

THE SPRINGBOK

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS'
SOCIETY QUARTERLY
www.southafricacollector.com



Cut vertically

A Section

B Section

Discarded	2,80	5,20	7,80	10,40	13,00	15,80	18,20	20,80	23,40	1987-10-18 1987-04-01	26,00	Discarded
Booklet A1	2,34											Booklet B1
Booklet A2	1,82											Booklet B2
Discarded	1,30											Discarded
Booklet A3	1,04											Booklet B3
Booklet A4	0,78											Booklet B4
Discarded	0,52											Discarded
	0,26											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

The above image of a pane of the Natal Flood Disaster stamps, that explains how such panes were cut to obtain booklet panes, is taken from an article by Roy Ross discussing the stamps and booklets of this issue which can be found in this volume.

More explanation of this image will be found within this article on page 89.

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Member of

Association of British Philatelic Societies The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
We are also a sponsor of the Stamps in Schools Project

Hon. Life Members (since inception in 1963): Eric Sherwood†, Reg Allent†, Jack Haggert†, Bill Branney†, Fred Clark†, Godfrey Mellor†, John Shaw, Max Whitlock†, Eddie Bridges†, Roy Ross, Tony Howgrave-Graham, Chris Oliver, Nick Arrow, Tony Johnson.

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MEETINGS FOR 2022/3

*Letchworth - 1st Oct 22 and 8th April 23, 10am to 5pm at the Mrs Elizabeth Howard Hall
(please contact Rob and Lyn Lester (above) if you plan to come, or for more details)*

*Sothorn Africa philatelic societies conference, Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden -
November 5th and 6th, 2022*

(please contact Simon Peetoom (above) if you plan to attend or for more details)

Zoom meetings of the Society—Presentations needed

We have had a number of enjoyable Zoom meetings of the Society during the last 2 years. I hope to hold another on 3rd December, a month after the Meriden meeting.

We plan to continue these meetings during the coming year, at the same time as before i.e. at 4pm (BST or GMT in winter). If you have a presentation you are able to offer I would be delighted to hear from you. If you would like to join the meeting, please email me on tonyjohnson26@btinternet.com.

These meetings complement our normal meetings, in particular by enabling a number of members to join us who aren't able to get to the normal meetings. As I am hoping to hold Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future, I will need more offers of presentations. These could be of any topic associated with Southern Africa philately and could include social history as well as postal history or philately. If you have interesting material it doesn't have to be written up as a display (though those are very welcome). If you have access to a scanner it is possible to scan the material and prepare a presentation more quickly than preparing a traditional display and digitising that. I am very happy to advise anyone on how they can best show their material via Zoom and offer any help I can. Thank you., Tony Johnson

The Springbok is published

quarterly for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors Society.

It is not available to non-members.

Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc., are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor.

All correspondence including a SAE will be acknowledged.

The Springbok was awarded a large vermeil medal at Stampex 2017

Editor

Tony Johnson

Editorial Panel

T. Howgrave-Graham

C. Oliver

J.L. Shaw

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Collectors' Society,
2022

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Editorial

We have a bumper issue for you this time. There are articles from all periods, to suit all tastes, as you can see in the contents below. Given the size of this issue I have not had room for the usual report on our last Zoom meeting!

We have further parts of Union Cinderella and South African Post Offices, both from Lyn and Rob Lester and Cape Post Offices and Postmarks from Bob Hill. In addition we have the first part of an article on the Flood Disaster stamps and booklets from Roy Ross (another welcome Republic period article). Then we have an article on the Official stamps which I hope will stimulate members to look at their own collection and generate some discussion, and scans for Roald. In addition there are articles on the WWII Bantams from Mike Tonking, and a review of marks on covers of the late Victorian era which are sometimes Postage Due demands and sometimes Accountancy Marks. Yet another complexity for philatelists to deal with!. Finally we have the usual South West Corner, this time from Steve Hannath in response to a query raised in the last issue by Tony Howgrave-Graham.

I hope you enjoy all of these articles as much as I have!

Having recently attended both of the enjoyable meetings reported in this issue it made me realise how good it was to be getting back to normal. However, it also made me realise how geography prevents so many members from attending these meetings and how the Zoom meetings can fill that void. I hope to continue with those but am in need of presentations to enable that to happen. You can create a presentation tailored to Zoom but if you have access to a scanner you can easily create a presentation, simply by scanning regular displays, or even album pages as we have seen in previous Zoom meetings. I look forward to hearing from you!

Tony Johnson

Membership News

New Member - We welcome Anne-Marie Verwoerd to membership

We are sad to announce the death of David Page, a member of the society for over 30 years, and who has organised printing and distribution of the Springbok for the last 4 years. An obituary can be found on page 115 of this issue.

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A REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

HELD BY ZOOM ON SATURDAY, 2ND JULY 2022 at 3 pm

1. Present: Dr. A. Howgrave-Graham (Chairman), Nicholas Arrow, A. Johnson, Mike Tonking, Chris Miller, David Macdonald, Keith Perrow, C. E. Oliver (Secretary)

2. Apologies. Were received from John Shaw, Simon Peetoom, David Osborn, Lyn Lester and Rob Lester.

3. Record of last A.G.M. [see *Springbok 69/4 p104 – 107*] These were proposed for acceptance and agreed by all present.

4. Matters arising if not included elsewhere in the agenda. There were no matters arising which would not be covered elsewhere in the agenda.

5. The Hon. Chairman's report. Once again I'd like to thank the committee for all their work over the year. The committee does, however, need some younger blood and I urge people to put their heads above the parapet. I'd particularly like to thank Nick Arrow for his successful running of the auction for the last, I believe, 11 years. And please note he started with no experience of auctioneering, describing or lotting. We all wish him lots of happy spare time to spend on his collecting and book writing. The vacancy could be split in two with someone doing the lotting and valuing and someone else doing the mechanics of running the auction and distributing lots etc. If you feel able to help with either or both, please get in touch. As pointed out, no experience is required and plenty of help will be made available.

Someone else I'd like to thank is David Page. David is, most unfortunately, not at all well. The Society owes him a great debt of gratitude. He has worked diligently behind the scenes for many a year and coped with distribution of the *Springbok*. He also had plans for an electronic "packet" well advanced. Sadly this will not now take place. If anyone has the capability to run such a service please get in touch. It would be a major boon for the Society. At the moment the Society has no mechanism to sell any spare material, or accept estate lots which help greatly with Society funds. So, someone, hopefully more than one! Put your hand up!

Thanks are also due to Tony Johnson. The *Springbok* is now better than ever and much of this is due to the editor. He also runs the successful "zoom" meetings which are continuing despite the end of covid restrictions. It's really good to put faces to names one knows, especially those who live abroad and can't get to meetings. Thank you all for joining in on these and I'm glad to say more are planned.

Many thanks, too, to Simon Peetoom who not only has taken on multiple roles but is currently working on getting the website active again. We hope for great things in the near future.

We're all looking forward to getting our meetings going again, starting with Meriden in a few days time. Bob Hill is to be commended for already getting the local Letchworth meets underway. These have attracted good numbers of those within reasonable reach of the site. More are planned.

I'm pleased to say the Society is currently in good shape and financially viable but if people don't step forward it will, inevitably, suffer the fate of many other Societies and disappear. This would be a great shame.

Happy collecting to you all!

Tony H-G

6. The Hon. Secretary's report. I would like to echo the points that our Chairman makes in his report in thanking all the committee and workers for the Society for their support and energy used in promoting the S.A.C.S. One or two jobs remain to be done, and it would be great to welcome new members to the executive committee.

My thanks to the members who helped man the table at the London 2022 International Exhibition. We gained some new members and were able to meet visiting members from both the U.K. and Overseas.

In September, the theme for Stampex is "Africa". The Society has reserved 40 frames and has almost filled these. The Society will be paying the frame fee, so all we need are some good displays. They need not be competitive but are not restricted from being so. The A.B.P.S. has set up an easy way of entering on-line and one entry has, already, been made.

My best wishes go to our President, whose advice is often sought, and whose recovery is making slow progress. He will not be at Meriden, but intended to take part in this Annual General Meeting but for a bad internet connection. Good wishes are also extended to David Page who has been helping the Society, behind the scenes, for a good while and needs to stop, for health reasons, at the end of 2022.

Good wishes to all our members & friends.

C.E.O.

7. The Hon. Treasurer's report & statement on proposed subscriptions for 2023.

South African Collectors' Society

Income and Expenditure to 31 December 2021

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions	1,557.59	Springbok Printing	641.00
Study Booklets	122.84	Postage & Packaging	575.75
Auction	564.20	Study Booklets	55.20
Packet Circuit		Meetings	89.30
		Website	0.00
Advertising		Library	0.00
Donations		Insurance	66.90
		Other	282.76
Interest	0.32	Donations	120.00
	<u>2,244.95</u>		<u>1,830.91</u>
Surplus for year	<u><u>414.04</u></u>		

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

Bank Current	8,429.21	Subs 2022	396.86
Deposit Account	3,128.07		
Paypal account	163.86		
Cash	-	Owed to Conference A/C	0.00
S.A. Rands 3350 @20	167.50		
Packet Fund Account	<u>11,888.64</u>	Owed to Packet Sellers	0.00
		O/S cheques	360.89
Copier	-		
Trophies	670.01	Brought Forward	11,428.86
Study Booklets	42.00	Surplus for year	414.04
Totals	<u><u>12,600.65</u></u>		<u><u>12,600.65</u></u>

The above Balance Sheet, as at 2nd July 2022 and attached Income and Expenditure Account for the year to that date, have been prepared from the books, vouchers and information presented to me. In my opinion, the accounts are properly drawn up, in accordance with the records produced.

The Treasurer's job continued to be relatively straightforward owing to the lockdowns. I was delighted to write my first cheques to reimburse for the Letchworth meeting in November. Bank funds still exceed £11,000 and I await suggestions to see if there are other ways to spend them, although the new website will account for some. The longer I spend involved in the society, the more I realise how much we owe to people like David Page, Rob & Lyn Lester and Tony Johnson for continuing to fill roles essential to the running of society. Nick Arrow has been instrumental in our healthy financial position. Again I'd like to thank David Osborn for reviewing the figures and for his assistance. I confirm that I will stand to be re-elected as Treasurer.

My best wishes to all members.

Whether we wish to increase subscriptions for paper journal members is up for discussion. My personal view is to keep them the same for 2023 (£10 e-membership, £18 inland, £22 Europe & £25 overseas), but anticipate that should we wish to increase then move to £10, £20, £25 & £28 respectively and commit to either keep them the same for 2024 or make this increase in 2024. Going forward, we are still likely to be subsidising the paper journals at those rates.

Simon Peetoom

The adoption of the Treasurer's report and accounts were proposed, subject to audit, by Tony Howgrave-Graham, seconded by Nick Arrow and approved by those members present.

8. Reports from other officers of the Society, if any. None received.

9. Election of Officers and committee.

Hon. Membership Secretary: Nick Arrow, proposed by Tony Johnson, seconded by David Macdonald and approved by all members present.

Hon. Auctioneer: Simon Peetoom, proposed by Nick Arrow, seconded by Tony Johnson and approved by all members present.

The rest of the committee: Elected en bloc following the proposal by David Macdonald and seconded by Mike Tonking.

Appointment of Official Examiner of Accounts: David Osborn proposed by Chris Oliver & seconded by Tony Johnson.

10. Conferment of Hon. Membership, if any. None proposed.

11. Ratification of Library Fund.

At present we allocate £200 per annum to enable the Hon. Librarian to purchase new books for the Library. This was re-affirmed.

12. Society zoom meetings and events :

Reports of most of the meetings held have been published in the Springbok. The next edition of the magazine should contain the outstanding reports.

Tony Johnson is intending to hold a Zoom meeting on Saturday, 6th August.2022.

Meetings at Letchworth Garden City have been arranged for Saturdays 1st October 2022 and 8th April 2023. (N.B. the latter meeting is on the Easter weekend).

Simon Peetoom has arranged a weekend meeting on 5 / 6th November 2022. This is a joint Southern Africa Societies Convention, although it is noted that the only members of societies other than S.A.C.S. members who attend are also S.A.C.S. members. Simon is intending to hold his first society auction at that venue, having now been elected as Hon Auctioneer.

13. S.A.C.S. support for Youth Philately.

In previous years we have made a donation of £50 to support this and it was confirmed that this should continue following a proposal by Tony H-G and seconded by Chris Oliver.

14. A.O.B.: The only item of business notified was that of the Exchange Packet. David Page is having to give up the organization of the on-line Packet due to continuing ill health. He has produced a set of rules to enable an organizer to administer it.

Bas Payne & Roy Ross have also expressed ideas on how this should be run. David Macdonald advised that the Chairman of Aberdeen P.S. runs a web-packet for the Canadian P.S. of Great Britain and will obtain details for us. (these have now been received, together with possible pitfalls). Someone who takes the E-Packet over needs to be very computer literate.

It was proposed that Roy Ross be approached to see whether he would take on the role of Packet Secretary.

Electronic Packet

Roy Ross has offered to take charge of the Electronic Packet initially proposed by David Page for us. It will essentially be an electronic version of the circulating packet we ran until about 3 years ago. This enables vendors to send items for sale (stamps or covers) to the organiser. Scans of these will be sent by email to members who want to participate so they can indicate any items they want to purchase and Roy will arrange that these are sent. Although David had put together the details of the procedure he was proposing Roy will need to decide if they work for him and refine them as necessary.

However before starting work on this he naturally wants to sound out the interest from potential purchasers and vendors. If you would like to use this system to sell items you no longer need and/or would like to join the packet, please send an email to Roy (roy.anne@tiscali.co.uk) indicating if you would like to participate.

MEETING REPORT, LETCHWORTH, 4th MAY 2022.

By Bob Hill, (edited by Steve Hannath)

Eleven people attended, eight being SACS members, two from North Herts Stamp Club and Charlie Rudge, a well-known Rhodesian specialist dealer who was given a table for selling his southern African material. Another table was supplied for a small bourse which proved a success with a number of member's surplus items being sold. Four apologies were received. All were delighted to see our newest and youngest SACS member, Annemarie Verwoerd, attend for the second time.



The first display was of South African Post Offices by Rob and Lyn Lester. This was an enhanced version of the display originally given by them in the society's first 'Zoom' meeting. Rob began his display by informing us that the collecting and studying of postcards is called 'Deltiology'. His delightful display revealed deltiology's vital importance as an integral component of our collections.

Rob's impressive postal history display consists of nearly 120 pages, each with a postcard showing a view of a South African Post Office with examples of the postmarks they used (courtesy of Putzel, Visser and Reisener), as well as a brief history of the town, the reason for its name and its post office's opening and closing dates (if no longer open). Among these were Benoni, a gold-mining town on the Witwatersrand whose Hebrew name means "son of my sorrow", (so-named because of the difficulty in establishing the boundaries of existing mining claims); Germiston, curiously said to be "a farm in Glasgow"; and Eshowe, once the capital of British-ruled Zululand, whose name refers to the sound of the wind blowing

through the nearby Dlinza Forest.

Rob noted the scarcity of Mooi River post office material and showed several enviable postcards which Steve Hannath begged to do "ten for one swapsies" on. Rob told us how a post office design of Sytze Wierda, the first engineer and architect to the South African Republic (ZAR aka 'Transvaal'), was re-used elsewhere. He paid particular attention to 'Midget Town', an unofficial post office run by 'Midgets' in the Amusement Park at the 1936 Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg. The quality of Rob's display material was first class, well-laid-out, informative and presented by him with skill and good humour that got the audience involved.

The next display was by Steve Hannath on 'British Military Cantonments in South Africa 1902 - 1919'. This was a passionate, informative and personal account of the history and origins of the Imperial Garrison after the 'South African War', (SAW), a term Steve preferred to "Anglo-Boer War" or "Boer War", descriptions intended to keep its memory alive as a "White Man's War" during a time when segregation and Apartheid was dividing South Africa's races. The war was, said Steve, one that affected all of South Africa's people, like the 16,000+ Black South Africans who died in Concentration Camps, as well as others like the 50 Australian Aborigines bought in as trackers who had great difficulty returning to the "Lucky Country" once the war was over.

The Imperial Garrison enforced Pax Britannica after the war from Cantonments in the old Boer states and British colonies. The Republican (Boer) defeat in the SAW allowed Britain to achieve its long-held imperial aims for southern Africa, the formation of the Union of SA in 1910. This led to the political disempowerment of the Black majority, segregation and ultimately Apartheid as state policy. Steve's covers, postcards and postmarks from the Cantonments, (one not listed by Putzel), were of a high quality with 100% cancellations. In recreating the period, he unusually provided items of ephemera, a beer and a marble bottle and Manie Maritz's autobiography, 'My Life and Struggle', which Steve said was the South African 'Mein Kampf'. After the withdrawal of the Imperial Garrison to fight in France, he covered the invasion of German South West Africa and the Republican Rebellion which would split the Union into two White political camps, also the emotive 'Rape of Belgium' from a South African point of view. There was a lively discussion between Steve and the audience during his display which continued well into lunchtime.

A lunch break of one hour was taken both for refreshments (provided by Lyn, Rob and Bob) and the opportunity to peruse Charlie Rudge's stock. (Many nice 'finds' were had, all of which will embellish our displays.) A notable addition to our repast was Steve excellent British-made biltong and 'droewors', (dried sausage), once a South African survival food, now a delicacy and a first for those Brits who dared to try it. Bob Hill did and went back for more ... and more ... and some more! (It has that effect!!) What was most encouraging was the lunchtime conversations between members regarding the two displays previously given.



The first display after lunch was given by Chris Oliver, SACS Hon. Secretary, who displayed three frames of Military Mail. Most of Chris' covers were in remarkably good condition, a state that is not always the case with mail that has experienced the rough and tumble of wartime. It was, Chris said, a small sample from his vast collection covering WW2. The covers shown displayed various date stamps and hand cachets from different military establishments located across South Africa. Some cachets were in English while others were bilingual (both English and Afrikaans); some of the double oval cachets were replete with crowns while others were without them; the same applied to dates of use. Many of the covers showed numerous and varied censor marks. Among the covers were two very fine hand cachets much admired by Bob, both

from Ladysmith and referring to 'Native' auxiliaries. Similarly, on seeing Chris' 'Department of Defence, Coast Artillery Battery, 2nd Heavy Battery, Simonstown', Steve had reason again to plead for "swapsies". "No", said Chris firmly. Steve stated that his Simonstown display was now sadly much the poorer.

Tony Johnson, Hon. Editor of The Springbok and Society Zoom host gave an excellent PowerPoint display on flaws and varieties in the War Issue stamps of 1941 - 1946 with emphasis on the so-called 'Bantams'. The flaws were largely listed by 'Hagger', (S J 'Jack' Hagger RDPSA, ex-editor SA Philatelist). The great advantage of Tony's PowerPoint display was that all the varieties he displayed on the reduced-size Bantam issues could be easily be seen and identified without so much as getting out of your seat and applying a magnifying glass to the stamp. (Tony had bought along his collection of the originals should traditionalist die-hards wish to view them with more difficulty.) Tony gave the history of the stamps and posed the interesting question "are they Definitives or Commemoratives?" (Neither SG nor SACC answer the question. Hagggar lists these as 'Commemoratives' but Tony said "I really don't see how they can be. Although they are clearly designed to reflect the War Effort they don't commemorate any event and really are much more like definitives." Indeed!)

Tony also advised how to identify each issue of the Bantams through their slogans on the selvage, their colour and in some cases by lines and numerals. All-in-all, Tony's display on this popular stamp issue was enjoyably different, one that highlighted very clearly the advantage of giving PowerPoint presentations.



David Osborn, former Hon. Treasurer, followed with a 51 page display of "The Airmail Letters Cards of South Africa". David advised us that the subject's "Bible" is "British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters 1941-1977" (Dr O.R.J. Lee. 1983. Forces Postal History Society.) and a work by the late Eddie Bridges, ex-Hon. Editor of The Springbok. David began by showing a digital measuring device which he said was essential in identifying various types of covers as a result of the minute size variations between them. He showed all major and common examples describing their types, sizes and colourings, (as listed by Lee). Many covers had triangles printed on them, either on the right corner or on the left side. Several contained Army Numbers. He also showed Christmas issues from 1942 to 1945. Some had different censor marks. David's covers were complete whereas many other examples only show the front. This display was detailed, informative and well-delivered, covering an area not often seen.

The final display was given by Bob Hill who invited audience participation. As usual, Bob's display was both fun and interesting. Those asleep in the second row soon woke up to the sound of serious laughter. Bob produced 26 folders, one for each letter of the alphabet. Those attending were asked to pick a letter from A - Z. On being given a letter, Bob opened the appropriate folder and displayed material relative to that letter. Thus he was able to show among several pages per folder 'A' for Apartheid, 'V' for Verwoerd, 'X' for Xhosa, 'K' for Kit Kat, (a SACS in-joke - Bob is the only postal historian with a world-beating Kit-Kat wrapper display, the medium by which he projects his good humoured understanding of the foibles of South Africa's past history). Bob was hoping Steve would ask for the tricky 'Y', a letter not well-supported by South Africa's language, but it was not to be. The meeting concluded with great mirth as the audience spontaneously attempted to outdo Bob with alternative postal references.

This congenial meeting ended at 4.30 pm. Bob thanked members for attending and for giving displays. Charlie Rudge was thanked for bringing his excellent material - please come again! A special thanks went to Lyn who tidied up the debris after lunch. Bob hopes to arrange another meeting in Autumn and one in Spring next year. All are welcome. The more, the merrier.

Meeting Report, Meriden, 26 - 27th June 2022

Chris Oliver

It was a summers morning when our members gathered for philatelic displays and social interaction. Due to unexpected road closures, I arrived late and so missed Nick Arrow's erudite display of airmails. The first few paragraphs are, therefore, composed by my chum, Bob Hill, who did not wish to undertake the full report although, I am sure, you will wish that he had.

We were pleased to welcome one of our newest and youngest members, who having braved two excursions to Letchworth, came for the day on Sunday to venture into a group of philatelic dinosaurs. Well done, Anne-Marie. I have also been reminded that I did not welcome Anne-Marie Verwoerd in the "Membership Notes" in the Springbok when she joined the Society in October 2021.

There were 16 persons present to see **Nick Arrow** give the first display at Meriden. The first display for over 2 years. His subject was World War 2 Airmails and in particular the postage rates. As usual Nick gave his display, with knowledge, humour and a love of his subject. He explained the rates before the war started and who the operators were. The rates ranged from 1/½d to 1/3d. Nick showed examples of all these rates including one with only two examples known (ex-Brian Stokoe). Also displayed were items from the British Exhibition, Diplomatic Mail and mail to Australia via Egypt... Mail from South Africa to the USA had to go by boat. Mail to Gambia went via Fisherman's Lake which was ideal for flying boats but was short lived when the USA joined the war. Several covers were shown from Egypt at rates of 3/6d, 4/- and 10/6d.

Nick also showed covers of mail from serving soldiers, air mail letters and prisoner of war mail as well as crash mail from a BOAC plane and mail from the RAF at Durban. Covers were also shown when Sabena airlines and SAA combined their services.

In 1944, as a result of the allies invading Europe, some mail went from South Africa to those parts of France recaptured via Italy and examples were shown as well as covers celebrating V.E and V.J. day, O.A.T markings as well as AV2 examples. Finally, Nick read from examples of Airgraph covers the problems and fears that the senders expressed.

To sum up, this was a most enjoyable display of Airmails.

Simon Pectoom has an admiration for the illustrated air letter sheets used by the armed forces in South & East Africa during WWII. Some had been on general issue for Christmas and New Year Greetings in the later years of the war and some specially sketched particular to an individual unit or battalion, we saw one frame of these air letters.



Bob Hill, now revived after writers' cramp, displayed one of his famed pot pourri displays, with kit-kats, which he entitled "The Covid Blues" as he displayed items that he had either obtained during covid or had got round to writing up. He enquired whether any of us remembered the first time that they gave a philatelic display? His first display was in 1956 during his school years for which he achieved local notoriety.

The majority of the first part of his display was items he had purchased from the "Joachim" collection held at Spink in January 2021 and were all items from Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA, FRPSL, collection of the "Shipping Postmaster cancellations from Cape Town and The Point Durban"

Several of the items displayed were the only recorded examples, including the Numeral 2 canceller from Cape Town and a postage due cover to a passenger on board a ship in the docks, where the postage due was paid on board.

The covers from the Point Durban are very hard to find and of all the examples shown of the Rubber Cancels no more than 7 examples have been recorded. The Steel cancellations covers displayed were all in pristine condition but are easier to find. Bob also displayed covers bearing cancellations from "Alfred Docks" and "The Docks" Cape Town all from the "Joachim" collection as well as 10 Cape Corps/Indian Services native covers from WW2 and Diplomatic mail to the Cape from Downing Street, London.

Bob finished with a 53 page display of the Post Offices of Bophuthatswana with cancellations from about 75% of the known post offices. Also included were examples of about 6 unrecorded offices.

More pre-Union and Union items were now viewed in **Steve Hannath's** display. Some of these pages had been seen already, by those attending the recent Letchworth meetings, but still worth revisiting. We were asked "who is Clive Peter". Peter was the naval rating pictured on the W.W.II 2d War Issue stamps. Next some Cape, Seaward Defence Force material and the armoured ox-wagon exercise. The Naval Hospital, above Simonstown, was, mainly, accessed by a rope-way so Steve displayed two items of rope-way mail. He also

showed silk colours from various 1915 war units. Steve preferred the use of the term South African War for the two pre-union wars when the British Army ventured to establish the Empire and displayed aspects of the Middelburg Cantonment, Cape; the statue there and the Curragh Camp Containment of 1910. We were advised that 16,000 black South Africans were in internment camps and 360,000 British horses lost their lives during the S.A. War.

Roy Ross displayed Republican philatelic oddities. Showing differing perforations; the Bible set; the Coin stamp of May 1994; Roy then displayed the detailed make-up of the Natal / National flood disaster booklets of 1987 – 88.

The Tercentennial Philatelic Exhibition of 1952 was the subject of **Rob Lester**'s display. He included examples of labels and artwork; printers' mock-ups of the commemorative covers and cards to be used on the seven official coach routes; 10,000 each issued in English & in Afrikaans. The inscription on the covers is in various colours and is in Afrikaans and English. A.A. Jurgens was the President of the Cape Town P.S. and Hon. Vice-President of the Exhibition.

Chris Oliver explained and displayed the origin of the civil censoring of mail in South Africa during W.W.II.; the use of the Union Coat-of-Arms with a letter (A to T) for the various censoring offices; the censoring of neutral Portuguese African Colonial mail in Cape Town, and later (1945) in Johannesburg when air mail was re-established, and the dual military and civil censorship on some mails.

We next moved to Natal when **Tony Howgrave-Graham** displayed and described how Britain tried to exploit coalmining in northern Natal during 1880's with postal cancellations; the subsequent Boer invasion and the use of a temporary handstamp of the Highlands after the brief Boer occupation and loss of original canceller. P.O.A.2 Vryheid district ½d stamps ran out, so Tony showed "no stamps" cachet. He finished with examples of dumb cancels used in the area.

Keith Perrow finished the morning with a display of the history of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, first President of Unified South Africa. Included was a ballot paper; his presence at the Royal Visit of 1995; Queen Elizabeth II appointed him as a Bailiff Grand Cross of the Order of St. John; the nation celebrated his 90th birthday; Mandela died on 5 December 2013 and was, as "Father of the Nation" enabled to lie in state at the Union Buildings in Pretoria. A state funeral was held on 15 December in Qunu, Eastern Cape.

On Sunday evening we all enjoyed a good dinner, during which our Chairman was presented with the Abell Trophy for his nine page display of SWA 1923-6 Overprints on the King's Head Issues. Notwithstanding, Tony was also presented with the Wicks Medal for his article "1952 Van RIEBEECK TERCENTENARY – Major Design Error" in 2021 Springbok. Well done, Tony.

On Monday Morning, **Simon Peetoom** set the scene with a display of photographic essays of the Union pictorial stamp designs. Some of these had been bought at auction, in 2008, and were ex-Fred Clark. These photographs were produced by the S.A. National film Board for the 1964 "Prepex" Philatelic Exhibition in Pretoria. The numbers are those used at "Prepex" where Dr. Reubenheimer was the coordinator and wrote about them. A set of 45 [RPSL] was also purchased by Simon. Coloured photographs are by the Works Department.



Tony Howgrave-Graham gave a display of the non-decimal Animal Definitive issue, which is not often displayed. The 1954 – 1960 series was drawn by H Kumst from photographs taken at Pretoria Zoo by Johnnie Booyesen. (except for 4d elephant based on a photo by Piet Wolf and 6d lion (unknown)). All stamps had "Postgeld" inscribed (Postage) rather than "Posseel" as previously (Postage Stamp) Tony explained, in detail, each printing of the fourteen values and outlined the major flaws and quirks on most of them. The most spectacular being the progressive Drakensburg Flaw on issue one of the 1d Gnu and the subsequent trimming of perforations in an endeavor to reduce the unsightly marginal doctor blade flaws. I must thank Tony for sending me a copy of his crib-sheet which would have been too long for inclusion in this report but which helped a lot.

Bas Payne was the first presenter to venture onto PowerPoint during this weekend. He has, with Alex Visser been preparing a catalogue of Z.A.R. / Transvaal date-stamps (1868 – 1910). There are no archives and a scarcity of postal material. Up to 1885 only 200 letters are thought to have been written but with the development of the railways and the postal service, 20,000 letters were sent from Johannesburg, alone, in 1899. The catalogue is being issued in parts & six have left the press. Bas requires scans of any good cancels. It should be noted that slug change cancellers were used in the Cape until 1910 and wheel change thereafter.

With Nick Arrow's very last S.A.C.S. Auction concluding the conference, it was considered, by all, to be a superb gathering. Our thanks to Simon Peetoom for his organizing skills.

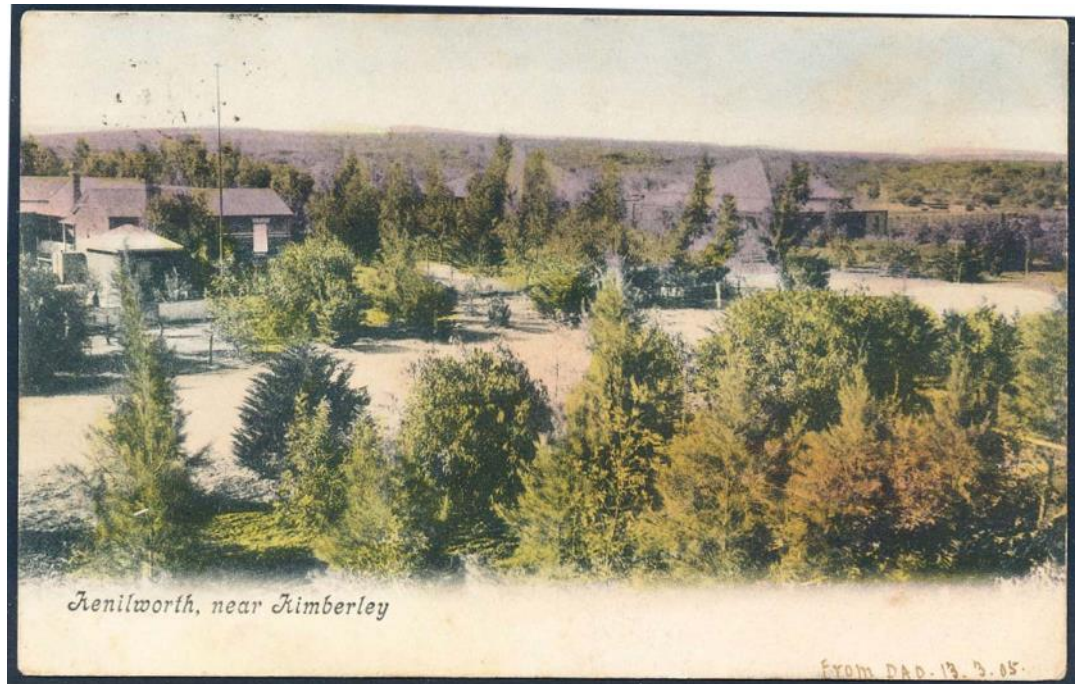
POSTCARDS AND POSTMARKS OF TOWNS & VILLAGES IN THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE DURING THE PERIOD 1880-1915. Part 4

Bob Hill

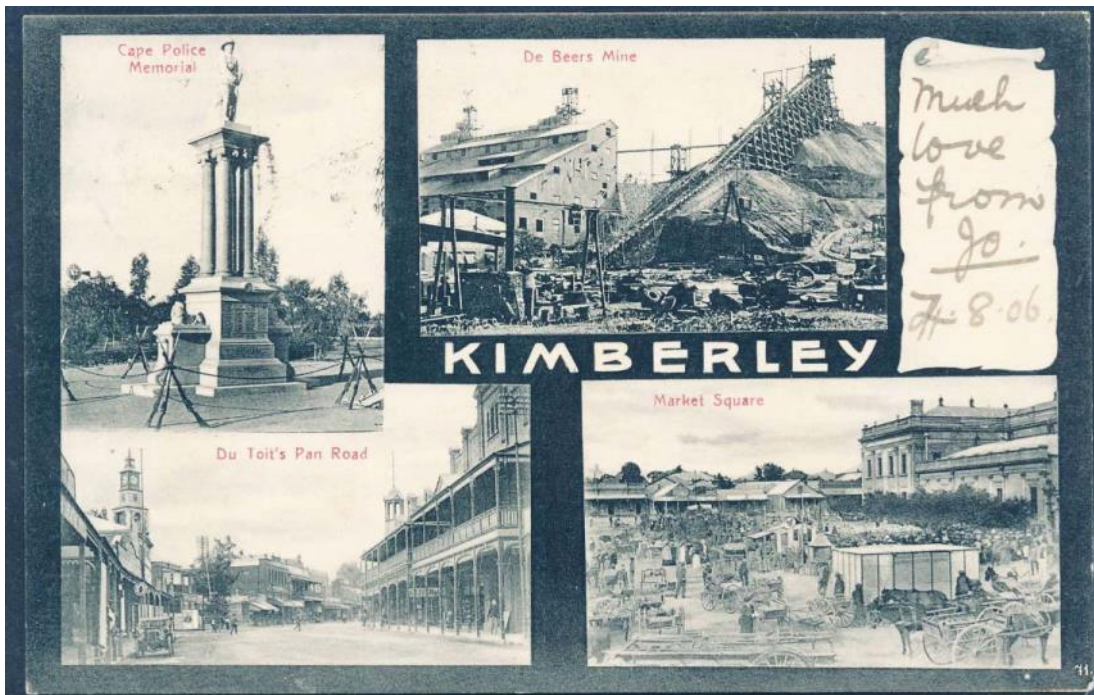
KENILWORTH (KIMBERLEY) (1893-1970)

Barred Oval Numeral Cancellor of 1864. Numeral 207 (4.5.4.) thin bars. Earliest use 6th July 1898 and latest 22nd October 1898. The above details have been recorded by Frescura whilst Putzel lists "207" at Kenilworth - Cape.

Type: 1 Putzel: 50



Postcard circa 1905 showing "Kenilworth near Kimberley"

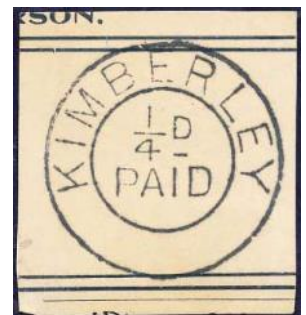


Postcard circa 1906 showing "Four views of Kimberley (a) Cape Police Memorial (b) De Beers Mine (c) Du Toit's Pan Road (d) Market Square"

KIMBERLEY (1872 -Current)

Farthing prepaid mail handstamp. 30mm in diameter with ¼d PAID' on two lines in centre. No date.

Type: 98A Putzel: 40



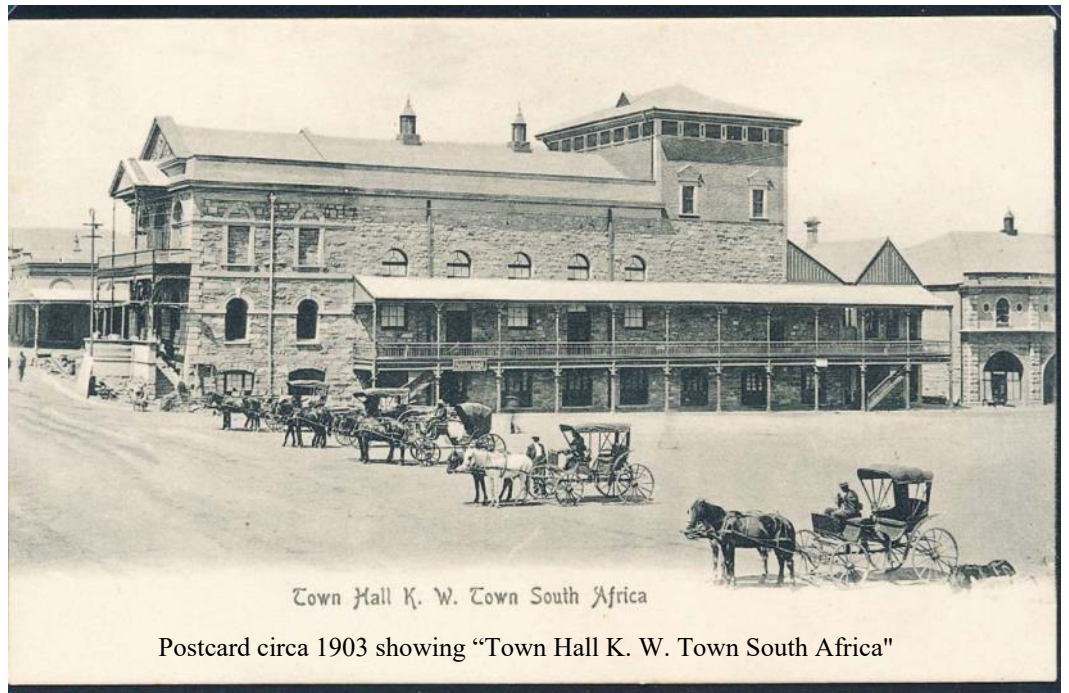
Auctioneer

We have a new Auctioneer. At the AGM Simon Peetoom agreed to be our auctioneer, while Nick Arrow agreed to take on the role of Membership Secretary. Simon will continue as Treasurer. Simon would like to organise an auction at our November weekend meeting. To achieve this he will need material to offer. If you have any items you no longer need, that aren't more suited to the electronic packet, please contact Simon on the details given on page 74.

KING WILLIAMS TOWN (1849-Current)

22mm single circle date stamp of 1869-82, with month before day but no time code letter which is not listed by Putzel. Note "O" used instead of "0".

Type: 4 Putzel:20



Town Hall K. W. Town South Africa

Postcard circa 1903 showing "Town Hall K. W. Town South Africa"



KOKSTAD (1876-Current)

22mm single circle date stamp of 1869-82. Full date with month before day but no time code letter.

Type: 3A Putzel: 20

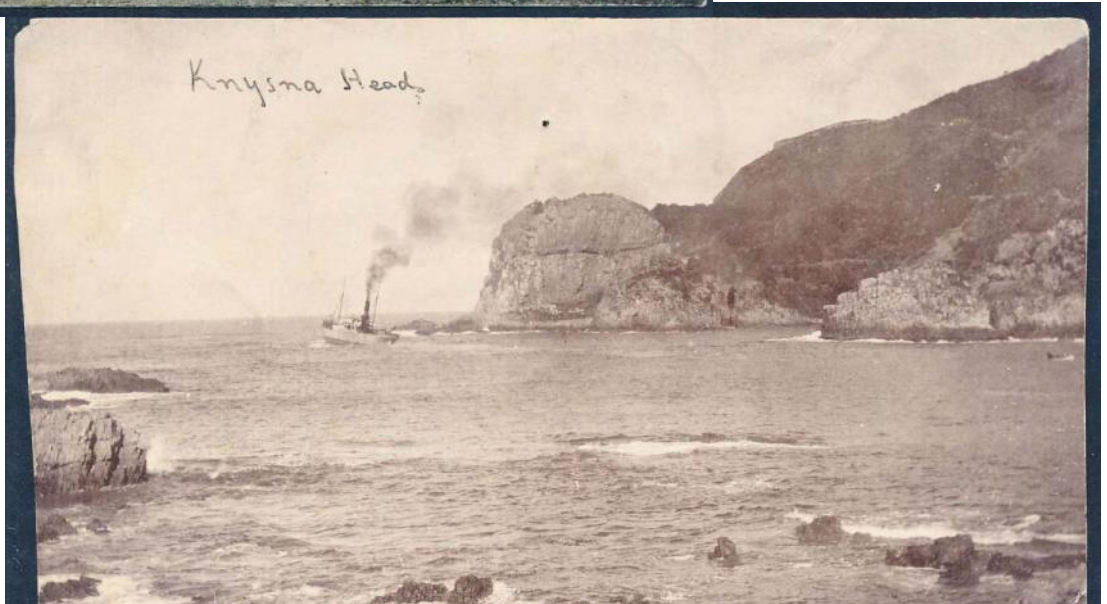


Postcard circa 1910 showing "Main Street & Royal Hotel, Kokstad"

KNYSNA (1810-Current)

Single circle CGH date stamp of 1891. Single circle with CGH at base (large letters). Time code and month before day. Time code not shown in Putzel.

Type:- 4B Putzel:- 20



Handmade postcard circa 1905 showing in manuscript "Knysna Head". The small steamer seen leaving the head was probably owned by "Thersen & Co. Ltd" based in Riebeeck Street, Cape Town. The firm provided a fortnightly service between Cape Town, Mossel Bay and Knysna

An “OFFICIAL” puzzle Roald Sand

This article describes a new “find” that puts a question mark on the “new” ½d. denomination in set 11 of the South Africa small format Officials.

In their excellent publication, *The “Officials” of South Africa*, Hisey and Matheson describe the overprinting of set 11 with an ½d., identifiable by sheet numbers starting with 8. In *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa*, edited by Jack Hagger, 1986, there was no halfpenny in set 11. After a new find by Tony Howgrave-Graham, published in “The “Springbok”, Jan/Mar 2003 pages 107-109, he presents, till then, the only published copy of the “missing” ½d. of set 11. (See figure 1).



figure 1: The first published ½d. linked to set 11

I have reverted to a study of the flaw development of the overprinting plate used for the small format stamps of sets 7 – 11. The plate was basically the same through the years 1932 – 1935, with some amendments.

Only three overprint flaws were constant through sets 7 – 11: On sheet positions 9/3, 20/1 and 20/11. The flaw on 20/1 developed during printing of set 7, and copies can be found without the beveled foot of the L in OFFICIAL (see figure 2).

Set 7 is listed with, in addition to the three constant varieties, three “tops” to letters, probably caused by bleeding lead when casting

OFFICIALS of South Africa

Small format sets 7 - 11

Flaw developments in OP plate

Plate variant numbers are from “The “Officials” of South Africa” by Hisey and Matheson (2017)

VAR	Description	POS	Set 7	Set 8	Set 9	Set 10	set 11	Comments
1	Broken tops OF in OFFICIAL	9/3	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	
2	Foot of L in OFFICIAL beveled	20/1	L	L	L	L	L	
	Foot of L in OFFICIAL beveled	20/11	L	L	L	L	L	
3	F and I in OFFICIAL joined at top	5/2	FI					
4 Set 7	Line down from L in OFFICIAL	6/2	AL					
4 Set 11	Broken FI in OFFICIAL	2/4					FI	
5 Set 7	Broken first F in OFFICIAL	13/11	F					Corrected illustration
5 Set 11	Broken S and L in OFFISIEEL	14/1					SIEE'	Corrected position
6 Set 7	Bulged top first I in OFFICIAL	15/3	I					
6 Set 11	Broken second F in OFFISIEEL	6/10					F	Corrected illustration
7	Broken E in OFFISIEEL, I in OFFICIAL	17/4					L I	
8	Broken IC in OFFICIAL	18/3					IG	
9	Curved line top of L in OFFICIAL	5/1	L	?	L	L		
10	Broken top first I in OFFICIAL	15/3		X				No illustration available
11	OFFISIEEK reads up (6d.)	17-20/12		↑				
	OFFICIAL dropped	17-20/12				↓		Not present in set 11
12	Short L in OFFISIEEL	12/11				L		
13	Short foot to L in OFFICIAL	16/9				L	L	Corrected illustration
14	Top of EL in OFFISIEEL broken	16/10				EL	EL	

figure 2: Development of overprinting flaws set 7 - 11

slugs in the Linotype machine, and a broken F in position 13/11. The bleeding metal wears off before printing set 8, and the broken first F in OFFICIAL is replaced. There is one example of bleeding metal in position 5/1, not listed, that does last until set 10.

When studying the set 7 closely, there are small, identifiable cracks and flaws in letters on 50% of the stamps. Many of these developed further through three years of usage. Bleeding lead was worn off and cracks developed. At the end of printing set 11, the letters of the overprint were so damaged that the plate was discarded.

The plate for overprinting consisted of approximately 9cm long slugs, each containing 4 words, OFFISIEEL or OFFICIAL, moulded in the Linotype machine, in addition to spacers. This can be seen by the uniform distance between the words within one slug, 7mm between the last L and first O in OFFISIEEL in the stamp below. The distance between L and O of OFFISIEEL between two different slugs is slightly more, 7,5 – 8mm. If damaged words were to be replaced, four words would be replaced, in rows 1-4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16 or 17-20. The lowered OFFICIAL in set 10, positions 17-20/12, was an effect of one slug getting loose, and sliding down. In set 11, the dropped OFFICIAL was corrected.

Now to the puzzle.

In my collection I have two B8 of the ½d., position 16-17/9-12 (ex Tony Howgrave-Graham), which was the basis for the Springbok article on in 2003. I believe both belong to set 10. I also have two B8 of the 1d., from the same position in the sheet as the halfpennies, but one belonging to set 10 and one to set 11.

In the following, I use the variant numbers from Hisey and Matheson.

Figure 1 shows the ½d. with sheet number starting with 8. It has dropped OFFICIAL (V11) on position 17/12, but neither V13: Short foot of L in OFFICIAL, position 16/9, nor V14: Damaged top of EL in OFFISIEEL, position 16/10.

Figure 3 shows the ½d. with sheet number starting with 3. It has dropped OFFICIAL (V11) on position 17/12, and V13: Short foot of L in OFFICIAL, position 16/9, and V14: Damaged top of EL in OFFISIEEL, position 16/10.



figure 3: ½d. with sheet number starting with 3

Figure 4 shows the 1d. from set 10. It has dropped OFFICIAL (V11) on position 17/12, and V13: Short foot of L in OFFICIAL, position 16/9, and V14: Damaged top of EL in OFFISIEEL, position 16/10.

Figure 5 (on facing page) shows the 1d. from set 11. The dropped OFFICIAL on position 17/12 has been corrected, but the V13: Short foot of L in OFFICIAL, position 16/9, and V14: Damaged top of EL in OFFISIEEL, position 16/10, are still there.

So, seemingly, the point made of the corrected V13 and V14 in the ½d. of set 11, in the Springbok article, is contradictory to the existence of the V13/V14 in the 1d. of set 11, which has more developed flaws than the ½d.

The "Officials" of South Africa states that the print order in set 11 was ½d., 1d., 6d. and then two more prints of the 1d.

My theory is that the ½d. without V13/V14 is an early overprint stage in set 10, and that V13 and V14 were due to damage to the printing forme during the process. The damaged L of OFFISIEEL (16/9) and



figure 4: 1d. from set 10

Natal and National Flood Disaster Stamps and Booklets—part 1

By Roy Ross

During the week of 27th September to 3rd October 1987 South Africa was hit by the worst natural disaster in living memory when torrential rains caused a devastating deluge in the Natal Province. More than 300 people were killed and many remained missing. Thousands lost their homes and all their possessions and damages totalling R1,5 milliard were caused. South Africans were deeply affected by the plight of the flood victims.

A unique opportunity to render assistance was created by the issue of the then current 16c definitive stamp (Durban City Hall) with the overprints alternatively “NATAL FLOOD DISASTER” and “VLOEDRAMP NATAL” and a 10c surcharge which was to be utilized for relief of flood distress.

This is the first time that use has been made of a surcharge overprint on a South African stamp currently in use.

Similar surcharge overprints were printed on the 16c stamps of the special issues “The Bible” (19 November 1987 and “Dias 500” (3 February 1988).

Following the Natal flood disaster further devastation occurred in the Orange Free State and Northern Cape regions during February and March 1988. Again an opportunity was created to render assistance by overprinting the Huguenots series of 4 value stamps (16c, 30c, 40c and 50c) this time reading alternatively “NATIONAL FLOOD DISASTER” and “NATIONALE VLOEDRAMP” with a 10c surcharge for flood relief.

It is interesting to note that only one FDC was issued for the 3 Natal issues and that was for the very first overprint of the 16c Durban City Hall. For a collector there are two different covers: one with the first stamp overprinted in English and the second cover having the first stamp overprinted in Afrikaans. A FDC was also issued for the National Flood Disaster with pairs of the 4 Huguenots stamps on the cover. The Cover features an aerial photograph of a flooded farmstead in the Orange Free State.



The date on the sheetlet (right) has two dates under “LOEDRAMP” 1987-10-16 and 1987-04-01. The last was the original date issue of the stamp for the definitive series 1987-04-01 and the first 1987-10-16 should be the date issue of the overprinted stamp but the first day cover has a date of 1987-11-16. One would assume that the wrong date has been applied to the sheet stamps and should read 1987-11-16



Not all the stamps overprinted were used for booklets. The 16c Durban stamp, the 16c Bible stamp and the 16c Dias stamp were all used but in the case of the 4 x Huguenots series overprints only the 16c was used in the booklets.

Natal Flood Disaster Charity Booklets

First Issue

SACC 633 - 634

16th November 1987

The sheet stamps that were used for the booklets were the 16c (SACC 624) overprinted (10c surcharge) in English and Afrikaans. "VLOEDRAMP NATAL" and NATAL FLOOD DISASTER" in two horizontal lines in black Letroset print.

Number of sheets printed: 300,000 sheets

2 panes per sheet. 10 x 10 stamps per pane.

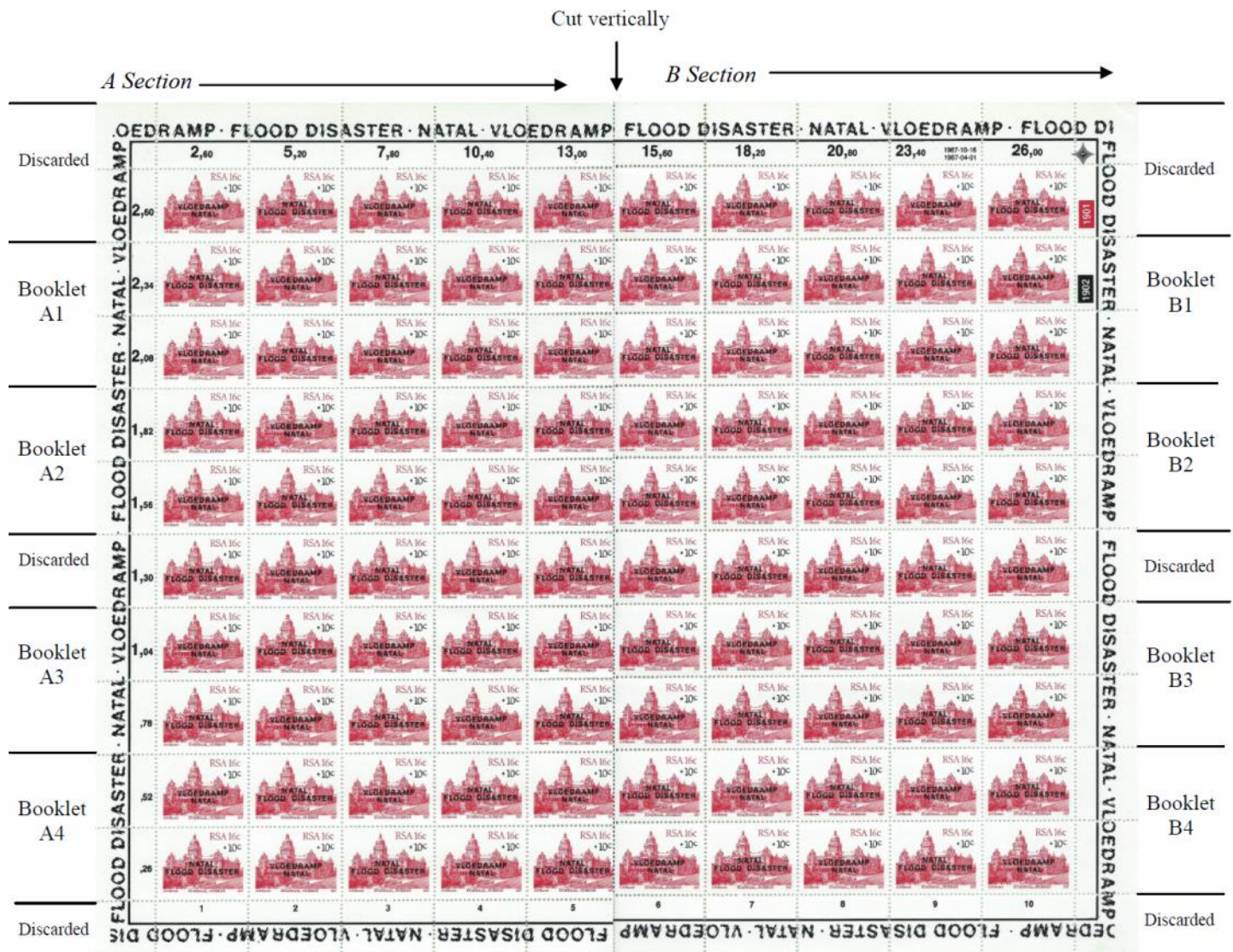
Printing: Lithography - Plates 1901 and 1902

Paper : Harrison Phosphorus coated with PVA gum.

To obtain the strips of stamps required for the booklets each pane was cut in half vertically, thus giving two parts of 5 x 10 stamps. Section A on the left and section B on the right. To make the 4 x 2 rows required the top margin and the top row of stamps of each pane were discarded along with the centre row and the bottom margin.

The two rows of five stamps from the left section A were pasted into the booklet using the left margin whilst the B section stamps were pasted into the booklets using the right margin.

Separation of a pane to obtain booklet sheetlets



*Natal Flood Disaster Charity Booklet.
RSA Booklet No.1*

SACC 635

Folder
16th November 1987
Value: R2.60 10 stamps - 5 x 2
Printer: Post Office Dept Printers
Size 110 x 71mm
Paper 135gm Dukuza gloss
Printing: Lithography - 4 colours - Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black.
Style: Open end envelope
Layout: 6 per sheet 2 x 3
Quantity Printed: 30,200

The original pane had 10 x 10 rows of stamps

Stamps used from a single pane for the booklets - 8 rows of 5 x 2

Booklet: Stamps attached using left margin

A1 - "TER.NATAL.VL" with value indicators left margin 2,34 and 2,08. First stamp overprinted in English

A2 - "FLOOD DISAS" with value indicators left margin 1,82 and 1,56. First stamp overprinted in English

A3 - ".NATAL VLOEI" with value indicators left margin 1,04 and ,78. First stamp overprinted Afrikaans

A4 - "OOD DISASTER" with value indicator left margin ,52 and ,26. First stamp overprint Afrikaans.

Booklet: Stamps attached using right margin.

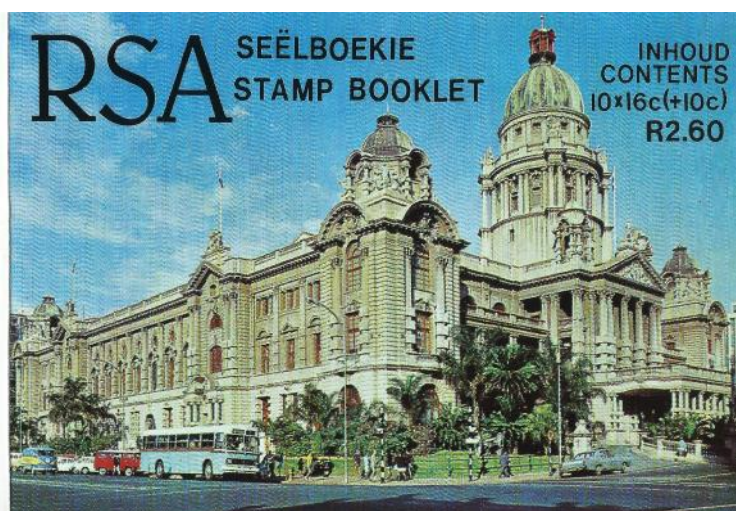
B1 - "SASTER.NATAL" with plate number 1902. First stamp overprinted in Afrikaans

B2 - ".VLOEDRAMP" with first stamp overprinted in Afrikaans

B3 - "DISASTER .NA" with first stamp overprinted in English

B4 - "TAL.VLOEDRAI" with first stamp over printed in English.

There are therefore 8 different booklets with the combination of the stamps above.



The first three of the issues of the flood disaster booklets were overprinted for the Natal flood disaster fund "NATAL FLOOD DISATER" "VLOEDRAMP NATAL" and the fourth was overprinted "NATIONAL FLOOD DISASTER" "NATIONALE VLOEDRAMP" for the Orange Free State and Northern Cape Fund.

*Natal Flood Disaster Charity Booklet.
RSA Booklet No.1*

Booklet with stamps attached using left margin
A4



There are eight different booklets using different stamp positions from the sheets



WWII Bantams

Mike Tonking RDPSA

(In the last issue Mike wrote to tell me how much he enjoyed Tony Howgrave-Graham's article on the 2d value (Springbok 357). He told me it stimulated him to look at his album pages of the issue which he thought might be of interest to our readers. I agree but I didn't have room for them last month - Editor)

INTRODUCTION

The War Effort 'Bantam' Series 1942 - 1945

The exhibit is part of a study collection which covers the Union War Effort 'Bantam' Series issued between 1942 and 1945. Examples are shown of each Issue of every value which have been identified by reference to discrete and constant flaws as well as other features. The major listed as well as many unlisted flaws are shown and the study includes examples of the eleventh row flaws which occur in the case of the ½d. and 1d. values.

In order to conserve paper the War Effort stamps were issued in a miniature format with the original designs modified by J. Prentice. It is reported that the paper saved was equivalent to 556 million stamps.

For the first time slogans were printed on all four sheet margins. A second feature of note was the combination of perforations and roulettes used for the separation of the individual stamps. Examples are shown of the different roulette gauges which occurred during the experiments made in the case of the 1½d. stamps which were the first of the Series to be rouletted.

The Series was also overprinted for use in South West Africa and examples are shown of the different values and printings.

War Effort - Large



War Effort - 'Bantam'



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT ISSUES 1942 - 1945

During the period 1942 - 1945 the War Effort Series was issued in a miniature format as an urgent necessity to conserve paper. It is reported that the actual saving amounted to 556 million stamps during this period. Stamp design followed that of the large War Effort Series however in this case the stamps were separated by a combination of perforations and roulettes since it was not possible to alter the existing eleven row perforating comb. Early printings of the 1½d. value were issued with a 13 gauge roulette however later Issues and all other values were rouletted 6½ gauge with each slit being 1,75mm long. Upto 1945 slogans in English and Afrikaans were printed in all four margins. From 1945 the side margin slogans were replaced by parallel lines intersected by the figures '240' or '360' depending on the number of stamps in the sheet. The nine different slogan or combination figure and slogan cylinders can be used to identify the different Issues of each value.

Printed by rotogravure on paper watermarked with the multiple Springbok's head the 4d., and 1/- values were bilingual whilst the remainder were alternately inscribed in English and Afrikaans.

Distinguishing Features of Marginal Cylinders

In all there were two types of each of the three slogan or figure cylinders depending upon whether they were combined with the 240 or 360 stamp cylinders. Since the actual cylinder numbers are not known reference numbers have been allocated to them which have no Official significance.

240 Stamp Sheets - Slogan or Figure Cylinders - 1½d., 2d., 6d., and 1/- Values

Type 1 - Slogan

1½d., Issues 1 and 11, 2d., 6d., and 1/- Issue 1



Side slogans printed close to stamps with letters overlapping in some cases.
Slogan over first stamp of sheet in English.
No full stop after certificates.

Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT ISSUES 1942 - 1945

Distinguishing Features of Marginal Cylinders

Type 2 and 3 - Slogans

2d., and 6d., Issues 11 and 111. 1/- Issue 11.



Side slogans well clear of stamps.
Slogan over first stamp of sheet
in Afrikaans.
Full stop after certificates.
Type 2 with traces of ghost slogans
in side margins not present on
Type 3.

Type 4 - Figures and Lines

2d., and 6d., Issue 1V



Slogans top and bottom as for
cylinder 3.
Side margins with figure '240'
intersected every other stamp
by two parallel lines.
Blank space either side of centre
arrows.

Type 5 - Figures and Lines

2d., Issue V



Similar to type 4 however blank
spaces either side of arrows
filled in with '240' and an
extension of parallel lines.

Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT ISSUES 1942 - 1945

Distinguishing Features of Marginal Cylinders

360 Stamp Sheets - Slogan or Figure Cylinders - 1/2d., 1d., 3d., and 4d. Values

Type 6 - Slogan'

1/2d. Issue 1 (Many shades)



No dots round 'B' of BUY top right corner.
 Large ink blob above stamp 16 row 1.
 Space between slogans either side of centre arrows 27mm.

Type 7 - Slogan

1/2d. Issue 11. 1d., 3d., and 4d. Issue 1



Similar to Type 6 but without blob flaw and has dot 1,75mm below 'B' of BUY top right corner.
 Slogans clear of stamps.
 Dot over 's' of Certificates.
 Space between slogans either side of centre arrows 28mm.

Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT ISSUES 1942 - 1945

Distinguishing Features of Marginal Cylinders

Type 8 - Slogan

½d. Issues 111 and 1V. 1d., 3d., and 4d. Issues 11



Similar to Type 7 but with two dots to left of 'B' of BUY and none below. Colour of slogan, apart from 3d. value, different to stamps. Small dash near edge of margin below 's' of Certificates.

Type 9 - Figures and Lines

1d. Issue 111



Slogans on top and bottom margins as for Types 6, 7, and 8. Side margins have figure '360' intersected every other stamp by two purple parallel lines. Blank spaces either side of centre arrows.

Type 10 - Figures and Lines

½d. Issue V. 1d. Issue 1V. 3d. Issue 111



Slogans top and bottom margins as for Type 9. Side margins have figure '360' intersected every other stamp by two parallel lines in same colour as stamp. Spaces either side of centre arrows have '360' and lines.

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Missing Roulettes

Missing roulettes are known on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d. Values

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Issue 1.



1d. Value Issue 1.



Postmarked 22 July 1944.



$1\frac{1}{2}$ d. Value Issue 1.



2d. Value Issue 3 - Coarse screen.
Row 3/3 - Two dots to right of cap.



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Missing Marginal Slogans

Missing marginal slogans are recorded on the 1d., 1½d., and 3d. Values.

1½d. Value - Issue 1.



3d. Value - Issue 1 - Row 6/2 - Small dot right panel.



A single sheet of the 1d. Value Issue 1 is known with missing marginal slogans.
Row 18/18 - Small dot on nurse's veil.



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Joined Paper Varieties

Joined papers are known in the case of the 1d., 2d. and 3d. values.

Issue 2³ Row 6/7 - Line from ear to right frame.
Screen scratch flaw.

Issue 1 - Row 1/11 - Red dot top right gutter.
Red smear due to printing on double paper
thickness where join is situated.



Issue 1 Row 15/1 - Small dot in right panel.



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Slogan Printed on Stamps

All values are known with the slogan printed on the stamps.

Issue 2 Row 1/9 - 'Watch' on left arm.

Issue 1 Row 1/1 - 'Star' on right frame.



Issue 4 Row 1/14 - Dot in 'A' of AFRICA Multi. flaw.



Issue 1 Marginal slogan 7 (blue)



Issue 4 'Ghost slogans' in left margin.



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Blurred Slogans

The 1d. and 2d. values are listed as having this flaw present which is also found on the 3d. value as shown below.

Issue 1 January 1943 Printing.



Issue 2 Marginal slogan 8 (ultramarine)



Issue 2 January 1944 Printing Marginal slogan 3 (purple) fine screening.



Union of South Africa

BANTAM WAR EFFORT - Interrupted Printings

1d. Issue 3 - Bottom two rows partially printed.

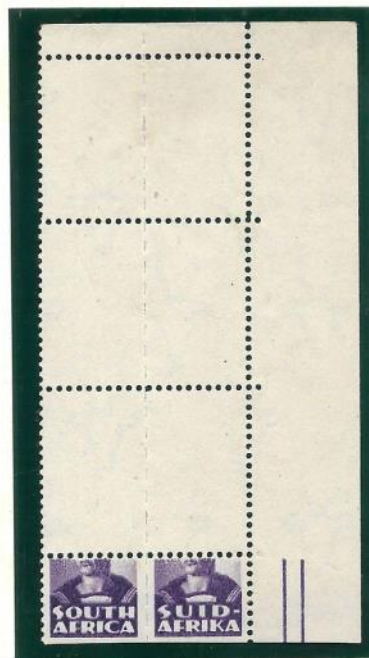
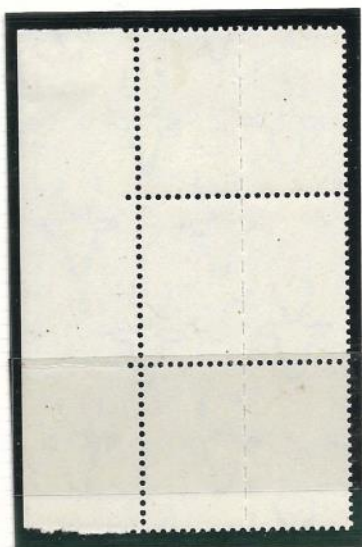


1d. Issue 1 - Only one sheet known with top row partially printed.



2d. Issue 5 - Misplaced perforations and partially printed stamps.

2d. Issue 5 - Stamps not printed, at least one sheet known.



Union Cinderella - Part 4

Lyn & Rob Lester

Continuing with the theme of commercial labels from the previous edition we feature a further five labels from differing decades in this edition all promoting very different causes. Should anyone have any comments to add about the labels shown we would be very pleased to receive them. Our email address is lyn28lester@hotmail.co.uk.

1911 Pretoria en Fete



Two labels sharing the same design, but with one in green and one purple, Both are printed on white gummed paper and poorly rouletted with each label measuring 54mm by 33mm. The labels were issued to promote Festival week in Pretoria, which was held from Monday 29 May 1911 to Saturday 3 June 1911. The labels feature an early image of the Union Buildings, before it was built, set within a frame. They were designed by the British architect Sir Herbert Baker in an English monumental style. On completion in 1913, at 285 metres long, they formed the largest buildings in South Africa. The commission to design the new Government buildings started in 1909 with the corner stone being laid in 1910 just after the Union. The original symbolic design has a semi-circular central area with two wings at each side, serving to represent the Union of a formerly divided people. The East and West wings, as well as the twin domed towers, represent the English and Afrikaans languages, with the inner court symbolising the Union of South Africa.

The labels were printed by 'Wallach's Ltd' a printer and publisher in Pretoria, whose name appears outside the frame at the base of the label. Although the label is clearly dated 1911 we have not seen it used on cover.



1924 Missionary Exhibition Cape Town

A blue label printed on white gummed paper with a central image of a ship leaving Cape Town harbour with Table Mountain in the background. The label measures 37mm by 28mm and is perforated 12 with one side imperforate suggesting a booklet format. Across the top of the label are the words 'Missionary Exhibition' with 'City Hall Cape Town' across the base. In the top corners are the words 'June' and '1924'. Along the base of the label in the corners and centre are the initials 'SPG' – 'DBM' – 'CMS.' SPG, stands for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. DBM, as shown on the label, should read DMB which stands for the Diocesan Mission Board and CMS, stands for the Church Missionary Society.



The label was issued to promote the Missionary Exhibition which was held from 19 June until 25 June 1924 in the City Hall Cape Town. A special souvenir brochure was also issued by the Diocesan Mission Board, who organised the Exhibition. It was an extremely ambitious event utilising the entire City Hall, including the foyer, where displays illustrated the mission work being carried out by the Anglican Church worldwide. The president of the Exhibition was the Archbishop of Cape Town and the patrons were the Governor-General, Prince Arthur of Connaught and Princess Alice. The organising Committee was chaired by Canon Lewis with Canon Herford as secretary. Church dignitaries, army and navy senior officers, senators and doctors were appointed vice presidents of the Exhibition which also included the Mayor of Cape Town.

The halls were divided into courts dealing with the different lands where mission work was being undertaken. These were the Bible Lands, East Africa, Central Africa, China, Korea, Japan, India, Madagascar, the medical missions, the Holy Orthodox Church of South Africa and the Cape Town parishes, which were in charge of all of the displays. During the Exhibition numerous lecturers and missionary plays took place. Part of the Cape Town exhibit included the history of the Muslim Mission in the Cape. The souvenir brochure included an article entitled, "At Our Own Gate" which recorded the missionary work of the Diocesan Mission Board in Cape Town. Within its two and a half pages it discusses the work amongst the 'Natives' in the Cape Peninsula.

Whilst the label is clearly dated June 1924 we have not seen it used on cover.

1937 Imperial Airways use Shell Motor Oil

A dark blue, yellow and red label printed in English on white gummed paper measuring 48mm by 31mm and perforated 14. On the upper half of the label is an image of an aeroplane, registration number G – ABPI with the words, 'Imperial Airways On All Services Use Shell Motor Oil Exclusively' on the lower half of the label.



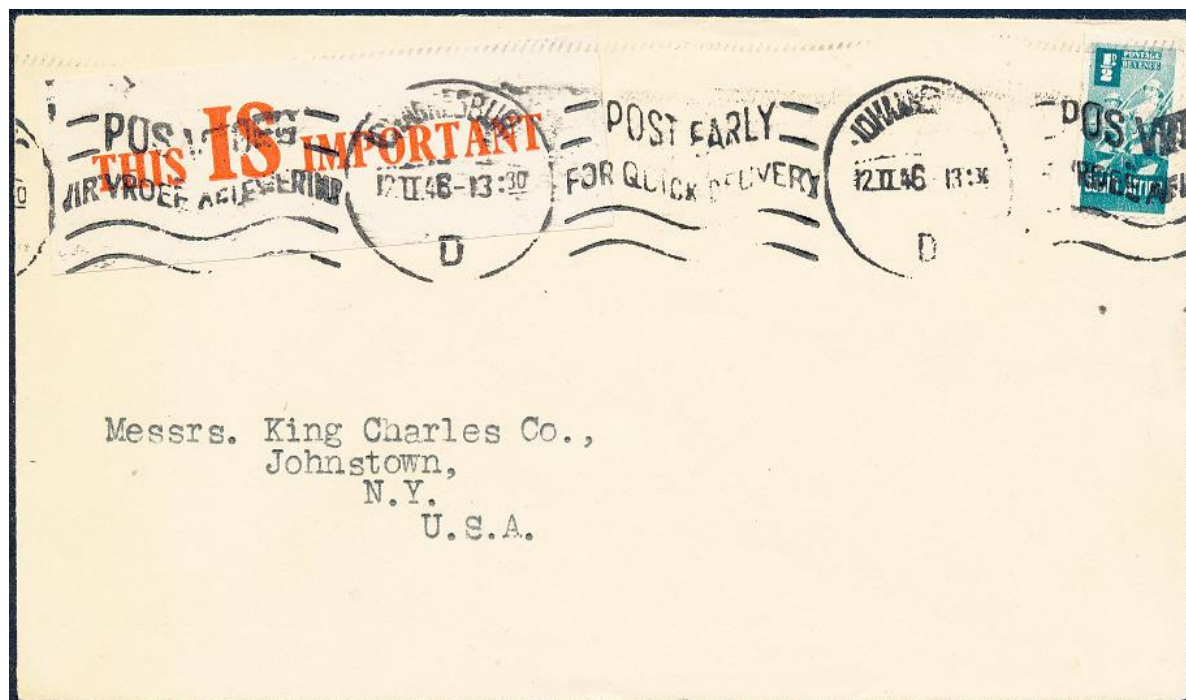
The cover shown is a commercial cover addressed to Oklahoma, U.S.A., with three 1d Van Riebeeck stamps, date stamped Ladybrand 19 FEB. B 37.

The aeroplane shown on the label, G – ABPI was an Armstrong Whitworth AW. 15 ‘Atalanta’. Imperial Airways decided to only use four engine aircraft for flights from the UK to Africa. This meant that should a single engine fail, the flight could continue whereas a twin engine aircraft would need to make an immediate forced landing. The prototype G – ABPI was named Atalanta and first flew on 6 June 1932 piloted by Alan Campbell-Orde. On 20 October 1932 it was damaged in a test flight due to fuel starvation. On 5 January 1933 G – ABPI left Croydon Airport on its first flight to Cape Town. The Atalanta could carry up to 17 passengers but Imperial Airways limited the seating to 11 on the African route.

Earliest known usage of label on cover is 19 February 1937.

1946 This Is Important

Imperforate label measuring 73mm by 26mm with red lettering on white gummed paper. The label appears to be only applied to correspondence from Johannesburg to various addresses in the U.S.A. and has a simple message, ‘This IS important’. We have only seen it used on correspondence in January and February 1946, the earliest usage being 9 January.



1953 50th Anniversary of the Schlesinger Organisation

1953 saw the Golden Jubilee of the Schlesinger Organisation and to commemorate this event they produced an oval label in green and gold on white gummed paper. There is an English version and Afrikaans version based on the same design but in different languages. The imperforate labels measure 34mm by 39mm and have a large 50 within the centre with the words “Schlesinger Organisation – Golden Jubilee” around the outside with “In service of South Africa 1903 – 1953” on the English label and “Schlesinger Organisasie – Goue Jubileum” and “In Diens Van Suidelike Afrika 1903 -1953”.



Above is a multi-stamped advertising cover from 'The South African Advertising Contractors Limited' Cape Town to New York which includes an English version of the label tied by the date stamp 'Cape Town/ Kaapstad 21. IV. 53 – 17:15'.

Mr Isidore William Schlesinger was born in New York in 1871 and first visited Cape Town in 1894, aged 23. He started as an Insurance salesman and founded the African Realty Trust opening up interests in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth. He saw the potential South Africa offered and started to build businesses in Insurance, Advertising, Real Estate, Catering Equipment, and Citrus Fruits. In 1904 he founded the South African Life Assurance Society, followed in 1910 by the Colonial Banking and Trust Company and the African Guarantee and Indemnity Company. In 1914 Schlesinger established the African Theatre Trust, later to become African Consolidated Theatres. He established pineapple plantations near Grahamstown with canneries in Port Elizabeth and the largest orange orchard at Zebediela with over 650,000 trees. He employed tens of thousands of people and at his death in 1949 he was head of over 100 companies.

After his death his empire was taken over by his son, John. S. Schlesinger, who celebrated the organisations Golden Jubilee in 1953.

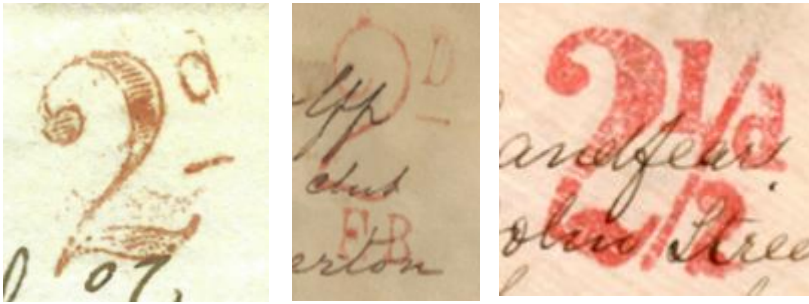


Advertising cover from 'Die Afrikaanse Lewens Versekerings Maatskappy Beperk' in Johannesburg to Stilfontein, which includes an Afrikaans version of the label and red meter mark, 'Johannesburg 14 VII 53'.

Earliest usage on cover of the English label seen by us is 21 April 1953, and of the Afrikaan label 14 July 1953.

“2D or not 2D, that is the question.” Postage Due or Accountancy Marks?

Malcolm Judd



Before the Treaty of Bern in 1874 that led to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) the international postal system was merely a complex arrangement of treaties. These bilateral arrangements allowed for payment to the recipient country to deliver mail.

The UPU Regulations largely superseded the treaties with the postal rates set by it consistent across all UPU countries with the sending

country keeping the extra paid for international mail. The UPU Regulations considered that the amount of post received to deliver, and the amount of post sent to be delivered, was equal, but every three years there was a tally over 14 days to see what the relative number of postal items had been to ascertain if one country owed an amount to another country. If one country felt hard done by then the UPU Articles allowed for Arbitration by two uninvolved countries acting as Arbitrators.

Before, and indeed after, the UPU where a treaty did not exist between country A and country C, but did exist between country A and country B, then country A might send mail to country B with a credit/accountancy mark, paying B to forward mail to country C. The post between Great Britain and the various countries making-up what is now South Africa give rise to examples of this

It would be wrong however to consider that all such credit/accountancy marks stopped in 1874. Countries had specifically to join the UPU so treaties and the lack of them carried on in many cases, with examples to the end of the 19th Century. The three very different accountancy marks shown are all hand-stamped examples.

The first is a Cape Colony mark identical in shape to a postage due mark, but stamped in red, allocating 2d to the receiving postal authority.

The second is a British mark of 2d on the way to the South African Republic via the Cape Colony.



The third mark is a Cape Colony accountancy mark on a letter to the USA via Britain in 1887 with 2½d credited to Britain as the transit country. In 1880 postage costs via Great Britain to certain ‘Foreign Countries’, whether by Mail Packet or private ships, were changed to 7½d per ½oz (Goldblatt pg 234). This included Europe, Prussia, Russia, and the USA. The USA and GB were both UPU members at the time. Example 1 comes from Brian Trotter’s book ‘Southern African Mails’ at figure F5.16 (1d Cape, 4d ship, 2½d UPU rate GB to USA).

Example 1 – Cape to the USA via GB – red 2½d credit to GB.

An attractive cover (Example 2 overleaf) from the Cape of Good Hope to Edinburgh in 1873 was included in a December 2021 auction sale by one of the UK’s leading philatelic auction houses. The cover was described as having a ‘.... single 4d value (*stamp*) and Postage Due “2d”h/s.’ That handstamp was in red ink which was in fact an accountancy mark allowing Great Britain 2d to deal with the letter, rather than being a postage due handstamp. As it was part of a Lot that included three covers, the other two much less interesting, it is not possible to place a value on the 2d accountancy cover, however the Lot sold for £180, three times the lower auction estimate. The explanation is even more complicated as the CoGH and GB gave a 1d each to the shipping company for its services. 1873 is, of course, pre-UPU and accountancy marks were well-known then but often involved more of a hastily applied red pencil mark than the more formal red handstamp shown.



Example 2 – Cape to Scotland – red 2d credit to GB



Example 3 – London to Cape – red 2d credit to the Cape

The 4d rate

Just as the last cover specified the Walmer Castle, Example 3 specifically states that it was to be carried by Donald Currie's company at the 4d rate via Dartmouth; it does not specify a particular ship, which was acceptable, but it avoided the 1/- rate of sending it by the normal Union Line vessels as a 'Packet Letter'. The red 2d credited to the Cape Colony Post Office provided 1d for delivery and 1d for Donald Currie's company which would also be paid 1d by Great Britain. The London duplex cancellation from Lombard Street shows 22 July 1875. There is a Cape Colony arrival date stamp of 17 August 1875 noting the Accountancy mark and a backstamp of Worcester the following day.

You might think that 4d was a very small amount to pay but it was set by the British Post Office Notice no. 9 of 1863 as confirmed by a Cape Colony Postal Notice of 19/3/1863 superseding the Cape Colony Govt. Gazette Notice of 14 July 1857 which was a 6d

rate (with 4d to the ship owners). The same Notice specified the 1/- rate for packet boat-sent letters (pg 144 Trotter).

In the 'General Directory and Guide Book of the Cape of Good Hope of 1869', Table A11 includes the following: 'Letters for the United Kingdom when intended to go by private ship should be marked accordingly and are charged only 4d. the half ounce or fraction of the half ounce, increasing at the rate of 4d for every additional half ounce or fraction of a half ounce' (Goldblatt pg 233).

RED FREEHAND NUMBERS

Many examples exist of the red hand-written numbers indicating accountancy marks. Example 4 (on facing page) is from the Cape Colony via London to Canada. As it took 35-40 days to sail from Cape Town to London and then a similar time to cross the Atlantic the time taken would have been at least two months with a fair wind. The red scribbles show that out of the 1/1d paid by the sender (which is about £15 in today's value) there is a 1/- accountancy mark in red being the credit from the Cape Post Office to the British Post Office, leaving the Cape with 1d. The second scribble is a straight line of red pencil on the left-hand side being a 1d from the British Post Office to Canada to deliver the letter. The ship passages were paid out of the 1/- received by the British Post Office. The amount was set by the Cape's half ounce postage rate of 1858. During the 1850s and 1860s Trotter advises that the complexity of the letter rates from the Cape Colony to other parts of the world was 'immense' (page 149). My own consideration of this cover is that it was underpaid by 1d given the Half Ounce Postage Rate of 1858 which shows a rate of 1/1d for Canada but the Cape of Good Hope Almanac and Register of 1859 (Goldblatt pg 225) lists the cost to Canada as 1/2d.



Example 4 – Cape to Canada via GB – red credit 1/- to GB and 1d to Canada

An analysis of the overseas rates set out in the 1866 Cape Town Directory indicates 17 different rates for packet ship transfer of post varying from France at 8d to Chili (sic.) at 2/11d, with a similar diversity for private ship rates (France 8d, Chili 2/3d), showing that not all private ship rates were lower (Goldblatt pgs 228-232).

DATES OF COMPLEXITY

The conclusion you might draw is that every time you see a figure in red on a postal item it must be a credit, an accountancy mark, and not a postage due. That would almost certainly be wrong after 1895 worldwide as explained.

There is good information on the Great Britain Philatelic Society website about the dates that countries joined the UPU but do be aware that the complexity of this is such that the information given needs confirmation elsewhere. The example I give is New Zealand which was included in the various pre-Australian countries UPU entry on 1 October 1891. New Zealand did not resign but became an independent country in the UPU when Australia joined as a single country on 1 October 1907, that date in the GBPS information showing as the date that NZ also joined, which is incorrect. Similarly, the ZAR joining date is given as 1895 whereas elsewhere (Trotter and Goldblatt) it is given as 1893, although the Cape did join in 1895.

A standard rate of 2½d per ½oz was introduced upon the formation of the General (later Universal) Postal Union on 1st July 1875, although this applied only to member countries with non-UPU rates varied by treaties covering many but not all countries.

THE LATE 19TH CENTURY

In 1886 an Inter-Empire rate of 6d per ½ oz was introduced and then a 2½d rate was confirmed on 1 October 1888 (Trotter pg.159) but the GB to Cape rate confirmed on 1 October 1888 was 4d by ship or packet (see Trotter pg 145). Eventually most destinations were covered by UPU Regulations and it was simpler to have one standard rate. From 1st October 1891 a uniform rate of 2½d per ½oz applied except to Transvaal, Orange Free State, British Bechuanaland, and "other more remote places in the Interior of Africa served by way of the Cape Colony or Natal".

From 1st July 1892 the UPU 2½d rate applied almost worldwide, but not across the countries of southern Africa.



Example 5 - Great Britain to the ZAR 1891 – red credit 2d to the Cape

An example of late 19th Century marks is shown on a cover in my collection (Example 5), with a 6d stamp and a 2d red handstamp with F.B. (Foreign Branch) under, sent from London to the then South African Republic (ZAR) of the Boers in 1889. It would normally be sent via the Cape Colony and this allowed 2d for the letter to be forwarded by that recipient country, with whom a treaty existed, to the ZAR for delivery, which did not join the UPU until 1893. The Postal Convention between the Cape Colony and Transvaal is dated 1 April 1885 at 2d per ½ oz. There is no T Tax mark applied at Lombard Street in London on this cover – a principal post of-

fice – and this all proves that the red 2d is an accountancy mark and not a postage due mark, the 2d being retained by the Cape Post Office for forwarding the letter to the ZAR. This an example of paying country B to deliver the letter to country C, there being a treaty between CoGH and Transvaal in existence, but nothing between London and the ZAR with whom relations were still frayed



The most precious historic cover in my South African collection is that from Birmingham addressed to ‘His: Exc. Com: Gen: Joubert, Pretoria, South Africa’ (Example 6). It has a 3d F.B. mark on it, added in Birmingham when posted with 2½d in stamps. The dealer who sold it to me thought that the printed name and address on the reverse of the envelope was from a Solicitor’s office. However my research revealed that it was from the private military arms suppliers Westley Richards & Co. When I contacted the archivist of that company she confirmed that this British company supplied tens of thousands of arms to the Boers between the first and second Anglo-Boer Wars and that by the time of the latter the Boers had more modern rifles than the British!

Example 6 – GB to Transvaal – 3d postage due or accountancy mark?

In 1888 ‘Inland Post’ was defined as ‘the post maintained by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope between the various Post Offices in the Colony’. It also includes the posts to adjacent States, viz., - Natal, the Orange Free State, the South African Republic (Transvaal), and British Bechuanaland’. (Goldblatt pg 216). The rate specified was 2d per half-ounce or fraction thereof - see 1 April 1885 Cape/Transvaal Postal Convention (Trotter pg 111).

From 1 October 1888 the British Ship and Packet Letter rates to and from the Cape reduced to 4d, with both postal authorities keeping 1d. On the 1 January 1891 this reduced further to 2½d in line with UPU rates and in accordance with the Cape Colony Government Gazette of 23 December 1890 (Trotter pg 144) but the Cape did not join the UPU until 1 January 1895 thus the 2½d rate did not apply to those countries outside the UPU and whose Postal Conventions cited other rates, as Goldblatt advises (pg 214). The South African Republic did not join the UPU until January 1893 as shown in Trotter (pg 45) and Transvaal Philately (Ian Mathews and others) at page 185 where it lists the rate between the ZAR and the UK as having been reduced to 4d from 1 January 1891.

2½d was paid in Birmingham seemingly in accordance with the 1 January 1891 reduction to a Cape address, but was there a 3d postage due applied – suggesting that the rate was perceived as being 4d (see above) with the deficit doubled? However there is no sign of a tax ‘T’ on the front or reverse and nowhere for it to hide under postage due stamps (not yet being in use in GB, the Cape or Transvaal). The sender of the letter appears to be aware of the change from 4d to 2½d to the Cape. It is equally possible that the sender was unaware of the 1891 postal rate to Transvaal of 4d per half ounce and that this is indeed a postage due mark of 1½d x 2 = 3d. A transit mark on the reverse shows that this envelope went via the Cape and not via Natal. The Cape transit marks show as 8th and 12th October, the latter probably being the date of the onward journey to the Transvaal. However, there is no Transvaal backstamp nor acknowledgement that the 3d has been dealt with. When it was delivered would the postman be likely to stand at the door of His Excellency Commandant-General Piet Joubert and demand 3d to hand-over the letter? Snelson advises that where recipient countries were not in the UPU old practices continued for underpaid mail; the ‘T’ tax mark was not required as no other UPU country was involved in this case. However, with Great Britain in the UPU for some 16 years the ‘T’ handstamp was standard practice for mail, this being an exception.

With no ‘T’ and given the pertinent advice in Trotter that Accountancy Marks are found in blue and sometimes in black (but usually erased) had this mark faded to black over the past 130 years? That is possible and it could have been dealt with disregarding the amount pre-paid and allowing 3d to the Cape (1d for the ship owner on arrival and 2d for delivery to the ZAR). However, the consensus of those consulted is that 3d is a postage due mark and not an Accountancy mark.

THE IMPERIAL PENNY POST – December 1898

The Imperial Penny Post was an idea driven by Sir John Heneker Heaton MP who went from GB to Australia when he was 16 and became a journalist and public figure, returning to Britain in 1884 and becoming an MP.

He realised that there would be support for his plan to half the overseas British Empire rate to 1d and indeed there was, with 22 million letters each year sent from GB to the Colonies in the 1890s, except that there was no support from The General Post Office which was already losing money at a rate of 2d a letter.

The varied dates of when the Southern Africa countries joined the Imperial Penny Post is important when considering accountancy marks (Natal – 4 March 1899; CoGH – 1 Sept. 1899; ORC & Transvaal - 1 Dec. 1900, British Sea Post – 1 June 1901 but before that from 1898 the internal rate from the Cape to the ZAR was reduced to 1d per half-ounce or fraction thereof (Trotter pg 111).

Dates to consider to identify Accountancy Marks relating to southern Africa

The simplistic approach to when accountancy marks might be found on post between southern Africa (notably the Cape Colony) and GB, which acted as the main transit country for mail to other countries, is as follows.

- 1) 1806 to 1857: no overseas postage charges could be prepaid in the Cape Colony thus no accountancy marks were required (with the addressee paying the recipient country charges).
- 2) 1 June 1857 (or possibly 14 July 1857) to 1 July 1876: overseas postal charges needed to be paid and the Cape Colony applied accountancy marks as necessary, however the level of charges and the transport used (Government contract packet-boat or private ship company) affected the cost.
- 3) July 1876 to January 1895: with the Cape Colony not joining the UPU until 1 January 1895, the ZAR joining in 1893 and using Natal as well as the Cape Colony ports for both despatch and receipt of post, any transit marks (or lack of them) are very important in deciphering covers. In addition, ship letter rates and packet letter rates mostly differed and the former still had to be specifically identified by the writer as the mode of transport.

Guiding conclusions relating to red postal marks:

- 1) The cover, postcard or newspaper wrapper must involve international post. In my research I found many early examples of red numbers on internal post from the 1820s forward to the present day when I looked at hundreds of covers or descriptions of covers in auction details.
- 2) Intermediary involvement often gave rise to an Accountancy mark, notably where a shipping company took mail from country A to country B
- 3) If it has a capital T on it, written or hand-stamped in any colour it is a postage due and not a postage credit mark. If it lacks a 'T' it may still be a postage due mark
- 4) If it involves an unstamped cover, no stamps at all, from pre-1865 but a red number scribbled on then you will also almost certainly see a PD in capitals or 'Paid'. It is pre-paid but not an accountancy mark.
- 5) Check the UPU and Imperial Penny Post joining dates of the countries involved.
- 6) Finally, if you have checked all of those and it is an accountancy mark then take advantage of the dealers who do not know the value of the cover nor the answer to the question – 2D or not **2D**.

SOURCES:

Southern African Mails, Routes, Rates and Regulations 1806-1916 – Brian Trotter published by the RPSL 2016 – with thanks for his permission to use illustrations.

Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1910 – Robert Goldblatt published by Reijger Publishers, Cape Town 1984

British Postage Due Mail 1914-1971 – Michael Furfie and published by him 1993.

Transvaal Philately to 1910 – Ian Mathews and others published by Reijger Publishers, Cape Town 1986

UK Tax Marks for International Mail 1875–2000 Usage & Listing (2007 and 2022) – Ken Snelson – OOP but download available from the PDMSG website.

Thanks also to the SACS Chairman Tony Howgrave-Graham for his comments and advice on the article.

SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICES - Part 2

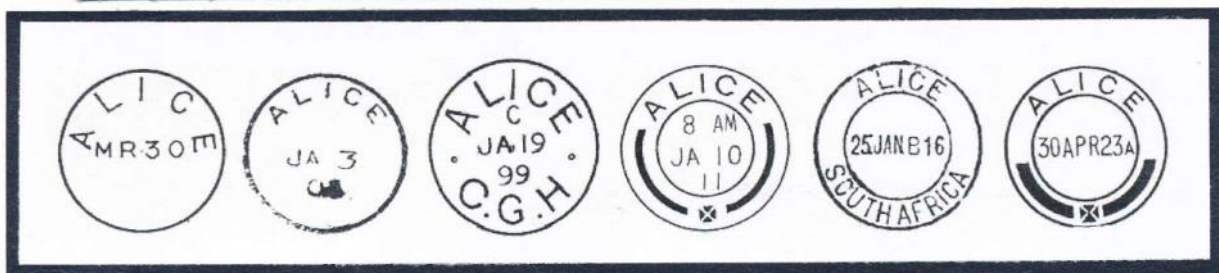
Lyn & Rob Lester

Adderley Street Cape Town, Cape colony. The top image is a picture of the General Post Office, Cape Town, Cape Colony. published by R. A. Thompson & Co. Ltd., Cape Town but printed in Germany. The image dates from around 1905 and the Post Card is unused.

The lower image is a picture of the G. P. O., Adderley Street, Cape Town, copyright and printed by Valentine & Sons Publishing Co (S.A.) Ltd, P. O. Box 1685, Cape Town. The image dates from around 1910 and the Post Card is unused,



Alice, Cape colony. Picture of the Post Office & Court House in Alice, Cape Colony published by Hallis & Co., Port Elizabeth. The image dates from around 1900. Used Post Card, addressed to London with a double circle date stamp “ALICE 8 AM JY 13 08”.



Alice, is a small town in the Eastern Cape, named after The Princess Alice, the second Daughter of Queen Victoria. It is located adjacent to the Tyhume River. The settlement was originally founded in 1824 by European missionaries and named Lovedale, after Dr John Love of the Glasgow Missionary Society. In 1847 it was given the name Alice by General Sir Peregrine Maitland, Governor of the Cape Colony from 1844 to 1847. It became the administrative and magisterial capital of the old district of Victoria East. The first Post Office opened on 1 January 1848 and has remained in operation since that date, although Alice is now part of Ciskei.

Auction at Meriden

As noted elsewhere in this issue Simon Peetoom is planning a Southern African Philatelic conference on 5th and 6th November at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden. If you would like to attend, and particularly if you plan to stay over in the Hotel, please let Simon know on the details shown on page 74.

Simon has also agreed to organise the usual auction at that event. This is always an excellent event with plenty of desirable material on offer to suit all budgets. However, to keep up the usual standard Simon needs items to offer. So, if you have any suitable material please let Simon know and he will tell you where to send it. When you contact Simon please briefly tell him what you are offering .

SOUTH WEST CORNER

Steve Hannath

THE 1934-7 WINDHOEK EXHIBITION CANCELS



Ausstellungsgebäude - Exhibition Building - Tentoonstellings Gebou

Photo: O. Späth

In SOUTH WEST CORNER, (The Springbok 358, April 2022, Page 71), Tony Howgrave-Graham requested help with the identification of the exhibition that gave us the trilingual "1934-7 WINDHOEK EXHIBITION CANCELS". Tony described how Putzel lists three exhibition cancels in Afrikaans, German and English. "But" he asked, "what was the exhibition?"

I found this postcard at Philanglia 2022, the weekend after the Meriden SACS meeting. The postcard

appears to be locally produced. The view on the front of the postcard shows the exhibition venue, Tony's "large exhibition hall for industrial and agricultural shows". Posted from Windhoek to Berlin, it bears a pair of the 1931 Cape Cross 1d stamps cancelled '23 VIII 34'. 'Agricultural Exhibition' is printed in three languages on the reverse with the place and date of the exhibition as 'WINDHOEK S. W. A. 23. 24. 25. Aug. 1934'.

Putzel's 'Comprehensive Handbook' of SWA postmarks states that these were the first SWA cancellers with the "month in Roman figures". The Afrikaans canceller was used on the 23rd, the German on the 24th and the English on the 25th. The only other examples of this postmark that I have show all three postmarks used on GVI First Day Coronation Covers of '12 V 37' ie. in 1937. They were all used on the same, not different, days.



These 1937 trilingual Coronation First Air-mail postcards state "if posted at the Exhibition, this postcard will be impressed with the exhibition date-stamp

and forwarded by first air mail to its destination". This confirms a mail bag at the Exhibition but not a counter or a Post Office.

With most agricultural shows being annual, one must question "what happened in 1935 and 1936?" Putzel states that this is "not yet clear". However, he tells us that the Afrikaans canceller "was also used on Exhibitions: 31.5 to 1.6. 1935; 28-30.5 1936 and 12-13.5.1937". When GVI was crowned on 12th May 1937, these trilingual datestamps were "used simultaneously on the same First Day Coronation Covers". It appears that the last use of these EXHIBITION WINDHOEK trilingual datestamps was during the town's GVI 1937 coronation celebrations, possibly held in part in the exhibition building.

OBITUARY - David Page



David was a great help and support to the South African Collectors Society which he joined in 1989. From 2018, he organised the printing and distribution of the Springbok including inserts, and had been examining the possibilities of establishing a web-oriented exchange packet. His ideas on administration and rules for this, latter, enterprise were comprehensive but did not get put into practice because of David's reoccurring illness. David relinquished most of his duties at the recent A.G.M. but was hoping to continue the dispatch of the magazine for a few more months.

We first met, last century, when, for twelve years, we were on the committee of the Middlesex Philatelic Federation with me as Federation chairman and David as liaison on aspects of the joint Federation & Amersham and District P.S. Stamp Fairs on several occasions. David was, at those times, either Secretary or President of Amersham & District P.S. and thus a leading

light in that Society as well as its Federation delegate.

He will be missed.

Chris Oliver

South African Philately Club reminder

The lockdowns we have endured recently have forced many of us to make a much greater use of digital resources as well as attending Zoom meetings. I suspect that even as things return to normal many of us will continue to use these resources as well. The South African Philately Club website, created by one of our members, Steve Hannath, is a useful online resource, and a means of staying in touch with, and meeting new, fellow collectors. To join the Club, create a new Topic and or answer one that is already in the Forum go to the link below.

To join simply click on this link to enter the Club website: <https://southafricanphilatelyclub.com>

Presentations needed.

Zoom has proved a wonderful tool for philatelists. It enables us to show our collections to other philatelists and to explain why our particular areas of interest have attracted us. It enables other philatelists to see a philatelic display of material they may be less familiar with and broaden their knowledge.

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