



WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Country Club Johannesburg, Auckland Park

Meeting Venue: Country Club Johannesburg, Napier Road, Auckland Park

NEWSLETTER No. 379: SEPTEMBER 2025

THE ONE FRAME EXHIBITION MONTH

Dear Members

This, the September 2025 Newsletter No. 379, handles the following items:

- 1) Schedule of dates for the Auckland Park Meetings in 2025 (Clause 1: Page 1)
- 2) Schedule of dates for the Woodmead meetings in 2025 (Clause 2: Page 1).
- 3) Emails received from members (Clause 3: Page 1 to 2).
- 4) The in-person and digital via Zoom Stamp Study meeting at Woodmead on 27th August 2025 held at 19h00 (Clause 4: Pages 2 to 7).
- 5) Salient Points arising from Congress 2025 at the National Exhibition in Paarl (Clause 5: Pages 7 to 8).
- 6) Important message regarding packages to and from the USA (Clause 6 Page 8).
- 7) The One Frame Exhibition at Auckland Park on 10th September 2025 held at 16h00 (Clause 7: Pages 9 to 13).

1. DATES FOR THE REMAINING 2025 MEETINGS AT AUCKLAND PARK

The table below gives the remaining dates for the Auckland Park 2025 meetings to be held in the Upstairs Dining Rooms at 16h00.

Wednesday	10 th September 2025	One Frame Competitive Meeting
Wednesday	8 th October 2025	Second Competitive Meeting
Wednesday	12 th November 2025	Invited Exhibitor
Wednesday	10 th December 2025	President's Meeting + Cocktail Party

2. DATES FOR THE STAMP STUDY MEETINGS AT WOODMEAD

The table below gives the dates for the next Stamp Study meetings at Woodmead.

Wednesday	27 th August 2025
Wednesday	24 th September 2025
Wednesday	29 th October 2025
Wednesday	26 th November 2025

3. EMAILS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS

Shortly after receiving the August 2025 Newsletter No. 378 on 22.08.2025, *Dr David Mordant*, the member in Vancouver in Canada, sent the message below to *Nikki* and *Herbie*:

Hi Herbie & Nikki,

Thank you for the August 2025 Newsletter No. 378 received today. It opened and displayed so magnificently on the Foxit pdf reader, which made it so easy to read on the screen. Normally I do not read on the screen in order to preserve my eyes and print anything of interest. I was wondering if anybody knows of a philatelic society anywhere in the world that produces such a quality newsletter as the monthly one from the WPS. It is certainly the best I have ever encountered. All Kudos to Herbie, who I think composes it, and Nikki who sends it out so regularly.

Once again there were so many interesting articles beautifully displayed, but in this case my personal favourites were *World War One: The South African Campaign in German South West Africa* (Jim Findlay) and *the Railways of South West Africa* (Howard Green), as all things South West Africa are also fields of interest of mine. Also the information on the overprints on the Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika stamps (Ian Matheson), the origin of which had always puzzled me.

Here in North America the last six months have resulted in so much economic turmoil with tariffs changing continuously, that philately has become a really satisfying refuge from all the uncertainty. I wonder how any organisation sets its selling prices if they are unsure of their input costs, and we saw this morning that even the mighty Walmart is experiencing difficulty. The stamp market remains firm especially for good material and *Corinphila* in Switzerland enjoyed a very successful week of auctions. And there seems to be more top class collections coming onto the market, which I think any of us still buying must welcome.

We in the Northern Hemisphere have experienced a relatively cool summer with more than adequate rain, so hopefully water restrictions will not be required. One feature has been the Blood Moons, the red colour being caused by the atmospheric pollution from the often highly destructive veld and forest fires. Very kind regards from North America.

David Mordant.

The next day, on 23.08.2025, a short message was received from Janice Botes, one of our appointed Honorary Members:

Dear Nikki and Herbie,

A most interesting read, as always - thank you Nikki and Herbie.

And wishing you a splendid birthday Herbie. Sincere good wishes for a happy, healthy "new" year.

Best regards always.

Janice Botes.

On 25.08.2025, another email was received from Dr David Mordant:

Hi Herbie

Well, Monday has arrived here and Anne Lize and I seem to remember that it is the 88th birthday for Herbie, four months and one week before Anne Lize is due to turn 88.

We wish you a happy day, a sweet year and whatever you wish for yourself to occur.

I was reading again this weekend the Jim Findlay article in the latest WPS newsletter and was struck by how profusely and tellingly it is illustrated. The thought occurred to me that maybe the WPS monthly Newsletters should be digitised (with an index) for future philatelic reference. Often the inserts in the WPS newsletter are better presented and more interesting than articles on the same subject in more traditional philatelic journals.

Here it is suddenly hot after a coolish summer, so it is shorts and sleeping on top of the bed.

Bottoms Up.

Anne Lize and David..

4. THE IN-PERSON AND DIGITAL VIA ZOOM MEETING HELD AT WOODMEAD IN THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE ON 27TH AUGUST 2025

The chairperson for the Stamp Study meeting in the Captain's Table at Woodmead on 27th August was Ian Matheson, who brought a large cream cake, a large packet of chips and a packet of peanuts and raisins.

There were 3 in-person members in the room and 9 philatelists via Zoom, three of whom were members of the Society, namely Don & Denise Collie and Adél Bulpitt,

Ian Matheson provided his laptop to run the Zoom show and the Country Club IT set up the camera, cables and remote control. *Adél Bulpit* ran the Zoom from Manchester in Britain.

The only person to show an exhibit was *Ian Matheson* with an exhibit, entitled '*FRANCE: Poster Display Tax: 'Tax d'Affichage'*' in two Parts.

The problem that *Ian* had was that his computer was misbehaving and he lost all of the scans that he was to use for this presentation. He was therefore unable to send his normal presentation for insertion in the Newsletter. He therefore only sent a write-up, two pdf scans of poster displays and a number of coloured slides. He was sure that considering *Herbie's* experience at writing Newsletters, he was sure he could do something logical with the information provided.

Ian's presentation was the first of a multi-part series of displays on "Poster Display Tax" ("*Taxe d'Affichage*") in France. Part 1 featured the wet and mobile stamps of the National tax. Future parts will address the departmental and municipal taxes.

Ian opened his presentation with a series of early photographs of downtown Paris showing posters affixed to every available wall surface. Some of these posters, such as those by *Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec* had become collectors' items and were frequently reproduced. However maintaining appearances in public places presents a real challenge to the authorities as old posters must be removed. A tax was introduced to address the costs.

The tax was introduced during the French Revolution by a decree of 22nd July 1791. All posters displayed in public places were liable to the tax. In the early days payment was indicated by "wet stamps", i.e. a handstamp on each poster to indicate that payment had been made. A number of posters were displayed bearing examples of wet stamps.



In 1871 it was decided to introduce "mobile stamps", i.e. adhesive stamps to indicate payment of the tax. At about the same time France was engaged with Germany in the Franco-Prussian War and France was defeated. When Germany had been defeated by Napoleon's forces earlier in the century, France had demanded financial reparation from Germany.

The boot was now on the other foot. Germany demanded five billion francs from the French, in the hope that it would cause serious economic damage and reduce France's influence in the world markets. France tried to raise capital internationally and the request was significantly over-subscribed. Germany's expectations were not met. Unfortunately, France now had to find a way to repay the loans. One of the fund-raising initiatives was to raise numerous domestic taxes by



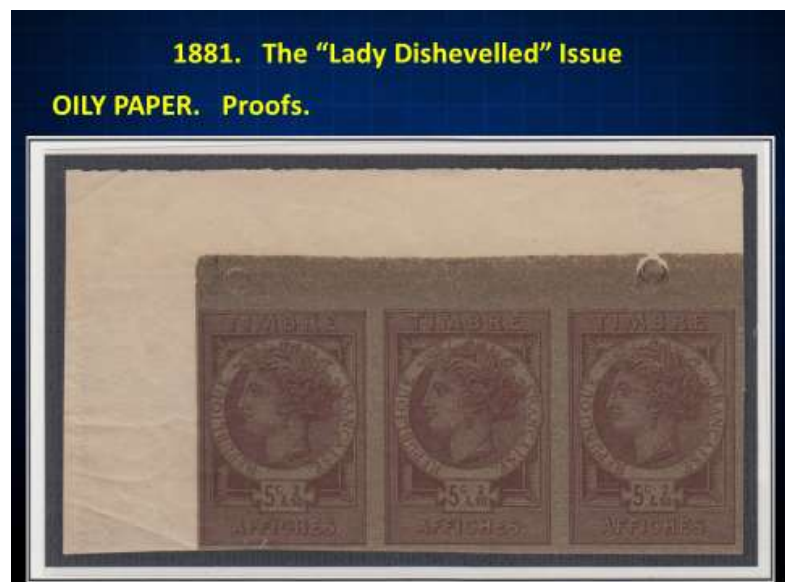
20%. The revenue stamp issue was held back and the duty-plates modified to show the addition of a further 20%.

Four different designs were employed.

1. **The Numeral Issue.** This design was used for many types of tax. Archive material was shown including specimens. Samples of all new revenue stamps were sent to each of the major court-houses around the country in the same way as specimens of postage stamps were circulated internationally by the UPU. All the Affiches tax stamps were shown on court circular documents. The later examples were hand-stamped “Epreuve”, French for “proof”. Mint stamps were shown as well as “typographically used” stamps. The stamps had to be attached to the poster before printing and the print would tie the stamp and prevent re-use. Numerous posters were shown for each of the stamp issues.



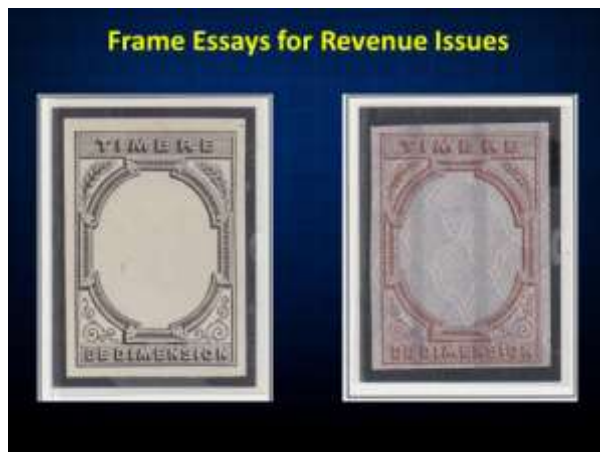
2. **“Lady Dishevelled”.** The second design showed the head of Medusa and was known as Lady Dishevelled. The first stamps exhibited were imperforate. The second set showed the stamps with an oily coating as a ploy to protect the stamps from ravages of weather. This experiment was discontinued after a short time. The final Lady Dishevelled issue was perforated.



3. **Tasset Medallion.** The design was so named as it had been engraved by Tasset at the Government Printers. There were three sets, which utilized this design, reflecting the need for higher face values as tax rates increased. The third of the sets did not include the 20% extra to pay the National debt. It appears that the debt had now been paid.



4. Revenue Issues.



It was hoped that the readers of Ian's presentation would understand it and enjoy it.

As there were no more exhibits to be shown by those attendees via Zoom, *Adél Bulpitt* terminated the digital via Zoom meeting at 20h00, leaving the 3 in-person attendees in the Captain's Table venue at Woodmead to carry on with the meeting.

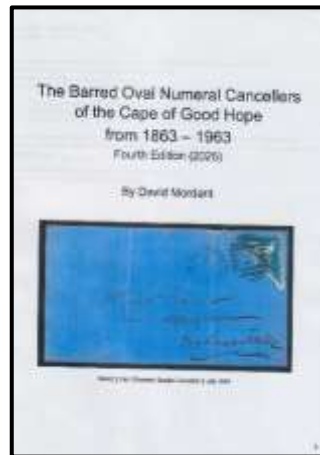
Herbie Schaffler, one of the in-person attendees at the meeting, had brought along a number of items that should be of interest to members when they receive the Newsletter.

- a) Dr David Mordant, the Society's home member in Vancouver in Canada, had couriered *Herbie* a set of the four document he had sent earlier as part of his Citation to be presented at the 2025 Congress at the National Exhibition in Paarl on Friday, 5th September 2025. The documents received from Vancouver included the following:

- i. The Barred Oval Numeral Cancellor (BONC) of the Cape of Good Hope from 1863 to 1963 by David Mordant.



- ii. The Barred Oval Numeral Cancellers (BONC) of the Cape of Good Hope from 1863 to 1963 (Fourth Edition 2025) by David Mordant.



- iii. Concentration Camps of the Anglo-Boer War (1899 to 1902) by David Mordant.



- iv. For Queen, Country and Empire. An eyewitness account of 125 pages by a Canadian Gunner, Ray Poole, of his daily life in the Anglo-Boer War from 1899 to 1902 as told in his letters home to his parents and siblings in Nova Scotia and his aunts and cousins in England.

- b) A 30 page thermally bound copy of the First Definitive Issues of South Africa as exhibited by *Herbie Schaffler*, entitled '*The Most Spectacular Errors and Varieties*'.
A black and white copy of the First RSA Definitive Stamps as exhibited at the National Philatelic Exhibition Benoni 1994. It was awarded a Vermeil Certificate, the East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy and the Stamp Study Philatelic Award.



- c) A 90 page thermally bound black & white copy of an 8 Frame Exhibit of the First Definitive Issues of the RSA stamps exhibited at the Jomapex 2013 Exhibition at which exhibition a gold was awarded. Unfortunately the exhibit plus all other First Definitive material was sold after the exhibition.

It's a good idea to make copies of good exhibits and have them bound at a stationery.

- d) A Witwatersrand Philatelic Society Z-Folder.



These Z-Folders are displayed with other Sub-Club Z-Folders on a display table in the entrance hall at the Woodmead Section.

5. SALIENT POINTS ARISING FROM CONGRESS 2025 IN PAARL

Congress 2025 was held at the National Exhibition in Paarl on Friday, 5th September 2025. The Chief Operating Office of the Federation, *André du Plessis*, emailed the Salient Points arising from the Congress 2025 on Saturday, 6th September 2025, to members. The Salient Points affecting members of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society are listed below:

- Affiliation Fees for 2026 will be R150.00 per member.
- A Motion was accepted that the term of the Chairman of the Federation Management Committee will be three years, which can be extended for a further year after which he has to stand down. He may be able to stand again at a later stage.

- A National Stamp Show and Congress will be held in Gauteng during the third or fourth week of October 2026, hosted by the PFSA, assisted by members from Gauteng Societies.
- Congress 2026 will be held during the Stamp Show and the date will be communicated.
- *Louwrence Erasmus*, a member of the Afrikaanse Filatelie Vereniging van Pretoria was elected the PFSA President for 2026.
- *John Handman* from the Maritzburg Philatelic Society and a member of the WPS was elected Chairman of the PFSA Management Committee.
- *Derek Roth* remained the PFSA Treasurer for 2026.
- *Gary Pienaar* remained the Region Vice-President for Region 1 for Gauteng and the North West Province.
- The Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA remained *André du Plessis RDPSA*.
- The Exhibitions Committee to be chaired by *André du Plessis RDPSA*.
- The Expert Committee to be chaired by *Michael Wigmore RDPSA*.
- The Promotions Committee to be chaired by *Louwrence Erasmus*.
- The Judging and Ethics Committee to be chaired by *Neil Cronjé RDPSA*.
- The acting Publications Committee Chair would be *André du Plessis RDPSA*
- The SA Philatelist Committee would be chaired by *Louwrence Erasmus*,
- The Awards Custodian remained *Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL*.
- The SA Post Office Representative to be *Dineo Poo*.
- The Post Liaison to be handled by *Alex Visser RDPSA*.
- The SAPDA Representative to be *Kenny Napier*.
- *Alan Rose* from the East Rand Philatelic Society and *Danna Strydom* from the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society were invited to Sign the Roll of Honour for Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa.
- The two top Exhibition Awards being the **Grand Prix** and the **Post Office Shield** were both presented to *Patrick Flanagan RDPSA, FRPSL* for the *Small Arms Issues of the British South Africa Company (1892 to 1908)* and to *Patrick Flanagan RDPSA, FRPSL* for *The Cape Triangular Stamps and their Use*.
- Other home or non-home members of the Wits Society, who exhibited were *Howard Green, Gary Pienaar* and *Francois Friend*.

6. IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM DAVID MORDANT FOR PHILATELISTS

An important message was received from *David Mordant* in Vancouver in Canada on Monday, 8th September 2025, which could be particularly relevant for philatelists, who shipped packages to or from the USA:

The Trump administration through the United States Postal Service has instituted from 29th August 2025 the following:

- 1) *All shipments entering the USA must have duties prepaid, irrespective of their value.*
- 2) *Every package shipped from Canada (and probably from most other countries) to the USA will have an ad valorem duty applied equal to the effective tariff rate applicable to the products country of origin under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA). For Canada, the current IEEPA rate is 35% for most goods.*
- 3) *Thus, the USA has suspended its duty-free de-minimis threshold of US\$800 for all countries.*
- 4) *This effectively makes it uneconomic for USA purchasers to continue purchasing philatelic material from Canada.*

- 5) *And if Canada responds in like measure, it will make purchasing philatelic material from the USA too expensive.*
- 6) *This could easily spread to other countries (all governments are looking for new sources of revenue) and make purchasing philatelic material in a foreign country much more expensive.*

Kind regards

David.

7. **THE ONE FRAME MEETING AT AUCKLAND PARK ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER 2025, AT 16H00.**

The One-Frame meetings have always extremely popular. At the One-Frame evening in July 2003, although it was a bitterly cold evening, a total of 45 members and guest turned up for the meeting and 14 members showed One Frame exhibits. Can you believe that? Only 10 persons attended this One-Frame meeting and 3 members brought 4 exhibits.

- a) **Welcome.** The President welcomed the Distinguished Philatelists present: *Howard Green, Ian Matheson and Vic Sorour.*

He then welcomed the big wigs from the Philatelic Federation, *Howard Green*, Honorary Life-Vice President, *Ian Matheson*, Awards Custodian, *Gary Pienaar*, Vice- President for Region 1 and *Derek Roth*, the Federation Treasurer.

He particularly welcomed *Adél Bulpitt* back from the UK, all other members present and *Michael Gristwood* as a visitor and potential new member.

Apologies were received from *Jill Redmond, Jim Findlay, Danna Strydom, Denise & Don Collie, David Mordant, Marleen Schalkwijk, Kenny Napier, Herwig Kussing, Joha de Maayer, Peter Coetzee, Francois Friend, Robert Harm and Nikki Espley-Jones.*

b) **Recovering**

Derek Roth was looking very well after the surgery he undertook in May 2025, although he had to undergo further surgery in October 2025.

c) **Date for next Auckland Park Meeting**

Wednesday	8 th October 2025	Second Competitive Meeting.
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d) **General:**

- **Stamp Study Circle meeting at the Woodmead Section.** The next meeting at Woodmead, being a combined in-person and digital via Zoom meeting, will be held on Wednesday, 24th September 2025, at 19h00. The chairperson will be *Adél Bulpitt*.
- **Philakorea Exhibition 2025** will be held from 17th to 21st September 2025 in Seoul. The commissioner will be *Gary Pienaar*.
- **2026 National Exhibition:** The 2026 National Stamp Show and Congress will be held in Gauteng during the third or fourth week of October 2026, hosted by the PFSA, assisted by members from Gauteng Societies. Congress 2026 will be held during the Stamp Show and the date will be communicated.

e) One Frame Exhibits

Three members brought four One-Frame Exhibits.

First to show with a One Frame Exhibit was to be Adél Bulpitt. Her exhibit was entitled ‘*Angola Military Aerograms*’, but she was unable to prepare a write-up, as, having just returned from 4 months in England, her Internet was out of action. She was prepared to drive down to a Mall and prepare the write-up. *Herbie* said ‘don’t worry’. You can show next month.

Next to exhibit was Ian Matheson with an exhibit, entitled ‘*Entertainment Tax in the Orange Free States*’.

The first Ordinance from the Orange Free State introducing entertainment tax was No. 6 of 1917. Unfortunately, no printer archives have been seen to enable collectors to determine print dates or even the values in each set. Few taxed tickets have been recorded – these would have enabled a more comprehensive study of these issues to be conducted. Tax payment was indicated by use of either adhesive stamps or Government tickets. This display showed numerous examples of each.

The only archive material to come to light is a strip of four and a pair of 3d stamps, which appeared in 2022. *Ian* showed the pair. The first set can be identified by a capital “D” on the value.



Two sub-types exist – a small bold “D” and a larger thin “D”.

The second set featured a lower case “d”.



The third and final set had small numerals.



It is assumed that each set had higher values of 1/- or more, but Ian could not reliably determine which shilling values belonged to which set. Two types are illustrated



Numerous Government tickets were shown. The two main types were (a) stamps printed separate from perforations and (b) stamp printed across perforation. Both were shown.



Many minor varieties were noted – raised and lowered letters, different fonts and raised, lowered or missing stops. These varieties were seen on both stamps and Government tickets.

Next to exhibit was **Vic Sorour** with an exhibit, entitled ‘*Protea Stamps used on Registered Mail Covers*’.

Registered mail covered two fees, namely a standard postage and a registration surcharge. When the Protea Definitive Series was released in May 1977, the fee for a standard envelope was 4c with a 15c registration surcharge, totalling 19c. Vic displayed covers illustrating various rate changes over time.

Non-standard covers, larger than normal or heavier than 50g, required higher rates. One example was shown.

Registered items could also be sent by airmail or express delivery at extra cost with examples shown.

The exhibit features covers with incorrect postage, a registered cover damaged by a letter bomb and one showing a constant flaw on a 10c stamp.



A registered cover from Arcadia to Emmerentia damaged by a letter bomb in December 1977.

Although **Adél Bulpitt**, was unable to prepare a write-up on her exhibit, entitled '*Angola Military Aerograms*', her write-up would be included in the next Newsletter. In the interim *Herbie* found an Angola Airmail Letter (not Aerogram) on the Internet, which is included below:

Special Airmail Letter Sheets were available to the forces, either printed locally in Angola or printed in Portugal and overprinted in Angola. They were produced between 1964 and 1974 and were carried free by T.A.P. to Portugal. The common marking was *Aereo Isento de Porte E de Sobretaxa Aerea*. These letters are not very common, but are listed in the Higgins and Gare Postal Stationery Catalogue, copies of which are available on eBay.



Last to show was **Adél Bulpitt** with her second exhibit, entitled '*Forgeries of Countries*'. This exhibit was shown by *Adél* at the First Competitive Meeting in June 2023, entitled '*Philatelists preparing Forgeries*'.



Sigmund Friedl was a famous Austrian philatelist. Toward the end of his life, he defrauded stamp collectors by selling them forgeries



François Fournier (1846–1917) born in Switzerland, but became a French citizen and served in the army during the Franco-Prussian War in 1870/71.

The exhibit showed genuine and forged stamps of China, Hawaii, Korea, Sicily and Mauritius. As more forged stamps might have been found, we'll ask *Adél* to rather show the genuine and forged stamps again to be included in the October 2025 Newsletter.

The President thanked the three exhibitors for a fine display of One Frame exhibits.

Well that's all for now

Best regards and stay safe.

Herbie Schaffler