a mathematician had worked out for him the startling fact that between the ages of 15 and 75 a woman spends four years 14 weeks and six days applying make-up to her face.

(News item)

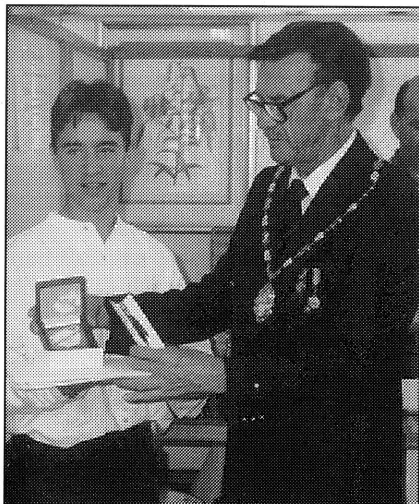
exhibitors is the fact that 16 local exhibitors were approached to consider entering, who between them had a spread of 26 exhibits eligible for Norwex 97, qualifying by virtue of previous awards of a sufficient standard either nationally or internationally.

Commissioner's report Youth in Indonesia

THE official opening of Indonesia 96 at Bandung – from 21 tot 30 March 1996 – commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Sea of Fire when Bandung citizens, rather than re-submit to colonialists, set fire to the city. A dual stamp issue for Indonesia/Australia was also celebrated.

Apart from checking South African exhibits daily for slipped pages, material or page supports there were commissioners' meetings to attend, seminars on youth philately, and a conference of the FIP Youth Commission for Youth Philately. Looking at the exhibits, dealer stands, etc took stamina, since there were over 200 000 visitors to the exhibition. Doors were closed many times to yet more visitors, as the air conditioning plant kept breaking down.

Delegates showed much interest in the South African Philatelic Federation and thought we were doing well to survive some seven decades. It was hoped a delegate would attend Beijing to witness ratification of South Africa's application to join FIAP. Koh Seow Chuan, the FIP Co-ordinator, has a wine farm in Paarl and, having met some South African philatelists, would very much like to meet more of them.



Willie Conradie, Goudveld, ontvang sy Groot Silber vir Indonesië 96 van André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, President van die Federasie. Syne was die hoogste toekenning aan 'n Suid-Afrikaanse deelnemer.

It was most interesting to learn of the philatelic scene in other countries. Hours were spent discussing FIP exhibition rules: initially these seemed onerous but eventually I saw much sense in being given a framework in which to exhibit. The introductory page with its brief statement and the numbered plan makes viewing easier and helps the exhibitor develop his exhibit in a simpler way. Notes on the subject will be distributed to youth clubs.

Prizes were donated by many countries, and the Federation gave a large stock book for a deserving youngster.

We now have three more affiliated members: Finland, Korea and Poland, with the hope of yet more members and the promise of much co-operation from numerous people. Of our five literature entries, four were recommended, and one was acceptable.

Finally, I would most like to thank our fifteen juniors who worked so hard and did so well for South Africa, as follows:

Beukes, Leon; 18 yrs; Environmental Conservation; Bronze; 60%
Bleazard, Graham; 13 yrs; South African Postal Slogans; Bronze; 60%
Blecher, Evan; 15 yrs; Dogs: Breeds, Heroes & Friends; Bronze; 60%
Borgstein, Quintus; 15 yrs; The Stampworld of the Elephant; Bronze; 63%
Cameron, Sean; 16 yrs; Australian Georgian Heads; Silver-Bronze; 66%
Conradie, Dawie; 12 yrs; Genesis; Silver-Bronze; 66%
Conradie, Frikkie; 14 yrs; Wildlife of Southern Africa; Diploma; 49%
Conradie, Willie; 14 yrs; My African Farm; Large Silver; 76%
De Kock, Francoise; 20 yrs; Early Cape to Stick-on Insurance; Silver-Bronze; 66%
De Kock, Geo; 17 yrs; Ciskei: Decade of Apartheid Homeland; Diploma; 55%
König, Dewald; 17 yrs; Rocks and Minerals; Silver-Bronze; 65%
Meyer, Johan; 16 yrs; World Flight; Diploma; 58%
Scheepers, Lizette; 12 yrs; Union of South Africa; Silver; 72%
Turner, Warren; 14 yrs; GB: Machin Definitives; Silver; 71%
Van Beukering, Ingrid; 17 yrs; The Post Office Presents . . .; Silver; 70%

No South African entries qualified for the two highest awards possible, namely Vermeil or Large Vermeil.

Clubs represented were Benoni, Centurion, OFS, Goudveld, Penny Black of Seapoint, Port Elizabeth and Mr Yaccy Postal Club.

The head of the jury said South African junior exhibits were well above average, and their efforts have ensured that our first entry into international youth exhibiting was most

successful. Eleven of these exhibits were on show at the SAPDA Fair, Rosebank from 19 tot 21 April 1996 where the theme was "Youth".

Medals were presented to those who were able to attend the show on 20 April 1996.

Jill Redmond

Overseas subscriptions amended

WHILE the subscription to *The SA Philatelist* remains unchanged locally, recent restructuring of overseas postal destinations and changes in rates have necessitated an adjustment for overseas subscribers.

It is in fact, much simpler. *The SA Philatelist*, by surface mail to anywhere in the world, including the rest of Africa and Southern Africa, henceforth costs R65,00 per year.

An airmail subscription to any destination outside South Africa is R120,00 per year.

Hon Circulation Manager.

Gesprekforum met SA Poskantoor

NADAT die sameroeper van die Federasie se afvaardiging na die gesprekforum met die SA Poskantoor (Joh Groenewald RDPSA) aan die begin van Maart 1996 'n volledige agenda voorgestel het aan André du Pisani (Senior Hoofbestuurder, Besigheidseenhede) was daar op 26 Maart 1996 'n vergadering wat bygewoon is deur dr Franco Frescura, Senior Bestuurder, Filateliedienste. Die agenda was gegrond op breë konsultasie met die Suider-Afrikaanse filateliese gemeenskap.

Die aantekeninge wat hier volg, som die belangrikste punte op wat by die geleentheid gedek is.

1. Die posdiens

Ons het kommer uitgespreek oor die verdragings, pos wat eenvoudig weg-raak, en die skandalige toestand met geregistreerde briewe wat oopgemaak word of net verdwyn. Ons het voorbeelde uit verskillende dele van die land gewys.

Ons is meegedeel: Daar is twee probleme. Eerstens, standarde van aflewering word nie bereik nie. Tweedens, diefstal en "verlies van pos". Die rede is dat Poskantoor-personeel gedemotiveer is.

Die Witwatersrand hanteer 40 persent van die land se pos, en die verdragings is hier die ergste. Dit raak die

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hele land se standaard omdat so baie pos hiervandaan kom. Pos moet eintlik teen 95 persent van die afleweringstandaard loop. Die Poskantoor probeer nou die personeel kry om "deel te neem" en die mikpunt is om teen Junie 1996 'n syfer van 90 persent vir die Wits area te kry.

'n Hoofbestuurder vir sekuriteit is pas aangestel om te kyk na diefstal en verliese van pos. Die Poskantoor sê hy het in Januarie 1996 die hoogste vlak van klagtes ooit ontvang. Die nuwe besturende direkteur, Frank Touwens, gee prioriteit hieraan.

2. Non-service by Philatelic Services

Our delegation pointed out that the lack of service at Philatelic Services reached a level where it was really harming the hobby. We cited examples.

Management said according to its monitoring, the all-time low point in service by Philatelic Services was in December 1995/January 1996. The senior general manager: business units, has now made this section his personal priority in what he calls "Project Philately Survival".

In March the senior general manager met with all staff of Philatelic Services, and deficiencies were pointed out. The deficiencies relate to management, management supervision, and the basic system itself.

A business consultant has been appointed fulltime project manager to get Philatelic Services right, and he is working on a project plan. If this does not succeed in three months, the Post Office management will close down Philatelic Services.

3. Verhoudinge met Filateliedienste

'n Hele aantal krapperighede in die verhoudinge tussen Filateliedienste en versamelaars is openlik bespreek. Dr Frescura het op twee van die agendapunte apologie gemaak, en ook ge-

meld dat hy miskien soms idees uitspreek wat dan as stellings vertolk word.

4. Other matters

It is intended to announce the annual stamp programme at an earlier date in future.

Standard-rate stamps will be issued for overseas airmail.

Philatelic Services intends to provide starter packs for kids containing low-value incomplete TBVC stamps set, album, tweezers, hinges and magnifying glass.

TBVC stamps, including revenues, will be demonetised as from 1 April 1996(?).

A subcommittee will be set up by the Post Office and the Federation to deal with the promotion of National Stamp Day/World Post Day.

The "Great Celebration"

PLANS are well under way for "the greatest gathering of the British Africa collecting clan in the annals of organized philately" – *Celebration of British Africa Philately Convention*. The convention will be part of the events at Pacific 97, which honours the 150th Anniversary of the issue of the first postage stamps of the United States.

Participants in the celebration include specialty groups, dealers, auction firms and postal administrations from a number of African countries. A number of specialized seminars and programmes are being developed and Dr. Franco Frescura is scheduled to give a "Founder's Lecture". There will also be a British Africa Specialty Auction.

Collectors attending Pacific 97 will be able to obtain information and assistance at the celebration superbooth. A hospitality suite will be available for informal social gatherings, business meetings and the like.

Individuals interested in receiving *The Celebration Newsletter* and other

information on the event can do so by writing to Dr. Robert Taylor, Event Director, 674 Chelsea Dr., Sanford, NC 27440 USA.

News release

Lesersnavraag

Carel Breedt, van Posbus 792, Klerksdorp 2570, (☎ (018) 431-2049) vra: Die "Pietersburgs" was die laaste uitgawe van die ZAR, waarvan my studie nog 'n paar onopgeloste probleme het. Moontlik kan lesers help met kennis, en veral met fotokopieë.

Hierby afgebeeld is twee 1/2 seëls wat gedruk is op wit/room sagte karton, en dit staan eintlik 53 mm van mekaar. Volgens die eienskappe is dit soortgelyk aan posisies 5 en 3 van ry 4.

Daar word opgemerk:

Die 1/ wat gelyk staan met die 2 by 1/2 (Fig 1, vergelyk Fig 2) het op posisies 3 en 5 van die eerste en tweede drukke voorgekom. Maar die POSTZEGEL en die AER (pleks van AFR) het eers by die derde druk in posisies 4 en 5 verskyn.

Op volledige velle van die drie drukke het daar nêrens 'n gebreekte 1/, soos hier in Fig 1, verskyn nie.

As die drukkersmateriaal met die inval van die Engelse magte in Pietersburg op 9 April 1901 vernietig is – of verlore geraak het – waar kom hierdie item in Fig 1 vandaan?

En waar kom hierdie druk van die twee 1/2 seëls vandaan?

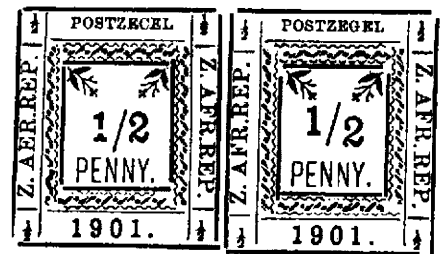


Fig 1

Fig 2

Federation Services and Rendezvous: 1996

Hon secretaries are earnestly requested to check the information about their societies, and to notify the Hon Editor of any changes or additions, at the same time as they notify the Hon Secretary of the Federation.

Ere-sekretarisse word dringend versoek om die inligting oor hul verenigings na te gaan, en om die Ere-redakteur te verwittig van enige veran-

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derings of byvoegings wanneer hulle dit ook aan die Ere-sekretaris van die Federasie verstrek.

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000

Hon Life President
Jonas Michelson RDPSA

Hon Life Vice-Presidents

Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPS,L
Joh Groenewald RDPSA

President 1995/1996

André Bezuidenhout RDPSA, PO Box 389, Bloemfontein 9300; tel h (051) 33-1122; fax (051) 448-9820

Deputy President

Des Hyland, PO Box 6220, Welgemoed 7538; tel h (021) 913-3990

72:3 (816) **97**

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AREAS OUTSIDE RSA

Gawie van der Walt, PO Box 20022, Noordbrug 2522; tel w (0148) 294-4201; fax (0148) 294-4202; tel h (0148) 294-8027

Immediate Past President

Danny Swart RDPSA

Management Committee

Chairman: Joh Groenewald RDPSA, PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001; tel h (012) 802-0679; tel w (012) 325-1330; fax (012) 21-1398

THIS is the executive of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, which meets at regular intervals to consider and decide upon the activities of its various standing and sub-committees. Most of these, and what they offer societies and members of societies affiliated to the Federation are described below.

It attends to input and enquiries from members of the Federation, and maintains contact with them via the regional vice-presidents. The Management Committee also maintains close links with the postal authorities, advising them on the interests of organised philately.

The Management Committee is ultimately responsible for various pu-

blications, such as *The SA Philatelist*, and for maintaining a speaker's panel and an archive and library.

Its chairman is also convener of the New Issues Liaison sub-committee, which channels stamp suggestions to the SA Post Office, and of the Federation's Awards sub-committee, which receives award suggestions, deliberates upon them and handles the resulting citations.

Secretariat

George van den Hurk RDPSA, FRPS,L, PO Box 4095, Edenvale 1610; fax/secr. (011) 452-6511; tel h (011) 452-3263; fax h (011) 609-8217

Treasurer

Howard Green RDPSA, PO Box 299, Florida Hills 1716; tel h (011) 442-7190; tel w (011) 474-1915; fax (011) 473-1874

Finance Committee

Chairman: Danny Swart RDPSA, PO Box 52431, Saxonwold 2132; tel h (011) 465-3246; tel w (011) 880-3125; fax (011) 880-2656

DANNY SWART is also the Hon Circulation Manager of *The SA Philatelist* and administers its subscriptions, circulation, and address changes.

Advertising, *The SA Philatelist*

Hon Advertising Manager: Jonas Michelson RDPSA PO Box 9314, Johannesburg 2000; w (011) 493 6260; h 646 3654; fax (011) 493 0602.

ALL advertisement bookings from full pages to small announcements, and all advertising copy, must reach this address by the 5th of the month preceding publication, i.e. in January, March, May, July, September and November every year.

The South African Philatelist:

Hon Editor: Wilhelm Grütter RDP-SA, PO Box 2789 Cape Town 8000. PLEASE note that enquiries regarding subscriptions, address changes and advertising should be directed to the appropriate two addresses directly above.

Convener of the sub-committee for *The SA Philatelist* is Joh Groenewald RDPSA.

Gauteng Editor *SA Philatelist:*

Alewyn Burger, Posbus 95786, Waterkloof 0145; tel h (012) 46-6913

Promotions Committee

Chairman: David Wigston, PO Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463; tel h (011) 896-2975; tel w (012) 429-6423/6565/6791; fax (012) 429-3346

THE committee advises societies on local activities such as gaining publicity and promoting philately. It is also in close contact with the marketing arm of the postal authorities.

Youth Committee

Chairman: Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463, (011) 896-2845

RESPONSIBLE for encouraging junior philately. The Youth Committee has adopted the user-friendly name "Stamp Mates" to provide assistance in setting up and running junior stamp clubs. It advises and trains youth leaders, provides guidelines and will arrange workshops and seminars for them.

It runs a stamp packet service, Mr Yaccy Postal Club (the contact is Ursula White (011) 896-1308) and publishes *Stamping Around/Seëls Rond-omtalie*, a youth magazine. It also has extensive philatelic quiz sheets and games available to enliven junior meetings.

The committee also assists with JUNASS, the Junior National Stamp Show.

Audio Visual Committee

Chairman: Emil Minnaar. PO Box 13664 Northmead 1511; h (011) 849-1817

AFFILIATED societies can obtain slide shows on a large variety of philatelic subjects from this committee, which has a current list available on request. It provides about 200 shows annually already, and the cost is only the current certified non-standard mail rate both ways.

The committee continually produces new shows, and a guideline for preparing a script is available. Owners of material on which scripts produced by the committee are based, receive a free copy of the slide show.

Exhibitions Committee

Chairman: Harry Birkhead RDPSA FRPS,L PO Box 723 Bedfordview 2008; h (011) 455-1138

THIS committee is primarily responsible for providing advice and guidelines for exhibitions, as well as the frames required which are held by the Federation.

Judging Committee

Chairman: Richard Knight RDPSA, FRPS,L, 6 Highway, Fish Hoek 7975; tel h (021) 782-2223; tel w (021) 461-8080; fax (021) 782-6560
THE committee constantly reviews exhibition by-laws and tackles prac-

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tical problems to provide a consistent framework for fair judging. It also maintains, in consultation with jury chairmen and senior philatelists, a national list of eligible judges, and on request provides judging seminars.

FIP Committee

Chairman: Peter van der Molen, PO Box 12508, Benoryn 1504; tel w (011) 899-6019; tel h (011) 849-4822; fax (011) 914-1183

THIS committee is charged with keeping the Federation and its members abreast of FIP developments.

Expert Committee

Chairman: David Crocker RDPSA, PO Box 294, Montagu 6720; (0234) 41424; fax 42521

EXPERT opinion on the genuineness or otherwise of stamps and other philatelic material is available from the Expert Committee, which consists of several locally and internationally recognised collectors, drawn from the ranks of both amateur and professional philatelists, who serve in an honorary capacity. The committee has reciprocal arrangements with similar bodies in Europe, England and North America.

Fees for the expertising of stamps, covers, postal stationery etc. by the PFSA's Expert Committee were revised from 5 May 1995 with the following structure being implemented:

(i) For a certified opinion of an item, 2 percent of current catalogued value with a minimum charge of R30.

(ii) For an unquoted item, cover or postal stationery etc. the charge will be solely at the discretion of the Committee with a minimum charge of R40.

(iii) A handling fee of R6 per item

applies over and above the charges set out above.

Members of philatelic societies and bodies affiliated to the Federation may claim a discount of 25 percent on the above charges. Owners are urged to send items for certification by registered post and with an official submission form (one per item sent) - these being obtainable from the Secretary of the Committee at PO Box 360, Montagu 6720. These submission forms also detail the full conditions of acceptance by the Expert Committee.

It is felt that the charge represents real value for money as with current exchange rates, it is approximately half of the figure that would have to be paid for the cheapest overseas equivalent and the local certificate is, in any case, internationally recognised.

The other most important fact to remember is that the Expert Committee works on an honorary basis, and moneys accrued by their service are paid over to Federation for its work in the promotion of philately.

SA Philatelic Dealers Association

Chairman: John Bleazard
BESIDES being affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, SAPDA is also affiliated to the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association (IFSDA) which is headquartered in England.

SAPDA members have been involved in all aspects of organised philately and has among its members past Presidents of Federation, members serving on the Management Committee, Expert Committee and Na-

tional jury, to name a few.

SAPDA organises regular trade fairs and besides the well known Rosebank Hotel Show, various two-day fairs are held at the Philatelic centre in Parkhurst. Many members have stands at the annual national exhibition.

The Philatelic Foundation

President: Danny Swart RDPSA
THE foundation funds the promotion of philately, and is jointly managed by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and the postal authorities.

Philatelic Calendar

30 September - 6 October 1996 : National Stamp Week

9-12 October 1996 : National Exhibition Bloemfontein 150, together with the Junior National Stamp Show (JUNASS) 1996, "Glaspaleis", Civic Centre, Bloemfontein.

6-11 November 1996 : Mini Exhibition Sasolburg

16-21 April 1997 : Norwex 97, Oslo
29 May - 8 June 1997 : Pacific 97, San Francisco

June/July 1997 : JUNASS 1997, East Rand, Benoni

September/October 1997 : National Exhibition, Cape Town

12-21 May 1998 : Israel 98, Tel Aviv

20-25 October 1998 : International Exhibition, IIsapex 98, Johannesburg, Gallagher Estate, Midrand

1999 Bloemfontein : Centenary of the start of the Anglo-Boer War

11 October 1999, Exhibition by invitation

22-28 May 2000 : Stamp World 2000, London

2000 : National Exhibition Paarl

Society meetings

Where only one telephone no. appears, it is that of the home:

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria

Vergader vierde Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 teekamer, Patologiegebou, h/v Soutpansbergweg en Beatrixstraat, Pretoria. Eresekretaris ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 706, Pretoria 0001; (012) 660-2720.

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Johannesburg

Vergader tweede Saterdag van die maand. 14h00 "Harmoniehof", Saratogalaan 9, Doornfontein. Eresekretaris mnr A de Jong, Posbus 91287, Auckland Park 2006. Jeugafdeling vergader eerste Saterdag van die maand. Sekretaris A de Jong; (011) 888-3174.

Alberton Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month.

19h30 Activities Room, Alberton Library. Hon Secretary Piet Steyn, PO Box 2458, Alberton 1450; (011) 867-1525.

Bellville Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Bellville Biblioteek se Ouditorium. Hon Secretary Mrs R. Janse van Vuuren. PO Box 641, Bellville 7535; (021) 946-3665.

Boksburg Philatelic Society

Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Committee Room, Town Hall. Trichardt Street, Boksburg. Hon Secretary Mrs Ursula White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; h (011) 896-1308.

Botswana Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Gaborone Sun Hotel, Gaborone. Hon Secretary Ms Lene Bay, PO Box 1240, Gaborone, Botswana.

Brits-Filatelistevereniging

Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 by Brits Hoërskool. Eresekretaris mev Susan Habig, Posbus 889, Brits 0250; (01211) 22160.

Centurion Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Auditorium Main Library cnr. Cantonnments Rd and Unie Ave, Lyttelton. Hon Secretary Mrs Val Brown, PO Box 2388, Pretoria 0001; (012) 664-3347.

Cusaf Stamp Club

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 13h00 26 Loveday Street, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary W Scott, PO Box 62035, Marshalltown 2107; h (011) 862-2588; w 491-1405.

East London Philatelic Society

Meets fourth Thursday of the month. 19h30 Langenhoven Hall, Central Library, Glad-

stone Street, East London. Hon Secretary Mrs Joan Muller, PO Box 925, East London 5200; (0431) 24740

East Rand Philatelic Society

Meets second Monday of the month, 19h30 Benoni Library Theatre, Rothsay Street. Hon Secretary Jan Bakker, PO Box 13664, Northmead 1511; (011) 849-7766.

Edenvale Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Edenvale Community Centre, entrance 2nd Street off van Riebeeck Ave. Hon Secretary Eric Perrett, 3 Marlina Street, Birchleigh North 1619; (011) 972-8829.

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Minor Hall, Civic Centre, Central Circle, Fish Hoek. Hon Secretary Mrs Margaret Reynolds, PO Box 22388, Fish Hoek 7975; (021) 782-2653.

Germiston Philatelic Society

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month (except December). 20h00 Library Conference Theatre, New Civic Centre, Germiston. Hon Sec. Mr Mike Jackson, PO Box 30, Germiston 1400; h (011) 826-2005; w 820-5157.

Goudveld Filatelievereniging

Vergader laaste Donderdag van die maand. 17h00 Kerksaal NG Moedergemeente, Oendaalsrus, Sekretaresse mev G Conradie, Posbus 209, Oendaalsrus 9480; (057) 42864.

Hoëveldrif-Seëlklub

Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Biblioteek-Auditorium, Secunda, Posbus 2574, Secunda 2302. Hon Sec. Colin Thomas; (017) 634-1762; w (017) 639-1380.

Kempton Park Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 19h30 Bennie Jacobs Hall, Public Library.

Kimberley Philatelic Society

Meets second Monday of the month. 19h00 Venues to be advised in monthly newsletter. Hon Sec. Mr John Horner, 11 Diomedes Street, Herlear, Kimberley 8301; h (0531) 822712; w 34251.

Klerksdorp Philatelic Society

Meets on the first Thursday of each month. 18h30 at Lecture Hall, Klerksdorp Library. Hon Sec. Mrs W Ward, PO Box 712, Klerksdorp 2570; (018) 22671.

Kuilsrivier-Filatelistevereniging

Vergader op die eerste Maandag van die maand. 19h30 Manatokalaan 23. Eresekretaris mej Marianne Bosman, Posbus 65, Kuilsrivier 7580; (021) 903-1381.

Lower South Coast Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Monday of the month. 19h30 Activities Room, Uvongo Library. Hon Sec. Mrs Isobel Collier, PO Box 1458, Manaba Beach 4276.

Lowveld Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Thursday of the month. 19h30 Nelspruit Library. Hon Sec. J.B. Dill; (01311) 43609.

Malawi Philatelic Society

Hon Secretary Mr Tony Hawken, PO Box 1443, Blantyre, Malawi.

Maritzburg Philatelic Society

Meets on the last Monday of the month (except December). 19h30 Room, 107 New Arts Block, University of Natal, Gold Road, Pietermaritzburg. Hon Sec. Anne Southwood, P.O. Box 256, Pietermaritzburg 3200; (0331) 43-4803.

Mashonaland Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 for 20h00 Riembara Building, Samora Machel Ave East, Harare, Zimbabwe. Hon Secretary Mrs S.A. Weaver, PO Box 2735, Harare, Zimbabwe; (4) 331347.

Nigel Stamp Club

Meets on the last Monday of the month. 18h30 Methodist Church Hall, Nigel. Hon Secretary Mrs Lesley Leesman, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; (011) 739-3377.

Noord-Natalse Filatelistevereniging

Vergader op die derde Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Openbare Biblioteek, Newcastle. Eresekretaris Frans van Es, Posbus 8224, Newcastle 2940; (03431) 24626.

Orange Free State Philatelic Society

Meets on the fourth Friday of the month (except December). 19h15 Auditorium, National Museum, Bloemfontein. Eresekretaris Philippe Burger, Posbus 702, Bloemfontein 9300; (051) 46-2710.

Paarlse Filateliste

Vergader op die derde Donderdag van die maand. 20h00 Dagsentrum, Huis Vergevoegd, Hoofstraat, Paarl. Eresekretaris M. Moll; (021) 872-5219; w (021) 873-1131.

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 19h30 Moth Hall cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Dr Ian Matheson, PO Box 4967, Johannesburg 2000; 802-8076; w (011) 951-2814; fax (011) 762-7327.

Philatelic Society of Natal

Meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Penance Primary School. Francois Rd, Durban. Hon Secretary Mrs Ann White, PO Box 35054, Northway 4065; (031) 834124; w (031) 305-1930.

Pietersburg Philatelic Society

Meets on the last Tuesday of the month. 19h30 Culture Board offices, Market Street, Pietersburg. Hon Secretary Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; h (0152) 297-2723; w 297-2942; fax 297-2122.

Pinelands Stamp Circle

Meets on the last Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Activities Room, Public Library, Howard Place, Pinelands. Hon Secretary John Stinson, PO Box 520, Howard Place 7450; (021) 531-1591.

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Bible Society, 31 Cotswold Road, Cotswold. Hon Secretary Graham Butcher, PO Box 3, Port Elizabeth 6000; (041) 71-1933; w (041) 31-1138.

Pretoria Philatelic Society

Meets on the first Monday of the month. 19h30 St Alban's College, Clearwater Road, Lynwod Glen. Hon Pres. Dave Young, PO Box 514, Pretoria 0001; (012) 348-9716.

Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Meets on the second and fourth Monday of the month. 20h00 Athenaeum Trust (off Newlands station carpark). Hon Secretary Malcolm Murphy, PO Box 1973, Cape Town 8000, (021) 64-3440.

Royal Philatelic Society Zimbabwe

Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. 19h30 Senior Citizens' Club Bulawayo, 11a Clark Road, Suburbs Hon Secretary Mr Gordon Murray, PO Box 803 Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; tel Blwyo 71627; w 322702.

Sandton Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Monday of the month. 19h30 Moth Hall, Philatelic Centre, Cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Mrs S Heyl, PO Box 226, Pinegowrie 2123; (011) 787-5573.

Sanlam Filatelievereniging

Posbus 1 Sanlamhof 7532. Sekr. A.C. Vermeulen; (021) 947-3118.

Sasolburg Filatelievereniging ("Oilfilat")

Vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 19h00 Sasolburgse Munisipale Biblioteek. Die jeugafdeling vergader op die tweede Woensdag van die maand. 16h00 Corystraat 3. Eresekretaris mnr G.J. Scheepers, Posbus 806, Sasolburg 9570; (016) 76-9925.

Society of Israel Philately

Meets on the first Monday of every month in the Committee Room of the Waverley Synagogue, 5 Kenneth Road Waverley, Johannesburg at 20h00. Hon Secretary Rabbi Shalom Zaiden, PO Box 1915, Houghton 2041; (011) 440-3885 (never phone Friday sunset to Saturday sunset).

South West Africa Philatelic Society

Meets Sundays. 11h00 at the home of Mr Roehrkohl. Hon Secretary Mrs E. Roehrkohl, PO Box 3330, Windhoek 9000.

Springs Philatelic Society

Meets on the third Monday of the month. 19h30 Springs Community Centre, cnr Fifth St and Sixth Ave. Hon Secretary Mrs A Jakoveljevic, PO Box 487 Springs 1560; (011) 818-4320.

Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging

Vergader op die eerste Dinsdag van die maand. 19h30 (behalve in Desember en Januarie) Lesingsaal, Openbare Biblioteek, Pleinstraat, Stellenbosch. Eresekretaris mej C de Kock, Posbus 2163, Dennesig 7601; (021) 883-8880.

Vereeniging Stamp Club

Meets on the third Friday of the month. 19h00 Small Activities Room, Public Library (Leslie Street entrance). Contact Mr M.S. Weitzmann, PO Box 222, Vereeniging 1930; w (016) 422-1177.

West Rand Philatelic Society

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month (including juniors). 17h45 Meeting Room (old Vos's Hotel), Florida Lake. Hon Secretary R.P. Rong, PO Box 1118, Florida 1710; (011) 704-1313.

Windhoek Philatelic Society

Vergader op die vierde Donderdag van die maand (behalve Desember). 19h00 in die Sportklub Windhoek, Talstraat. Eresekretaris Jochen Bracht, Posbus 2285, Windhoek 9000; (061) 23-1681.

Witbank Philatelic Society

Meets every second month at a member's home. Hon Secretary Mr John Bird, 8 Karel Street, Del Judor, Witbank 1035; (0135) 92-8872.

Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month. 19h30 at Johannesburg Country Club. Secretary Mervyn Baily, PO Box 61166, Marshalltown 2107; h (011) 762-8865; w 762-023.

Worcester Philatelic Society

Meets on the first Monday of every second month. 20h00 at a member's home. President Dr M.D. de Klerk, 10 Koort St, Panorama, Worcester 6850; (0231) 28044.

Specialist Societies

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa

Transvaal section meets on the third Saturday of odd months at 14h00 at Moth Hall – Philatelic Centre – cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Mrs Jana Uys, 3 Violet St, Kempton Park ext 4 1619; (011) 975-7491.

Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society

Meetings as advised in the Anglo-Boer War Philatelist and usually in South Africa during the philatelic congress week. Hon. Secretary P.M. Prime, 56 Mount Way, Waverton, Chester, Cheshire, CH37QF, England. The society concerns itself with the four provinces during the 1899-1902 war, including prisoner-of-war camps abroad and associated mail. A quarterly journal is published.

Cape Society for Palestine-Israel Philately

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month. 20h00 Albo Centre, Hatfield Street, Cape Town. Hon Secretary Dr Leon Stein, PO Box 6160, Roggebaai 8012; (021) 52-4124.

Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika

Eresekretaris mnr J. Stolk, Wilgensingel 166, 3053 CZ Rotterdam, Nederland. Vertegenwoordiger in Suid-Afrika, mnr G.D. Bresser, Hoggestraat 13, Sasolburg 9570.

Great Britain Philatelic Society of SA

Meets on the first Saturday of the month in February, June, August, October and December. 14h30 at a member's home in Johannesburg or Pretoria. Hon Secretary Mrs Marge Viljoen, PO Box 835 Groenkloof 0027; (012) 46-7339.

Orange Free State Study Circle

Meets in London or other convenient centres as advised in the OFS Bulletin. Hon Secretary Mr Richard Stroud, 28 Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, TA8 1LQ England. Specialist society promoting research and study of all aspects of OFS and ORC stamps and postal services through to 1910. Quarterly bulletin is published.

Philatelic Society for Greater SA

Hon Secretary D Chapman. San Francisco, CA. Representative in South Africa Dr H.U. Bantz, PO Box 6913, Westgate 1734; (011) 376-2524.

Postmark and Postal History of Southern Africa

Meets on the third Saturday of the month in which there are five Saturdays. 14h00 Philatelic Centre, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. Hon Secretary Mrs Marge Viljoen, PO Box 835, Groenkloof 0027; (012) 46-7339.

Rhodesian Study Circle

Meets quarterly. Hon Secretary Mr K.D. Hanman, 71 Keswick Drive, Lightwater, Surrey, GU18 5XE, England

South African Stamp Study Circle

Meets on the second Saturday of the month. 13h45 Philatelic Centre, cnr 16th Street/2nd Ave, Parkhurst. Hon Secretary Dr Steven Glassman, PO Box 84550, Greenside 2034; (011) 440-4762

South African Collectors' Society

Hon Secretary W.A. Page FRPSL, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 3LG, England.

South West Africa Stamp Study Group

Meets on the last Wednesday of the month,

19h30 (except December) at a member's home alternately in Johannesburg and Pretoria. Hon Secretary Mrs Marge Viljoen, PO box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; (012) 46-7339.

Southern African Post Card Research Group

Proceedings are by correspondence only as membership is too scattered for meetings. There is a quarterly newsletter. Chairman: Archie Atkinson, 8 Scarlett Rd, Castletown, Isle of man, UK. Secretary (South Africa) Dr Ryno Greenwall, PO Box 23363, Claremont 7735; (021) 685-1892.

Thematic Stamp Club of Southern Africa

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 20h00 Hall of Church of Christ the King, Miller Rd, Claremont. Hon Secretary Clem R Baker, PO Box 146, Cape Town 8000; h (021) 96-2059.

Transvaal Study Circle

AGM held in London. meetings are also held in South Africa. Hon Secretary Mr Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale Street, Chatham ME4 6QH. A specialist journal The Transvaal philatelist is published quarterly. Representative in South Africa Gerhard Kamffer, PO Box 218, Balfour 2410; (017) 778-0241.

Specialist Societies, Trade

South African Philatelic Dealers' Association

PO Box 47285, Parklands 2121. Hon Secretary Mr George Cafetzoglou; (011) 782-6985.

Philatelic Traders of Southern Africa

PO Box 167127, Brackendowns 1454. Secretary Mr X. Laubscher; (011) 867-2811.

Junior Rendezvous

Youth Activities Committee

Chairman/Secretary

Jill Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2845 (h)

Newsletter editor

David Wigston, PO Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2975 (h); (012) 429-6423/6565/6791 (w); fax (012) 429-3346

Stamp Packet Service/Mr Yaccy Postal Club

Ursula White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel.: (011) 896-1308 (h) MR YACCY is a countrywide stamp club by mail to all its members

Treasurer

Rowland Redmond, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463; tel (011) 896-2845 (h)

OFS Representative

Jan van Beukering, PO Box 29005, Danhof, Bloemfontein 9310; tel (051) 430-6550

Western Cape Representative

Dennis Horn, PO Box 471, Kuilsrivier 7580; tel (051)

Club Liaison

Allan White, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel (011) 896-1308 (h)

Current junior societies affiliated to the Federation are listed below.

The information is given in the following sequence: Name of Club, Frequency of meeting and time; venue; youth leader and address and tel no.:

Alberton Junior Stamp Club

Third Saturday 10:00-11:00

Brackenhurst Library

Mr John Hersey/Mrs Alet Swanepoel, PO Box 2458, Alberton 1450; tel (011) 907-6049/ (011) 907-4414 (h); fax (011) 907-6049

Alkantrant Library Junior Stamp Club

Third Friday of the month 15:00-16:00

Alkantrant Library

Mev Renitha Verwey, PO Box 75945, Lynwood Ridge, Pretoria 0040; tel (012) 662-0039 (h); (012) 47-4512 (w)

Benoni Junior Stamp Club

Third Saturday of the month 09:30

Rynfield Primary School, Malherbe St, Rynfield, Benoni

Mr Dave Hunt, PO Box 11388, Rynfield 1514; tel (011) 849-4578 (h); (011) 845-3045 (w)

Centurion Seëlmaats

Eerste Saterdag van die maand 14:00

Eldoraigne Biblioteek

Ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 52011, Wierdarpark 0149; tel (012) 660-2720 (h) & (w); fax (012) 660-2720

De Kuilen Jeugklub

Eerste Maandag van die maand 17:15

Manatokalaan, 23

Dennis Horn, Posbus 471, Kuilsrivier 7580; tel (021) 903-3363 (h); (021) 403-6097 (w)

Edenvale Youth Philatelic Society

First Wednesday of the month 18:30-19:30

Edenvale Community Centre, cnr. Van Riebeeck Avenue & 2nd Street, Edenvale

Mr Steve J Baillie; Mr Rodger Fardell, 62 Karen Road, Illiondale, Edenvale 1610; tel (011) 609-2709 (h); (011) 834-4230 (w)

Freeway Park Primary School Junior Stamp Club

First Friday of the month 14:00-15:00

Freeway Park Primary School, Room C7

Mrs Rojane Chivers, PO Box 9151, Cinda Park 1463; 7 Sheldon Street, Libradene, Boksburg, 1459; tel (011) 896-1675 (h); (011) 893-2027 (w)

George Posseëlklub/Stamp Club

Once a month

Meyerstraat 75, George-Oos

Elsabé du Toit, PO Box 4135, George Oos 6539; tel (0441) 71-1481 (h)

Goldfields Junior Stamp Club

Last Thursday of the month 19:00

Church Hall, NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus

Mrs Gerrie Conradie, PO Box 209, Odendaalsrus 9480; tel (057) 4-2864 (h); fax (057) 398-1104

Highveld Ridge Junior Stamp Club

Second Saturday of the month 10:00

Secunda Library Auditorium

Colin W Thomas, PO Box 304, Secunda 2302; tel (0136) 34-1762 (h); (0136) 64-1286 x2222 (w); fax (0136) 64-1359

Highway Youth Stamp Club

First Friday Each Month 17:00

Umdoni Centre

Howard Lenton, 33 Umdoni Centre, Crompton Street, Pinetown 3610; tel (031) 700-3176 (h); (031) 701-0631

Houtbay Junior Stamp Club

First Friday of the month 15:30

Hout Bay Library

Kenny Joseph, PO Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872; tel (021) 790-4287 (h); (021) 790-5943/4 (w)

Lepono Land Philately

Tuesday & Thursday 13:15

Lepono Primary School

Solomon Bonoko, Lepono Primary School, P.O. Swartbooiestad, North West Province; tel 0020-1811 Swartbooiestad

Nigel Junior Stamp Club

Second Saturday of each month 09:00

Nigel Tennis Club

Mrs Lesley Leemann, PO Box 1015, Nigel 1490; tel (011) 739-3377 (h)

Olienpark Jeugvereniging**Kontak Mev Habig**

Mev S Habig, Posbus 889, Brits 0250; tel (01211) 2-2160 (h); (01211) 58-9111 (w); fax (01211) 58-2203

OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging

Elke tweede Saterdag van die maand 09:30-11:15

Nasionale Museum, Henry Straat, Bloemfontein

Mev S Sorour, Gelderlandstraat 10, Bayswater 9301; tel (051) 33-2038 (h)

Penny Black Stamp Club**Every Thursday**

406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point
Lee Donlin, 406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point, Cape Town 8001; tel (021) 439-9293 (h)

Philatelic Society of Natal Juniors

First & Third Wednesday 7:30 for 8:00

With the seniors

Phillipa McIntosh, PO Box 588, Durban 4000; tel (031) 84-6151 (h); (031) 305-1930 (w)

Pietersburg Philatelic Society (Junior Section)

Last Tuesday of the month 19:30

Department of Culture, Pietersburg

Mr Solly Starkowitz, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700; tel (01521) 95-3516 (h); (01521) 95-4915 (w)

Port Elizabeth Junior Stamp Club

First Saturday every month 14:30

Walmer Library

Clinton Jones, PO Box 23355, Port Elizabeth 6000; tel (041) 51-4453 (h); (041) 55-9889 (w)

Postmark and Postal History Society

Third Saturday of the month with 5 Saturdays

Moth Shellhole, Parkhurst

Paul van Zeyl, PO Box 29012, Sunnyside, Pretoria 0132; tel (012) 329-2464 (h)

Pretoria Central Moot Stamp Club

First Friday of the month 15:00

Central Moot Library

Quintus Borgstein, PO Box 23168, Innesdale 0031; tel (012) 311-0006 (h)

St Mary's Seëlklub

Eerste Saterdag van die maand 10:30

St. Mary's R K Primêre Skool Biblioteek

Mev Elizabeth Fernold, Posbus 215, George 6530; tel (0441) 75-8229 (h); 75-8450 (w)

Two Four Junior Stamp Club

Second & Fourth Saturday of the month 14:00-16:00

Vincent Library, East London

Mr Dave McWilliams, PO Box 925, East London 5200; tel (0431) 47-1378 (h); (0431) 47-2588

West Rand Philatelic Society (Junior Section)

For details contact Lionel Bruyns, PO Box 1118, Florida 1725; tel (011) 760-2590 (h)

Worcester-Oos Seëlklub

Second & Fourth Monday during school term 13:30

Biblioteek, Laerskool Worcester-Oos

Dihana Kloppers, Posbus 1000, Worcester-Oos 6849; tel (0231) 2-229 (h)

Mr Yaccy Postal Club

For details contact Mrs Ursula White, P.O. Box 942, Boksburg 1460; tel (011) 896-1308 (h)

This is a country-wide stamp club operating by post to all its members.

Associated Affiliates**Junior Philatelists of America**

MaryAnn Bowman, PO Box 1451, Waukesha, WI 53187, United States of America

Lions International Stamp Club

Max Lurie, 29 McCaskill Way, Noranda 6062, Australia

Philatelic Youth Council of New Zealand, Inc

Rob Hunt, PO Box 2979, Auckland, New Zealand

Youth Development Programme**Western Australian Philatelic Council, Inc**

Arthur Holmes, GPO Box 9800, Perth 6001, Western Australia

■ Eques**Ruminations of a philatelist**

REGULAR readers (if any) will have noticed that it is Eques' habit to give more brickbats than bouquets, but this month two bouquets and one brickbat (one does not want to be too consistent) seem to be in order.

For many years Eques has been resigned to receiving his copies of *The London Philatelist* and *The American Philatelist*, published by The Royal Philatelic Society, London, and the American Philatelic Society respectively, one, two or even three months after publication depending on the vagaries of surface mail; by the time the journals arrived any special auction news or information regarding new books was probably out of date.

Both societies have recently arranged, quite independently, for their journals to be airspeeded to their overseas members resulting in Eques receiving his copies of both in the same month as that in which they were published. Big bouquets to both for

this initiative – with an extra large one to the APS for having an e-mail facility which enables Eques to correspond with it quickly and cheaply.

Exhibiting their collections, whether at club, national or international level, is, for many philatelists, one of life's little pleasures.

But at national and international exhibitions sheets have to be clearly numbered. One of the exhibitors' crosses is that different organisers demand that numbers be placed in a different place (front top right, top left, bottom right or bottom left – with the same options on the reverse).

So that either one keeps marking one's sheets, which in the end have to be re-written, or one marks the plastic protectors which are therefore rendered unusable for another exhibition which has a different requirement. Replacing sheets is time-consuming and expensive, and replacing covers is

simply becoming very expensive.

Some exhibitions are more considerate – they simply specify that the sheets/covers must be clearly numbered and leave it to the exhibitor to decide on the position. (Presumably people mounting an exhibit are reasonably intelligent and will be able to mount the sheets in correct order if the numbers are clearly marked in the same place.)

It was therefore inevitable that a paragraph in the prospectus recently issued with this journal would rouse Eques to fury. It states "Exhibition pages *must* be numbered in the top left corner on the front as 1/1 to 1/15 for frame one. . . ." Why?

In Eques' view this type of bureaucratic requirement is the sort of thing that discourages potential exhibitors from entering – and increases the cost of exhibiting.

A brickbat, then, for the prospectus in question. ■

Onderonsies/Society News

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

February 1996: The President welcomed eight members to this meeting which was for the first time held at the Parkhurst Philatelic Centre. All present expressed their satisfaction with this value.

The exhibit by Mr M Wierzbowski on German South West Africa shown in the adjoining hall, where the Summer Show of the South African Dealers Association (SAPDA) took place, was studied and commented on. This exhibit was well written up and beautifully illustrated with watercolours of SWA fauna and flora and of historic events.

It narrated South West Africa's early exploration by Portuguese sailors and its colonisation by Germany. The arrangement of the postal history section followed the opening times of the various post offices, starting with Otyimbingwe.

March 1996: We were very pleased to see Bertie Simpkins back after a long absence due to illness. He surprised us by showing a Cape 6d single stamp (SG No. 52a) with a magnificent Walvisch Bay strike (Putzel B2), dated 3.7.1890 with the day slug "3" inverted.

Mr Kornacker showed railway cancellers from Kalkfontein – mentioned, but not illustrated by Putzel. Mr C Hardijzer showed a map issued in 1909/10 and an album with picture postcards of the various indigenous tribes found in South West Africa at the beginning of the century. This could be a postcard exhibit at one of the next Nationals.

P van Zeyl showed and explained his exhibit "Comparative Postal History of Swakopmund and Walvisch Bay to the End of World War II (Silver at Alberton 95).

H U Bantz

MARITZBURG PS

February 1996: Mike Dyer commended the out-going president Anne Southwood on her stint "in the Chair", and spoke highly of her commitment to the society, and made special reference to the now famous "Anne's Quiz", and her continuing efforts with regard to the teas at meetings.

Robin Castle showed a selection of government meter franks now used on departmental mail – slogans and "Officials" stamps. Kees de Jong showed the new Readers Digest "50 in the middle" strip, but with ugly obliterated cancellations, and the back of an A4 envelope, with a whole sheet of the "Family" stamps. Susan Bowes-Taylor showed three of the new Robbie Burns stamps from the UK. Anne showed the UK "Robin-in-the-letterbox" Christmas stamp.

Alex Duigan then took great pains to explain the errors of our ways with regard to the report-back of the previous month's items of interest. The letter "D" was for Doornkop, the site of the finding of the first diamonds, and the story of Kitchener's movements related to the hi-jacking of the mail by the Boers, and thus finding the information about which way the troops were moving – in 1902. The Jameson raid was on 24 December 1895.

Alex pointed out Clem Baker's letter in *The SA Philatelist* (February 1996, p3) wherein the Thematic Stamp Club is now the Thematic Club of Southern Africa and was seeking new members.

He then dissected Martin East's article "How to tackle Thematics" (February 1996, p10), and pointed out the difficulty of getting

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proofs and colour trials in this areas. The cherry on the top was his suggestion that an original document signed by Da Vinci would enhance an exhibit. "I'll say!!"

He also made the bold statement that Zepelins were hard to find – "Not so", says Alex.

Our visitor from Gauteng – J-P Wharton-Hood – then showed us a typical 15-page one-frame exhibit on Zululand, and pointed out the highlights of the stamps, postmarks, and postal stationery. He also displayed a hand-painted essay for the first SA Airmail stamp by Hans Vogel, but rejected on the grounds of the two Junkers aircraft, with a fine pair of running ostriches in the foreground.

March 1996: The new president Michael Dyer welcomed especially Francis Eustace, newly arrived back from UK.

Mike said the club was not responsible for the activities of Postnet, but since Francis was now actively engaged in the promotion of the philatelic side, he was asked to elaborate. He said that he had visited the Bureau and spoke about their difficulties.

Francis will now field all queries and endeavour to resolve problems. Francis then handed out the supplement of the 1995 stamps he had prepared for reference.

Robin Castle showed a cover with a mysterious EEB cachet, which Francis identified as Eastern Electricity Board. Anne Southwood showed an envelope with an uncanceled 3d 1960 first six SA Prime Ministers stamp, and when she enquired why it hadn't been cancelled. The Post Office said it was too old, but they didn't surcharge it either! She also showed a superb Saint Helena cancellation.

Alex Duigan spoke about an auction catalogue with the famous 40c light red bisect and showed two examples (not the valuable one however!) He also showed a "Chinese" cover with all sorts of Eastern calligraphy, which turned out to be Japanese!

Geoff Mitchell showed 15 pages of his East African collection, accompanied by a most interesting overview of the history and development of the country.

"E" Competition. Robin showed stamps of Egypt after Syria – British Forces and United Arab Republic, then Arab Republic, whilst Riaan showed Energy, First Day of issue from Australia of Oilwells, Electricity and even thunderbolts!

Peter Southwood

ROYAL PS OF CAPE TOWN

22 January 1996: The first part of the meeting was devoted to a workshop on Total Stampex 1995. Three members put up the exhibits they had shown at Alberton last October: Des Hyland (The London and Pretoria Typo. Printing), Bill Ross (Cape of Good Hope Postal History, 1690-1901) and Fred Pike (St Helena Queen Victoria Stamps).

Our President invited then to comment on their perception of the strengths and weaknesses of their exhibits. Constructive criticism and discussion ensued. However, as none of these exhibits had achieved less than vermeil, serious faults were hardly discernible!

Next up was John Taylor from the UK, with an extensive showing of Adrian Jurgens fabrications taken from the archive of the BPA Expert Committee. There were stamps (many of them Cape triangulars) both off and on cover, bearing fake cancellations. Many of the covers

were of the official free (OHMS) stampless variety, to which Jurgens had affixed stamps (often damaged copies) which he then cancelled. (He employed, for instance, at least 4 types, all forgeries, of the 1853 small triangular obliterator.)

The three lovely covers bearing revenue stamps illustrated in Chapter 59 of Jurgens' book on the Handstruck Letterstamps of the Cape (for which he was awarded the Crawford Medal of the Royal of London), were all fabricated by him.

This full and enjoyable meeting closed with picture postcard displays by nine members.

12 February 1996: David Crocker said his interest in Germany is in three areas – the period of currency reform; the buildings stamps; and the struggle between East and West. (Unfortunately, however, he had left his inflationary period material behind!) German stamps and postmarks can be very difficult when it comes to expertisation, he said.

Quality items were shown, both stamps (including some cancelled "by favour" and other forms of cancellation) and postal history. Also, Danzig overprints, and the use of anti-Semitic propaganda on stamps.

Dr Mervyn Rosenberg showed the provisional issues of the CGH Rectangulars. An impressive and beautifully presented display, with all the surcharges being show. There were rarities such as a bookpost cover of 1874 bearing a 1d on 6d deep lilac adhesive and a 4d stamp with spelling error, on cover.

Dr Chris Board from UK discussed Taxe Markings of the Transvaal. An array of covers was shown in photocopy (some being in colour) spread over 30 pages. A plain "T" mark has been recorded for Marabastad in 1876, but the main types date from about 1894.

The "T in circle" type, often accompanied by a value, is associated with Johannesburg. Most intriguing are the due marks with different Roman numerals at the foot; certain offices of use have yet to be identified.

Other types include the TPO (Travelling Post Office) marks. Of particular interest was a cachet reading "Postage not prepaid in Transvaal stamps".

26 February 1996: At the 85th Annual General Meeting of the society all outgoing committee members were re-elected.

Among the reports was the Hon. Librarian's news that the society's 1 348 titles were now cross-referenced in a computerised catalogue. **Malcolm Murphy**

EAST RAND PS

January 1996: Peter van der Molen conducted a workshop on the preparation of an exhibit. With the experience of many exhibitions, Peter gave us much valid advice on laying out and writing up each page with special attention to page sizes and mounting.

February: George van den Hurk, our guest, presented the Annual Society Trophies to Jill Redmond, Anne-Tudhope and Richard Plane. The evening concluded with a fine display of George's "Transvaal Letter Rates, 1872-1900" and Mittenholzer airmail covers.

March: A well-attended meeting enjoyed Joel Latinsky's display of "Flying Scrolls" from Israel. This exhibit won the ERPS trophy at last year's National Total Stampex 1995, so we are eager to view this presentation – certainly a worthy winner of the trophy.

A mini-auction with material donated by Wilhelm Grütter for the promotion of youth activities raised R170. These very varied items attracted much interest.

The stalwarts of the society sat back and learnt about the Boer War situation from an audio-visual presentation of Dr A P Burger's collection of envelopes and letters of his grand-

father, a Dominee and family, sent between POW camps in Howick and similar camps in India. A most interesting study from within a family history. Our Annual Auction will be in October – on the second Monday of the month, that is 14 October in the Benoni Library Theatre, as usual. On 9 November we plan to repeat our "Shop Window" local exhibition.

Last year the response from our own members had us running out for more frames!

In addition to the non-competitive exhibits, the society's members' entries for the annual trophies are exhibited and judged. Therefore the Benoni public are able to view both prize-winning collections and fun collections.

M K Lowe

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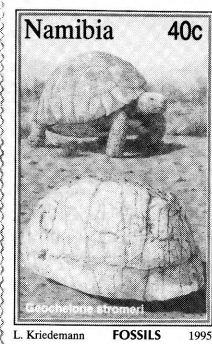
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