

WITWATERSRAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Country Club Johannesburg, Auckland Park

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

NEWSLETTER No. 391: SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Members:

This, the September 2026 Newsletter No. 391, is very different from the usual newsletters, as September has not been a “usual” month. The meeting of 9 September scheduled for Auckland Park was cancelled as the date clashed with the National Stamp Exhibition (Stampshow 2026) held at Woodmead. Feedback is provided here from the exhibition and from the Congress which was held at the same venue. The Woodmead meeting on 30 September did not take the form of on-line presentations, but was substituted by a quiz, as reported in the August newsletter.

1. DATES FOR THE 2026 MEETINGS AT AUCKLAND PARK

The table below gives the remaining 2026 meeting dates and activities to be held in one of the function rooms at 16h00. The actual venue will be announced a few days before the meeting.

Wednesday	14 th October 2026	Second Competitive Meeting
Wednesday	11 th November 2026	Invited Exhibitor
Wednesday	9 December 2026	President’s Meeting + Cocktail Party

2. DATES FOR THE 2026 STAMP STUDY MEETINGS AT WOODMEAD

The table below gives the dates for the 2026 Woodmead meetings to be held in the Captain’s Table (or other venue to be notified) at Woodmead at 19h00:

Wednesday	28 th October 2026
Wednesday	25 th November 2026
Wednesday	No meeting in December

3 STAMPSHOW 2026

The program for the show was outlined in the last newsletter and everything proceeded as planned to the relief of the organisers. Frames were arranged at each end of the hall with the dealers located in the centre, an arrangement which worked well.



**Jury members
provide
feedback to the
exhibitors.**

**View across the
venue**





Stampshow 2026

Exhibit Points

ExhibitorName	ExhibitTitle	Frames	Points Award	GroupCodeName
Amoore, Mr Hugh	Life at the WW 1 Fort Napier Internment Camp as captured by internees in their pictorial postcards	201 - 201	94	One Frame (Picture Postcards)
Porter, Mr Roger	Natal: Sea Mail and Packet Mail	88 - 93	94 Large Gold	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Flanagan, Mr Patrick	The Field Marshal issue of Southern Rhodesia 1932	77 - 84	92 Large Gold	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Du Plessis, Mr Andre	Disorder on the Rand - 1913/1914	202 - 202	91	One Frame (Picture Postcards)
Du Plessis, Mr Andre	Italian and South African POW Mail - A synopsis	162 - 162	90	One Frame (Open Class)
Amoore, Mr Hugh	The World War 1 internment of enemy aliens in South Africa, 1914 - 1919: context, camps, camp life, and associated postal history	145 - 152	88 Gold	Open Class
Geyer, Prof Hendrik B	Bedford and the 'Smaldeel': Its postal history in social context during Cape of Good Hope jurisdiction	100 - 104	88 Gold	Postal History GB & Commonwealth
Flanagan, Mr Patrick	Zambia: the essays, proofs and stamps of the 1968 definitive issue	60 - 60	87	One Frame (Traditional GB & Commonwealth)
Findlay, Dr Jim	The South African Constabulary 1901-1908	153 - 156	85 Gold	Open Class
Findlay, Dr Jim	The war effort within the Union of South Africa, 1914-1919	181 - 188	83 Large Vermell	Open Class
Boezak, Mr Russell	1910 South Africa Union #1	61 - 65	82 Large Vermell	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Cardoso, Mr Alcino	Transvaal Kings Head, Edward VII (1902-1910)	73 - 74	82	One Frame (Traditional GB & Commonwealth)
Du Plessis, Mr Andre	Travelling Snapshots of St Helena	205 - 209	82 Large Vermell	Picture Postcards

ExhibitorName	ExhibitTitle	Frames	Points	Award	GroupCodeName
Du Plessis, Mr Andre	STAMPSSA, Keeping in Touch	217 - 217	81	Large Vermeil	Literature, Digital, Websites & Software
Millard, Mr Victor	A Brown Study. The Brown envelopes of South Africa and precursors from 1992 to 1998	112 - 116	80	Large Vermeil	Postal Stationery
Van der Merwe, Mr Joof	A study of the Coronation Issue of Queen Elizabeth II, 1953	97 - 97	80	Large Vermeil	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Barnard, Mrs Nicolene	Everything's a story: the magic of children's literature	126 - 127	78		One Frame (Thematic Culture) *
Cronje, Dr Neil	South West Africa postage dues 1972-1991	57 - 59	78	Vermeil	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Dulez, Mr Jean	Large Format De La Rue (Nyasaland Design) Keyplate Stamp Issues	169 - 173	78	Vermeil	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Viljoen-Merwe, Mrs Suzie	On Brand: An exploration of Visual Marketing on Postcards	203 - 204	78		One Frame (Picture Postcards)
Dulez, Mr Jean	Revenue Stamps and Fiscal Documents of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland	210 - 212	77	Vermeil	Revenues
Cronje, Dr Neil	Postal Stationery of Southern Nigeria	110 - 111	76		One Frame (Postal Stationery)
King, Mrs Zeida	Postal history of the South African Air Force Units during World War 2	106 - 108	76	Vermeil	Postal History GB & Commonwealth
Millard, Mr Victor	Different. Deviation from the Norm in Philately and Society	128 - 132	76	Vermeil	Thematic - Culture
Viljoen, Mr Diederik	3D Groote Schuur	94 - 96	76	Vermeil	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Chrysochou, Mr Phidias	A study of the 1c value of the 1st definitive series of the R.S.A. - New design 1969-1974	75 - 76	75		One Frame (Traditional GB & Commonwealth)
Chrysochou, Mr Phidias	The 4th Definitive Series of the R.S.A - Buildings 1982-1988: the design and plating of the cylinder blocks	66 - 72	75	Vermeil	Traditional GB and Commonwealth
Green, Mr Howard	Railway Cancellations of South West Africa	105 - 105	75		One Frame (Postal History GB & Commonwealth)

ExhibitorName	ExhibitTitle	Frames	Points Award	GroupCodeName
Muller, Mr Chuck	The influence of early aerial post fights in the Commonwealth on the establishment of Aerial Post Services in the Union of South Africa	121 - 125	75 Vermeil	Aerophilately
Green, Mr Dennis	A Study of the 1/2 cent Kingfisher stamp - 1961 to 1974	85 - 86	74	One Frame (Traditional GB & Commonwealth)
Erasmus, Mrs Ronel	PKZ 00002 permit mail	98 - 99	73	One Frame (Postal History GB & Commonwealth)
Jacobson, Dr Leon	German Samoa: 1889-1918	87 - 87	73	One Frame (Traditional Rest of World)
Jacobson, Dr Leon	Walvis Bay	109 - 109	73	One Frame (Postal History GB & Commonwealth)
Van Niekerk, Mr Herman	Filateliese outbiografie	191 - 192	73	One Frame (Open Class)
Gove, Mr Gordon	Cry Havoc, and let slip the dogs of war	174 - 178	71 Large Silver	Open Class
Jacobson, Dr Leon	SA Post Office Forms	144 - 144	71	One Frame (Open Class)
Meyer, Mr Pieter	An Extraordinary South African: Jan Christiaan Smuts	193 - 195	71 Large Silver	Open Class
Breytenbach, Ms Kim	The soliloquy of a postage stamp: a philatelic journey through the human condition	139 - 143	70 Silver	Open Class
Lubbe, Prof Sam	United States Naval Support Force Antarctica: Postal History of Operation Deep Freeze (1929-1991)	189 - 190	69	One Frame (Open Class)
Schuurman, Mr Dick	Conveying mail through the ages	196 - 200	68 Silver	Open Class
Grinyer, Mr James	The Land of the Pharaohs	166 - 168	67 Silver	Open Class
Meyer, Mr Pieter	Cape of Good Hope (Victorian Period) 1853-1903	163 - 165	67 Silver	Open Class
Bowles, Mr Aubrey	Generation Extinction	157 - 159	65 Silver	Open Class

ExhibitorName	ExhibitTitle	Frames	Points	Award	GroupCodeName
Lubbe, Prof Sam	Australia's Antarctic Legacy: A Philatelic Journey (1947-1975)	117 - 120	65	Silver	First Day Covers
Grinyer, Mr James	The heroic age of polar exploration	179 - 180	64		One Frame (Open Class)
Butcher, Mr Graham Ivor	Domestic Dogs - Origins of the Breed	134 - 138	63	Silver Bronze	Thematic - Nature
Bowles, Mr Aubrey	Diamonds are forever	160 - 161	62		One Frame (Open Class)
Harris, Mr Trevor	Transformation of chess pieces over the centuries, culminating in the unofficial World Champions	133 - 133	51		One Frame (Thematic Culture)
Mitchell, Mr Vernon	Label the message	213 - 216	73		Cinderellas



View across the dealers' tables.

On the Tuesday a festive evening was enjoyed at The German Sports Club in Lonehill attended by jury and dealers, and the Palmares was hosted at the Nineteenth Hole restaurant at Woodmead. The major awards were announced at the Palmares.

The **State President's Trophy (Grand Prix)** was won by Roger Porter RDPSA for his exhibit "Natal: Sea Mail and Packet Mail".

The **Post Office Trophy (Best SA Exhibit)** was won by Prof. Hendrik B. Geyer for "Bedford and the 'Smaldeel'. Its postal history in social context during Cape of Good Hope jurisdiction."

A listing of all the competitive exhibits and their scores is shown on previous pages and at left. Several non-competitive exhibits were presented in the Court of Honour.

Witwatersrand Philatelic Society placed an advertisement in the exhibition catalogue and committee member Alastair Macduff coordinated a promotion table at the exhibition with the other local societies, where flyers were handed out giving details of all the society meetings in the area. Obviously, we hope that new members may come forward to enjoy the hobby with us at society meetings.

On the final morning of the show Kenny Napier hosted a well-attended auction sale of material that he had displayed on his table during the week.

4. CONGRESS 2026

The following notes were circulated by Andre du Plessis.

Herewith salient points from Congress 2026 for your information:

Affiliation fees for 2027 will be R165.00.

The following motion was accepted: The 2026 constitution that was circulated before was adopted with three changes to be added and re-distributed for your information and comments.

Stampshow/congress 2027 will be held in Cape Town. Venue and date to be announced.

The newly elected PFSA president for 2026 is Anton Putter (Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town).

Management Committee:

Chairman: John Handman, Maritzburg PS.

Treasurer: Derek Roth, Witwatersrand PS.

The Region Vice-Presidents:

Region 1, Gauteng and NW Province: Gary Pienaar (PS of Johannesburg).

Region 2, Eastern Gauteng: Colin Bousfield (Edenvale PS).

Region 3, Pretoria, Mpumalanga, Limpopo: Andre du Plessis (Pretoria PS).

Region 4, Free State, Northern Cape: Leon Jacobson (Sasolburg PS).

Region 5, KwaZulu-Natal: John Handman (Maritzburg PS).

Region 6, Western Cape: Chuck Muller (Bellville PS).

Region 7, Eastern: Cape Vernon Mitchell (Port Elizabeth PS)

Region 8, Outside Areas: Richard Stroud (OFS Study Circle).

Region 8, Garden Route: Hans Manke (George PS).

COO: Andre du Plessis RDPSA

Exhibitions Committee: André du Plessis RDPSA (Pretoria PS).

Expert Committee: Michael Wigmore RDPSA (SAPDA) (Acting chair).

FIP/FIAP Committee: Emil Minnaar RDPSA (East Rand PS).

Heritage Committee: Leon Jacobson (Sasolburg PS).

Promotions Committee: Vacant

Judging and Ethics Committee: Neil Cronjé RDPSA (OFS PS)

Publications: André du Plessis RDPSA (acting) (Pretoria PS).

The SA Philatelist Committee: Louwrence Erasmus (Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria).

Awards Custodian: Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL (PS of Johannesburg).

Philatelic Services, SAPO: Dineo Poo

Post Liaison: Alex Visser (Pretoria PS).

SAPDA: K Napier

Michael Smith (OFS Study Circle) has been invited to sign the **Roll of Honour for Distinguished Philatelists of SA.**

The **Skinner Cup** was awarded to Victor Millard (Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town).

Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medal: Not awarded.

J H Harvey Pirie Memorial Award: Patrick Flanagan RDPSA FRPSL (Witwatersrand PS), Brian Trotter RDP RDPSA Hon FRPSL (Royal PS London), Keith Harrop FRPSL (Royal PS London). Contributors and compiling the book *Rhodesia & Nyasaland Mails, Colonial Rule to Beyond Major Rule; Postage Due & Other Charges*

Hagger Trophy: Louwrence Erasmus (Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria).

WE Lea cup: Derek Roth, Witwatersrand PS.

Federation Plaques:

Chuck Muller (Bellville PS).

Leon Jacobson (Sasolburg PS).

Nicolene Barnard (OFS PS).

Federation certificates:

None awarded.

4. THE IN-PERSON AND DIGITAL VIA ZOOM MEETING HELD AT WOODMEAD IN THE BISHOP'S ROOM ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Following the successful quiz evening at Auckland Park in August it was requested that the quiz should be repeated for the members and guests, who had been unable to attend, so we featured the same questions in our on-line Zoom meeting from Woodmead.

The questions were structured in batches of ten, after which the solutions were presented via stamp images. There were five sections and two points were awarded for each correct answer (one point if you were close enough!)

Section 1. Who owns where?

Question1: Galapagos

Question 2: Easter Island

Question 5: Canary Islands

Solutions on next page.



Section 2. Where are these famous stamps from?

Question 11: Bulls-Eyes

Question 15: Inverted Swan

Question 17: Black Jack

Solutions on next page.



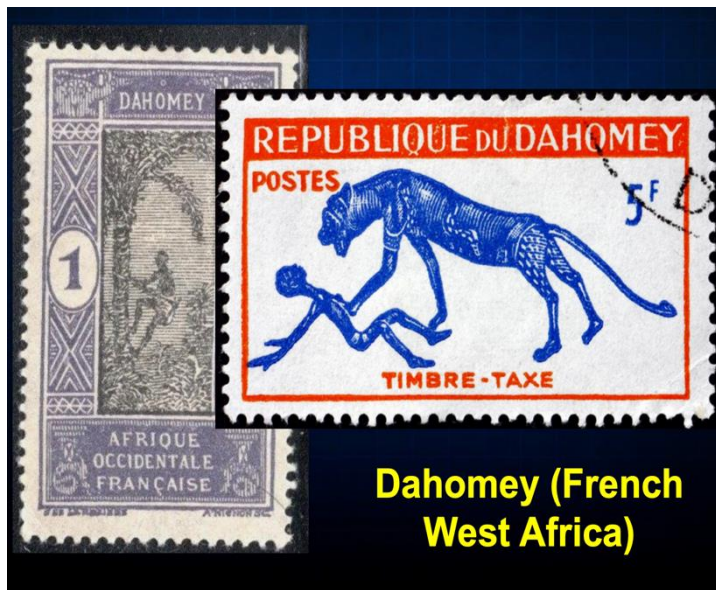
Section 3. What was the country name before the name change?

Question 24: Benin (1975)

Question 26: Tuvalu (1975)

Question 28: Djibouti (1967 and 1977)

Solutions on next page.



Section 5. Which country used this currency?

Question 31: Zloty

Question 33: Taka

Question 34: Potatoes

Solutions on next page.



Poland



Bangladesh



**Tristan
da Cunha**

Section 4. Talk like a philatelist.

Question 41: Registered mail usually shows “R” in the handstamp or label. Which letter denotes insured mail?

Question 42: What is the meaning of “Posted out of course”?

Question 44: What is a “Semi-postal”

Solutions on next page.



Somewhat surprisingly, none of the participants scored over 95%!! If any of our readers wish the full Powerpoint file for presentation elsewhere, they can contact me and I will send it by WeTransfer. At 70MB it is too large to send by email.

Ian Matheson closed the meeting with a short presentation detailing how he and a couple of colleagues had tried to unravel the mystery of an Andhra Pradesh entertainment tax stamp. No such revenue stamps have been reported from this Indian state before

5. General:

- Attendance has not been high at a number of the recent meetings at Auckland Park. A common feedback topic has been that, even at the new meeting time of 16h00, it has not been easy to get home in the rush-hour traffic and that, in winter, it is still dark. The standard of our roads and street-lighting leave much to be desired, so the comments are quite pertinent. Options are being explored to re-locate the meetings to Woodmead and to seek a much earlier meeting time. This will depend on logistics such as frame storage and venue availability, but news will be shared as options are identified. The photo at left below shows the Pool Pavilion. The CCJ are prepared to store our frames on site and to get them ready if we wish to use the room for 10h30 meetings on the second Monday of the month. We would then be able to enjoy luncheon afterwards if we wish. Please let committee members know your thoughts of this option instead of our current 16h00 Wednesday meetings. We could start in January 2027.
- Several of our members enjoyed the stamp show put on by Ronel Erasmus and her team at the Voortrekker Monument on Heritage Day. The photo at right shows a vain Ian Matheson admiring his own exhibit at the show!



Be good, folks. See you at the next meeting, I hope. Please bring along a competitive (or otherwise) exhibit to share with the members.

Ian Matheson, President.