



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
PORT ELIZABETH FILATELIEVERENIGING
 ESTABLISHED 1890 - RECONSTITUTED 1912

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 The Fig Tree, Charlo, 6033, RSA

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Newsletter May 2026

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Next meeting

1 Jun 2026 at 11:00

editor's note

Welcome to our newsletter for May with autumn nearly over in the Eastern Cape, days getting shorter plus colder albeit that people in this region remain blessed with loads of 20 °C plus days. Summer times in the northern hemisphere mean loads of sport on television to keep one warm during the upcoming short (and brr) winter days. Also loads more time to dust of your in-house collectables and start working on collections again with more intensity. As one becomes older a bigger premium is placed on one's time so we trust you will find the time to enjoy the fifth newsletter of the year. Keep well, safe and sound.

from the secretary's desk

Birthdays for June 2026: Barry Green on 2 June, Lieb Venter on 4 June, Dudley de Klerk on 15 June, Bruce Watson on 20 June and Werner van der Merwe on 28 June; we wish them all a joyous day.

rolling programme for 2026/2027

month	date	happenings
June	1 Jun 2026	Neville Polakow Trophy and Mike Koyd Postal History Shield competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
July	6 Jul 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
August	3 Aug 2026	Philatelic Services Stamp's Friend Trophy competition. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
September	1 Sep 2026	Dave Berg Cup for best thematic display competition. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
October	5 Oct 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
November	2 Nov 2026	Quarterly Cup and Contemporary Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
December	4 Dec 2026	President's night.
January	11 Jan 2027	Contemporary Cup, TJ Strachan Ladies Bowl and President's Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
February	1 Feb 2027	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
March	1 Mar 2027	Annual general meeting. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
April	5 Apr 2027	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
May	3 May 2027	Philatelic Services Stamp's Friend Trophy and Quarterly Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.



minutes of monthly meeting

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY, HELD ON MONDAY 4 MAY 2026 AT THE BIBLE HOUSE, 31 COTSWOLD AVENUE, COTSWOLD, PORT ELIZABETH COMMENCING AT 11:00

PRESENT: Francois Friend (in the Chair)

MEMBERS: 21

APOLOGIES: 1

VISITORS: 1 (Roy Harrington)

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the monthly meeting dated 13 April 2026 were tabled for adoption. These were accepted - proposed by Morrice Groer and seconded by Lieb Venter. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled events.

(1) QUARTERLY CUP COMPETITION

Vernon Mitchell brought a one frame exhibit on the flower stamps of the 7th South African definitive series, see below. Barry Green and Louis Oosthuizen were asked to be adjudicators and gave Vernon 77% for his exhibition. [*...after checking the requirements for the quarterly cup afterwards it was found that the exhibit was eligible for the contemporary cup and will thus be counted under the upcoming November 2026 slot for this competition, Ed.]*



Flower stamp exhibit.

(2) PHILATELIC SERVICES STAMP'S FRIEND TROPHY COMPETITION

There were no participants.

(3) ITEMS OF INTEREST, BRINGALONGS AND NEW ACQUISITIONS

Christian Trump brought along an exhibit of Frama labels, shown below. These labels were introduced in South Africa on 14 August 1986 and eventually there were 34 machines in use printing these labels in South Africa. The Frama machines were taken out of circulation in 1993.



Frama label exhibit.

Dave Brown showed the below stamp he found while sorting through some stuff donated to the Bible Society and came across this error on the 1971 10th anniversary of the RSA 4c stamp that he has never seen or heard of before. In the right hand margin, between the perforations and the edge of the design, there are green smudges. The top one is opposite the nose of President Steyn and extends into the stamp design while the second smudge is opposite the head of the upper figure in the statue at the foot of the stamp.



Smudged RSA stamp from 1971.

Ian MacArthur gave a very informative talk on a man that was often depicted on stamps from all over the world, shown below. Heinrich Hermann Robert Koch was a German physician and microbiologist. He won the 1905 Nobel prize in physiology (or medicine) for his "investigations and discoveries in relation to tuberculosis". As the discoverer of the specific causative agents of deadly infectious diseases, including tuberculosis, cholera and anthrax, he is regarded as one of the main founders of modern bacteriology.



Heinrich Hermann Robert Koch (1843-1910) commemorated on various stamps.

In 1897 he discovered a vaccine in the prevention of the animal disease, rinderpest. He was brought to South Africa by the Cape Government to investigate and find a cure for the cattle plague that broke out during the last decade of the 19th century. The epidemic affected most of Southern Africa, but it hit the Transvaal and Northern Cape particularly hard, bringing socio-economic disaster to President Kruger's Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR). Koch's stay in Kimberley was sponsored by the De Beer's Company and the Kimberley Diamond Fields Advertiser. During his stay he found that an inoculation of bile from an infected animal safeguarded the rest of the herd. Koch propounded the theory that "one germ causes one disease - every disease has its specific germ" and took the first step in vaccine therapy with his rinderpest inoculation. For this work he received the Nobel Prize in 1905.

Koch has appeared on the stamps of many countries on dates varying from the fiftieth anniversary and centenary of his death to the centenary of his major discovery in 1882. The day he announced the discovery of the tuberculosis bacterium, 24 March 1882, has been observed by the World Health Organization as "World Tuberculosis Day" every year since 1982.



Photos of additional stamps depicting Heinrich Hermann Robert Koch.

Richard Johnstone brought along a 1945 vehicle licence with various Union of South Africa postage and revenue stamps attached on the back, as illustrated below.



1945 vehicle licence with various Union of South Africa postage and revenue stamps.

Richard also showed a very interesting World War II embroidery item that was used to patch up damaged uniforms of soldiers, apparently covering bullet holes.



World War II embroidery.

Barry Green brought along South Africa 1997 National Water Conservation Campaign stamps in a pane of 50 stamps that is partially imperforated/uncut in reference to the discussion of the stamps during the March 2026 meeting - shown on next page.



National Water Conservation Campaign full sheet.

(4) GENERAL

Hugo Lee enquired if there was anyone interested in Canada and New Zealand stamps in exchange for postally used homelands stamps. He brought along four albums with the above mentioned countries for members to look at.

A letter of appreciation for the society's contribution towards the new Union Handbook was received from the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (see next page). Francois expressed his happiness and amazement at the fact that people still send a proper letter with a letterhead and not just an email. Cecil Ahlers said he will send Francois a letter based on his apparent hunger to receive some.

**Philatelic Federation of South Africa
Filateliese Federasie van Suid-Afrika**

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2 May 2026

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Attention: Francois Friend
Port Elizabeth

Dear Mr Friend,

It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge the contribution by the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society towards the update of *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 - 1961* (Union Handbook).

Updating a book of this magnitude requires careful research, renewed commitment, and the belief that the story is still worth telling.

Your willingness to stand behind this project has been both encouraging and deeply meaningful. Your support will enable us to maintain the legacy of the original publication by enhancing and updating its content and presentation. This ensures the book stays relevant and continues to promote and preserve our shared philately heritage for years to come.

On behalf of everyone involved in the project, please accept our heartfelt thanks. Your belief in the value of this work is deeply appreciated, and we are honoured to count you among our supporters.

Warm regards,

André du Plessis RDPSA
PFSA: COO
083 399 1755

PFSA letter.

After the break for tea/coffee the members were entertained during an auction where items received from Ian and Marc were auctioned off resulting in some useful additional funding to the society based on 10% of the proceeds.

The next meeting will be held on 1 June 2026 at the Bible Society. Members will contest the Neville Polakow Trophy and Mike Koyd Postal History Shield competitions, there will be general trading and auction as well as items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.

The meeting closed at 12:45 with there being no further matters to discuss.

PRESIDENT:

DATED:



.....Weedy Lisa

reader contributions

Our dealer friend from the United Kingdom, Mark Taylor, has become slightly more active (probably the warmer weather up north) and once again forwarded the society a contribution for the newsletter, the Cape of Good Hope packet letter shown below.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

.CAPE OF GOOD HOPE . PACKET-LETTER

1818 20th January – Entire letter from Cape Town to London sent 'P Richmond' the Dutch East India Company vessel; rated '10/6' for a triple charge letter, plus an additional '4' Cape charge. With 'Cape of Good Hope Packet Letter 24JA24 1818' handstamp. Arrival cds in red on reverse for 28th April. The entire is from Pallas & Polemany, Forwarding Agents.

An exceptional example of this rare handstamp of which fewer than 15 examples are recorded.



The Ship Letter Act of 1815 decreed that all letters carried by official 'Packets' had to bear a Post Office handstamp. An oval dated Packet Letter handstamp was supplied to the Cape Town Post Office, their use ceased in 1819, when the Ship Letter act was repealed.

Ex: 'Lady Hope' (Antonio Bertolaja)

peps swop column

We continue this month with our regular feature of a swop column. Please contact the editor if you wish to have anything placed in the swop column. Maybe, just maybe, with the little interest shown one should start charging for the swop column?

the PEPS resurrected Evening Post swop column

Various JIPEX panes to swop or sell plus also looking for a few missing JIPEX panes to swop or buy. Contact Alex at alex@gotte.co.za.	Looking for any old Camel cigarette memorabilia, from lighters, old advertising material, etc. Contact John at john@softchem.co.za.
For those collecting RSA booklets - various RSA booklets to swop for Nos 10, 15, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 27 (perf 14). If interested contact Graham at zs2gib@gmail.com.	Collecting penny reds according to plate numbers. Have numerous to swop if interested. Contact Alex at support@dna-online.co.za.
Any strange or out of the ordinary philatelic material, cigarette cards, flat objects, etc with regard succulents, to swop or buy. Contact Francois at francois@softchem.co.za.	Any old South African post office signs lying around, or any other post office material/items to buy/swop? Contact Francois at francois@stampsfriend.com.
Looking for Eugene Marais first edition books. Willing to swop good white wine. Contact Mark at mark@sianalytics.co.za.	Do you have any old coca-cola dingbats, yo-yo's, very old bottles, advertising signs, pins, etc to swop/buy. Contact Curling at fpg@softchem.co.za.

editor's tidbits

Reminder of the facebook group that is free to join by all with some collectable information, updates, news, etc. Please feel free to contribute.

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+ Invite Share

Note: back issues of the PEPS newsletters available from the Stamp's Friend website under the news/articles menu.

Well folks that is that for our May edition of the newsletter. Should you come across useful philatelic articles, auction results, news items, etc - please forward to us for possible inclusion in future newsletters. Also, any letter to the editor is welcomed. **Bye**

stamps and
other collectables

a cover from yonks



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Stockbooks

Lighthouse Basic 32 pages	R 680
Lighthouse Basic 64 pages	R 980
Lighthouse Comfort 32 pages	R 970
Lighthouse Premium 64 pages + slipcase ..	R 1 100
Lindner 64 pages	R 1 080

Mounting strips

Hawid, Prinz, Lighthouse pre-cut strips	from R 20
Lighthouse SF (per 5 strips)	
217 mm x 21,5 mm or 27,5 mm	R 30
217 mm x 33 mm or 36 mm	R 40
217 mm x 40 mm or 45 mm	R 50
217 mm x 55 mm or 66 mm	R 60
217 mm x 72 mm or 84 mm or 92 mm	R 70
217 mm x 148 mm or 164 mm	R 110

Tweezers and exhibition sleeves

Tweezers (12 cm/15 cm)	R 200/350
Exhibition sleeves (packet of 5)	R 160

Magnifying glasses

Straight shank 60 mm	R 30
Folding 30 x 21 mm	R 70
Illuminated 40 x 25 mm	R 140
Lighthouse frameless LED	R 550

Other

Prinz stockcards - box of 100	R 650
Vario pages	
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 strips/packet of 5	R 180

Stamp and first day cover albums

Various new and second hand stockbooks and cover albums in good condition. R 100+

Stock

British Commonwealth/cinderella's
South Africa/Homelands/SWA/Namibia

we buy stamps and collectables

we do want lists

Nov 2025

remember to visit our website at www.stampsfriend.com

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth (1840 - 1970) catalogues available

2014 = R 300 2015 = R 400 2016 = R 500 2017 = R 600

2018 = R 700 2022 = R 1 100 2023 = R 1 400 2024 = R 1 700

