

PS of J Newsletter

JUNE 2026



Welcome to our June newsletter.

Our last meeting

On 20th May we had 10 members and 2 guests at our meeting. The theme for the afternoon was **British Commonwealth**.

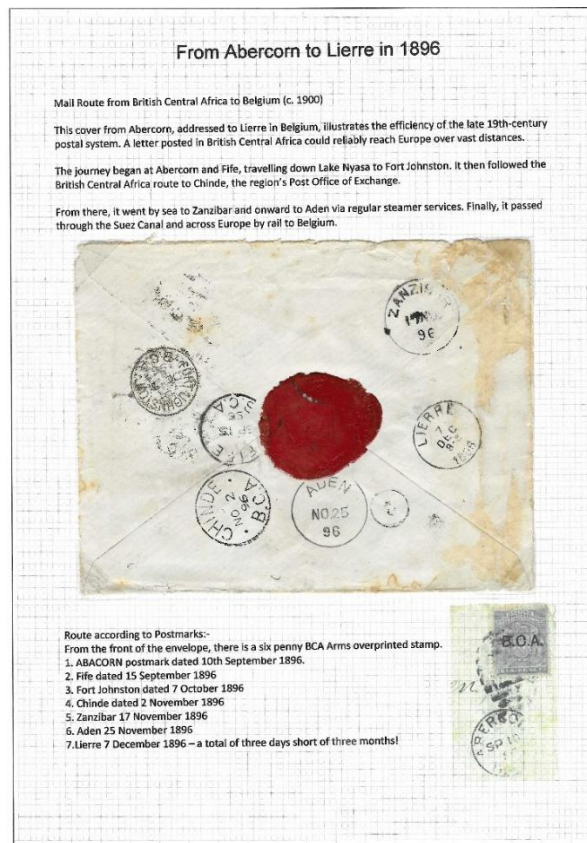
After welcoming all present, Clive reminded members of the 200 circuit books he was holding ready for members to find something there for their collections. 4 members had already gone through the books. Three of them were fortunate to find many items for their collections.

Items of interest

Peter Coetzee, now living in Ireland, responded to our call for one-page items. I'm sure most of you remember Peter as our VP Region 1. Here he is handing out the Society Shield to Ian at our 2018 A.G.M.



Peter, who receives our newsletters, sent us this very interesting and well-travelled cover from Abercorn which is called Mbala today in northern Zambia.



Thanks Peter.

Hopefully we will receive more interesting items from our distant members.

Jim Findlay had a few SA Airforce posters showing the various aircraft the Airforce had over the years. Of interest was the perpetual calendars at the bottom of the posters. These he offered to any member wanting one.

Exhibits

Clive Carr showed 21 pages of Basutoland 1953 - 1966

Basutoland was a British Colony from 1884 to 1966. It was made a British protectorate in 1868 following appeals from King Moshoeshoe whose land and people were being overrun by Zulus, Ndebele and Boers from the OVS.

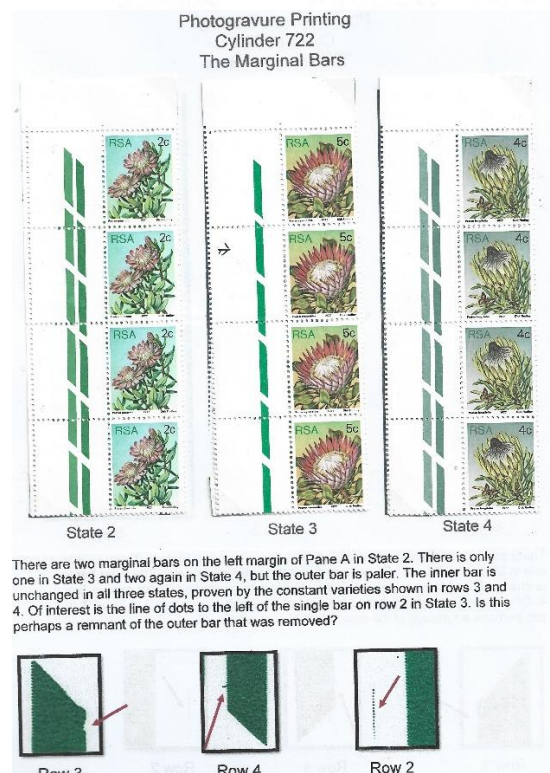
This exhibit on 21 pages covers stamps issued from the coronation of QE II on 3rd June 1953 to the issue on 24th January 1966. This was the last issue before Basutoland became the Independent Kingdom of Lesotho on 4th October 1966.

The exhibit consists of mainly mint stamps, stamps used on covers and varieties, some of which are used.



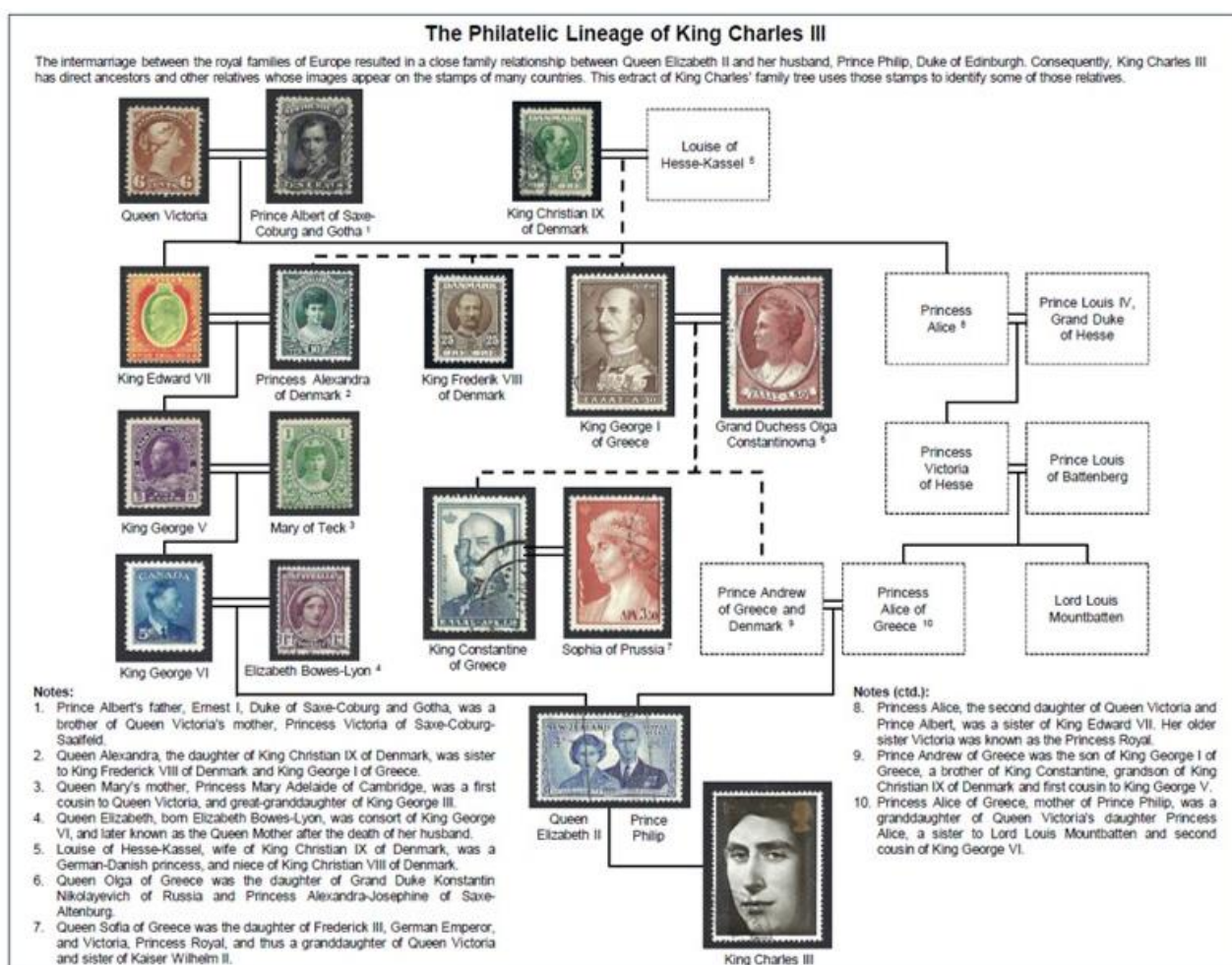
Vic Sorour showed 16 pages of Proteas telling the story of cylinder 722.

The Protea Definitive Series was issued in May 1977, exactly 49 years ago. It consisted of seventeen values in sheet form. Nine were printed by cylinders used to print the protea, the background, the wording and the value. Each value had its own four dedicated cylinders. The fifth cylinder was used to print the RSA in all nine values. This was Cylinder 722. The RSA and the cylinder number 722 are always the same colour, but of course they are different for each value.



At some stage during the printing of the series, Philatelic services/Government printer decided to change the function of cylinder 722. They realised that the marginal bars, arrows and the pane letter (MAP) are the same in all nine values and that it would be easier to print these with 722 rather than have a separate cylinder for each value. So a new cylinder was made to print RSA, 722 marginal bars arrow and pane letter. BUT and this is what caused all the confusion, they kept the name and number cylinder 722 and did not give it a new name or number. To add to the confusion cylinder 722 was damaged during printing and had to be replaced. Again the name and number was not changed.

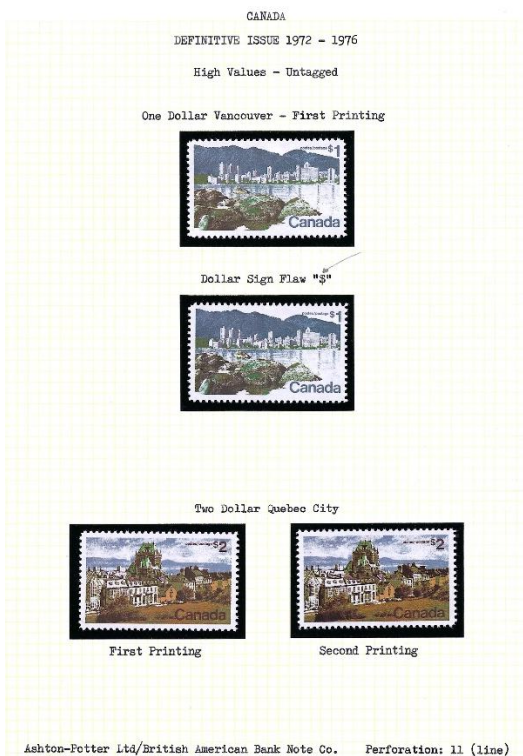
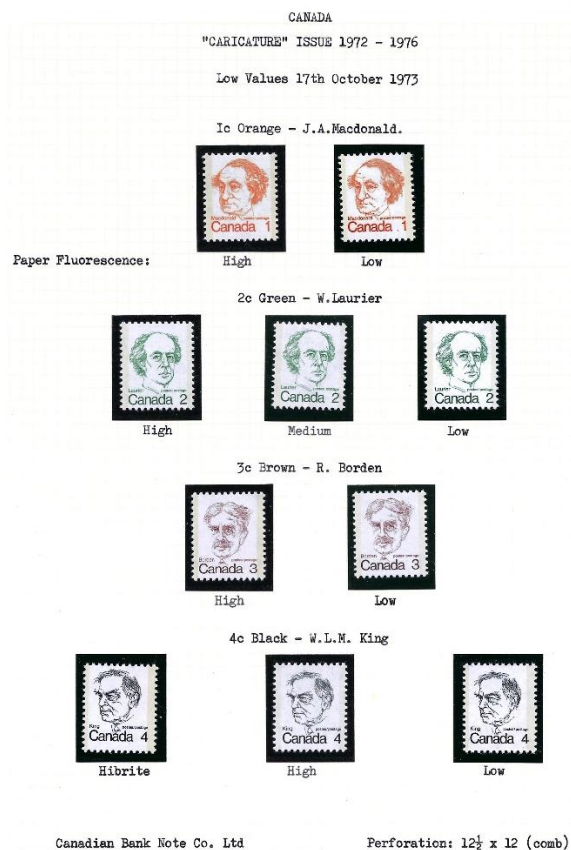
Terry Lydall had two exhibits. The first on an A3 one-page exhibit, showing the lineage of KCIII in philatelic terms.



His second exhibit was 59 pages of Canada

*CANADA'S QE II DEFINITIVE ISSUES
1972 – 1979*

The "CARICATURE and LANDSCAPE" issue (1972 – 1978) is a one of the more complex and interesting stamp series issued by Canada during the early Elizabethan era.



The issue started with the large format \$1 & \$2 values in March 1972, followed by 5 smaller medium value landscapes in September of that year. The low values, consisting of line drawing portraits of 6 prime ministers (1c – 6c) and HM QEII (8c), later dubbed the “Caricature Portraits”, were issued in October 1973. A new 7c value, featuring prime minister Louis S. St Laurent, followed in April 1974 and the 8c QEII value was changed to 10c in September 1976.

Additional printings of the 7c St Laurent, 10c QEII and the \$1 & \$2 values were issued up until March 1978. The 16 different face designs have produced over 140 major varieties when you include two security printers, booklets and booklet se-tenant combinations, experimentation in terms of paper fluorescence, tagging and perforations, plus errors and plate varieties, making this a seriously complex issue.

The “ENVIRONMENT” series (1977 – 1987), consisted of 7 themes: Wildflowers (1c – 15c), Tree Foliage (15c – 35c), Street Scenes (50c – 80c), National Parks (\$1 - \$5), QEII portrait (12c – 36c), Houses of Parliament (1c – 17c) and Maple Leaf (5c – 32c). As had been common practice in Canada, parts of these issues overlapped the previous series, commencing in March 1977. I have included only the first three of these themes together with the two high values issued in 1979 in this exhibit, as the remainder of the series were mostly issued in the 1980’s and involve a whole new level of complexity. Whilst

it lacks the huge variety in paper fluorescence of the previous series, the variety of perforations, printing styles and multiple paper manufacturers provide for an interesting study.



Varieties:

Varieties are created by different types of paper used, the use of two printers with different perforators, and experimentation with paper quality, phosphor tagging and ink colours to facilitate the use of automated postal sorting systems by Canada Post, which required the identification of the postage stamp on the envelope by optical detection equipment. The exhibit shows examples of most of these variations, as well as tagging placement errors, plate varieties, double prints and "printed on gummed side". The stamps shown are from sheets (showing imprints with plate numbers where possible) and coils. Booklet stamps and precancels have not been included.

Ted Roberts had a 9-page exhibit of examples of the peelable self-stick stamps of Sierra Leone

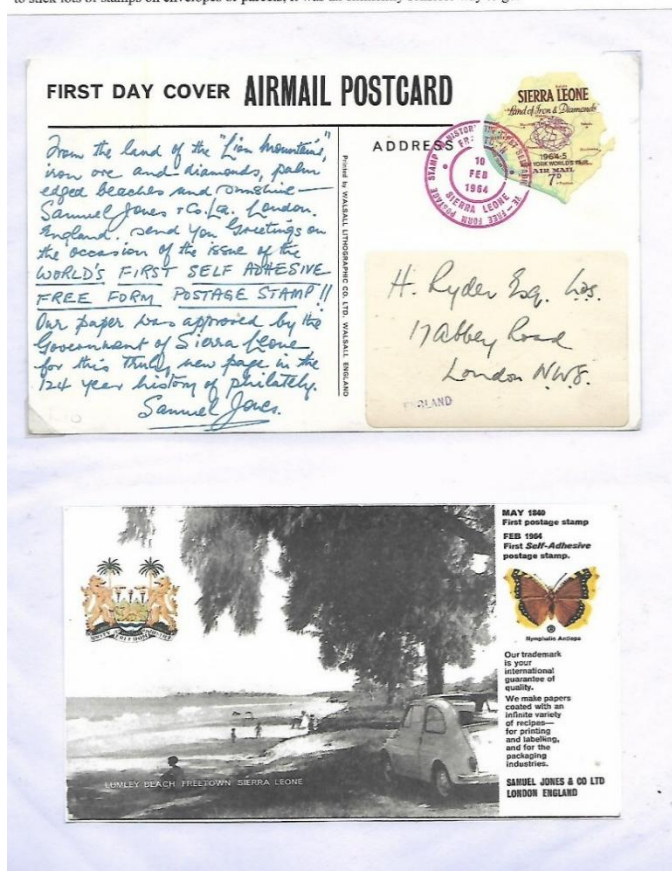
The exhibit includes the commercial use of these stamps.

The First Day postcard claims “THE WORLD'S FIRST SELF ADHESIVE FREE FORM POSTAGE STAMP”. However, as pointed out by Ian, that honour was actually due to Tonga.

SIERRA LEONE SELF-ADHESIVE STAMPS

Sierra Leone was the first country in the world to issue self-adhesive stamps (10 Feb. 1964). These stamps were also free-form. However, it was the second country to issue free-form stamps (the first being Tonga on 17 June 1963, though these had a simple round design).

These stamps were widely condemned by philatelists at the time as “gimmicks”. Yet for people who had to stick lots of stamps on envelopes or parcels, it was an eminently sensible way to go.





Our next meeting

On 17th June our meeting will have the theme **Mini Exhibits, 1 to 16 pages.**

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Executive Committee

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Committee members: Ray Hackworth, Gary Pienaar & Howard Green
